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Spring 2023
VOLUME 88, NUMBER 3

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COVER PHOTO: TIMOTHY ARCHIBALD
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ONWARD TO BRIGHT FUTURES
On May 19, the Class of 2023 celebrated Commencement and officially became alumni of William & Mary. The keynote was delivered by award-winning comedian, writer and actor Patton Oswalt ’91, D.A. ’23, who received an honorary degree alongside Henry C. “Hank” Wolf ’64, J.D. ’66, LL.D. ’23, former W&M rector and retired chief financial officer of Norfolk Southern.
omthing amazing happens when William & Mary alumni and friends gather, whether in person or virtually. Connections are made and rekindled. Ideas are exchanged. The spirit of community strengthens and expands. I saw this during Charter Day, when we celebrated our alma mater’s 330th birthday and honored the Alumni Medallion and service award recipients who give so much to this university. It was evident once again during Professional Development Week, when the global W&M community learned from experts and each other about taking charge of their careers in a changing marketplace (see story on page 62).

Then on One Tribe One Day, alumni and friends turn out in a big way for William & Mary, including in support of donor challenges that unlocked additional funding for alumni groups like the Hulon Willis Association. And at regional events around the country, our community gathered to celebrate this day of giving back and paying it forward together. Thank you to those who made challenge gifts, and those whose gifts helped make the day a record-breaking success.

These are by no means the only events that happened this spring and to list them all would fill this magazine. But these programs make it clear to me that what William & Mary offers students — exceptional educational opportunities, access to experts in a wide range of fields, a strong and connected network of classmates and alumni, and the tools and confidence to change the world — remain relevant to alumni. My job is to ensure that the nation’s sixth-oldest alumni association offers you and more than 115,000 alumni included in W&M in their estate plans. They heard from current students about W&M today and saw the impact of their giving on future generations. Hearing from these passionate groups about the professors, classmates and friends that impacted them, and then seeing the many ways they pay it forward, was inspiring and affirming (see story on page 63).

When We Gather

BY MATT BRANDON ’92
CEO, W&M Alumni Association

When we gather, whether in person or virtually. Connections are made and rekindled. Ideas are exchanged. The spirit of community strengthens and expands.
meaningful 21st-century experiences. I see the WMAA as a world-class service organization, dedicated to serving YOU — providing you with the network and opportunities to flourish throughout your life, wherever you are in the world.

But the amazing things that happen when we gather are only made possible if everyone feels welcome and appreciated. What I consider my calling is to provide a safe space for all alumni and their families to fully engage in our university’s community. I will be successful in this role if I can earn your trust so that you feel you belong in the William & Mary Alumni Association, that your voice is heard, that we are working for you — whether you attend every event or haven’t reconnected with W&M in years.

You can make a difference for this place and its people. And if we aren’t providing something you need, let me know at alumniceo@wm.edu.

I am looking forward to a busy summer and fall — including William & Mary Weekend in San Francisco, June 1-4; Alumni Admission Weekend, June 23-24; and Homecoming & Reunion Weekend, Oct. 19-22 — and being a resource for you, wherever you are in your life’s journey. Let’s connect. Learn more about the W&M Alumni Association at wmalumni.com.

SHOW W&M STUDENTS THE POWER OF OUR COMMUNITY

Internships open doors to career success. Providing a funded internship or other applied learning experience for every undergraduate is a top priority in W&M’s strategic plan, Vision 2026. W&M alumni can help.

RECRUIT
Offer internships, externships, networking and jobs

ENGAGE
Participate in informational interviews, career panels and meetups

SUPPORT
Give to the Career Center Student Internship Fund

Learn more at wm.edu/employers and give today at impact.wm.edu/internships.
Then & Now

BY KATHERINE A. ROWE
William & Mary President

I am writing this column on the heels of a gloriously packed Traditions Weekend. Thunderstorms could not dampen the spirits of hundreds of alumni returning to alma mater. Over a weekend of fellowship and fun, we exchanged anecdotes from “back then.” Alumni from the Class of 1973 recounted the construction of W&M Hall (now Kaplan Arena), as the building heads into a major renovation, supported by our All In campaign. They were delighted to learn that the trend of “Mary & William” T-shirts, in vogue following a campus visit from Gloria Steinem, came back in style during the centennial of coeducation.

As I listened to their stories, I was struck by the throughlines of our conversations. Today’s students, like the alumni I spoke with, understand what it is like to study at a moment of intense national questioning and debate about social and political issues.

The Class of 1973 attended college in the upheaval of the Vietnam War and the draft. The Class of 2023’s college years have been marked by pandemic and massive disruption in artificial intelligence. Conversations about our country’s democratic values of equality and free speech are just as necessary today in the lead-up to the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence as they were at the bicentennial. Military and veteran education continues to be a top priority today, with the new Center for Military Transition housed in the Raymond A. Mason School of Business.

It remains to be seen whether Patton Oswalt ‘91, D.A. ‘23 will quote the late Chief Justice Warren E. Burger when he addresses our 2023 grads later this month. Yet the closing words of Burger’s 1973 Commencement speech are as applicable now as they were 50 years ago: “This tradition of ordered liberty is the foundation of our country and, now, for the next 40–50 years, [you] will be the trustees of that great tradition.”

Whether members of the Class of 2023, 1973 or 1773, W&M’s students are outwardly turned, carrying a clear sense of duty toward their communities and the betterment of the world. That’s why W&M’s vision states: “People come to William & Mary wanting to understand and change the world — and together we do.”

The enduring nature of that vision has enabled W&M to lead in powerful ways for 330 years. We understand the moment that we are in while seeing the possibilities ahead.

Here are three examples from the history books: In the late 18th century, W&M pioneered the study of law in the United States. This innovation was foundational to our democracy, addressing the urgent need to train leaders for a new nation. In the late 1800s, W&M began certifying teachers to prepare talented educators for the commonwealth’s early public school system. And the surge of interest in the study of business post-World War II ultimately fueled the creation of the business school (the Class of 1973 recalls being among the first undergraduates eligible to graduate from the business school).

No institution is better prepared to educate students for lives as professionals and citizens in our modern, pluralistic democracy than W&M. That is because we have been doing it for centuries.

Over the past year, these columns have explored how W&M continues to evolve to excel, consistent with our Vision 2026 strategic plan. So far, we have looked at how W&M is leading transformations in ethical uses of data (a core liberal art for the 21st century), democracy (preparing students for active citizenship in a republic where freedom of expression enables open exchange of ideas) and careers (ensuring graduates succeed, in their first job and in the fifth).

Still to come: We will take a deep dive into how W&M is propelling research around water, drawing on the leadership of William & Mary’s Virginia Institute of Marine Science and our strengths in law, policy, economics, conservation, environmental science, geoscience and military education. (As I learned from the Class of ’73, W&M hosted the first university Earth Day.)

Here’s a preview: In April, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration awarded VIMS an $8 million grant to implement a national program focused on protecting U.S. coastal waters from derelict fishing gear.

Alumni and students alike can take pride in how W&M continues to prepare students to flourish. The Wall Street Journal recently reported that W&M is the No. 5 public university for finance salaries, No. 9 for management consulting salaries, No. 11 for law salaries and No. 16 for tech salaries. The Princeton Review ranked W&M the nation’s top public university for internships for the third year running.

We are building on 330 years of innovation to prepare our graduates to lead in the decades ahead, with gratitude for the generations of alumni, faculty and staff upon whose shoulders we stand.
I have found community at William & Mary through the various clubs I have joined and the friends I have made across campus. To me, community is a place where you belong, where you can have fun and be yourself. From the experiences I have had in class to the friendships I’ve built at W&M’s hackathon — which we won! — none of that would have been possible without the support of people like you. Thank you.

Scholarships have the power to transform lives. Learn more by contacting Suzie Armstrong ’93, assistant vice president for development for campus initiatives, at smarmstrong@wm.edu or 757-221-7647.
BRINGING HISTORY TO LIGHT: The Brafferton, photographed circa 1901. The history of the Brafferton’s origins and legacy had been largely forgotten by the 20th century. In the early 2000s, Buck Woodard Ph.D. ’13 began working with descendant communities and fellow scholars to uncover the Brafferton’s story.
IN MAY 1777, A DELEGATION OF APPROXIMATELY 40 Cherokee men and women arrived in Williamsburg to negotiate a peace treaty with Virginia Gov. Patrick Henry. Instrumental to the success of the negotiations was the interpreter, Charles Murphy, an alumnus of William & Mary’s Brafferton Indian School.

Murphy, the son of a Cherokee woman and a Scottish Indian trader, attended William & Mary in the 1750s, where he learned to speak, read and write English.

Murphy’s life is emblematic of the fascinating yet complex history of the Brafferton.

“The Brafferton Indian School was an instrument of colonial policy for the British, but it also was a place of Native agency,” says Danielle Moretti-Langholtz, the Thomasina E. Jordan Director of W&M’s American Indian Resource Center.

William & Mary is recognizing the 300th anniversary of the opening of the Brafferton Indian School building on its campus throughout 2023 by unpacking its complex history and exploring the university’s ongoing relationship with Virginia Indian tribes.

In the 18th century, “Native people really used the school for their own purposes, trying to situate themselves in a changing political landscape,” she says. “I think that’s an extraordinary story.”
THE BRAFFERTON’S ORIGINS

The history of the Brafferton dates back to William & Mary’s founder, the Rev. James Blair, who secured the 1693 royal charter establishing the university. The charter also directed “that the Christian faith may be propagated amongst the Western Indians” through the establishment of an Indian school.

Blair obtained funding for the school from the executors of the estate of scientist Robert Boyle. In 1695, the estate purchased Brafferton Manor in Yorkshire, England, and the annual income from its agricultural holdings was designated specifically for the education of Native American students. The school thus came to be known as the Brafferton Indian School.

In 1723, William & Mary used funds from the Boyle estate to construct a permanent home for the Indian School — the Brafferton, W&M’s second-oldest building — which Professor of Mathematics Hugh Jones deemed “a good House and Apartments for the Indian Master and his Scholars.”

Enrolled students came primarily from so-called tributary tribes, those having treaties with the Virginia Colony with a wide geographical reach. In addition to the Cherokee, these included the Catawba, Delaware and Wyandot, as well as the Pamunkey, Nottoway, Chickahominy and Nansemond tribes closer to Williamsburg. There were possibly students from 26 different tribal communities.

“Of all of the colonial Indian schools in the British colonial world in the 18th century, the Brafferton Indian School had the greatest impact, the longest timespan and the most students,” says Moretti-Langholtz.

The Revolutionary War disrupted the flow of income from the Boyle estate, and the school permanently closed in 1790 after William & Mary failed to win a lawsuit seeking to reclaim funding from the Brafferton estate.

Surprisingly, given the school’s significance in its own time, the history of the Brafferton’s origins and legacy had been largely forgotten by the 20th century. In 1929, anticipating the restoration of Colonial Williamsburg, W&M President J.A.C. Chandler attempted to rediscover the university’s connections with the Brafferton estate on a trip to England.

Remaining documents about the Indian school were fragmentary and did not focus on the Native students who attended the school.

HISTORY LOST AND FOUND

The process of unearthing the Brafferton’s full story began in the early 2000s with Native American communities themselves, who had retained the memory of their ancestors’ attendance at the school.

“I started to get phone calls from tribal groups outside of Virginia saying, ‘I think our young people used to be at that school. Can you tell us more?’” Moretti-Langholtz recalls.

Working with descendant communities and fellow scholars, including Buck Woodard Ph.D. ’13 —
then director of Colonial Williamsburg’s American Indian Initiative — she undertook a long process of research, delving into historical records on both sides of the Atlantic. The research project gained momentum during restoration work done on the Brafferton building between 2011 and 2013, leading to the creation of the Brafferton Legacy group comprising contemporary Native American alumni.

Through this comprehensive work, the lives of 18th-century Brafferton students began to come into focus.

Native American tribes were initially reluctant to enroll their sons at the Indian School, mistrusting colonists’ motives. In 1700, Virginia Gov. Francis Nicholson encouraged them to inspect the school, and promised that an adult chaperone could accompany students “to talk continually with them in their language.”

Enrollments gradually increased, ranging from three or four to a high of 24 in 1712; altogether, 125 students attended the school during the 1700s. Evidence suggests that many of the enrollees were from high-status families. They stayed for several years, following the standard grammar-school curriculum of reading, writing and arithmetic, together with study of the Anglican Church catechism.

“Finding the names of some of these young men and the things they did, such as Charles Murphy, it’s simply amazing,” Moretti-Langholtz says. For example, she and Woodard recognized a treaty document prepared and signed by a Brafferton Indian School student from the Nottoway tribe called Robert Scholar.

“The other headmen signed with an X and a thumbprint, but Scholar, using a quill pen, has clearly written his own name,” she notes.

Another Brafferton alumnus, Tom Step, played a vital role as translator during the French and Indian War, receiving commendation from a young Lt. Col. George Washington, then fighting on the side of the British.

LOOKING FORWARD

The yearlong commemoration of the Brafferton’s 300th anniversary, launched on Charter Day, offers new opportunities to explore the Indian School’s legacy.

“We’re supporting a number of faculty who are engaged in research and teaching related to Indigenous traditions, histories and cultures, and connected to tribal communities across the commonwealth and beyond,” says Professor Ann Marie Stock, presidential liaison for strategic cultural partnerships.

“We’re eager to make visible the value we place on the legacy of Native traditions at William & Mary.”

The Brafferton Initiative, which is being led by the Office of Strategic Cultural Partnerships, will include both campus and community events, outreach and partnership with tribal communities, faculty initiatives and a renewed look at how the university can share a more complete history of the Brafferton Indian School.

The commemoration kicked off at W&M’s Charter Day ceremony on Feb. 10. Leaders and representatives from nine tribal communities attended the event, and Chief Lynette Allston of the Nottoway Indian Tribe provided a reflection on the Brafferton Indian School.

“It’s a time of reflection, but also a time to consider the university’s response to this history going forward,” Moretti-Langholtz adds. “How do we engage these historically linked communities in substantive ways? That’s what this is about.”

For more information, see “Building the Brafferton: the Founding, Funding, and Legacy of America’s Indian School,” edited by Danielle Moretti-Langholtz and Buck Woodard, published by the Muscarelle Museum of Art, 2019.
Two gifts announced during the spring semester are allowing William & Mary to take a giant leap forward in the university’s effort to provide a funded internship or other applied learning experience for every undergraduate.

The goal is a key element of the careers initiative in the Vision 2026 strategic plan, which promises that William & Mary will lead in the preparation of lifelong learners equipped to navigate rapid change and thrive from their first job to their last.

A $1-million gift from W&M Foundation trustee Darpan Kapadia ’95 to the Career Center Student Internship Fund will triple the number of students annually who can receive university funding for internships and other applied learning opportunities and substantially increase the amount of the individual grants available, starting this summer.

Kapadia’s two-year commitment will allow at least 100 undergraduates per year to receive up to $5,000 each for unpaid or underpaid applied learning experiences in 2023 and 2024, up from a recent high of 33 students in 2019. Previously, students could receive a maximum of $3,000. Over the two years, the gift multiplies by 10 the amount of available funding, paving the way for a sustained increase in the years ahead.

A $1-million gift from former W&M Foundation Chair Michael Foradas ’78 and Valerie Foradas HON ’21 will also expand the number of paid experiential learning opportunities available to William & Mary students through a five-year pilot program called the Applied Research & Innovation Initiative (ARII). The initiative will encourage collaborations throughout the university and engage outside partners in efforts to better solve pressing local, national and global problems.

Plans for the Innovation Initiative include the creation of 50 student internships and the development of three projects that bring disparate researchers together, have the potential to generate positive change in the world and the ability to attract or increase external funding. Each project will receive two years of funding, supported by three faculty fellowships, three undergraduate fellowships and $25,000 annually for research spending.

“We know that internships give students an edge in finding a full-time job after graduation. Studies show that applied learning experiences also lead to higher-paying jobs.”}

“We know that internships give students an edge in finding a full-time job after graduation. Studies show that applied learning experiences also lead to higher-paying jobs.”

“William & Mary prepares students to land with confidence at their first destination, be it a job, grad school or military commission. Thanks to the generosity of Darpan Kapadia and Mike and Valerie Foradas, even more of our talented students can gain essential career and research experience as undergraduates,” W&M President Katherine Rowe says.

“We are grateful for their partnership in preparing our society’s next generation of leaders.”

Kapadia says his philanthropy was motivated by William & Mary’s career goals outlined in Vision 2026 and what he has learned as vice chair of the W&M Foundation’s scholarships subcommittee, which has placed a significant emphasis on the need to fund the complete student experience, in addition to scholarships. The careers initiative aims for 85% of graduating seniors to have completed an internship or other hands-on learning opportunity by 2026. During the past three years, about 44% of W&M graduates have participated in applied learning experiences, according to information the Office of Career Engagement and Professional Development has gleaned from student surveys, LinkedIn and other sources.

“We know that internships give students an edge in finding a full-time job after graduation,” William & Mary Chief Career Officer Kathleen Powell says. “Studies show that applied learning experiences also lead to higher-paying jobs.”

More than 40% of internships nationally are unpaid, making it difficult for students to accept an opportunity if they don’t have the financial means to do so. Studies show that barriers are higher for women, military students and veterans, first-generation and low-income students, as well as those who are traditionally underrepresented in higher education.

“The key here is to try and level the playing field,” says Kapadia, who emigrated with his family from India to the United States as a young child and grew up on New York’s Long Island. “That’s the objective of the gift, and it applies not only to internships, but also experiential learning opportunities such as studying abroad, community service and unfunded research opportunities.”

Michael and Valerie Foradas say the Applied Research & Innovation Initiative combines their inter-
ests in broadening access to education and providing opportunities for students to gain meaningful work experience. The Innovation Initiative ties in well with the Vision 2026 goals of educating for impact and expanding William & Mary’s reach, the couple says.

The Innovation Initiative’s coordinators will seek proposals from across campus to develop or expand experiential learning projects that incorporate at least two of the four W&M strategic initiatives identified in the university’s Vision 2026 strategic plan — data, water, democracy and careers. Projects will address high-priority issues such as health care, education, economic resilience and biodiversity loss. The ARII will be anchored by three core William & Mary units with proven success at working across disciplines: the Global Research Institute, the Institute for Integrative Conservation and the Office of Career Development & Professional Engagement.

“This pilot, if successful, will help put William & Mary on the map and help reach out beyond the boundaries of the university,” Michael Foradas says. “That’s always been, in my view, something that is the essential next step for us as a great global university.”

Through a partnership between William & Mary’s Charles Center and the Office of Career Development & Professional Engagement, students will register for a course related to their applied learning experiences. The Charles Center coordinates William & Mary’s Departmental Honors Program and offers mentored research opportunities and paid internships.

Course registration provides a mechanism for students to receive funds from the university’s financial aid office as well as a more accurate way to measure how many students participate in such experiences. It also allows the experiences to appear on their transcripts.

Previously, students needed to declare a major in order to receive course credit for internships, meaning that freshmen and sophomores often did not have access to applied learning funds. The same was true for students completing applied learning experiences outside their major — for example, a biology major who spends the summer working in an art museum. An interdisciplinary three-credit course will be piloted this summer, with three or four sections of 12 students each.

“A credit-bearing course under the guidance of a William & Mary faculty member allows students to translate their experience and map it back onto their academic journey — and think about that as a way to spring forward to their career,” says Elizabeth Harbron, director of the Charles Center and Floyd D. Gottwald, Sr. Professor of Chemistry. “That helps them get even more out of that internship.”

For information on how to contribute to the Career Center Student Internship Fund or the Foradas Applied Research & Innovation Initiative, visit give.wm.edu and enter the name of the fund in the search field, or contact Suzie Armstrong ’93, assistant vice president for development for campus initiatives, at smarmstrong@wm.edu or 757-221-7647.
**Quotable**

**W&M in the News**

*Faculty and staff make headlines*

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**BY&LARGE**

*Waterman tapped to trawl for crab pot ‘ghosts’ of the Chesapeake Bay*

“That ghost gear is competing against the active gear that the crabber is utilizing in fishing and taking crabs from that.”

— Kirk Havens, Virginia Institute of Marine Science

*NPR*

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*What the House GOP rebels were right about*

“The country is better off if Democrats and Republicans engage each other constructively and out in the open.”

— C. Lawrence Evans, Government

*The Washington Post*

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* Those window stickers to prevent bird strikes? There’s a catch.

