

W&M

ALUMNI MAGAZINE • WINTER 2026



STRENGTHENING CIVILITY

2026 ALUMNI MEDALLIONS

THE WILL TO MAKE
A DIFFERENCE



**MUSCARELLE
MUSEUM
OF ART**

at William & Mary

ABSTRACT EXPRESSIONISTS THE WOMEN

JANUARY 23 - APRIL 26, 2026

\$12 ADMISSION / FREE FOR MUSCARELLE MEMBERS, YOUTH,
AND W&M STUDENTS, FACULTY AND STAFF

HOURS: TUESDAY - SATURDAY 10 AM - 5 PM, SUNDAY 12 - 5 PM



Elaine de Kooning
The Bull, 1959
Acrylic and collage on Masonite
© Elaine de Kooning Trust
Courtesy of the Levett Collection
and FAMM. Photo: Fraser Marr



Abstract Expressionists: The Women is organized by the American Federation of Arts from the Christian Levett Collection and FAMM (Female Artists of the Mougins Museum), France. Curated by Dr. Ellen G. Landau, the exhibition is generously supported by Berry Campbell Gallery, Betsy Shack Barbanell, Monique Schoen Warsaw, and Clare McKeon and the Clare McKeon Charitable Trust with additional support provided by the Pollock-Krasner Foundation and the Every Page Foundation.

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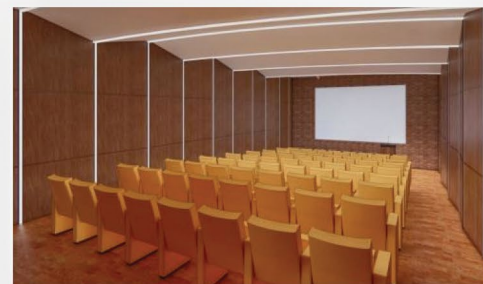
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Events

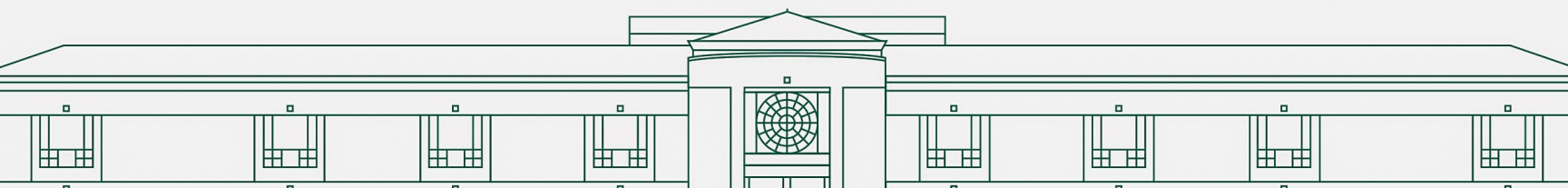
We host a variety of book talks and open houses throughout the year, all of which are free and open to everyone. If you're in the area, check out our event calendar and stop by to visit!

libraries.wm.edu/events



Spaces

Thanks to the generosity of our donors, we continue to remodel our spaces to serve the community better. Our latest renovation is the theatre on the ground floor of Swem, which will now be known as the Glenna Bowman MacKenzie Theatre. The modernized space, slated to open in early 2026, expands the seating capacity and enhances the technology and acoustics.



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COVER ILLUSTRATION: TAYLOR CALLERY

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DEGREE KEY: **P:** PARENT • **G:** GRANDPARENT • **HON:** HONORARY ALUMNI
FOR A FULL LIST OF DEGREES, VISIT MAGAZINE.WM.EDU/ABOUT/DEGREES.



WINTER WONDERLAND

A surprise snowfall covered William & Mary's campus with a beautiful blanket of snow at the end of the fall semester. The wintry weather offered an enjoyable distraction for students studying for final exams.





ALUMNI FOCUS

Celebrating Success

BY MATTHEW "MATT" L. BRANDON '92

CEO, W&M Alumni Association Board of Directors

When it comes to William & Mary's strengths, this university has produced some of the most exceptional leaders in the United States of America. Most alumni and students know many of the names of graduates, from past United States presidents — four to be exact — to leaders in sports, business, education, service, law and nearly every field imaginable.

This issue of the magazine shines a bright light on the achievements of alumni from coast to coast and around the world, in many fields and from different generations. I know their stories will resonate, full of the ingredients that give W&M alumni that special combination of intellect, compassion and ambition that make our world better. This is a chance to focus on something we can all too easily overlook as we quickly and earnestly move on to the next project, goal or aspiration: celebrating success.

Over Charter Day Weekend, Feb. 5-7, the Alumni Association will celebrate some of our most accomplished alumni for their numerous contributions to their university, communities and professions. They consistently exhibit traits necessary to make the most impactful outcomes — among them selflessness, or put differently, a passion to serve the greater community.

As you read their inspiring stories in this issue of the W&M Alumni Magazine, think about your own contributions to William & Mary, your community and humanity. Have you celebrated your work and the impact caused by your advocacy, service or engagement? Whether at a Homecoming reunion, via the Alumni Medallion & Service Awards, during Charter Day Weekend or at the numerous celebrations in regions around the globe supported by the university, let's celebrate one another and the spirit of this great university that helped mold us.

But first, enjoy this edition of the magazine. Be inspired. And remember the people featured here represent large groups of alumni leading transformative changes. We lead when we care for one another. William & Mary alumni deserve lots of credit. And we deserve to celebrate that our ethos was formed or fulfilled because we were students at William & Mary.

W&M

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W&M
WEEKEND

= 2026 =
WASHINGTON, D.C.

SEE YOU IN D.C.!

MAY 28-31, 2026

W&M Weekend is returning to Washington, D.C.! Join the W&M community for exciting one-of-a-kind events — including fan-favorite W&M Night at Nats Park — and insider looks at our nation's capital through a William & Mary lens.

Mark your calendar for this celebration of the Alma Mater of the Nation, showcasing the exceptional alumni, students, faculty and more who are making an impact in D.C. and beyond.

Registration opens in March | [WEEKEND.WM.EDU](https://weekend.wm.edu)





FROM THE BRAFFERTON

The Year of Civic Leadership

BY KATHERINE A. ROWE

William & Mary President

In December 1776, with the Declaration of Independence newly inked, William & Mary students gathered at Raleigh Tavern. Over a meal and a few beers, perhaps, the students chartered a society dedicated to “freedom of inquiry that ever dispels the clouds of falsehood by the radiant sunshine of truth.” They recognized that the habits of mind cultivated in open debate are vital to citizenship. That gathering launched the first U.S. academic honor society, Phi Beta Kappa, on the principle that “love of learning is the guide of life.” • Fast-forward 249 years to the turn of our country’s quarter millennium. The pursuit of fact-based knowledge, sharpened in the open exchange of ideas, flourishes here. The Alma Mater of the Nation is approaching this anniversary as a time of reflection on our future as well as our past. During W&M’s “Year of Civic Leadership,” we aim to honor our community’s foundational role in establishing U.S. democracy and to continue strengthening those foundations: preparing our graduates to meet the current moment with resourcefulness and integrity.

This legacy of civic leadership anchors W&M’s national preeminence, from the country’s first law school to a school of computer science focused on ethics in AI. The W&M Washington Center advances internships in our nation’s capital. The top-ranked U.S. Colonial history graduate program tells new stories of the American Revolution. Premier research labs apply their knowledge in service to our country’s leaders. This fall, an AidData report earned coverage from more than 1,100 media outlets, reaching hundreds of millions of people worldwide. A \$2.8 million grant for teacher training underscores the credibility W&M commands in civics education. More than 1,800 students across the university have ties to military service. The university ranks among the top schools for such service-minded students, with volunteer opportunities in Williamsburg and around the world.

Trust in universities depends on our commitment to these common goods. At W&M, we uphold the ideals of open inquiry and service by putting them into practice in a peer-taught curriculum, Better Arguments. Since its inception in 2020, over 9,000 students have participated. The majority of W&M’s faculty and staff and all of the university’s leadership boards have completed the curriculum as well. In Better Arguments, we teach leadership skills to navigate conflict in order to accelerate learning.

In our Chancellor, the Honorable Robert M. Gates ’65, L.H.D. ’98, we have an example of this teaching: the only Secretary of Defense to have served under presidents from opposing political parties. I am delighted that he has graciously answered alma mater’s call once again. At Charter Day, we will reinvest him for an unprecedented third term. Please join us in Kaplan Arena or via livestream on Feb. 6 at 3:30 p.m. Learn more at wm.edu/charterday.

Few stories in the news report well on what I hear daily on campus — and what a recent national poll underscores — that the generation coming to college today shares the convictions of those Raleigh Tavern founders. Young people report that “respect and open-mindedness are the most essential to improving civic discourse.” They have so many reasons for recognizing this — their immersion in social media, their experiences of isolation during pandemic, intractable conflicts around the world.

W&M students come to us actively seeking out environments where civil debate is taught and valued. They view this as a lifelong skill. They could not be more right.

The background of the entire poster is a dense, overlapping pattern of cassette tapes. The tapes are in various orientations and colors, including teal, yellow, and olive green. Each cassette has a black label with white text and a white starburst logo. The tapes are arranged in a way that creates a sense of depth and movement.

REWIND THE PAST. PLAY IT FORWARD.

TR¹BE DAY

JOIN THE THROWBACK
TO GIVE BACK

4.29.26



otod.wm.edu



EYE-OPENING DATASET: *AidData's newly published dataset tracking China's lending and grant-giving activities worldwide unveils the depth and breadth of Chinese financial involvement, especially in Western countries.*

16.9

86.2

39.9

REVENUE



BY & LARGE

RESEARCH WITH IMPACT

Tracking China's Global Influence

New research from W&M's

*AidData tracks China's secretive loans
and grants in high-income and
developing countries for the first time*

BY AIDDATA STAFF

ON NOV. 18, WILLIAM & MARY'S AidDATA research lab released a new flagship report and massive dataset that comprehensively tracks China's lending and grant-giving activities worldwide.

The report, based on data collected by William & Mary students, reveals that the scale and scope of Beijing's portfolio is vastly larger than previously understood: \$2.2 trillion of aid and credit spread across 200 countries in every region of the world.

"The overall size of China's portfolio is two-to-four times larger than previously published estimates suggest," said Brad Parks, AidData's executive director and the lead author of the report.

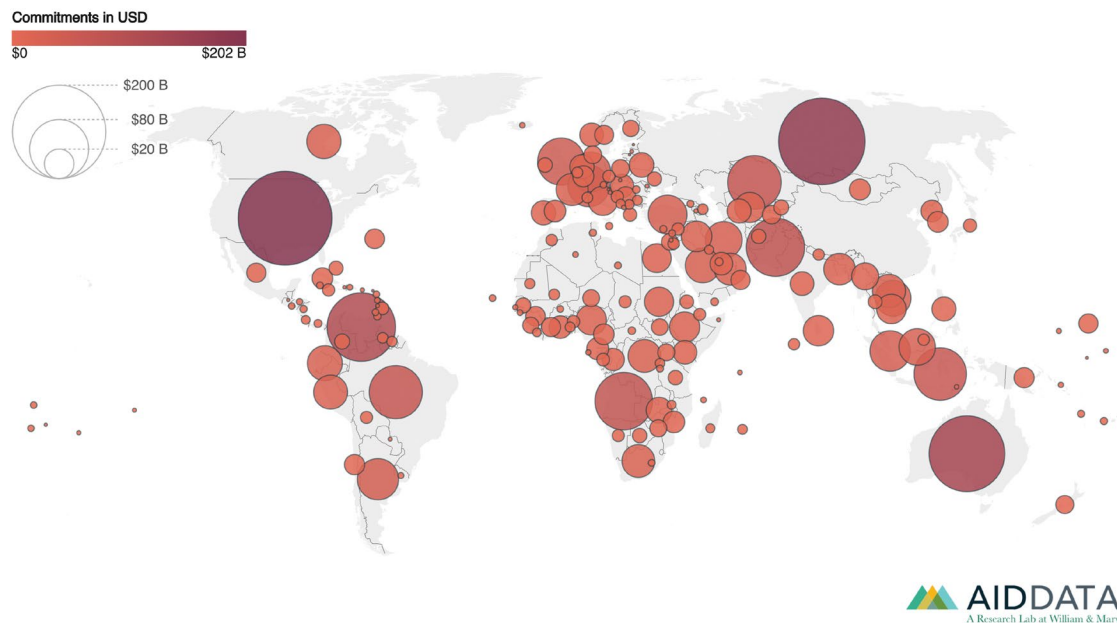
The report underscores William & Mary's ability as an RI institution to produce nonpartisan, globally consequential research that shapes policy and strengthens the university's national preeminence.

While AidData's previous reports and datasets have focused on developing countries, this report also includes detailed and comprehensive information about China's secretive lending and grant-giving activities in high-income countries for the first time. This includes the United States, the United Kingdom, Western European countries, Japan and Australia.

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION: DILOK

BY&LARGE

BIG SPENDER:
China directed \$2.2 trillion in loans and grants to over 200 countries and territories from 2000 to 2023.



The 300-plus page publication — “Chasing China: Learning to Play by Beijing’s Global Lending Rules” — finds that more than three-quarters of China’s overseas lending operations now support projects and activities in upper-middle income and high-income countries.

“Much of the lending to wealthy countries is focused on critical infrastructure, critical minerals and the acquisition of high-tech assets, like semiconductor companies,” said Parks.

Among the findings: The U.S. has received more than \$200 billion for nearly 2,500 projects and activities that can be found in virtually every state in the country.

The United Kingdom received \$60 billion.

The European Union’s 27 member states received \$161 billion for nearly 1,800 projects and activities.

Top deal-making countries include Germany (\$33.4 billion), France (\$21.3 billion), Italy (\$17.4 billion), Portugal (\$11.7 billion) and the Netherlands (\$11.6 billion).

FROM AID PROVIDER TO POLITICAL INFLUENCER

China is pulling back from its role as an aid provider that champions philanthropic causes. Instead, AidData researchers find increasing alignment between China’s cross-border lending activities and the policy priorities of the party-state, including those related to national security and economic statecraft.

Meanwhile, its financial operations are becoming more opaque and complex, with many transactions using shell companies in pass-through jurisdictions with strict banking secrecy rules.

The results of the AidData’s 36-month effort have relevance beyond high finance, with implications for geoeconomic and national security strategy.

The report touches on topics as sensitive and varied as the vulnerability of strategic commodity reserves, the reliability of power plants and transmission grids, the control of international maritime choke points, the resilience of global supply chains and national competitiveness in high-tech sectors.

Although governments and alliances (like NATO and the G7) are in open competition with Beijing, AidData finds that many Western or Western-led financial institutions have chosen to collaborate with Chinese state-owned creditors — and many Western companies have borrowed large sums from the same institutions.

According to AidData’s research team, increased competition among the world’s great powers is spilling over into the aid and development finance sector.

“We are witnessing a fundamental reorientation away from the promotion of economic development and social welfare in recipient countries — as a primary goal — and towards the promotion of the economic competitiveness and national security of aid and credit providers,” said Brooke Escobar, associate director of AidData’s Tracking Underreported Financial Flows team and a coauthor of the report.

“Beijing is not seeking to burnish its reputation as a global do-gooder: The percentage of its overseas lending and grant-giving portfolio that qualifies as aid (ODA) has plummeted. It is focused on cementing its position as the international creditor of first — and last — resort that no one can afford to alienate or antagonize.”

A DATASET LIKE NO OTHER

The new dataset, also available as a searchable online dashboard at China.AidData.org, is based on a massive effort involving 142 William & Mary student fact-finders and financial analysts.

It tracks more than 30,000 projects and activities from 1,193 Chinese donors and lenders via grants and loans worth \$2.2 trillion across 217 countries and territories between 2000 and 2023. During this 24-year period, 200 countries and territories received at least one grant or loan from a Chinese donor or lender.

AidData researchers also identified 2,610 co-financing institutions — including Western and non-Western commercial banks, multilateral financial institutions, and bilateral development finance institutions and export credit agencies — that collaborated with Beijing on overseas projects and activities.

It is the most comprehensive dataset of its kind, anywhere, according to AidData researchers.

INTERNATIONAL ATTENTION

The announcement was met with significant interest from major media outlets around the world, including the BBC, The New York Times, The Washington Post, CNN, The Associated Press, The Economist and NPR. The BBC's "Panorama" program ran a major television story on the report's U.K. findings, and more major news outlets also covered the report.

On Nov. 18, W&M hosted an exclusive live conversation about the report, featuring David Culver '09, CNN senior national correspondent, Brad Parks '03, AidData executive director and

Sailor Miao '24, AidData researcher. Watch the recording at magazine.wm.edu/china-report.

"This landmark report is yet another example of William & Mary's exceptional research ecosystem designed for impact," said Alyson Wilson, vice provost for research. "At W&M, students, faculty and staff are empowered to bring forward bold ideas, work at the edge of knowledge and catalyze meaningful change."

Earlier versions of AidData's award-winning Global Chinese Development Finance Dataset have led to more than 250 publications that have been cited over 4,000 times in academic literature and 450 times by leading journalists.

AidData's work doesn't stop at China. It also uses geospatial data to undertake rigorous impact evaluations and large-scale surveys of development policymakers and practitioners in low- and middle-income countries.

"AidData's organizational calling card is helping decision-makers tackle seemingly unsolvable problems which require the creation of granular data or innovative methods that do not yet exist," said Parks.

Since its inception in 2009, the research lab has become a go-to provider of data and analysis for policymakers and practitioners in dozens of countries. It will move into the new Robert M. Gates Hall next year.

Read the full release at www.aiddata.org.

BY  LARGE

READY TO LAUNCH

FORBES NAMES W&M A LEADER IN CAREERS

With its commitment to helping students thrive from their first job to their last, William & Mary is a top university for launching careers, according to the new "15 Top Colleges For Launching Your Career" report from Forbes. • William & Mary is the only Virginia institution included on the list, which was released Dec. 7. According to Forbes, these schools share "a commitment to preparing students to successfully enter the workforce." The magazine chose institutions based on participation in co-ops and internships, median salaries three years after graduation and post-graduation employment rates. • Earlier this year, The Princeton Review ranked W&M sixth among public universities for internships and in the top 20 for best career placement. • Careers is one of the cornerstone initiatives of W&M's Vision 2026 strategic plan, with the goal of providing every undergraduate with a funded internship or other applied learning opportunity. • In the latest Next Destination Survey at William & Mary, 92% of the Class of 2024 reported positive career outcomes — either employed or attending graduate or professional school — within six months of graduation. Of those employed, 97% reported that their jobs aligned with their career interests. Read more at magazine.wm.edu/15-top-colleges. —UNIVERSITY STAFF

EXPANDING W&M'S NATIONAL REACH

*A gift from W&M Foundation leader Darpan Kapadia '95
launches a bold enrollment initiative*

BY TINA ESHLEMAN

AS A HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT FROM NEW York's Long Island, Darpan Kapadia '95 found exactly what he was looking for at William & Mary: a strong community, an excellent education, close relationships with professors and an ability to make an impact.

Kapadia considers himself lucky — he discovered the Alma Mater of the Nation through his older brother, who attended another public university in Virginia. Now he wants to ensure that the brightest students from around the country know William & Mary may be the right place for them, too.

That's why he and his wife, Erica Olan, decided to invest in a strategic initiative to support enrollment of the best students nationwide. Through a combined focus on admissions, marketing, scholarships and counselor engagement, the gift will strengthen recruitment of out-of-state students who may not be aware of all that William & Mary has to offer. It is the first gift of its kind supporting W&M admission efforts.

"This investment in future students is a game-changer. It enables us to spread the word nationwide that William & Mary is the place to come and grow as a discerning leader," says President Katherine A. Rowe. "We warmly thank Darpan and Erica for their farsighted generosity."

This new initiative continues Kapadia's leadership support for the university's priorities of national preeminence and career development. That included a generous commitment two years ago that has enabled undergraduates to receive up to \$5,000 each for unpaid or underpaid internships and applied learning opportunities, quadrupling the number of students who can receive such university funding each year.

Kapadia and Olan's gift also comes at a time when universities are preparing for a decline in the population of college-age students nationally. The U.S. Census Bureau predicts the population of 18-year-olds will decrease as much as 15% by 2039, prompting concerns about an "enrollment cliff."

"This is a moment for William & Mary to play offense," says Kapadia, chief operating officer of LS Power and chair of the W&M Foundation. "In a world dominated by a lot of noise and distraction, being grounded in a real community of people who genuinely care is incredibly important — and that's exactly what William & Mary provides. We need to be out there telling our story in a powerful way and reaching students across the country. It's a compelling story, and it's easy to tell — because it's true."

With this new investment, William & Mary initially will expand recruitment efforts in the tri-state area of Connecticut, New York and New Jersey. Plans include hosting high school counselors for a campus visit, with a more active regional presence after the university's first regional admission representative is hired. Over time, the effort will be rolled out nationally, including an ambitious marketing campaign and social media strategy. The initiative includes scholarship funds to make William & Mary's financial aid offers more competitive for out-of-state students, as well as continued support for internships.

Lisa Keegan, William & Mary's inaugural vice provost for enrollment strategy, emphasizes that reaching Virginia students will continue to be an important focus for the university, long considered a "public ivy."

"We're always going to be working on our recruitment and enrollment strategy in the Commonwealth," she says. "This gift will provide resources for us to expand our recruitment efforts outside Virginia."

As part of the initiative, representatives from William & Mary will increase visits to high schools in the Northeast and other regions, attending more college fairs and admission events. They will also partner with the close-knit alumni network to increase awareness of the university.

As a highly engaged member of that alumni network, Kapadia gave the keynote address at Opening Convocation in August. He shared



BY&LARGE

SUPPORTING ALMA MATER:
Darpan Kapadia '95 is shown with President Katherine Rowe at William & Mary's 2025 Opening Convocation. He gave the keynote address.

stories about his own experiences at William & Mary and encouraged students to find mentors, explore varied interests and pursue nonacademic activities. He recalled playing racquetball with his economics professors and serving in student government, eventually becoming class president and assuming other leadership roles. He urged students to take full advantage of the opportunities available to them on campus and, after graduating, give back to their alma mater.

"I'm committed to supporting the institution that built the pieces of who I am," Kapadia told students in his address. "This place and the people who make it shaped me in ways I didn't fully understand until years later — how I think, how

I lead and the values I try to live by."

Through this latest gift, Kapadia continues to pay it forward.

"We now have a promise we can make to our students — if there's an internship you want, but can't accept because it's unpaid, William & Mary will help fill the gap," he says. "That's an empowering message and it's already had a real impact — allowing students to make different choices and to take risks. With this new initiative, we can share William & Mary's value proposition with a broader audience, do so more intentionally, amplify our national presence and unlock the full potential of this great university. It's exciting to think about."

AT THE HELM

HOW COLLEGE PRESIDENTS SUCCEED

University presidents are under increased scrutiny, with the average president serving fewer than six years. Yet three generations of the Reveley family — Hampden-Sydney College President-Emeritus W. Taylor Reveley II, William & Mary President-Emeritus W. Taylor Reveley III HON '18, LL.D. '18 and Longwood University President W. Taylor Reveley IV — successfully led major Virginia colleges and universities for decades, a legacy unmatched in higher education. • A new book from Michael Nelson '71, "How College Presidents Succeed: Lessons in Leadership from Three Generations of Reveleys," draws on the experiences of these three leaders to reveal best practices in leadership across industries. • During Charter Day Weekend, on Feb. 5 at 6 p.m. in the Glenn Close Theater in Phi Beta Kappa Memorial Hall, join W&M President Katherine A. Rowe, W&M Chancellor Robert M. Gates '65, L.H.D. '98, W. Taylor Reveley III and W. Taylor Reveley IV for a lively discussion on leadership in complex times.

—CLAIRE DE LISLE M.B.A. '21

BY & LARGE

Mollusks on the Move

Scallop numbers soar on the Eastern Shore

BY HANNAH SAWYER '27

THE SCALLOPS ARE BACK: *Once nearly extinct along Virginia's Eastern Shore due to habitat destruction, bay scallops are thriving again with the help of researchers at VIMS' Eastern Shore Laboratory.*



THANKS TO WORK LED BY WILLIAM & MARY'S Batten School of Coastal & Marine Sciences & the Virginia Institute for Marine Science (VIMS) Eastern Shore Laboratory (ESL), the once locally extinct bay scallops are now thriving along Virginia's Eastern Shore.

For almost 90 years, the bay scallops were absent from the ecosystem following destruction of their eelgrass habitats. With restoration efforts well underway, VIMS scientists have hopes for a recreational fishery in the near future.

"The restoration of bay scallops to their former range along the Virginian Eastern Shore represents a significant societal and ecological achievement," says VIMS ESL Director Richard Snyder.

In 1997, VIMS launched what has now become the most successful eelgrass restoration in the world. The reintroduction of bay scallops began with their hatching in 2009, and a census that has been occurring since 2012 has tracked the progress of this successful restoration.

"Shellfish are such an important part of Virginia's environment, economy and culture," says VIMS ESL Hatchery Manager Reba Turner Smith. "We are hopeful that bay scallops are on the way to becoming more commonplace in those realms once again."



LEARN MORE:
*Visit magazine.
wm.edu/scallops*

PHOTO: ALFRED HERCZEG P. 23

A Campus for Innovative Learning

W&M's Washington Center connects students and alumni with D.C. opportunities

BY & LARGE

BY ANNA KORMIS

THE WASHINGTON CENTER IS ALL ABOUT PARTNERSHIPS,” says Roxane O. Adler Hickey, M.Ed. '02, Ed.D. '23, assistant provost for leadership & academic engagement and chair of William & Mary's Year of Civic Leadership in 2026. “We partner with campus programs and faculty, as well as alumni and employers in Washington, D.C., to best serve our students.”

Conveniently located in the Mount Vernon Triangle neighborhood of D.C. and easily accessible by Metro, the Washington Center was established 25 years ago to provide a location in the nation's capital for students and alumni to gather and learn with direct access to all D.C. has to offer.

What started as a study-away option with internship programs has become a year-round campus. In the last five years, the center has added six new programs, expanded its space, more than

doubled the number of scholarships available and increased opportunities for students, alumni and local professionals.

Some of the new offerings include collaborative master's programs, the Global Scholars Program and a weeklong bootcamp-style glimpse into three fields. In addition, the Washington Center helps to create and build connections — securing an internship for every student, establishing mentor-mentee relationships between students and alumni and bringing in professionals in various fields in to speak.

“What I like to tell my students is that we're rooting for you already,” says Gabe Cancio-Bello '20, M.Ed. '24. “You join the program, you get a professional experience with a mentor and then you're part of the D.C. community forever.” Read more at magazine.wm.edu/dc-25th.



Traditions Weekend

April 24-26, 2026

Come home to campus, reconnect with friends and experience William & Mary as it shines today.

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BY & LARGE

CHOOSING W&M

Current students reflect on why they selected the Alma Mater of the Nation

COMPILED BY ANNA KORMIS



STUDENT VOICES: *From left to right: Linwood Bailey '29, Clara Cavazos '27 and Darius McCallum '27.*

HOW DID YOU SEARCH FOR COLLEGES AS A HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT? PERHAPS YOU SPOKE WITH A guidance counselor, picked up brochures at a college fair, bought a guide at a bookstore or went to each school's website. While counselors are still a key source of information for many, 26% of high school students surveyed by EAB in 2025 reported using an artificial intelligence-based tool, such as ChatGPT or a chatbot on a college's website, as part of their college-search process. Apps like Niche are gaining prominence, with W&M receiving an A+ overall grade in 2026.

Students also find William & Mary on best-of lists, such as in Forbes' "15 Top Colleges for Launching Your Career" (read more on page 11). William & Mary is ranked as a top 10 public university for internships by The Princeton Review (2025) and No. 2 for best undergraduate teaching at a public school by U.S. News & World Report (2026), among other accolades.

Below, we asked three students to share in their own words how they found William & Mary in their college search and why they chose to attend the Alma Mater of the Nation. Learn more about applying to William & Mary at wm.edu/admission.

LINWOOD BAILEY '29

"I'm a first-year student at William & Mary from Charlottesville, Virginia, who is pursuing a degree in computer science. Last year, I had narrowed down my options for college to two choices: William & Mary and Virginia Tech. When deciding, I went to the W&M's Day for Admitted Students (DFAS) and met a ton of other really nice and super intelligent prospective students, including my current roommate. The computer science presentation that weekend shared statistics that compared W&M to other schools and called out Virginia Tech specifically. I thought that this was quite comical, and those statistics, alongside

the friendly faces, heavily weighed the balance toward W&M. The piece that broke the camel's back (in W&M's favor) was the amazing city of Williamsburg. Not even mentioning the uniqueness of Colonial Williamsburg or the hubbub on DoG Street, I'm a huge roller coaster fan, so living so close to Busch Gardens has been a big treat (by bus, it takes only 15-20 minutes to get there!)."

DARIUS MCCALLUM '27

"I am a junior at William & Mary from Hampton, Virginia, in the Batten School of Coastal & Marine Sciences & VIMS. From a young age, I knew I wanted to pursue marine science.

LEFT & RIGHT PHOTOS: TIMOTHY D. SOFRANKO; MIDDLE PHOTO: COLE EASON

When I told my parents about this dream, they did everything they could to help me achieve it. Their support created an environment where my interest in marine science could grow, and it became clear that I wanted to study it in college.

Because of this, my college search was very focused. I only applied to schools with marine science programs, which included four Virginia institutions. Initially, I applied to all of them except William & Mary because I was told they would heavily consider junior-year grades. Since I caught COVID-19 during my junior year, I worried my grades would hurt my chances and decided not to apply.

However, a staff member at my high school whom I was close with encouraged me to apply anyway, so I did. One night, I woke up and checked my email for admission decisions. When I saw William & Mary's name pop up, I assumed it was a rejection, but when I opened it, I realized I had been accepted. My whole family encouraged me to commit, and doing so has been the best decision I've ever made. At William & Mary, I've been able to grow, find community and reach heights I never imagined." *Darius is a Stravitz Scholar. Read more about this transformative program that includes full tuition support: www.vims.edu/academics/wm_undergrad/major.*

CLARA CAVAZOS '27

"Going into the college search process, I didn't really have any criteria other than a school that was outside of my home state of Texas. I was

craving something entirely different from what I was used to. I knew there was so much value in bursting the bubble I was in to branch out and absorb new perspectives. Only while thinking about potential areas of study — geology and Japanese studies — did I narrow down my choices. Initially, William & Mary was way off my radar, I hadn't even heard of the name before. But my mom was practically begging for me to look into it, so I obliged. Upon a deeper dive, it rapidly turned into my No. 1 pick. Not only did it have the subjects I wanted, but there were so many options for majors, minors and courses. There was even the added bonus of William & Mary being nearly 1,500 miles from my home, my version of the perfect escape.

When I arrived on campus, I had the welcome surprise that every single person at the school craved the same desire for perspective, insight and experiences that I did. People here are so utterly passionate about what they do, whether it's a club, research, sport, job — anything — and they are always willing to share their experiences. This makes for such invigorating conversations and academic/social interactions, because everyone here is so saturated with diverse perspectives. It's great that I can have this community, this sense of home, because that's really special. That really makes you feel like William & Mary is a place you can thrive. Learning at William & Mary is not just limited to the classroom. People here love to grow more than anything."

BY & LARGE



PHOTO: TIMOTHY D. SOFRANKO



STRENGTHENING CIVILITY



In polarized times, William & Mary cultivates civic leaders who can bridge deep differences

Story By Tina Eshleman | Illustrations By Taylor Callery

It was a tense scene at Chancellors Hall on the evening of Oct. 20 as the newly relaunched chapter of Turning Point USA at William & Mary prepared to hold its first public meeting.

Anticipating a protest based on social media reactions to news of the revived chapter, organizers had requested a W&M Police presence at the event. As the protesters stood silently holding signs along the wall in the hallway outside the meeting room, an attendee confronted them in a video later circulated on social media.

The protesters remained respectful, continued their silent dissent and the meeting proceeded uninterrupted.

While the encounter may have felt uncomfortable for those involved, it illustrates William & Mary's commitment to providing an environment in which students can disagree respectfully, explore ideas and challenge assumptions.

As the United States commemorates its 250th anniversary, William & Mary remains resolved to cultivate leaders who understand the nation's founding principles, who embrace the rights and responsibilities of citizen-

ship, and who can listen and speak to each other across deep differences.

Events nationally during the past year have tested that resolve. There have been shocking acts of political violence, including the targeted killings of Turning Point USA founder Charlie Kirk and former Minnesota House Speaker Melissa Hortman. Religious communities in the U.S. and beyond have been attacked. Social media has stoked separation of citizens into opposing camps that deride, ridicule and dehumanize those with different beliefs.

According to a Quinnipiac University poll released in September, 79% of American voters say the nation is in a political crisis, 54% think political violence will worsen over the next few years and 53% say they are pessimistic about freedom of speech being protected in the United States.

As the Alma Mater of the Nation, William & Mary represents a powerful antidote to the division tearing at the country's fabric. On Charter Day in February, the university will launch the Year of Civic Leadership, emphasizing its role in shaping the United States government and preparing

future generations of leaders. W&M continues to do this today by supporting a campus culture that values belonging, models civil discourse and encourages student self-governance and leadership development.

Beyond campus, William & Mary will deepen its influence across the country when the university hosts 100 teachers from all 50 states as part of a three-year initiative called “We the Teachers: Preparing the Next Generation Through History & Civics.” Made possible by a \$2.8 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education, the initiative is intended to strengthen K-12 history and civics education nationally. Through teachers attending in-person and online programs, “We the Teachers” aims to reach over 1 million students nationwide.

As the late U.S. Supreme Court Justice and W&M Chancellor Sandra Day O’Connor once said, “Bringing high-quality civics to every school in every state of our union is the only way that the next generations will become effective citizens and leaders.”

REVOLUTIONARY EDUCATION

If it feels like we’re living in contentious times now, imagine how it was during the years leading up to the American Revolution, when colonists were divided on the issue of whether to break free of British rule.

Those tensions will be explored as part of the “We the Teachers” initiative led by W&M’s Strategic Cultural Partnerships. The grant is the largest award to a Virginia institution of higher

Wren Building, Jamestown Settlement, Colonial Williamsburg and other sites such as Historic St. John’s Church in Richmond, where Patrick Henry delivered his “Give me liberty or give me death” speech. They will hear from William & Mary faculty and alumni, among other experts.

“The goal is to have an in-person experience that will position teachers from across the nation to be leaders back in their home states and districts and regions,” says Mark Hofer, executive director of Strategic Cultural Partnerships, professor of education at William & Mary and “We the Teachers” project director. “We will complement that with online microlearning that will be accessible for educators anywhere.”

Looking at history from different points of view and equipping teachers with tools for productive classroom discussions are priorities for the initiative.

“For us to be a functioning republic, we have to be able to disagree respectfully. We have to be able to engage with ideas and find ways to come together,” Hofer says. “We’re going to have teachers from red states and blue states, rural schools and urban schools, so they’re all going to be coming from different contexts. The focus will be on how we engage with this history and these ideas, and how we bring them to the classroom in ways that are productive and generative.”

ENGAGING ACROSS DIFFERENCES

Just ahead of the 2025 state and local elections, Senior Vice President for Student Affairs & Public Safety Ginger Ambler ’88, Ph.D. ’06, P ’24

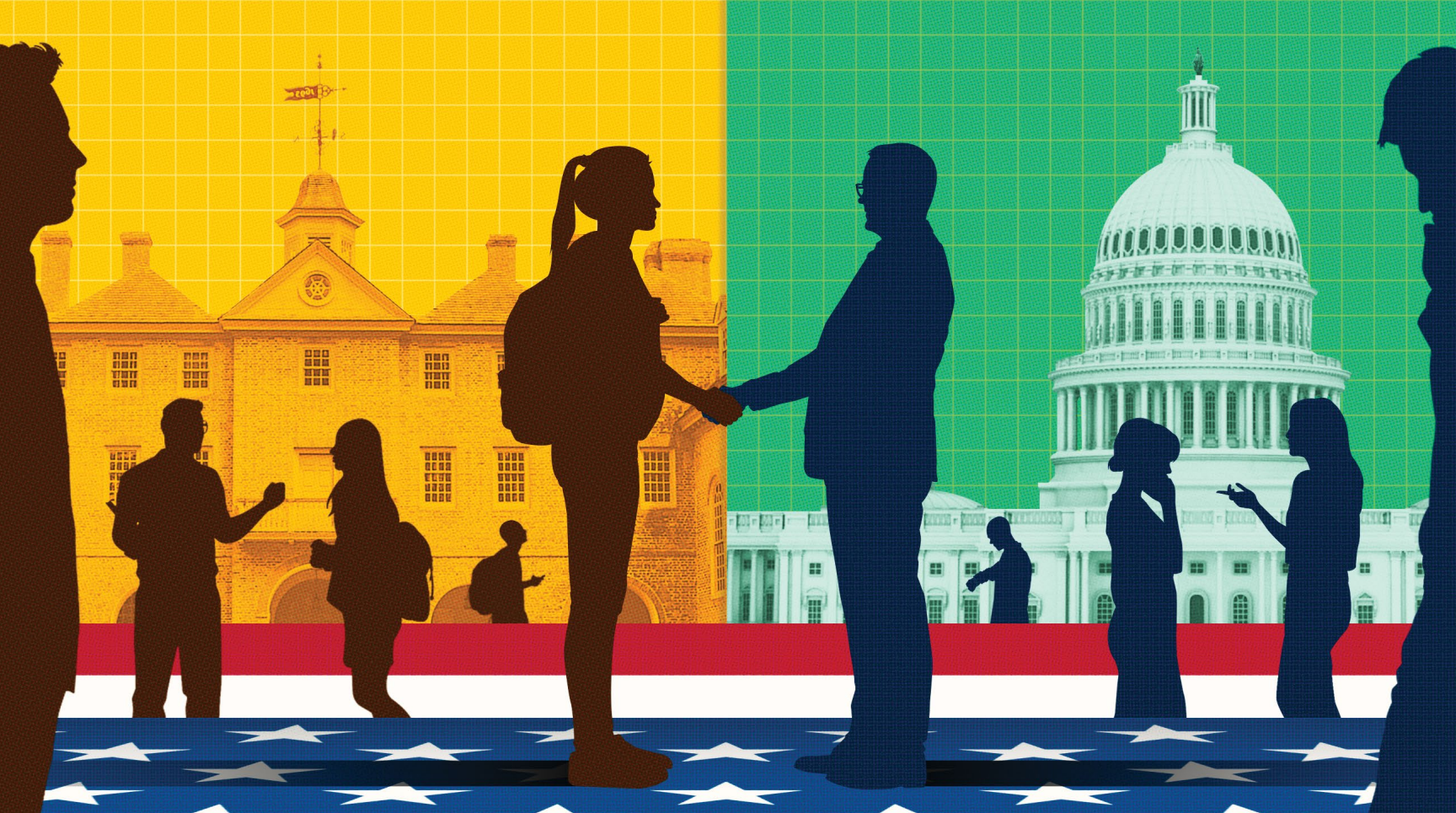
“For us to be a functioning republic, we have to be able to disagree respectfully, we have to be able to engage with ideas and find ways to come together”

learning under the Seminars for America’s Semiquincentennial program from American History and Civics Education-National Activities. At William & Mary, “We the Teachers” includes \$100,000 to support related student internships.

The first year of the initiative focuses on events leading up to the Revolutionary War. Teachers from around the country will visit the

sent a message to students sharing information about what is considered protected speech, highlighting principles for engaging productively with others and encouraging connection with campus resources.

Her message noted that William & Mary is one of just 47 campuses nationwide to earn the Platinum Seal from the nonprofit All In Campus



Democracy Challenge for reaching an 82.4% voting rate on campus.

“Equally important to this participation is how we engage with one another,” she wrote, reminding students of ways to practice civil discourse through the Better Arguments framework. Launched at William & Mary in 2021, the nonprofit Aspen Institute’s framework uses five principles for engaging across differences: Take winning off the table, prioritize relationships and listen passionately, pay attention to context, embrace vulnerability and make room to transform.

“It’s part of the campus culture that we are working to create,” which also includes strong relationships between students and administrators, Ambler says. “When I hear that the Better Arguments principles are in a syllabus for a class, that’s really affirming.”

Better Arguments is included in the university’s orientation for new students, as well as training for resident assistants and orientation aides. In 2025, W&M held professional development days for faculty and staff emphasizing tools for conflict resolution using the framework.