“People who are buying decals and putting them on the windows, they want to do good, they want to do right by the birds. You do have to take the extra step of putting it on the outside of the window.”

— John Swaddle, Institute for Integrative Conservation

*The New York Times*

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*WHAT DO BIG TECH LAYOFFS MEAN FOR STEM PROGRAMS?*

“Our students are understanding that if they’re combining that data fluency with strong communication skills, strong critical-thinking skills, that is actually opening up pathways for different types of internships and full-time opportunities.”

— Kathleen Powell, Office of Career Development and Professional Engagement

*Chronicle of Higher Ed*

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*The Super Bowl’s most reliable stock market indicator? The ads*

“The Super Bowl is one of those moments when you get to see what resonates with the crowd immediately — and, as importantly, what doesn’t.”

— Peter Atwater ’83, P ’17, P ’20, Raymond A. Mason School of Business

*The Wall Street Journal*

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To read the full stories, visit [magazine.wm.edu/faculty-in-the-news](magazine.wm.edu/faculty-in-the-news)
We’re back for the 2023 season! Join W&M alumni, family and friends for this fan-favorite night at the ballpark as the Nationals face off against the San Francisco Giants. **Before the game, meet up with the Tribe at the Mission for drinks and snacks starting at 5 p.m.** A limited number of discounted Young Guarde tickets are also available for alumni in the Classes of 2014–2023!

**July 21, 2023, 7 p.m. | wmalumni.com/nats**

Tickets include a limited-edition W&M-branded quarter-zip performance pullover!
History is all around us in Williamsburg — and on W&M’s 330th Charter Day, an important piece of America’s story moved slowly through Williamsburg’s streets on its way home.

The historic Williamsburg Bray School building, which was established in 1760 to educate free and enslaved Black children, was relocated to a lot in Colonial Williamsburg’s Historic Area where it will be preserved and interpreted. William & Mary and the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation are working together to uncover the stories of the students who attended school there, their teacher, the building itself and the impact of the school on the community.

Hundreds gathered on the lawn of the Art Museums of Colonial Williamsburg for the Williamsburg Bray School Preservation Launch. Along with W&M President Katherine A. Rowe, speakers at the event included Virginia Gov. Glenn Youngkin; Williamsburg Mayor Doug Pons; Cliff Fleet ’91, M.A. ’93, J.D. ’95, M.B.A. ’95, president and CEO of The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation; and Maureen Elgersman Lee, director of the Bray School Lab and Mellon Engagement Coordinator for African American Heritage. The event also included a reading of the names of children who were known to be students in the Bray School and a song about working together in unity.

The Williamsburg Bray School closed in 1774 on the eve of the American Revolution, and the building that held it was eventually lost to history. The building’s identity was rediscovered about 20 months ago after years of research started by Chancellor Professor Emeritus of English Terry Meyers led archaeological and architectural experts to the Bray-Digges House on the William & Mary campus.

It will be the 89th original structure restored by the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation and is located next to an excavation of a previous site for the First Baptist Church of Williamsburg, which was founded by free and enslaved Black people and was one of America’s earliest Black congregations. The foundation anticipates restoring this nationally significant structure by 2024, which marks the 250th anniversary of the school’s closure on the eve of the American Revolution.
On May 12, the achievements of nine William & Mary faculty members and a coach were recognized during the 2023 Plumeri Awards for Faculty Excellence ceremony. Over 50 applicants submitted materials for consideration this year to receive this coveted prize, which rewards core virtues of passion, vision and leadership that distinguish outstanding faculty members and coaches and define excellence at the university. • The Plumeri Awards were established in 2009 by Joseph J. Plumeri II ’66, D.P.S. ’11, to pay tribute to the impact professors had on his own life. Plumeri Award funds have provided critical research and operational funding to nearly 250 faculty members and coaches to date. • Recipients span William & Mary’s schools and units, highlighting the breadth of expertise of the university’s faculty and staff. Members of the 2023 class are: Nicholas Balascio, Geology; Dawn Edmiston Ed.D. ’20, Marketing; Marjorie Friedrichs, Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS); Rebecca Green, Law; Heartley Huber, Education; Betsy Konefal, History; Molly Swetnam-Burland, Classical Studies; Andrew Wargo, VIMS; Douglas Young, Chemistry; and Tess Ellis, Athletics. • Read more at magazine.wm.edu/online-exclusives/plumeri-2023. —JACOB A. MILLER ’18
With its blend of historic elegance and modern conveniences, the W&M Alumni House is a comfortable, stylish setting for events of all sizes. Outdoor and indoor spaces can be combined for memorable family reunions and weddings, meetings and conferences.

Contact us at alumni.house@wm.edu or call Jackie Blum at 757-221-2794
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Your sponsorship shows your pride in this remarkable institution and provides for world-class programming that brings our community together.
NATURAL CHARM: The woods and waterways near William & Mary’s campus offer plenty of places to wind down and recharge.

WHAT’S YOUR FAVORITE PLACE ON CAMPUS? Is it the same now as it was when you first came to William & Mary?

In a new video series on William & Mary’s YouTube channel, current students share their go-to spots on and around campus, including the Wren Building, the volleyball courts at the Bryan Complex and a comfortable bench at the School of Education. Watch the videos at magazine.wm.edu/my-spot and share what you would choose as “My Spot” on our Instagram and Facebook pages @wmalumni!

As spring blooms in Williamsburg and prospective students visit campus, we asked staff who are also alumni or parents of students to make a strong case for why their spot is the best on campus.

The Matoaka Trails on the campus of William & Mary have always been special to me. When I was a student at W&M, I would often walk the trail behind the Rec Center to decompress and spend time in nature. I loved exploring the beautiful College Woods and Lake Matoaka. Now as an adult, I have enjoyed introducing the trails to my family. My daughter and I had a particularly fun hike during the pandemic, during which she enthusiastically participated in the exercise stops along the way.

— Julie Sommer Leach ’99
Executive Director of the William & Mary Foundation

It is ironic that of all the spots on our beautiful campus, my favorite place as a student was a room with no windows in the basement of a 1970s building that sometimes floods — the basketball locker room. I was not on the team until tryouts in October of my freshman year. I still remember the first time I was allowed into the locker room even before I had officially made the team. It was the site of team meetings, film sessions, pre-game speeches, post-game celebrations and stops throughout my daily routine. The camaraderie and brotherhood of the locker room made me feel like I belonged at William & Mary and led to many of my closest friendships that continue to this day.

During my time on staff, many of my favorite memories have taken place in the Sunken Garden. This includes a wide range of activities throughout the his-
As I have transitioned from a student to my newer roles of alumna and now staff member, my favorite spots around campus have transitioned as well. As a student, my favorite place on campus was the Center for Student Diversity (CSD). The CSD not only housed me while I studied or binge-watched TV, but it also allowed me to curate my community on this campus and find purpose in advocating for myself and my fellow students. My new favorite spot on campus has become Lake Matoaka. I enjoy sitting by the lake on a sunny day while reading a book and experiencing the peacefulness the water creates around me.

— Faith Odom ’22,
Assistant Director, Alumni Engagement and Inclusion Initiatives

My favorite spot on campus is the back patio at the School of Education. It’s a lovely courtyard patio with comfortable tables and chairs where you can enjoy nice days outdoors studying, catching up with friends or just relaxing and getting some fresh air. Since the School of Education is a bit removed from the rest of campus, it’s very peaceful and I love that I can always find a place to sit!

— Ashley Dustin Bronsky M.Ed. ’20
Associate Director of Regional Engagement and Volunteer Management

The Sunken Garden. Without question. Although the answer is easy, the explanation is a bit complicated. I’m not sure if I like it because of the time that I’ve spent in the Sunken Garden, or more because of the way others spend their time in the Sunken Garden. I’ve seen students paint and dance there and sing and throw frisbees, while others sit and read a book in the shade of the trees. Sometimes it’s a shortcut and other times it’s a long leisurely walk. In the summer it’s quiet and green, and other times it’s loud and packed from one end to the other. It doubles as a classroom and a study space. It’s where you meet your friends and then reunite with them years later. And as I write this, I’m looking forward to the coming weekend, where once again with my fellow coworkers and friends and William & Mary students we will be enjoying time on the lawn of the Sunken Garden for the Day for Admitted Students.

— Alfred Herczeg P ’23
Art Director
As athletes at William & Mary, Sean McDermott ’98 and Jill Ellis ’88, L.H.D. ’16 were the ultimate competitors. Each took that approach into the coaching profession, which would result in far more wins than losses and a slew of honors.

McDermott, a former Tribe football player and current head coach of the Buffalo Bills, returned to Williamsburg in March to be inducted into the W&M Athletics Hall of Fame. Among his achievements: being the first coach since the early ’90s to lead the Bills to three consecutive AFC East championships. While meeting the William & Mary team, he helped head coach Mike London inform long-snapper Nick Levy ’26 that he has received a scholarship.

Two months later, it was Ellis’ turn. A former Tribe soccer player and head coach of the U.S. Women’s National Team (USWNT), Ellis was inducted into the National Soccer Hall of Fame on May 6 in Frisco, Texas. Among her achievements: coaching the USWNT to FIFA World Cup championships in 2015 and 2019.

During their induction speeches, both touched on those who paved their way.

“It’s special to be here, special to be around so many great people,” McDermott said. “I think that’s what makes William & Mary special — the people.

“In Buffalo, we get credited a lot with building a culture ... and I think it’s no secret to how we’ve done that. It’s because of the people. [That’s] no different than what happens here on campus every year.”

Ellis was joined in Frisco by W&M President Katherine A. Rowe and former teammates Julie Cunningham Shackford ’88, P ’23, Nancy Reinisch O’Toole ’88, P ’23 and Marsha Fishburne Lycan ’87. She thanked all who nudged her along, both at William & Mary and beyond.

“I remember a quote I heard a couple of years ago that beautifully captures the gratitude that I feel today,” she said in her induction speech. “I am simply a mosaic of the people that I’ve met and the things that they have carried. I am so damn lucky to have had crossed paths with so many extraordinary people.

“To my family and friends, teammates, former players and colleagues, I thank you for having such broad shoulders. You have shared your wisdom, showed me love, offered me feedback. ... Today does certainly not happen without the intersection of our lives.”
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SINGLE BIGGEST DAY
OF EXTRAORDINARY GENEROSITY AT WILLIAM & MARY

Record-breaking $4M+ raised on One Tribe One Day
W&M’s 10th giving day brought together over 11,000 passionate supporters from around the globe to celebrate our community and invest in its success. Let’s keep this incredible momentum going.

If you missed One Tribe One Day, there’s still time to join us. Your gift before our fiscal year ends on June 30 will strengthen our Tribe family and help W&M maintain its top spot for alumni giving among public universities in the nation.
Story by TINA ESHELEMAN
Photography by MAX GERBER
This year’s NCAA women’s basketball tournament made history and Tiara “T” Cruse ’06 was part of it as one of 11 game officials — all women, for the first time — chosen to work the Final Four in Dallas. • A former William & Mary basketball player, Cruse is a frequent presence at high-visibility NCAA and WNBA games. She is also an advocate for equal treatment of women in collegiate and professional sports, and a role model for current student-athletes.
“It’s so special for our young ladies to connect with people who stood in their shoes and wore their jerseys,” says W&M women’s basketball head coach Erin Dickerson Davis. She met Cruse in September when the alumna was on campus to participate in a William & Mary Women’s Weekend panel discussion on “Women, Sports and Social Change” and later invited her to speak with the team in a virtual session on financial awareness and financial literacy.

“T Cruse is a big name in women’s basketball,” Dickerson Davis says. “To see her, to be able to engage with her, is important for our athletes.”

Televied on ABC and multiple ESPN platforms, the April 2 championship in which LSU defeated Iowa 102-85 was the most-watched NCAA women’s basketball game on record, with viewership peaking at 12.6 million and averaging 9.9 million, according to ESPN. Combined, the Tigers and Hawkeyes set a record for the most points in title game history, and LSU set a record for points by a team in the final.

Cruse was on standby for both the Iowa-South Carolina semifinal and the championship, meaning she was courtside in uniform throughout the game, ready to step in at a moment’s notice. In the broadcast of the Tigers-Hawkeyes matchup, she can be seen standing behind Iowa coach Lisa Bluder during the national anthem and chatting with fellow referee Lisa Jones on the sidelines before the game.

Despite the heightened attention on the Final Four games, Cruse says she remained focused and on task: “I was there watching as another referee from the sideline and staying tuned in to support my colleagues. But it was also fun to see the growth of the game firsthand and to see the arena sold out.”

“‘It gave a foundational understanding of how the body works. As an athlete, an actor or dancer, you’re really attuned to your body, and the way it speaks to you. So, having a foundation of kinesiology connects the intuitive sense with the informational.”
She says it is encouraging to witness more equitable treatment of the NCAA women’s tournament in terms of media coverage and promotion. For example, it wasn’t until 2022 — the 50th anniversary of when Congress enacted Title IX prohibiting sex discrimination at educational institutions receiving federal funds — that the NCAA began using “March Madness” branding for the women’s tournament as well as the men’s. The NCAA also started paying referees the same amount for both the men’s and women’s tournaments in 2022.

“The whole ecosystem is being provided resources that enable the game to be showcased and these young ladies to exhibit their talent, and people are seeing that,” Cruse says. “So you’re seeing meteoric rise in fandom and attention on the game, and social media helps, too.”

For Cruse, one of the highlights of this year’s NCAA tournament was the Ohio State-University vs. University of Connecticut game in Seattle on March 25 that aired on ABC and broke a Sweet 16 record with 2.4 million television viewers. The matchup was also notable because Ohio State’s Buckeyes ended the UConn Huskies’ streak of reaching the Final Four 14 consecutive times. Overall viewership for the Sweet 16 was up 73% over last year, according to ESPN.

“It was exciting to know that I was officiating a game that’s part of this record-breaking historical growth,” Cruse says.

Looking ahead to the WNBA season beginning May 19, she says, “I hope the synergy of the women’s college game can connect to the energy the WNBA has already captured the past few seasons and show that women can not only compete but excel as part of a global product, and advertisers and sponsors and TV networks can truly buy into it.”

‘The Perfect Fit’

Cruse’s passion for basketball developed long before she became a referee.

“As a younger kid, I wanted to do everything my older brother did,” she says. “He played football, so I played flag football. When he started to play basketball, I wanted to play basketball. I also played soccer — all the sports young kids do.”

The daughter of Navy veterans who both worked in health care, Cruse first visited William & Mary when her family was living in Virginia Beach in the early 1990s.

“I remember quite vividly being a little kid, maybe 8 or 9 years old, and driving by the campus and looking out the window and thinking, ‘I’m going to go there someday,’” she says. “I always excelled athletically and academically, so it was the perfect fit that I ended up at William & Mary playing sports.”

Basketball took her in a different direction at first, however. While attending James Madison High School in Vienna, Virginia, she was recruited...
PUPPY LOVE:
Cruse holds Darling, her Cavalier King Charles spaniel, while spending time in Los Angeles before the NCAA women’s Final Four.
by both William & Mary and Southern Methodist University (SMU) in Dallas. She spent her freshman and sophomore years at SMU, but when she learned there was an opening on the W&M team, she took the opportunity to move closer to home.

Thinking she might follow her parents’ career path, Cruse majored in kinesiology.

“At the time, William & Mary had one of the very few undergraduate programs that involved working on an actual cadaver as part of an anatomy course, and I spent one of my summers at William & Mary taking that class,” she says. “It was very hard. I’m proud to say I passed with an A-minus.”

Although she ultimately didn’t pursue health care as a profession, Cruse says her studies at William & Mary have helped her as a basketball player and as a referee.

“It gave a foundational understanding of how the body works,” she says. “As an athlete, an actor or dancer, you’re really attuned to your body, and the way it speaks to you. So, having a foundation of kinesiology connects the intuitive sense with the informational.”

After transferring from SMU, Cruse was required to sit out for her sophomore year, but she continued to practice with the William & Mary team. A knee ligament injury limited her ability to play during her junior year.

“I did play my senior year,” she says. “It was a little bittersweet in terms of just a short window to play.”

At William & Mary, she formed close friendships with teammates and other fellow athletes that have continued since they graduated. As someone with a multiracial background — her mother is from Kingston, Jamaica, while her California-native father has English and Scottish roots — Cruse also found camaraderie in a William & Mary group for students with Caribbean ties.

One of her good friends from her time as a student is former Tribe tennis player Megan Moulton-Levy ’07, who shares her Jamaican heritage and went on to play tennis professionally. Both alumnae were speakers in the same William & Mary Women’s Weekend panel discussion.

“The athletics community was just a really close-knit, family-based program,” Cruse says. “Running into teammates now speaks to how true that is — you might not see somebody for years and then the moment you see them, it’s nothing but love, happiness and reconnection.”

A Sisterhood of Athletes

Cruse’s schedule as a referee occasionally brings her back into contact with former teammates. While refereeing an NCAA game at the University of Virginia last fall, she heard someone yell her name from the stands and turned around to see Jalen Boone ’07, who lives in the Charlottesville area.

Boone says she was interested to see how the UVA team performed under head coach Amaka “Mox” Agugua-Hamilton, a former Hofstra University athlete she remembers playing against while on the William & Mary team.

“For the first time in a long time, I got season tickets so I could take my son and family to go watch, and of course there was T on the floor,” Boone says. “It was nice to make that connection again. The next time she was at a game, she automatically looked up to see if I was there. And so then we chatted for a bit.”

Boone recalls Cruse as a hardworking and intense player and a supportive teammate. “As a person, she is lovely, a great friend, always there for you.”

Along with Cruse’s competitive nature and determination, former W&M basketball player Julianne “JuJu” Thomas-Drolet ’09 remembers her as someone who likes to laugh and goof around.

“Some of my best memories with T were when we were in the locker room, preparing for practice or for a game. We would always have rap or hip-hop music playing and she would be dancing and we would try to follow her moves,” says Thomas-Drolet, who returned home to Quebec after graduating from William & Mary and lives in Montreal. “It was a good way to release stress and laugh a little bit and bust a move.”

Cruse still has a rap demo she recorded while she was at W&M, inspired by artists such as Lauryn Hill and Missy Elliott. “It was a way to express my poetry and creativity, and the athlete in me loved the movement,” she says.

For the W&M Athletics banquet in the spring of her senior year, Cruse joined two football players in performing a rap they wrote.

“It was all about celebrating William & Mary and the Tribe, and the different teams and the accomplishments, and how life as a student athlete is, and it was set to some cool, dope beats,” she says.

Thomas-Drolet was delighted to see Cruse in January while attending a University of North Carolina vs. Notre Dame women’s basketball game in Chapel Hill, North Carolina.

“I didn’t know she was going to be refereeing that game and it was an amazing coincidence,” Thomas-Drolet says. “But I have been following her career. Every time I see her on TV, if I’m by myself I’ll call my mom or my sister or my dad and say, ‘My old teammate’s on TV!’ Sometimes I can’t focus on the game — I’ll focus on T because I’m just so proud.”

Cruse meets her former W&M basketball coach, Debbie Taylor ’86, for lunch or coffee when her officiating work takes her to Durham, North Carolina, where Taylor is a senior associate director at Duke Cancer Institute and Duke Children’s Development.

Taylor also moonlights as a college basketball analyst on sports television channels and streaming services, and in that role, she has had a chance to observe Cruse as a referee from a courtside vantage point. At East Carolina University earlier this year, Taylor was
at the broadcast table preparing for a game to start when she saw Cruse on the court: “I jumped out from behind the table and gave her a hug.”

“Officiating is not an easy business for someone to rise to the top,” Taylor says. “It’s a tremendous amount of travel. It’s a lot of pressure, especially being on the court in those big-time games when they’re close. But she does it incredibly well. She quickly rose through the ranks, and as one of the higher-level officials, she’s always in demand.”

As a referee, Cruse projects confidence, Taylor says. “She’s really stoic and I think you have to be that way to be a good official. You have to have tough skin. You can’t be reactionary.”

‘The Wind Caught Me’

At first, officiating basketball games was an easy way for Cruse to earn money during breaks while she was attending William & Mary. Her father, Todd Cruse P ’06, assigned football and basketball referees for Vienna Youth Inc., and he recruited Tiara and her brother, Ty Cruse. In the summers, she would officiate Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) basketball games.

“It was exciting and engaging, and it connected me to the sport in a way that I’m not sure being a fan or even coaching could, because you’re literally on the court and your officiating community becomes your team,” she says. “It was a very similar experience as being a player.”