“For more than 50 years, self-determination has been the guiding philosophy of residential living at W&M. Our students live in environments built around representative self-governance,” Ambler says. “They make decisions

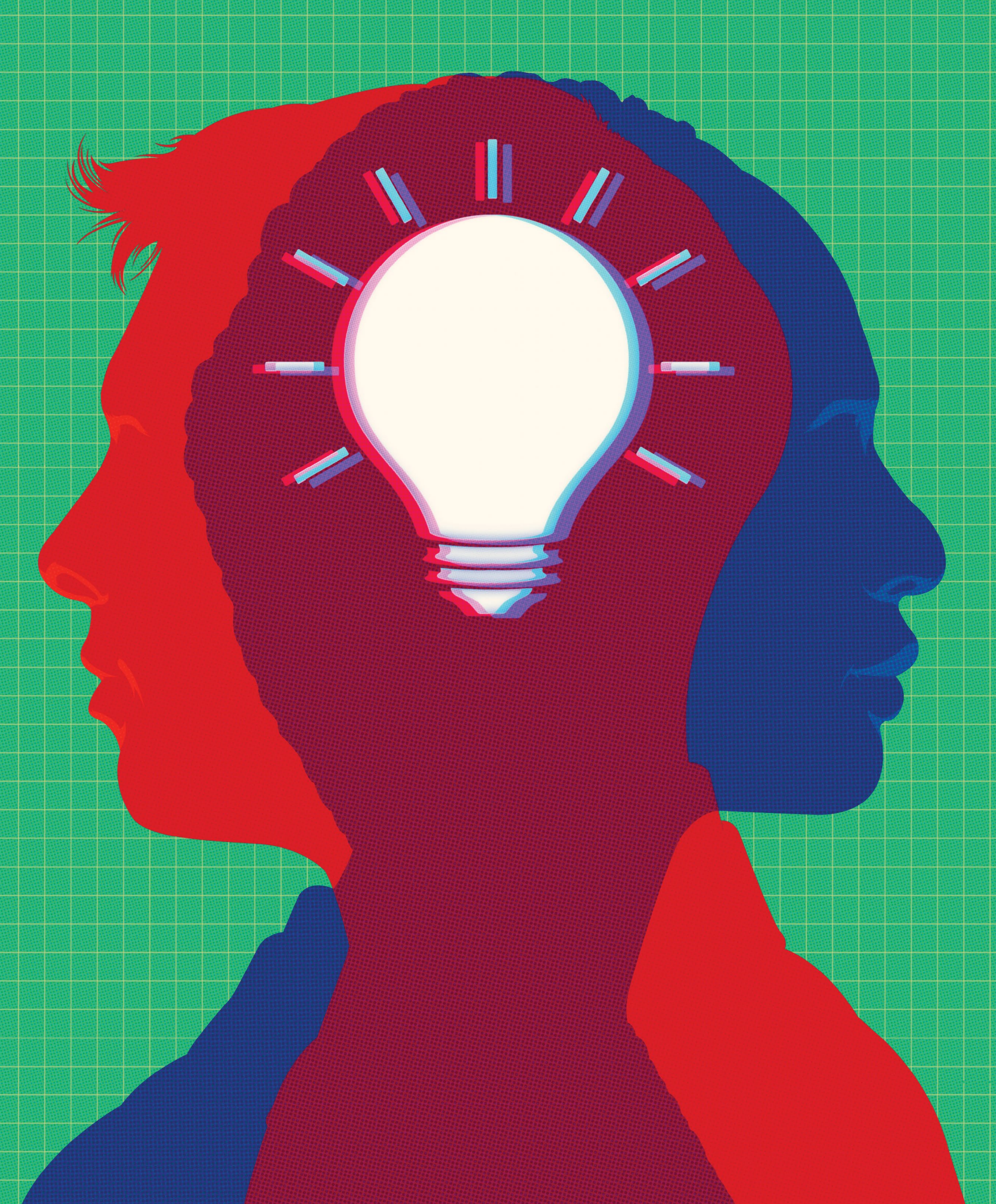
about their community, they talk about how they want to reinforce the norms that they establish for themselves and they take responsibility. All those democratic practices are consistent with Better Arguments.”

This spring, the initiative is expanding its reach with the help of 15 Better Arguments Leadership Fellows who will act as ambassadors to draw attention to the framework’s principles among students. One of the fellows, Selah Watkins ’27, is serving as a conflict resolution specialist through the office of Conflict Resolution & Education (CRE). She says she took on that role to help her peers navigate difficult situations, improve her own conflict resolution skills and better serve her community.

“Being able to live according to the Better Arguments principles is something we’ve been talking about with students, faculty, staff and alumni for five years now,” Ambler says. “This isn’t new, but it feels more important than ever. Leaning into our history and enduring values gives us a firm foundation on which to do this work.”

PREPARING LEADERS

Before classes started his freshman year, Alex Vanik ’21 participated in a program called





TRAIL CLEARING:
Alex Vanik '21 and other volunteers worked on a community service project in West Virginia as part of W&M's Branch Out Alternative Breaks program.

7 Generations that introduced incoming students to civic engagement and volunteer opportunities in Williamsburg.

"We got to go to the city hall and learn our way around the community," he says. "That set a strong foundation for me to stay active in the community throughout college."

For the next couple of years, he returned to lead 7 Generations and he joined Aim 4, now known as the W&M Civic Leadership Program. Through that, he connected with other students who wanted to make a difference in the community. He recalls meeting with elected officials and being invited to dinner at a city council member's home.

Vanik, an international relations major, also became a leader in the Branch Out Alternative Breaks program, which included a service trip to Mullens, West Virginia. There, he witnessed effects of rural poverty that he had not seen growing up in Northern Virginia — and he learned how to line dance. He worked alongside volunteers with AmeriCorps, an organization he later joined himself with encouragement from mentor Elizabeth Miller '11, M.Ed. '18, associate director of civic & community engagement at W&M.

Vanik says these experiences helped prepare him to communicate effectively with a wide range of people — a skill he relies on for his current job as a program development officer with Serve Virginia, a state agency that coordinates community service and volunteer work.

"It's important to approach any community you're working with as an active listener and with dignity for the people who live life differently than you do," he says. "That's really the heart of civic engagement, just getting out and doing things in your community to improve it alongside other people, regardless of what your differences in opinion or lifestyle might be."

Hannah Wolfe '26, who participated in the Civic Leadership Program in 2024, received the President's Award for Service to the Community last summer in recognition of her leadership as a

literacy tutor at The Arc of Greater Williamsburg, a nonprofit that serves adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. A neuroscience major from Suffolk, Virginia, Wolfe serves as a resident assistant and vice president of philanthropy and community service for the Panhellenic Council at William & Mary.

Although she first learned about The Arc through her sorority, Pi Beta Phi, Wolfe says being around other students in the Civic Leadership Program inspired her toward greater involvement.

"I was working with 15 students who were completely mind-blowing to me in the way they listened to communities and worked with people," she says. "Hearing from their experiences and being in that environment led me to become more community driven."

To increase students' interest in community engagement, William & Mary recently introduced a Civic Action Scorecard that allows students to earn points and recognition for activities such as attending a court hearing or government meeting, going to a worship service of a faith other than their own or participating in a sustainability workshop.

Starting this fall, students who want to explore democratic principles, civic engagement and community life in a residential setting will have an opportunity to join the new Democracy Scholars Living Learning Community. The new community for first-year students is inspired by the legacy of the 1970s-era Project Plus program and supported by alumni. It is designed to create a foundation for leadership and civic involvement.

SPEAKING OUT

William & Mary's numerous student organizations provide myriad opportunities to gain civic engagement experience. Some students, like Olivia Keller '28, are also creating their own leadership roles.



In the past, Keller tended to keep quiet about her conservative Christian beliefs at William & Mary, where liberal students outnumber conservatives. That changed after the fatal shooting of conservative activist Charlie Kirk while he was speaking to students at a Utah university on Sept. 10.

“That was a huge moment in society, because it was an act of political violence, and I personally don’t think that’s acceptable on either political side,” says Keller, a marketing major from Virginia Beach and president of William & Mary’s recently revived chapter of Turning Point USA, the organization Kirk founded in 2012.

“I think that people should be listening to both sides and forming their own opinions, rather than being given one way to think,” she says.

Grace Carryer ’27, who participated in the protest outside of the Turning Point USA meeting, told *The Flat Hat* that protesters brought signs showing quotes from Kirk that they see as offensive to some groups on campus.

“We’re trying to meet students with the ideology that they’re perpetuating and make sure that they understand what being a part of the club means to other students here,” she said.

Keller says she wants to help foster an environment in which people who share her views feel safe speaking out. “I hope to have a more tol-

erant, open campus,” she says. “I hope for people to be able to openly discuss their beliefs without being harassed.”

TOOLS FOR ENGAGEMENT

An October national survey of more than 2,000 undergraduate students by the Foundation for Individual Rights and Expression (FIRE) and College Pulse, a student-centered survey company, sought to assess the climate for free speech in the aftermath of Charlie Kirk’s death. The survey found that students across the board felt less comfortable expressing controversial views, attending public events and engaging in open discussion, both online and in person.

The survey also found a widening gap in tolerance of controversial speakers, with moderate and conservative students pulling back from speaker bans, while liberal students are becoming more inclined to exclude speakers whose views they find harmful or offensive. Overall, 68% of students in the survey said shouting down a speaker is an acceptable protest tactic, and 32% said using violence to stop a campus speech is acceptable.

In 2021, a student group at William & Mary sought to block a religious liberties lawyer from speaking at W&M Law School, arguing that the

organization he represents had lobbied against same-sex marriage and hate crime protections for people who identify as LGBTQ+. Law School Dean A. Benjamin Spencer refused to disinvite the speaker.

“That’s not what you do at a university,” Spencer told the group. “It’s the job of a university to bring in a range of views, and your remedy is to go to the event and not disrupt it but ask questions — they can be challenging questions — and engage in that dialogue, not suppress the speech.”

Each fall, the dean now includes a similar message to first-year law students. In addition, the Law School held a seminar for first-year law students in September, titled “Citizen Lawyers: Civil Discourse and Difficult Decisions.” The program is based on a national initiative by federal courts that is designed to improve decision-making and civil discourse skills.

The Law School’s Institute of the Bill of Rights Law hosts the Scalia-Ginsburg Collegiality Speaker Series, launched in 2022 to encourage friendship in a time of increasing partisan division. The series brings together pairs of advocates, judges and legal scholars who share a warm friendship despite disagreements over how they see the law. The February 2025 event featured Paul Clement, solicitor general under former President George W. Bush, and Donald Verrilli, solicitor general under former President Barack Obama.

Spencer says civil discourse is critical to W&M’s proud tradition of educating citizen lawyers who become leaders in their communities. The Law School also provides practical experience for students who provide pro bono services to local residents through clinics that focus on veterans’ benefits, special education, immigration, tax preparation, housing and other needs.

“It’s important to give people the tools for appropriate engagement that leads to shedding light on a topic and deepening understanding,” Spencer says. “And that’s what we’re trying to promote.”

In 2025, the Law School invited SpaceX Senior Vice President Timothy Hughes J.D. ’97 to speak at Commencement. Some students were displeased, given the company’s association with founder Elon Musk, who

had been the face of federal government cost-cutting efforts during the first few months of the year. But this time, there were no calls to cancel the speech, Spencer says.

“They requested to meet with the speaker and he had a meeting with students who wanted to talk about those issues,” the dean says. “They handled it very constructively.”

PROTECTING FREE SPEECH

Abby Varricchio ’23, a first-year law student at Drexel University Thomas R. Kline School of Law and former development associate at FIRE, says her experience at William & Mary researching issues related to free speech set her on her career path. She hopes to eventually practice First Amendment or media law.

Varricchio recalls that during her sophomore year at W&M there was intense debate surrounding abortion rights and restrictions. Students from opposing groups were erasing each other’s messages from a community chalkboard outside the Integrated Science Center.

“It caught me by surprise,” she says. “I wanted to know what drove students’ reactions and how the administration could help students achieve good political debate.”

At the time, Varricchio was involved in the Civic Agency Project, which applied multidisciplinary approaches to civic engagement. She worked with John Lombardini, an associate professor of government, and Anne Humphries Arseneau ’89, M.A.Ed. ’92 in Student Leadership Development to create and circulate a survey gauging students’ attitudes about the university’s policies concerning free expression. Later, W&M’s administration updated and clarified policies related to posting chalkboard messages and flyers.

She talked about her experiences this past November as a guest speaker for the university’s new chapter of BridgeUSA, an organization whose mission is “to empower young people to engage in constructive dialogue and disagreement to improve the quality of politics.”

At the meeting, students asked about FIRE’s free speech rankings,

“It’s the job of a university to bring in a range of views, and your remedy is to go to the event and not disrupt it but ask questions — they can be challenging questions — and engage in that dialogue, not suppress the speech.”

in which William & Mary received an overall rank of 33 out of 257 colleges and universities. The survey description notes that the university's strongest asset is its "green light" Spotlight rating, which rewards clear, speech-protective written policies. However, survey results show 45% of responding students had self-censored at least once or twice in the past month. According to the survey overview, the results suggest "persistent skepticism about how free expression plays out in practice."

Varricchio points out that William & Mary's rank of 33 puts the university just under the top 10% of U.S. institutions of higher learning.

"I took great pride in telling students that the administration has given us the tools and now students — especially the students in this room — can have those hard conversations openly," she says. "We should be emboldened by that."

BRIDGING DIVIDES

Independent of each other, both Emma Fix '26 and Ylva Oppold '26 sent inquiries last spring to BridgeUSA about starting a chapter on campus.

"I realized there needed to be a space where people could share their views," says Fix, a history major from Norfolk, Virginia. "BridgeUSA is not a debate club, it's just a place where you can hear other people's opinions. The point of the club is also to find solutions that work for everybody, and that can only be done if you hear everybody out."

After an interest meeting in October, the group held its first gathering as a recognized student organization on Nov. 18. In an effort to invite diverse perspectives, Oppold reached out to all the political organizations on campus for the second meeting, just before Thanksgiving break.

On the day the meeting took place, the first person to walk in was someone who had learned about the event through the new Turning Point USA chapter on campus.

The topic for that evening was handling of the Epstein files.

"In the end, it was a really good discussion, and almost everyone in the room was agreeing with each other," says Oppold, an international relations and philosophy

student from London. "I thought, 'OK, this is the point.'"

HEALTHY DEBATES

Len Neighbors, faculty advisor for the W&M Debate Society and teaching professor of speech, sees the current generation of college students as more reticent than their predecessors to disagree in public.

"They've watched the adults in their lives lose the ability to have civil disagreement," he says. But when he gives students permission to argue in debate classes, they embrace the opportunity.

"They instinctively know that you have to be able to do this to run a civilization," he says. "We can't have good policy and we can't have a marketplace of ideas if you're afraid of falling into disconnection every time you disagree."

At Debate Society events, disagreement is an inherent part of the structure. Similar to a competitive sport, participants face off over ideas and then shake hands afterward. They also need to be prepared to argue either side of an issue, providing insight into how someone might reach a different opinion than your own.

For example, Neighbors says, "If I strongly believe that the border of the United States should be open and my opponent takes that position because they're first to speak, I have to take a different position."

Seeing an issue from the opposing viewpoint can be instructive, he says: "My fundamental belief is that you will never be an effective advocate of your own position until you've had to oppose it."

Examining an issue from all sides often leads to an improved outcome, he adds: "The bedrock principle that two advocates strongly defending their positions will produce a better idea, a better compromise, a better solution — that is the foundational principle of the debate that we do."

Neighbors traces the society's roots back more than two centuries at William & Mary, where the nation's original chapter of Phi Beta Kappa hosted public debates. Today, students meet twice weekly on campus and travel to tournaments with other universities. The society consistently ranks among the top universities in competition nationwide.

Last spring, two W&M Debate Society members demonstrated their skills for

members of the university community by debating the question “Is College Worth It?”

Joann Yu '28, a chemistry and economics major who participated in that debate as a freshman, is now president of the society. Yu enjoys the competitive aspect of debates, but just as important is the opportunity to make friends at William & Mary and other universities. In the previous academic year, she was among the top 10 individual competitors in the American Parliamentary Debate Association. At last spring's debate, she

Despite clear differences of opinion about how to address the problem, students listened to the speakers without interrupting and they applauded each one. Usually, the last part of an event hosted by Young Independents is dedicated to reaching a resolution that the majority of attendees agree on. This time, that didn't happen because of the large number of participants.

“Strong attendance and passionate speakers bode well for more events like this in the future,” says Arman H. Manternach '27, an international

“We can't have good policy and we can't have a marketplace of ideas if you're afraid of falling into disconnection every time you disagree.”

was given the task of arguing that college is not worth the investment.

“I would say that I probably had the more difficult side, so this is a good example of how it's not really about what I personally believe in, it's just what arguments are available,” Yu says. Her arguments focused on cost versus return, the applicability of skills learned and the effects of artificial intelligence on higher education.

“The audience was pretty receptive,” she says. “They laughed at the bits that were funny, and they had great questions at the end.”

DISAGREEING RESPECTFULLY

On Oct. 27, the seats in Room 201 at Blair Hall filled up quickly for a joint debate hosted by W&M Young Independents in collaboration with College Republicans and the Liberal Students League. Additional chairs were added as about 75 students squeezed in. The evening's topic: “What should be done about political violence in America?”

After a coin flip determined the first speaker, students from each group took turns at the podium, with speakers given three minutes each to make their case, followed by an opportunity for questions and answers.

relations and finance major from Oregon and president of W&M Young Independents. “We've already been working on a larger and more publicly visible event for the spring semester.”

Afterward, clusters of students remained in the room, engaged in conversation.

“At events like these, I don't think people come to have their minds changed,” says College Republicans Vice President Caleb Ruger '27, a government major from Northern Virginia. “In some ways that's unfortunate, but really this is an arena for people to pit their ideas against other people's ideas.”

Young Independents Vice President Hunter Steele White '27, a government and religious studies major from Arizona, says interest in the debate is a sign that civil discourse is alive and well at William & Mary.

“At a time when people are so worried about not allowing ourselves to engage in the marketplace of ideas, events like this are what it's all about,” he says. “It's about engaging in a free exercise of thought, of debate, of argument.”

Liberal Students League member Cameron Swartz '28, a government student from Florida, says he believes political participation in events like the debate can help resolve America's polarization: “It makes people realize they're not as different as they might assume they are.” ☺

W&M Professional Development Week

February 23-27, 2026

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Professional Development Week is FREE and open to all members of the W&M community. Register today!



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WILLIAM
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CAREER DEVELOPMENT &
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2026 Alumni Medallion Recipients

PROFILES BY JACOB A. MILLER '18 & CLAIRE DE LISLE M.B.A. '21



The highest and most prestigious award given by the Alumni Association, the Alumni Medallion recognizes alumni who exemplify:

DEDICATION TO AND SUPPORT

for William & Mary

EXEMPLARY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

in their professional lives

LEADERSHIP IN CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

in their communities,
states or nations

The 2026 Alumni Medallions will be bestowed at a ceremony during Charter Day Weekend on Feb. 7, 2026, at 10 a.m. in the Sadler Center, Commonwealth Auditorium. A recording of the ceremony and videos featuring the recipients will be available at magazine.wm.edu/medallions-2026.



PHOTO: ALFRED HERCZEG P. 23



ELIZABETH CABELL JENNINGS '85, P '17

Elizabeth Cabell Jennings guides and strengthens organizations so they can better serve their communities. With a steady hand and a clear sense of purpose, she advances philanthropy, education and civic leadership across Virginia and beyond.

A Richmond native, Elizabeth transferred to William & Mary from Yale University and earned her economics degree in just two and a half years, while also participating in Phi Mu and W&M Lacrosse. She then built a distinguished career in investment management. After nearly three decades at Thompson, Siegel & Walmsley, where she rose to director of high-net-worth and regional institutional management, she pivoted toward her passion: serving the nonprofit sector as a leader of an OCIO specialty practice. She now advises educational and charitable organizations on governance, policy and investment strategy as a partner at ClearView Fiduciary Alliance. “It’s a natural alignment of my vocation and avocation,” she says, one that unites her expertise with her calling to strengthen mission-driven organizations.

Elizabeth joined the W&M Foundation Board in 2009, serving on the Investment Committee and the 1693 Partners Fund after it was established in 2020, helping guide the

university’s endowment through periods of challenge as well as growth and transformation. Her strategic thinking and investment expertise have also shaped her longstanding leadership of the Robert G. Cabell, III and Maude Morgan Cabell Foundation, a private family foundation that supports educational and cultural institutions across the Commonwealth. A champion of women’s philanthropy at William & Mary, she became a founding member of the Society of 1918. Her daughter MacNair Jennings '17 followed in her footsteps to attend W&M.

Elizabeth’s civic and community leadership spans decades of service on boards including St. Catherine’s School, Church Schools in the Diocese of Virginia, the Virginia Theological Seminary, the Richmond Symphony and Hollywood Cemetery. Grounded by what she calls her “organizing philosophy of life,” Jennings believes that those with means and capability “have an obligation to step into society and share that in one way or another.”

Through her professional acumen, wisdom and dedication, Elizabeth has helped ensure that the institutions she serves — including William & Mary — continue to thrive for generations to come.

“Her expertise, integrity and trust-based approach to business have earned her the respect of her peers and clients. Elizabeth doesn’t just show up — she jumps in and leads, offering her wisdom generously and without pretense.

Janet McNulty Osborn '85



LEANNE DORMAN KURLAND '75, P '05

For Leanne Dorman Kurland, life's greatest joys and most meaningful commitments can be traced to three constants: family, William & Mary and friends. Together, they form the foundation of her story of steadfast devotion to the Alma Mater of the Nation that has spanned more than half a century.

Leanne's journey at William & Mary began with her father, Lee Dorman '45, P '68, P '75, G '05 whose quiet pride in and generous support of the university inspired her to follow in his footsteps. "While he never pressured me, I cannot imagine my life had I not chosen William Mary," she says.

Her older sister, Lois Dorman Smith '68, and her son, Lee Kurland '05, continued the family tradition, while her husband, Alex Kurland HON '19, earned honorary alumni status for his decades of shared support and engagement.

Over the years, Leanne's service to William & Mary has touched nearly every corner of campus life. She served as a trustee of the William & Mary Foundation, chair of the Giving Societies and as co-chair of multiple class reunions. She is currently a member of the Muscarelle Museum of Art Foundation Board, a longtime class reporter and a Charter member of the Society of 1918. Together with her family, she has helped strengthen the university through generous philanthropic support — from scholarships and professorships

to capital projects such as the Alumni House, Wren Building, Kaplan Arena and the Mackesy Sports Performance Center.

Equally defining are the deep friendships that grew from her undergraduate days, especially among her Pi Beta Phi "posse." That sisterhood — 15 women bound by decades of shared life, laughter and love — has remained her anchor. "Had I not run across Richmond Road to join Pi Phi on that Spring '72 Bid Day, I truly doubt I would have found my lifelong connection to William & Mary," she says.

Beyond the university, Leanne's service has extended to civic and charitable organizations, including the Chicago region's Reading for the Blind and Dyslexic and Travelers and Immigrants Aid Society, and numerous political, education and health initiatives in Virginia and Illinois. Professionally, Leanne brought her sharp organizational skills, financial acumen and work ethic to her varied career. She worked in oncogenic viral science research, hospital surgical suite product development and health club management.

Reflecting on her decades of multifaceted involvement in her alma mater, she says, "One of the things I value most about William & Mary is how it keeps people connected. It absolutely did that for me and I am forever grateful for that transformative gift."

“

Leanne embodies what it means to be a William & Mary alumna: devoted, accomplished and engaged. Her record of leadership, service and generosity has left a lasting legacy on our alma mater and in the wider community.

Sue Hanna Gerdelman '76, P '07, P '13



PHOTO: ALFRED HERCZEG P '23

WINTER 2026



PHOTO: BOB HANDELMAN



DEVIN I. MURPHY '82, P '10, P '14

Driven, generous and grounded, Devin Murphy's leadership exemplifies what it means to be a William & Mary alumnus — achieving at the highest level while ensuring others have the chance to follow.

A history and English double major at William & Mary, Devin credits his time on campus with shaping both his intellect and his lifelong network. He met his wife, Jennifer Dow Murphy '82, P '10, P '14, in Williamsburg, beginning a family legacy now spanning generations of alumni, including Jennie's mother Jane Ottaway Dow '55, P '82, G '10, G '14. Two of their daughters, Eliza Chang '10 and Emilie Murphy '14, graduated from William & Mary, as did their son-in-law Jake Chang '09 — part of a family tree that now includes more than a dozen alumni.

Devin's professional career has spanned four decades at the highest levels of global finance. After early roles at Procter & Gamble and Morgan Stanley, he became global head of real estate investment banking at Deutsche Bank before returning to Morgan Stanley as vice chairman. In 2013, he joined Phillips Edison & Company, where as president he helped grow the firm from \$700 million to \$8 billion in enterprise value, ultimately leading its successful

public offering in 2021. Today, he serves on multiple public company boards and continues advising major real estate, venture and technology firms worldwide.

A scholarship recipient at his college preparatory school, Deerfield Academy, Devin's education was made possible by philanthropy — an experience that continues to shape his values. In addition to his longstanding engagement with and investment in Deerfield Academy, he and his family are generous supporters of William & Mary. He and his family established the Murphy Family Scholarship for students with financial need and the Murphy Family Faculty Fellowship to help William & Mary recruit and retain exceptional professors. They also support the Ottaway Track Scholarship for track student-athletes in honor of Jennie's uncle John P. Ottaway Jr. '57, P '84. "Financial resources should never be the barrier to educational opportunity," Devin says.

Beyond philanthropy, Devin has given generously of his time and counsel: chairing the *For the Bold* New York regional campaign, serving on the William & Mary Foundation Board, mentoring young professionals through industry networks and even helping illuminate the Empire State Building in green and gold to honor his alma mater.



Devin's exuberance for life, his family, his profession and this university is unparalleled. With that energy, his incredible good humor and healthy skepticism, he has not only touched and improved the lives of too many to count, but he also has set an example for those who can only aspire to have had nearly as much of a positive impact on our community.

David N. Kelley '81



STUART “STU” D. SPIRN ’67, J.D. ’70

For more than six decades, Stu Spirn has been a constant force for good in Williamsburg — a lawyer, mentor, coach and friend whose life has remained intertwined with the alma mater that helped shape it.

Stu earned both his undergraduate and law degrees from William & Mary, where he wrote for *The Flat Hat*, worked at the *Virginia Gazette* and played varsity soccer. His ties to W&M Athletics have endured ever since. A lifelong friend of coach Al Albert ’69, M.Ed. ’71, P ’03, Stu became the first chair of the men’s soccer alumni fundraising program nearly 50 years ago — a role that sparked decades of alumni engagement and generous support for student-athletes. In the early 1980s, he also organized and coached the men’s volleyball club teams at W&M, which were USA Volleyball Regional Champions. He serves on the Olde Guard Council, on reunion committees and as a class ambassador, helping strengthen community among generations of graduates. For his service to the W&M Alumni Association, he was awarded the Alumni Service Award in 2004.

After law school, Stu joined the U.S. Army’s Judge Advocate General’s Corps, where he was stationed in Okinawa during the U.S. handover of the island to Japan.

At just 26, he negotiated the legal and utility framework for the successful transfer. Returning home, he established a respected legal practice in Williamsburg, specializing in estate planning, real estate and small business law. Through his firm, Stu has mentored countless undergraduates and law students through internships and shadowing experiences. He was named a Fellow of the Virginia Law Foundation in 2024 for his community and civic contributions.

Beyond campus, Stu’s service to the community is steadfast. As founder and president of the Williamsburg Soccer Club — now the Virginia Legacy Soccer Club — he has shaped local athletics for 50 years, creating opportunities for thousands of youth players. He has also chaired the Williamsburg Redevelopment & Housing Authority, led the Williamsburg Hospice Board and Kiwanis Foundation and continued his volunteer leadership through the Williamsburg Soccer Foundation.

Reflecting on his life of service, Stu says William & Mary has always been his constant — “a place that nourished me when I needed it most.” He has returned that gift many times over, helping his alma mater and community thrive with the integrity, humor and generosity that have defined his life. ☺

“The ripples that emanate from Stu’s service to the university, to his community and to his profession have and will continue to touch the lives of thousands — particularly the lives of children and young adults most in need of opportunities to seize and of positive examples to follow. For a long time, Stu has provided both, bringing honor to William & Mary and its alumni.

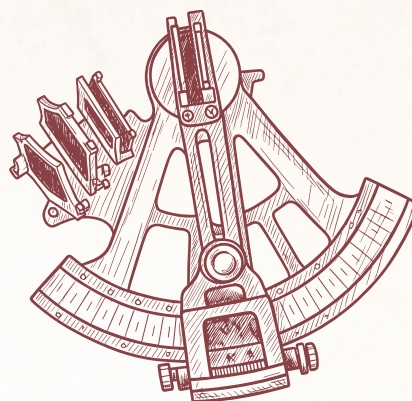
Donn T. Wonnell ’69



THE WILL TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

STORY BY JEREMY NORMAN





Will Payne '01 is redefining economic possibility, clean-energy innovation and entrepreneurship in Southwest Virginia.

From the firepits at Squabble State Hard Cider & Spirits in Bristol, Virginia, you can see multiple layers of the southern Appalachian Mountains stretching into Virginia, Tennessee and North Carolina. The views are sweeping, the air is crisp and the cider flows cold from vats named after metal bands — Metallica, Van Halen, Def Leppard, Guns N' Roses, Dokken and Mötley Crüe.

There is no place Will Payne '01 would rather be.

Squabble State reflects the two constants that have defined his career — a drive to build things that matter and an unwavering belief in the potential of people. That same instinct to invest in people also shapes his service to William & Mary, where he has held key leadership roles on the university's boards, supported major initiatives and created the Clean Energy Initiative Endowment to fuel student innovation.

The 68-acre agritourism destination he co-founded features a hard cider production facility, apple orchard, event spaces and ongoing projects including a distillery, cabins and trails. It may appear to be a rural escape, but for Payne, Squabble State is more than a business. It is an act of commitment, a form of stewardship and a tangible investment in the region he has spent years helping to rebuild.

"Southwest Virginia is my home," he says. "Squabble State is where I stay grounded and where my creativity flows."

Payne's path to cidemaker and regional economic developer was unconventional. It runs through William & Mary, the highest levels of Virginia politics, complex large-scale energy devel-

opment, multistate economic partnerships and, unexpectedly, coaching hockey in Vermont. But like the Revolutionary War-era explorers whose disputed land inspired the cidery's name, Payne has always been drawn to the frontier — places, ideas and opportunities waiting to be charted by someone willing to do the work.

As he puts it, "I'm driven by the thrill of creating something, whether it is political, entrepreneurial or this cidery, where I've helped build the facility and infrastructure with my own two hands."

Finding His Sextant at William & Mary

Payne, who grew up in Richmond, Virginia, applied to William & Mary without ever making a formal campus visit. With support from both of his parents, he chose the university for its reputation and fit. His family emphasized ambition with responsibility, and he carried that mindset to campus alongside his twin brother, Jud Payne '01. At William & Mary, he found not only rigorous academic programs but also a culture of civic engagement.

"I grew up hearing that giving back was part of the deal," he says. "I started volunteering in middle school, and William & Mary helped me turn that instinct into a habit."

He arrived in Williamsburg as a promising student still finding his lane. "I could hold my own in the classroom, but it took me a while to discover what I wanted to pursue," he says. While at William & Mary, his political sensibilities and entrepreneurial ambition found their footing.



“Everything I have been able to build traces back to two things William & Mary forged in me: an interdisciplinary way of thinking and the confidence to act on big, unconventional ideas.”

As a student, Payne played goalie for the university’s club ice hockey team and coached youth hockey on weekends. He committed himself to community service and immersed himself in public policy courses that encouraged him to examine the principles behind civic responsibility.

Most importantly, the university taught him two lasting lessons, he says. “Everything I have been able to build in my career traces back to two things William & Mary forged in me: an interdisciplinary way of thinking and the confidence to act on big, unconventional ideas.”

From Hockey Rinks to Campaign War Rooms

After graduating from W&M, Payne did not immediately enter politics. Rather, he followed his father’s advice to try something unexpected and took a position at a Vermont prep school, teaching and coaching hockey. He still describes it as one of the best jobs he ever had, rivaled only by driving the Zamboni for SkateNation, home of the Richmond Renegades.

Two years later, politics pulled him back to Virginia.

His first experience had been for a W&M student project conducting exit polling on Election Day in 2000, followed by working for then-Lt. Gov. John Hager’s unsuccessful campaign for governor in 2001. Something about translating data into strategy captured his interest: By 2003, he was working on political campaigns full-time.

“In politics, you are selling a person or an idea. Campaigns are results driven. You are basically told to make it happen, or you are fired,” he says with a laugh.

The high-pressure environment suited Payne. He built relationships across the state, relationships he continues to draw on in his work today. As someone who has worked with both Republican and Democratic leaders, he resisted being sorted into a camp.

“My job was never about serving a party,” Payne says. “I was hired to build a coalition.”

He worked closely with U.S. Sen. Mark Warner, a former Virginia governor, on his successful 2008 Senate campaign. Payne later wrote “Mark Warner the Dealmaker,” a biography tracing Warner’s rise from Nextel co-founder to governor.

“I’ve always known Will to be practical and purpose driven,” Warner says. “He approaches complex challenges with a deep respect for people and place and with the goal of getting the best results possible.”

Warner continues, “It’s this pragmatic mindset that has allowed him to work with both Democrats and Republicans. Will has been especially effective in regions like Southwest Virginia — where trust is earned, not given — because he’s willing to work with anyone and has the patience and practicality to do so.”

One commitment Warner made on the campaign trail resonated with Payne: No part of Virginia would be left behind. Payne carried that promise forward in his own work. “I have always been drawn to leaders who represent the best of Virginia,” he says. “I have been fortunate to work with people I believe in.”

After 15 campaigns spanning nearly two decades, Payne began looking for a lane beyond politics. Joining Gov. Ralph Northam’s administration in early 2018 to work on offshore wind and energy strategy was formative for him, but it also underscored the constraints of public systems. He came to see government as essential for direction and guardrails, while the private sector could mobilize capital and partnerships faster. He left after 18 months to pursue work outside government.

The state government experience, however, was transformative. It introduced him to the challenges facing the coal-field communities of Southwest Virginia, and Payne came to believe that the region could be reimaged.

Redefining What’s Possible in Southwest Virginia

Payne arrived in Southwest Virginia in mid 2019 with a campaign strategist’s eye: The assets were there, but the story and the alignment weren’t. “I could see how to build a coalition and deliver,” he says. The region, with its rugged geography and resilient people, sparked something in him.

He saw not decline, but opportunity.

Southwest Virginia has long faced significant economic challenges. Wages trail state and national averages by roughly a third,



ROOTED IN PLACE: Will Payne '01 stands outside Squabble State Hard Cider & Spirits in Bristol, Virginia, the 68-acre agritourism destination he co-founded as both a business venture and a long-term investment in the economic future of Southwest Virginia.

poverty rates are substantially higher, job growth has lagged and years of emigration have hollowed out the workforce.

The data reflects this reality. Poverty levels in the region are nearly twice the statewide average, large numbers of adults are out of work and the area suffers from persistent income stagnation. These conditions are rooted in the decline of the coal industry and the region's slow shift toward a more diversified economy.

"My goal is to grow the economy so more people have a real shot to succeed," he says. "To me, success is building projects that create durable local tax revenues, the kind that can replace what communities lose when legacy employers leave or shrink."

He saw undervalued assets — community colleges working in sync, strong infrastructure, a workforce eager for good jobs and landscapes filled with possibility. He also saw how outdated perceptions limited the region's potential, along with a persistent lack of long-term, community-focused investment.

Payne began reshaping the story through Coalfield Strategies, the economic development firm he founded to translate Southwest Virginia's assets into investable, job-creating projects. A flagship early effort, InvestSWVA, brought public and private partners together, packaging the region's sites, workforce and infrastructure in a way that made it easier for prospects to say yes and faster for communities to respond.

But for Payne, changing perception wasn't a slogan. It required showing up, doing the legwork and building a pipeline of wins.

He embedded himself in the community, approaching the work with the strategic mindset of a campaign manager. He knocked on doors, built trust, gathered data, mapped assets and connected stakeholders.

"Will came into Southwest Virginia from outside the area and immediately fit in, with no prior judgment of the region but a strong desire to contribute," says Mike Quillen, chair of

Energy DELTA Lab and former rector of the Virginia Tech Board of Visitors. "He has learned the history and successes of the region, especially in the energy arena."

Payne flipped "here is how you can help the region" to "here is how the region can solve your problem better than anywhere else."

Quick wins were essential. They came in the form of several hundred new jobs in technology, health care and energy, including projects with higher retention and satisfaction rates than comparable operations elsewhere.

Those early victories showed where the region could compete at scale. Payne saw the biggest, most enduring opportunities in clean energy. Now with Energy DELTA Lab and the Southwest Virginia Energy R&D Authority, he and his partners are advancing projects on reclaimed coal mine lands, eyeing turning once-disturbed sites into platforms for new investment.

"Rather than calling shots or giving advice from afar, he moved to Southwest [Virginia], embedded himself in the community, and put his own capital and credibility on the line," Warner says. "Will believes that honoring a region's past and building its future are not opposing ideas."

Pumped storage hydropower, solar and mine-water geothermal-cooled data centers have become practical pathways for putting land back to work and rebuilding local economies. "What better way to revitalize the region," Payne says, "than to use the land that once powered America to power what comes next?"

The work is slow, complex and political. Patience, he notes, is the biggest challenge. Yet Payne remains steadfast. His approach is rooted in relationships, transparency and a strong belief in the people of Southwest Virginia.

"People want to build a life here," he says. "They want businesses to invest in them. My job is to connect the right decision makers and make it easier to say yes."



BROTHERS BUILT TO ROCK: Payne and his twin brother, Jud Payne '01 (right), toast in front of cider vats named after legendary rock bands. Jud left a consulting career to help grow the business.

A New Chapter: Squabble State Hard Cider & Spirits

The cidery was never part of Payne's original plan. But in the breaks between energy projects, he and his co-founder — longtime friend Will Clear — developed an idea with deep local roots.

"Farmers are the original entrepreneurs," Payne says, noting that Southwest Virginia had once been a major grain producer. Apple culture also runs deep. Through Appalachian Grains, a pilot project that connected local growers with the craft beverage industry, he saw firsthand how much the land and its history still shape what's possible.

So, in 2020, Payne and Clear set out to build a craft beverage company "rooted in historical defiance." The name Squabble State comes from a centuries-long land dispute along the Virginia-North Carolina border, which later became the Virginia-Tennessee state line. Revolutionary War widows even listed the area, then called the Squabble State, as their home address. The sextant in the logo references the early surveying tool that created and eventually resolved the conflict.

"Everything about Squabble State is rooted in place," Payne says, "built for

this land, the community and the history that shaped it."

The farm they purchased was rugged, beautiful and underutilized. Zoning was the first hurdle, and local leaders supported the project. The team planted their first apple trees in 2023, choosing varieties local to the region, all carefully tied and trained to grow upright.

"Farming teaches humility," Payne acknowledges. "Weather, pests, disease. If it can go sideways, it will."

The cidery opened in fall 2024. That first winter tested the young business, bringing the region's harshest weather in decades, though fall 2025 was spectacular, according to Payne.

Depending on the season, Squabble State features six to eight ciders on tap or in cans. Its core lineup includes dry, semi-sweet, pear, blood orange and its most popular flavor, blackberry, alongside rotating seasonal offerings such as pumpkin spice, gingerbread, blueberry lemon, bourbon barrel-aged vanilla, strawberry and dark cherry. The tap list also includes beer, with options such as a lager, a Kölsch, an amber ale and an IPA.

The ingredients are intentionally simple, free of artificial flavors or extracts. "It's fermented apple juice, lightly back sweetened with organic sugar and sometimes blended with other fruit

juices," Payne says. "Nothing pretentious, just a crisp, dry-style cider for everyday drinkers."

Today, Squabble State has become a regional destination for families, hikers, cider lovers and visitors from Tennessee, who make up more than half its customer base. The space expands each season. The orchard and cidery came first, to be followed this year by a 6,000-square-foot distillery and wedding venue. Cabins and nature trails are on the horizon.

For Payne, the philosophy is simple. "Give people more than a reason to stop. Give them a reason to come back. That's how you become a destination."

He and his business partner run much of the operation themselves and learn as they go. Payne's twin brother, Jud, left a lucrative career at Deloitte to join the team, helping lead growth strategy and marketing while also working alongside them on energy projects. The cider vats carry the names of rock bands because Will is an avid fan of 1980s music, specifically "hair metal." Since 2000, he has attended 242 concerts, with Def Leppard as his favorite. He is taking electric bass lessons and hopes to eventually become good enough to join a cover band that could play at Squabble State, among other venues.

PHOTO BY TIM SOFRANCO



CRAFTED FOR COMMUNITY: *An array of ciders lines the bar, highlighting Squabble State's rotating selection of dry, fruit-forward and seasonal offerings rooted in the region's agricultural traditions.*

He jokes that cidermaking is mostly cleaning and maintenance: "If you're not spending most of your time sanitizing equipment and keeping it operational, you're doing it wrong." The resident cidery cat, Pepper, supervises from underfoot.