After graduating with a bachelor’s degree in kinesiology, Cruse started working as a market analyst at commercial real estate firm Cushman & Wakefield in Washington, D.C., and considered applying to law school or medical school. She continued officiating on the side at high school and then college basketball games, moving up from Division III to Division I, and later the NBA G League and WNBA. Eventually, her schedule as a referee became so demanding that it was clear she could not continue doing both jobs. Meanwhile, she was accepted for U.S. Coast Guard Officer Candidate School, giving her another potential career path.

“I remember having a phone conversation with my mom (Sandra Watt P ’06), while standing in front of the White House after work, debating whether I should go into the military or stay a civilian and keep refereeing,” she says. “It felt like jumping off a cliff and expanding my wings and hoping I would fly. The wind caught me, and I definitely have soared since then.”

After officiating full time for a couple of years, Cruse decided to continue her education and enrolled in a sports management program at Columbia University in 2013. Taking one course per semester, she completed the program in December 2016 and received her master’s degree in May 2017. Instructors included officials with the New York Jets, the NBA and Anheuser Busch, among others.

“That degree allowed me to understand more deeply how the business of sports works, especially with associations, organizations, conferences and league offices. It gave me a well-rounded understanding of not only the game of basketball, but the business of basketball.”

While studying at Columbia, Cruse was invited to join a small group of WNBA referees to negotiate a collective bargaining agreement for the National Basketball Referee Association, comprising NBA, WNBA and NBA G League referees.
“I enjoyed the whole process of meeting alongside the NBA executives and WNBA executives and working with them to strike a deal,” she says.

Advocating for more equitable pay was a key issue in the negotiations, Cruse says, noting that semi-pro NBA G League referees can earn more than professional WNBA referees.

“The WNBA is the most elite women’s basketball in the entire world, and you have to go through the G League to get to either the NBA or WNBA,” she says. “So you should unequivocally be paid more as a WNBA referee than somebody who has less experience. I still advocate for this because WNBA officials are still paid below market rate, to this day.”

When she was a new college basketball referee, Cruse says she was discouraged from applying to officiate men’s games, which paid more. Since then, some conferences have begun paying referees the same amount for men’s and women’s games, but in others, a men’s basketball referee still earns about $1,000 more per game.

There is also a significant gender pay disparity for professional basketball players. The average NBA player earns approximately 44 times what the average WNBA player makes, with a base salary of about $5.4 million, compared with about $120,600 for the WNBA, according to an NPR report.

The arrest of WNBA star Brittney Griner last year in Russia brought attention to the issue, because one way that professional women athletes supplement their income is by playing outside the U.S. during their off-season.

“Certainly it’s an unfortunate circumstance, and I am just grateful that she’s back home,” Cruse says of Griner’s saga. “I did see that she signed a year deal with the Phoenix Mercury, so she’ll be back out on the court this season. Hopefully we can get to a place in America where WNBA players don’t have to go abroad to earn the money they should be able to earn playing the sport they love in the country they call home.”

Seeing the World

During a respite after the frenetic schedule of the NCAA tournament and before the start of the WNBA season May 19, Cruse chatted via video connection from her temporary home base in Los Angeles, where her partner, singer and actress Ciara Renée, was appearing in the world premiere musical “The Lonely Few” at the Geffen Playhouse to stellar reviews.

When they met two years ago, Renée didn’t follow women’s basketball and Cruse had no interest in musical theater. That started to change when each saw the other in their element.

“I love watching her perform and seeing the choices she makes on the stage and the depth of art and intelligence that exist in acting,” says Cruse, who attended several performances of Renée’s recent show. “She’s beyond talented.”

From across the room, Renée pipes in playfully, “Tell me more!”

As Cruse picks up Darling, their Cavalier King Charles spaniel, Renée joins the conversation. Her introduction to women’s basketball was a 2021 WNBA Finals game Cruse officiated in which the Chicago Sky defeated the Phoenix Mercury to become league champions for the first time.

“A lot of what we do is similar,” says Renée, who was the first Black actress to play Elsa in a Broadway production of “Frozen.”

“We both travel a lot. We both have people watching us. We have to put ourselves out there and keep our bodies healthy and able to do our jobs every night.”
“...I remember being impressed with how incredible she was at controlling the game, and how sharp and polished she looked when signaling a foul.”
One major difference Cruse sees is that despite being on camera in widely watched sports events, “my job is to perform my duties and be as inconspicuous as possible.” She mostly stays away from social media to avoid becoming a target for fans who are angry about a call with which they disagree.

When they’re not on the road for work or traveling for fun, the pair reside in New York City’s Manhattan borough. Cruse also visits her parents in Florida.

During the 2023 WNBA season, she’ll be working alongside fellow referee Isaac Barnett ’15, whom she has gotten to know over the past few years. The two spent concentrated time together in Florida during the 2020 WNBA season when concerns about the spread of COVID-19 prompted an isolation zone dubbed the “Wubble” — a mix of women and bubble.

“We had already bonded as W&M alumni and WNBA referees,” Cruse says. “He’s like a little brother to me.”

Barnett recalls seeing Cruse for the first time when he was a student watching television during winter break in a house on Jamestown Road.

“She was working a G League game in Sioux Falls, South Dakota,” he says. “At first it didn’t even register with me that she was a woman referee in a men’s basketball game. I remember being impressed with how incredible she was at controlling the game, and how sharp and polished she looked when signaling a foul. I thought, ‘That looks really good. I might steal that for myself.’”

Like Cruse, Barnett started playing basketball at a young age; he began working as a referee at age 13. After graduating from William & Mary with a bachelor’s degree in psychology, he followed in her footsteps as a G League and WNBA referee.

“When I finally got hired, she was one of the first people I was looking forward to meeting,” he says. “Of course we have that connection with William & Mary, and she automatically looked out for me.”

Cruse hopes more young athletes will become interested in working as referees — perhaps some of the William & Mary women’s basketball players she spoke with last fall.

“There is definitely a shortage of referees in general, certainly women referees and women referees of color,” she says. “I think there needs to be recruitment and programs to train potential referees and bring them up the pipeline.”

One of the challenges of the job, frequent travel, is also a selling point, Cruse says: Her work as a referee has taken her to Lima, Peru, for the 2019 Pan American Games, and to Mexico, the Czech Republic and Toronto, among other places.

“It’s another way to stay connected to the game,” she says, “and the game can take you many places around the world and can elevate your life.”

LOOKING AHEAD:
“For now, officiating is where I’m meant to be,” Cruse says. But she also enjoys speaking on financial literacy, a topic about which she cares deeply.
BART SHEPHERD ’92 IS SAVING THE WORLD’S CORAL REEFS BY SHOWING THEM OFF.
IT WAS ONCE CALLED THE FISH ROUND-ABOUT. THE FOLKS AT THE STEINHART AQUARIUM STILL GET ASKED ABOUT IT, BART SHEPHERD ’92 SAYS. IN THE DARK, 360 DEGREES OF MARINE LIFE DARTED AND SWIRLED ALL AROUND IN GLOWING TANKS, WITH YOU AT THE CENTER OF IT ALL. IT WAS SUPPOSEDLY ONCE ONE OF SAN FRANCISCO’S BEST DATE SPOTS. SHEPHERD WAS JUST A VOLUNTEER BACK THEN. HE WAS THERE TO FEED THE YELLOWTAIL.

“IT WAS AMAZING,” HE SAYS. “I WOULD LITERALLY CARRY TWO 5-GALLON BUCKETS FILLED TO THE TOP WITH WHITEBAIT FISH — SMELT AND CAPELIN AND THINGS LIKE THAT — UP THREE FLIGHTS OF STAIRS.”
All those steps later, he met with a frenzy. The bait would be gone within 30 seconds. “They would go crazy, splash all around and eat it,” he says. “Then I’d carry the empty buckets back down.”

More than two decades later, the Fish Roundabout is no more. Today, there’s a panoramic fish tunnel and an amphitheater that overlooks a bustling coral reef. In fact, the entire Steinhart Aquarium has since been replaced and remade within the modern California Academy of Sciences in Golden Gate Park. But Bart Shepherd is still here. He’s been aquatic biologist, senior aquatic biologist and then curator before becoming director in 2011. And he’s not just feeding the fish anymore: He’s finding them, cataloguing them, planning exhibitions and protecting their coral reef habitats around the world.

EVER-BIGGER AQUARIUMS Bart Shepherd grew up in the Little Neck area of Virginia Beach, a tiny peninsula embraced by branches of the formerly oyster-rich Lynnhaven River. His father would take him out fishing in the Chesapeake Bay, and he’d spend time kayaking the calm nearby waters. From age 6, he kept an aquarium in his bedroom and would fall asleep to the sounds of its bubbling filter.

“I had a tiger shovel nose catfish, which is a fish that gets to be many feet long,” he says. “I should not have any business keeping that in a 20-gallon tank.”

When he was in the sixth grade, his family went snorkeling in the Caribbean and young Bart was immediately “blown away” by the elkhorn corals there. Today, those corals are nearly 95% extinct.

“But all throughout the Caribbean they used to form these barriers that waves would break over,” Shepherd remembers. Coral reefs can reduce the energy of ocean waves by as much as 97%. “I can remember being a kid and snorkeling out. When the waves went by, the branches stuck up out of the surface of the water. I knew there was amazing stuff on the other side of that, but I didn’t know how you could get there.”

At William & Mary, Shepherd kept increasingly larger aquariums in his dorm room and later in the Sigma Nu fraternity house. But he graduated with an art history and anthropology double major, thanks to what he describes as a “genetic” predisposition to art. Still, it didn’t turn out to be an exact fit.

“I thought, ‘I’m gonna end up working in a museum for the rest of my life.’ I couldn’t have that happen,” he says. “I told everyone I really wanted to be a rock ‘n’ roll guitar player.”

Named after a Dr. Seuss book, his band On Beyond Zee played gigs around Virginia and North Carolina before recording an album together. But when the band didn’t take off further, Shepherd returned home to Virginia Beach and a job at the Virginia Marine Science Museum (VMSM) — today known as the Virginia Aquarium. “I sold out and became a marine biologist,” he jokes.

A QUICK STUDY So began an eventful few years that shaped his path as a scientist. Shepherd started out at the VMSM as an exhibits technician, maintaining the aquarium’s interactive displays for patrons. Before long, he switched over to the “live exhibits” side and spent a year learning about the hundreds of species of fish and coral on display there.

After a 1994 trip to the Galápagos Islands, he participated in an Earthwatch program: two weeks of diving and coral reef surveys along the shores of Maui. The program required no previous experience; a copy of the seminal “Corals of Australia and the Indo-Pacific” was there to help participants sort their organ pipes from their bottlebrush corals.
WONDERS OF THE SEA: The Steinhardt Aquarium in San Francisco features a panoramic fish tunnel and amphitheater that overlooks a bustling coral reef.
FUN TO BE DONE: Bart Shepherd ’92 has loved fish and aquariums since childhood, and his enthusiasm is reflected in touches of whimsy around in his office.
“I was flipping through and I could identify a lot of the corals just from knowing them from the aquarium world,” Shepherd says. The host professor from Earthwatch was surprised and asked ‘How do you know all these?’

The aquarium experience and the trips to the Pacific gave him the confidence and motivation he needed to focus his career goals toward marine biology. It might not seem like a logical move for an art history major, but to Shepherd, it fit together perfectly.

“For an art history class, what do you memorize?” he asks. “There’s a painting, they put it up on a projector, and you need to know the title, the artist and the year it was painted. It’s the same thing for a fish. Give me a color picture of a fish: You need to know the genus, the species, the family, where it’s found, what it eats. It’s the same sort of visual reference system. That works in my brain.”

Shepherd trucked up to Poughkeepsie, New York, to begin pursuing a master’s degree in evolutionary biology at Vassar College. There, Shepherd dove into the locomotion of fish — and all the complex math and physics required to describe it. “It was a very intense period of time,” he says, but he remained focused on the ultimate goal: to get certified in the field where he knew he could succeed. He moved to San Francisco in 1996 with some friends to finish writing his thesis; after all, it’s halfway to Hawaii, where so much of the good coral action is.

The City by the Bay is also home to the California Academy of Sciences, a nonprofit founded in 1853 that today includes the popular Morrison Planetarium, the indoor Osher Rainforest, the Tusher African Hall and the Kimball Natural History Museum, among many other highlights. The Association of Zoos & Aquariums-accredited Steinhart Aquarium arrived in 1923 and celebrates its centennial this year.

“I had this sort of weird idea that I could get a job at Steinhart Aquarium,” he says. He connected with a former colleague from the VMSM who put him in touch with Steinhart’s then-curator. Before long, he was a volunteer carting smelt up to the Fish Roundabout.

He defended his thesis at Vassar the same week he was hired full-time at Steinhart — right around the time plans were being drawn up for a new California Academy of Sciences.

**REEFS AT RISK** Coral reefs occupy less than 1% of the ocean floor, but harbor 25% to 30% of all marine life. Island resorts all around the tropical latitudes rely on their dazzling shows of color for snorkelers and recreation, to the tune of $36 billion per year. So naturally, the Steinhart’s centerpiece exhibit is the Philippine Coral Reef, the largest indoor reef in the world at 25 feet deep and 212,000 gallons. Mangroves stretch their roots over the surface, where yellow-green corals drink in light from the sun and — on foggy San Francisco days — metal halide lamps.

“I spent six years working on this tank, from models and blueprints and species lists to going to the Philippines and doing dives,” Shepherd says. “We took photos of the kinds of sand that exist there, trying to get the highest degree of scientific accuracy that we could.” The Philippine reef here is thriving, and still growing every day.

But real-world reefs are sensitive systems, often the only oases for fish in an otherwise bleak and forbidding ocean floor. Small changes in water temperature, pH or salinity can spell disaster. And then there are the usual suspects: climate change, coastal development, overfishing and pollution.

“It’s hard to not be depressed and disillusioned by these things when you experience them firsthand,” he says. In a 2021 presentation given to the Aquarium of the Pacific in Long Beach, California, Shepherd showed two photos of Tahitian reefs taken only 10 weeks apart. The first is of himself, floating in full scuba gear above a healthy reef. The second is a nearby reef that has bleached in response to climate change. Corals bleach when their water is disrupted and the algae that supply their energy and brilliant colors get rejected. The corals turn white, and while they do not always die, death becomes much more likely.

“It was incredibly depressing to have to swim over this for three hours, four hours a day, watching this,” he said. “By the end of the two weeks or so that we were there, a lot of the corals had already died.”
The world's coral reefs face numerous existential risks. Shepherd categorizes them as global, regional and local. At the largest global scale, wholesale climate change and rising temperatures affect all reefs, everywhere: Reefs in the Caribbean and the Bahamas bleached in 1995, 1998, 2005, 2010 and 2015, primarily due to warming oceans. Regional risks have more to do with local weather events such as tropical cyclones. When Cyclone Tasha contributed in 2011 to massive flooding in the rivers of Queensland, Australia, the Great Barrier Reef was in the path of all that excess freshwater and bleached. Even this year, the Caribbean and Gulf of Mexico's reefs are beset by disease outbreaks. On the purely local scale, a reef can be damaged by the hull of a ship or sunken debris.

The California Academy of Sciences (often shortened to Cal Academy) founded Hope for Reefs in 2016 as a major initiative, aiming to “regenerate the natural world through science, learning and collaboration.” It’s a mission close to Shepherd’s heart, as the initiative’s co-director. Hope for Reefs has turned its attention to colder, deeper water as the oceans warm; studying the species unique to these dark mesophotic reefs is imperative in order to rescue these evolving ecosystems. And the Steinhart’s growing Philippine reef isn’t just a one-of-a-kind exhibit: it’s teaching Hope for Reefs how best to place coral regrowth tiles to support struggling colonies. How rough should a surface be to allow coral larvae to latch on and grow? Can you 3D-print the seeding mechanisms for future coral reefs? More than just a display for marine life, the Cal Academy seeks these answers as it partners with researchers and conservation groups like SECORE International (SEXual Coral Reproduction) to bolster restoration efforts.

“We were founded as a research organization,” he says. “The idea at the time was documenting biodiversity, describing biodiversity and looking at the interconnectedness of all living things.”

Most aquariums are skilled at taking care of their animals but are not focused on promoting the research. Most universities excel at advancing science but don’t have the expertise or wherewithal to properly keep animals. Steinhart and the Cal Academy pointedly do both. Shepherd was as intimately involved with the redesign of the exhibition spaces as he has been with understanding the specimens that live there. He nods toward William & Mary.

“With my fine arts background in combination with science, it’s been fantastic,” he says. “The architect teams were putting blueprints and floor plans out, and I could read them because I had taken two semesters of Gothic cathedrals.

“The art and art history background continues to serve me well because it’s not just the world of the animals behind the glass; it’s also the stories you tell on the public floor. It’s the media and imagery you use and how you pull people into the mission.”

But as good as the Steinhart is at pulling people in, he holds a patent for pulling something else in entirely.

### INTO THE TWILIGHT ZONE

Meet the peppermint angelfish. Although Bart Shepherd does not name the aquarium’s fish, you can call it Pepp. Pepp lives in San Francisco but like so many of the city’s residents, it comes from somewhere else: in this case, the other side of the Pacific Ocean. Some of Pepp’s neighbors are a spotted Harlequin sweetlips and a Katayama’s swallowtail, which measures only a few inches long but stuns with neon color. The exhibit is called “The Twilight Zone: Deep Reefs Revealed,” made intentionally dark to mimic the mesophotic environment of these hidden reefs. One tank is completely black, save for the glowing spots on its flashlight fish.

“The peppermint angelfish is only found on deep coral reefs in French Polynesia, about 300 or 350 feet down. It’s the only place that we know of where it’s found.” Shepherd pauses for a moment and then adds, “I mean, it could be found all over the place, but nobody has looked.”
Shepherd sees a connection between his art history studies at William & Mary and his role as a marine biologist: “It’s the same sort of visual reference system.”
Looking for fish at that depth is a complicated ordeal. While Pepp is calmly wending around its tank, Shepherd points out a mannequin weighed down like a deep-sea diver around the corner. He was part of the team that dove off French Polynesia in 2019 to collect rare specimens like the peppermint angelfish.

With over 250 deep dives under his belt, Shepherd knows most of your dive time must be spent slowly ascending back to the surface to guard against decompression sickness, better known as “the bends.” So it’s important to get as deep as you can, as fast as you can. They use motorized “scooters” to propel them faster than swimming could alone. This mannequin has one festooned with a ferocious piranha sticker.

The mannequin also has two scuba tanks under one arm and a rebreather that scrubs carbon dioxide from the diver and allows the air in the tanks to last longer. If too much carbon dioxide builds up during a three-hour dive, the diver can get tunnel vision, hyperventilate and eventually pass out. When you’re on a risky dive looking for new species, those are the last things you want.

“We find a great many undescribed species almost on every dive,” he says, “because we’re the only ones looking in these places.” At one point, the Steinhart had an unprecedented “seven or eight” undescribed fish in the gallery at one time.

But fish get the bends, too. Most fish have a swim bladder that inflates and deflates to allow it to maintain neutral buoyancy. Bring it up too fast, and you might see an over-inflated bladder poking out of its mouth. And since it would be a shame for a previously undescribed species to suddenly die on the way back up, Shepherd needed a solution.

“The way that aquarium people have typically dealt with [decompression] is to take a hypodermic needle and go through the side of the fish into the swim bladder,” he says. “They vent the gas from there. But I don’t like poking holes in fish. If you miss, you hit an organ, and you’re there to preserve. There’s a lot of risk there.”

A coworker, Matt Wandell, suggested building a portable fish decompression chamber. They designed it together around a simple canister filter, like the one often used for home drinking water. Add a collecting jar for the fish, and a dive computer to show the depth that the device is simulating, and voila: a deep-water fish collector, named SubCAS.

On the surface, SubCAS connects to a high-pressure pump for water circulation and feeding. Over the course of a few days, the collected fish gets acclimated to surface pressure and is more ready for its new home. And there’s more: thanks to SubCAS, Shepherd holds a U.S. patent and a publication credit in the journal Frontiers of Marine Science. There’s even a children’s version of the paper, published in Frontiers for Young Minds.
Shepherd credits his Steinhart colleagues. “You put these creative, talented people together and ask them to solve problems: It’s amazing to watch,” he says. “I really enjoy the partnership between the aquarium and the research scientists.”

If you can’t see it, Shepherd argues, you can’t convince people to save it.