"Squabble State is where I stay grounded and where my creativity flows."

Squabble State also carries strong W&M ties. Students helped to design the business space and research the area's history using the diaries of famed explorer Thomas Walker, who attended William & Mary in the 1700s and was the first person to explore the Western Colony of Virginia, now present-day Kentucky. Troy Wiipongwii M.P.P. '18 of the Institute for Integrative Conservation has advised on sustainability models and indigenous crop opportunities. Daron Ford M.B.A. '24, a 20-year fermentation science expert, serves as a business consultant.

"This isn't a pitch, it's a commitment," Payne says of Squabble State. "We built the business without investor pressure, and we're growing it here for the long haul."

Giving Back: A Legacy Rooted in Service

"Will is a problem solver, a uniter and a natural servant leader," says former W&M Rector Todd Stottlemeyer '85, D.P.S. '25, P '16, P '21. "He has a wide lens due to the breadth of his experiences, which gives him the ability to see around corners, anticipate challenges and opportunities, and bring people together to chart a path forward."

Payne's service to William & Mary is extensive. He has served on the Board of Visitors twice, rising to vice rector and chairing key committees, including the Committee on Administration, Buildings & Grounds. Serving on the committee that oversaw the hiring of President Katherine Rowe remains a highlight.

"Will's active participation and steady leadership throughout the presidential search process, which resulted in the hiring of Katherine Rowe, were critical to the success of the search," Stottlemeyer adds.

Payne now chairs the William & Mary Real Estate Foundation Board of Directors and serves on the William & Mary Foundation's Board of Trustees, roles that have given him a new understanding of how the university operates.

"Will has been successful mainly because he listens," says John Littel HON '23, P '22, who was chief of staff for Virginia Gov. Glenn Youngkin and former rector for the William & Mary Board of Visitors. "Most people talk more frequently than they listen, and they believe they can persuade



"I want the next generation to live, grow and thrive here. That is why I am invested in Southwest Virginia. It is why I am invested in William & Mary."

people to agree. Will approaches things differently. He allows people the space to express themselves, and then finds common ground."

Payne's approach was particularly helpful several years ago during the Board of Visitors' consideration of how historical figures are memorialized on campus.

"It was a real challenge, and it was a very emotional time period," Littel says. "But I think we got it right, and a lot of that is because of Will's character and his process in going through that."

Payne's philanthropy reflects the same instinct that drives his work in Southwest Virginia: long-term investment in people. "I grew up with a strong sense of responsibility to others," he says. "That stayed with me."

It is why he created the Will Payne Clean Energy Initiative Endowment in 2023 to support student-driven ventures through the William & Mary Entrepreneurship Hub. "Clean energy represents one of the most significant economic transformations of our lifetime," he says. "If this fund helps even one student launch a venture or bring opportunity to a community that needs it, then it's worth it."

Payne adds that the endowment is also deeply personal. "William & Mary has been a constant in my life, and it's the people that make it what it is," he says. "Ultimately, this initiative is about gratitude. William & Mary invested in me, and now I want to help the next generation lead boldly, creatively and with a commitment to service."

He has also supported the W&M Athletics Complex, contributed to the Alumni House expansion and hosted alumni events such as a recent Yule Log celebration at Squabble State — all driven by his belief in preserving William & Mary's traditions and shared experiences for future generations.

"It's important that, no matter where you live, you can stay connected to W&M and the common experiences that every alumnus shares," he says. "They're the

moments you carry with you and instantly recognize in fellow alumni."

Looking Forward: Building a Future That Lasts

Payne divides his week between two demanding worlds that couldn't be more different. By day, he advances a portfolio of energy generation and R&D projects. Off-hours, Squabble State takes over: making cider, greeting guests, keeping equipment running, tending to the orchard and mapping what comes next.

He doesn't need much downtime, and he rarely takes it.

"I'm not big on vacations," he says. "If I need a reset, I'll head out to a rock concert and come back recharged."

He and Jud are closer than ever. "Less fighting than when we were younger," he jokes. Working together professionally, they've discovered a shared passion for building something meaningful.

Looking ahead, Payne is focused on two legacies — revitalizing the economy of Southwest Virginia and supporting the next generation of William & Mary students.

He thinks about infrastructure, workforce development, long-term investment and the need for businesses that stay rather than relocate when challenges arise.

Payne thinks about students who, like him, need a spark that becomes a calling. He thinks about the cidery's firepits and the view of mountain ridges rolling into the distance, where he feels at peace. And he thinks about what it means to build a legacy grounded in community.

"I want to see this region succeed," he says. "I want the next generation to live, grow and thrive here. That is why I am invested in Southwest Virginia. It is why I am invested in William & Mary."

After all, Will Payne has always believed that the future is brightest in places where people are willing to invest their time, their ideas and their hearts.

Where there is a Will, there is a way. ☺



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DONATIONS WERE CONTRIBUTED TO
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Ava Lentz '26
PSYCHOLOGY

“

It is so valuable to be given the
chance to learn and grow, and
William & Mary has given me that.
Thank you so much for your support!
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everything that comes with it has
changed my life. I wouldn't
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PHOTO: TIMOTHY D. SOFRANKO



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LEVEL UP

William & Mary's Studio for Teaching & Learning Innovation (known as STLII) supports learning that blends gaming, digital media and coding as hands-on, collaborative ways of exploring ideas. This approach values experimentation and participation, treating learning as an active, evolving process shaped by creativity and community.



IN HER ELEMENT: *Elizabeth Train '78, shown in the Dolomites in northeastern Italy, strengthened her connection to the outdoors while hiking the Appalachian Trail before attending William & Mary.*



Charting a New Course

RETIRED REAR ADM. ELIZABETH TRAIN '78
MODELS WOMEN'S REPRESENTATION IN THE
NAVY AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

ALUMNI PROFILE As a rear admiral in the U.S. Navy, Elizabeth Train '78 led intelligence operations across the globe, most prominently for the Fukushima nuclear disaster resulting from a 2011 tsunami in Japan.

Her impact as a military leader is rooted in both her academic background studying biology at William & Mary and a pivotal pre-college adventure hiking the entire Appalachian Trail. Together, those experiences reinforced her commitment to protecting natural resources and instilled the self-reliance and confidence that guided her leadership throughout her career.

Train's journey to the Navy was not the path she originally intended. After graduating from high school in Norfolk, Virginia, she took a gap year. Her father, a high-ranking officer in the Navy, suggested she use her savings to hike the Appalachian Trail. She made her way to Georgia and began her 2,200-mile trek to Maine.

"It was transformational," Train says. "I thought I was getting away into the wilderness, but what I found was this incredible community, whether it was hikers or those that lived nearby. Witnessing the incredible biodiversity of the Appalachian Mountains was incredibly exciting for me."

Train spent her first year of college at the University of Colorado Boulder before transferring to William & Mary for her sophomore year. She chose W&M for the faculty-student connections and higher academic rigor. Inspired by her time on the trail, she majored in biology and found mentors in Gus Hall, professor emeritus of biology, and Mitchell Byrd, Chancellor Professor of Biology emeritus.

After graduation, she spent five years in Charlottesville, Virginia, leading trips with Blue Ridge Mountain Sports. Though she rose to management, she felt she could be doing more.

"I was surrounded by people who loved the outdoors, and while I was making good money and I loved the people I worked with, I didn't feel that I was really doing enough for the world," she says. "That converged with my father's retirement. I knew that the Navy was just starting to put

PHOTO: COURTESY OF ELIZABETH TRAIN '78



women into intelligence positions in deploying aviation squadrons, and I saw an opportunity for myself.”

GLOBAL SERVICE

Train was accepted to Officer Candidate School and began her intelligence career with six months of training in Denver, followed by an initial assignment that included an eight-month deployment to Navy Support Facility Diego Garcia, a small U.S./U.K. joint air base in the Indian Ocean. She was one of two female officers in her squadron.

“I felt what I was doing, even as a junior officer, was important. I never looked back,” she says.

She continued to serve in intelligence positions, primarily based in San Diego and Hawaii, until the policy that prevented women from serving in combat aviation units was lifted in 1994 and she began her first at-sea duty and then was stationed around the world. She also became a parent of two children, blazing a new kind of trail as a working mother in the Navy.

After the 9/11 attacks, she was appointed to lead the Joint Intelligence Task Force- Combating

Terrorism (JITF-CT), reporting to the Joint Chiefs of Staff. In this role, she was tasked with hiring and training 330 civilians to be defense intelligence counterterrorism analysts.

“I was able to create a program where we deployed civilian analysts with operational military forces in Iraq and Afghanistan. That was unheard of at the time, and now it’s become very normalized,” she says.

This led to a promotion to become director of intelligence at the U.S. Pacific Command in Hawaii. Train had spent part of her childhood in Hawaii when her father was deployed there, and it remains her most meaningful post.

“It was sentimental for me,” she says. “I never thought I would go back when I joined the Navy. I ended up doing three separate tours in Hawaii, and I loved every one of them.”

Train was based in Honolulu when the 2011 Tohoku Earthquake and Tsunami in Japan caused the Fukushima nuclear disaster. By then, she was a one-star admiral, making her one of the highest-ranking officials in the region. She said the U.S. response to Fukushima was one of the greatest challenges she faced in her career.

“We had to plan to potentially evacuate 100,000 people out of Tokyo. We had to protect our operating forces that were there with the Japanese doing recovery operations, and we had to monitor the nuclear materials in the air and on the soil and on the land,” she says. “It was very complicated.”

Although the initial response occurred 15 years ago, Train says the emotional effects remain with her today.

“The government of Japan was so grateful to the U.S. for those efforts. I get letters to this day from retired Japanese military officers who still thank me every year,” she says. “I loved that the interagency effort pulled everyone together — military, government and civilians — to do something important.”

REFLECTING ON AND RETURNING TO HER ROOTS

In addressing the Fukushima disaster, among her other responsibilities while stationed in the Pacific, Train was able to draw upon her biology education.

“Most of the crises were natural disasters,” she says. “There were volcanoes in the Philippines and Indonesia; tsunamis and torrential rainstorms in Taiwan, China, the Philippines and South Korea; flooding in Bangladesh and Sri Lanka.”

STANDING TALL:
Train took in the vista from McAfee Knob in Southwest Virginia during her Appalachian Trail journey in 1974.



PHOTO: COURTESY OF ELIZABETH TRAIN '78

**“I 100% ATTRIBUTE MY SUCCESS AS A NAVAL OFFICER,
AND SPECIFICALLY IN INTELLIGENCE, TO WILLIAM & MARY.”**

Train says the liberal arts curriculum at William & Mary helped her develop writing and critical thinking skills that were crucial in her intelligence and military career.

“I 100% attribute my success as a naval officer, and specifically in intelligence, to William & Mary,” she says.

Train returned to campus in September for W&M Women’s Weekend. Along with other prominent alumnae speakers, she reflected on how her William & Mary experiences impacted her career. 2025 was the 100th anniversary of the Appalachian Trail Conservancy, and Train also spoke about how her journey on the trail gave her the confidence to make the key decisions of her life, including transferring to W&M and joining the Navy.

As part of her visit to campus, she observed the new William & Mary Naval ROTC program, established in partnership with Hampton University. She says she is incredibly proud to see her alma mater renew its commitment to the Navy, which celebrated its 250th anniversary in October.

Now retired from the Navy, Train has turned to honing her passions for nature and conservation. A certified Virginia Master Naturalist, she is president of the Friends of Huntley Meadows Park, an advocacy group for a 1,500-acre wetlands wildlife sanctuary in Fairfax County. She recently won outstanding volunteer of the year award recognition from the county for 5,000 hours of community service to local parks, preserves and schools.

Train wants to be remembered for the lives she helped and the environmental issues she was able to contribute to solving.

“I think that women in the armed forces and diversity in the armed forces are incredibly important. You want your military to reflect the composition of the population it’s serving,” she says. “I want to be known as a trailblazer as a woman in the armed forces. My education at William & Mary was truly instrumental in how I function as a naval officer. Now I want to use my leadership skills post-retirement to serve environmental concerns.”

— HANNAH SAWYER ’27



MILITARY LEADER:
Train retired from the Navy in 2016 after 33 years, which included serving as commander of the Office of Naval Intelligence.

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Emma Macken '25



A Plastic-Free Future

RETIREMENT BROUGHT JOHN GARRETT '67, P '93, P '95, G '21, G '23 A NEW CAUSE TO CHAMPION: ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY



ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY: *Everyone's Earth recently launched its first products: sustainable dryer sheets and laundry detergent.*

ALUMNI PROFILE After a business career of more than four decades, John Garrett '67, P '93, P '95, G '21, G '23 could have chosen to take it easy. Instead, he is spending his retirement years working to advance sustainability as chairman of the up-and-coming company Everyone's Earth.

The company is tackling what Garrett and his colleagues view as one of the planet's most significant pollution crises: the manufacturing and consumption of single-use household products. Specifically, they are creating sustainable alternatives to plastic items such as diapers, dryer sheets, feminine care products and wipes.

Both the production and consumption of such goods bring with them steep environmental costs.

For example, Garrett points out that the production of a typical box of plastic-based dryer sheets requires about three cups of crude oil, and an individual diaper requires about one cup. Additionally, he highlights the issue of discarded plastic with the example of the "Great Pacific Garbage Patch." This is the name given to the concentration of plastic waste in the Pacific

Ocean whose footprint is now about twice the size of the state of Texas. Everyone's Earth offers biodegradable alternatives to some of the single-use plastic items that contribute substantially to this problem.

Working with Everyone's Earth has made Garrett more aware of the extent of the environmental costs of plastic use.

"For a long time, I was ignorant about it. I had too many things going on: raising a family, trying to be successful professionally, exercise and having some fun and all those other things that are important," he says. "And plastic is easy to use. But as I've learned more, I've become aware that the path we're on with our consumption of plastic and its manufacturing ramifications is not sustainable."

A WILLIAM & MARY LEGACY

Garrett comes from a long line of William & Mary graduates. His maternal grandfather, Hervey R. Terrell 1900, P '40, G '67, G '69, G '70, started the tradition, followed by both of his parents, John H. Garrett '40, P '67, P '70, G '93, G

PHOTO: COURTESY OF JOHN GARRETT '67, P '93, P '95, G '21, G '23

“THE PATH WE’RE ON WITH OUR CONSUMPTION OF PLASTIC AND ITS MANUFACTURING RAMIFICATIONS IS NOT SUSTAINABLE.”

’95 and Ann Terrell Garrett ’40, P ’67, P ’70, G ’93, G ’95. Though he says he didn’t always plan to attend the university, John ended up following the footsteps of his relatives and started school at William & Mary in 1963.

While on campus, he was an economics major. He also spent two years on the swimming and diving team, joined the Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity and met his future wife, Rose Gammon Garrett ’68, P ’93, P ’95, G ’21, G ’23.

When he graduated, the Vietnam War was reaching its peak. “In my senior year, the Army sent enough buses to pick up every male senior on campus and took us to Richmond to get our draft physicals. You knew you were going to get drafted upon graduation,” Garrett says. He decided to proactively join the Navy, where he spent the next seven years serving on two Polaris submarines, among other naval assignments.

After completing his military service, Garrett chose to explore the business world, which had long been a dream of his. “I always thought that I wanted to be an ‘independent businessman.’ I didn’t really know what that meant, but it had a nice ring to it,” he says, laughing.

BUSINESS AT THE FOREFRONT

His self-motivated approach to business led him to his career-long employer, Ferguson Enterprises. The fairly new plumbing distribution company offered him a management training position, which he accepted with enthusiasm.

“It was aggressive, hardworking, high-standards, high-expectations and fast-paced,” he says. “We had 55- and 60-hour work weeks, but that intrigued and excited me.” As Garrett rose through the management ranks, Ferguson grew from a company with \$25 million in annual revenue in 1974 to \$6 billion by the time he retired in 2007 after more than 30 years.

After retiring, Garrett quickly found himself seeking another challenge. “Some say, ‘If you like Saturdays, you’ll love retirement.’ But if every day is Saturday, it gets kind of boring. So you have to redefine yourself in your retirement years,” he says.

He found opportunities working with private equity firms that valued his knowledge and experience. Those activities connected him with Tom Kallish, the founder of Everyone’s Earth, when Garrett invested in Kallish’s previous entrepre-

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LOVE, W&M STYLE:
Garrett met his wife of 57 years, Rose Gammon Garrett '68, P '93, P '95, G '21, G '23, while attending William & Mary.

neurial venture, a compression clothing brand called Tommie Copper.

The new company's initial focus was inventing a biodegradable cotton diaper called Change, in an effort to reduce the 20 million petroleum-based plastic diapers that are consumed and disposed of annually in the United States.

"Until recently, consumers faced an impossible choice," says Kallish. "You could either use products that actually work, or you could try to protect the environment. There was no option that delivered both." The company's sustainable alternatives offer frustrated shoppers a way out of this dilemma, he says.

Its products are made with 100% biodegradable cotton, which is promoted as delivering quality equal to that of plastic-based products at a much lower environmental cost. As proof of concept, Everyone's Earth's launched its Cobi line of sustainable dryer sheets and laundry detergent in 2025 to positive customer response and is following up with lines of baby wipes and diapers.

In his role as chairman, Garrett helps the board of directors work through the logistics of building a young company. This involves finding manufacturing partners, developing the company's internal workforce, marketing its products and more.

KEEPING IT IN THE TRIBE

Almost 60 years after graduation, Garrett remains closely involved with the William & Mary community. Two of his children — Katie

Garrett Boehly '95 and Kelly Garrett Curtiss '93, P '21, P '23 — have continued the family's tradition of attending William & Mary. Just like their parents, both married fellow William & Mary alumni: Todd Boehly '96 and John Curtiss '93, P '21, P '23, respectively. Additionally, two of Garrett's grandchildren, Garrett Curtiss '21 and Courtney Curtiss '23, became the latest members of the family to graduate from the university.

John Garrett, meanwhile, continues to be a frequent presence on campus and a dedicated philanthropist. He has donated to a multitude of programs and projects at William & Mary over the years, including men's swimming, the W&M Athletics Complex fund, the Alumni House expansion and the Muscarelle Museum of Art.

"I've been very fortunate with my professional successes. It's nice to be in a position where you feel like you can give back in a way that creates a positive impact," he says.

Garrett hopes to raise awareness about the environmental crises associated with single-use plastic products and the alternatives that are available.

"We need people to know who we are, what we're doing and why," he says. "We have products that perform and are environmentally neutral. The sooner Everyone's Earth gains traction, the better it is for our planet and future generations. We can begin to reverse our environmentally destructive consumption trends."

— SHANNON RAYMOND '27

PHOTO: COURTESY OF JOHN GARRETT '67, P '93, P '95, G '21, G '23



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Prescribing Hope

DR. RICHARD BEDLACK '88 AND MARVIN SHAW '83 ARE DEDICATED TO FINDING A CURE FOR ALS

LIFTING SPIRITS:
Dr. Richard Bedlack speaks at the I Am ALS Summit in Washington. His vibrant jackets are intended to help himself and those around him stay positive.



ALUMNI PROFILE Marvin Shaw '83 and his wife, Deborah, had just bought tickets for a trip to Italy to celebrate her 60th birthday when she started falling down repeatedly for no apparent reason. They visited a neurologist in April 2023, and the next month she was diagnosed with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), also known as Lou Gehrig's disease.

The news was devastating for the couple since there is no cure for ALS, a progressive neurodegenerative disease that diminishes a person's ability to move, speak, eat and breathe. They immediately began researching medication, National Institutes of Health studies, clinical trials and experimental treatments, but found few options.

"We left no stone unturned," says Shaw, a government major who devoted his career to financial and automotive safety, including making airbags safer and mandating antilock brakes on heavy trucks. In addition to visiting health care providers around the United States, they con-

tacted doctors in Israel, South Korea and Italy. "Nobody had an answer."

Through a work colleague of Deborah's, they came in contact with Dr. Richard "Rick" Bedlack '88, a professor at Duke University who conducts research and serves as director of the ALS Clinic he established there. He is widely known among patients and advocates for his "ALS Untangled" podcasts, videos and website reviewing alternative and off-label treatments with the goal of helping people make informed decisions. Bedlack also founded the ALS Clinical Learning Research Institute, which has trained over 800 people to be better research advocates through monthly webinars.

The Shaws canceled their trip to Italy, but still managed to travel to Oregon, New England and the United Kingdom during the last year of Deborah's life. After she died from ALS in July 2024, Shaw became involved in advocating for ALS patients and their families through the organization I Am ALS. He raises funds, provides peer counseling

PHOTO: ALLISON SHELLEY, COURTESY OF I AM ALS

"I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO GIVE PEOPLE WITH THIS DISEASE OPTIONS AND HOPE."

and helps the organization navigate regulatory and legislative systems.

Although both he and Bedlack attended William & Mary in the 1980s, their paths had not crossed previously. "In August 2023, I sent Rick an email," says Shaw, who lives in Chevy Chase, Maryland. "He gave us background about various pharmaceuticals available for patients and was very supportive."

Bedlack stands out from other physicians with his multicolored sweater vests and suit jackets, signature rings and shock of silver hair. His intention is to bring a smile to patients' faces with his vibrant and sometimes whimsical attire, while offering a sympathetic ear and a willingness to investigate new treatments.

"I've always wanted to give people with this disease options and hope," Bedlack says. "When I'm driving in to work every day, that's what I'm thinking about."

A psychology major while at W&M, Bedlack encountered his first ALS patient as a medical resident in neurology at Duke. "I remember the attending physician coming into the room and saying, 'This is called ALS. We don't know why it happens. There's nothing we can do about it.' I remember the look on the patient's face." Driving home that day, Bedlack thought, "There has to be more we can do."

The average life expectancy for someone diagnosed with ALS is about three years, although people have survived much longer. British physicist and cosmologist Stephen Hawking, for example, lived with the disease for more than five decades.

Developing treatments for ALS is complicated by the many forms of the illness.

"There are genetic causes and nongenetic causes of ALS," Bedlack says. "Even within the genetic category, there are 40 different genes that can be mutated. So there are potentially hundreds of subtypes of ALS."

There have been a few breakthroughs, such as the drug tofersen, which the Food and Drug Administration approved for patients with ALS caused by a mutation in a specific gene known as SOD1.

"It's what I would call a home run," Bedlack says. "Most people who are on this drug for more than two years are stable; their symptoms are not progressing anymore. About 20% are recovering lost motor function. That's fantastic. That's exactly what we've been looking

for, but only 1% of everyone with ALS has that form of the disease."

His own research focuses on what he calls "outliers" — rare patients whose symptoms have reversed.

"I know of 62 people who met published criteria for an ALS diagnosis, and progressed in some cases to where they were totally paralyzed, and then recovered all or most of their lost motor function," he says. "If I can understand how this is happening, I might be able to make it happen more often."

This year, he will conduct two new clinical trials. One involves manipulating a gut microbiome to try to slow ALS by isolating an organism called *Phocaeicola vulgatus* in the stool of a donor whose illness is progressing slowly and transplanting it to other patients. The second trial focuses on a gene mutation that Bedlack discovered was present among a third of the patients whose symptoms had reversed. The gene controls how much a person has of something called insulin-like growth factor binding protein 7 (IGFBP7).

"My theory is that some people have a lot less of this protein, and that actually sets them up to be able to recover from ALS," he says. "I'm working on a trial to try to knock that protein down as much as I can to see if it will help anyone else recover."

In May, Bedlack gave the keynote address to the I Am ALS 2025 Community Summit in Washington. His theme was cultivating hope.

"Hope is so much more than just an emotion," Bedlack told attendees. "It's more, even, than a coping strategy. I've come to believe that hope is a treatment. If you look across just about every disease where hope has been studied, those that have more of it do much better than those with less of it. They live much longer if they're more hopeful."

Editor's note: A scholarship (fund No. 4637) was established for MBA students at William & Mary in memory of Jennifer Quartana Guethoff '88, M.B.A. '95, who died from ALS in 2020. She was Deloitte's inaugural global deputy chief ethics officer and a Society of 1918 member. Ray Gowin '67, a former W&M football player who died in September after battling ALS, requested donations to the Duke ALS Clinic in support of Bedlack.

— TINA ESHLEMAN



A JOYFUL MOMENT: Marvin Shaw '83 and his wife, Deborah, celebrated their daughter Rebecca's wedding in March 2024 along with their younger daughter, Rachel.



Burritos in Bengaluru

HOW ONE STUDENT'S STUDY ABROAD EXPERIENCE IN INDIA INSPIRED
A MULTIMILLION-DOLLAR BUSINESS



RAPID GROWTH: Bert Mueller '11 and his team launch a new restaurant in Pune, India. As of December, the company had 125 locations.

ALUMNI PROFILE The headline for the CNBC “Make It” video about Bert Mueller '11, posted on April 26, 2025, was irresistible: “I left the U.S. for India and built a \$23M burrito business.”

It's no surprise the story was picked up around the world. It has a charismatic hero, a journey to India and almost fairytale-like success. And to add to the magic, as he was building this burrito empire, he was also managing a solid career as a film composer, with credits including “Blood, Sand and Gold,” “Bandslam” and “Nova Roma,” among others.

But the details behind the story of how Mueller built his business are just as interesting as the attention-grabbing headline. A crucial decision to study abroad set things in motion.

Study abroad experiences are known to be transformational and often life changing. They can lead to greater confidence, increased cultural competency, flexibility and adaptability — which are also qualities of many successful entrepre-

neurs, along with curiosity, willingness to experiment and risk tolerance.

CURIOSITY

“I was a good student,” Mueller says. “I like learning.”

He was a music and public policy double major at William & Mary. Except for a love of Indian food, there weren't any road signs pointing to a future in Bengaluru, also known as Bangalore.

But for the second semester of his junior year, he decided to study abroad in India. “I wanted to do something very different, so India fit that bill,” he says.

Although W&M now has a program to Bengaluru and Goa, it didn't exist when Mueller was a student. He consulted with a staff member at the Reves Center for International Studies who told him about a program through the University of Minnesota to Hyderabad and Jaipur, and he was on his way.

PHOTO COURTESY OF BERT MUELLER '11

“THE EXPERIENCE OF BEING IN INDIA WAS THE ULTIMATE EDUCATION.”

“There were probably 20 students in the program. I was the only one from William & Mary,” he says, adding that the program operated from a rented house in Jaipur. “Students stayed with family members, so it was almost like a home schooling experience.”

Classes covered subjects such as language, history and architecture, but those were secondary for him.

“The experience of being in India was the ultimate education,” he says.

For several months, Mueller lived with a married couple with a young son and grandmother. “The food was excellent,” he says.

He traveled as much as he could during his time in India. “I was the person who organized all of our traveling,” he says. “We went to Rishikesh, Agra and Vrindavan and Jaisalmer. Many places in the north.”

After his study abroad program ended, Mueller wanted to return to India and open a business. Recalling how much his Indian hosts enjoyed the Mexican snacks a classmate shared, he decided to open a restaurant that served California-style burritos. It was a risk, but he saw an opportunity and was willing to try – with sound preparation.

LEARNING THE BUSINESS OF FOOD

He returned to Williamsburg and began to put his plan into action. First step: Learn about the restaurant business. Still an undergraduate, he got a part-time job at Moe’s Southwest Grill. “I wanted to see if I liked the work before I started a

company,” he says. Mueller learned two main things: “The restaurant business is not rocket science, and it’s very people dependent.”

Working at Moe’s may have demystified elements of the food and beverage industry for him, but the experience was not going to be a road map for operating a business in India. Processes and infrastructure required a new approach and a slightly steeper learning curve.

“At Moe’s, we would buy all the ingredients from one vendor. India is very different, because for one ingredient we could have five vendors. I think everything is generally much more unreliable, so you need many more backup plans.”

Another difference is that Moe’s restaurants are franchises. Mueller did not go that route with his business strategy.

“In India there’s not a very robust legal system,” he says. So if a franchisee refuses to abide by an agreement, there is little recourse.

LEARNING THE BUSINESS OF BUSINESS

In addition to his work at Moe’s, Mueller found classes at William & Mary to complement his education.

“I took one class on entrepreneurship at the business school in my final semester. It was a great class, taught by Professor Richard Ash,” he says. Ash founded the Alan B. Miller Entrepreneurship Center, now called the Entrepreneurship Hub.

Bob Crawford, then CEO of Bigelow Tea, was an executive partner at the Raymond A. Mason School of Business and became Mueller’s mentor in the

MIXING CULTURE:
(Left) California Burrrito celebrates the opening of its 100th store. (Right) Mueller, shown cooking jalebis in Rajasthan, developed a fondness for Indian cuisine.





class. But he was not the only important connection Mueller made.

"They put you in a group of maybe five students to do a business case," Mueller recalls. "I got lucky, because I got to do a case for Red Lobster, and Kim Lopdrup '80, P '11, who was then the CEO of Red Lobster, came to campus, and we presented to him."

The personal connections and building a network were pivotal, Mueller says. "Any time you're able to speak with people who've been very successful at whatever they've done is so important."

Although he never changed his major, Mueller was able to take additional classes to help prepare him for the business world, such as economics and statistics. "As the business gets larger and data comes into the picture, these things become more relevant, and having some grasp of the concepts has been useful," he says.

THE 'IT' FACTOR

Clearly Mueller has a gift for business. He parlayed an initial investment of \$250,000, cobbled together from partners and family, into what is now a \$38 million enterprise. The company has

125 locations and is now expanding into managing its own sustainable supply chain.

Despite the challenges of running his own business, Mueller enjoys it. "I'm doing well, so something's working," he says.

Perhaps that something goes back to his study abroad experience, which for him was more than exposure to another culture and country. India drew him in and he, in turn, invested in the country both personally and professionally.

What does Mueller see as his "it" factor that led to his success?

"I think a lot of people get fatigued here, and that probably shows up in the way that their business operates," he says. "For some reason, I get along well with India."

One possible reason is that in addition to being a great businessman, Mueller is at heart a musician and artist. That may help explain why he loves his adopted country so deeply: "There's a lot of art in life in India."

Editor's note: A version of this article also appears in the winter edition of the Reves Center's World Minded newsletter.

— KATE HOVING

W&M Memorial Garden

Expansion coming spring 2026!



The W&M Memorial Garden serves as the final resting place for many in our university community. Once completed, the Memorial Garden will feature a new 200-niche columbarium, a second brick wall of remembrance for the garden, a welcoming entryway, additional seating and improved walkways. Naming opportunities are still available. To learn more, contact Robert Waggoner at rdwaggoner@wm.edu.



Find additional information at wmAlumni.com/MemorialGarden

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The Teacher's Teacher

DREW B. POLLY '99 TO RECEIVE ALUMNI CIVIC & HUMANITARIAN AWARD

ALUMNI AWARDS Drew Polly '99 is passionate about helping teachers. As a professor in the elementary education program at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, he not only prepares future teachers, but also works in local elementary schools to help teachers improve how they teach math. In addition, he conducts and publishes research that influences teaching nationwide and creates free instructional resources for North Carolina educators.

“For teachers, it's not just about knowing the math, but about teaching it in an engaging way, based on how we know children's brains work in terms of learning. I give teachers a menu of options to try,” he says. “I want to build true partnerships and relationships with educators and school leaders, where I return to the same classroom several times over the course of the year to hear about what's working, what's not and see how I can help.”

In recognition of his service to his community and the thousands of students positively impacted by his work, the W&M Alumni Association will award Drew the 2026 Alumni Civic & Humanitarian Leadership Award on Saturday, Feb. 7, at 10 a.m. in the Sadler Center's Commonwealth Auditorium. Learn more about Drew at magazine.wm.edu/civic-award.

Recipients of the award exemplify the university's values, dedicating significant time, leadership and energy to serve humanity. Those who receive this award are compassionate citizens who devote their knowledge, skills, and time to serve the greater good.

Drew's parents instilled in him a belief in the power of volunteering and helping others. Though he thought he'd pursue a career related to his kinesiology major (now health sciences) at William & Mary, he felt called by elementary education. During his time at W&M he was a soccer coach with the Williamsburg Soccer Club and a camp counselor in the summer.

“My mom said something along the lines of, ‘You are good with kids and seem to enjoy it. What could you do that builds on that skill?’”, he says.

He earned an elementary education degree and was placed in D.J. Montague Elementary School, not far from campus. W&M students and faculty worked closely with teachers there as collaborative

partners in the children's education — a model that Drew now uses in classrooms in Charlotte.

“I was mentored not only by amazing teachers there but also by my principal, Larry Walk '66, M.Ed. '68,” he says. “Professors Margie Mason and Bob Hannafin took me under their wings and lit a fire under me for going to graduate school and exploring teaching teachers. My time at William & Mary helped shape my life and I am grateful for that.”

Drew received his master's degree at Old Dominion University and then his Ph.D. at the University of Georgia. He began at UNC Charlotte in 2006, and during the past 20 years spends one to three days each week volunteering in public schools, working with teachers. Since 2008, Drew has partnered with school districts around the Charlotte region and throughout North Carolina to develop free instructional resources and supports.

As part of the academic community, he has served as a volunteer co-editor of a nationally published peer-reviewed journal called PDS Partners: Bridging Research to Practice. His research appears in over 130 peer-reviewed journal articles and book chapters about teaching and learning.

He was a recipient of the 2024 North Carolina Governor's Medallion Award given for volunteer service and the 2024 Boundary Spanner Award from the National Association for School-University Partnerships. He has served many years as a co-chair of a state mathematics conference.

“Elementary math is a gateway for students to math in higher grades, college and careers,” he says. “This work is like a puzzle, finding different ways to support teachers and students.”

All the while, he has been coaching youth soccer for three decades, guiding young people on the field as well as in the classroom.

He feels blessed to have built a career that allows him to serve others and make a difference for so many teachers and students. He believes it is important for everyone to think about ways to support schools and educators.

“Not everybody was made to be in the classroom and work directly with kids. Not everybody wants to be a school board member. But everybody can think about how they can support children and invest in the next generation.”

— CLAIRE DE LISLE M.B.A. '21



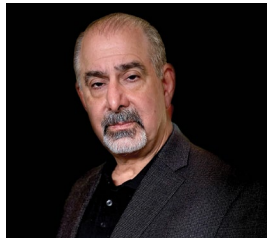
A CAREER OF SERVICE: *Drew Polly '99 has devoted his career to helping educators innovate and hone their teaching methods, especially for mathematics education.*

Board Ballot

NOMINEES FOR THE W&M ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The W&M Alumni Association Board of Directors consists of 25 elected alumni members who serve up to two consecutive three-year terms. Approve the recommended slate of nominees at wmalumni.com/ballot. Voting closes **Feb. 7, 2026**, at 9:30 a.m. ET. All alumni are eligible to participate in board elections. Full biographies and personal statements can be found at wmalumni.com/ballot.

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BOZZUTI '93



FINE '94



GEE '99



MCLEOD '81



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WATSON '89



WINDT '89

PETER "PETE" W. ASHOOH '79, P '13 | STAFFORD, VIRGINIA

While at William & Mary, Pete was a member of Pi Lamda Phi fraternity, competed on the AAU karate team and helped found the security escort service. Upon graduation, Pete joined the FBI and became a special agent. He investigated the mafia and other organized crime groups and was a responder to the Pentagon on 9/11. He worked in counterterrorism and undercover, traveling to dozens of foreign countries until his retirement in 2014. He recently published a book, "Chasing Shadows," about his experiences. Pete also held externships at the FBI for W&M students.

He and his wife, Wini, have three sons (one of whom is a 2013 W&M alumnus) and two grandkids. He is a member of the W&M Asian/Pacific Islander/Middle Eastern Alumni Advisory Board.

EVELYN "EVIE" ALBERTSON BOZZUTI '93 | CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA

Evie graduated from William & Mary with an accounting degree and held leadership positions for the Wayne F. Gibbs Accounting Society and her sorority, Kappa Kappa Gamma. She began her career in public accounting in Richmond, Virginia, at Ernst & Young, then went on to an advertising agency and GE Financial Assurance (now Genworth).

She and her family then relocated to Seattle, Washington, where she devoted time to raising her two girls while staying engaged through volunteer work on school and parish finance committees. Evie helped grow the W&M Alumni Association's Seattle network, hosting various events and introducing the Yule Log tradition to the Pacific Northwest. She has since returned to professional practice on a part-time basis, offering accounting and reporting services to several Seattle-based small businesses remotely.

COURTESY PHOTOS

MATTHEW “MATT” S. FINE ’94 | GAMBRILLS, MARYLAND

Matt is a cyber and strategic risk specialist leader at Deloitte & Touche LLC, within the Risk & Financial Advisory and Government & Public Sector areas. Prior to joining Deloitte, Matt served nearly 23 years as a supervisory special agent at the Federal Bureau of Investigation, leading some of the institution's most technical programs. Matt also served as a U.S. Army infantry officer, assigned to the 101st Airborne Division.

Matt is a native of Burke, Virginia. He was the Alumni Association's Philadelphia network president from 2002-2006. He currently serves as the vice president of the Association of 1775, the W&M Alumni Association's network for military, veterans and members of the federal government.

WILLIS H. GEE JR. '99 | HAMDEN, CONNECTICUT

Willis is the global chief information officer at Simpson, Thacher & Bartlett LLP, where he is responsible for the overall technology and digital strategy. He previously held senior executive leadership roles at Fortune 500 companies, including Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield, Cigna and Chubb Ltd.

Willis received his bachelor's degree in biological psychology from W&M, a Master of Health Administration from Virginia Commonwealth University, a Master of Science in information systems from Drexel University and a doctorate in global public health from the Arizona School of Health Sciences. He is an active board member for the Boys & Girls Club of America (Hartford) and the Connecticut Cycling Advancement Program. He joined the W&M Alumni Association board in 2021 and serves on the Finance & Investment and Engagement Strategy Committees.

JENNIFER “JENNY” TATNALL MCLEOD ’81 | RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA

Jenny graduated from William & Mary with a bachelor's degree in computer science. She was captain of the women's swimming team and has been inducted into the William & Mary Athletics Hall of Fame. She was a recipient of the Algernon Sydney Sullivan award and member of the Pi Beta Phi Sorority. Her husband is fellow W&M swimmer Ed McLeod '80.

Jenny worked in computer science at several companies. She then managed one of the most successful residential real estate offices in the Raleigh, North Carolina, area and currently works alongside her daughter, Amy. She has been active in the various churches served by her husband and served on the board of a local low-income housing community.

LEE POWELL '74, M.B.A. '81 | RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

Lee built a career leading corporate teams with AMF Companies and Capital One, focusing on business growth and performance turnarounds in the USA, the UK and India. A first-generation college student, Lee earned both his undergraduate and graduate degrees from William & Mary, where he was involved in the performing arts, Lambda Chi Alpha and men's gymnastics.

Lee has remained closely connected to W&M as a lead class ambassador since 2005 and a member of the Class of 1974 Traditions Weekend Planning Committee. Lee currently represents his class on the Olde Guard Council as co-chair and also as chair of its College Relations Committee.

SHANNON L. WATSON '89 | ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA


Shannon has enjoyed an exciting career in public service and legislative affairs and is currently senior advisor for policy for the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration. She graduated from William & Mary with a B.A. in government, then earned an M.A. in social and public policy from Georgetown University. While at W&M, she served as Yates Hall's representative to the Student Association Council and as vice president of her sophomore class.

On the William & Mary Libraries Board, Shannon chaired the nominating committee. She is a past president of the W&M Alumni Association's D.C. Metro alumni network, a class ambassador and served on the '89 Class Gift and Reunion Committees. Active in her community, Shannon is a trustee of the Scholarship Fund of Alexandria.

JOHN WINDT '89 | VIENNA, VIRGINIA

John is an instructional assistant in the special education department at a high school. He spent 24 years in the healthcare industry, first with Zeneca Pharmaceuticals and the last 18 with Gilead Sciences, working in roles of increasing responsibility in sales and marketing.

John is currently a member of the W&M Alumni Association Board and serves on the Engagement Strategy and Recognition & Outreach Committees. He was a member of the New York City Alumni Chapter Board in the 1990s, serving as vice president and president of the chapter. He also spent seven years on the Annual Giving Board, including as vice chair and chair. He is a lead class ambassador for the Class of 1989.

 **ONLINE:** To nominate a deserving individual to the Alumni Association Board of Directors, please visit wmalumni.com/about-us/board-of-directors. Nominations are accepted all year, but must be received by **July 1** to be considered for the next election year.



Yuletide Cheer

REGIONAL CELEBRATIONS IN 29 CITIES PUT NEW SPINS ON THE CAMPUS TRADITION



CAST AWAY YOUR CARES: *Alumni and friends cast holly from campus into the fire at a Yule Log celebration in Charleston.*

YULE LOG “With hearts full of joy, we all gather around, to toast to old friendships and new ones just found.”