**W&M IN THE WEST** On June 3, during William & Mary Weekend in San Francisco, Bart Shepherd will join Derek Aday, dean and director of W&M’s Virginia Institute of Marine Science, and Robert Rose, director of W&M’s Institute for Integrative Conservation (see sidebar), for a panel discussion in front of the expansive Philippine reef exhibit. Shepherd will host some behind-the-scenes tours, show off the unrivaled flotilla of fish and connect attending alumni with the important research that the Cal Academy sponsors.

“Institutions like the Steinhart Aquarium are vital; they help people understand their connection to our aquatic environments and the importance of conserving those environments in the face of rapid global change,” says Aday.

“I can’t wait to connect with and learn from alumni at W&M Weekend in San Francisco. I’ll bring news of VIMS’ work on coastal ocean and estuarine science and share updates on the W&M water initiative, through which VIMS is partnering with faculty, staff, students and alumni to find solutions for the most pressing challenges facing coastal communities and ecosystems worldwide.”

The San Francisco weekend is the fourth in a series that brings W&M alumni, students, parents and friends to iconic cities across the nation for one-of-a-kind experiences and access to experts. In 2016, the Tribe descended on Washington, D.C., before assembling in following years in New York and Chicago. After a pause for the COVID-19 pandemic, the event returns for its first West Coast edition.

The Steinhart’s colorful sea life befits its colorful city. In only 49 square miles, the art, music, diversity, scenery here are unique, always evolving and impossible to recreate. Shepherd and his wife, Kathy Bello Shepherd ’90, have two daughters in the city’s Castro district; he’s never lived outside San Francisco since arriving in California. He’s fond of running in the Presidio — home to an ex-artillery post named for W&M alumnus Gen. Winfield Scott 1807 — and along Crissy Field on the city’s northern coast.

“It’s spectacular,” he says. “The views of San Francisco Bay and Alcatraz — watching the weather change there — are amazing. I see people surf the breaks right underneath the Golden Gate Bridge; it just blows your mind.”

And beneath the surface, so many wonders worth saving.

**WISDOM FOR WATER**

William & Mary is situated along the banks of the Chesapeake Bay and its estuaries; early plans for Williamsburg in the 1690s included harbors on both Queens Creek and College Creek. Today, W&M is dreaming even bigger with its Vision 2026 water initiative, tasked with “finding innovative solutions to ensure the resilience of the world’s oceans, coasts and waterways.”

William & Mary’s Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS) has been mandated by the Commonwealth of Virginia since 1940 to conduct research and provide advice on use of marine resources. And as sure as the streets of Norfolk now occasionally flood in broad daylight, VIMS is dialed in on the same threats facing coral reefs: rising seas, warming temperatures and pollution.

For example, in 2018, VIMS Professor Emily Rivest and colleagues tested coral larvae and their algal symbionts to see how they might respond to projected — worse — water conditions. The results, published in Frontiers of Marine Science, used innovative genetic techniques to find that algae were much more sensitive to change than their hosts were. Rejected algae in the coral’s larval stage spells near-disaster for a reef’s development, so Rivest suggested further research: perhaps identifying a gene signature or elevated levels of particular proteins could be warning signs that algae are on the brink. With enough notice, it may be possible to intervene and improve outcomes.

Institute for Integrative Conservation (IIC) Director Robert Rose cut his academic teeth on rainforests, but he retains a soft spot for their underwater cousins.

“One of my favorite trips was visiting coral reefs off the coast of Belize — I couldn’t even imagine a more spectacular opportunity to see wildlife,” he says. “The downside of rainforests is you don’t often see much biodiversity when you’re in them, but coral reefs just come alive when you visit.”

The IIC is “a little unique in academic circles,” Rose says. While IIC-affiliated faculty do publish substantive research, everything done through the IIC is connecting students and faculty to a conservation challenge and an external partner. One recent project brought William & Mary students together with a director of Conservation International for a yearlong project studying changing land use outside of Mongolian national parks.

For Rose, conserving and preserving these environments demands a delicate and thoughtful balance. In the context of the IIC, the word “integrative” means prioritizing biodiversity as well as the humans working and living in those spaces.

“When we think about a conservation project, we think about how we can work with local communities,” he says, “so that communities always have a voice in conservation. We can identify ways to bring those pieces together in an integrative conservation solution.”

For more about W&M’s Vision 2026 Water initiative, visit [wm.edu/vision2026/water](http://wm.edu/vision2026/water).
His nickname at William & Mary was “Phil Butterfly.”

- As a student, Philip Woodward ’01, J.D. ’04 was known as an outgoing and gregarious person who would decorate dorm-room doors of friends and classmates with balloons and pictures on their birthdays.

In keeping with his social butterfly persona, he founded a society called the Butterfly Club that would anonymously distribute encouraging messages and surprises to brighten others’ days — accompanied by a butterfly sticker and a smiley face. He says the idea was inspired in part by a pair of greeting cards that the secret society 13 Club slid under his door complimenting him on his enthusiasm.

“William & Mary was a very welcoming environment and I embraced it,” he says. “After feeling shy and quiet while going through school, I was ready to ensure that I had a very positive social experience in college.”

As someone who grew up hard of hearing, he sometimes endured teasing during his childhood because of his speech and the hearing aids he wears. His own circumstances made him more attuned to those around him who face barriers to inclusion, whether in a classroom, at the workplace or in a cultural or recreational setting.

During his freshman year in 1998, Woodward co-founded the William & Mary Sign Language Club and successfully petitioned for American Sign Language classes to be taught for academic credit. He also led an effort to provide signing at W&M Choir concerts.

Today, the advocacy work he began while he was a student continues in his role as a systems change manager at the North Carolina Council on Developmental Disabilities. There, he helps to ensure that people with disabilities can fully participate in their communities.

Woodward’s exuberance is contagious, says Sam Sadler ’64, M.Ed. ’71, retired vice president for student affairs at William & Mary. He recalls that the former student stood out at...
FOSTERING AN INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY: Philip Woodward’s experience as an undergraduate and law student at William & Mary helped set the course for his career advocating for people with disabilities.
“At William & Mary, I met a lot of people who were genuinely interested in learning more about my hearing loss and learning sign language, so I appreciated having the opportunity to share that with them.”

football and basketball games by wearing a shiny, neon green shirt — passed along to him by Lars Thorn ’99 — paired with a sparkly leprechaun hat.

At Commencement, Woodward received the John Kratzer Memorial Award for exemplary courage, self-sacrifice, leadership and spirit. His love for his alma mater is reflected in his current “tribeprideforever” email address, and he ends his messages with the signature line “Tribe Pridefully.”

“It’s hard not to be joyful when you’re around him,” Sadler says. “But there’s also a serious side of him. He clearly wanted to make William & Mary more open for people who had the condition he had, or something similar. When you sit and talk with him, it’s compelling — the person he is and the message he shares. He taught us that we can help people discover their power if we learn to communicate on their terms.”

‘I FELT THAT I COULD BE MYSELF’

Woodward was born with typical hearing, but when he was 4 1/2 years old, his preschool teacher noticed that he could not understand her if her back was turned to him. There was no identifiable cause of his hearing loss and he had become adept at communicating, which made the change difficult to detect.

“Apparently, I taught myself how to read lips,” he says. “I could have been fooling everyone for a while.”

Rather than enrolling him in a specialized program, his parents decided to have him attend an all-boys school in Richmond, Virginia, where they lived. He kept up with the lessons by sitting at the front of the classroom, reading the teacher’s lips and borrowing classmates’ notes if he missed something.

“I did not meet another deaf or hard-of-hearing person until the summer after seventh grade,” he says. That summer, he attended a camp for deaf and hard-of-hearing children and suddenly he felt out of place for a different reason: Everyone else seemed to know sign language.

When Woodward was in high school, he volunteered as a counselor at the camp. To prepare himself, he studied American Sign Language during an evening class through a community program.

“It was fun to learn sign language and realize that I could communicate with people without struggling to hear them so much,” he says.
After arriving at William & Mary, Woodward quickly came out of his shell. An English major with a passion for the Romantic poetry of Lord Byron and Percy Bysshe Shelley, he immersed himself in campus life by participating in intramural activities, covering women's golf and gymnastics for The Flat Hat and serving as a president's aide and an orientation aide.

“Everybody was so friendly, I felt that I could be myself,” he says. “They also made a concerted effort to communicate with me and make sure I wouldn’t miss out on things.”

With support from Student Accessibility Services, Woodward would meet with professors at the beginning of each semester and make arrangements to sit in a place that provided a good vantage point to read people’s lips. The professor would ask for a volunteer to be a peer notetaker.

“That volunteer would take notes on carbon paper and give me a copy so I could read them and see things that I missed,” he says. Later, in law school, he used a service called CART (Communication Access Realtime Transcription) that provided a transcription of what was said in his classes.

For Woodward, being hard of hearing became a way to draw people in.

“At William & Mary, I met a lot of people who were genuinely interested in learning more about my hearing loss and learning sign language, so I appreciated having the opportunity to share that with them,” he says. “I taught people how to flirt in sign language, so they could point out a cute boy or a cute girl at a frat party. People liked learning that.”

After growing up with two brothers and attending an all-boys school for 13 years, Woodward reveled in a setting where women outnumbered men. An article about him in The Flat Hat in April 2000 observed that he appeared to know every female student who had lived Yates, his freshman dormitory.

Most significantly, he met the love of his life, Lyla Koch Woodward ’03. At the beginning of her freshman year in 1999, she saw Philip at her dorm, Barrett Hall, where he was working as an orientation aide. She had seen him signing “Our Alma Mater” with the W&M Choir at an event the previous day and asked if he would teach her sign language.

“I said, ‘OK, I’ll teach you,’ and we became friends,” he says. “She used to volunteer at a hospital where one of the young patients was deaf and she wanted to be able to communicate with people like that patient.”

About a year later, their friendship blossomed into romance, and they were married after Lyla’s graduation in 2003. By that time, Philip was attending W&M Law School.

“I wanted an opportunity to stay at William & Mary for three more years,” he says with a smile. Being in Williamsburg also allowed him to spend time on campus with his younger brother, Stephen Woodward ’05, and introduce him to friends.

Stephen, who passed away unexpectedly in March 2022 at age 38, was an enthusiastic member of W&M Club Rowing, and his former teammates and the Friends of William & Mary Rowing established the Stephen “Woody” Woodward ’05 Memorial Rowing Endowment in his memory. Philip and Stephen’s parents, Richard Woodward P ’01, P ’05 and Elaine Woodward P ’01, P ’05, made a significant contribution to the endowment, deepening the family’s connection to William & Mary.
Before enrolling in William & Mary, Philip Woodward thought he might want to be a sports writer, but while at the university, he became more interested in advocating for people with disabilities.

Partly, that was because of Lyla’s influence. A developmental psychology major, she told him about her experience working with children who had developmental disabilities. As a student, she volunteered at a program for children with special needs and befriended the family of a boy with a developmental disability. Lyla and Philip would sometimes babysit the boy and his sister.

“I was very interested in learning about disability law, but not necessarily intending to practice law,” Woodward says. “For the essay portion on my law school application, I wrote about advocating for people who are deaf and hard of hearing. Today I work with people with all types of disabilities, particularly those with intellectual and other developmental disabilities.”

**A STRONG ADVOCATE**

As a systems change manager with the North Carolina Council on Developmental Disabilities, Woodward works on policy initiatives and programs that improve the way state government and society interact with the estimated 200,000 people in North Carolina who have intellectual or developmental disabilities.

One example is a bill that was introduced in the North Carolina General Assembly in March to reform the state’s guardianship statute so that individuals with intellectual or developmental disabilities have more of a say in decisions that affect their lives.

“Many people with disabilities are placed in a full guardianship when they turn 18 and that severely restricts a person’s rights,” he says. “Their guardian can tell them what to wear, what to eat, whether they can work, who they spend time with and whether or not they can date and get married.”

The proposed legislation follows years of work by Woodward and his colleagues to educate and inform lawmakers on the issue. It would direct clerks of court to consider less restrictive alternatives before approving full guardianship.

“Many people with intellectual or developmental disabilities are fully capable of making their own decisions or can make decisions with support,” he says. “We want or Supplemental Security Income funds.

Changes in government, especially when money is involved, don’t happen overnight and the pace of progress can be frustratingly slow at times.

“In 2005, I started attending the meetings of the Raleigh Mayor’s Committee for Persons with Disabilities,” Woodward says. “One of the biggest things we would talk about is transportation for people with disabilities. Today in 2023, we still talk about transportation barriers for people with disabilities at every single monthly meeting.”

What Woodward finds most rewarding about his work is getting to know more people with disabilities and talking with them about their interests — whether that’s a sports team such as his beloved Minnesota Vikings or a popular singer like Harry Styles.

“There’s always something I can learn from another person, includ-
ing someone with a disability,” he says. “If someone I know has been struggling to find a job and then they get hired, I’m happy for them. If they reach a goal that involves living in the community and doing something they want to do, it’s great to see them achieving their dreams.”

Before taking on his current role, Woodward worked alongside another William & Mary alumnus, Philip Protz ’87, at the North Carolina Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services, where he helped people with disabilities find jobs.

“I was very excited to have Philip join our team a number of years ago,” says Protz, now director of program policy planning and evaluation for multiple North Carolina divisions that focus on meeting the vocational, independent living and communication needs of residents with disabilities. “We collaborated on addressing areas of accessibility together through working on rule revisions and through our legislative processes.”

The two Philips enjoyed playing pickup basketball at an on-site gym, Protz says, adding that Woodward “always had interesting trick shots.”

They also worked on increasing recreational opportunities for North Carolinians and tourists with disabilities. For Woodward, this involved visiting cultural and recreational sites all over the state and compiling a 480-page vacation and travel guide called ACCESS North Carolina, which provided practical information for people with physical or cognitive disabilities, and those who are deaf or hard of hearing or have vision loss.

“I cannot say enough about Philip and his extremely positive outlook and the encouragement he has brought to our team in general,” Protz says.

Woodward credits his William & Mary education with providing a solid foundation for his career in public service. “Majoring in English helped me become a strong writer and attending law school helped me become a strong advocate for people with disabilities.”

RENEWED CONNECTIONS

It doesn’t take much arm-twisting for Woodward to make the three-hour trip from his home in Knightdale, North Carolina, to visit campus and meet with current members of the American Sign Language (ASL) Club at William & Mary. So on a Thursday evening in late March, he arrives in Room 223 at James Blair Hall wearing a vintage W&M Sign Language Club T-shirt.

As club members introduce themselves using sign language to communicate their name, class year, major, and least favorite color and animal — sometimes by spelling the letters — Woodward teaches them signs for spider, mosquito and cockroach as well as computer science and major. He draws laughter when he reacts with mock horror after one student says she doesn’t like yellow: “You don’t like one of the two William & Mary colors?!”

He tells the students about the club’s origins and shares some of his own experiences as someone who is hard of hearing, such as the challenge of reading people’s lips when most people wore masks during the pandemic.

“This Live Transcribe app is a lifesaver,” he says, showing them his cellphone. “I love it!”

When the club’s hourlong meeting time is over, Woodward remains for another hour answering questions and talking about life on campus.

“Having Philip join the meeting was a great opportunity because we got to learn more about what it’s like to be hard of hearing,” says Bella Strong ’25, secretary of the club that currently does not have any deaf or hard of hearing members.

After learning from Woodward that the club used to sign at W&M Choir concerts, Annamarie Warnke ’25, who is in the choir, spoke with the director about reviving the tradition, says ASL Club President Ella Briggs ’25.

“So next semester you might catch us signing along with Christmas carols again,” she says.

Briggs, a linguistics major, adds that she is looking into a career as an interpreter. “Meeting Philip really fueled that idea!”

Talking with the students inspired Woodward later to make a gift on One Tribe One Day to the Student Organization Fund, from which ASL Club members may request funding for T-shirts or other projects to spread awareness of ASL and Deaf culture on campus.

“It’s important that if you have a friend or family member with a disability, you do whatever you can to help them feel included,” Woodward tells the students as the meeting ends. “There are small things you can do, even something as simple as turning on closed captions when watching TV. If we could all do those things, wouldn’t the world be a better place?”
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### W&M GOES WEST

An excursion to the Napa Valley wine country is part of W&M Weekend in San Francisco, June 1-4. Read more about alumni-owned vineyards in California at magazine.wm.edu/california-vineyards, and turn the page to explore an alumni-owned vineyard in Virginia.
A Time for Wine

Three W&M alumni partner with friends to open Valley Road Vineyards

SMALL BUSINESS PROFILE It’s no great hardship to leave city streets behind and head for the mountains. So on a sunny Saturday in February, my family and I happily piled into our car and traveled west from Richmond, Virginia, through woods and farmland to Valley Road Vineyards in Rockfish Gap, just a few miles east of the Blue Ridge Parkway’s northern entry.

There, we met Mary Miley Theobald ’74, M.A. ’80, P ’05 and Jim Theobald ’74, P ’05, who also made the trip from Richmond and graciously offered to give us a tour. They are among five couples who own the winery, including Director of Marketing Barbara Cole Joynes ’82 and her husband, CEO Stan Joynes, the pair who are on-site most days.

The winery partners bought the property, previously a peach orchard, fruit and vegetable market and home to a specialty mushroom business, in 2015. The next spring, they planted four types of grapes on the property, two white and two red: sauvignon blanc, chardonnay, petit verdot and cabernet franc under the guidance of Grayson Poats, the winery’s senior vineyard consultant. They have since added merlot, chambourcin, and viognier and this year, they are including a new varietal, albariño, a white grape grown mostly in Spain and Portugal, but becoming increasingly popular among Virginia growers. In addition, they lease 20 acres at another site in Nelson County known as Mountain Glen.

Barbara Joynes says the idea for launching a winery developed when she and Stan began visiting other vineyards while spending time at their home near Wintergreen Resort and striking up conversations with the owners.

“They said the local wine industry is booming but we need more Virginia grapes,” she says. “We decided we wanted to do something to help increase the supply of vines.”

The number of Virginia wineries has jumped from six in the late 1970s to more than 300 today, and the state estimates its economic impact at $1.7 billion. Grape growing has lagged behind in the business expansion, however.

Stan Joynes and another partner, real estate developer Paul Kreckman, began looking at potential properties and brought in more partners after finding their dream location near the eastern slopes of the Blue Ridge Mountains.
in Rockfish Valley — named for the fish that once swam west to the area from the Chesapeake Bay. As their plans expanded from growing grapes to making wine, they realized additional investors were needed and reached out to a small group of friends.

The winery is a second career for most of the partners. Jim Theobald and Stan Joynes (who received undergraduate and law degrees from the University of Virginia) practiced law and had referred clients to each other over the years. A prominent land-use development lawyer, Theobald is a partner and former chairman at Hirschler Fleischer; Joynes was co-founder and president at what became LeClairRyan. Theobald knew Kreckman and fellow Valley Road partner Bruce Kay, a Markel Corp. executive, from handling real estate matters.

As Jim Theobald approached retirement, both he and Mary found the idea of a winery appealing. (Additional partners are Linn Kreckman, Janet Kay, Bobby and Karen Edwards.)

Barbara Joynes became a full-time staff member of Valley Road in 2018 after 30 years of working with advertising agencies in New York and Richmond, including The Martin Agency, where she was the first female partner. Mary Miley Theobald is a journalist and author of historical mysteries and nonfiction books. (You can read her article “A Love Story: King William and Queen Mary” about William & Mary’s namesakes at magazine.wm.edu/love-story.) The two women were members of William & Mary’s Kappa Kappa Gamma chapter and have been active as alumnae of both the university and the sorority.

Stan Joynes studied oenology and viniculture in preparation for his new role as CEO at Valley Road. The Theobalds also have studied viniculture to increase their knowledge of the industry.

Valley Road achieved early success with its 2014 petit verdot — produced from grapes purchased from another grower, with help from nearby King Family Vineyards’ winemaker — that won a Virginia Governor’s Cup gold medal in 2017 and was among 12 wines selected for the Governor’s Case. Valley Road’s 2015 viognier also won a Governor’s Cup gold medal in 2018.

During our visit, Barbara and Stan Joynes were leading a vertical tasting inside the property’s renovated barn and event space, comparing different years of Valley Road Vineyards’ Meritage, a blend of two or more varietals blended in the tradition of Bordeaux wines, paired with food prepared by a chef.