So begins this year’s festive poem, read aloud at regional Yule Log celebrations around the country this December. The W&M Alumni Association brought this cherished William & Mary tradition to alumni and friends in 29 cities this year. Our community gathered in homes, at restaurants and at favorite local venues to celebrate the season together, William & Mary style.

In Richmond, Virginia, Yule Log included experiencing a festival of lights at Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden. In Charleston, South Carolina, an event hosted by Bob Kelly ’69 and Barb Kelly at their home included throwing holly from campus into a roaring Yule Log fire. In New York City, alumni and friends gathered at the Cornell Club, and in Williamsburg, attendees watched Colonial

Williamsburg’s Grand Illumination fireworks from the President’s Suite in Zable Stadium.

Alumni worldwide also livestreamed the campus celebration, where students tossed holly into the fire in the Great Hall of the Wren Building, heard a holiday reading from President Katherine Rowe and enjoyed music from campus groups. Watch the recording at wm.edu/yulelog.

“Yule Log was always such an important time each year when we were students. Everyone was wrapping up the season, spending so much time in Swem studying for finals, and it was a way to just relax and spend time with friends,” says Rob Tisdale ’08, who hosted a Yule Log event in local favorite Big Snug at Lansdowne Pub in Boston. “We may not all be in school anymore and focused on finals, but it’s still an important time to step back from the stresses of our lives, relax, relive the great memories outside of Wren and make new ones.”



Stay Wrapped in Warmth This Winter

New exclusive products from the William & Mary Alumni Association Gift Shop will help keep the winter blues away. Choose from the softest knit throws, socks, cashmere & wool tartan scarves and more!



Explore the collection! | wmalumni.com/gifts-gear

PHOTO: KATIE WARNER

Class Notes



WHAT'S THE STORY?

The circa 1870s Bright House, shown here in winter in the early 1990s, is still a key element of the W&M Alumni House, which was expanded in 1996 and again in 2020. Now, the Family Courtyard in front of the Bright House honors families with multiple generations at William & Mary and others with deep ties to the university. — W&M Alumni Association Archives

Class Notes has been a William & Mary tradition for decades, made possible by the dedication of our volunteer class reporters. While we make every effort to collect columns and check facts, each column is the responsibility of the class reporter. To submit your news, contact your class reporter or email alumni.magazine@wm.edu.

1954 ☼

*This news was submitted by **Rene Henry**.*

There aren't many of us left today, but I still keep in touch with several good W&M friends: **Joe Cardaci '53**, **Ann Johnson Harris '53**, **Pete Kalison '57**, **Dr. Bill Marfizo '56**, **Larry Peccatiello '58**, **M.Ed. '59** and **Marshall Ries**.

Joe Cardaci '53 has lived his entire life in the metro Washington, D.C., area. He had an outstanding career in banking and in also became one of the leading football and basketball officials. He, **Bill Marfizo '56** and **Larry Peccatiello '58**, **M.Ed. '59** all played football.

Ann Johnson Harris '53 and I go back to our days at Granby High School. Her husband, the late **Jerry Harris '53**, was co-captain of the W&M Men's Basketball team. He was a prominent builder and developer in Tidewater, Virginia. When he retired, he carved and hand-painted museum-quality birds.

When I was sports information director, **Pete Kalison '57** was my assistant and succeeded me when I graduated. He went on to produce

Howard Cosell's radio show, was an executive for the several-World Series-winning New York Yankees, was responsible for introducing Astroturf and spent most of his career in the computer industry. The only time a W&M football game has been on national network TV was thanks to Pete, who made it possible when he was at ABC.

Bill Marfizo '56 was a member of the incredible 1953 Iron Indians football team. In the 6-6 tie game against Navy, he played seven positions. He was at the top of his class and graduated with honors from Temple University's Kornberg School of Dentistry and then for years had his practice in suburban Philadelphia.

Larry Peccatiello '58, **M.Ed. '59** began his coaching career as an assistant coach at W&M. After coaching at Navy and Rice University, he went on to be one of the leading defensive coordinators in the NFL for 30 years. He won three Super Bowls with the Washington Redskins (now Commanders) and has been named to numerous Halls of Fame at places including W&M, the Commonwealth of Virginia and Newark,

New Jersey, and he was named one of the Commanders' "10 greatest" in 2022.

Marshall Ries spent his entire professional career with IBM. He also had a summer place on Cape Cod a few minutes from my cousin, and we got together whenever I visited her. We also visited W&M coach **Dudley Jensen HON '08**, who lived minutes away.

With the exception of **Joe Cardaci '53**, who was Sigma Alpha Epsilon, all were fraternity brothers of mine in Sigma Nu.

I was fortunate to have a diversified career in PR, sports marketing, entertainment, federal service and higher education and authored 10 books. I still do some writing. I attribute this to my liberal arts education.

1957 ☼

Class Reporter
PETE KALISON
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Hi to the Great Class of 1957:

Marsha and I just returned from Homecoming & Reunion Weekend and let me say this: Our alma mater is in terrific shape with tremendous

construction going on and remarkable leadership by President Rowe! Our campus is more beautiful than ever and the weather was terrific. And a packed Zable Stadium saw a thrilling Tribe come-from-behind victory. Our granddaughter, **Lily Stafeil '28**, a sophomore at W&M, loves the College. Now to our Great Class news.

I heard from our old friend **Vince DeVita '57**, **D.Sc. '82**, who tells us he will probably retire from the Yale School of Medicine. But before that, Vince has agreed to do one more edition of his cancer book, the 13th edition, read around the world in medical schools and offices. He lost **Mary Kay Bush DeVita** and finds it difficult being alone, although his daughter, **Elizabeth DeVita Raeburn '88**, does her best to keep him busy. Vince fondly recalls his years at W&M.

Terry Slaughter and **Barbara Higbee Slaughter '55** continue to live actively in Salinas, California. Terry continues to burn up the golf course. I clearly remember Terry as our No. 1 pitcher on the William & Mary baseball team, of which I was the manager and occasional first base coach.

At Homecoming, we lunched with the remarkable **Jane Thompson Kaplan '56** and had a grand time talking of our current activities and old college days and her husband, my lifelong friend and classmate **Jim Kaplan**. Jane remains active on all sorts of W&M committees. Jane also reports that the W&M Lunch Bunch had another of their Williamsburg luncheons. In attendance were **Letty Sheild Best**, **Alice Matthews Erickson** and **Mary Talmadge Kaylor**. Other Class of '57 members unable to attend were

Shirley Richardson Fitzgerald, **Barbara Harding Hager** and **Peggy Adams Manning**.

And, of course, we had a long note from **Mary Curro** who, she tells us, remains in good health and active mobility. She has six great-grandkids to keep her busy. She remains in contact with our classmate **Lillie Kocher** and her Tri Delt sisters. Mary is close enough to William & Mary to drive there once in a while for a day of memories and being wide-eyed with all the campus changes. She is still painting and says that "poetry sometimes flows."

Hey everyone, that's it for now. Still hoping to hear from all of you in the Great Class of '57 for future Class Notes columns.
Pete

1958 ☼

Class Reporter
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Dear Super-Agers, as always, the news I report here is a tiny portion of what you will find in the much more extensive online version at magazine.wm.edu/class-notes.

Regarding Homecoming & Reunion Weekend this year, I was all set to have a nice dinner with my classmates on Friday evening at Berret's Seafood Restaurant, then to see the usual departments of music, political science and tennis, and finish up on Sunday with the class reporters breakfast. But, as wee Bobby Burns would say, such plans "aft gang a-gley." **Diane Montague Belford** stimulated the effort and **Mary Ann Breese Brendel** joined the group. Then just before,

KEY: ☼ OLDE GUARDE 25 REUNION

Diane texted me that she had a pressure fracture on her right foot and was hobbling around. "First break in my life!!" she emphasized. We agreed to meet for lunch later. And right after that, Mary Ann messaged that her recovery from hip replacement surgery was going more slowly than planned. Took another "rain check" and wish both a healthy outcome.

That was probably better for my plans anyway, as I had scheduled a four-city trip to China the day after Homecoming and was able to prepare better. The first stop was Shanghai. My personal assistant and interpreter guided me through some of the latest logistics since I had been there 15 years ago. I was quite active from 2004 to 2010 with various projects such as the Beijing 2008 Olympics, the Shanghai 2010 Expo and other urban planning activities. This time, I celebrated the 15th anniversary of the Expo Declaration of World Cities Day at the U.S. consulate in Shanghai.

From there, we taxied to Hangzhou, the No. 1 artificial intelligence (AI) city in China. At a conference of U.S. and Chinese sister cities, I gave a talk on AI in housing and cities and gave an Academy Owl to the first Chinese architect to receive the prestigious Pritzker prize, Wang Shu, for his work that blends modern forms with traditional Chinese building methods and materials. I'm sure that **Bob Bradley** would have enjoyed the repartee that he, his wife (also a star architect) and his students had that afternoon.

We then took the high-speed train (truly high-speed, not like what we call it here and nary a bump) for 400 miles to Liling, the porcelain capital of China. After flying to Beijing for more productive meetings, it was time to take that 22-hour flight home, but

with lots of follow up on the horizon. Further details on all this journey in the online version at magazine.wm.edu/class-notes.

1959 ☾

*Editor's note:
We are looking for a
new class reporter. If
interested, please
contact alumni.
magazine@wm.edu.*

1960 ☾

Class Reporter
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Mary Jane Thomas Stokes reports that "Our daughter and son-in-law both graduated from W&M. Our four grandchildren are in college now. We have lived in the country for 54 years near the James River and Powhatan State Park in a house built in 1850 by a French Huguenot family descendant. Originally, this area was the seat of the Monacan Native Americans called Massinaccks. We are happy to still be here, and I miss all of you."

Dick Covert tied a full career into this note: "Went to law school at Stanford. Was a trial lawyer for CalTrans for 40 years. I still represent my friends when they need a lawyer. Live in San Francisco. Teach at the Fromm Institute — senior teachers and senior students — the students grade the teachers."

"My only noteworthy achievement at W&M was to get my name in The New York Times. One Saturday night after way too much booze, I climbed the wall at the Governor's Palace with three friends. A guard

caught us, called the Williamsburg police, and we spent the night in jail. Must have been a slow news day in the Big Apple, so the Times told our story and published our names. Dean Lambert was not amused, and neither was President Chandler. We were put on probation, stayed sober and graduated."

Great note from **Jackie Good Legg**: "Life is different but great, and like all of you I'm making changes. Believe it or not, Tom Legg died in 1983, 42 years ago, and our grandson **Wilson Legg** is now in the MBA program at the Raymond A. Mason School of Business. My son **Jonathan Legg '89** continues his ongoing loyalty to the college and his love of football!

"I have stayed busy with my love of food, especially when I worked with **Jim Ukrop '60, L.H.D. '99** in his family grocery business. I had the pleasure of writing the 'William & Mary Cookbook' with **Judy Dickerson Bullock** and two other W&M friends. Recently I was on campus to volunteer at the Muscarelle Museum of Art — what a treasure we have in that museum!

"While serving on the W&M Alumni Association board, I stayed active with the College and even met Queen Elizabeth II during the 400th anniversary of the Jamestown settlement. After marrying my second husband in 2005, I took a sabbatical from my active life at W&M to support his collection of schools. But I'm reactivating my W&M life again."

"I'm still in my wonderful house and neighborhood in Newport News. I was 27 when I moved in, but now I have the pleasure of having my son David and his wife, Myra, living with me. David coached football at W&M with **Jimmye Laycock '70** and Myra coached swim-

ming! We are a W&M family!"

From **Bob Squatriglia '60, M.A. '65**: "We were very saddened to learn of the passing of Dean **Carson H. Barnes J.D. '75** at age 94. Carson was my first mentor in higher education when he hired me as the first assistant dean of men at the College."

"Carson organized and managed what was called the Jolly Green Giants team. We were undefeated in intramural and Williamsburg Recreation League play. That team included the following familiar names: **Les Hooker '71, Rae Harcum '50, Howard Smith '47, Marv Levy, Eddie Jones '57, M.Ed. '63, Bill Chambers '53, Joe Agee '52, M.Ed. '56, Lou Holtz, Larry Peccatiello '58, M.Ed. '59, Bob Hunt M.Ed. '60, C.A.S.E. '72, Rex Tillotson M.Ed. '69, R.W. "Wayne" Kernodle HON '08, L.H.D. '10, Carson and me**. We did much good for town-gown relations, by never arguing an umpire's call. Many of that lineup are no longer with us but remain in our memory."

"**Betty Powell Squatriglia** and I continue to be blessed with the presence and success of our nearby children and grandchildren, and aside from the usual aches and pains, we enjoy good health and wish all of our friends and classmates the same."

Dick Neely reports that "I am now approaching 88 from the wrong direction. All is well with me, and my kids are deep into their careers and doing well. I continue to be active in hiking with hiking poles (which makes it a full-body workout), Japanese forest bathing (Google it) and tai chi stretching. I find all to be fun and beneficial."

"Trips are planned to the Mexican Caribbean, St. John and Alaska and to visit family and friends. I have special

semiannual trips to Oxford, Maryland, to meet with the last of my sailing mates. We toast and honor mates who have since passed, remember the good times, laugh a lot, and talk about living in the winter of our lives."

Miles Chappell writes that he divides his time between research in Italy on Italian Baroque painting and drawing and being cheerleader for the Muscarelle Museum of Art at the College. For returning alums, he is likely available for a short tour of the museum. He says, "Joe can put us in touch." Last December, he researched Italian art in Florence and in the not-to-be-missed National Gallery of Ireland in Dublin. And finally, a personal update: **Diana Titolo Alexander '61** and I have been in the Tucson, Arizona, area full time since 2016. After retiring in 2013, I've kept my hand in science policy, including service as chair or member of National Academy of Sciences advisory committees and writing several articles on space policy for an e-journal, The Space Review. I also prepared a short scientific career memoir for the Niels Bohr Library & Archives of the American Institute of Physics.

1961 ☾

Class Reporter
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Thanks, **Margaret Barnhart Gunn**, for the following: "It was great to chat with our classmates **Dottie Nowland Gabig, Liz Rader O'Neill and Pris Edwards Howard** at the Olde Guard Brunch during Homecoming & Reunion Weekend."

"A treat this summer

was a visit from my high school and W&M buddy **Billy Allen '62**, of Oakland, California. We were pleased to enjoy the McGlothlin galleries while **James "Jim" McGlothlin '62, J.D. '64, LL.D. '00**, Billy's classmate, was still living.

"One of the [Osher Lifelong Learning Institute] classes Ken and I enjoy is taught by **Will Molineux '56**, a highly regarded journalist to this day. Our recent semester focused on Williamsburg leading up to the Rockefeller-Goodwin collaboration and other leaders who were involved in establishing Colonial Williamsburg.

"I found an online article about **Allan Brownfeld '61, B.C.L. '64** written by Allan's son Peter titled "Remembering Allan Brownfeld." It is well worth a read as it illustrates Allan's pride in his family's history of W&M attendance."

In **Don Weissman's** neighborhood during autumn holidays, "adults, children, homes and vehicles are festooned with ghoulish decor. Hundreds of people go door to door seeking candy to avoid threatened 'tricks.' At our home, we put on skeleton masks, carve scary pumpkins, set up a decorated table in the driveway, put out lots of candy and hope that it lasts until we are all so tired that we have to stop."

Paul Verkuil '61, D.P.S. '17 and Judy Rodin were on campus for Homecoming week. Paul gave a talk at the law school on the Supreme Court's grip on the government in honor of Charles Koch, a colleague of his back in the day, whose widow, Denise, has set up a lecture in his honor. They took granddaughter **Lucy Verkuil '29** for dinner at the Kings Arms, where Paul tried to explain how, as a student, he waited tables to pay tuition.

From **Gerry Goldsholle**: "Last year, following my wife's passing, I moved from Tucson, Arizona, back to my longtime home in Mill Valley, California. I've also taken an apartment in the West End of Washington, D.C., to be nearer to family. Thanks to decent health, I have been doing extensive traveling. Thus far in 2025, I've been to Vietnam, Munich, Vienna, Amsterdam, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia and Finland, and in a few days I'm headed to Athens.

"In the meantime, I rely on a dedicated staff to run the day-to-day stuff for the remnants of an internet business I set up over 30 years ago, having sold most of the sites over the years. I am also involved as one of the named lawyers for a dozen disabled former NFL players in a putative class action pending in federal court in Maryland against the NFL's disability plan for systemically denying benefits to injured athletes."

News from **Bill Coe**: "After graduation, I had a 30-year career at a defense contractor. Retired as a vice president for Undersea Warfare. Started a 25-year career as a teacher for Montgomery College (MC) in Rockville, Maryland. Still active in teaching. While at MC, wrote a math review book that was used at a number of community colleges around the country. My wife, Phyllis, and I have four kids, eight grandkids, and four great-grandkids (soon to be six). I am a member of the All Fifty Club — having visited all 50 states. My favorite activity is golf and although I can't compete with **Ken Rice '60** and his 1000-plus rounds of golf at his age or better, I am now up to 136 rounds at my age or better."

From **Carter Stafford Brooksher**: "I experienced a unique

event. I got to be driven through a water diversion tunnel that in the spring diverts water from Colorado's western slope (think Aspen) to the eastern slope (think Aurora and Colorado Springs). Also did an Upper Mississippi River cruise and welcomed my first great grandchild into this world in May."

Patsie Spencer Libby writes: "We are getting accustomed to Woodleigh Chase retirement home. I have joined four exercise classes, and there are many activities. We have a doctor, library, large pool, very nice exercise rooms, theater, pub, two restaurants and a large living room with entertainment."

Fran Recchuiti writes: "Having received my spring edition of the W&M Alumni Magazine, I was shocked to see the passing of **Jay Lawler '59** and **Kathy Watson Lawler '59**.

I was Jay's almost full-time substitute school bus driver for 2 1/2 years. I spoke the other night on the telephone to my fraternity brother **Rich Paolillo**. He and **Lynn Todd Paolillo '64** are still holding on and I expect to see them again when we go back to our winter abode in Venice, Florida. I am in my 61st year practicing, still pushing papers and showing up once in a while at the Montgomery County Courthouse in Norristown, Pennsylvania. In October, I became a great-grandfather to Eleanor Kohlroser, presently residing on the South Side of Richmond with my grandson and his wife.

"I am still fighting the battle of the unnecessary Taliaferro Hall renaming. I learned that had William Booth Taliaferro (pronounced Tolliver) not been instrumental in borrowing money from Washington, the College would have folded after the Civil War. He was responsible for the open-

ing of his law library and mentoring Thomas Calhoun Walker, a Virginia Union graduate, the first Black person to pass the bar in Gloucester County, Virginia."

From **Ken Lounsbery**: "**Dorcas Miller Lounsbery '62** and I have made the decision. After looking at all the retirement options, we're staying in place, the same house for the last 50 years. Of course, that means renovations, so chaos for three weeks. The next home improvement will be a crypt."

Jerry File was recently honored by his election as an Alexandria "Living Legend," along with 11 others headlined by Olympic Medalist Noah Lyles! (Look for a photo in our online Class Notes.) The award cites Jerry's "inspirational leadership, fundraising success and support of important youth activities." Over the past 35-45 years, he has served in leadership positions with the Boys & Girls Clubs and its foundation and the Alexandria Sportsman's Club and its Scholarship Fund. In all, Jerry has raised more than \$3 million for these and other organizations.

Jerry was selected for two public school naming committees, in which he promoted the name of W&M alumnus **Sarah Kemp Brady '64**, a former Alexandria school teacher, who gained national prominence by championing federal legislation of the Brady Handgun Violence Prevention Act which was passed in 1993 and is known as "The Brady Bill." As a former W&M football player, Jerry was selected for four years as a Selection Committee member for Alexandria's Public High School Athletic Hall of Fame.

Dave Bottoms and Sally Phillips were in Williamsburg in November. Dave says, "I was sad to learn of the passing of **Allan Brownfeld '61, B.C.L. '64**. He was a

great contributor to the Class Notes, and I will miss his missives. He was also a very successful author and writer of governmental journals. I am well and healthy and having a great time."

Nancy Espey Bedford wrote that she had recently returned from a 12-day land/river boat cruise in France from Nice to Paris up the Rhone River. It included Aix-en-Provence, where she lived for a year (1961-62), supported by a French government fellowship. "A highlight of the voyage was the region of Burgundy, where we had a lovely wine-tasting in a medieval chateau.

"My husband, Charlie Bedford (now deceased), and I were awarded the 2025 Global Community Service Award for our longtime service to Villa International and Service to Atlanta's institutes of higher education and the international community."

1962 ☾

Class Reporter
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James "Jim" McGlothlin '62, J.D. '64, LL.D. '00 passed away on Aug. 6 in Bristol, Virginia. Jim was the co-founder of United Coal Co. in 1970 in Grundy, Virginia. He and his wife, **Frances Gibson McGlothlin '66, L.H.D. '18**, were benefactors of the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, William & Mary, VCU Health and the Mountain Mission School in Grundy, where Jim volunteered since the 1960s.

The Class of 1962 extends our sympathies to Fran and to the family, including their three children and six grandchildren. In the 40-plus years I have been doing

this, there have been many, many columns mentioning Jim's accomplishments. His passing is sad news for all who knew him.

Need your news—the class would love to hear from you.

1963 ☼

Class Reporter

JUDY MURDOCK SNOOK

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Quilting and travel have been highlights of my year. My daughter and I cruised in Alaska and up the New England coast to Canada and flew and drove to Minneapolis; Lancaster, Pennsylvania; and Asheville, North Carolina, all for quilt classes and sightseeing. I'm lucky my daughter likes to quilt and travel!

I'm looking forward to hearing about where **Vi Sadlier Huse** and her husband moved. And that's it for hearing from 1963 classmates! Does this sound like a plea for your news? It is! Please let me know what you are doing so I can share in the W&M Alumni Magazine.

1964 ☼

Class Reporter

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As I write these Class Notes in October, I am reminded of our many happy days on campus, with beautiful fall weather in Williamsburg and especially those football games at W&M.

Speaking of football, our popular cheerleader **Dick Goodwin** wrote: "Susan and I have been having some medical issues associated with our age group addressed.

Now that we have both recovered, we intend to start traveling again. We leave for Norway on Friday to see the northern lights with our son and his husband for a week. Susan and I will then head to Paris for her pre-80th birthday. We are going back to Japan at the end of November to see grandchildren, then will host family for the holidays. I am still working though my caseload has diminished. Looking forward to 2026 and whatever it has in store for us. Lost my 'Beanie' years ago but still have my cheerleading megaphone somewhere." Has anyone else found that infamous beanie? Or other familiar campus tokens?

Another question: Have you seen a number of '64 alumni-authored books in Swem Library? Here's news about one of our prolific class authors: In July, **Bonnie Agner Tinsley** was invited back to Singapore for the launch of her fourth book for the Botanic Gardens, "Gardens of Perpetual Summer." For the lakeside event, she was joined by her daughter and son-in-law and the original staff who helped establish the National Parks Board in 1989 under the Ministry of National Development. For the next five years, Bonnie took charge of National Parks public affairs as assistant director.

Since I have some space here, I thought I'd include news of my Kappa Alpha Theta sorority sisters: I joined **Gretchen Scherer Israel** of Winchester, Virginia, and **Bobbie Mulcahey Frazier** in Leesburg, Virginia, for the memorial service of **Alice Hall Lynn**. Gretchen later met **Karen Patrick Flitcroft** of Knoxville, Tennessee, and **Claudy Tucker Barnes** of Virginia Beach, to celebrate Karen and Claudy's 65th reunion from Virginia

Beach High School. They joined **Ann Lyon Ackiss** for oysters at her home there. I also just heard from **Susan Trice Fieglein** in Leander, Texas, that another sister, **Nancy Ratz Viets**, has permanently moved from Kansas to Albuquerque, New Mexico. And **Michaelle Hatcher Taylor** living in Sherrills Ford, North Carolina, continues to recover from a stroke and is doing well with physical therapy. Al and I are well and starting to downsize and perhaps move to smaller quarters. We will have a family Thanksgiving in Chicago and a Christmas hosting in Alexandria with our daughter, her husband and their daughter, and our son and his two daughters.

Please let me know how your holidays were and news about you and your special groups.

1965 ☼

Class Reporters

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We can't wait to tell you about our 60th reunion. But first, the "Excused Absences" (remember those?).

Randy Venable Sini is excused because she and her family were on a southern African safari. Last summer, she took her 13-year-old granddaughter to see Colonial Virginia to plant the seed of going to W&M. Randy's husband, Joe, passed away several years ago. Our condolences, Randy.

Sallie Shwiller Volterlin is excused because she and her husband, Bernard, live by Lake Geneva in Montreux,

Switzerland. (I wouldn't want to leave either.)

Chuck Riecks M.A.Ed. '69, M.Ed. '69 and **Alice Boone Riecks '67** live in Pittsburgh, where doctors and therapy visits and Sunday church continue. They are excused because, although he's quite well, he doesn't relish traveling that much these days.

Ted Fecteau sold his much-loved motorhome, gave up his home at the beach, is downsizing/readying his home to sell and moving into a villa in a retirement village. He lives in New Zealand and is excused because that's too darned far away, even for a 60th!

Sadly, **Trilby Busch** had to cancel her reunion trip because of bad back issues. Excused!

Nancy Barton Scott is excused because she recently retired and closed her photography business and is still grieving the loss of her twin brother, **Bill Barton**. We are so sorry for your loss, but glad to hear of your new lease on retired life! Enjoy.

Mary Lynn Sigmon and Jerry are excused because they were in Morocco, then southern Spain. They split their living between Redondo Beach, California, in the summer and Palm Springs in the winter.

Libby Gebhart Cottingham is excused because she was in New York City dining and seeing shows. She continues to live in Atlanta and visits her friends in Florida, where she lived for many years. She vacations in Highlands, North Carolina, every summer. **Becky Ruffin Collins** joined her on one of those trips.

Dave Thomas and **Carol Heitmanek '67** have been married for almost 60 years. Dave spent 30 years in the active and reserve Army, then as an air safety investigator with the National Transportation Safety Board and Federal

Aviation Administration. They have grandchildren attending George Mason University, Virginia Tech, the University of Virginia, Christopher Newport University and William & Mary. They are retired in Wilmington, North Carolina. We don't have an excuse for Dave, but since he's a first-time contributor, we gave him a pass!

Not excused, because they were there and still wrote to us: **Jim Korman** and **Babs Lewis Korman '66** went to England and took classes at Oxford University, stayed in the residence facility and ate in the historic dining hall. Oxford is older than we are!

Homecoming & Reunion Weekend was the best! The first opportunity to see old (careful there) friends came on Friday afternoon with a champagne tour of the fabulous Muscarelle Museum of Art. This world-class museum on the campus contains an amazing collection of artwork, including the collection and gallery honoring **Patty Bayliss Owens '62**, donated by the Owens Family (including our own **Donnie Owens '65, J.D. '71** and **Diane Owens Lehner**).

The Homecoming Parade brought back memories, with many of us recalling the floats that we created by stuffing chicken wire with something in an attempt to win the contest.

The Class of 1965 Gallery in the Alumni House was the location of the gala event on Friday evening. The room looked beautiful, the food was fantastic and the lighting made everyone look young and vibrant. We set the record for the number of people attending a 60th reunion — there were 70 of us! We were additionally honored that President-Emeritus **W. Taylor Reveley III HON '18, LL.D. '18**, honorary member of our

class, attended the event. Everyone was thrilled that the Tribe had an exciting victory over Elon. A perfect icing on the reunion cake.

There are so many people to thank ... they don't want to be!

There were so many people to name ... they don't want to be either!

Also, we don't publish names unless we have permission, so we invite those of you who were in attendance to write us with your own reunion stories (that was a shameless plea for news next time).

Sixty years is lookin' pretty good on all of us. Hope you're lookin' and feelin' pretty good in your part of the world. Stay healthy and wise until next time!

Ginny & Barbara

1966 ✶

Class Reporter

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Thanks to many last-minute notes, this will be a Jack Webb "just the facts" column. (See our online version for more details.) I even got two notes in the real mail (one in cursive!) and heard from several classmates for the first time. Here goes ...

Tom Baker's book, "A Book of Common Flowers," was published early this year. The book features Tom's poetry, watercolors and photos of the flowers. After 42 years on the West Coast, Tom has relocated to his New England roots, now living in Gloucester, Massachusetts, on Cape Ann. He moved just in time because the horrendous fires in California earlier this year obliterated the area where he had lived.

Martha Graham Orton's granddaughter has started the dance recital life — perfect for

grandparents. Martha and Robert took a W&M cruise — Panama Potpourri, which took them to Honduras, Belize, Guatemala, Costa Rica and Panama. Love my COOT's reports (ChiO's on Tour). During COVID-19 they started Zoom calls and are still at it. According to **Karen Williams Hopper**, they are limiting their "organ recitals" (personal medical recaps) on these calls. These girls are loving their sisterhood after 60-plus years!

Elaine and **Woody Caine** stay busy traveling with Elaine's flute concerts. Woody continues to collect stories from veterans for the Vietnam Experience as part of the Library of Congress Veterans History Project. He also gives presentations, with many talks linked to his own experiences in Vietnam. Marilyn and **Dan Nase** have been missionary chaplains with Gospel Express Prison Ministry for 25 years. Dan is now back in the prisons teaching with great success. At their first graduation, they had 33 inmates who had met the requirements which included memorizing Romans 8.

Martha Wessells Steger received first-place awards from Virginia Professional Communicators in the categories of travel writing and creative verse. Martha also received an honorable mention for creative verse in the National Federation of Press Women's Communication Contest. We've all enjoyed sharing Sharon and **Bernard Leigg's** twin boys stories — since they are the age of most of our grandchildren! The boys finish high school in May and are hoping for W&M students.

Last summer, Maureen and **Vic Bary** spent three weeks in northern Italy and I don't think they missed a town!! **Betty Lane Faber** is halfway through her knee replacements, with her son being her on-duty nurse and commented she got to

know him as an adult. We all have those moments now, don't we? When I was begging for news, I included a semi-racy picture of an 84-year-old friend here and heard back from **Jack Knowles** that his granddaughter is at Davidson College and wanted her to appear at a college event. She'll be flattered to hear that!

I received a long note from **Butch Dibling**. Butch retired from his law practice in Roanoke, Virginia, in 2012 but isn't really retired, as he is involved in nonprofit boards and church activities. He and Carol have resumed after-COVID-19 travel starting with a cruise that circumnavigated the island of Japan. In July, their whole family — three kids, spouses, grandchildren and granddogs — rented a huge house on North Carolina's Outer Banks. In August, he and Carol made their second African safari.

Lou Bovier and **Denny Taylor Kelly** are going on a December cruise to Key West, Florida, with Boyd and **Pat Adams Clark** for a delayed 80th birthday celebration. They also traveled to St. John and the Lewis & Clark National Historic Trail recently. Denny and Lou stay busy with six kids, seven grandkids and at least three great-grandsons! Their getaway is a mountain retreat near Blacksburg, Virginia.

Pat Walsh shared that in May 2024, his brother, **Arty Walsh '66, J.D. '73**, was posthumously inducted into the Arlington Chamber of Commerce Hall of Fame for a "long record of business skills, notable achievements and exceptional civic and community involvement." This is only one of many accolades he has received. Pat talked with Annemarie and **Ned Carr '67, M.Ed. '69, C.A.S.E. '73, Ed.D. '89**, and Ned was inducted into the St. John's College High School Athletic Hall of Fame. He was a star on a winning football

team in the 1962 City Championship game in Washington, D.C., with more than 50,000 fans. He went on to have a great football career at William & Mary. Pat and **Marg Conn Walsh** also went on an Alumni Journeys river cruise from Basel, Switzerland, to Amsterdam with Mary Kay and **Walter Wenk**.

Marie Fridenstine Williams is getting her Pi Phi sisters pumped up for our 60th reunion in April. This is a good time to challenge all groups from College days to meet up then. Marie is in regular contact with **Cathy Quirk Hitchcock**, who is busy taking care of various family members and neighbors. Marie recently retired. She sings in her church choir and plays pickleball and paddle tennis. She is planning a cruise to Egypt next spring and regularly goes to her granddaughter's soccer games, golf matches and piano recitals and volunteers at the church thrift shop and is in two book clubs — and she calls this retired!!!

In late September, **Bruce Edel Kakel, Majorie Rankin Peterson** and **Nancy Combs Maffett** traveled to Cooperstown, New York, to visit **Chris Hunt Stack** for an in-person Zoom group reunion. Chris' late husband, Ed, ran the foundation for the Baseball Hall of Fame and Nancy had a personal connection: A distant cousin who played for the Yankees in the 1920s and '30s is enshrined there.

Martha and Cooper Pearce live in Alexandria, Virginia, and have two adult (off the payroll) children. Cooper retired as chairman of emergency surgery at Sibley Memorial Hospital and has had four holes-in-one with his golf hobby. In October, **Carlton Hardy** cruised from Boston around the Maritimes and also took a big family cruise (22 relatives) on the Royal Caribbean Star of the

Seas.

Pete Nance and Judy Pearch Nance '69 summered in Greenport, New York, and spent a month in New York City before returning to their home in Jupiter, Florida.

Tony Brodie '66, J.D. '69 started with our class and still considers us His People. In 2015, he retired from his law firm in Irvine, California, a plaintiff's medical malpractice firm. His law partner/wife passed away early and Tony reconnected with a German school psychologist he hadn't seen in 30 years. He and Birgitta married in Irvine and commuted for nine years between Irvine and Bonn, Germany. In 2023, they moved permanently to Bonn.

Dennis Haglan commented that after his phenomenal four years at W&M, he decided to balance his life and earned a master's degree from Slippery Rock University in 1972 and an MBA in finance from Wake Forest University in 1990. Dennis married Patti 57 years ago. They have two children and four grandchildren and now a great grandson. Since graduation, Dennis and Patti have worked at several colleges and universities. They are now settled in Boone, North Carolina.

Jimmy Johnson was married to **Celia Curlee '65** for 58 years before she passed away. Jimmy was a big name in track when we were in school when the team won several state and Southern Conference championships. He has been elected to the W&M Hall of Fame. He and Celia taught in Newport News, Virginia, where he also coached track. They have two grown children and four grands. Loved Jimmy's memories of dating and falling in love at the College — many of us share those times.

W&M President-Emeritus **Tim Sullivan** has been working with the Virginia Museum of History & Culture on an ex-

hibition titled "Un/Bound: Free Black Virginians, 1619-1865."

I didn't realize we had lost **Mike Weaver '66, M.Ed. '70** until the latest W&M Alumni Magazine arrived. Our condolences to his wife, **Ellen Campana '67, M.Ed. '69**; he was a great guy. I also learned that **Russ Hatchl '66, J.D. '71** died a year ago. He was married to **Glad Bulwinkle '67**, who was a high school friend of mine. Our condolences. We are at that age our parents used to talk about where we lose special loved ones.

We had two classmates sign the alumni guest book for Homecoming & Reunion Weekend attendance — **Lynn Dievendorf** and **Sallie Moore Daggett Dievendorf '69, M.A.Ed. '81** and Sandy and **Keith Dauer**. Faithful classmates, for sure.

Now a segue as I talk about our 60th reunion. This will take place April 24-26 at Traditions Weekend. It was decided that there were too many activities at Homecoming, so we'll celebrate with the Olde Guard. Info will be forthcoming from **Cam Buchanan** and **Keith Taylor**, our fearless leaders.

I know I will get in trouble with my wordiness, but I think when classmates take their time to write me, I need to get the info out there. Love you all!!

1967 ☾

Editor's note: We are looking for a new reporter. If interested, please contact alumni.magazine@wm.edu.

1968 ☾

Class Reporter
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NOTE: This is **Bruce Oliver**. Our class reporter, **Sandra Simmermon**, has recently had knee replacement surgery, so she asked me to do this column and I willingly agreed. Here we go:

Bob Trice and **Susan Saulmon Trice** sent a fall 2025 update: "This year we downsized from our home in Arlington, Virginia, to a two-bedroom apartment in Vinson Hall, a retirement community in McLean, about two miles away. Downsizing is a lot more work than we originally thought, and we're glad we made the move when we did. We have kept our second home in Annapolis, Maryland, about an hour away, and enjoy getting over there as often as we can."

"Susan serves on the Council of Arts & Sciences at W&M and Bob has long been on the advisory board for the public policy program. We both also support the Global Research Institute and its exciting work. We get back to campus three or four times a year, and always try to get to at least one Tribe football game. We especially appreciate opportunities to meet with current undergraduate students. They are so bright and have so many more opportunities for international travel and research projects than when we attended. And the campus continues to improve and modernize while remaining beautiful. We just had a wonderful Homecoming & Reunion Weekend. It was great to catch up with many old friends like **Joe Trice '68, M.B.A. '70** (Bob's third cousin), **Terry O'Toole '68, C.A.S.E. '78, Ed.D. '82** and fellow Kappa Sigs **Bob Stephenson** and **John Medlin**.

"We have two children. Rob is in California and Samantha is in New Jersey. Fortunately, our two grandsons (ages 13 and 18) are in New

Jersey, which makes it easy to see them often. Go Tribe!"

Don Sanders shared a message. He writes, "Our old Pi Lam group has been gathering for Homecoming for years. First it was every five years, then three, then every two. For the past 20 years it has been every year, and we feel very fortunate to be able to maintain these wonderful relationships. Everyone who comes is from classes from 1967 to 1972."

"This year we have 10 members of the class of 1968. They are: **Bob Ridout**, **Howard Kahn**, **John Medinger**, **Ned Hopkins** and **Carol Figg Hopkins**, **Richard Richels**, **Scott Langhorst** and **Diane Mims Langhorst**, **Katie Haan Spaulding** and **Don Sanders**.

"Williamsburg Manor Bed & Breakfast is where we gather. We have dinner at Guiseppe's Italian Restaurant on Thursday night, which we have been doing for 36 years. On Friday night, W&M's catering team serves dinner at the B&B, and we have done so for 40 years. On Saturday night we get take-out from Pierce's Pitt Bar-B-Que, and have done so for 32 years. We have a great time and hope our health allows us to continue for many more years."

Bob Shay and **Judy Stratton Shay** enjoy life in Wilmington, North Carolina, with their sons and grandsons nearby. Soccer, baseball games and going to the beach are family fun. Bob still plays handball and Judy enjoys long walks and volunteering. They still come to all the W&M football games.

Bob Clay and **Blythe Baldwin Clay** continue to enjoy their life in Kentucky. Bob shared some exciting "horsey" news and as well that he will be receiving a big honor soon by being inducted into the Thoroughbred Club of America. Both

Bob and Blythe spend time with their four grandchildren who are in college, and one girl who is a high school soccer star.

I attended Homecoming in October and enjoyed seeing lots of friends and attending a number of events. The campus was filled with tailgate gatherings, and the Sunken Garden was filled with tents for other events. The football game was especially exciting as William & Mary came from behind to defeat Elon 26-21.

Kathy Burge Callaway, who is the chair of the Olde Guard, did a wonderful job as the master of ceremonies at the Olde Guard Brunch. Kathy and I carried the Olde Guard banner in the Homecoming Parade. I also had some nice conversations with **Terry O'Toole '68, C.A.S.E. '78, Ed.D. '82**, **Scott Langhorst**, **Pip Thomas '69** and **Greg Jennings**.

1969 ☾

Class Reporter

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Dear Friends:

Hope this finds everyone well and off to a good start for 2026. I promised a report on Homecoming & Reunion Weekend, but I have to admit that I only saw a handful of classmates, and no one had anything to tell me. I will note that I believe the College has made the sidewalks both longer and harder since we were there!

Had my semiannual note from **Jim Onderdonk** and **Mary Timmins Onderdonk '73** this summer as they completed another trip from Chicago to Santa Monica via Route 66, and then home through Taos, New Mexico. Jim

describes Route 66 as "relics and nostalgia for an America that may have never existed except in our imaginations ..." I'm always glad, though, to know that they are still traveling and enjoying it.

Also a nice email from **Dave Spaulding** outlining his past 50 years. After W&M and "three years at sea with Uncle Sam," he earned two degrees at Catholic University in Washington, D.C., and then 17 more years in the Navy. He served in Hawaii, where he competed in Hobie Cat races, and the Gulf War. After retiring, he taught at the University of the South at Sewanee, Tennessee, where he was director of the counseling center and taught psychology. For the last nine years, he has lived in St. Augustine, Florida, where he recently moved to a Westminster community. There, he has already become the co-director of a senior support group and is keeping involved with psychology. Dave has two daughters, but no grandchildren ... yet.

Phyllis Kline Appler '69, M.A. '74, also wrote this summer with lots of news of family and travel. She and **Dave Appler '68** remain active in their church and community. Phyllis received a 50-year pin from the General Federation of Women's Clubs, and Dave was awarded lifetime membership in the Hudson Lions Club. They currently have a young woman from India living with them as she works on a master's degree. They traveled to Universal Studios in Florida with both children, their spouses and grandson, Sam, in January. It appears that they will soon be putting their time into a Christmas cookie tour, which sounds great to me!

Now for the bad news: It's been a terrible year of loss for our class. We have lost at least seven more classmates: **Louis Tonelson, '69, M.Ed. '71**, **Mason Prickitt**,

Theo Majka, Paul Lankford, Tim Marvin, Joe Tichy and Joe Wingo.

Lou Tonelson '69, M.Ed. '71, had a 40-year career in education in Virginia Beach. He was Virginia State Principal of the Year in 2001.

Mason Prickitt returned to his hometown after college and taught history and coached football for more than 20 years. He also served in the U.S. Army Reserve.

Having majored in physics at W&M, **Theo Majka** earned a master's in sociology at U.C. Santa Barbara and then taught at the University of Dayton for more than 40 years. He and his wife were particularly interested in the human rights of migrant workers.

Paul Lankford had a long career as an English teacher in Virginia Beach in both public and private high schools. He was Tidewater Teacher of the Year, Virginia Beach Teacher of the Year, and Virginia English Teacher of the Year. He served three years as chair of the Comparative and World Literature Committee of the Council of Teachers of English. Paul was also active in his community, serving as president of the Tidewater Antiques and Arts Association.

Tim Marvin died in Spokane, Washington. After W&M, he went to law school and then served as an Army JAG officer in Vietnam. Not caring for civilian law practice, he became active in the Erhard Seminars Training (EST) movement of the '70s, and he rose to the top of that organization. Later, he formed Marvin Consulting Group, working with oil companies.

Joe Tichy earned a bachelor's degree in biology and then attended the University of Georgia, where he pursued a Ph.D. in invertebrate neurophysiology. He spent his career at the Northeast Georgia Regional Development Center as a

senior planner, where he worked on water issues. He fell in love with soccer at W&M and played, coached, refereed and trained referees for the rest of his life. Joe was a skilled photographer who loved Western landscapes and Eastern beaches.

Joe Wingo was an investment banker in Charlotte, North Carolina, for many years with Bank of America, and a local philanthropist. He loved reading history, especially World War II.

Our condolences to all these families and the friends of these classmates. They will all be missed.

Milton and I are mostly well in Richmond. I stay busy painting and working in the garden, while he "supervises" the local Starbucks. Please write when you have a minute. Emails and texts are gratefully accepted.

Go Tribe!

1970 ☼

Class Reporter
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'Twas a beautiful fall Homecoming & Reunion Weekend last October for our 55th Class of 1970 reunion. Our Olde Guard reps **Reid Williamson** and **Connie Scott Shepard** greatly appreciated help from the following, who reached out to classmates encouraging attendance: **Herb Armstrong '70, Ed.S. '89, Bruce Beringer, Kevin Brosch, Linda Beerbower Burke, Bill Cole, Fran Engoron, Barbara Pate Glacel, Ginny Nittoli Matish '70, M.Ed. '78, Quinn Sale '70, M.Ed. '81, Kraig Schutte, Betty Sue Grombacher Shane** and **Nancy ReMine Trego**. Connie and Reid are asking for contact updates from everyone to facilitate planning for our 60th reunion

at Traditions Weekend in 2030. (Ooh ... what a date ... but it's only five years away!) The link to the W&M Alumni Association site is wmalumni.com with a tab there for contact information. Also, updating will help me continue to follow up/canvas for information for Class Notes.

Connie Scott Shepard also did a terrific job arranging a wonderful Class of '70 reception with heavy hors d'oeuvres, beer and wine at the Alumni House. A good time was had by classmates, spouses and friends from New York, Pennsylvania, Kentucky, California, South Carolina, Alabama, Texas and Virginia.

The Homecoming attendees were: **Carol Rodenbaugh Allen, Herb Armstrong '70, Ed.S. '89** and **Jane Scofield, Bruce Beringer, Linda Collins Boulden and Walt Boulden '71, Kevin Brosch and Paula Howland Brosch, Jim Cavanaugh, Barry Coffman** and his wife, **Brenda, Sarah Diggs Cothern '72** and **Harold Cothern, Rhonda Curry, Emily Davis Dale and Max Dale '70, J.D. '75, Mary Anne Darragh, Mike DiPaola '69, Fran Engoron, Sandy Fagan '70, M.B.A. '72, Catherine Francis, Robert Glacel HON '16** and **Barbara Pate Glacel, David Hibbert** and his wife, **Pamela, Jim Husband** and his wife, **Kristey, Steve Isaacs '70, J.D. '73** and his wife, **Brandt, Jimmie Laycock, Jud Mason '70, M.Ed. '76, Ginny Nittoli Matish '70, M.Ed. '78, Karen Clark Norsworthy, Randy Pearson Van Dam, Gregory Pence, Barry Porter '70, M.B.A. '76** and his wife, **Kay, Barb Ramsey '75, Nelson and Linda Reese Ray, Rick Richardson '70, M.Ed. '72, C.A.S.E. '85, Ed.D. '89, Phil Rohrbach, Kathleen and George**

Rowan, Steve Russell '70, M.Ed. '72 and his daughter **Kimberly Russell '97, Quinn Sale '70, M.Ed. '81, Kraig Schutte** and his wife, **Patsy, Connie Scott Shepard** and her husband, **Dave, Don Spengeman '69, M.Ed. '71, Diane and Rick Stark, Reid Williamson, Claiborne Winborne '71** and **Cathy Coleman Zychowski**.

In announcing the ninth annual Art in the Park at Kennedy Park at Egg Harbor in Somers Point, New Jersey, the Shore Local News magazine interviewed festival founder **Donna Fowle Mohr**, herself a watercolorist and co-chair of the Somers Point Arts Commission.

See **Greg Pence** on the "Great Stories in Bioethics" YouTube channel.

Have a great winter. Happy New Year. And please note to send updates via text to me at 201-803-4790 for my next deadline, which is Feb. 18.

1971 ☼

Class Reporters
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We hope all are well and had an enjoyable fall.

Our 55th reunion is scheduled for Traditions Weekend in April. **Mark Wilson '71, M.Ed. '76** and **Charlotte Sandquist Phillips** are our representatives on the Olde Guard Council. They asked if we would include the following note regarding the reunion.

"We are planning for a lunch on Saturday of Traditions Weekend (April 25), probably at our beautiful Alumni House. We are concerned about Lake Matoaka because of rental cost and being at the mercy of the weather. We are also hoping to have an informal event off campus on Friday night

to gather and catch up. Details will be included with Traditions Weekend information that will be sent out in February, which will also list other events that we can attend during the weekend as part of the Olde Guard."

We recently heard from **Streams Paramananda** (formerly known as **Jack Peterka**) from Maui, Hawaii, and **Tom Cooney** from Portland, Oregon, and both were hoping to attend. If they can make it from Hawaii and Oregon, then the rest of us who live closer should make the attempt. As Tom wrote, "It may be a now or never" opportunity. We hope to have a full update on Streams and Tom in the next issue.

We received this update from **Reggie Lewis**. It was great hearing from him. "**Sally Covell Lewis '73** and I are enjoying life on Nomini Creek, a tributary of the Potomac River in Virginia's rural Northern Neck. My construction company is still active, but I am basically retired. Sally has now been retired for as long as she worked as an air traffic controller at the Norfolk approach control tower. We enjoy boating, fishing and crabbing on the river as well as exploring the rich history of the Northern Neck. We frequently get to Richmond to visit daughters **Kimberly** (a 1996 University of Virginia graduate) and **Catherine Lewis Mason '00** and attend our grandkids' sporting events and dance performances.

"Thanks Jim and Lynn for keeping up with the Class Notes. It's more fun than reading the obituaries!"

Received a quick email from **Cary Kennedy** regarding the passing of **Alan Richard "Rich" Harrison '72**. Rich, aka "Rex," was a fellow Sig Ep and an exceptional human. Cary reported that he had nothing to report except he was "a very lucky dude." Check

out the magazine's online version for a photo of Cary high flying. No other hints.

As I am writing this report, I received a text from **Jim Runyon '69, M.B.A. '71** and **Pam Rollag Runyon**. They were in the middle of a very long hike (65 miles as of their note) down the east coast of Italy's boot. Please see the digital version for a very amazing and inspiring video of Pam. Hint — Pam was a gymnast at the College.

Lynn and I are doing fine and staying busy splitting the year between New York and Florida. If anyone winters in the Stuart/Jensen Beach area and would like to meet up, please get in touch. We are planning a stop in Williamsburg on our return trip to New York. We are hoping to see many of you in April.

1972 ☾

Class Reporter
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It's a crisp fall day with bright colors and pumpkins everywhere as I write our notes. I was in Williamsburg recently and enjoyed a visit to the Saturday morning farmers market on Duke of Gloucester Street. I had a great time doing my part to support the vendors there!

This past September, **Carol Short Peabody, Linda Sherrill Lane** and **Mary Druscilla Rose Fall Boswell** visited **Janet Flournoy** in her home in England. This foursome lived together as roommates or suitemates at some point during college, but Janet transferred to the University of Maryland School of Nursing after sophomore year. On their trip, they enjoyed Janet's amazing garden and nature walks. Their trip included a train

ride to a beautiful estate where they ate gourmet meals and visited more gardens. Sounds like a very memorable trip with lifelong friends.

That's it for our news. Stay well and let us know what you're doing these days!

1973 ☾

Class Reporter
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Dear fellow Baby Boomers: Let me assure you that these words, sentences and paragraphs were written without the aid of ChatGPT or Siri, etc.

You likely saw the group photo in the latest online edition of the W&M Alumni Magazine of a plethora (20) of W&M wrestlers covering a 10-year span of the sport at its zenith at the College. The men in tights were at our own **John Kaila's** home in Fredericksburg, Virginia. This group includes three '73ers — **John Kaila, Scott Moyer** and **Donal Lonergan** — at least three attorneys and one graduate from Fairleigh Dickinson University along the riverbank in northern New Jersey.

Joseph Zimmerman and his wife, Cathy, are now in Rappahannock County, Virginia, in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains, living in a 200-year-old home. He is perfecting his guitar licks like our own **Steve Snyder** in Pennsylvania and the maestro **Lewis McGehee '74** (married to **Marsha Blevins McGehee '77**), who entertain in local breweries, watering holes and music venues solo or in 2-3 person ensembles. Joe must have a Pi Lam seal over his front door which attracts the likes of **Mike Stanton '74** and his wife, Lorrie; **Bob Wooldridge '72, J.D. '79** and **Jackie**

Sivertsen Wooldridge '72 and their grandkids; **Dave Hinder '72, M.B.A. '75; Will Hammond; Frank Marotta '74** and **Warren Smith '74**.

Carolyn Ellis, with her Ph.D. from Stony Brook University, part of the State University of New York (SUNY) system, has retired from academia but is still active in the sociology field at conferences, writing and as a book reviewer/editor. Over in the Seattle area, **Deborah Spence Schiro** is a long-serving vice president of the American Cancer Society Research Network and member of our private W&M '73 Facebook group.

Our own **Bruce Christian** and his grandson **Maks** were featured in a W&M News posting focused on a Lego block portrayal of the Wren Building. He and his family are both helping construct and providing funding for an eventual 64-square-foot model of the Historic Campus. He wanted to make sure the more than 200,000 Lego pieces of the Wren, President's House and Brafferton models were not lying around to be stepped on prior to completion around 2026. Bravo, Bruce and Maks!

Tamara Lucas Copeland, while on her daily walks around her Washington, D.C., neighborhood, provides a pictorial log of eclectic homes, federal buildings and facilities, reflecting the changes of seasons, holidays and certain national noteworthy events near the Reflecting Pool, Lincoln Memorial, etc.

Down Interstate 95 in Richmond, Virginia, **Viola Osborne Baskerville** — her past political life at the Virginia State Capitol somewhat behind her — is heavily involved in researching Black/African American genealogy and history. She is a charter member and current president of the Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society,

and was a presenter at the organization's 2025 national conference, in a session titled "Merging History, Genealogy and Preservation to Safeguard African American History and Communities."

Now that their latest European escapade in London and Paris, etc., has been completed for 2025, **Bob Gottke** and his wife, Michelle, are practicing almost full-time grandparent duty in Charleston, South Carolina. They have four grandkids, the newest of whom is now about 3 months old.

Bruce Wachter and **Joanie Spiegel Wachter** keep up with the likes of **Carol Flood Keane, Sally Struckell Jenkins, Kitty Ammen Mortara, Judy McCusker Coblentz** and **David Coblentz '74, Mary Sammons Rordam** and **Teresa Boykin Anstey**, aka the Pi Phi crew.

James Onderdonk '69 and **Mary Timmins**, while at Homecoming & Reunion Weekend 2025, continued the tradition of a memorial ceremony by Crim Dell for deceased classmates and friends of the Class of '73. **Joan Moore** is the glue that holds this commemoration together, so says James O.

Finally, at the University of Florida (UF) in Gainesville, the flagship of Gatordom, **Steven Noll '74** and his history department colleagues champion the humanities and help share Florida history. Steve is quoted in an article announcing two UF history professors being inducted as part of the inaugural class of the Florida Humanities Hall of Fame. Steve and his wife, Beverly, and family have created the Noll Family Fund to support undergrad research travel. In these fraught times for higher education, this commitment is essential to the integrity of both research and scholarship in academia.

In closing these random

musings, please join or visit our private '73 W&M Facebook group and keep us apprised of your lives, loves and laughter. Peace.

1974 ☾

Class Reporter
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At the June wedding of **Marian Sayre-Oreska's** son **Matthew Oreska '07** in Richmond, I was delighted to see Marian's former roommate, **Ellen Meador Ashwell** — the first time we'd met since graduation. Needless to say, we both looked exactly the same as we did 55 years ago! Ellen had a busy career in early childhood education as a special education teacher in Bedford County schools, and is the mother of a son and daughter. Retired, she now spends her days reading, taking long walks, gardening and enjoying her six grandchildren: two girls and four boys. She lives in Huddleston, Virginia, near Roanoke.

Cornell Christianson wrote about the progress of his latest off-Broadway production, "Marilyn Exposed," a murder-mystery musical about Marilyn Monroe. He writes that "it has been successfully funded on Wefunder and will finally open off-Broadway in March 2026." This is Cornell's third musical; the pandemic shut down the first two after runs of 15 months and nine months, but both will reopen next year. "A special performance on Marilyn's 100th birthday, June 1, will reveal new information about her death."

As of October, **Mark Young** has a new address. He and his wife, Grania Murray — an

Irish lass who grew up in Dublin, Ireland — moved to Blackrock, just outside Dublin, where they can see both ocean and city from their home. Mark had been living in Los Angeles since 1982, where he has had a career in the animation industry as a producer, writer and developer. Why the move? Grania was homesick and, as Mark writes, “the current political climate in the States was the deciding factor for us, along with career opportunities for the both of us. Grania is an interior designer, and while her business has pretty much dried up in LA, she’s had several clients [in Ireland] who need her help in handling some extensive rebuilds and renovations. For me, Dublin has about 17 animation studios (the country has very attractive tax benefits for the entertainment business) and while I’m kinda retired, several of the companies want to talk to me about consulting work when I’m settled.”

Jim Theobald and I had a dinner party in Virginia Beach last summer where we reconnected with lots of his Lambda Chi brothers who live nearby, including **Shelton Smith '74, M.B.A. '76** and his wife, Julie, **Lee Powell '74, M.B.A. '81** and Paula, **Rick Arnaud** and Betsy, **Harry Cross '72** and Lisa, **John Fletcher '72, J.D. '75** and Linda, **Gordon Merrick '71, Bob Blenner '75** and Carolyn, **Jon Chase '77** and Liesel, and **Clarke Chase '73** and Missy. **Mary Lou Giermak Nexsen '75**, who lives a few blocks down the road, was also a guest. It was just like those wild fraternity parties back in the '70s, except that everyone went home at 9 p.m.

When **John Hostetler** and **Lynn Adams Hostetler** were

visiting family in Williamsburg and Charlottesville, Virginia, in September, they had time to meet Jim and me for dinner. They had just returned from a Rhine River cruise and were looking ahead to a trip to Denver, where two of their three children (and three of their grandsons) live. The Hostetlers live in Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, near their third child and her two kids.

Jim and I spent a lovely afternoon this past spring with W&M President-Emeritus **Tim Sullivan '66** and his wife, **Anne Klare Sullivan '66, M.Ed '68, M.A. '73, Ed.D. '86**, in their home in King-smill in Williamsburg, drinking our Valley Road wines and reminiscing about the good old days. Tim’s family lived across the street from Jim’s in the metropolis of Ravenna, Ohio, and Tim was instrumental in getting Jim interested in applying to W&M. The rest is history.

Speaking of wine, our Valley Road wines won four gold medals this year—and our Petite Manseng was judged one of the top 12 wines in the whole state. Jim and **John Walk '77** are regulars at the winery, playing guitar many Saturday afternoons and performing songs we all remember from the '60s through the '80s. If you’re in the Charlottesville/Wintergreen area, check the events schedule at valleyroadwines.com and join us.

1975 ☼

Class Reporter
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You know how you go to the theater and sometimes a piece of paper falls out of the program

saying, “Tonight’s performance features So and So playing the role of Such and Such?” This Class Notes’ closing is brought to you by **Van Black**. And check out the online version! There is *so much more information and links and pictures!*

Roy Terry and Jane Koenig Terry invite all to a performance by the W&M Choir as part of their spring tour, March 19, 7 p.m. at River Road Church, 8000 River Road, Richmond. W&M alumni will once again be providing dinner and housing for choir members. It’s a wonderful way to interact with these talented students. Contact Jane or Terry if you can help. See the online version for their contact information.

More choir news ... the song that was commissioned specifically for our class and performed at the Olde Guard Induction Ceremony was performed again at the fall W&M Family Weekend. Look for the link in our online notes. Around the 50:30 minute mark, you can hear this beautiful piece again.

Gene Schultz is an accomplished bagpiper! He is a member of the City of Winchester Pipes and Drums, who have hosted a bagpipe school at Shenandoah University since 2002. To mark the occasions of the university’s 150th anniversary, Gene and 38 members of the corps performed “Shenandoah.” Check out online version for a picture and video link.

Heldur Liivak enjoyed a great 10-day trip last May to England and Estonia accompanied by his two sons, checking out his roots and those of his father. Then at Homecoming & Reunion Weekend, he graciously (again!) brought his red 2011 Grand Sport Corvette to participate in the Homecoming Parade. He, with **Marcia Carl Simpkins '75, M.Ed. '77, M.B.A. '78** riding shotgun, and lots of classmates walking alongside

the car or cheering from the '75 Watch Party sidelines, made for a great Homecoming Parade.

If you missed last spring’s issue, **Connie Warren Desaulniers** and **Jonathan Layne** were featured in two great articles. Connie detailed her amazing career as a successful entrepreneur in the two very different worlds of food and art.

Jonathan’s piece was about the devastating destruction of the LA Pacific Palisades fires last spring, tragically affecting his families’ homes and his. The piece also highlighted the gift he and his wife, Sheryl, gave to the W&M Institute of Integrative Conservation, funding research for regenerative agriculture projects.

Reminders ...

- Charter Day is Feb. 6-8.
- Traditions Weekend is April 24-26

Your Class of '75 Connections Committee is brainstorming ideas for '75 events. *We need your suggestions.* One idea for Traditions Weekend — '75 welcomes '76 into the Olde Guard with an event similar to Opening Convocation. '75 and other OG members line the sidewalk from Wren to Sunken Garden with signs and whistles cheering on '76 as they head to the luncheon. '75 has made it clear we want to stay engaged, connected and continue gathering on campus and beyond, so stay tuned for plans, and *please send me your ideas!*

Go Tribe '75 BCE!

~Leanne

And here’s Van ...

It took some arm twisting to get Leanne to include this entry! Some of you go straight to Class Notes or the obituaries in the magazine. Today, I encourage you to read the **Leanne Dorman Kurland** story in this issue to understand how broadly, fully, yet humbly Leanne has earned one of this year’s prestigious Alumni Medallions. Her longtime

passion and service to alma mater has been generous and enthusiastic. As recently as Traditions Weekend, we benefited from her leadership as a co-chair for our 50th reunion. Leanne continues a legacy of six other '75 Medallion recipients. These classmates, like Leanne, were more than accomplished alumni. They are and were our friends.

~Van

1976

Class Reporter
ROBERT (BOB) S. CAVALIERE

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Hello classmates! Hope you are all well. At the time of this writing, Homecoming & Reunion Weekend was just a week ago and it was a glorious day in the 'Burg. Hope you were there to enjoy it. Speaking of reunions, planning is already underway for the activities surrounding our induction into the Olde Guard during **Traditions Weekend, April 24-26**. The word is that this event is not to be missed if at all possible, so I hope you are planning to attend, or, if not, will reconsider. This will be a time to reminisce and reconnect, as well as a time to learn what our beloved College is like nowadays. The reunion committee has also established ambitious, but definitely reachable, goals both in terms of funds to be raised in support of the Class of 1976 Scholarship Endowment, which has been in existence since our 25th reunion (look up fund No. 2495 at give.wm.edu), and in terms of overall percentage of classmates’ participation in gift giving. When reached by a committee member, I hope you will give careful consideration to your participation, at any level with which you feel comfortable. Thank

you in advance for your thoughtfulness.

Received a tidy little update from **Sue Hedrick Duclos** recently. In her own words, Sue “retired to eastern North Carolina in 2009. I live on the intracoastal waterway just south of the Pamlico Sound. I love living on the water watching the dolphins feed, the river otters play and the eagles soar. I am surrounded by gamelands so I see bears, deer, coyotes, foxes and bobcats routinely also! I fish, boat, kayak and paddleboard and work out at the gym several days a week. I am heavily involved at church and in my community and I am president of a local nonprofit. All of this keeps me really busy. My college roommate and KKG sorority sister, **Teresa Sato**, visited me in early June. She lives in Southern California but her husband is from Virginia, so they come back east annually. I am hoping she can come to our 50th as well. I also stay in touch with KKG sorority sister **Nancy Weiner McMahon**. She and her husband, Kevin, live in Jackson, Tennessee. I know she and Kevin will be at our 50th because they have already made their hotel reservations!” Sue is one of the aforementioned reunion committee members, making time in her busy life to support our good ole alma mater. Thank you, Sue!

Also heard from **Jean Kreiling**. Her fourth collection of poetry, “Home and Away,” was recently published by Kelsay Books and is available on Amazon. Meanwhile, the manuscript for her next collection just won the Able Muse Book Prize; “Breath and Bone” is scheduled to be published by Able Muse Press in 2026. Retirement has given Jean time not only to write, but also to travel; she went to Spain this past spring, to Ireland last fall and is headed to Portugal. Each trip yields

at least one poem! Congrats to you, Jean.

The final bit of news this time around comes from **Jim Lewis**; “After graduation, I went on to law school and became an attorney in Columbus, Ohio. I worked in banking for several decades. Most of it was working with the problem customers of the bank trying to straighten out their finances. I then worked for a small private law firm for about a decade, primarily with small business clients. I retired from that earlier this year and I now have taken emeritus status with the state bar. This allows me to do pro bono work, which I do three days a month. I generally work with indigent clients trying to straighten out their civil legal problems. When I was at W&M, I played in the marching band; I played the sousaphone. My roommate **Ralph English** (a fellow brother of Phi Kappa Tau) played the piccolo. Where my shoulder would regularly get very tired by the end of marching band practice, Ralph did not have that problem. He regularly put his instrument in his back pocket and carried it home that way. After many decades I finally realized that Ralph was on to something, so I recently switched from sousaphone to harmonica. Now I, too, can carry my instrument home in my back pocket!” Thanks for the update, Jim.

Well, hunker down for the winter and try to stay healthy. Thanks for reading. Looking forward to seeing everyone in April. Go Tribe!

1977

Class Reporter
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As your class reporter, I'm delighted to share

the latest news from our amazing classmates. These updates reflect submissions received through mid-October. Be sure to visit my full online report at magazine.wm.edu/class-notes/1977 to view 11 photos I received, along with additional details from our classmates' updates. I extend a heartfelt wish that the recent holidays and New Year bring you joy, warmth and good health. Wishing you a year filled with fresh opportunities, joyful moments, peace and prosperity.

Andrew Herzog joined his Sigma Pi brothers at the Class of 1975 Reunion last April, serving as both spiritual advisor and honorary party animal. He enjoyed reconnecting with **Randy DuVall '75**, **Mike Dobson '75**, **Noah “Butch” Palmer '75**, **Allen Beasley '76**, **Fred Henritze '75**, **Jim Rehlaender '75**, **Stu Clough '75** and **Eric Sivertsen '75**. The welcome reception at the Martha Wren Briggs Amphitheatre at Lake Matoaka was a highlight, offering a chance to catch up with **Joe Masterson '75** and **Lydia Spindle Masterson '78**, **Mark Duffner '75** and **Kathy Frost Duffner '76**, **Connie Warren Desaulniers '75** and many others. Hats off to W&M for hosting a truly memorable reunion weekend! Online, you can view two photos he shared from a previous Homecoming Parade and another with brothers he joined last spring.

Thanks to Class of '77 alumna **Nancy Carter Hammond** for signing the alumni guest book at last fall's Homecoming & Reunion Weekend. Nancy says, “For all time coming, Go Tribe!” Nancy also shared that our classmate **Karen “KT” Tomlinson Newton** was back in Williamsburg last September for W&M's Women's

Weekend as a presenter on “Art, Crime and Reclamation.” Several Delta Delta Delta friends gathered with her for lunch, laughter and lots of reminiscing. Visit our online report for photos of the gathering with **Nancy, KT, Muffie Earl Lawrence, Beth Johnson Ruch, Terri Cloyd Estes** and **Linda Bruce Palmer**.

Sandy Fuller Spicknall '77, **M.B.A '80** and **Bob Spicknall M.B.A. '80** attended a reception honoring their son Andy as one of Virginia's Top 40 Under 40, followed by attending the ribbon cutting of Harbour View Medical Center, where he is president.

Ann Taylor Ruble has been enjoying retirement for four years since leaving the W&M University Advancement office. Ann has traveled and explored the Christmas markets in Portugal, Spain, Austria, Germany and Prague, visited the Grand Canyon and other national parks out West, celebrated Christmas at the Biltmore Estate in Asheville, North Carolina, and continues her annual tradition of trips to North Carolina's Outer Banks.

Following W&M's win over Elon University at Homecoming last October, several of my PiKa fraternity brothers gathered for dinner at a local Williamsburg restaurant. Those present included **Chris Jackson**, **Marie and Andy Vanderhoof**, **Jan Phillips Jackson '75**, **Dianne and Bruce Falk '75**, **Cindy and Steve Hendricks**, and **Mike Madden '75, M.Ed. '77**.

Barbara Leary Jones shared that she and **Doug Jones** attended Homecoming last October and reunited with a lively group of fellow '77 grads. Check online our report for a photo with **Angie Briggs Overbey**, **Pat Steele**, **Ginny Lambert** (wife of **Matt Lambert**), **Doug Jones**, **Pat Giermak**

Millea, Mark Woolley, **Rance Stoner** (husband of **Pat Steele**), **Mark Palmer**, **Steve Turner** and **Mike Gornicki**.

Lisa Bolanovich Wroblewski shared that her family was in New York City celebrating her niece's wedding and, as a result, she missed this year's Homecoming.

Christine Westberg shared that her beloved mother, **Patricia Beggs Westberg '55**, passed away peacefully on June 13. Her mother was deeply loved by many of Chris' W&M friends from the 1970s, as well as by her own classmates — two of whom still reside in Williamsburg.

Clorisa Phillips began a three-year term on the William & Mary Libraries Board of Directors last July. She's honored to support the College in this capacity and welcomes any questions from fellow alumni.

Jody Roberts Graves shared a special milestone in her professional life — 48 years as an active Realtor in Vermont.

My wife, Marinda, and I wish everyone a Happy New Year. We spent a week in Damariscotta, Maine, this summer, enjoying its fresh oysters and lobsters.

Continue to send updates and photos and know that the Class of '77 cares.

1978

Class Reporter
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I'm writing this column after just returning to Pennsylvania from a fantastic Homecoming & Reunion Weekend. The weather was spectacular, and the exciting 26-21 W&M football victory over Elon added to the

fun and celebratory spirit. The campus is thriving with many impressive additions. Riding through campus on our bicycles, we were surprised by all the new pathways, academic and residential buildings and artistic installations. Although it wasn't one of our BIG reunion years, our Class of '78 seemed to have a strong showing. At the parade, I ran into **Kim DeSamper Goldsmith**, who is enjoying retirement from her medical practice, spending most of her time in Alta, Utah, and the Outer Banks of North Carolina. I saw many more classmates, who also looked amazing, and I gently nudge them to send me an update for a future column: **Lou Wampler Garrison, Mary Phillips Hall, Susan Forbes Dewey '78, M.B.A. '80, Lydia Spindle Masterson and Joe Masterson '75, Karan Hansen Padilla, Robin Engh Bichy, Nancy Parrish Ware '79 and Mike Ware, Melissa Dozier Friedery and John Friedery, Sue Olsen Rowland and Rick Rowland '78, M.B.A. '83, Sheryl Lukasik Bass and Robert Bass, Keith Fimian, Keith Potts and Jimmy Kruis**. In September, Rick and I ran into **Jimmy Kruis**, who lives near Lancaster, Pennsylvania, cheering on the Tribe in Villanova, Pennsylvania, at the W&M vs. Villanova football game. Our three grandsons were happy to meet the W&M Hall of Fame running back!

The online version of the Class Notes contains some photos I took during Homecoming weekend. One contains many familiar Kappa Sig faces: **Pete Hammond '76, John Friedery, Mike Enoch, Hank Zimmerman, John Lowenhaupt, Dave O'Neill, Doug Myers '78, M.B.A. '80, Jack Arbogast, Mark Riley '76, Kevin O'Rourke**

and **Rick Smith**. It was fun catching up with that crew!

Kevin O'Rourke and his wife, Brigid, came down from their home in Old Saybrook, Connecticut. They also enjoy spending time at their second home in Killington, Vermont.

It was wonderful to reconnect with fellow Chi-O sister **Sharra Kelly '80 and Jack Arbogast**. In addition to being stellar W&M athletes, who knew that they have impressive artistic talents? In recent years, Sharra has pursued her painting "hobby," resulting in some beautiful paintings. Jack's woodworking "hobby" has produced some gorgeous tables, charcuterie boards, benches, etc., with mixed media combining beautiful wood slabs and epoxy resin and a multitude of innovative designs.

Keith Potts lives in Caswell Beach, North Carolina. He and his wife, Liza, recently enjoyed an amazing family trip to Italy, visiting Lake Como, Umbria, Puglia and finishing in Rome.

Dave O'Neill flew in to attend Homecoming from Minnesota, having just completed an East Coast swing with his wife, Kris, which included a visit to the Stone Pony in Asbury Park, New Jersey (no doubt a bucket list item for lots of Springsteen fans). Dave grew up in New Jersey and was a high school classmate of **Weslee Frawley Lynch**. We'd love to hear from you, Wes, if you are reading this!

Rick Marquis and his wife, Fiona, visited **Nancy Graham Down '80 and Bill Down** in Old Forge, New York, and did some hiking amid the glorious fall foliage in the Adirondacks. See a photo in the online edition.

Mark Finley couldn't make it to Homecoming this year, but he continues to soar to new

heights (literally!). Mark is quite the intrepid traveler. He shared some photos of his recent paragliding adventures in La Garda, Italy, and in Bali. You can see these spectacular shots in the online edition.

As always, we'd love to hear from YOU too! Carpe Diem — please!

1979

Class Reporter
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As I write this column, summer is drawing to a close (except for here in Southern California, where it is always sunny and warm!) and winter is on its way. I hope many of you were able to make it to Homecoming & Reunion Weekend and had a chance to reconnect with old friends and acquaintances there. While I didn't get to Homecoming this year, I was delighted to get an email from an old friend of mine, **Steven Riley**.

Steven told me he has been practicing law in the Philadelphia area since his graduation from Villanova Law School in 1985. He is currently with Rawle & Henderson, a litigation firm. Steven has been married to Suzanne O'Brien, a law school classmate, since 1990. They have a daughter, Maeve, who graduated with a B.F.A. in acting from the University of Southern California, and lives in Los Angeles.

That's all I've got this time! Don't forget to send me your news. Your classmates want to know what you've been up to!

1980

Class Reporter
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I hope this column finds you well. As I write these updates, Homecoming & Reunion Weekend was a week ago and Halloween is on its way. I am looking forward to hearing news from Homecoming, so please drop me a note.

If you have been reading books in a financial thriller series by Chester Vittorio Franklin, you probably already know these are all authored by none other than **Mark Andino** under his pen name! In connection with his latest, "Financial Execution," Mark recently published his first audiobook. The books, all works of historical fiction, have been well received and are selling across the globe in India, Western Europe, Australia, Japan and Canada, among other countries. Mark is currently writing the seventh in the series — this time focusing on the world of cryptocurrency. You can find all of Mark's books on Amazon. Mark lives in Williamsburg with his wife, **Juliet Doolittle Andino '83**. Mark is an executive partner at W&M's Raymond A. Mason School of Business and enjoys local events with his Sigma Phi Epsilon brothers, including tailgating at Tribe home football games and an annual golf tournament.

I received another update from a Williamsburg resident, **Bill Weiser** retired this past April after almost 39 years, and is looking forward to enjoying the next chapter on his journey. Bill writes that his foundational studies at William & Mary were a vital part of his success, and he is grateful for the education that he received, both at W&M and at Purdue University, where he earned his Ph.D. in philosophy and analytical chemistry. Bill retired from Thermo Fisher Scientific, where he was senior director of global quality systems. Bill is honored to have supported the development, manufac-

turing, testing and quality assurance of several medicines currently used to improve human health. Bill and his wife, **Sarah Peyton Weiser**, are thoroughly enjoying life in Williamsburg and are fully engaged in community activities. Sarah is the founder of a local grassroots organization addressing food insecurity in the region.

I have some sad news to report. Earlier this fall, **Don Pfanz** lost his courageous battle with cancer and died at home in Spotsylvania County, Virginia, on Sept. 2, 2025. Don's wife, Zandra Montalvo Pfanz, survives him. After W&M, Don served 32 years with NPS at Petersburg Battlefield Park, Fort Sumter National Monument and Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania County National Military Park. He retired in 2013. Don was an avid preservationist and a founder of the Association for the Preservation of Civil War Sites (now the American Battlefield Trust). He also wrote 10 books on key people and places of the Civil War.

In 2021, the Central Virginia Battlefields Trust awarded Don the Ralph A. Happel Preservation Award for his commitment to Civil War history, and his early work in the creation of the modern preservation movement. A former colleague remembered Don saying, "his legacy is on a hundred fields where visitors can walk hallowed ground, touch history and be touched by history." Rest in peace, Don.

That's all the news I have for now. Please remember to drop me a note with your news from Homecoming. Until next time, be well!

1981 45

Class Reporter
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Editor's note: Mike is stepping down as class reporter after more than a dozen years in this role. We are grateful for his dedication to keeping the Class of 1981 informed and in touch with each other! If you are interested in leading this effort going forward, please contact the editors at alumni.magazine@wm.edu.

Hello 1981ers,
I hope this finds all of you happy and healthy. We have two updates from classmates for this issue.

John Pirri sent a nice recap of his life since leaving the 'Burg. Since graduating William & Mary, John attended law school in Ohio and received a law degree (J.D.), and then went on to receive a Master of Laws (LL.M.) in taxation from the George Washington University Law School in Washington, D.C. He has lived in Maryland since 1985, and in 1987 began working as an attorney in the Estate and Gift Tax Division of the Internal Revenue Service. John recently retired from that job as a senior attorney in the Washington, D.C. field office after 38 years, and is thinking about possibly consulting in the future. John has been married since 1984 and has a daughter currently living in London for work.

Our second update is from **Chuck Swaim**. Chuck moved to East Peoria, Illinois, during the pandemic to be the executive vice president for academic affairs at Illinois Central College. He retired as of July 1, finishing a 15-year career in higher education. His better half, Linda, retired last year, so they are off to retirement adventures. They set sail on a 2,200-mile trip from Peoria to Key West, Florida, at the end of the summer. This will be the first leg of their Great Loop adventure, which

they hope to continue up the East Coast in 2026. They plan to eventually return to Virginia, where their two daughters are happily married, as are their two grandchildren.

Best wishes to all and please keep those updates coming.

Go Tribe!

Mike "Fitz" Fitzgerald

1982

Class Reporter
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The holiday season is right around the corner as I write this. Our son, Noah, was married in Knoxville, Tennessee, in early September, and it was a gloriously joyous event! We've gained a wonderful new daughter-in-law! Last weekend we visited our youngest, Olivia, who just moved to the Washington, D.C., area. We enjoyed some beautiful weather, and it was fun to be back near my hometown.

After the wedding, we drove to Kentucky to tour the Bourbon Trail with another couple, which was so fun! I learned what a "mash bill" is and other fun facts about what makes bourbon special. We started our journey at the lovely home/farm of **Kim Crase Clayton '83** and **Joe Claytor '83**. Joe had our first tasting ready for us when we arrived, which set the tone beautifully! They both gave us lots of great suggestions as to which distilleries to visit (don't miss Buffalo Trace!!) and which bourbons to taste. Very fun trip and helped dull the ache of the wedding being over!

I heard from **Jan Howarth Donatelli** recently. Jan's husband has been a mediator with the National Mediation Board since he retired from flying with Del-

ta., and, unfortunately, due to the government shutdown, he was furloughed. (I certainly hope that by the time you read this the shutdown will have been a distant memory!!) Jan keeps busy with volunteer work for veterans' causes. They both enjoy lots of travel and are heading to London for Thanksgiving. I hope you both have a wonderful time!

During Mosaic Weekend in June, **Wayne Curtis** took part in a panel discussion along with **Nyla Pollard '21**, **Liz Hernandez '15** and **Jess Skinner '06** that was moderated by **Carlane Pittman-Hampton Ph.D. '03**, chief of staff for President Katherine Rowe. The panelists described their paths to becoming involved with W&M as alumni and how they found fulfillment, belonging and support through the university community. Wayne is a leader for the university's LGBTQ+ community, having played a key role in establishing the Crim Dell Association as an officially recognized alumni group. "As alumni, we show current students that people with the same hopes and dreams have been here, and we are fellow travelers on this road," he said during the discussion. "There is such joy in knowing you are making a difference for people you know and those you may never meet."

Barbara Cole Joynes and her husband, Stan, live in the Charlottesville, Virginia, area and were able to attend Homecoming & Reunion Weekend. Here are her excellent notes: "Always good to catch up with **Doug Granger** in the suite of **Joe Montgomery '74** during the Tribe's football win against Elon. Doug has served as the managing partner of the Richmond office of Hunton Andrews Kurth since 2017 and just stepped down in

April 2025, giving him more time to devote to client work, community activities and watching W&M football. He will be recognized by the Virginia Law Foundation as a Fellow in January 2026 for his leadership in the profession, in his practice and in the community.

"Speaking of the Virginia Law Foundation (VLF), **Jon Huddleston '82, J.D. '86** is a past president of the foundation and is still very involved. Jon and **Andy Morse '79** recruited me to the VLF Board of Directors, and it's been fun getting reconnected with Jon and his wife, fellow Kappa **Cyndy Nash Huddleston '83, M.Ed. '86**. Upon their retirements (Jon was a principal with Sevilla, Saunders, Huddleston & White P.C. in Loudoun County and Cyndy was the associate dean of graduate admissions and corporate programs at the University of Virginia's McIntire School of Commerce), they moved from Leesburg to Williamsburg. They live right across Jamestown Road from the newly reopened Muscarelle Museum of Art and love walking to all of the activities the College offers!

"The beauty of Homecoming is the totally chance encounters! I ran into dear friend **Rick Taylor**, who was there with his wife, **Michelle Barnes '85**, for her 40th reunion. Rick and Michelle live on a beautiful mountaintop outside of Golden, Colorado. He is the president of Lefever Building Systems, a general contractor and specialty subcontractor working in industrial and commercial buildings utilizing pre-engineered metal buildings. In the crazy world of W&M connections, Rick and Michelle met while in MBA school at the University of California, Los Angeles. Rick keeps in touch with his freshmen

Taliaferro buddies **Matt Thornhill, Tom Aud, Peter Hirata '83, Rick Stanley** and **Peter Schroder** (and some I know I'm forgetting). As former president of KBFC (the Kenny Bowen Fan Club), he was proudly sporting the Women's Basketball CAA Championship hat — glad that a W&M team finally made it to the NCAAAs!"

Barbara was at Homecoming because she was one of three people recognized on Friday morning as a lifetime member of the Eta Circle of the Omicron Delta Kappa leadership honor society, along with Don Butler, chief of W&M police, and **Carrie Cooper Ed.D. '24**, dean of university libraries for W&M. (*Editor's note: Carrie has been named dean of university libraries at Florida State University, and her last day at W&M was Dec. 5.*) Barbara said that the ceremony, organized and led by the chapter members and W&M Senior Vice President for Student Affairs and Public Safety **Ginger Miller Ambler '88, Ph.D. '06**, was quite moving and quite an honor. Congratulations, Barbara!