The ground floor of the barn is a wine storage area, which is rapidly filling up. Valley Road typically produces 2,500 cases per year, but this year — thanks to a bigger-than-expected grape yield — the partners expect to bottle 3,000 cases. Wine production takes place in Charlottesville at a site operated by winemaker Michael Shaps. So far, most of Valley Road’s wines are sold at the winery or ordered through its website, though the partners hope to expand into local restaurants and grocery stores.

Even though February is a slow time of year at the winery, customers were gathered in the tasting room and outdoors on a patio overlooking a neighboring pond, with the Blue Ridge Mountains as a backdrop.
On the first weekend in April, Valley Road provided wine for the 100th anniversary celebration of William & Mary’s Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority in Williamsburg. The vineyard and winery also hosted a tour and tasting for William & Mary alumni as part of the W&M vs. UVA Football Weekend in September 2019.

In May and June, Valley Road’s weekend schedule begins to fill up with weddings — 25 are scheduled for this year. Barbara Joynes’ focus is marketing the wedding business, with assistance from Janet Kay, a partner who has experience managing events.

Mary Miley Theobald, who has undergraduate and master’s degrees in history from William & Mary, explains that the winery’s name pays homage to its location along what is known as the Great Valley Road of Virginia, traveled by Scots Irish immigrant settlers from Pennsylvania. Today, State Route 151 is a scenic byway known as a craft beverage trail — home to numerous wineries, cideries, distilleries and breweries.

Theobald has served as the class reporter for the 1974 Class Notes since soon after graduating from William & Mary. As a wordsmith, she assists with the winery’s writing needs and she is responsible for some of the wine names — such as Valley Road’s Fête sparkling viognier and Joie sparkling rosé. She jokes that she and Jim have become experts in bottling: “We work the assembly line, sort of like Lucy and Ethel in the candy factory in ‘I Love Lucy’ — speed ‘em up!”

Jim Theobald plays guitar and occasionally provides live musical entertainment at the winery as part of the classic rock band The Usual Suspects with fellow W&M alumni John Walk ’77, a law partner of Theobald’s at Hirschler Fleischer, and Doug Jones ’77.

After our tour, we gathered at a table in the tasting room with the Theobalds and their daughter, Margaret Theobald Pountney ’05, who was visiting with her husband and two young sons from Washington, D.C., for the weekend. Stan and Barbara Joynes also sat down to chat after their vertical tasting event.

“With plenty of indoor and outdoor space and usually some yard games in the summer, it’s an easy place for us to spend time with our boys,” Pountney says. “We like to take a glass of wine to the terrace outside, looking out over the valley below, while the boys see what’s new on the property.”

As my husband, 21-year-old daughter and her boyfriend and I compared notes about our samples, our favorites were the crisp, refreshing sauvignon blanc, the mellow viognier and the dark, fruity petit verdot.

When closing time approached, we reluctantly said goodbye and watched the sun sink behind the mountains as the sky turned a lovely shade of rosé.

— TINA ESHLEMAN

Editor’s note: Look for more small business profiles in upcoming issues of the W&M Alumni Magazine and online at magazine.wm.edu.
‘Go Where I Am Needed’

Maj. Shannon Beydler Hillery ’12 pivoted at W&M to become a Marine Corps judge advocate

ALUMNI PROFILE “It feels strange talking about myself,” begins Maj. Shannon Beydler Hillery ’12, “but I want to tell my story to inspire current students who are interested in the military, in legal practice, and who maybe didn’t see this as a career path. This wasn’t the path I saw myself going down at William & Mary.”

After all, it was hearing from the personal experiences of others and seeking the advice of trusted mentors that got her to where she is today. Hillery is a Marine Corps judge advocate — a lawyer serving as a Marine Corps officer, not the same as a JAG, she notes — and this role has allowed her to practice law and serve her country in locations from Washington, D.C., to the middle of the Pacific Ocean. For her service, she was awarded the 2022 Outstanding Young Military Lawyer Award by the American Bar Association.

Hillery comes from a military family — her father retired from the Marine Corps and younger brother is currently serving as a Marine Corps officer — but she didn’t think she was going to follow in their footsteps. When she started her freshman year at William & Mary, she was excited to stay in one place for four years in a row after moving so frequently growing up.

Before long, though, Hillery was taking advantage of all the opportunities W&M had to offer around the world. The summer after her freshman year, she studied abroad in Cambridge, England, learning about Jane Austen. The summer after her sophomore year, she went to the Masai Mara region of Kenya with the MASA American Student Association to teach. Her junior year, she spent a semester at W&M’s Washington Center, studying new media and policy. And every January, she traveled with Students for Belize Education on a winter break trip to Belize to work with communities there, eventually leading the trip as a senior.

These experiences were personally meaningful and aligned with her goal of joining the Peace Corps or perhaps the State Department after graduation. But one class and one inspirational professor changed her plans. She loved Professor Christine Nemacheck’s Civil Rights/Civil Liberties class and it opened her eyes to the idea of studying law.
Around the same time, she crossed paths with a female Marine Corps officer who told her she would be a great fit to join the Marines.

“After that, I just couldn’t get the idea out of my head, that I could practice law in the Marines,” says Hillery. “But I was taking a nontraditional path. I was already a junior and I wasn’t in ROTC, and I didn’t know if I could do it.”

Nemacheck, the Class of 2024 Associate Professor of Government, was William & Mary’s pre-law advisor when Hillery was a student. She helped connect Hillery with alumni who have military experience and with W&M Law School. She also counseled her through taking her LSATs. Hillery became the well-regarded lead editor of the Pi Sigma Alpha honor society Undergraduate Journal of Politics, which was housed at W&M at the time.

“There are so many different ways to serve in the legal field,” says Nemacheck. “Shannon is just a really committed person, conscientious and hardworking. When you have students like Shannon, you know they are going to go on to do something really fantastic, no matter what it is.”

They are still in touch to this day, and Nemacheck was at Hillery’s wedding to her husband, Kevin — a Department of Defense lawyer who is the first paraplegic U.S. Naval Academy graduate.

“Professor Nemacheck really changed my path and perspective,” says Hillery. “I would offer to students that if you are having a tough time, identify mentors — faculty, staff, alumni — who have done something that sounds interesting to you. It doesn’t necessarily need to be something you know you want to do — if anything it’s a conversation where you learn more about what you might not want to do after graduation. It can only help.”

Hillery chose to attend law school at American University in Washington, D.C., inspired by her semester at the W&M Washington Center. Meanwhile, she went through Officer Candidates School in Quantico, Virginia, where she earned her commission as an officer in the Marine Corps.

She passed the Virginia bar exam in summer 2015, clerked for a year at the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims, then returned to Quantico to spend six months in the same basic training as all other Marine Corps officers. Then she was off to Naval Justice School in Newport, Rhode Island, training with Navy and Coast Guard lawyers as well — and she graduated from that course at the top of her class.

Her first orders were to Hawaii. There, she started as a military prosecutor, bringing criminal cases against Marines on behalf of the United States. She then was assigned as a defense counsel — gaining perspective on both sides of the aisle. By the end of her tour in 2021, she was the headquarters company commander for the Headquarters and Service Battalion on Marine Base Hawaii in Kaneohe Bay, leading over 400 Marines, Sailors and civilians.

“I loved the courtroom and it made me such a better lawyer, especially my time in defense. It truly made me appreciate what public defenders, our civilian counterparts, do with higher volumes, a more varied population and fewer resources,” she says.

While based in Hawaii, she had the opportunity to participate in two special assignments. In summer
2018, she served as a staff judge advocate for the Rim of the Pacific Exercise, the largest multinational naval exercise in the world, and was embarked on the USS Bonhomme Richard. She also spent two months supporting an integrated training exercise in the desert in California, as an on-hand judge advocate — providing advice on investigations and legal issues, as well as operational planning considerations — for the Marine regiment that was going through pre-deployment training and live fire training ranges. She lived for two months in metal Cold War Quonset huts.

“It was a phenomenal experience, and very humbling to see what Marines are able to do, when all the different elements come together to achieve a mission,” she says.

Last May, she returned to Washington, D.C., stationed at the Pentagon as a community manager in the Plans and Innovation Branch at Judge Advocate Division, Headquarters Marine Corps. Her role is to help prepare junior Marine judge advocates for their next assignments, and provide career counseling to help those officers determine what they might like to do next in their service.

In this assignment she also serves as a liaison between the Marine Corps and the American Bar Association and helps with recruiting efforts.

“Coming off this assignment I will know every member of the legal community in the Marine Corps,” she says. “You are serving the community that’s serving, so there are some feel-good moments when you find the right person for the right job and get them to where they need to be going next.”

Last fall, Hillery started a part-time Master of Laws (LL.M.) program at George Washington University in national security and cybersecurity law. While she appreciated her time in the courtroom, she’s enjoying the different pace of her work now.

“My current assignment allows me to have a lot of self-reflection. I’m talking to these men and women who are exactly where I was. It forces me to think back on how much I had to do, with the support of mentors and loved ones, to get me to where I am today,” she says.

As to what her next assignment will be: “That’s up to the needs of the Marine Corps,” she says. “I’ll go where I’m needed.”

— CLAIRE DE LISLE M.B.A. ’21
THE GIFT OF MEMBERSHIP

Joining the Society of 1918 is an excellent way for 2023 graduates to become part of a dynamic community dedicated to growing the engagement, leadership and philanthropy of William & Mary women. Families can make this possible for graduating students through a membership gift at an 80% discount, about $16.93 per month over five years. With more than 570 members, the Society of 1918 hosts frequent networking opportunities and supports important initiatives such as increasing women’s representation on W&M Advancement leadership boards!

LEARN MORE AT advancement.wm.edu/1918/join
Expanding Competition

Varsity student athletes pair interdisciplinary studies with video gaming in the Esports program

GAME ON In a dark room, screens glow. The audience waits with bated breath. With the flick of a wrist, a called out command, a coordinated attack — a team goes to victory! These are varsity athletes. Their sports: the video games Apex Legends, Chess, FIFA, League of Legends, Overwatch 2, Rocket League, Splatoon 3, Super Smash Bros., Ultimate and Valorant. Welcome to the world of esports.

In the fall of 2020, traditional sports were canceled and students faced limitations on group gatherings that made socializing more difficult. The William & Mary Academic & Applied Esports program, founded that fall, helped students come together during a time of physical distancing and gave them an outlet for collaboration, team building and competition.

The idea came out of the University Teaching & Learning Project, where faculty can propose ideas for new projects and initiatives. Pitched by Michelle King, now esports director, along with Karen Conner Ph.D. '19, Terry Trojak and John Drummond, who became Esports Advisory Board members, the W&M Esports program was created in 2019.

Discussing the program at the university’s Esports Community Day in 2021, Provost Peggy Agouris said it “combines the spirit of what it is to be a William & Mary student — the excellence, the creativity and the competitive drive to excel.”

Today, the W&M Esports program includes 80 varsity players who compete in nine different games. Students learn and develop new skills through practice and direction of head coaches in the Esports Training and Research Center and compete against other schools. W&M is a member of the Electronic Gaming Federation, the governing body for D1 schools with an esports program, which organizes these competitions.

Once thought of as casual entertainment, esports has grown into a recognized academic and applied learning initiative. Esports at W&M is a center for collaboration, with courses exploring the intersections of gaming, learning theory, psychology, computer science, music, event planning, marketing, sports analytics and hospitality.
“The esports program is interdisciplinary in nature and meets students where they are. It puts an esports lens on their knowledge, skills and abilities, and offers experiential opportunities for students to apply esports concepts to real-world experiences,” says King, a William & Mary faculty member for over two decades.

Students develop leadership and research skills by contributing to published articles and presenting their findings at conferences where they also network with people in the esports industry, which is estimated to generate revenues of up to $25 billion annually.

Alondra Burton ’22, who was a neuroscience and biochemistry major and Overwatch team captain, attended an international research conference in 2022 hosted in Sweden by the Esports Research Network through the W&M Esports program.

“We explored topics such as esports psychology, leadership and sustainability, which was interesting to me because I’ve always wanted to create a socially sustainable, safe environment for players, which I believe is critical for competitive success,” Burton explains.

Now, she works as a contractor with the Department of Homeland Security’s BioWatch Program, which provides early detection of bioterrorism events and helps communities prepare a response. She says her esports leadership experience gave her an advantage in her job interview.

Burton is not alone in finding professional opportunities through the Esports Program. Hannah Smith ‘21, former varsity captain of FIFA, currently works at Epic Games, a video game company, as the employee engagement coordinator after interning as a diversity, equity and inclusion intern the summer prior to graduating from W&M. Caleb Rivers ’22, who was an esports pioneer and a head coach for the Super Smash Bros. Ultimate team while at W&M, is the esports coordinator for Bates Technical College in Tacoma, Washington.

King created the Esports Pioneer program for students looking to be involved in esports beyond competing. Esports pioneers manage the program’s social media presence, connect W&M Esports with sponsors and conduct research to bring new ideas, strategies and skills to the teams. Wellness advocates are students from a variety of disciplines who work with the esports teams to encourage healthy habits, assist in mediating conflict and provide help with other issues participants may be facing.

Marissa Chai Hibbert ’22, M.S.B.A. ’23 was an esports pioneer, a varsity player and a head coach. She explains that “a good part of my development as not only a student, but also as a gamer and a businesswoman, came from my work as a social media manager, outreach specialist and coach on the W&M Esports team.” After graduating from the Raymond A. Mason School of Business this spring, Hibbert plans to pursue a career in the gaming industry as an analyst.

While members of the W&M Esports program work to learn new skills, win more titles and improve the program, the Esports Faculty Task Force is designing a proposed esports minor, which will allow more students to learn through competitive gaming.

In addition to academics, research opportunities and professional engagement, the W&M Esports program has created a community of students who bond over a shared passion. Sam Wilson ’24 immediately noticed this when he transferred to W&M after a semester abroad in London with the Verto program.

“The first thing that struck me when I joined the W&M Esports program was how welcoming everyone was, and the general drive and forward thinking that was present from the top down,” he says. “Everyone had this drive to make the program better every day.”

— BY JULIA DEKORTE ’23

SUPER SMASH BROS.: The W&M Super Smash Bros. Ultimate varsity team welcomes competing DI schools with “open arms” for the 2022 Electronic Gaming Federation College National Championships, hosted at W&M.
Take Charge of Your Career

Professional Development Week and more bring the W&M community together for career growth

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WEEK “Know thyself.” This ancient Greek aphorism, sometimes attributed to Socrates or Aristotle as “To know thyself is the beginning of all wisdom,” remains salient advice today. It was a theme woven throughout the fifth annual W&M Professional Development Week, Feb. 27-March 3, 2023.

In online workshops and panel discussions, experts from the alumni community and beyond addressed ways to take charge of your career in this changing economy — starting with knowing your values, defining your personal brand and charting your goals. They provided guidance to participants at all stages of their careers, including students just starting out, professionals looking to advance or change their career paths and executives managing a newly hybrid workforce. To view recordings of the online sessions, visit wmalumni.com/prof-dev-week.

Networking was also a key component, with in-person events in key regions nationwide hosted by alumni and a virtual networking hour.

Professional Development Week is just one of many career resources offered for the William & Mary community as part of the careers cornerstone initiative in William & Mary’s Vision 2026 strategic plan. This fall, the university will launch One Network, an online platform that brings together the William & Mary community for professional networking on a global scale, empowering career and industry connections needed to thrive in a rapidly changing world.

For more career resources, including information for including job postings, information for employers and resources for alumni, visit wm.edu/career.

— CLAIRE DE LISLE M.B.A. ’21

W&M ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD NOTES
Visit magazine.wm.edu/board-notes for a summary of the Feb. 9-10, 2023, meeting of the William & Mary Alumni Association Board of Directors.

AWARD NOMINATIONS
Visit wmalumni.com/awards to submit your nominations for the Alumni Medallion, Alumni Service Awards and Honorary Alumni.

The Alumni Medallion is the highest and most prestigious award given by the WMAA. It recognizes outstanding alumni for dedication to and support for William & Mary; leadership in civic engagement in their communities, states or nations; and exemplary accomplishments in their professional lives.

Douglas N. Morton ’62 Alumni Service Awards recognize exceptional service by alumni on behalf of alumni chapters, clubs, constituent organizations or associations, the Alumni Association, and in special instances, William & Mary and its schools.

Honorary Alumni status is awarded to non-alumni with a distinguished record of service, support, advocacy and commitment on behalf of William & Mary and its schools, departments, units, organizations and boards.
GROUP EFFORT: Despite pouring rain during the weekend, 50th Reunion Committee members were in high spirits as they presented W&M President Katherine A. Rowe with their class gift, which exceeded their goal of $9.5 million.

To read about how social media helps the Class of 1973 stay connected, visit magazine.wm.edu/1973-facebook-mavens.

50 Years (and Counting)

Traditions Weekend brings the 50th reunion class, Olde Guarde and Boyle Legacy Society back to campus

TRADITIONS WEEKEND Since their graduation 50 years ago, the members of the Class of 1973 have built on their experiences as students to create rich and varied lives. Their careers, families and travel took them around the globe — and on April 28-30, they returned home to William & Mary’s campus to reunite, reminisce and celebrate.

The annual Traditions Weekend brings together the 50th reunion class, the Olde Guarde (alumni who graduated 50 years ago or more) and the Boyle Legacy Society (those who have included W&M in their estate plans) for special events and programs. Among the highlights this year were inside looks at new additions to campus, including the Arts Quarter, Hearth: Memorial to the Enslaved and the Entrepreneurship Hub, as well as a presidential conversation connecting student activism in the 1970s to how W&M prepares today’s students to tackle complex issues in a democratic society.

The Boyle Legacy Society heard from pre-med students about applied learning opportunities offered in partnership with VCU Health and explored items from William & Mary Libraries’ Special Collections commemorating the 300th anniversary of the Brafferton Indian School (see our story on page 8).

Attendees also had many opportunities to reconnect and share memories of their student days, as well as celebrate their continued impact on the university and its future. At a reunion luncheon on Saturday, the Class of 1973 presented President Katherine A. Rowe with a check for over $9.5 million, representing gifts from 45% of the class. Part of this total is designated for the Class of 1973 Internship and Applied Learning Endowment to provide support for internships and/or applied learning experiences for undergraduate students.

“This will be our legacy gift to the generations of W&M students who follow in our footsteps,” wrote co-chairs J. Thomas Flesher ’73, Renee Fleming Mills ’73, Mary Mann Smith ’73, P ’11 and Jeffrey B. Trammell ’73 in the Re-Echo, the yearbook for the 50th reunion class.

In a moving ceremony on Sunday, the 50th reunion class was inducted into the Olde Guarde and held a service of remembrance for those who had passed away. This year’s Olde Guarde Distinguished Service Award recognized Don Beck ’64, P ’80, P ’93 and his late wife, Susie Beck HON ’01, P ’90, P ’93, who are also grandparents of two current students. The Becks were nominated by their peers for their longtime support of W&M Athletics and their warm hospitality that brought the W&M community together.

— CLAIRE DE LISLE M.B.A. ’21
SAVE THE DATE!  October 19-22, 2023
homecoming.wm.edu
Class Notes
What’s the Story?

In 1938, students in their graduation best process through the Wren Yard to mark the end of their time at William & Mary. This May, the Class of 2023 followed in their footsteps, closing out their undergraduate years by walking through the Wren Building.

— Photo courtesy of WMAA Archives, W&M Libraries, Special Collections Research Center

Class Notes has been a William & Mary tradition for decades, made possible by the efforts of our dedicated volunteer class reporters. While we make every effort to collect columns and check facts, each column is the responsibility of the class reporter.

1955

Class Reporter
ANNE LUNAS VINCENT
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Charlotte, NC 28211
(704) 367-1354
jalvincent@home.com

Hi classmates,

I want to thank all of you who have taken the time to contribute news for our column. When I agreed to write it, I decided I would do it until the news became so sparse that there would be only a few paragraphs. That time has passed, and I wish you a happy 2023 and many more good years.

Mary Tine Peckens, accompanied by her son and daughter-in-law, traveled to Berlin last April, where she took a Viking cruise on the Elbe River, visiting Potsdam, Meissen, etc., and on to Prague. She also met up at a timeshare in Williamsburg with sorority sisters Janet Mason Trusty, Rebecca Lynn Casagrande and Nancy Harshbarger Hummel. Lots of catching up to do. They attended a musical program at W&M and Sunday service at Bruton Parish.

Les Sykes Waldron says she and Jim are both using canes. She has named hers “Robert Redford.” Thanksgiving was great, as the grown children cooked the dinner! The Williamsburg Players are going strong again, but building the new Phi Beta Kappa Hall is taking forever. They miss seeing shows there.