That's all the news I have! Please send me your updates!!!

1983

Class Reporter
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Season's greetings to the class of 1983.

If you made it to Homecoming & Reunion Weekend this past year, I hope you had the pleasure of seeing the Dimeslots perform Friday night at the alumni-owned Virginia Beer Co. and again in the Sunken Garden on Saturday before the game. It was great to

see most of the band together with the addition of W&M's very own Dean **Doug Schmidt '84, M.A. '86**, aka The Dean of Rock & Roll. Doug is in his first year as the first dean of the School of Computing, Data Sciences & Physics. I saw Doug again at the Tribe vs. UR tailgate and he informed me that the William & Mary Board of Visitors has approved W&M's first engineering degree; now we wait on the state. Truth be told, it's bioengineering, but we hope more engineering is on its way to W&M!

At the women's soccer game on Thursday of HoCo, my husband, **Bud Phillips '82**, struck up a conversation with the folks sitting behind us because they seemed to have some insider information. Turns out it was **Rob Guillen** and **Kim Clarke Guillen** and their friends, who are the parents of one of the new women's soccer coaches. Rob sent me some news (THANK YOU!!!) to share in the notes. Rob and Kim have lived in Delaware for the last 29 years. Rob recently retired from being an elementary school teacher. Kim retired in April after a long career at AstraZeneca and W.L. Gore & Associates. They took their first post-retirement trip in their '99 Corvette to a wedding in Milwaukee and some baseball games, both the Cubs and the White Sox, in Chicago and Cincinnati. They visited **Steve Bretsen** and **Cindy Goff Bretsen**. Steve and Rob are Pi Kappa Alpha brothers and Cindy and Kim were sophomore roommates. Steve teaches business law at Wheaton College. Rob and Kim's son, **Alex Guillen '10**, lives in Alexandria, Virginia, and works as a reporter for Politico. Their daughter, Emily, lives in Delaware and is a civil engineer (she didn't attend W&M because we don't have

an engineering program — YET!). Rob and Kim visit Williamsburg often because his sister, **Kari Guillen Traver '85**, and her husband, **Tony Traver '85**, live in Williamsburg and his parents recently moved to town from NoVa. Bud and Rob had a great time bonding over their mutual adoration of Corvettes! They also reminisced about the time Bud's '71 Corvette was parked outside the Sig Ep house on a Friday afternoon and got hit by a passing car. It was memorable for anyone in the nearby frat houses during happy hour. Ah, the good ole days.

Shout out to the Spot '82 tailgaters for hosting a brunch and chili fest for the last home football game of the season. Hope to see you there next year!

Over the summer, my brother, **Sean Sell '87, J.D. '93**, got married in San Diego. Attendees included: **Jane Fanestil Peterson '86** from Minnesota, **Scott Gilbert '90** and **Kay Fanestil Gilbert '87** from Colorado and their daughter **Emily Gilbert '17** from Arlington, Virginia. Other Tribe members attending were **Gigi Guen Cramer '66, M.F.A. '67**, **Richard Woods '89**, **Mark Bengston '87**, **Samantha Drennan '87**, **Lynda Brown Loytty '87**, **Michael Mink '89**, **Carrie Harrison '87**, **Stephanie Sell Kinzel '91**, **Samantha Phillips '16** and Bud and me. **Pat King Sell '58** (aka Mom or Grandma) was thrilled that the wedding was on her birthday, Aug. 2. She gave a lovely celebratory toast. It was a glorious summer day; the ceremony took place overlooking Mission Bay. Officiating was done by John Fanestil (Jane and Kay's brother) and was topped off by fireworks courtesy of Sea World!

Big huge congratulations to **Nancy**

Cote Kane '84 on the announcement of being awarded the Douglas N. Morton '62 Alumni Service Award. The award ceremony will be held during Charter Day celebrations on Feb. 7 at 10 a.m. in the Sadler Center. Nancy and her husband, Chris, have hosted the San Diego Yule Log Christmas party at their home in Del Mar, California, for several years.

Happy New Year!

1984

Class Reporter

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Warmest greetings to the Class of 1984! I was sorry to miss Homecoming & Reunion Weekend this fall due to a family emergency, but I hope many of you attended and were able to reconnect. It is always so nice to hear from you between our reunions as well, so please let me know how you are doing and what you'd like me to share with those who, as our classmate **Noah Levine** once said, knew you when you were 18 and like you anyway! Many thanks to those who have shared news by email or through the W&M Alumni Magazine.

Dirk Brown shared that he wrote a book, "The Road Lessons Traveled," based on his travel journals. A collection of short travel stories collected over his lifetime, with lessons for living life at home as we do when we travel, the work was published in August.

Scot Danforth has also written and published a book titled "An Independent Man: Ed Roberts and the Fight for Disability Rights." The work presents the story of Ed Roberts, a pioneer in the disability rights movement, chronicling

his life from his childhood polio diagnosis to the signing of the Americans With Disabilities Act.

Victor Branch, Bank of America's market president for the Richmond, Virginia, area, was inducted into Junior Achievement of Central Virginia's Greater Richmond Business Hall of Fame in May, ining program in 1984.

Jon D. "Doug" Klein '84, J.D. '87 was recently named to the 2025 Class of the Illinois Wrestling Coaches and Officials Hall of Fame. Doug has served as head coach of the Ida Crown Jewish Academy Wrestling team for 33 years. He walked onto the wrestling team at William & Mary, where he trained and learned technique and strategies. He joined the faculty of Ida Crown in 1992 and built the program from a handful of athletes to the successful, national-title-winning program it is today. Doug was named Educator of the Year by the school in 2008 and, after the team won the 2023 Wittenberg Championship in 2024, the Village of Skokie designated April 4, 2024, as Coach Doug Klein Day.

Connie O' Hare and **Matt Morrison** wrote to share that they are serving as board members of the Reves Global Engagement Board, which helps the Reves Center for International Studies support international students and programs, striving to cultivate a globally minded student body. As some may know, William & Mary is the No. 1 public university in the United States for study abroad programs, with more than 55% of students studying abroad during their time at the College. Matt noted that the board meeting next year will coincide with the second annual Wines of the World event held at the Reves Center during Homecoming, and he and Connie hope that classmates who engaged in international programs during college will join

them for the event. In the meantime, if you wish to support the global education initiatives of the Reves Center, you can do so by sharing your time serving on the board or by designating the Reves Center when you give to the school. You can learn more at the Reves Center website: wm.edu/offices/revescenter.

On a sad note, I heard from several classmates that **James Michael "Mike" Hobbs** passed away on Oct. 13, 2025, in Norfolk, Virginia. According to his dear friend who wrote to me, **Laurie Thornton**, Mike was a government major at William & Mary, but he had an encyclopedic knowledge of American history, often serving as an unofficial docent for friends when visiting Colonial Williamsburg and other historic areas. Mike was also an excellent musician, keeping the W&M pep band in time on the bass drum, but he was also accomplished on other instruments, including the piano. During his career, Mike worked a variety of roles, ranging from managing the movie theater at Union Station in Washington, D.C., to driving for major freight lines, to working at the Jamestown Settlement. He served on the Senior Class Social Committee and stayed in touch with many classmates over the years. **Susan Scharpf Gentry '85**, **Caleen Norrod Johnson** and Laurie were among the classmates who visited him in the weeks before his passing, just prior to Homecoming. Plans for a celebration of life will be announced later, and Mike will be honored at next year's Sunset Ceremony on the Friday of Homecoming weekend.

It is always great to hear from you, so please send along any other updates you'd like me to share in the next Class Notes.

1985

Class Reporter
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Homecoming & Reunion Weekend had lots of things going for it: beautiful fall weather, a winning football game and time for everyone to gather together and celebrate! And it marked 40 years since we last walked through the campus as students and walked out of William & Mary Hall as alumni. I saw that 237 of you had signed up to attend, which is a huge number! Unfortunately, I was not included in that number, which I apologize for, as I would have liked to connect with you to be able to share your stories here. My family is in the process of moving my father into assisted living, and if you have already experienced this, I am sure you understand how difficult it is to sort through well over 60 years' worth of memories and accumulated items filled with sentimental/material value. Homecoming weekend was the only October weekend we could all be together to work on this, so I had to miss being in Williamsburg.

This year, there was a guest book at the Alumni House for those who attended Homecoming to sign and jot down a note to let the class reporters know you were there. I read through the pages and found some of your names. Thanks to these classmates for signing: **Michael J. Bachmann** (along with **Sandra Wiele Bachmann '87**), **Karen Richardson Cooke**, **Melanie Pugh Donohue**, **Dianne McCall Heard**, **Mikki Hubbard**, **Amy Marschean**, **Michael Meinhardt**, **Mary Menefee**, **Nancy J. O'Brien**, **Carole Marple Puckett**, **Carol Rousseau**, **Janet**

Whaley Sifers, Allison Stringer, Chelle Grigg Youmans and Dave Zuber. Hopefully my years of reading my students' handwriting helped me get every name right (although I did double-check in the 1985 Colonial Echo!).

Since I was unable to be there in person, I am going to have to rely on the 237 of you who were able to meet with and talk to our classmates to contact me and send me your stories. Let me know what you have been up to these last 40 years. I know that so many of you have led amazing lives, and we would love to hear what you have been up to. Please email me, or feel free to find me on Facebook. Without your feedback, this column will be devoid of any news in comparison to the columns of classes who graduated before or after us. Help me fill this column! Looking forward to hearing from many of you! Valette, omnes!

1986 40

Class Reporter
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Hello classmates!
Tanya Brown White-Deyo moved to Charlottesville, Virginia, in October 2024 after starting a new job as a senior financial analyst at UVA Health. She began training for Toastmasters and, as of last July, was the District 66 Toastmasters Division A Director for Southwest Virginia. In August, she received her Distinguished Toastmaster Award.

Jim McLeskey, head of engineering programs at Randolph-Macon College in Ashland, Virginia, was appointed as the inaugural Maria Wornom Rippe Professor in Engineering. His scholarship includes a broad range of

mechanical, industrial and environmental engineering projects.

Dave Redmond reports that some years ago, a friend who was moving gave him his Big Green Egg smoker and grill. He has made many improvements, the most meaningful of which was a new handle, which he had professionally engraved with the words, "Go Tribe!"

Brendan McCarthy '86, J.D. '89 lives in Kennesaw, Georgia, where he moved after graduating from William & Mary Law School. His wife is a Georgia Tech graduate. They have two children, both born prematurely. Their son arrived at 23 weeks of gestation. He fought very hard in the NICU for 123 days and was the youngest to survive at Kennestone Hospital. He has endured many surgeries and ongoing effects of prematurity. Last May, he received a certificate for completing high school and a standing ovation from the 630 seniors who graduated that day. Brendan's daughter arrived at 28 weeks of gestation. She spent 71 days in the NICU and suffers from no long-term effects of prematurity. She graduated as co-valedictorian of her high school class and is a Stamps Presidential Scholar at Georgia Tech. Brendan keeps in touch with **Ken Halla, Tom Noble '87, Dave Ryan '87, M.A. '89, Hiram Cuevas '89, M.A.Ed. '93** and many other cross country and track folks. He also keeps in touch with **William DeVan '86, J.D. '92, Kevin Kelly** and other SAEs.

David Nygaard has moved from Virginia Beach to the Twin Cities to join his partner. Currently he is splitting his time between St. Paul, Minnesota, and Virginia Beach. His six children have scattered, and he enjoys traveling to visit them. He is excited to welcome his seventh grandchild in May. David says, "It has been a truly

amazing experience to make myself take a fresh start at a new life, build new, more healthy living patterns, build new relationships and leave the unhealthy patterns and relationships behind."

Rebecca Merck Coplon writes that her son is a graduating senior at Old Dominion University, majoring in game design. She welcomed her first grandchild, a girl, in October. Rebecca is interested in reconnecting with **Sarah Hughes** and **Pam Johnson**. Information? Please contact alumni.magazine@wm.edu or your class reporter at rbtsrt@gmail.com.

In October, **Mike Feters** was in Chicago to watch his youngest son, Sam, run alongside more than 54,000 other runners in the Bank of America Chicago Marathon. Sam came in 270th overall and anticipates a major race in March in Tokyo. His oldest brother is teaching English in Matsumaeon on the Japanese island of Hokkaido and will be able to provide on-site family support.

Kathy Fitzgerald Lind and **Greg Lind '87** are enjoying retirement. Last summer, they traveled to Ireland, Scotland and Portugal, where they attended a wedding. They spent the rest of the summer at their lake house in North Carolina and continue to volunteer at a food pantry. Their son Matt works for Deloitte as a consultant. Their son Ryan graduated from Fordham University in May 2024 with a master's degree in social work and is working at a drug addiction facility in New York City.

1987

Class Reporter
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Ken Tyler '87, M.A.Ed. '89 is in

Wilson, North Carolina, where he became vice president and director of athletics at Barton College in 2023. He oversees approximately 720 student-athletes and more than 25 intercollegiate teams. On June 7, Ken married Leona Ba in a ceremony in Alexandria, Virginia. His son **Jordan Tyler '20** was his best man and many Tribe basketball teammates were on hand to celebrate, including **Mark Batzel '88, Mark Boddy, David Bond** and **Tony Traver '85**, among others.

I got a nice update from **Jonathan Soulen** in North Carolina. He tells me he is enjoying semiretirement and it has freed him up a bit so he can pursue his love of acting. He most recently was cast as Inspector Kemp in the Farmville Community Theater production of "Young Frankenstein, the Musical." Jonathan and **Rita Reinsel Soulen** truly have a Tribe family with a lot happening! Rita earned tenure and was promoted to associate professor of library science at East Carolina University. Their son **Charles Soulen '19** defended his dissertation in materials science at University of California, San Diego and is doing postdoctoral work at the Scherrer Institute in Switzerland. Their daughter **Grace Soulen '15** works as health equity and community engagement coordinator for the Arapahoe County Public Health Department. Their son **Jonathan 'Jack' Soulen '17, M.Ed. '18** is a senior software developer at the American College of Radiology. Jack's wife, **Melissa Kret '17**, works as a deputy epidemiologist at the Virginia Department of Health. **Julianna "Julie" Valeska Benedick** retired in 2022 after 30-plus years in global marketing, most recently as CMO of Panasonic North America. She recently

joined the Global Engagement Board of the Reeves Center for International Studies, which she calls the “hub for everything global for William & Mary on and off campus.” Julie reminded me that W&M is No.1 in study abroad (she was a German minor and spent her junior year summer in Muenster, Germany). The Reeves Center supports international faculty-student research projects and hosts global voices on campus. The Reeves board works to cultivate a globally minded student body and to convene hearts and minds on campus and around the world. Julie stays in close contact with **Ramona Biliunas**, and they were both at Homecoming & Reunion Weekend. In August, **Jenny Koleda Hoenscheid**, **Karin Gilot** and Julie visited **Kristin Rombough Robinson** at her home in the mountains of North Carolina, and also all traveled together to visit **Lezlie Farrell Anderson** in Richmond, Virginia, along with **Nan Shanley Cunningham '86**. Julie has picked up tennis again and is also active as a board member and vice president for Flagler Humane Society, volunteers as our class ambassador and serves as Greek ambassador for Chi Omega.

Virginia Gov.-Elect Abigail Spanberger recently announced **Laura Dillard Lafayette** as a co-chair of her transition team. Laura resides in the Richmond area and is the chief executive officer of the Richmond Association of Realtors and the Central Virginia Regional Multiple Listing Service.

1988

Class Reporters

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Originally both Class of 1987, **Keith Reagan**

and **Stuart West '88, M.B.A. '93** both graduated in 1988. They try to see a few football games together in Williamsburg each fall. Stu has a sweet tailgate spot by the stadium and has not missed a home game in 20 years! See their photos in the online Class Notes.

Stuart retired in August. He's enjoying no schedule for a while, then will make a plan (the financial plan was the easy part). He always tailgates for football behind Madison (20-year home game streak is still alive!), so let him know if you can make it!

The Rev. **Don Planty**, pastor of St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church in Arlington, Virginia, gave a talk on prayer to the students of W&M's Catholic Campus Ministry (CCM) on Sept. 15. It was a very moving return for him, since it was his first W&M CCM event since their barbecue for graduating seniors in 1988! Don shared with the students that his involvement in campus ministry was instrumental in his discernment of a vocation to the priesthood. As a matter of fact, the Catholic Diocese of Arlington counts a number of W&M alumni among its priests. See his photo in the online Class Notes.

Mark Gartner is still teaching math at the Peddie School in New Jersey. This is year 36 (38 in the classroom). This past summer, Mark competed in the USA Track & Field New Jersey Open & Masters Track & Field Championships, in which he won medals in the shot put, discus and javelin events. Mark's granddaughter will turn 2 in February. Mark reports that being a grandparent is a great job!

Audrea Topps Harjo writes that her daughter graduated from college. They took a trip to Thailand as her graduation present and had a great time. Audrea met up with **Andrew Pang** in New York City over the sum-

mer. See her photos in the online Class Notes.

Mike Walsh wants to let people know that he and **Jenny Stiles Walsh '90** have moved back to Virginia. They're in Fredericksburg now. Mike is working as the vice president for student affairs at the University of Mary Washington. After 30 years of being away from Virginia, on the West Coast, Mike says it is great to be back where he grew up, went to college, and got married! Mike is also serving as a class ambassador and Greek ambassador for William & Mary. Go Tribe!

Every summer, **Julie Cunningham Shackleford '88** and **Marsha Fishburne Lycan '87** head to the West Coast for the ECNL Girls National Playoffs. It's a recruiting bonanza for college soccer coaches, and the William & Mary women's program is certain to be represented. This year, they decided to rent an RV and hit the open road. Julie, the Tribe's head women's soccer coach, did almost all of the driving. Marsha, the associate head coach, did almost all of the planning. They documented their journey along the way on Instagram (@tribeacrossamerica). Look for a link to the W&M Athletics article in our online notes.

We love getting updates and photos from all of you. If you've never written in, or haven't submitted anything in a long time, please consider sharing an update and especially some photos to catch us all up.

We hope that 2026 brings you health, peace, prosperity and good times with friends and families.

1989

Class Reporter

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Sean Power and **Karen Berger Power '90** celebrated their 33rd anniversary in October. Congratulations! Sean was accepted into the Phoenix diocese diaconate program and will be a deacon in five years; he's excited about his new vocation.

Marnie Mitchell Keogh started a new job in the health care space as senior vice president of marketing at Acentra. She credits W&M alumni connections for helping her land this job. Doug and I met up with Marnie and her husband, Steve, for dinner in Virginia Beach. Their daughter, Madeleine, is at the University of Virginia.

Philip Forgit '89, M.A.Ed. '95 was profiled by The Virginia Gazette for his documentary on the war in Ukraine, “Assurance,” a portrait of Ukrainian soldiers and civilians supporting them as they fight to repel Russia's incursion in the Donbas region. Look for a link to the article in our online Class Notes.

Tim Curran, who was editor of the news outlet Roll Call for more than two decades and the national politics and Sunday edition editor of The Washington Post for over 10 years, passed away in February 2025.

Ron Weber '89, M.B.A. '94, husband of **Melissa Sutton Weber '89, M.Ed. '95**, and a force in marketing for the amusement industry, passed away in September.

Anson Christian has retired from Covington & Burling LLP. He's splitting his time between Tidewater Virginia and the DMV (District of Columbia-Maryland-Virginia) area. (*Editor's note: We apologize for the editing error on this news item in the fall 2025 issue.*)

Dywona “DeeDee” Vantree-Keller was named a Top Black Lawyer by the National Black Lawyers Association. “Ms. Dee” supports veter-

ans and their families in Hampton Roads. **DeeDee, Amy Smith Jasper** and **Haley Comer-Williams** attended a Homecoming & Reunion Weekend brunch hosted by the Mu Upsilon Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta. They're very excited to see the sorority back at W&M! DeeDee was instrumental in helping to reactivate the chapter.

Speaking of Homecoming, it was great to be back on campus over a beautiful fall weekend and to see classmates and friends, including **Gene Foley, Paul Cullen** and **Marianne Mannschreck Cullen** (and their daughter **Vera Cullen '26**), **Paula Proteau Vonasek** and Jeff, **Michelle Beasley Williams** and **Eric Williams '88, Scott Rhodes, Nancy Hill, David Nowland** and **CiCi, JoAnn Adrales Ruh, Lisa Applegate** (and her son **Max Blunck '27**), **Todd Martin, Amy McCormick Diduch** and **Kent Diduch '87, Karyn Harcos Womach, Kathy Handron Bruckner, Mark Washko '89, M.P.P. '94, Wally Welham '89, M.B.A. '00** and **Jen Burgess Welham '90, Becky Samuels Paquet, Amy Smith Jasper** and **Keith Jasper, Dywona “DeeDee” Vantree-Keller** and **Scott** (and their daughter **Sara Keller '28**), **Anne Humphries Arseneau '89, M.A.Ed. '92** and **Bob, Stephanie Hunter Estes** and **Howard Estes '88, Alicia Nulty Mitchell, Corri Ulmer Shusterman, Lisa Londino Eggleston** and **Kirk Eggleston, Monty Mason** and **Greg Fernandez**. I heard **Mike Savage '89, M.B.A. '95, Colin Ruh '89, M.B.A. '94, Steve McCleaf, John Voorhees, TJ Ward, Martha McGlothlin Bowman '89, J.D. '95, Jeryl Rose Phillips** and **Haley Comer-Williams** were there as well. Who else

was there?

Michelle Beasley Williams '88 and **Eric Williams '88** are building a house in Roanoke, Virginia, near their granddaughter and will split time between Virginia and Florida.

James Gayle '29, son of **Martha McGlothlin Bowman, '89, J.D. '95**, is a freshman at William & Mary, playing on the golf team. Martha celebrated her 30th W&M Law School reunion this year.

We enjoyed meeting globally minded alumni and friends at the Reves Center's Wine of the World reception, and hearing stories of study, travel and life abroad, hanging around a fire pit with classmates and **Pat Dueppen '90** and **Muri Jacobs Dueppen '91** and **Mike Atherton '86**, and dining with friends. What's next? was a common theme among the conversations throughout the weekend, with many classmates becoming empty nesters, retiring, or just contemplating doing something new.

If you're looking for something new, there are many ways to get involved at William & Mary — connecting with other alumni through One Network, joining a leadership board or alumni group, volunteering to help students with their career development and more. Reach out if you'd like help finding your place.

Please take a moment and send in your update for Class Notes!

1990

Class Reporter
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I was so sad to miss Homecoming & Reunion Weekend this year, but **Amy Bryce Paul's** daughter's wedding took precedence. Fortunately,

I got reports from **Nick Lashutka**, **Sharon Wible-Mankovich** and **Kelli McNally Lorey**. Many thanks to you all.

Nick got together with **Beth Yates**, **William Young**, **Gray Lambe**, **Steve Gatti**, **Ken Delaero** and **Brad Hughes '89**.

Sharon met up with **Beth O'Doherty Kennedy**, **Beverly "B" Keith Alksninis**, **Kate McCauley**, **Sharra Kelly '80** and Sharon's daughter, **Arden Mankovich '29**, a freshman on the Tribe field hockey team. They caught up with **Jon Gregory**, **Bettina Ristau**, **Robyn Spilsbury Carton**, **Cathy Bello**, **Duane Milne**, **Margaret "Sissy" Estes**, **Doug Powell**, **Elizabeth McCann Daines** and **Sterling Daines**, **Jennifer King '93**, **Stephanie Ploszay Karn '91** and **Stefanie Groot**.

Kelli McNally Lorey and **Brandon Lorey** connected with **Todd Davenport**, **Tom Davis**, **Steve Costello**, **Bryan Brewer**, **Jas Short** and **Dave Terry**, as well as **Mary Uitz Colpo**, **Maureen Kennedy O'Shaughnessy**, **Katie Regan Lenahan**, **Audra Lalley Mallow**, **Katie Flaherty Savage '90, M.A.Ed. '96**, **Alicia Francis Bond**, **Mary Beth Bracken**, **Chrissy Morton DeMier**, **Marcy Levy Shankman**, **Liz Rucker Griffith**, **Sophie Lee**, **Jennifer Leete**, **Kris Williams Aldridge**, **Monica "Bitsy" Bittenbender Ewin** and **Joie Cooney**.

I'd love to hear from any and all of you above for future class updates.

The West African country of Benin has warmly welcomed friends/alumni from the William & Mary! **Holly Vineyard** and **Jasmine Curry '18** both recently concluded their tours in Cotonou with the U.S. Department of State and the Peace Corps, respectively. Look for

their photo in our online Class Notes with Ambassador Brian Shukan and his wife, Clare, whose daughters both graduated from W&M (**Abigail N. Shukan '19** and **Leah A. Shukan '21**). Holly's next Foreign Service posting will be in Manila, and Jasmine returns to Northern Virginia.

AnnaMaria DeSalva and **Dan Draper '91** gave the keynote addresses at W&M's McGlothlin Leadership Forum on Sept. 8-9. AnnaMaria is the former global chair of Burson, and Dan is the CEO of S&P Dow Jones Indices.

1991 35

Class Reporter
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Dan Draper and **AnnaMaria DeSalva '90** gave the keynote addresses at W&M's McGlothlin Leadership Forum in September. AnnaMaria is the former global chair of Burson and a member of the W&M Board of Visitors. Dan is the CEO of S&P Dow Jones Indices and a member of the Boeily Center for Excellence in Finance Advisory Board at the Raymond A. Mason School of Business. The forum connects students with global leaders in business, law and public service.

Apparently, 2025 was my year to connect with W&M alums! I traveled to Richmond, Virginia, in early July for a graduation party for **Madelyn Dunlap '25**, daughter of **Noelle Chalfoux Dunlap**. **Carol Bowman Kennedy** and I were party set-up helpers! Also in July, **Anisha Sheth Mason** and her husband, Craig, made an East Coast visit to see friends and their son Jay at Dartmouth. **Shuchi Sharma '92, M.A. '93** and I had brunch with them on a

very hot Baltimore day, then met up with others including **Geralyn McLernon Sola** for some summer cocktails.

I attended several of the Road to Women's Weekend events in the D.C., Maryland and Virginia area, then the W&M Women's Weekend itself in September. I was able to catch up with **Melissa Rider Carson**, who, after a career in corporate human resources, is now working for herself as a people strategist and leadership coach. You can connect with her on LinkedIn if you are interested in hearing more about what she offers.

I bumped into **Paige Edwards McPherrin**, a friend from freshman year in Yates Hall. Paige has lived in Winnetka, Illinois, since 2000 with her husband, John, and her 19-year-old twins, Kate and Cole. Aside from a break to get her MBA in 1998 and a master's in counseling in 2004, Paige has remained in the insurance industry since graduating and currently serves as a senior employee benefits broker with Alera Group Inc. Paige said she enjoyed making several visits back to the Cheese Shop and reuniting with some of her Chi Omega sisters such as **Catherine Fisher Carr**, **Holly Weymouth Rivera**, **Lynn Bushey '89** and **Sallie Wellons McOwen '89, M.A.Ed '93**. Cathy was one of the Mary Talk presenters — like a TED Talk but in W&M terms!

My favorite presentation was given by **Karen "KT" Tomlinson Newton '77**, former assistant U.S. attorney in Pennsylvania, who spent 10 years working with the FBI Art Crime Team. Her stories were fascinating so, no surprise, she is writing a book about her experience. Look in our online Class Notes for a link to a W&M Alumni Magazine article on KT.

I stayed in the same hotel as **Angie McGowan '92, Amy Alexander**

Gilliland '92 and **Stephanie Mowatt Anglin '92**, and we had a lot of fun catching up over the course of the weekend. We had dinner Saturday night at Precarious Beer Project (fun place!) with **Madelyn Dunlap '25**. I also loved spending time with Kappa Delta sorority sisters **JoAnn Adrales Ruh '89** and **Jennifer Burgess Welham '90**. Overall, the weekend included speakers and workshops and social events: just a terrific event all around. Thank you, Society of 1918 board members (including Angie!) for all your planning! It happens every three years so, ladies, pencil it in for 2028.

A month later, I was able to attend the Cocktails & Conversation event in Baltimore with President Katherine Rowe and **Timothy J. Carroll '87**, former head of Microsoft's Climate Portfolio. It was a fun evening at the beautiful American Visionary Art Museum. I was able to chat with **Stephen Nichols '90** and **Muri Jacobs Dueppen**.

That is all from me but please send me your news!

1992

Class Reporter
BARRY KEITH

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Happy 2026 to all of you!

Corinna Barrett Lain shared her book, "Secrets of the Killing State: The Untold Story of Lethal Injection," during a whirlwind tour of 30 cities in 87 days this past fall. It was quite an experience interacting with legal scholars from across the country about this controversial form of the death penalty. Check out a synopsis and reviews of the book on Corinna's website: corinnalain.com.

She is the S.D. Roberts and Sandra Moore Professor of Law at the University of Richmond School of Law.

Karen Stern

Hollinger married her husband, John, during her junior year at William & Mary; they just celebrated their 35th wedding anniversary! They have two grown sons who work in technology. Karen spent a decade in international consulting for operational strategy and technology, over 20 years as a real estate executive at AvalonBay, and is now the managing director of real estate operations at KKR for the U.S. and parts of Europe. If you travel to New York City, she would love to catch up!

Melissa Kolonoski

Ballenger was appointed to serve on the W&M Board of Visitors. She is an adjunct professor at W&M's Raymond A. Mason School of Business and has held the position of chief financial officer for multiple global companies.

For the 10th straight year, **John Staren** and **Brian Cole** got their families (two kids each; age range 10-16) together for a Labor Day weekend celebration at Capon Springs Resort in West Virginia. Although both families live in Northern Virginia about 20 minutes apart, they find it easier to connect 100 miles from home.

Carolyn Eaton-Nowinski shares: "This past summer, I did a two-month road trip with family members called the "Ashes to Ashes" tour. Our mother had passed away in August 2024, and wished to be interred in Warrenton, Virginia. We laid her to rest and I got into my Santa Fe SUV with my sister Kathleen, my two brothers and my dog, Rosie. We drove west, checking out many sites on the way to Seattle, including the Jolly Green Giant, the Spam Museum, The Corn Palace, Badlands National Park and Mount Rush-

more. We met with sisters **Suzan Eaton '78** and **Mary Eaton '79** in Seattle to inter my father, who had passed away in 1993 and wanted to be laid next to his father in Oakville, Washington, about two hours from Seattle." Following the burials of her parents, Carolyn traveled to Roseville, California, with her three sisters and Rosie to visit her aunt. Finally, she, Suzan and Rosie made a stop at the Great Salt Flats and visited several state capitals — Salt Lake City; Denver; Topeka, Kansas; Jefferson City, Missouri; Indianapolis and Columbus, Ohio — before finishing their odyssey in West Virginia for a nephew's wedding. Check out her pictures in the online magazine!

Todd Tarkenton

retired on Aug. 1 after 30 years in education with the Virginia Beach City Public Schools; the last 12 years were as a high school principal. Retirement didn't last long; Todd immediately assumed the role of assistant director for compliance with the Virginia High School League in Charlottesville, Virginia.

Michael "Mike"

Holtzman was interviewed by The Virginia Gazette about his role in the international public relations campaign that led to Beijing winning rights to host the 2008 Summer Olympic and Paralympic Games. "I had worked on China policy issues at the Council of Foreign Relations and as an adviser to the U.S. trade ambassador, and I believed that engaging China was the best strategy for them to play a constructive role in the world," Mike says. Read more in our online Class Notes.

Matt Brandon celebrated his third Homecoming & Reunion Weekend as CEO of the W&M Alumni Association in October. He writes: "The job has been amazing, and I get a lot of joy meeting alumni and serving the university. My wife, Teri,

and I celebrated our 30th wedding anniversary in August with trips to Waikiki, Hawaii, and Greenville, North Carolina. We have two adult daughters who live in NYC and an enthusiastic 8-pound Yorkie Poo at our home in Williamsburg. Go Tribe!"

Enjoy the spring!

1993

Class Reporter

GREGORY IMBUR
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Greetings, the first scoop I received this time was from **Lukas Haynes**, who writes, "Many of you know this was a long time coming and thanks to the Foreign Policy Association, my first book, 'Peace Through Power: FDR's Military Leaders and the Pragmatism of the UN Charter,' was published on Nov. 13. It can be ordered from the Foreign Policy Association's website (fpa.org/bookstore).

"I'm so grateful to share these words about the book from Samantha Power, former U.N. ambassador and U.S. Agency for International Development chief: 'This gripping work of history unearths the untold story of the U.S. military's immersive involvement in creating the U.N. — highlighting the pragmatic national security case for investing in international stability.'"

The other person who I was pleased to hear from again was **Dan Polis**, who writes: "Since many of you have been such big supporters of my work on Dream Chaser over the years, I wanted to give you an update. About two months ago, Sierra asked me to take over the Dream Chaser program, as program manager, and navigate a changing landscape for its completion, first flight and future capabilities, which will now be expanded beyond just cargo services to

the International Space Station. This change in positioning of the Dream Chaser was publicly announced in September.

"While there are many articles out with various spins, this is a good outcome for us, and I hope you'll all continue to cheer for a successful first flight in late 2026." Read more about Dan and his wife, **Crystal Anderson Polis**, in the W&M Alumni Magazine online exclusive, "Chasing Dreams."

The last bit of news is that I am humbly stepping down from the role as class correspondent. It's been a remarkably rewarding five years or so, and I have enjoyed writing about alumni and their life news. At the same time, I think that it's time for another voice and perspective, one that knows many other members of our class than I do. If you have been following the column and want to see it continue, please consider getting in touch with the magazine (at alumni.magazine@wm.edu) and trying it out. I've been able to do largely what I have wanted with the column, and the editorial staff is very supportive, creative and understanding. A big thanks to **Claire De Lisle M.B.A. '21**, Tina and the rest of their team, and best wishes to you all for 2026 and beyond.

1994

Class Reporter

STEVE NEWMAN
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I read about some of the festivities going on at Homecoming & Reunion Weekend and I'm jealous I'm not headed back that way until our 35th reunion which, in and of itself, just sounds crazy, right? If anyone attended Homecoming, please share a little story so I can drop it in the next magazine.

Two Class of 1994 alumni are serving on the

Reves Global Engagement Board. **Ducie Le** is in her second year of a three-year term, and **Denzel Hankinson** started the first year of his term. Coming from Arlington, Virginia, and from Leverett, Massachusetts, Ducie and Denzel joined other Reves Global Engagement Board members traveling from around the world and across the country to William & Mary's Reves Center for International Studies for a daylong board meeting right before Homecoming. If you're interested in this board, Ducie and Denzel would be happy to talk to you.

During Homecoming, the Reves Center hosted a reception, Wines of the World. There, Ducie caught up with fellow alumni, including **Phillip Chang '95** and **Daniel Greenwald '95**, who had also lived at Reves Hall when it was an international dorm. For alumni who lived at Reves Hall, the Reves staff is interested in having your name and contact information as they reconstruct the list of students that had lived at Reves or had studied abroad.

Lastly, **Heather Fleniken McFarlane**, Esq., in Houston, joined JAMS (formerly Judicial Arbitration and Mediation Services), which is the largest private provider of alternative dispute resolution (ADR) services in the world. Heather has run her own firm since 2010 and has argued in front of the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit and the United States Supreme Court. Kudos to our very own legal eagle!

To sound like a broken record: It would be a pleasure to hear your news and updates. It's been *way* too long — let's change that. Send me a quick blurb about what's happening in your world. Big news, little news or just "still standing" — I'd love to hear it!

1995

Class Reporter
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I was sorry to miss Homecoming & Reunion Weekend this year — 30 years, that's too crazy, but I'm so pleased that **Jen Volpe Henrick** organized the second annual Wines of the World event for the Reves Global Engagement Board, and it was a highlight to see fellow board member **Ben Pratt**, plus **Jenny Alkema**, **Debbie Kirk Lewis**, **Krisna Davis Becker** and **Chuck Becker**, there. W&M continues to rank No. 1 in study abroad!

Darpan Kapadia and his wife, Erica Olan, made a generous gift to launch a strategic initiative at W&M that will support enrollment of the best students nationwide. Through a combined focus on admissions, marketing, scholarships and counselor engagement, the gift will strengthen recruitment of out-of-state students who may not be aware of all that William & Mary has to offer. Read more about Darpan and Erica's gift on page 12. Bella Ciao!

1996 30

Class Reporter
BETSY ROSENBLATT ROSSO
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Chelsea Football Club co-owner and chairman **Todd Boehly** celebrated the team's victory in the FIFA Club World Cup on July 13. "The thing that just made the day was just how well the boys played," he told TalkSport. "They really had nothing to lose and they put it out there, they were so organized and so methodical, and the plan that [manager Enzo Maresca] laid out was so well done."

When **Ari Rosberg** was photo editor for The Flat Hat, he had the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to photograph Nirvana when they played at the College in 1993. His photos have been used on the Nirvana fan website livenirvana.com. Read his interview in the recent alumni magazine feature about concerts at the College.

On a personal note, the rest of this column is entirely a personal note. I want to share our deep gratitude to friends from William & Mary who have stepped up in recent months to help my family in significant and meaningful ways.

In September, my husband, **Randy Rosso '95, M.P.P. '99**, was diagnosed with stage 4 brain cancer. As you might imagine, or you know from experience if you or someone you love have faced a life-threatening illness, this news and all the accompanying appointments, decisions, doctors, therapies and lifestyle changes that come with it are dramatic. Randy is on short-term disability leave from his job and I've mostly paused my work so I can take care of everything else. It's a lot.

Since the night we first went to the emergency room (special thanks to **Mark Ryan**, who helped me understand the MRI results we received via email at 9 p.m. on a Saturday night and urged us to head to the hospital immediately), we have been stunned (in the best possible way) by the outpouring of support we've received from hundreds of people around the world, including family, friends and complete strangers. I am thankful for the William & Mary folks who have helped us. We've been blessed not only by the generosity of close friends, but also help from classmates who I haven't seen or heard from in decades and a few who I haven't seen since graduation.

These are the people who have made meals for us, donated to our GoFundMe, helped us translate medical language into English, fixed things around our house, sent cards and messages of love, taken us out for a few hours of fun, or some combination of all of these:

Alexis Mahood, Ann Bunger '97, Anne Kilburn Dailey, Annemarie Schoen and Mike Groenert, Bridget Pool, Callan Bentley, Camille Andrews, Caroline Castle Laney, Carrie Ruff Wendell '98, Cathy Pullara Benjamin, Dave Soles, David Falcon, Diann Vaughan '90, Donnie Bledsoe, Eileen Corrigan Valazza, George Smaragdis '94, Henry Mlodozieniec, J McCray '94 and Erin Beatty McCray '94, Jen Loux '97, Jenny Roahen Rizzo, Karie Wratchford, Krista Stimson Crider '96, M.A. '98, Laura Keyt Kelley, Maia Curtis and Rob Blackwell, Bob Margrave '75, Mark Ryan, Matt Corey '93, Meg Bartow Dufour, Mari-Jane Krull Williams, Molly Brady, Nicole Panagopoulos Basham '98, Rebecca Finifter Wrotny, Ruth Miller, Sabrina Spishak, Susan Lambert Aarhus '95, Susan Lacefield and Liam Sullivan '95, and Teri Emerson Lane '97.

If you would like to follow Randy's journey on CaringBridge or contribute to our GoFundMe, please email me at betsyrosso@gmail.com and I'll be happy to share the links.

1997

Class Reporter
MATT GIBERT
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Chris Elliott recently celebrated his 50th birthday with a weeklong

trip to Germany, Austria, Switzerland and a place he had wanted to visit since the seventh grade — Liechtenstein! He and his girlfriend, Lisa, ran the Drei Länder (Three Country) marathon — his fifth. Chris' daughter is starting a new position as a 911 dispatcher after three years in wildland firefighting, and his son works for himself in Naples, Florida. Chris is still in information technology security in Hampton Roads, Virginia, working from home and sharing space with his dog, Pudge (look for a photo online).

Since moving to Houston, I miss running into fellow Arlington, Virginia, native **Andrew Schneider**, who recently celebrated two years as the executive director of Columbia Pike Partnership, a coalition that leads economic development efforts in one of Northern Virginia's most diverse and vibrant communities. (As a former Pike resident, I can attest that this description is faithful!) Andrew's son is a junior at the University of Tennessee, and his daughter is a sophomore at William & Mary. On May 17, 2025, Andrew married Sarah Nissen-son. **John Antonacci** was in attendance. Congratulations, Andrew!

This past June, **Kimberly Gianfagna Harsanyi** moved from Honolulu to Longmont, Colorado, with her husband, Garry, and their son, who is in third grade. Kimberly's older daughters attend the University of Washington in Seattle. They are loving fall in Colorado and looking forward to their first real winter in a long time!

Blake Baraks works for a book publishing company in St. Louis. He wrote in to share that his favorite memory from college was working as a bouncer at the Green Leaf senior year, meeting all the students and "townies" who

became regulars.

Pamela Smith Wise celebrated her 50th birthday with a big party in Maine. Her family is still restoring a historic home near Williamsburg, and she is gearing up for this year's W&M Weekend in Washington.

Aaron Goldsmith '97, J.D. '00 recently left the U.S. Department of Justice after 17 years as a trial attorney and, later, senior litigation counsel. He litigated cases in district and circuit court with a focus on cases involving labor and employment immigration programs. He now lives in Richmond, Virginia, where he is a staff attorney for the Court of Appeals of Virginia.

New York City resident **Billy Stewart** recently reunited with fellow W&M alumnus **Russell Taylor '96** for a musical evening at Red Rooster, a hallmark in Harlem's fine dining scene; Billy DJed an all-vinyl set as a complement to Russell's show. He did report one regret: He hasn't been allowed back onto a skateboard after breaking his wrist in a skate park a few years back. (I imagine this could be the last time I report a skateboarding injury for our class.)

I loved hearing **Rhonda Morales'** report of an amazing year. She and her family visited Turkey and toured some of the early Christian churches there. She experienced some beautiful and sacred moments on the trip, connecting in new ways with her family while making new friends along the way. I also appreciated Rhonda's desire to share an experience she had this year with classmates and friends, so that if anyone else experienced something similar, they need not be afraid: "I found myself in situations at home and work and in my community engagements where I was well past overex-

tended and my body began to shut down. I felt frightened by my body's nervous system response because I did not understand what was happening. My fear and anxiety were extremely high. It was terrifying for me to not be able to think clearly and to feel disconnected from myself." Rhonda was eventually able to recognize this as a normal nervous-system response to overstimulation — an invitation to listen to what our bodies need. Thanks for sharing with us, Rhonda!

Thank you for these updates that connect us to our alma mater and to one another. Please continue to write in. Have a great winter!

1998

Class Reporter
ALEXIS COX
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Jessica Romano Roberson and her husband, Jason, and their family are enjoying their fifth year back in Florida. Their oldest child, Jake, graduated from high school last May and is attending Florida Institute of Technology as a Distinguished Scholar in biomedical engineering. Their two daughters are thriving in high school and elementary school, filling their home with the sounds of the clarinet and ukulele. Before the college send-off, Jessica and her family had a wonderful vacation exploring Acadia National Park and Boston, facilitated by **Robin Fluharty Rudacille** of Magical Adventures Travel. Jessica said the highlight of the trip was celebrating Independence Day with **Jodi Stephenson Aidasani** and her family while watching amazing fireworks over the Boston skyline.

I also heard from **Robin Fluharty Rudacille**, who has lived in the Washington, D.C., area

since graduation. Robin said: "My husband, Mike, and I currently live in Chantilly, Virginia, with our two kids. Our son is a senior in high school this year, and our daughter, **Megan Rudacille '27**, is a junior at William & Mary. My dear friend **Laurissa Richter Kashmer's** older daughter, **Julia Kashmer '27**, is a junior there as well. It has been a joy being back on campus, seeing Laurissa and other friends more frequently, and experiencing the College as a parent! As Jessica mentioned, I am working as a travel agent, after years in information technology consulting (and some time off with the kids). It has been fun planning trips for family and friends, including **Lynn Dameron Wolfe '96** and Jessica. I am enjoying the opportunity to travel more as we prepare for empty nester life. I would love to connect with anyone who is planning a vacation!"

After many years of freelance writing and editing for association publications, **Jane Eisinger Rooney** accepted a job last February as a project manager in marketing and communications for University Life at George Mason University in Fairfax, Virginia.

Sean McDermott was profiled by the Associated Press in September as he entered his ninth year as head coach of the Buffalo Bills. Sean was also featured in the 2025 season of HBO's "Hard Knocks: Training Camp with the Buffalo Bills." The show offered a rare behind-the-scenes glimpse at the team both on and off the field. Look for links in our online Class Notes.

If you have news of your own that you'd like to share, please shoot me an email. Are you embarking on a fun adventure to celebrate turning the big 5-0? Have you recently moved or changed jobs? Do you have kids going to William & Mary?

We want to hear about it! We can also include photos in the online version of our Class Notes, so feel free to pass any pictures along as well. Until next time!

1999

Class Reporter
MAUREEN HOLBERT
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Homecoming & Reunion Weekend 2025 was another whirlwind visit to various places on campus meeting with alumni, students, professors and staff. There was a reception Friday night at Lake Matoaka for Annual Giving volunteers, attended by President Katherine Rowe and our classmate **Matthew Lambert**. On Saturday morning, I attended a breakfast with other class reporters and heard from **Faith Odom '22**, a current MBA candidate and associate director of alumni engagement, who told us about William & Mary today and how the W&M Alumni Association connects alumni with the six "T's" of engagement: time, talent, treasure, testimony, ties and trust. I discovered that my junior year dorm, Nicholas, was demolished and only rubble was left to see on my walk around campus. The Kappa Delta house, where I saw **Ann Marie Salamone Santillo**, is gearing up for a redecoration as the sorority approaches its 100th anniversary in 2028. The government department reception was hosted in Chancellors Hall (it was called Tyler Hall when we were undergrads).

Adam LaMontagne completed his first Ironman race in Switzerland in August, finishing in with a total time of 12:28:24! He was able to relax and recover with family and friends on a Kentucky Bourbon Trail tour in September, visiting 11 distilleries and

imbibing 110 tastings.

In the news: A change of command ceremony at the National Ground Intelligence Center in Charlottesville, Virginia, on July 18 marked the transition of leadership from Col. **Eric H. Haas** to Col. Jay G. McGee. Eric had assumed command of NGIC in 2023. In his farewell remarks, he praised the center's workforce and highlighted its unique contributions to national security. Eric will report to Fort Bragg, North Carolina, for his next assignment. Maj. Gen. Timothy D. Brown, commanding general of U.S. Army Intelligence and Security Command, commended Eric's leadership during a time marked by global instability and internal transformation.

2000

Class Reporters
KELLY SCANLON & MIKE ANDERSON
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Though the weather outside may be frightful, we are still warmed by having seen so many of you in the 'Burg last fall for our 25th reunion. We are pleased to report that we were able to stay up until 10 p.m. Also, people are reading the Class Notes, so even if it's old news to you, your friends, hallmates and classmates would still like to know. Tell us all about it. On to the news!

After working as a federal attorney for several years, **Jonathan "Jon" Carroll** transitioned to private practice and opened his own law firm, Gulf Legacy Law P.A., which is located in Panama City Beach, Florida, and focuses on estate planning.

Christina Nelson practices pediatric medicine and public health in Fort Collins, Colorado, and recently launched Dinnertime Doctor, a

health consultation business to help parents raise adventurous eaters and avoid mealtime battles. She provides guidance via virtual sessions for parents of babies and toddlers on how to establish good family habits and reduce the risk of allergies. She also helps parents of picky eaters reset and steer away from power struggles. Check out her website: dinnertimedoc-tor.com.

Jonathan Randall Weiss received his master's degree and doctorate as a geophysicist at the University of Hawaii. Working for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), he did ocean-floor mapping in the Pacific and set up earthquake stations in the mountains of Bolivia and Peru. After a three-year postdoc at Leeds University in England and another three years at Potsdam University in Germany, Jonathan returned to Hawaii with his wife, Julia, and their three children, where he currently serves as assistant director of the NOAA Early Warning Center for Earthquakes and Tsunamis on Ford Island (Pearl Harbor). When not forecasting and warning the world of pending earthquakes and subsequent tsunamis, he and his family enjoy their home on the North Shore of Oahu, surfing and skateboarding.

Kerry Budd McMahon has worked in the pharmaceutical industry for 25 years as a clinical scientist and trial operations leader, and just completed her first year at Novartis as a senior regulatory writer. She also completed her first year back in the pool after a very long hiatus and joined our very own Club Tribe 1693 U.S. Masters Swimming (USMS) team! The team was founded by many former members of William & Mary Swimming. Look for them in Greensboro, North Carolina, in April for USMS Nationals!

That's it for this edition. Keep on swimming and keep those updates coming. Adventures are being had — the Class of 2000 is full of interesting and varied stories. We look forward to hearing yours at williamandmary2000@gmail.com.

2001 ²⁵

Class Reporter
LAUREN MORGAN ELLERMAN '01, M.S. '23
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Jenn Lodi-Smith '01, M.A. '03 sent news that her research was featured in Audubon magazine. Look for a link in our online Class Notes, along with a photo of Jenn in a field of milkweed.

Leena Holt Baran was named one of "The Top 50 Women Leaders in Hospitality for 2025" by the Women We Admire organization. Leena is senior director of F&B Category Management for Hilton Worldwide. Read more in our online Class Notes.

2002

Class Reporter
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The Class of 2002 is shaping the future of our alma mater! **Hillary Rollins Waldron** has been appointed to serve on the William & Mary Board of Visitors. She is the senior director of international business development for General Dynamics Ordnance and Tactical Systems, a global aerospace and defense company.

Did you see some classmates in your TV viewing recently? **Ryan Kutscher** and **Craig Carey** appeared on "Shark Tank" in October 2025 pitching their business, Dad Strength Brewing. Based in Washington, D.C., Dad

Strength is the first brewery in the United States solely dedicated to producing mid-strength beers with an alcohol by volume (ABV) of 2.5%-2.9%.

2003

Class Reporter
NINA R. STRICKLAND SIMONE
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Hello Class of 2003! If you're just tuning in, I live here, and over the past 18 years, our college stomping grounds became the backdrop for many subsequent seasons of life. But this past week, I chaperoned a middle school art field trip to the Muscarelle Museum of Art, and, once I accepted that, yes, we are going to release 100 seventh graders into these galleries with freshly sharpened pencils, I was blown away by the beauty of that space AND the robust programming offered for art patrons of all ages. Combine that experience with another gorgeous Homecoming & Reunion Weekend on campus, and I'm ready to pitch the unrivaled magic of William & Mary to whomever will listen. This is a special place.

We have one update to this issue. Thanks for writing in, Sean!

Sean Conway rejoined Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld as a partner in the Telecommunications, Media and Technology practice in Washington, D.C. Sean started his legal career as an associate at Akin, and had most recently been deputy chief counsel at the U.S. Department of Commerce's National Telecommunications and Information Administration. But Sean's biggest life update is that he and his wife, Brooke Padgett, welcomed their son Bobby in August. Bobby joins big brother Jack (2 years old), who is thrilled to have a sibling.

Keep your news coming! Did you join us for Homecoming? Let us know your last time on campus and where you found the magic.
Go Tribe.

2004

Class Reporter
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I hope all of you who were affected by the fall government shutdown made it through without too much hardship. I have a lot of friends in agencies who went through a "case of the Mondays" times 1,000. On a personal note, I had a long vacation back to Oklahoma in October to see and be with family. My mom's old landline bit the dust when thieves cut a telephone cable along a main road and stole the copper in the line. My "vacation" was basically doing errands and projects, and it did not seem I had a vacation at all. But I loved seeing my family. OK, I gave you my bland, lute-fisk update — now for the juicy dessert updates!

A few columns ago, I talked about sending some of your primary documents (diaries, journals, etc.) about life at the College during the early aughts. Well, **Grant Cothran** stepped up to the plate and submitted some of his old photoblog narrative that he kept in the oh-so-post-Dot-Com-Bubble program that is Microsoft FrontPage. For our class's own little slice of history, which is this column, Grant gave me an update of his life in Greenville, South Carolina, or what he likes to call, "South Cackalacky!" A few years ago, he started ReCraft Creative Reuse Center, a nonprofit focused on sustainability and creativity.

The company continues to grow, currently with 13 employees, and diverted 150,000 pounds of usable materials from local landfills in 2025. **Nicole Thomas Cothran '05** and Grant celebrated their 16th wedding anniversary last year, even though they met much earlier at that glorious apartment at 305 N. Boundary St. in the 'Burg during 2004. As Nicole puts it: If they had a child the summer they first met, that kid could legally drink at the Green Leaf. The fact that Nicole chose the more "mature" deli just makes it even more clear we are getting closer to the Old Guard!

Last summer, **Eva Langston** launched a new podcast called "The Long Road to Publishing" in which she chats with authors about their detour-filled journey to publishing their books. An episode from Sept. 11, 2025, featured W&M alumna **Esperanza Hope Snyder '82**, aka **Hope Maxwell Snyder**, whose debut novel, "Orange Wine," was 20 years in the making, and was released in late September from Bindery Books. Be sure to check out all the other great episodes as well. Eva talks to authors who have found big success (bestselling novels, Netflix deals) and those with quieter achievements (like publishing with a small press after years of chasing the Big Five). FLASHBACK! Look in our online Class Notes for a link to Eva's award-winning short fiction story "Goddesses" in the Oct. 19, 2005, issue of Style Weekly.

Staying in the world of publishing, **Beth Plambeck Walk** let me know that she co-authored the cookbook "Sally's Baking 101," which hit No. 2 on The New York Times Best Seller List. I need to check out that sweet and savory foolproof book since my cooking skills have become rusty over

the past decades!

And last but not least, **Megan Arthur Schilling** has joined the firm of Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati as a partner in the firm's San Diego office.

As always, I love hearing from all of you, and I hope to include more exciting news from you all in our next column!

Take care,
Owen

2005

Class Reporter
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WOW! We rocked Homecoming and our 20th reunion. It was so great to see many of you there, even if for a brief moment in the Sunken Garden, at the caf or on the dance floor. We might have had the biggest class photo ever. Those of you who couldn't make it, we missed you and soaked up a lot of Tribe pride for you.

I know everyone was recovering from Homecoming & Reunion Weekend, but here are a couple of updates:

Dan FitzHenry owns a handful of hospitality businesses, including Grit Coffee, which is based in Charlottesville, Virginia. They just opened their ninth coffee shop last year, which happens to be IN WILLIAMSBURG! It's in a new-ish development called Midtown Row, which is right behind Sal's (by Victor of course).

Patience Bosley Burke and her family traveled north from St. Petersburg, Florida, to Williamsburg over the Easter holiday this year. She and her husband, Preston, showed their 11-year-old daughter, Carolina, around some of our favorite area haunts including the Yorktown riverfront, Waller Mill Park and of course ... the Wren Building.

2006 20

Class Reporter
AMBER WALKER
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Hi. Hope this finds you doing great! Life is BUSY but full of blessings! There is a lot going on ... for everyone, everywhere. One of the best things I learned during my time at W&M was to MAKE A DIFFERENCE. Whether it's a card to someone who is sick, a gift card to a family that is struggling or going to support someone who needs a fan club, continue that Tribe pride! Be the good!

While I didn't hear from anyone this time, we did receive some newsworthy clips about some of our classmates. Back in June during Mosaic Weekend, **Jess Skinner** was one of the panelists who led discussions on the path to becoming involved in the W&M alumni community and how to find your place supporting the university. Jess is also a class ambassador. We appreciate all of our alumni and what a better way to stay involved with your alma mater than to share your best times with future students?!

J.E. Lincoln Saunders also had some noteworthy mentions this season, as he ended his term on the W&M Board of Visitors in July. He is the senior director of local public affairs for Capital Results Consulting LLC in Richmond. Before taking on this role, he was the chief administrative officer for the City of Richmond. Lincoln served on the board for two terms, elected first in 2017 and then in 2021. We thank you for all you did for the W&M community!

So what is happening in your life? Are you starting a new job? Going back to school for a new career? Getting married

or welcoming a child? Write in and share your wonderful news with us! We want to hear about that vacation, a new hobby or even your newest family pet. One of the best parts about being in the Tribe family is getting to celebrate with the green & gold during all of life's milestones. Hark upon the gale and get writing in, classmates!

Until next time, take care of each other,
Amber Walker Giddings

2007

Class Reporter
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Happy New Year! A shorter note this time around, but still full of great news and showcasing the many talents of our classmates. I hope everyone is staying well. Life is good here, although I can't really believe that I will be the parent of a teenager this year. How did we get so old? Even though so much has changed, I still have a lot in common with the teenager I was when I started at W&M. I am still reading, still singing and still finding fulfillment in helping other people. What about you? We'd all love to hear how you are doing. Email me and I can put your news and musings in our next column.

Paul Brockwell completed his third term as chair of the Library of Virginia Board in June 2025. In October, he received the Virginia Library Association's 2025 Trustee Award in recognition of his leadership and service to the Library of Virginia. He continues to call Church Hill home with his husband, Kevin Corn, who flies for United Airlines as a first officer.

Christopher Crawford '07, M.B.A. '21 has been appointed by the William & Mary

Board of Visitors to his dream job as director of internal audit. As the new university auditor, he will help the College's leadership identify, assess and manage risk. He is excited to help make W&M a better, stronger, more resilient university. Most recently, he was director of financial planning and data analytics for the Raymond A. Mason School of Business.

Alicia Frame and **Alex Mills** welcomed a son, William, in October 2024. Alicia and Alex continue to live in New York City's Brooklyn borough, where they delight in exploring everything with William. Alex was recently promoted to full professor of operations and decision analytics at Baruch College, part of The City University of New York, and will take a yearlong research sabbatical to visit Columbia Business School. Alex's recent work-related travels have taken him to London, Hong Kong and Indonesia. Alicia manages artificial intelligence (AI) customization on Microsoft Azure. She frequently travels to the Seattle/Redmond area in Washington state and recently spoke at Microsoft's main developer conference, Build. Alicia is also a scientific advisor for a biotech startup, Basecamp Research.

Declan Gould's first book is coming out April 16. The title is "Disability in Contemporary American Poetry: Radical Accessibility." According to the Bloomsbury Publishing website, the book "shows how poets from the 1960s to the present develop disability-informed poetics and use the space of literature to launch alternative theories of psychiatric and physical disabilities."

Angelo Merenda is starting his fourth year as the lead instructor for the Arts Institute for Creative Advancement, a jobs-skills training program that connects

local Washington, D.C., youth who are outside of a career pathway with arts partners and job opportunities in technical theatre. In 2025, his organization honored the director of accessibility education for the Kennedy Center. He spends most of his time with his partner and his corgi.

2008

Class Reporter
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Greetings, Class of 2008! Happy 2026!

I want to start by sharing an exciting update about a beloved member of the Class of 2008, **Drew Cockram**. Drew was married Sept. 20 in Raleigh, North Carolina, to Katie Hendrickson. Many 2008 classmates were there to celebrate, including **Elise Helgesen Aguilar**, **Katharine Corcoran**, **Kristin Corcoran**, **Betsy Dougert**, **Katie Funk Eisenberg**, **Tina Ho**, **Kathleen Jennings**, **Abby Bruner McLeod**, **Geoff Soybel**, **Kurt Steinhouse** and myself. Other W&M alumni were there, too, including **Tyler Trumbo '07**, **Dr. Alexandra Richards Mildrum '16** and **Alice Garland '73**.

Annie Hughes Patterson just celebrated four years as a director with Walmart's communications team, based at the company's newly built headquarters in Bentonville, Arkansas. She is the excessively proud mother of her 2-year old son, Auggie, and her daughter, Eliza, who just turned 1. Annie and her James Madison University-graduate husband are enjoying all the art, nature, bike trails and family-friendly activities that Northwest Arkansas has to offer (though she wouldn't mind having a few more W&M alumni move to the area!)

Tala Woodward

hosted **Katharine Corcoran** while she attended the Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) in Anchorage. They enjoyed Qujana, a dance showcase that exhibited six traditional dance groups from across Alaska.

Jacob Dreyer is working on a book called "Human Nature" about Chinese science to be published in 2026. He periodically writes about the subject for The New York Times. He also gave a lecture at William & Mary courtesy of Michael Gibbs Hill, professor of Chinese studies. Jacob's two sons, Joseph and Samuel, are doing well and Joseph started school this year. He is hoping to reconnect with W&M friends **Ben Black '07** and **Taurin Barrera '09** in Hong Kong soon.

If you can believe it, 2026 marks my 18th year as your class reporter. It has been a fun almost two decades reporting on your life events. During Homecoming & Reunion Weekend, I attended the W&M Alumni Magazine's Class Reporter Breakfast and got to meet many reporters from the other class years. It was a real treat meeting them.

Thanks to everyone who submitted news for this issue. Have a great new year ahead!

2009

Class Reporter
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Hello Class of 2009!

This season's poor Yule Log is sure to be BURNED with this year's worries, y'all.

Thank you to those of you who shared your wonderful pieces of news with me so that the rest of our class can celebrate along with you. It is always so uplifting to receive your emails and hear you celebrate yourselves.

Be sure to send me

any updates and life milestones you are celebrating so they can be featured here and on the online Class Notes. Your class wants to hear from you, whether it is a new job, a wedding, a new family member or something outside of the norm. It is all important and worth sharing! Just send them to me at afoiles@gmail.com. There is also an online version which also supports photos, so feel free to send those in along with your updates. While you're at it, send me your favorite jokes, too!

Go Tribe, Andy Foiles
Updates:
Monica Holt won an Emmy award for her work on the filmed television special "Conan O'Brien: The Kennedy Center Mark Twain Prize for American Humor." She is the current host and senior advisor for the "CI to Eye With Monica Holt" podcast.

Julianne Krupa is working on her second master's degree at the University of Chicago, focusing on nonprofit management and business administration. Through her program, Julianne was honored to be selected as an Obama Scholar.

Megan O'Connor Upchurch got married this year (to Tim Upchurch — not a W&M grad). Megan works as a freelance artist (megpaints.com) and runs an arts camp business she co-founded last year (creativecampsnc.com).

Lauren Doll married Jonathan Burke in Tuscany, Italy, on May 20, 2025. In attendance were **Tom Milteer** and **Ashley Blenman** (they missed **Ryan Ball**, who was busy enjoying his new baby twins!). Lauren and Jonathan currently live in Alexandria, Virginia, where they enjoy hiking with their puppy, Mocha. Lauren works in Deloitte's Government and Public Service practice on analytics and artificial intelligence

(AI)-related projects.

Erin Shannahan Murillas and her husband, Phil, welcomed their second child, Leo Gabriel, in June; older brother Felix, age 2, is delighted with "my baby."

Matt Morrill and his wife, Emily, welcomed their daughter (and hopefully future member of W&M class of 2047), Cora Margaret Morrill, on June 26, 2025.

Lara Curtis and her husband welcomed a baby girl on Thanksgiving 2024 (Nov. 28, 2024) — Thea Lilian. Lara started a new job last summer as director of recruitment and marketing communications at Isenberg School of Management at the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

Edward Hong was on the Black Friday episode of the NBC sitcom "Happy's Place!" that aired on Nov. 28 (see our online Class Notes for his photo).

Crystal Morrison-Joseph attended Mosaic Weekend in June and spoke on entrepreneurship panel with fellow alum **Michael Zung '90**. **PsycYourMind**, Crystal's mental health private practice, turns 10 years old in February. Crystal and **Nubia Dickerson** flew to Houston to see Beyoncé on night two (after the car tilt). "The 'I Hands II Heaven' section was a grounding experience since I'm scared of heights. Do what you have to do in this economy to lay your eyes on Bey." (See photos in the online edition!)

Claire Zimmeck attended Burning Man solo for the first time and also traveled to Tadoussac, Canada, to kayak with a pod of belugas, a lifelong dream. Claire works as lead vascular surgical physician assistant. Claire has lived in Poughkeepsie, New York, for five years now. Claire shared a standout memory from Tribe soccer of being with her teammate and beating

UNC Chapel Hill, piling on top of each other at the end of the game. Tribe pride for life!

Jenny Huebner Liarakos '09, M.A.Ed. '10 and **Michael Liarakos** were married in McLean, Virginia, on Aug. 16, 2025. Dr. **Robert Staubs** was Michael's best man. We had many other William & Mary alumni in attendance, including Jenny's parents, **Diane Arnold Huebner '76** and **Stephen Huebner '76**. A contingent of track & field teammates of Jenny's dad were also present: **Jim Graham '74**, the Honorable **W. Allan Sharrett '74** and **Ron Martin '74**. **Margaret Ann Dahlman Martin '73**, **David Knight '73** and **Sue Foster Knight '76**, **Laura Keehner Rigas '01**, **Derrick Fellows '06**, **J.D. '11**, **Ali Petruzzellis** and **Sami Watson '19** were among our friends, as was **Virginia Carter '77**. Virginia is an Alpha Chi Omega sorority sister of Jenny's mom, Diane, and was a former colleague of Jenny's while she worked in advancement at the University of Virginia.

2010

Class Reporter
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Earlier this year, **A.J. Forget '10** published his second cookbook, "The Buslife Kitchen Vol. 2: Recipes From the Road." The book contains over 120 recipes from many different cuisines, all developed for a two-burner stove and tiny kitchen — perfect for campers of all kinds. It also features hundreds of color photos as well as stories and essays about cooking, eating and living well on the road.

In November 2023, **Jennifer MacLure '10** published "The Feeling of Letting Die: Necro-economics and Victorian

Fiction" (Ohio State University Press, 2023) which was awarded the North American Victorian Studies Association prize for the best first book published in 2023.

Robert Ressler '10 is working as a research scientist at Boston University School of Social Work in the Institute for Equity in Child Opportunity & Healthy Development. Robert was also recently elected as treasurer for the Data and Analytics Section at the Association for Research on Nonprofit Organizations and Voluntary Action and continues to co-chair their professional development committee.

2011

Class Reporter
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Hello Class of 2011! I'm writing this on a chilly, rainy October day after spending my morning making sure we have enough candy for Halloween and trying to decide when to carve pumpkins. We moved to a new house two months ago, and I can't wait to see what the "trick or treat" vibes are like here — I feel like that's one of the things that really makes or breaks a neighborhood, to be honest. My oldest son just started kindergarten (shoutout to all those other pandemic baby parents navigating this new phase! How lucky we are to be going through every single milestone during unprecedented times!) and is going as a unicorn. My youngest son is fully in teenager mode (whoever coined the phrase "terrible twos" must have done so before their child turned three) and will be Catboy, from "PJ Masks," a show we have never once watched, and yet somehow this was his heart's desire. My husband will be going as a skeleton, while I, in

true mom fashion, have everything figured out except my own costume. I have, however, already bought my tickets for the "Wicked" double feature and am very much looking forward to sitting in a dark theater for 5 1/2 hours, eating way too much popcorn and not answering a single question.

Now I know the life of a showgirl, babe,

Kate
Stephen Ammann married Hannah Haley this year. The wedding took place in San Francisco, with many W&M alumni classmates in attendance.

Professional mixologist **Greg Benson** returned to the area over the summer to offer cocktail-making classes as part of the Williamsburg Whiskey & Wine Weekend. In addition to offering mixology classes throughout the United States, Greg is producer and host of the podcast "Back Bar" and co-host of "The Speakeasy" podcast.

My delightful former roommate, sorority sister and YIC hallmate **Kelly Cotton** married **Kevin Doyle '12** at the Maryland Zoo in Baltimore on Oct. 4. Several Tribe alumni — and penguins! — joined the couple to celebrate, including members of the wedding party **Kelsey Newell '12**, **TJ Thompson '12** and **Brian Doyle '10**. Naturally, the final song of the night was Wagon Wheel. Check out the online Class Notes for a photo of the W&M crew!

Andrea Schwartz Freeburg Dietz and her husband welcomed their second daughter, Noa, in August. Congratulations!

Brian Focarino '11, J.D. '15 sent several wonderful updates upon returning from a terrific Homecoming & Reunion Weekend! Earlier this year, he was elected partner at Cooley LLP; on the side, he still also teaches trademark law at Suffolk University Law School. He attended two weddings for other 2011 grads this

fall — **Brittany Fallon** and **Katy Easterling!** He is currently serving as president of the William & Mary Alumni Association Board of Directors and encourages any 2011 alumni who are interested in getting more deeply involved with W&M to reach out and reconnect! Brian currently lives in Boston with his husband, **Brian Shea J.D. '15.**

Grace McGlade Howard welcomed her second child in January, Elise Klara Howard.

Allison Mickel recently moved to Atlanta, Georgia, and started a new position as the H. Bruce McEver Chair in Archaeological Science & Technologies at the Georgia Institute of Technology.

For the last four years, **Sam Schreck** and his wife, Georgia, have been living in Atlanta with their dog, Finn. They welcomed their daughter, Cecilia, in September and hope to bring her to Homecoming next year!

Judi Selafani renewed her 2020 vows with Jeremy Johnson in Elk Grove, California, surrounded by their three dogs and her Spotswood hallmates! See the online edition for a photo.

Kristin Kirkland Shepherd is currently working as a physician assistant with veterans and dementia patients. The work is both humbling and rewarding. She is living at the oceanfront in Virginia Beach with her beautiful and smart 3-year-old daughter and her supportive husband. Recently, Kristin and her husband published a children's book about Virginia Beach featuring all the family's favorite activities that make the beach town special and unique!

2012

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2013

Class Reporter
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Hello, Class of 2013! Thank you for keeping us connected through your messages and updates. It's so lovely seeing what our classmates are up to! Please keep the news coming, and I'm wishing all of you a healthy and happy end to 2025 and beginning to 2026.

Derrill Hagood McDavid and her husband, Will, have moved to Birmingham, Alabama. They also welcomed their second child, John McDavid, in February 2025.

Adrian Vodislav and his family joyfully welcomed Oscar Vodislav Sahin on May 2, 2025, in Luxembourg. **Adrian, Will Ozbun** and **Kyle Blackwell** have all been living in Europe for over the past 10 years, and they get together at least once per year.

Jess Yon and her husband, Michael, welcomed their first child, Waverly Irene Asaro, on June 16, 2025.

After being stationed in San Diego for nine years, **Tara Ruiz Toombs** and her family traded the sand and surf for snow-capped mountains by moving to Colorado Springs last fall. According to Tara, the move has been a nice change of scenery and pace. They also welcomed their third boy to the family, Landon Rey Toombs, on June 28, 2025. They are all adjusting well.

Molly Krull '13, M.Acc. '14 and her husband, **Ben Coffey '13, M.Acc. '14**, welcomed their baby girl, Parker Elena Coffey, in August.

Andrea Haines Hyska married Devin Hyska on Aug. 30, 2025, in Saugatuck, Michigan. **Brianne Bryant Anderson '12** was the matron of honor; **Laura Traub Cooper** was a bridesmaid, and **Valerie**

Howard Sizemore '12, Madeline Weisblatt '15, and Delaney Berman '16 were also in attendance.

Sarah McHenry married Robert Weeks on Oct. 4, 2025, at the Whiteface Lodge in Lake Placid, New York. **Laura Gorsky** and **Davey McKissick** were in the bridal party. Also in attendance were **Chantalle Ashford '14, Sarah Rose Dorton, Kelly Keating '14, Catherine Vining '14, Gabrielle Graves '14, Nick Messinger '14, Cassidy Reich '14, and John Harras '10.** See our online Class Notes for a photo from the wedding!

Thanks to **Kyra Zemanick** for signing the alumni guest book at Homecoming. **Kyra** says, "Go Tribe!"

2014

Class Reporter
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Happy New Year, Class of 2014!

There was much to celebrate in 2025, so let's look back and congratulate our classmates:

Sophia Mortensen recently wrote a report on women's incarceration in the United States as part of the FreeHer Institute, the new public policy branch of The National Council for Incarcerated and Formerly Incarcerated Women and Girls. This report takes a comprehensive look at research regarding the economic, health and policy impacts of women's incarceration and combines it with accounts from women who either are in prison or used to be. The report, titled "Work to be Done: Women's Incarceration in the 21st Century" was published on Oct. 10.

Lexi Cleveland was recently profiled by the Richmond Free Press for her work as the Junior Board president for Historic Richmond. **Lexi**

works with ARTGlass, a company that specializes in augmented reality storytelling for cultural sites, museums and historic attractions. Find a link to the article in the online Class Notes.

Quinn Novak Rendon shares, "My husband, **Alex Rendon '15**, and I welcomed our baby girl, Barbara Marie "Bobbi" Rendon (future class of '47) on June 3, 2025. View the online Class Notes for a photo of Bobbi showing her "Tribe Pride!"

We also celebrated our sixth wedding anniversary on Oct. 26, 2025, after holding our ceremony six years ago in the Wren Chapel."

Joseph Stief and his wife, Jess, welcomed their first kid, Hailey, in August, and they are excited to take her on her first trip to W&M and the 'Burg soon!

Joseph also launched a grassroots organization, KeepTheShuttle.org, in July to fight efforts to move the Space Shuttle Discovery from the Smithsonian to Texas.

Emilie Murphy and her husband, C.J., welcomed their son, Francis, in October. His big sister, Loulou, has been busy showing him the ropes, and they are loving life as a family of four! View the online edition for a photo of Loulou with Francis!

Brett Prestia '14 and Aryn Martin Prestia '16 welcomed their third son, August Owen Prestia, on July 21, 2025. They are ecstatic to welcome little Auggie to the Tribe!

Greg Skipworth is now a professor of American history for UT Southern in Pulaski, Tennessee.

And **Yonsoo Kang** had quite an adventurous year: "I have moved from London and now live in Taipei, Taiwan working as a high school teacher at Taipei American School.

"In June, I visited Paris and then met my family in Geneva to do the Tour du

Mont Blanc. After returning to London, I had a day to finish packing, then flew home to Virginia. After staying two weeks, I flew to Taiwan to begin pre-orientation for my new job!

"I'm teaching ninth grade history of (East) Asia and a lot of the content (especially as we get closer to the present) reminds me of the courses I've taken at W&M like East Asian History and Dr. Canning's Modern Chinese History course. His teachings really set me up to have a solid lens to understand the complicated dynamics that surround Chinese history.

My friend, **Jennifer Lee '15**, is actually in Taipei with her partner and friends! So I will be meeting up with her soon."

Share *your* adventures, accomplishments, adjustments or additions with us in the next issue!

2015

Class Reporter
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Hello, Class of 2015! It was so wonderful seeing so many of you at reunion events during Homecoming & Reunion Weekend this fall. It truly felt like no time had passed since May 2015 even as so much has changed in our lives. I personally had the opportunity to catch up with **Vipin Reddy, Zoë Mitchell, Adam Siegel, Bob Bonney, Hannah Carter Kalasky, Nicole Wright Patrick, Maguire Brinkley** and many, many others. Let's do it all again in five years!

I sent out my solicitation for this column just before Homecoming and a few of you wrote in that you would be missing Homecoming but for the best possible reason — you had a new arrival at home! **Trevor**

Parkes and his wife, Elizabeth, welcomed a baby girl, Juliette, in August. Meanwhile, **Meredith Ramey DeWitt** and her husband, Andrew, currently in Denver, promoted their daughter, Elowen, to big sister with the arrival of their son, Arthur. **Breanna Gawron Janssen** and her husband, Kyle, brought home daughter Evelyn Jo this past June in Charleston, South Carolina. Breanna also writes, "Just last month, Evelyn and I traveled to Denver to celebrate the upcoming arrival of **Elizabeth Crafford Oliver's** baby, due this November. I'm so grateful that W&M gave us a friendship that continues to grow through all of life's milestones." Congratulations to all!

Kathleen Swift-Papas '14, M.Ed. '15 and I were also lucky enough to get to celebrate **Allyson Mateja's** wedding to Mike Mortillo on Sept. 13, 2025, in Manassas. Allyson and Mike had a beautiful ceremony and a dance-filled reception with many 2015ers and Gamma Phi Beta sisters in attendance, including bridesmaids **Hannah Tucker, Lizzie Dabbs Salita, Tess Mackey, Jessie Ehrhardt, Skyler Paltell** and **Jackie O'Neil '17**, as well as **Kiley Edmunson, Meghan Costello, Nuha Naqvi, Jim Szabo** and **Chloe Miksovic Szabo, Emily O'Gorman, Anna McCulla '14** and **Abby Dean '14** (apologies to anyone I missed)!

Meanwhile, **Michael Evans** was recently recognized by CoVaBIZ Magazine as a NextGen Award honoree, which celebrates regional leaders under 40 in coastal Virginia who are making a significant impact in their industries and communities. As director of business intelligence for the Hampton Roads Alliance, he recently crossed a major milestone, having advised on projects

resulting in more than \$1 billion in investment and 1,500 new jobs across the region. He is also working to launch the Hampton Roads Regional Investment Playbook, a major regional economic development strategy, and will be moderating a W&M@Work panel on how the William & Mary community can engage with and support this effort.

Tyler Chapman (@djpinkhat) and **Zach Doelp '14** (@zadodjs) formed Duji Boyz, a DJ duo. This summer they collaborated to produce their first songs and played their first gigs in Richmond. Both maintain close connections with other members of the Tribe, regularly meeting to discuss vital topics like music, coffee and global systems change.

Finally, a quick housekeeping note: I got a couple of questions at Homecoming about how to receive my solicitations for news for this column. I generally send out an email a week or two before the due date for my column. If you want to receive the emails, please make sure your information is up to date by going to **my1693.com** or **wmalumni.com**/update. If you used to get the emails and no longer do, it may be because W&M still has your wm.edu address on file and those are largely defunct for us now. You can also always email me at the address above in between deadlines as well, and I will keep that until I write my column. Can't wait to hear from you all!

2016 10

Class Reporter
EMILY NYE
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Class of 2016, I hope everyone is doing well! I'm excited to share a few new updates from members of our

graduating class below.

Amanda VanInwegen McGuinness and her husband, **John McGuinness J.D. '20**, welcomed their first child, a daughter named Sophie, on July 21, 2025. They reside in Richmond, Virginia.

Emily Draper debuted her film "Sorority Court" at Richmond International Film Festival in September. A self-taught filmmaker, she wanted to create a film based on her experiences in a sorority. "The truth is, I met a lot of really, really cool women during my sorority time. There are absolutely conflicts, like the one in this film, but I also met women who are so dynamic and interesting and funny, and I've never seen that in media, and I knew that this was a gap in the sorority flick market that I wanted to fill," she said. Find the link to the article in our online Class Notes.

Thank you to everyone for your updates! Best wishes until next time.

2017

Class Reporter
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Hello, class! As I write, it's October, and I'm in the mood for a brisk walk around the woods of the Historic Triangle and a Cheese Shop sandwich. Thankfully, I've had lots of Tribe interactions in New York lately. In September, I attended two W&M events. I reunited with my professor **Mike Tierney '87, M.A. '88** and met students and fellow alumni of the Global Research Institute for a "Geopolitics of AI" briefing at Goldman Sachs hosted by **John Greenwood '98**, followed by a reception thanks to **Will Smith '14**. W&M also recently hosted Welcome to the City events focused on fostering connections

and transitioning from students to alumni for W&M Young Guard (Classes of 2016-2025). I attended the NYC one a week after the GRI event and enjoyed seeing alumni I met at previous events/knew from my college days and, as always, meeting new people. Are you attending events in your city? Running into someone on the subway? Did you go to Homecoming & Reunion Weekend this year and get nostalgic food and dip it in House Dressing? I want to hear about it! Here are updates from our classmates:

Daniel Dixon has been named the head coach of Oklahoma City Blue, a G-league affiliate of the Oklahoma City Thunder. He became the third former Tribe standout to be named a head coach in the NBA G-League, joining **Jim Moran '01** and **Chris Darnell '09**. Read more in our online Class Notes.

Flannery Sonner Josey has joined the board of directors for the Southern Legal Center for Youth (SLCY), a nonprofit legal aid organization based in Atlanta that is focused on serving the legal needs of youth ages 12-24 who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness, particularly BIPOC and LGBTQIA2S+ youth. Flannery graduated from Emory University School of Law and practices estate planning and administration in Atlanta. See the online Class Notes for more details and photos.

Hallie Stufano got married in June at the La Playa Hotel in Carmel-by-the-Sea, California. It was such a beautiful day surrounded by family and friends, and she's grateful for all of the memories made. Hallie continues to teach third grade in Southern California, which keeps her busy and inspired. Between school and wedding planning, it has been a whirlwind year, but one full of joy. See the online Class Notes for photos!

Jack Weaver graduat-

ed with a Ph.D. in history from West Virginia University in May 2025. His dissertation was titled "Rifles and Riflemen: Material Culture, Violence, and Early American Identity, 1720-1820," and is now employed as the reference supervisor at WVU Libraries' Special Collections in the West Virginia and Regional History Center.

2018

Class Reporter
PHOEBE BRANNOCK
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2019

Class Reporter
CONNOR GLENDINNING
csglending1@gmail.com

2020

Class Reporter
DEVON BORTZ
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804-928-6490

Happy 2026, Class of 2020! Here are some updates from our classmates:

Xavier "Xavi" Soto Burgos made his Broadway debut in August with the hit musical "Mamma Mia!" He's been on a national tour with the show as a member of the ensemble and the understudy for Sky.