We had a phone call from Susan Cicala in Florida, telling us that her husband, our classmate George Cicala ’56, M.A. ’58, had passed away.

Nancy Harshbarger Hummel and John Hummel made two trips to Canada in 2022 and had a family reunion in Michigan. Living in Williamsburg, they keep an eye on “The College.

Sarah “Sally” Ives Gore sent a message from a poolside porch in Sarasota, Florida, where her sister Peg Ives Emerson ’54, and friends were enjoying sunshine and warm weather. Sally has a home in Sanibel that was badly damaged by Hurricane Ian and will need a lot of renovations before anyone can return to it. She is taking a Regent cruise to the Caribbean in March. Sally’s son, U.S. Sen. Chris Coons of Delaware, took family members to see the White House decorated for Christmas, which was a delight.

Dr. Bart Tayer wrote that his oldest grandson, Nate, was accepted to W&M, but he selected Cornell University, where both his parents graduated. Nate is a senior in medical school and his wife-to-be is a physician. Bart and his wife, Marge, are enjoying retirement from his orthodontic practice as his family of six grandchildren continues to grow and mature.

Jane Dougherty Marfizo reports that her little blind dog was having seizures and had to be “put to sleep.” He had been great company for Jane.

Dr. Hugh MacMahon wrote more about his trip to Norway and Finland. He learned much about how the people survived World War II. Four stops were above the Arctic Circle. He learned a lot and wished he’d gone when he was younger. We Watkinses retired from the church choir after 49 years in our present church and many years in other churches where we have lived. We are still getting used to sitting in the congregation!

1956

Class Reporters
ED AND BELINDA WATKINS
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OK, guys! Do you realize that over the next few years, we will turn 90? Enjoy life while you can — and some of you (that we hear from) are doing just that!!!

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1957

Class Reporter
PETE KALISON
pkalison1@verizon.net

Happy New Year to the Great Class of 1957!

Getting info responses for this Class Notes has been somewhat like pulling teeth, but many thanks to those who responded.

Had a nice holiday card from Marjorie Muller Smith, who remains very active in painting and watercolors, as well as serving as her church librarian.

Dr. Vince Devita ’57, D.Sc. ’82 continues as a professor at the Yale University School of Medicine in New Haven, Connecticut.

And what a thrill to see Betty-Wright Frake Armbruster ’58 and Bill Armbruster as the grand marshals at William & Mary’s Homecoming & Reunion Weekend this past October — a wonderful honor for the two Armbrusters, who have served our College long and well throughout the years.

Ann Lee Brench writes that she took trips to Ireland and the Berkshires as “a chance to break loose” after being sidelined with COVID-19 for a while.

Our old friend Mickie Curro is continuing to paint and now has expanded into acting. She recently portrayed Harriet Beecher Stowe in a local production. Mickie keeps us up via email with Lillie Marcella Kocher and many of her Tri Delt sisters.

nice note from Kathy Hamilton Steinweddell, who tells of going to California after Thanksgiving and to a very cold Denver for Christmas. Kathy also made it to W&M’s Traditions Weekend last April with Marjorie Muller Smith. They also met up at the luncheon with Mary Ripley Harris and explored the growing campus with Will Molineux ’56 and Mary Sawyer Molineux ’75.

Jan Charbonnet Crocker tells us she is living in Charlottesville, Virginia, and — how is this possible! — she’s a Hoos basketball fan!

Marsha and I were both sidelined after Thanksgiving with a 10-day COVID-19 bout ... got it in Detroit visiting a daughter and grandkids. We did, however, truly enjoy a great W&M football season, attending every thrilling home game.

I have to close the column with a word about the passing of our classmate and my dear friend since Sigma Nu days, Jim Kaplan, who, if you hadn’t heard, passed last year. Jim was a wonderful guy and a W&M legend. Farewell, Jim.

1958

Class Reporters
BEVERLY WILSON PALMER
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Arlington, VA 22207
909-292-6685
bwp04747@pomona.edu

Happy New Year to the Great Class of 1958!

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I have to close the column with a word about the passing of our classmate and my dear friend since Sigma Nu days, Jim Kaplan, who, if you hadn’t heard, passed last year. Jim was a wonderful guy and a W&M legend. Farewell, Jim.
We learned last fall that our classmate and loyal W&M alumnus Tom Lightner died on Nov. 3 from pneumonia and related illnesses. Pat King noted, "I retired from the U.S. Service in E Flat," was performed at Bruton Parish in January. Merritt's works have been performed by the William & Mary Choir and at various churches and colleges.

Ever the traveler, Diane Montague Belford described the 10 W&M Alumnae Journeys she’s taken so far, including snorkeling in Tahiti and viewing the Normandy coast. Her next adventure is called “Scandinavian Summer.” Thoroughly enjoying life on her 60-acre farm in Rappahannock County, Diane concludes, “Still have my horses, my Labrador retriever and two kitties. Skiing is still a passion and two weeks of skiing in Vail coming up. … Love hearing about our classmates and colleges and hope many will come to our next reunion!”

Like Diane, Kent Watkins combines travel and sports. He was recently in Paris to chair the American Academy of Housing and Communities and “commune in the restored Notre Dame.” Still active in various sports, Kent wrote that he came in fourth in the U.S. Senior Clay Court Championship.

We may not all get to Tahiti or compose a musical score, but your reporters are sure that you have stories to tell. When you get our next call, please send us your news!

1959 Y
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I had a great note from Jim Brinckley '59, L.H.D. '03. He and his sons, Rob Brinckley '82 and Doug Brinckley '86, enjoyed an incredible trip to Scotland with President Katherine Rowe and First Gentleman Bruce Jacobson in May 2022. They spent time in Edinburgh, St Andrews and Glenelg exploring W&M's many Scottish connections, past and present. The trip was hosted by Simon Rhodes, who has many close connections to the royal family. His wife, Susie, was a lady in waiting to Queen Elizabeth II; his mother was a lady-in-waiting to the queen mother, and he was a cousin to the queen. In addition to being hosted in magnificent homes like Holyroodhouse Palace, Broomhall House, Glamis Castle, the group enjoyed a private dinner on the Royal Yacht Britannia and also visited the University of Edinburgh and the University of St Andrews. It was the trip of a lifetime celebrating W&M with new and old friends. I think it would be hard to come down to normal life after a trip like that!!!

Dan Livermore '61 and I spent two nights at the Broadmoor in Colorado Springs, Colorado, with our daughter Terry Moore Kiser '67. We married in May 2022. They are named Cleveland. In 2022, they had a successful Trip to Tahiti or compose a musical score, but your reporters are sure that you have stories to tell. When you get our next call, please send us your news!

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1960 Y
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Wilma Fowler Bergfeld is not slowing down at all. She writes: “I am still working full time as a Cleveland Clinic dermatologist and dermatopathologist. In 2022, I was named Cleveland Clinic’s master clinician. My husband, Dr. John A. Bergfeld (Bucknell 1960), past Brown’s football physician of 30 years, is working as a Cleveland Clinic orthopedic consultant. We have five granddaughters all either working or in master’s programs.”

Carol Ridgeway Hall sent “a quick synopsis of my life!” saying: “We moved from New York to North Carolina 45 years ago and love living in Raleigh, where the pace is slower, and the weather is warm. After 21 years of teaching high school biology, I retired but continued volunteering at the local elementary and middle schools. I loved the students’ excitement as we engaged in science experiments. In addition, I worked with North Carolina State University and the North Carolina Biotech Center teaching workshops to teachers on environmental issues and current discoveries in biotechnology. Little did I realize what a wonderful background I received from the biology department at W&M!!

“Life moved down during and after the pandemic, and Art and I are only beginning to return to activities and traveling. We love spending time with our children and grandchildren at our house on Lake Gaston, North Carolina.”

Nancy Moore Kiser reports that she and Danny “are still happily residing in the Northern Neck. Danny retired from the phone company in 2000, and we left the traffic and mayhem of Northern Virginia for the ‘Peace of Wild Things.’ We enjoy gardening in the garden and wanting to fish and grow things. Until some of the infirmities of old age set in, we gardened a lot, and
I played tennis. Now we still garden some, and I am exercising using a system called Gyrotoneics. It is very interesting. We also enjoy getting together with our children and grandchildren and the wonderful friends we have made here, as well as staying in touch with old friends near and far. We stay busy with church, reading — I have been part of a wonderful book club for 20 years — and Danny is active in the Sons of the American Revolution chapter here. It is all good.

Miles Chappell writes that he “just returned from introducing grandchildren to Rome, is pleased to watch the Muscarelle Museum of Art quadruple in size this year — something remarkable for the enterprise that began many years ago and — writes that a good effect on her work with the National Geospatial Intelligence Agency. It is the first time that we have been four hours north of one of our families and four hours south of our other family. We all celebrated by having a meal at Raintree Country Club and the waiter was gracious enough to offer to take a number of pictures of the various groupings of our family. They are pictures we will treasure. Christmas was in Richmond, where we all again enjoyed fellowship together.

“Kay and I have enjoyed playing golf two or three days a week with the groups we play with each week (weather permitting). Yes, amazing but true that we are still blessed with good health, that allows us to be able to play golf. If you are someone who has never played golf, the numbers will not astound you, but as I played in January 2023, I shot my age or better for the 88th time. When I shot my age or better for the 700th time in 2007, the percentage of people age their age or better was .0000089% or less than nine per million. I am estimating I will have shot my age or better 900 times in February or March.

“Kay reports that Mary Sue Holland Ellis, a Chi Omega sister, recently reached out to her with a book of cute stories that she wrote during the pandemic. She and her husband have recently moved to Boone, North Carolina. Also, Kay and I stay in contact with Charlie Dudley and his wife Alice, and Dave Ladd and Lynn Carr Ladd.

“After traveling to more than 30 countries and all but one continent, we have decided our travel days are over. China, Australia, New Zealand, Africa, Italy and Israel are among our favorite trips and being able to see so many famous sites and places have blessed us with a lifetime of memories.”

As these notes are being prepared, Diana Titolo Alexander ’61 and I are still in Tucson, Arizona, and enjoying the mild winter temperatures and clear skies of southern Arizona. DI has kept her hand in WM&M activities through her work with the Annual Giving Board and serving as editor of the ’61 Class Notes. For the past six years, I have been chairing committees under the auspices of the National Academies of Science, Engineering and Medicine to advise NASA of aspects of space science. We hope to see many of you in San Francisco on June 1-4, 2023, for William & Mary Weekend.

1961

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So glad to hear from so many people — you are really helping to keep our class together.

From Cindy Herman NeMancha: “Since I retired after 39 years of teaching, I have had time to travel, garden and read. I haven’t slowed down too much yet. Genealogy has become a passion for me these past few years. Thank goodness for the vast amounts of information that can be located online. My family is doing well. We all still live in California. My twin grandsons have their master’s degrees from the University of Southern California and University of California Los Angeles and are employed in California. We had a wonderful family gathering this Christmas at my daughter’s home near San Diego. Right now we are enjoying a much-needed rainy season. It’s nice to have an excuse to just stay inside and read. I wish everyone a healthy and happy New Year.”

Shore Robertson writes: “Well, we’re doing much less than former- ly. Try to stay reasonably active, but fears of COVID-19 have kept me away from the gym and travel. Reading books and online is partially what I enjoy. The learning continues. We have two young grandchildren, a boy age 10 and girl almost 9. They may be among the youngest grandchildren to our classmates.”

Not the least experience from Ron Willard: “Quiet life here at Green Spring Village in Springfield, Virginia, until this past Veterans Day, when we discovered our 2008 Prius had been stolen! Two cars were taken through an “emergency” gate. Our car was located a mile from here with a missing catalytic converter and a broken window! But our two sons and five grandchildren live in Northern Virginia and we are very fortunate for this!”

From Ken Lounsbury: “As with most folks, our year was fractured by COVID-19 interruptions but, for the most part, we’re on course. Dorcas Miller Lounsbury ’62 is fully retired and I’m slowing the pace of my days at the firm. So, our calendar is largely under the control of children and grandchildren. In October, Dorcas and I visited Anne Lounsbury ’85 (our eldest) and John Scaife ’85, her husband (they met at W&M). They bought and restored a second home on a tributary to the Rappahannock River and Chesapeake Bay near Silver Springs. It is a retreat from the home in California. Our eldest grandson, Xander, is part of our daily lives — he has been practicing martial arts, Abigail is on a cheer team. Dorcas stays in touch with her Theta sisters; I with my PiKA brothers. We hope
to attend the W&M gathering in San Francisco this year.”

Dottie Gabig writes: “Fall was filled with football games and our winning our Colonial Athletic Association Conference championship and then moving to the NCAA FCS playoffs...at a home game, which made the win even more exciting! Our quartermasters game was against Montana State, to which unfortunately we lost! Playing in 7-degree weather was not in our favor! But THE TRIBE persevered in advancing to the NCAA quartermasters for the first time in years.”

Allan Brownfield ’61, B.C.L. ’64 spent a month in Italy in November with his son Peter, who is the representative of the U.S. Department of Defense in Italy and Slovenia. This gave him the opportunity to spend a lot of time with his four grandchildren there and to celebrate his 83rd birthday. (See our online Class Notes for a picture of the birthday celebration with Peter and three of the grandchildren). He is as busy as ever writing his syndicated column and editing several publications. He also does a regular article for the Washington Report on Middle East Affairs. Two other children, Burke Brownfield ’04 and Ali Brownfield ’99, live close in Alexandria. Burke, who served as an Alexandria police officer before being in charge of security for U.S. Peace Corps volunteers in South America and the Caribbean and then being in charge of security for the Washington, D.C. Metro system, has just written a children’s book, “When I Grow Up I Want To Be A Guardian: A Book for Future Public Safety Professionals.” Ali teaches in the Fairfax County Public Schools after having spent three years teaching English in Abu Dhabi. (His son Peter, in Italy, decided to go to the University of Virginia).

Fran McLean, recently widowed, relocated in November from Virginia Beach to Goodwin House in Alexandria to be closer to her son in Northern Virginia and daughter in New York. She was welcomed to Goodwin House by resident Jerry File and was treated to lunch at the Belle Haven Country Club by alumna Patty Bayliss Owens ’62 along with Sharon “Teddy” Hall McBay ’63. (Look for a photo in our online version.) Fran earned a M.A. from Yale Divinity School in 1979 along with a degree from Columbia University in 1985 to become a licensed clinical social worker. At Goodwin House, Fran has already joined the Book Club, Singing Seniors and the Sons and Daughters of the American Revolution. Jerry File and Teddy McBay visited the family of Jerry’s son Jay in Atlanta for the christening of Jerry’s second great-granddaughter, Adelyse Grace Johnston, which conflicted with the W&M Homecoming & Reunion Weekend. Jerry also met the fiancées of his grandson Brendan and granddaughter Bridget, both of whom expect to be married in the fall of 2023 in Kiawah, South Carolina.

Liz O’Neill wishes more people would write! She loves hearing from everyone. Her biggest project right now is being the chorus director and vocal coach for a play being put on for charity here on her island. It’s a lot of work, but a lot of fun, too! She is doing well and hopes everyone else is, also.

News from Fran Recchiuti: “It has been a couple of years since I’ve written and in that time, I lost my partner and my partner’s grandson, deleting our law office from five lawyers to three. My two associates became my partners, and Jerry is now here as the managing partner. In 2019, my wife and I made settlement on a house in Venice, Florida, and we were able to hang through the pandemic in 2020. Again, in 2021 and this past year, we spent the winter in Venice.

“My fraternity brother Dr. Richard Paolillo is retired there, and during the past three winters, my wife and I have had the opportunity to hook up with him and Lynn Todd Paolillo ’64, having dinner and also maintain steady contact with him. We live at the Venetian Golf and River Club, even though I am not a golfer. Two years ago, losing all of my buddies, namely Mike McCall, Jim Porach, Fred Clayton and Carl ‘Cheeko’ Cheek, was devastating to me. By the time you receive and digest this message, I will have learned in Florida and will be spending the next six months, hopefully, in sunshine. My schedule brings me back and forth to Pennsylvania when needed in court.

“I learned that our old dormitory, Taliaferro, is now Hulon L. Willis Sr. Hall. The Taliaferro name has an interesting history throughout the South, and I am a little disappointed that they were so quick in wanting to change the name. I have actually given a speech to a Sons and Daughters of Italy dinner meeting about the whole history of the name. Taliaferro was in Venice, Italy, through England, the father-in-law of George Wythe, Richard Taliaferro, who designed the George Wythe House, and the rest of the family, including Taliaferro County in Georgia, and the spelling change of the name to Tollerive. There is a judge on the bench here to whom I am always referring as ‘Fratello.’ As a matter of fact, the Taliaferro name was in such good repute that, when Booker Washington attended Hampton Institute, now Hampton University, he lived in the room that was to become the ‘Sisters and Currents,’ was also descended from Taliaferro. This would probably make a great magazine article if I ever have a chance to sit down and bring all the strings together. You remember ‘Taliaferro’ was always pronounced ‘Tollerive.’”

1962 Y

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Sandra Hancock Martin and David Martin ’63 still live in New Jersey. Sandra was unable to attend our reunion because she was diagnosed with marrow cancer in February 2022. She had chemo and was in the hospital, rehab, and assisted living until she got home in June. She is in remission. Both sons were a great help. Drew lives nearby and Todd Martin ’89 lives in Richmond, Virginia.

Beth Poole Radford and her husband, Wade, reside in Maryland. Beth sent a picture of her family. Her grown granddaughter looks so much like Beth when we all were in college.

Jane Noble Lundy and her husband, Rick, are in California. She too, sent a picture of their family. Many of their grandchildren are in universities in many areas of the world.

Barbara Ann Aubry Walsh and her husband, Bill, moved to Florida about two years ago. They have seven children and many grands. They met in Montana at their daughter’s home for a big family vacation. Everyone came for a wonderful time. While there, BA’s brother died. I remember Dick as a teen when he came to visit BA when I was her roommate. So sorry to hear about Dick. Bill turned 85 in September 2022. There was a celebration reunion with all the family. Living in Florida, they were able to dodge the hurricanes that came through. Their children live all over the U.S.: Two are living in Florida, one in Virginia Beach, one in Montana, one in Maine, one in Michigan and one in Illinois, with a home also in Michigan.

Got a Happy New Year note from Patty Bayliss Owens, thanking me for my service to our class for 50-plus years of notes. She also thanked Stuart Richardson Dopp for everything she did to help make the reunion go off smoothly. My thanks again to Patty for doing the event for the 60th-year reunion.

I just had a heart attack last week. The procedure went well, but I am still running on little energy.

1963 Y

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Vi Sadler Huse wrote that she and Emily Renzel were going to visit Amy Rodabaugh Bays in Marietta, Ohio, for a reunion. They were gathering to reminisce and have closure over the passing of Dorothy Shaw Boyle and Sally Siegenthaler Lichtenstein.

Betsy Holland Lungner and George Lungner traveled to the Outer Banks of North Carolina and Avalon, New Jersey, this year. They also went to Williamsburg for the funeral of George’s sister, Nancy. A highlight of 2022 was the wedding of their granddaughter in Kentucky. They visit via Zoom with Kaye Battenfield Cragg and her husband, Dick, Dale Harris Cohen and Dick Cohen ’61, and Amy Lawler Huggett and Bob Huggett ’67 every other week.

Dale and Dick went
to Hilton Head, South Carolina, and hope to travel more now. Dale keeps busy playing bridge and mahjong. Dick is the handyman and shopper.

Rosemary Brewer Phillips and her husband, Charlie, were at their Cape Cod, Massachusetts, house in December. They are looking forward to new adventures.

Sherry Parrish Swan’s Christmas card had a photo of Sherry and Al on their boat, the Independence. They, too, look forward to more travel. They drove from their home in Tampa, Florida, to their cabin in Colorado, taking two weeks to wind their way through many states, visiting friends and family on the way. Their Tampa home lost some trees from Hurricanes Ian and Nicole, but their house is intact.

My two quilt guilds keep me busy, plus all the quilting travel my daughter and I do. We recently cruised to the Caribbean, our next voyage is the Panama Canal. It is a lot of fun to sew when at sea and be a tourist in ports. I’ll be leading a discussion group on quilts and travel at one guild’s tea/quilt show in March. I’m looking forward to sharing my adventures and hearing what the participants have done.

Suzanne Kibler Arthur and her high school boyfriend, Doug, were married after graduation. Suzanne taught first grade while Doug earned his law degree at Washington and Lee. Two years in the Army followed. Settling in Strasburg, Suzanne went back to teaching first grade after their two children got older. After retirement, Suzanne had time to paint with oils, volunteer at the community library and church and entertain family and friends. A year after her husband died, she moved to Harrisonburg, Virginia, and her high school boyfriend, Doug, were at their home near Lewisberry, Pennsylvania. Two years in the Boston area, they spent some time at Breckenridge, Colorado, and their family traveled around Canada and the U.S. Suzanne keeps busy playing bridge with her friends and family on the JMU’s Lifelong Learning Institute planning committee. She likes to go back to Williamsburg and is hoping the Gamma Phi can gather again before long.

Please make 2023 the year you let me know how you are doing. Just think, 60 years ago we were seniors at William & Mary. Have you been doing all these years??

1964

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Here we are, 2023 has come and COVID-19 is still with us, and all its variants. But masked or unmasked, we will carry on.

Melissa Hall Griffin and her husband, Don, sent holiday greetings from Hawaii, where they golfed, snorkeled and visited family. Other annual visits took them to Cape Cod, Massachusetts, with their daughter, Marit, and grandchildren. Don had his 60th Annapolis reunion and while in the Washington, D.C., area, they spent some time with Pam Wandel Fleming ’65 and Maxine Steinbach Rodgers. They met up with Ann Lyon Ackiss and Tom in Blacksburg, Virginia. That was followed by some beach hiking in Hilton Head, South Carolina. When not traveling, they are at home in San Diego with church activities, friends and home and garden projects.

Dick Goodwin: WE MADE IT TO JAPAN — yes, I know it is in caps. We finally got to Japan almost three years after the date of our last trip. Our grandchildren had visited in August, but it was great to finally visit with them in Japan. In addition to seeing our grandchildren, we took a side trip to Kyoto and spent five days in the Itaewon neighborhood, which is the place where all those young people died when they were out celebrating at the end of October. Very sobering to see the outpouring of grief from all over the world and the offerings to those who passed on. At the time, we were aware that more than 154 had died, just out enjoying the evening. I chaired a legal conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico, in October before we went to Japan. Christmas was quiet, all the grandchildren look to be as busy as past years; we’re already working on trips to New Orleans, Tampa, Florida and back to Japan. (Visit our online Class Notes to see a picture of Susan Goodwin at the memorial site in Itaewon.)

Irene Lambert Dillon-Fink: I am still living and traveling full time in my 24-foot Leisure Travel Van RV. In October 2021, I traveled to Boone, North Carolina, to give a talk on anger mastery at the SoulTreat Conference of The Wellness Universe, which met at the Art of Living Center in Benevolia. During my post-conference time, I visited my daughter in North Carolina and fell, breaking my arm and necessitating shoulder-replacement surgery. Things went very well, enabling me to go on my already-planned trip to Jordan and Egypt and we even rode a camel! On my return, I drove my RV to the Isle of Eight Flags Shrimp Festival in Fernandina Beach, Florida, visited friends and grandchildren there, then drove west to Plano, Texas. I arrived just in time to see my 104-year-old mother, which was a blessing. I joined friends in Puerta Vallarta, Mexico, just after Thanksgiving to celebrate my 80th birthday. Currently, I’m in Colorado visiting friends near Denver. They will be looking after my van and my 9-pound dog while I travel for a month in Japan, Vietnam and Cambodia, including a seven-day trip on the Mekong River. My meeting with Michiko Hyashi in Tokyo to learn more about Masaru Emoto’s (“Messages from Water”) international peace project, will be a highlight! I’m working to complete my next book, on mastering anger, which is to be published in 2023. I’m hoping to publish two books this year (“Mastering Anger” and “Ending Manipulation”) and republish my first book, “Emotions in Motion.” (See our online Class Notes for photos.)

Phil Tutschek writes that he and Beth are settled into a Florida retirement community, Westminster St. Augustine, and have a small house that fits their needs pleasantly. Many of their friends are there also. Phil spent the holidays with his daughter, Elizabeth, and family, two grandkids, ages 5 and 2.

Greg Pressnell: 2022 was a tough year for us. On Sept. 1, Cecelia suffered a stroke and on Sept. 28, our home in Boca Grande, Florida, was destroyed by Hurricane Ian. Fortunately, Cecelia has fully recovered, but the stroke required her to retire from the practice of law. So, it’s my turn to slow down. This will be my last year as a full-time senior district judge. We were able to have a nice celebration of my 80th birthday last fall as our three sons and their families traveled from Minnesota, Virginia and Placida, Florida, to Winter Park, Florida, for a five-day visit. Our plan to spend much of this winter and spring in Boca Grande has been thwarted, so we have planned some brief trips to New York City, North Carolina and the Bahamas before embarking on a cruise this summer from Southampton, England, to Lisbon, Portugal.

Sue Roache Warner: Ray Warner ’63 and I took our first international travel trip in several years by joining a pilgrimage to the Holy Land with our rector, members of Bruton Parish Church here in the ’Burg, as well as members of several other churches. It was an amazing, insightful, learning and feel experience. Earlier last year, we traveled to Vero Beach and Captiva, Florida, spending enjoyable and fun-filled times in both locations with Pam Brown Michael ’65 and her husband, Bobby.

Carol Evans, Teddy McBay ’63, Jerry File ’61, Carol Taylor HON ’14 and Keith Taylor Class of 2016 and Don Beck. We grieve all the damage done later to beautiful Captiva and Sanibel, Florida, by Hurricane Ian and hope the recovery goes forward quickly. Ray and I both volunteer with Bruton Parish Church. Ray is returning to his role as a guide in the historic church after taking a break while healing from two knee-replacement surgeries. We are “adoptees” of W&M Episcopal students in the Canterbury Program and truly enjoy the time with our young adults. I have additional time with students and serve on the Pi Phi House Committee. I also serve weekly in the Bruton Parish Gift Shop, where all profits help people in need in the community and beyond. It is a delightful “job.” I am retiring from that leadership committee in time to serve on the vestry for a three-year term. We have just signed up for the Olde Guard receptionist team to greet and provide tours of the expanded Alumni House.

Bonnie Agner Tinsley flew with her daughter, Pema, to New York to view planned some brief trips to New York City, North Carolina and the Bahamas before embarking on a cruise this
1966

Class Reporter

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Again, we start with the loss of a classmate — and my brother-in-law — Dave Kern ‘66, M.Ed. ‘68. After living all over the country, Dave and Sandy McNeil Kern ‘68 settled in the Salisbury area of North Carolina about 20 years ago, and we were able to see them often with family times, travels and dinners together. As a friend so aptly put it — I don’t remember not knowing Dave. At the end of the year, Sandy moved to a retirement community in Salisbury.

We did see Larry Pfarth ‘66, M.Ed. ‘67 at the funeral as he also lives in this area. Sandy is “retired” but preaches almost every Sunday since there is a shortage of preachers. She spent Christmas with her daughter Allison and her husband, Todd, in Mérida, Mexico. Spring plans include time in Mexico City with them as they move about Mexico every year.

Thanks to classmates who answered my last-minute plea for news — my memory is rusty, but I’m in great company. Carlton Hardy ‘66, M.Ed. ’67 always sends his very clever Christmas card to me. Last year, he had a battle with kidney stones and bladder cancer but is on the mend. He says he is slowing down from his boards and committees, but the list is still long, and he is very involved in the arts, his church and the Hampton Roads community. He was able to travel through New England with stops in Newport, Mystic Seaport and all along the rugged coast. He also visited Frank Lloyd Wright’s Fallingwater landmark and Harpers Ferry.

Jody Poarch Nance and Pete Nance were in Florida for the winter, going to Casa de Campo (in the Dominican Republic, had to Google that) with friends for golf, spa time and food. They will be in London in May, and when they are home, Pete continues his painting.

Sandy and Keith Dauer spent November in Rome and then cruised back to the U.S. Like many Northerners, they are in Florida for the winter before taking a Caribbean cruise. They are reducing their board involvements and enjoying retirement. Williamsburg is on their radar for a new location.

Betty Lane Faber retired from U.S. Customs and Border Protection, under the Department of Homeland Security, in September. Her son just earned his Ph.D. in basic math from the University of Illinois in Chicago.

Bernie Leigg reports that his twin boys are now 15 — that statement makes me tired!

Vic Bary and Maureen were on a W&M tour of Costa Rica and the Panama Canal when Vic sent me his note.

Charley and Nino Allen Shipp had a great European tour, from Spain to England. One special part was being in the Chatsworth Outdoor Christmas Market on Nov. 11 when an air raid siren went off and over 1,000 people were silent, many wearing poppies, to commemorate Remembrance Day. The service members wore their uniforms, and young and old gave their seats to veterans on the Tube.

Our dear friends Betty Bishop Griffin ‘67, M.A.Ed. ‘73 and Gene Griffin love having their grandchildren nearby. They are into soccer and dance recitals right now, but have had lots of sleepover time, too.

After suffering for four

1965

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Jodi Horton and her husband, Kit, are celebrating their fourth year in their “not-so-new home” in Oro Valley, Arizona, and are still working to complete projects that they hope will enhance their surroundings. Happy moments during the past year include celebrating their eldest grandson’s high school graduation in Colorado (he’s now a student at University of Colorado’s Leeds School of Business) and romping around the Southwest with various family members. In June 2022, they celebrated 56 years of marriage! Congratulations! Although they are now officially “retirees,” Jodi has continued to take on selected public relations projects and Kit is working very hard at putting his game by playing online backgammon. They remain in relatively good health and feel blessed to be surrounded by good friends and a wonderful church family.

We don’t hear of too many COVID-19 stories these days, but Sharon Spooner Gray reports she had it this year. She appreciated the technology that allowed her to Zooomoom her way to some important family events, and to just generally keep in touch. (Hasn’t Zoom changed all of our lives?) Sharon does a weekly “sing-along” at her local medical facility and is active in her church and community. She went on a trip to Israel and Jordan in February/March, visiting Masada, Petra and all the “usual” locations from the Bible.

The world of domestic relations law will have to do without Jim Korman, who just joined the ranks of the retired. Babes Lew-is Korman ’66 found the perfect retirement job for him with this ad: “True hot dog fanatics can apply to be an Oscar Mayer Wienermobile driver.” Made for Jim! However, he and Babes would rather do a lot of traveling, as soon as Babes fully recovers from her knee replacement surgery to the point where she can keep Jim under control.

Ginny Blount Fluet and her husband, Joe, just returned from a weekend at Ohio State, where they watched their grandson play lacrosse for Lafayette College against Ohio State (a rout, actually). She and Joe traveled in luxury on their son Joe’s M-600 airplane, accompanied by their daughter, Jen, and her husband, Mark. A fun family trip. Gin and Joe had a great day with all the kids and grands gathered for the first time in four years.

Barb Wampler Melby and her husband, Tom, had a wonderful two-week family trip to Costa Rica planned in early November 2022. On the second day there, Tom slipped, fell and tore the quadriceps tendons in his knee. They raced home for emergency repair surgery. At this writing, he’s healing well, and continues to perpetuate the myth of how he hurt himself ziplining. Barb now has a nursing degree and patience skills she never knew she had. That’s an entire family showed up at Christmas time … 10 of them, plus three dogs! Never underestimate the healing power of chaos.

We thank Jodi, Sharon and Jim for sending their news — they being the only respondents. Unless you are eager to hear about Barb’s Wordle games and Ginny’s bridge successes, please let us know what you’re up to.

Here’s how it works:
One: Open Ginny’s email that invites you to send your news.
Plus Two: Promptly send your news to Ginny.
Equals Three: You will feel gratified that you contributed to keeping us in touch with each other.

Until next time, stay safe and well and connected to those whom you love.

SPRING 2023
W&M ALUMNI MAGAZINE 71
months, Dan Nase wants everyone to get their Shingles 2 shot.

Keith Taylor loved the epic Tribe football season and cheering them on in person.

Linda Cabot and Bob Moore are celebrating their 35th anniversary and the successful blending of two families. Their nine grandchildren are spread out between New York, Wisconsin, and South Carolina, while they are in Atlanta. Bob is very active with the City of Johns Creek Veterans Association, which has created one of the largest privately funded military memorial parks.

A Christmas card from Patty and Ben Pomeroy '67 mentioned time spent at Ben’s New Hampshire lake house and a National Geographic cruise to Alaska.

Martha Wessells Steger spent time at the Salt Cathedral near Bogotá, Colombia.

Oscar and his friends with Ann Marie and Ken Williams '67, and their Christmas greeting sounded like a Wild World of Sports menu — their very active grandchildren are involved in wrestling, football, pole vaulting, cheerleading, soccer, javelin and discus throws, baseball, competitive dance, swimming and target shooting. They are active supporters of all these activities. After 54 years, they relocated to a 55 and older community in Galloway, New Jersey. From the W&M Alumni Magazine staff, I received an impressive article on Bob Mooney. The article from Virginia Business magazine is titled “Living Legends.” I’ve listed Bob’s business accomplishments before, and this article also highlighted his contributions to the arts as an avid art collector and benefactor. The other article I received is a delightful piece in the Virginia Gazette by Wilford Kale titled “The day I met the queen of England,” written to coincide with the death of Queen Elizabeth II.

Personally, Dick Kern ’64 and I have been lucky to have our kids here off and on to help out. Suddenly, our youngest grandson is a junior in high school and just earned his Eagle Scout rank. That was a very special day as his two brothers and his dad could be part of the ceremony as Eagles, and if his uncle had been in town, he would have joined them. Proud of Sammy and his parents — that is truly a family achievement.

And I would be quite remiss if I didn’t mention Carol Boysen and her thoughtful gift of e-hug blankets for us. Now, keeping our Meg off them is hard, but it’s fine when she joins us on our laps, and we all snuggle.

1967

Class Reporter ROGER HALL
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Heard from Sam Smart that he and his wife, Laura Daughtry Smart ’68, have lived in Fredericksburg, Virginia, since he got off of active duty from the Army in 1977. He retired from his optometry practice, but continues to volunteer to play several days a month at a free clinic in Richmond. They have 10 grandchildren, including three that now live with them, along with a daughter, Rebekah Smart Catalano ’06, and her husband. A new job necessitated the move from Chico, California. Peace and quiet?

1968

Class Reporter SANDRA ABICH SIMMERON
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Our 55th reunion will be held during this year’s Homecoming & Reunion Weekend, Oct. 19-22. Kathy Burge Callaway and Bruce Oliver will announce the specific date/time/place when that information is determined. I’m sure Kathy and Bruce are planning something special for us. I treasure my time at our 50th reunion and induction into the Oldie Guard. Marilyn Day ’67 had a great time last year at her 55th reunion. She praised the College for having lots of golf carts to take class members around campus. Please plan to attend our reunion.

Sandy Rodden Ramirez ’68, M.Ed. ’78 wrote: “Last spring my husband, Fred, and I took our dog Earl and went on a cross-country road trip from our home in Oregon and traveled for about seven weeks. We visited lots of family and friends, including Maggie Whitley Keator and Phil Keator ’69, and Marilyn Massey Coates in Virginia, and Arnie Reed and his lovely wife, Lydia, near Nashville, Tennessee. I love keeping up with folks via Facebook, and Arnie sometimes posts videos of his various bands playing some of the music we used to dance to. Last fall, I volunteered virtually with the Red Cross as a disaster mental health responder for the Florida hurricanes, and now I’m doing the same for the flooding in California. We recently spent Christmas week in Maui, Hawaii, with our grandkids and their mom, and we’re looking forward to more travel in 2023. Wishing everyone a peaceful and healthy New Year!”

Sandy McNeill Kern wrote of changes for her in the past year. “My husband, David Kern ’66, M.Ed. ’68, died on Oct. 27, 2022. Our house is on the market, and I have moved into a retirement community in Salisbury, North Carolina. I now live about an hour’s drive from my brother-in-law and sister-in-law, Dick Kern ’64 and Sharon Cosinsky Kern ’66, and my son David Kern ’00 lives two hours away. I am still doing substitute teaching at local Presbyterian churches. I am enjoying my new community very much. Wishing all a safe, healthy new year."


Robert Clay emailed: “My wife, Blythe Baldwin Clay, and I have had a fun year with our very good colt, Olympiad, which finished second in the Breeders’ Cup Classic, after winning the Jockey Club Gold Cup at Saratoga. We are spending our winters in Florida, August in Saratoga, New York, and still maintain our Lexington, Kentucky, home. Five grandchildren now include two college freshmen (University of North Carolina and Texas Christian University). We travel regularly with John Garrett ’67 and Rose Gannon Garrett, play plenty of golf and still spend considerable time with board work, including the Henry Clay Center (henryclaycenter.org). We hope to attend Homecoming this year.”

Karen Clay Winston sent an update: “After graduating in ’68, my husband, John, and I moved to Fredericksburg, Virginia, and began our careers in education. We both started as classroom teachers with Spotsylvania County Public Schools. He worked his way up to become a high school principal and later assistant superintendent of the school system. I transitioned from the classroom to be a library media specialist, first at the elementary level and later at middle school. We had two sons, Andrew and Patrick. In 2000, we had the opportunity to move to Dare County, North Carolina, and continue working in education with the school system there; my husband as assistant superintendent and I as librarian in a high school position. In 2018, my husband passed away, and a year later I returned to live in my hometown of Ashland, Virginia. Since being here, I have met and become friends with one of our classmates, Mary Anne Dailey Pugh.”

Please send your updates to me via email.

1969

Class Reporter WIN WHITEHURST ’69, M.ED. ’72
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Dear Friends:

It seems we’ve come through another semi-COVID-19 year and have survived. The good news is that folks seem to be flourishing again. Several bits of information to share.

Congratulations to Al Albert ’68, M. Ed. ’71, who was induced into the United Soccer Coaches Hall of Fame in January. Al coached at William & Mary from 1971-2003 with 29 consecutive winning seasons. (I bet other coaches in W&M under his guidance!) Upon “retiring” from coaching, he stayed on at the College and is currently our associate director of athletics advancement. We probably don’t say “thanks” often enough to Al. So, congrats and thanks!

Jim Cobb wrote some time ago to tell me about the publication of his sixth book, “Cross Connections.” It’s a memoir of his life as a minister in the Lutheran Church, and funny stories from the parishes he served. “The church is a funny place,” he says. He and Judy moved back to Norfolk, the parish he served the longest and...
where they felt most “at home.” His sons are a doctor and a lawyer — both in the Washington, D.C./Baltimore area. The book is available through Amazon.

Dennis Denenberg writes that he has published a new book, “60 American Heroes Every Kid Should Meet,” which is available on Amazon. He also donated all his memorabilia from 1965 to 1969 to Swem Library. If you also have things, they would love to have them! Good work, Dennis.

Tom Miller and I rode the campus bus together at Homecoming & Reunion Weekend last fall, and “met” for the first time. He has recently retired to Cumberland, Maryland, after a career mentoring large restaurants — like the one in the U.S. Capitol Visitor Center.

Ellen Cooper Mathe na and her husband, Ran dy, were back at Home coming for the first time in years, and we had a great visit. They are also retired and enjoy having the time to spend with grandchildren and traveling. They headed to Florida in January (as I am writing this!) and to Mexico.

Linda Freeman Holmes wrote to say that she plans to continue working a while longer — she’s a county prosecutor — while she continues to enjoy her small “farm.” She has the expected cats and dogs, plus several horses. Like many of us, she has a list of projects “around the house” that she hopes to accomplish this year.

I got great news from Jim Taylor recently. (Jim is the “keeper of info” about the Class of ’69 Scholarship Fund.) With recent donations and commitments for legacy gifts, we have reached our goal of $1 million for the fund! The current market value of the fund (less what has been donated) is about a third and promised gifts are about two-thirds, putting us a few thousand dollars over our goal. Currently, the fund provides about 50% of tuition to one student per year. (That’s a third of the total cost of in-state tuition, room, board and books.) Assuming nothing terrible happens in the markets, we will fully support one student a year in another 20 years or so — when enough of the legacy gifts arrive. I would still urge you to earmark a bit to the Scholarship Fund if you can, so that we can increase our support for a student sooner. Thank you to everyone who has helped us reach this important goal.

Milton and I are doing well. It’s been a weird winter weatherwise in Richmond — warmer than usual, but way, way rainy. Fortunately, art classes are available and in person, so I will be fine until it warms up enough to get back into the garden. If you are stopping in Richmond, please let me know so we can meet for a cup of coffee somewhere.