Katherine Johnson graduated from Eastern Virginia Medical School at Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Virginia, receiving her M.D. in May 2025. She's now participating in a three-year pediatrics residency program at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Shon Mitchell has returned to his high school football program in Chesapeake, Virginia, to serve as quarterback coach. Read more in the online Class Notes.

Nicholas Wells and

Bailey Hall Wells were married on Sept. 14, 2025, at the Morris Arboretum & Gardens in Philadelphia. They were grateful to have 22 fellow William & Mary alumni and two W&M professors in attendance: **Sam Holliday '17, M.P.P. '18, Dolan Harrington '18, M.S.B.A. '19, Lea Booth '19, Kayla Ebright '19, Becca Gaborek '19, Josh Kluger '19, Nora Logsdon '19, Bob Wiley '19, Joseph Allan '20, M.Ed. '23, Katherine Armstrong, Luke Campopiano, Lydia Dolvin '20, M.Ed. '21, Maxime Legros, Jenna Ollen, Yash Ramesh, Liz Rosen, Jo Weech, Margot Cunningham '21, Will Sambrook '21, Caleb Sanford '21, Mary Trotto '21 and Adriana Solano '22**, plus associate professor Jamie Bartlett and professor emeritus **James Armstrong HON '22**. Bailey and Nick are now living in Tacoma, Washington, while Bailey completes a year-long Ph.D. internship. After being laid off in March during the dismantling of USAID, Nick has recently begun working as a program assistant at the Gates Foundation in Seattle.

That's all for this note! To share an update for inclusion in the next issue, just shoot me an email.

The Class of 2020 would love to hear from you!

As always,
Devon

2021 5

Class Reporter
MISO PARK
misopark98@gmail.com

Hi Class of '21! A fun update from me: I got to go on a trip to Spain with a high school friend (this is my first time going to Europe) in October. Please note that I'll be using my personal email

for Class Notes going forward. You can reach me at misopark98@gmail.com.

Here are your classmates' updates:

Ryan Vossler graduated law school and is now a practicing attorney in Colorado. He and **Sophia Kruk '23** are engaged and are planning to get married on the East Coast next year.

A.J. Giddings '21, J.D. '25 has a few life/career updates he'd like to relay: "Earlier this year I graduated from William & Mary Law School. Last Friday, I learned that I passed the Bar Exam and am now starting work as a lawyer at the Public Defender Office in Hampton, Virginia. I'm excited to start my new career and hope to do good work helping represent those who cannot afford legal representation in criminal cases."

Riley Busbee says, "I've started my master's degree in public policy and leadership at the University of Virginia's Batten School and am working at the National Security Data and Policy Institute at UVA."

Nyla Pollard sent this news to the sociology department: "Four years after graduating, I'm proud to be building Ballin AI, a platform that uses AI to help athletes get discovered and coaches make smarter recruiting decisions." Read more in the fall 2025 W&M Alumni Magazine profile "AI Is a New Ball Game."

Olivia Manousos was recently accepted into the MBA program at NYU's Stern School of Business. A former government major at W&M, she says her biggest career accomplishment so far was building a new practice for Deloitte's Media & Entertainment sector from the ground up. Read more in the online Class Notes.

Vitoria Okuyama recently told her story of her experience with

burnout as a tennis player and then as a banker to DNYuz. Read more in the online Class Notes.

Mary Shannon sent this news to the music department: "I am currently the orchestra personnel coordinator for the North Carolina Symphony. In my role, I work directly with the orchestral musicians, working behind the scenes to make sure everything runs smoothly. You can often find me backstage at concerts, on the road with the orchestra or running national auditions."

2022

Class Reporter
SELAM BERHANE
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Hello everyone!

I hope you've been doing well and had a great holiday season! For those of you who were able to make it to Homecoming & Reunion Weekend 2025, please send pictures for the online edition of the next column. Until then, here are some updates from members of our graduating class!

Kiara Douglas recently graduated from Emory & Henry University with a master's degree in physician assistant studies, passed her boards and accepted a position at Ortho Virginia in Lynchburg as a PA-C starting in January. In the meantime, she is planning her wedding to her high school sweetheart for next year. She also visited William & Mary in October with her little sister, who is applying early to join the Tribe! We wish her luck with her application!

Andrew Stevens and I took a trip down to Sarasota, Florida, to spend a long weekend with **Mark Smith**, who recently moved there from New York

City. While in Sarasota, we went to the beach, went golfing, visited the Ringling Museum of Art and even went to the Buccaneers vs. 49ers game (Bucs won!). We had a great time catching up and soaking in the sun before returning to a gorgeous fall season in D.C.

Cory Brower returned to school at Virginia Commonwealth University, pursuing a master's degree in mechanical and nuclear engineering.

Clare Lauderback is currently in her second year as a Ph.D. student in the chemistry and biochemistry department at George Mason University. She is in Dr. Ozlem Dilek's lab group, and her research is focused on the development of near-infrared fluorescent probes for early disease detection in cells. She is still in touch with many alumni from W&M, especially the girls who she played soccer with on the club soccer team.

Alden Di Dio is living in Arlington, Virginia, and working as manager of business development at the R Street Institute advancing artificial intelligence and anti-fraud policy. He also started a newsletter called "After the Tassel" available on his Substack and LinkedIn. He remains close with **Nina Raneses** and enjoys connecting with fellow alumni around D.C. Reach out to him to connect if you're in the area!

Abby Woods sent this news to the neuroscience department: "After graduating, I worked for three years as a lab manager and research technician at Northwestern University in the lab of Yvette Wong, where I studied neurodegeneration in cell culture using super resolution microscopy. I recently started my Ph.D. in biology through the Driskill Graduate Program, also at Northwestern University, and

plan to continue studying neurodegeneration at the cellular level."

That's all for now. Please keep these coming, it's always a pleasure to reconnect with you!

2023

Class Reporter
JULIA DEKORTE
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Hi everyone! Thank you so much to all who got back to me over email. It is so fun to hear from you all! Jumping into the updates ...

Philip Ignatoff completed his master's degree in mechanical engineering from the University of Florida and is currently working on a Ph.D. in hydrogen generation. He also fulfilled a lifelong dream by performing a full-length stand-up comedy routine!

Lucas Harsche is pursuing a J.D. from Rutgers Law School and is set to graduate in May 2026!

Kimberly Pham is a third-year optometry student at the Pennsylvania College of Optometry at Drexel University.

Olivia Popovich is in veterinary school at the University of Georgia, hoping to practice feline-only medicine when she graduates in 2027.

Nicholas Park moved to Tacoma, Washington, where he's working as a surgical assistant at an orthopedic clinic. He plans to attend podiatry school to become a foot/ankle specialist in the fall of 2026.

Sophia Kruk moved to Colorado and has fostered 12 kittens since March. She and **Ryan Vossler '21** got engaged in July after meeting six years ago at W&M and will get married on the East Coast next year!

Sam Osius and his partner have moved to San Francisco! As he puts it, "We are two East Coasters enchanted by the city."

Emma Herber is in her third year at William & Mary Law School and currently serves as president of the Student Bar Association. After her first year, she worked for a New Jersey Supreme Court Justice, and she spent this past summer at a law firm in New York City, where she plans to return after graduation. She says she misses everyone from school and knows she will miss Williamsburg so much when she leaves.

Ted Zhang moved to New York City from Fort Lauderdale, Florida, to be closer to family and friends after his father tragically passed away in July. He's working as a portfolio manager for Revere Asset Management, which he helped grow from \$100M to nearly \$400M. His X account (@TedHZhang) surpassed 50,000 followers and amassed nearly 40 million impressions over the last year. Give him a follow!

After graduating, **Jonathan Kenney** entered seminary at the Catholic Diocese of Richmond to become a priest. He's currently at Mount St. Mary's Seminary and is on track to be ordained in 2031. He added: "My time at William & Mary helped me discern this call by providing a solid faith community. I am forever grateful to the Catholic Campus Ministry."

After graduating, **Hazel Hubbard** moved to Austria, where she taught English as a Fulbright teaching assistant. She traveled, lived in a tiny European apartment and rode a rickety old diesel train to work. Now, she's settled in California working in luxury plumbing selling showers, toilets, bathtubs, etc. ("In weird way, it is a very satisfying job, though not at all what I expected for myself," she says). When she's not working, she sits on the beach, goes thrifting, maintains a garden plot and has a membership at a ceram-

ics studio.

Tom Cook moved to Chicago and works as a software engineer for Sky Road. He's also been acting in shows such as "Sexual Perversity in Chicago," "Red Light Winter" and "Vulcan Sleeping." He's the financial director of Ego Death Theatre Collective, and he's also taken up tennis, guitar and motorcycle riding. "Always happy to catch up with anyone or share a hobby with someone new in the Chicago area ... not many of us out here!" he says.

And I'm still in New York! I regularly catch up with my Theta family — **Deirdre Ambrosi '24** (who's in nursing school!), **Rebecca Rogers '22** (who's in physician's assistant school!), **Kate Vermilyea '22** and **Caroline TenEyck '21** (both are studying at Georgetown Law!).

Thank you all again for writing in! Go Tribe!

2024

Class Reporter
MARY BETH BAUERMANN
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Hi Class of 2024!

At the time of writing this, we are nearing the end of October and I have just returned from Homecoming & Reunion Weekend. Bright and early Saturday morning, I drove over from Charlottesville for a quick but lovely Homecoming day trip, complete with the Class Reporter breakfast, the Gamma Phi Beta alumni brunch, a Cheese Shop lunch and lots of walking around to see the new sights on campus.

While at Homecoming, **Adam Knox**, **Kate Balint**, **Ryan Vincent '23**, **M.A.Ed. '24** and I had a surreal moment standing in front of Cedar Hall, which completes the Jamestown Triangle. Lemon was my freshman dorm, so it was quite weird but exciting to see the new building in what

used to be an empty field! We also wanted to check out the new sky bridge that connects Sadler to the new West Woods area (formerly Yates territory), but we ran out of time. Guess that means I'll have to go back soon :)

Exciting news from **Soleil Garnett**, who writes: "I was recently inducted into Alpha Alpha Alpha (or Tri-Alpha), the First-Generation Honor Society. I represent the chapter as an alumni and staff member. At the ceremony, the Office of First Generation Student Engagement (FGSE) played a video on First Gens at W&M where I am featured, as well as clips from my Commencement Week Video talking about my experiences. I'm happy to share this full circle moment." Congratulations, Soleil!

My sophomore year roommate and GPhi sister, **Meredith Burpeau**, is featured in the Alumni Magazine's fall 2025 cover feature, "We Got the Beat." Meredith shares her insights from her days as chair of AMP's Live Committee. Her perspective was invaluable to the article.

Two more pieces of news to report, spotlighting **Nate Lynn** and **Sean Nguyen**. Nate recently signed with the Tennessee Titans practice squad. And from W&M News: W&M's student Fulbright awardees for the 2025-2026 academic year include **Sean Nguyen**. Read more in our online Class Notes.

That's all for now. It's always wonderful to hear from y'all, so please continue to write!

Wishing you all the best in the new year,
Mary Beth

2025

Class Reporter
JACKSON MAYNARD
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Hello all,
Hope everyone had an

amazing Homecoming & Reunion Weekend! Here's some of the news from this fall.

In the sports world, **Carter Lovasz** was selected by the Atlanta Braves in the eighth round of the 2025 MLB Draft on July 14, 2025, becoming the 44th Major League draft pick in program history.

Standout women's basketball player **Bella Nascimento** earned a spot on the Brazilian National Team. Look online for a link to watch highlights from Bella's TCL Player of the Game performance during the matchup between Brazil and Argentina at the FIBA AmeriCup Women 2025.

Gabriel "Gabe" Dorsey recently became the third Tribe basketball player from last season to sign a professional contract. He signed with the two-time defending Slovakian League champions Patrioti Levice.

Former Tribe volleyball star **Amy Schwem** was recognized by the ESPYs Sports Humanitarian Awards as a regional recipient of the Billie Jean King Youth Leadership Award, ESPN announced. The award celebrates and honors young people who use the power of sport as a catalyst for change and make a positive impact on society. Amy, who was diagnosed with an autoimmune disease in 2021, started The Autoimmune Athlete, a platform that functions as a support system for athletes who are battling an autoimmune disease.

Outside of sports, **Matthew Stephens M.S. '25** graduated from the Raymond A. Mason School of Business in May 2025 and was recently promoted to vice president of business development at Citizens Progressive Bank in Monroe, Louisiana.

Emma Stephens started a new role teaching third grade at Clara Byrd Baker Elementary

in Williamsburg — the same school where she completed her student teaching.

Olivia Cunningham, a biology and environmental science major at W&M, participated in training to acquire Wildland Firefighter Type 2 certification as part of an internship program in land management and prescribed fire, as highlighted in the W&M Alumni Magazine's spring 2025 issue. She is pursuing a Ph.D. at the University of Minnesota in ecology, evolution and behavior.

W&M's student Fulbright awardees for the 2025-2026 academic year include **Talia Snyder Romero**, **Daniella Marx**, **Adelaide Meade**, **Enya Xiang**, **Myra Simbulan**, **Hannah Ray** and **Justin Horowitz**.

Kendal Vorous, a resident of New Kent, Virginia, has been accepted into the Peace Corps. After graduating with a degree in psychology from William & Mary, she began her tenure on July 12, 2025, in Costa Rica, working as a youth development facilitator.

Please keep sending things that are happening in your life. I hope everyone has an amazing winter!

Arts & Sciences

Graduate School Reporter

DR. JONATHAN R. SKUZA PH.D. '11
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I'm grateful to have been your class reporter for the last eight years; time does fly. But I'm ecstatic to introduce a colleague of mine, **Julia Kaziewicz Collier Ph.D. '15**, who will take over as the graduate A&S class reporter! Our time overlapped at W&M, where we were

both on the Graduate Research Symposium organizing committee.

Julia has a doctorate in American studies from W&M. She lives in Williamsburg with her husband and two children, and serves as dean of the Well-Trained Mind Academy, an online school supporting middle and high school students. You can reach her at j.kaziewicz@gmail.com.

In other news, **Jenn Lodi-Smith '01 M.A. '03** (psychology), professor of psychology at Canisius University, had her research and her Spark Bird Project featured in the fall 2025 issue of Audubon magazine.

Rachel Davis M.S. '20 (biology), the Lisa Yang Wildlife Health graduate fellow at Cornell University, published an expansion of the thesis work in collaboration with the National Institutes of Health and North Dakota State University.

Emily Sneff Ph.D. '24 (history), a leading historian of the Declaration of Independence, will be a featured speaker at the Pennsylvania Antiques Show in April. She will speak about her forthcoming book, "When the Declaration of Independence was News" (Oxford University Press).

Troy Wiipongwii M.P.P. '18, director of innovation and entrepreneurship in conservation at W&M's Institute for Integrative Conservation, was recently profiled by W&M News for his work with their Indigenous food systems program.

Emily Wells M.A. '17, Jennifer Merriman M.A. '23 and Qiong Wu M.A. '24 (history), all doctoral candidates in history, were awarded Boswell-Caracci grants to expand research into material culture. Now in its second year, the fund supports undergraduate and graduate student

experiences at material culture symposia or programs, thanks to the generosity of **James Boswell '86** and **Chris Caracci HON '23**.

Bryan Watts M.A. '87 (biology), the Mitchell A. Byrd Professor of Conservation Biology and the director of the Center for Conservation Biology at W&M, was quoted in an article on the Saving Seafood website about conservation efforts involving osprey.

Dana Smith M.P.P. '25 has been selected as a member of Cohort 8 of the Virginia Management Fellows (VMF) program, designed to develop the next generation of leaders in Virginia's public sector.

Mason School of Business

Graduate School
Reporter

**LEE C. RUSSELL
M.B.A. '81**

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I'm continuing to enjoy my role as business graduate school reporter, and I appreciate those who have responded with updates. I invite you to share your news, both professional and personal achievements and notable life events. I look forward to hearing from you, and I hope that everyone has a great holiday season!

Thanks to **Richard Witten M.B.A. '94**, for signing the alumni guest book at Homecoming & Reunion Weekend. Richard noted, "Great to be home!"

Thomas Cherry M.B.A. '02, president & CEO of C&F Bank in Toano, Virginia, was elected chairman by the Virginia Bankers Association for its 2025-2026 board of directors.

Matthew Hubbard M.B.A. '19 recently accepted a job as regional

president of the Southwest Virginia markets for C&F Bank. In his new position, Matt will lead the commercial banking operations for C&F in Southwest Virginia. Matt has served on numerous local nonprofit boards and currently serves on the board of United Way of Virginia's Blue Ridge. Matt and his wife, Erica, live in Roanoke with their three young children. In his free time, Matt enjoys fly fishing, hunting, live music and spending time on his tractor.

The Green Impact Exchange (GIX) announced the appointment of five new board members in July, including **Kirk Kellogg M.B.A. '99**, who will represent GIX's parent company on the exchange board. GIX is the first stock market in the U.S. dedicated to the emerging \$50 trillion sustainability economy. Kirk was the founder and chief executive officer of Kellogg Group LLC, owner of Kellogg Specialist Group and Kellogg Capital Markets.

Michael Medline M.B.A. '91, president and CEO of Empire Co., was one of this year's recipients of the Golden Pencil awards. These awards recognize individuals who have made significant contributions to improving the food industry. Michael also received the 2025 Principled Leadership Award from the Raymond A. Mason School of Business at W&M.

Kim Burgart Weir M.B.A. '05, the director of strategic growth for Therapeutic Horses of Saratoga and an active volunteer with the New York Race Track Chaplaincy, has been named the inaugural Nancy Kelly Volunteer Award winner, according to a New York Race Track Chaplaincy release. This award is presented annually to recognize outstanding volunteer efforts in support of the organization. Kim was

honored at a luncheon at the National Museum of Racing and Hall of Fame in Saratoga Springs, New York, on Nov. 11, 2025.

Lawrence Basile M.B.A. '75 passed away in June 2025. Larry was a noted gay rights activist and a visionary entrepreneur and trailblazer in digital innovation. He fought for civil rights and AIDS awareness and treatment, and his passion for justice extended far beyond the LGBTQ+ community, as he championed causes for the homeless and underserved.

Ronald Weber '89, M.B.A. '94 passed away in September 2025. Passionate about the outdoor amusement business, Ron participated in just about every aspect of the industry. Beginning his career as marketing director of Amusements of America, Ron went on to own his own carnival and run several small private fairs. He eventually opened Innovative Marketing and handled advertising campaigns for fairs and carnivals all over the country.

School of Education

Graduate School
Reporter

**PARKER MERCER
M.ED. '22**
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Welcome back, School of Education alumni! From groundbreaking research to transformative classroom innovations, your achievements continue to shape the future of learning and leadership. Share your latest milestones — promotions, publications or community impact — with fellow Tribe educators in these class notes. Let's celebrate the enduring William & Mary spirit of excellence in education. See the online Class Notes for

more about each of the following alumni:

Mary Glenn Reams Haskins M.Ed. '68, age 94, of Perrysburg, Ohio, passed away on Sept. 12, 2025. After earning her master's degree in education from William & Mary while raising four children, she taught third grade in Perrysburg schools for 17 years and authored "Half-Hour Notice: 50 Mini-lessons for High School Substitutes" in 1974.

Joy Lawson Davis M.A.Ed. '92, Ed.D. '08 is the recipient of the National Association for Gifted Children's 2025 Distinguished Service Award and was inducted this summer into the 2e Center Hall of Fame at Bridges Graduate School for Cognitive Diversity in Education. An in-depth interview with Joy by fellow alumna **Suzanna Henshon Ph.D. '05** appears in the March 2025 issue of Roeper Review.

Tracy Cooke Wainwright M.Ed. '01, an author, speaker and editor, won election to the Powhatan District seat on the James City County Board of Supervisors in November 2025.

Lisa Kaenzig Ph.D. '09 was recently installed as the 11th head of school at Foxcroft School, a grades 9-12 all-girls boarding school in Middleburg, Virginia.

Erin Spalding '23, M.A.Ed. '24, a recent School of Education alumna certified in English as a second language, has been selected as a Fulbright U.S. Student awardee for 2025-2026. She will serve as an English teaching assistant in Thailand.

Law School

Graduate School
Reporter

MATT WIDMER J.D. '05
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As always, more details available online.

Nicholas J. St. George '60, B.C.L. '65, G '17 passed away on Aug. 21, 2025.

Tom Frantz '70, J.D. '73, M.L.T. '81, has been named a 2025 Icon honoree by Virginia Business magazine.

Earl Thumma J.D. '73 passed away on Sept. 20, 2025.

Carson Barnes J.D. '75 passed away on Sept. 18, 2025.

Carol Hill Pickard J.D. '79 passed away in Sunriver, Oregon, on Dec. 28, 2024.

James Irving J.D. '81 released his sixth book, "No Friends of Thine." The book is part of his detective series, "Joth Proctor Fixer Mysteries," that draws upon his previous experience as a criminal defense and business lawyer.

Philip J. Kochman J.D. '82 became an adjunct professor at William & Mary Law School, teaching a course titled "Complex Business Transactions" in fall 2025.

After eight years of dedicated service, most recently as vice rector, **Barbara Johnson J.D. '84** officially completed her work with the William & Mary Board of Visitors on June 30, 2025.

Delegate **Terry Kilgore J.D. '86** has been elected Republican leader of the Virginia House of Delegates.

Lisa Bertini J.D. '87 was presented with the Chair Award on Sept. 12, 2025, at the Virginia Bar Association Annual Labor & Employment Section meeting.

Julie A. Currin J.D. '87, owner of the Equal Justice Center, PLC in Henrico and Virginia Beach, is now also lobbying.

Eric Cantor J.D. '88, LL.D. '11 has been appointed by Virginia Governor Glenn Youngkin to serve on the W&M Board of Visitors.

Russell Jackson J.D. '90 joined Anheuser-Busch InBev as its

vice president of global legal policy after representing the company in court as its outside counsel since 1992.

Wyman Duggan J.D. '94 was named speaker pro tempore of the Florida House of Representatives, presiding over sessions, managing House operations and supporting the speaker in leading the legislative body. He is a shareholder and board member at Rogers Towers.

Daniel Barnes J.D. '96 was confirmed as a judge of the New Jersey Superior Court. He is initially assigned to the Law Division, Civil Part, where he will hear primarily civil litigation matters.

Kevin Muhlendorf J.D. '98 was named inspector general of the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Scott McBride J.D. '99 retired after nearly 25 years from the Office of the Chief Counsel for Trade Enforcement and Compliance at the United States Department of Commerce.

Jeremy Hopkins J.D. '02, an attorney with Cranfill Sumner LLP working in eminent domain and condemnation law, was recently included in the Best Lawyers in America 2026 list.

Thomas Cullen J.D. '04 just published his young adult book, "Charlie-Man."

Raul Bhat J.D. '05 recently joined Infosys Public Services as senior corporate counsel, where he advises executive management on state, local and international government contracts.

Stihl announced it has promoted **Erin Ashcroft J.D. '07** to vice president and chief of staff.

Maryia Jones J.D. '09 has joined the Virginia Beach office of Troutman Pepper Locke as a partner in its Consumer Financial Services Practice Group.

Megan Jessee Hol-

ley J.D. '13 has joined Christian & Barton, LLP in Richmond, Virginia, as an associate in its commercial real estate and business law departments.

Caleb Stone J.D. '15 has been appointed associate clinical professor of law and founding director of the Veterans Law Clinic at Notre Dame Law School.

Sean Mackin J.D. '17, a former senior assistant attorney general for the Ohio Attorney General's Office, recently joined Plunkett Cooney as a member of its Torts & Litigation Practice Group.

Marc Sloan J.D. '23, assistant director for student accountability and restorative practices at William & Mary, was named a recipient of the Hank Nuwer Anti-Hazing Hero Award from the Hazing Prevention Network.

Batten School & VIMS

*Graduate School
Reporters*

**ELIZABETH HINCHEY
MALLOY**

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**JANET NESTLERODE M.A.
'96, PH.D. '04**
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Roving reporter **David Kerstetter M.P.P. '98, M.S. '02, Ph.D. '05** caught up with several VIMS alumni at the 2025 American Elasmobranch Society (AES) annual meeting in St. Paul, Minnesota, in July, which met in conjunction with the Joint Meeting of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists. Among those spotted in the wild were **Jim Gelsleichter Ph.D. '98** (chair of the Department of Biology, University of North Florida in Jacksonville, and current president of AES), **Dean Grubbs**

Ph.D. '01 (associate director of research at Florida State University's Coastal & Marine Laboratory in St. Teresa, Florida), **Erin Burge Ph.D. '03** (professor of marine science at Coastal Carolina University in Conway, South Carolina), **Dave Portnoy '98, Ph.D. '08** (associate professor in the Department of Life Sciences and the Ruth A. Campbell Professor of Marine Biology at Texas A&M University - Corpus Christi) and **Charles "Chip" Cotton Ph.D. '08** (assistant professor of fisheries & aquaculture at State University of New York (SUNY) Cobleskill). David Kerstetter is a professor in the Department of Marine and Environmental Sciences at Halmos College of Arts and Sciences, Nova Southeastern University in Dania Beach, Florida.

Quips Queen **Kate Mansfield Ph.D. '06** shared that **Landon Ward M.S. '03** brought his marine biology class from UNC Asheville to visit her University of Central Florida Marine Turtle Research Group at their field station at the Archie Carr National Wildlife Refuge near Melbourne Beach, where they observed sea turtles nesting.

We are sad to share that James "Jim" J. Duggan, a longtime VIMS staff member, passed away on July 13, 2025, at age 84. During his career at VIMS, Jim was a member of the facilities team and helped many grateful scientists and students by fabricating equipment specific to the needs of their experiments. Jim joined Abingdon Volunteer Fire and Rescue as a fire fighter and emergency medical technician and was recognized in 2005 as Volunteer of the Year Award for exemplary service. Jim later transferred to the Gloucester Volunteer Fire and Rescue Squad, where he actively served

over 15 years.

Readers: Check out the photos we received with these updates in the online version. We need your news to make this column a fun read. Don't be shy and call in your "Quips" (classic Glo-Quips style Readers' Call-In news stories are always welcome!) to your class reporters, Scoop Hinchey and Newshound Nestlerode, to share with fellow alumni — y'all know who you are!

In Memoriam

READ FULL OBITUARIES ONLINE

Below are the names of members of the William & Mary community whose passing was reported between June 1 and Sept. 15, 2025.

To read extended obituaries, please go online to magazine.

wm.edu/in-memoriam. Please send information to Alumni Records, P.O. Box 8795, Williamsburg, VA 23187, call 757-221-1167 or email alumni.magazine@wm.edu.

UNDERGRADUATE ALUMNI

Bernard H. Chovitz '44 of Kensington, Maryland, died April 25, 2025.

Betty Grodecour Gleeson '46 of Rehoboth Beach, Delaware, died July 24, 2025.

Shirley Mason Paxton '47, M.Ed. '66 of Lynchburg, Virginia, died April 13, 2025.

Nancy Seal Hauss '47 of Cockeysville, Maryland, died May 31, 2025.

Lois Blake Howland '48 of Williamsburg died June 13, 2025.

Baxter I. Bell '49, P '90, G '18 of Williamsburg died Aug. 15, 2025.

Gretchen Erb Bradley '49 of Richmond, Virginia, died Aug. 16, 2025.

Natalie Keller Morrison '51, G '29 of Columbia, Maryland, died Jan. 28, 2021.

Martha Cowardin Dunn '51, P '78, P '82, G '12 of Roanoke, Virginia, died July 29, 2025.

Dorothy Urban Wright '51 of Fayetteville, New York, died Sept. 5, 2024.

Peter J. Brady '52 of Staten Island, New York, died April 29, 2025.

Elizabeth Bennett Stewart '52 of Lookout Mountain, Georgia, died Aug. 14, 2025.

Barbara Sniffen Lord '54 of Jacksonville, North Carolina, died Aug. 9, 2025.

Nancy Gibb Crowley '56 of Jacksonville, Florida, died May 16, 2025.

Peter E. Ellenbogen '56 of Washington, D.C., died Dec. 6, 2024.

Patricia Rund Johansen '56 of Midland, Texas, died June 2, 2025.

Lois Mortashed Salazar '56 of Reston, Virginia, died Feb. 7, 2025.

Carolyn Meachum Hawxhurst '57 of Kalamazoo, Michigan, died March 6, 2025.

Frederick J. Asals '57 of Toronto, Ontario, died Sept. 10, 2025.

Claude D. Perkins '57 of Toano, Virginia, died May 26, 2025.

Beverley Burgess Burchette '58 of Virginia Beach, Virginia, died May 17, 2025.

Robert M. Burchette '58 of Virginia Beach, Virginia, died March 22, 2024.

Julia Vakos Nordstrom '58, P '83, P '83, P '91, G '25 of Williamsburg died Aug. 10, 2025.

Barbara Ellis Engram '59 of Seattle, Washington, died May 16, 2025.

Patrick J. Milmoie '59, P '89 of Virginia Beach, Virginia, died July 22, 2025.

Anna Dorsey Cooke Allison '59 of Greensboro, North Carolina, died Aug. 8, 2025.

Raymond A. Mason '59, L.H.D. '98 of Naples, Florida, died Aug. 22, 2025.

Florence Greene Smith '59 of Virginia Beach, Virginia, died June 23, 2025.

Graydon "Buck" Lynn '60 of Virginia Beach, Virginia, died March 1, 2025.

Ellen Downey Wagner '60 of Olive Branch, Illinois, died July 22, 2025.

Nicholas J. St. George '60, B.C.L. '65, G '17 of Winter Park, Florida, died Aug. 21, 2025.

Joseph W. Dodd '61 of Maryville, Tennessee, died July 6, 2025.

Emily McWhirt Powell '61, P '85, P '90 of Williamsburg died Aug. 21, 2025.

Barbara Beckman Schaaf Schock '61 of Oakland, California, died May 18, 2025.

Suzanne Frensley Hood '61 of Spring, Texas, died Sept. 6, 2025.

Allan C. Brownfeld '61, B.C.L. '64, P '99, P '04 of Alexandria, Virginia, died Aug. 4, 2025.

Margaret E. Wilkins '61 of Williamsburg died Aug. 20, 2025.

James W. McGlothlin '62, B.C.L. '64, LL.D. '00, P '89, G '29 of Bristol, Virginia, died Aug. 6, 2025.

William H. Young '62 of Lynchburg, Virginia, died June 5, 2025.

Nancy Simpson Davis '62 of Verona, Virginia, died Aug. 21, 2025.

Betty Grow Patterson '63 of Smithfield, North Carolina, died Sept. 11, 2025.

Barbara J. Larson '63 of Fairfax, Virginia, died March 25, 2025.

William H. Jones '63 of Augusta, Georgia, died March 25, 2025.

Lee S. Willis '64 of Garden City, Michigan, died Aug. 6, 2025.

Gordon M. Kent '64, B.C.L. '66 of Hurt, Virginia, died Jan. 26, 2023.

Barbara Drucker Smith '64 of Newport News, Virginia, died Aug. 9, 2025.

Robert W. Sizemore '64, M.Ed. '66, C.A.S.E. '77, Ed.D. '79 of Fredericksburg, Virginia, died Dec. 12, 2024.

Margaret Fisher Overman '64, P '89 of Poquoson, Virginia, died June 21, 2025.

Thomas A. Insley '64 of York, Pennsylvania, died July 18, 2025.

Penny Plummer Moulis '65 of Virginia Beach, Virginia, died June 10, 2025.

Theodore W. Graves '65 of Charlottesville, Virginia, died June 16, 2025.

David G. Davis Jr. '65 of Midlothian, Virginia, died Aug. 14, 2025.

Patricia Ward Capps '65 of Winston Salem, North Carolina, died June 10, 2025.

Eleanor Blair Murphy '65, M.Ed. '73, P '93 of Williamsburg died May 12, 2025.

Walter F. Gale '65, M.Ed. '67 of Bay Shore, New York, died June 22, 2025.

Dana H. Gaebe '66 of Seekonk, Massachusetts, died June 22, 2025.

Robert Oliver Colt
"Rocky" Worcester '66 of Monkton, Maryland, died May 26, 2025.

Craig M. Smith '66, P '03 of Naples, Florida, died June 7, 2025.

Michael G. Weaver '66, M.Ed. '70 of Chantilly, Virginia, died .

Sally Christian Brumbaugh '66 of Lansdale, Pennsylvania, died June 11, 2025.

Dorothy Hutton Tudor '66 of Columbia, South Carolina, died Sept. 2, 2025.

Laura Burnett Batto '67 of Desoto, Texas, died March 2, 2025.

Charles O. Keagy '67 of Cary, North Carolina, died March 8, 2025.

Daniel M. Darragh '68, P '91, P '93 of Sewickley, Pennsylvania, died Sept. 2, 2025.

Gene B. Wells '68 of Matoaca, Virginia, died July 21, 2025.

Nancy Jaeger Davis '68 of Sharps, Virginia, died Aug. 13, 2025.

Kamla King Hedges '68 of Washington, D.C., died March 22, 2024.

William G. Buchanan '68, M.Ed. '70 of Stafford, Virginia, died June 25, 2025.

Patricia L. Vakos '68, P '12 of Virginia Beach, Virginia, died July 18, 2025.

Paul G. Lankford '69, P '13 of Virginia Beach, Virginia, died May 7, 2025.

Joseph C. Tichy '69 of Bishop, Georgia, died June 13, 2025.

Ethel Nold Newell '70 of Olympia, Washington, died May 19, 2025.

Linda Thacker Cananady '70, P '96 of Midlothian, Virginia, died Sept. 16, 2024.

James A. Ward '71 of Chesapeake, Virginia, died April 17, 2025.

William S. Davis '71 of Lincoln, Nebraska, died Aug. 6, 2025.

Ronald B. Hawkins '71 of Catonsville, Maryland, died May 20, 2025.

John M. Yonushonis '71 of Indio, California, died Aug. 17, 2025.

Elizabeth L. Lindsay '72 of Fairfield, Virginia, died July 8, 2025.

Edmund W. Creekmore '72, G '19 of Henrico, Virginia, died June 18, 2025.

Ronald W. Sullivan '73 of Haymarket, Virginia, died April 21, 2025.

Richard C. McCullough '73, P '94, P '00, G '20, G '25 of Midlothian, Virginia, died July 28, 2025.

Mary Hook Korty '73 of College Station, Texas, died June 9, 2025.

Rebecca "Becky" Tribble Covey '74, M.B.A. '76 of Midlothian, Virginia, died July 5, 2025.

Nancy J. Eller '74 of Frederick, Maryland, died Aug. 13, 2025.

David S. Blue '74 of Tampa, Florida, died July 25, 2025.

Dennis C. Gibbs '74 of Manchester, New Hampshire, died Sept. 3, 2025.

Robert A. Keith '74 of Fairfax, Virginia, died Feb. 20, 2025.

Tamea Weaver Bowen '77, P '03, P '07 of Prince Frederick, Maryland, died Oct. 19, 2024.

Victoria L. Leap '77 of Leesburg, Virginia, died June 26, 2025.

Steven S. Hollberg '78 of Urbanna, Virginia, died Nov. 22, 2024.

Keith W. Hammer '79 of Ocean Pines, Maryland, died July 1, 2025.

James J. Plunkett '80 of Seattle, Washington, died March 29, 2024.

Donald C. Pfanz '80 of Spotsylvania, Virginia, died Sept. 2, 2025.

Anne W. Saunders '81 of Decatur, Georgia, died March 29, 2024.

Robert S. Gregory '83 of Richmond, Virginia, died July 13, 2025.

Thomas M. Jones '83 of Charlotte Court House, Virginia, died July 14, 2024.

John E. Huddle '83 of Marion, North Carolina, died July 29, 2025.

William T. Ryan '87 of Reidsville, North Carolina, died July 20, 2025.

Karen Sullivan Heede '88 of Henrico, Virginia, died Aug. 5, 2025.

Ronald S. Weber '89, M.B.A. '94, P '16, P '23 of Chesapeake, Virginia, died Sept. 3, 2025.

Alfred C. O'Brien '93 of Durham, North Carolina, died June 28, 2025.

Kari Ness Riedel '95 of Austin, Texas, died July 1, 2025.

Brian N. Eigel '96 of Dallas, Texas, died Aug. 9, 2025.

James W. Orme '96 of Kearney, Nebraska, died May 13, 2025.

Kristin Ryan Beirne '00 of Southport, Connecticut, died Aug. 1, 2025.

Jeremy M. Harris '09, M.Acc. '10 of Newport News, Virginia, died Aug. 8, 2025.

Danny R. Sumner '10 of Woodbridge, Virginia, died March 22, 2025.

Lisa Tam-Hoy Robbins '14, P '21 of Newport News, Virginia, died June 6, 2025.

GRADUATE ALUMNI

Vito J. Morlino M.Ed. '62 of Louisa, Virginia, died June 1, 2025.

Patricia H. Copley M.Ed. '66 of Virginia Beach, Virginia, died Jan. 24, 2025.

Mary Glenn Reams Haskins M.Ed. '68 of Perrysburg, Ohio, died Sept. 12, 2025.

James L. Hunt M.S. '68 of Newport News, Virginia, died June 23, 2025.

Elise Lindbloom Emanuel M.Ed. '70, C.A.S.E. '76 of Williamsburg died Aug. 24, 2025.

Margaret Wilson Hufstedler M.A. '72 of Lowesville, Virginia, died July 24, 2025.

Richard C. Swartz Ph.D. '72 of Beaverton, Oregon, died Aug. 23, 2023.

Richard J. Leonard M.B.A. '73 of Queensbury, New York, died July 18, 2025.

Carole A. Masters J.D. '74 of Longmeadow, Massachusetts, died Dec. 11, 2024.

Lawrence L. Bruckner J.D. '74 of Waller, Texas, died June 3, 2025.

Lawrence A. Basile M.B.A. '75 of Douglas, Massachusetts, died June 14, 2025.

Charles L. Cabell J.D. '77, P '02 of Richmond, Virginia, died June 26, 2025.

Raymond G. Washington C.A.S.E. '78 of Southern Pines, North Carolina, died July 26, 2025.

Carolyn J. Van Newkirk M.A.Ed. '78, C.A.S.E. '81, Ed.D. '84 of York, Pennsylvania, died Aug. 10, 2025.

David S. Holland M.B.A. '79 of Washington, D.C., died June 29, 2024.

Benjamin S. Blumenthal C.A.S.E. '79, P '06 of Richmond, Virginia, died May 16, 2025.

Carol Hill Pickard J.D. '79 of Los Gatos, California, died Dec. 28, 2024.

Kay Chessen Moffitt M.B.A. '81 of Charleston, South Carolina, died April 14, 2025.

Paul M. Barnett J.D. '83 of Christiansburg, Virginia, died July 10, 2025.

Howard "Tom" Gillette C.A.S.E. '85, Ed.D. '90 of Chesapeake, Virginia, died Sept. 10, 2025.

Ruth Bell Cole M.B.A.
'87, P '19 of Virginia Beach, Virginia, died June 4, 2024.

Annette M. Clifford M.A. '87 of Satellite Beach, Florida, died June 2025.

Garry C. Gaylord M.B.A. '89 of Damascus, Maryland, died March 5, 2025.

Steven R. Minor J.D. '89 of Bristol, Virginia, died July 15, 2025.

C. Wayne Owen J.D. '01 of Washington, D.C., died April 5, 2023.

David M. Schulte M.S. '13, Ph.D. '24 of Norfolk, Virginia, died Aug. 22, 2025.

Melissa F. Canaday M.Ed. '14 of Providence Forge, Virginia, died Aug. 8, 2025.

Walter B. Pittman M.Ed. '22 of Dinwiddie, Virginia, died July 25, 2025.

FACULTY & STAFF

Katherine V. Adkins of Richmond, Virginia, died July 30, 2025.

Garnett R. Brooks P '88 of Williamsburg died July 8, 2025.

Hester M. Geithman P '82 of Newport News, Virginia, died Aug. 20, 2025.

Dale E. Hoak of Williamsburg died July 8, 2025.

Adrienne R. Joynes of Richmond, Virginia, died June 13, 2025.

Kenneth G. Petzinger of Richmond, Virginia, died Aug. 26, 2025.

Rebecca J. Raines of Williamsburg died June 21, 2025.

Gene M. Silberhorn of Williamsburg died Aug. 15, 2025.

FRIENDS OF W&M

Virginia Hendrick Grey of Niceville, Florida, died June 9, 2024.

Nina W. Guy of Mathews, Virginia, died March 25, 2025.

Shirley S. Kramer of Cheltenham, Victoria, Australia, died.

S. Keith Martin of Hanover, Virginia, died March 12, 2024.

Bruce R. Murray of Keene, Virginia, died July 3, 2025.

Pamela Murray of Arlington, Virginia, died Sept. 7, 2024.

David L. Peebles of Ordinary, Virginia, died June 13, 2025.

Penny Shelton Pulley P '13, P '15 of Williamsburg died July 28, 2025.

Fontaine J. Velz of Richmond, Virginia, died July 14, 2025.

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