And please plan to come to Homecoming this Oct. 19-22. Hope to see lots of you there to celebrate our 54th — yikes! — Homecoming. All the best to everyone, and … Write!

Well, Punxsutawney Phil told us his six more weeks of winter, but the 30- and 40-degree temperatures as we write this in February feel like a heat wave after the negative temperatures of a couple weeks ago, so maybe the local New York groundhog, disagreeing with Phil, is correct! Hoping that all our classmates are safe, healthy and enjoying winter vacations — and planning for sending along updates of your activities!

On a sad note, our classmate Anne Houghton Moore ’70, M.A.Ed.’77, Ed.D.’84 passed away on Jan. 23, 2023. According to her obituary, Anne “devoted herself to education, which included leading administrative and teaching roles at the College of William & Mary, advocating for public support of key initiatives at the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia and pioneering new teaching models as the associate vice president of learning technologies at Virginia Tech. She humbly and energetically pursued her passion for advancing wisdom and compassion.” Anne’s legacy at W&M spans generations, according to her son, Ben Pratt ’95, who also mentioned that memorial contributions have been made to W&M in Anne’s name. (See the complete obituary and additional details at magazine.wm.edu/in-memoriam.)

From the law firm Williams Mullen: “Tom Frantz ’70, J.D. ’73, M.L.T. ’81 was honored with the Hampton Roads Chamber of Commerce First Citizen of Hampton Roads Award during the organization’s BRAVO! Celebration of Leadership 2022 in January. It is the highest honor bestowed by the Chamber, honoring Frantz as a ‘courageous and visionary individual whose tireless efforts have helped lead the 17 communities of Hampton Roads into greater partnersh ip, collaboration and prosperity.’ Frantz served as president and CEO of the firm Williams Mullen from 2010-2015 and currently serves as chairman emeritus of the Williams Mullen Board. Before joining the firm, Frantz was an original principal with Clark & Stant in 1980, amassing 249 wins, seven conference championships and 10 NCAA playoff berths in 39 seasons, as well as guiding future coaches Mike Tomlin ’95, Pittsburgh Steelers, and Sean McDermott ’98, Buffalo Bills.

Jim Newsom wrote: “I retired in 2014 after 41 years of teaching college math here in Virginia Beach, traveled a lot, especially Europe from 2010-2019, and hope to go again next year. I’ve been to 33 different countries at least once, enriched by the art, culture, people. In June 2022, my daughter’s family relocated to Virginia Beach from San Diego — Diane G. Stafford (University of Virginia doctorate, 2011) is a pediatrician in Phoenix and the Eastern Shore of Virginia. Straight from Ed’s email: “We officially retired in 2015 and thought we’d stay around Richmond, Virginia, and maybe
go into a retirement community in Williamsburg. But then we ‘wintered’ in Florida the last few years — Boynton Beach and Palm Beach Shores several times and we changed our minds. We were eating at a restaurant on the Intracoastal Waterway one evening when it hit us — why not move to Florida? Sun, beach, boats and golf — what’s not to like???”

“Our grandkids are in Phoenix, Arizona, and the Eastern Shore of Virginia — only a plane ride away! We were in Phoenix last week to see our Western family — lots of basketball and soccer games! We spent Thanksgiving at a restaurant on the beach and soccer games!”

We were in Phoenix last week to see our Western family — lots of basketball and soccer games!

“Willoughby golf course — probably will take four weeks — very exciting. I can’t wait to get on the Willoughby golf course and spend some time in the men’s bar and card room — nothing better than a bunch of cranky old guys with nothing better to do than complain about the club, politics and neighbors!”

Jim has had an ongoing email conversation with Streams former nun Da (aka Jack Peterka) over the last number of years. Streams and I were high school classmates at an all-boys parochial school in New York, roommates at James Blair Terrace and Sig Ep brothers. Streams has led a varied and very interesting life, finally settling in Hawaii in 1999.

Here is the latest news from Streams with references to three of our classmates — Becky Neff, Dave Farkash and Fran Stewart: “So, what to say about me living in Hawaii? I have already told you this, but when Becky and I were first moving out to Hawaii in 1999, one of the flight attendants on our United Airlines flight was Fran Stewart from W&M. In fact, I believe it was her last flight before retiring. And to make that day 28 years after graduation even more synchronistically bizarre, that very evening on Oahu, we decided to go to a movie. I saw a man walking down the aisle and simply by the tilt of his head, I knew it was Dave Farkash from JBT days. So we hooked up. He lives on Oahu, but he came over to Maui a few times to visit and we even went down to Jaws together. That’s the monster wave spot near where I live. We went to watch, of course, not surf.

“I guess I am ‘Jack Peterka’ to any alum except you. That was about 10 names that spread across seven generations of my newly found family tree. I am also launching a blog site in a couple of weeks by the name of BambooMountainSanctuary.org, which will highlight life here with an emphasis on Zen Buddhism, Hawaiian culture and Native American spirituality. Go Indians! I will send you the link once it is online. I am training a daily sitting schedule in the zendo, a monthly Dakota sweat lodge up in the meadow, and try to ‘live Aloha’ 24/7. I owe my life to a particular pair of dolphins and a very talented dermatologist, but that’s a story for around the campfire. If any classmates find themselves on Maui, I welcome visitors! I do plan to travel to the East Coast the next time there is a gathering of our classmates, so please keep me posted.”

We recently heard from Jill Sivertsen Hunter that her husband, Tim Hunter ’70, at Tim’s suggestion, renewed their vows in Virginia Beach — 52 years last June! Congratulations to both. Anyone one else with a milestone anniversary? Let us know. Tell us your story.

Jim heard from Tom Hearn ‘82, who was a standout player on the College tennis team. As many of you may recall, there was a philosophy professor, Thomas K. Hearn Jr., at the College during our time there who also happened to be Tom’s dad. Professor Hearn went on to become president of Wake Forest University and passed away in 2008 before completing his book, “Leaves From a President’s Note Book.” Tom and others completed and published the book in 2022. For those who took a course from Professor Hearn, the book will rattle some of your memories.

Some additional information from Tom’s email: “Jim, I hope you are well. We connected several times over the years to coordinate the fundraising for William & Mary men’s tennis. I play with Ford Robinette ’75 in Blowing Rock, North Carolina, in the summers when he is in town to escape the summer heat in Florida. I also keep up with a number of Tribe tennis alumni from the 1970s, like Harry Cross ’72, on Facebook. The Tribe’s new outdoor tennis facility behind Kaplan Arena will be open in time for this year’s spring season. I hope Coach Jeff Kader can get some pictures up soon.

“My dad was a philosophy professor at William & Mary for 10 years in the 1960s and 1970s. Interestingly, he was the first recipient of the Thomas Jefferson Teaching Award at the College. He spent the last 22 years of his career as the president of Wake Forest. When he died in 2008, he was working on a book of essays he had written over the years titled, ‘Leaves From a President’s Notebook.’ The Center for Creative Leadership in Greensboro, where Dad had been very active, helped me finish and publish the book. I am excited that these pieces will be shared. The book can be purchased on Amazon, Barnes & Noble’s website or through the Center for Creative Leadership’s website. All proceeds from sales of the book will be donated to CCL. I hope that many members of your class and the classes before and after yours may remember him and find this interesting.”

There was an article written about Deborah Fabian, chronicling her life and eventual relocation to Williamsburg published in October at magazine.wm.edu/online-exclusives/tribe-scribe-deborah-fabian/ She decided that it was time to celebrate a couple of grandkids’ birthdays: Idyllwilde (Idy), 3, and Sagax (Sagey), 1. Real Southern California names.

We hear from the same suspect on a regular basis and don’t want to be accused of favoritism. Dust off your keyboards and send us an update! Where are Gary Seek and Kathy Hilgert Seek, Ted Yeiser, Lee Area, Marci Morgan, Robert Richard Riesser, Maggie Barba Crow, Tom Casey and Barb Wetherell Galloway?

FABIAN, a retired orthopedic surgeon, played goalie on the men’s soccer team as David Fabian from 1967-70. After years of conflicted feelings, including depression and suicidal thoughts, David transitioned to Deborah at the age of 62 in 2011. Two years later, she returned to William & Mary for the first time as Deborah for a speaking engagement. She recalls only positive feedback. In 2019, she spoke at the Lavender Graduation. We are doing fine spending the winters in Stuart, Florida. Jim is playing a lot of tennis and Lynn is enjoying the warmth and sunshine. Hope to be on a flight to San Diego when this is published. They plan to celebrate a couple of grandkids’ birthdays: Idyllwilde (Idy), 3, and Sagax (Sagey), 1. Real Southern California names.

We hear from the same suspect on a regular basis and don’t want to be accused of favoritism. Dust off your keyboards and send us an update! Where are Gary Seek and Kathy Hilgert Seek, Ted Yeiser, Lee Area, Marci Morgan, Robert Richard Riesser, Maggie Barba Crow, Tom Casey and Barb Wetherell Galloway?

1972

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1973

Class Reporter

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Greetings and Salutations:
This edition for the spring 2023 will be read
after our 50th reunion during Traditions Weekend in the 'Burg, April 28-30. As of this writing in late January, 127 of us have joined our private Facebook page to promote dialogue and pictures, past and present. $184,000 has been dedicated to our class project, the Internships and Applied Learning Endowment, while our class participation is stuck at 40% (339 donors) and our total giving over the last five years is $8.2 million toward our goal of $9.5 million; not bad for a bunch of hippies/baby boomers.

W&M Football under “new” coach Mike London made it to the quarterfinals of the NCAA-FCS post season; the record-breaking season came to an end on the frozen plains of Montana. Men’s and Women’s Basketball fortunes are again not likely to end in post season invites when the CAA fall college teams have been competitive and currently supported by the athletic department and college administration.

Meanwhile, deja vu to our ’72-’73 era. Washington, D.C., has gotten more insane with the split in majority in the Senate vs. the House, partisan squabbles from the Jan 6, 2021, insurrection and House Speaker Ryan's showing 15 rounds of House speaker voting, resulting in the likes of Gaetz, Gosar, Greene, Jordan and Boebert playing in the Trumpian 2020 election denial weeds — and to top it all, New York’s 3rd Congressional District sent G. Santos and his Congressional District to become the 51st state (of confusion).

To my surprise and pleasant shock, Kathryn Brineman Bo - will visit us in Batavia, New York, in December to support her daughter, Rianna Bovill, and her art show at our local com-

1974

Class Reporter
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Don’t forget our 1974 Class Mini-Reunion in Frederick, Maryland, on the weekend of April 21-23, 2023. A gathering Friday night, a dinner on Saturday and a Sunday brunch are planned. You should have received details by now, but if not, contact Marsha Montgomery at thegathering1974@gmail.com or 908-295-1739 or Bert Wilson ‘74, M.A.Ed. ’75 at bertwil@aol.com. Marsha and Bert have led these events with lots of help from Denise Love Alexander, Nancy Knowles Jones, Jane Pulliam and Riddle and Barbara Blake Williams. After two years of COVID-related delays, it is a triumph to finally get this social occasion off the ground.

Cornell Christianon mourns the closing of most of Broadway’s plays and musicals due to the drop in tourism, both foreign and domestic. Experts predict that by the summer of 2023, the theater situation might be back to normal. We can only hope! Cornell wrote two musicals that were shut down off-Broadway at the start of the pandemic: “It Came From Beyond” ran for 15 months and “Wicked City Blues” ran nine. Both will reopen when theater attendance returns to normal. Since my volunteer teaching at the Richmond City Jail ended when COVID-19 struck, yours truly has been volunteering with The Success Foundation of Virginia, witsuchas.org, a nonprofit that mentors young adults who have come through the foster care system and have no family or support to help launch them into the adult world. It was cofounded by two W&M grads, Gary Powers ‘75 and Don DeLaney ’75, five years ago. By coincidence (or maybe not!), the group has grown to include many W&M alums, including Sarah Jane Williams ’76, M.B.A. ’78, Bob Cavaliere ’76, Gerry White ’76, M.B.A. ’78, Adrienne Whitaker ’87 and Emily Martin ’81. Gary and Don are always on the lookout for more mentors or tutors, not necessarily in the Richmond area, so get in touch if you have the time and the heart to help a young person.

In January, Rob Estes and his trucking company, Estes Express Lines, were featured in the bus hopping in the middle of the Richmond newspaper. Rob’s son Webb Esters ’06, M.Acc. ’07 is stepping into the role of president, the job Rob has held for 32 years. Webb is the fourth generation to run the company since it was founded in 1931. Rob’s not retiring completely — he’ll stay on in the role of CEO. The company has 22,000 employees and facilities throughout North America.

Jim Theobald and I are just coming off another stint on the assembly line, having bottled 250 cases of rosé and savignon blanc for our winery, Valley Road Vineyard, www.valleyroadwines.com. (See page 52.) That’s 3,000 bottles, guys, and we still have several thousand cases to go this spring! Sometimes I stand on the ladder and dump corks into the bottle while a skill and sometimes I load full bottles into their cases; Jim “throws glass,” meaning he dumps emp-ties onto the conveyor belt. These are not skills we learned in college. Another of our (10) owners, Barbara Cole Joynes ’82, helps with the bottling and works as our marketing guru and wedding coordinator for the 25 or so weddings we host every year. Jim and I enjoy spending time at the winery itself, located just outside Charlottesville, where Jim plays his guitar for the guests, and I wander about with my camera. Another of our (10) owners, Barbara Cole Joynes ’82, helps with the bottling and works as our marketing guru and wedding coordinator for the 25 or so weddings we host every year. Jim and I enjoy spending time at the winery itself, located just outside Charlottesville, where Jim plays his guitar for the guests, and I wander about with my camera.

1975

Class Reporter
LEANNE DORMAN KURLAND
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Happy Spring, classmates. Everyone must have been very busy last January, either recovering from busy holidays.
and/or working on their New Year’s resolutions. For the first time, I received very little news! So, I expect to receive a wealth of news in my inbox when I next call for updates for the fall issue. Or better yet, you can send news when you read this or at any time. I can update the online version as often as I want, plus there is a higher version as often as I want, and you can read this or at any time. You can inbox when I next call for an email address: dbpe@wmu.edu.

Avid skier Cindy Holbrook Gubb, along with her husband, Larry, have been disappointed (keep in mind, I’m typing in January) with Vermont’s ski season so far, but are headed to Park City, Utah, in February, where there will surely be excellent conditions. With her professional background in fundraising, Cindy has gotten involved with a volunteer project — the Mountain Towns Housing Project — that is currently building one unit of affordable housing for families of modest means, similar in size/scope to that of the Habitat for Humanity model. She vowed she would never fundraise again after her retirement, but could not say no to this project given the high number of young families who cannot find affordable housing in their area. She and the other volunteers raise money and provide services or support the project. Her town of Londonderry, Vermont, is in the process of doing a housing assessment study, and so far, the data confirms what everyone knows — that there is a huge shortage of available housing options in their areas. Of their $400,000 goal of cash and products/services, they have raised about $300,000. Well done, Cindy, and all the volunteers. When not doing this very worthy volunteer project, her consulting business is going well, and she continues to find it fun and rewarding. The hours remain flexible enough for her to do her job in the afternoons and ski in the morning — or camp and hike when winter is over!

So that’s it, classmates. I look forward to a bonanza of news. Again, you don’t need to wait for me to send an all-class email. Write to me as soon as you see this, or anytime you have news, and I can update the online version and include it in the next print issue as well. Go to magazine.wm.edu and either scroll to the very bottom of the page, where you will see “Class Notes,” or hover over “Our Class,” select “Class Notes” at the very top of the page and select “Class Notes.” I think this second option is the fastest! :) GO TRIBE!

Sarah Bane Williams ’76, M.B.A. ’78, Gerry White ’76, M.B.A. ’78 and yours truly, serve as mentors for a Richmond-area group called The Success Foundation (TSF) of Virginia. TSF was co-founded and is led by two members of the Class of ’75: Gary Powers ’75 (executive director) and Don Delaney ’75 (board chair). TSF currently mentors seven young adults who have come through the foster care system and are currently placed with an organization called Fostering Acadia (the largest independent living agency in Virginia) as they strive to become self-supporting by age 21, as well as three young adults who were unaccompanied refugees. There are currently placed through Commonwealth Catholic Charities’ Independent Living Program. All of TSF’s mentor services are offered to these young adults in the second area on a pro bono basis. The young adults are given assistance and direction in such areas as furthering their education, finding and obtaining meaningful employment and learning and obtaining financial skills (planning, saving, etc.). TSF has grown from Powers and Delaney serving as the sole mentors four years ago to me mentoring delays with other 21 mentors over the past three years, many of whom are WM grads, besides those in our class. Here is the link to their website: www.succesva.org. If you are interested in learning more about TSF, or in serving as a mentor or a tutor, please reach out to Gary Powers, garypowers@gmail.com. You do not have to live in the Richmond area in order to serve on a mentor team. And take it from me, it is very rewarding to watch and help a young person become all that she can be.

I have no doubt that many of you actively volunteer in charitable organizations in your hometowns. Why not share some of your own experiences with your classmates? And thank you for all the good that you do.

Well gang, continue to stay vigilant as, hopefully, the doors begin to reopen, the temperatures warm and the light begins to shine again. And, please, if you have some news or some experiences you’d like to share, drop me a line; we print all the news that fits. Only three more years until Olde Guardeship! Take care. Go Tribe!

1976

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1977

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Happy New Year! Thanks to our classmates for sharing updates for this report. As more of our classmates retire, spend time with family and friends, and travel, I am reminded that 50 years ago this fall, we matriculated to WM. Four years later, our commencement speaker, Associate Justice William Rehnquist (who later would become chief justice), delivered a heartfelt message to inspire us as we graduated from our cherished alma mater. He spoke about a mindset that would serve us well as I began my new journey. First, he expected many of us would go on to graduate school before beginning our vocations at 25 years of age. For the next 40 years, he predicted we would climb our respective career ladders and use our educations in diverse fields before retirement at 65. He mused that over that span of time, many would marry, buy a home, have children and make our marks wherever we lived. Then we would retire and live out the rest of our lives. His challenge was for us not to rush to accomplish all our goals quickly during those 40 years, but instead, to take time to be mindful of the blessings we were encountering at every step of our personal, family, and work journeys. He cautioned that after we were at the top of our vocational field, after we had raised and educated our children and after we had achieved our life’s ambitions, no additional mountains would remain to climb. Most of us would retire and experience life in a new way, sometimes satisfying and at other times causing us to long for earlier days. Thus, Justice Rehnquist challenged us to pace ourselves and savor each milestone before rushing to fulfill another task. From his counsel, I have learned that obstacles and detours could lead to new and unexpected opportunities. His advice to live in the moment and not be daunted by obstacles is one that has reassured me to embrace new opportunities as I attended graduate school and later worked as a hospital administrator, when I married my wife, Marinda, and we raised our three children, when I entered theological school and was ordained a priest, and now as we enjoy our six grandchildren amidst my ministry on both the diocesan and parish levels. Chief Justice Rehnquist served the Supreme Court for 33 years until the age of 81, when he died. He worked longer than he expected most of us would. However, that was precisely his message: “Embrace life and allow yourself time to experience the blessings of each day.” Perhaps my parents said it more cogently: “Stop and smell the roses!” I feel they were all correct; in the updates that follow, you will see evidence that classmates have significantly impacted our world, and togetherness with our families we continue to do so, whether still working, retired or in the process of transitioning.
Richard Nicholas further reinforced the challenge we received from our Commencement speaker with his first update to our 1977 Class Notes by sharing: “Having recently retired, I think my update on how my time at W&M impacted my career may help others reminisce as well as stimulate them to reflect on the long-term and perhaps unanticipated benefits of our time at the College.” He thanked me for seeking updates and managing the class notes for the last many years.

After leaving William & Mary, Rick received his medical degree from the Medical College of Virginia and remained there for an additional two years in the department of orthopedic surgery. Prior to coming to the College, he had met Alison Duffy (whom he had met while attending the College) and were married in the Wren Chapel (see a photo in the online edition). In 1983, he and his family moved to San Francisco when he accepted a residency training position in orthopedic surgery. Six years later, and after completion of a fellowship in orthopedic oncology with Dr. Michael Simon in Chicago, he was hired by the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS) in Little Rock, Arkansas. There, Dr. Nicholas established the first regional center for bone and soft tissue cancer surgery, was a member of multiple national organizations and served in leadership positions at UAMS, including chairman of the department of orthopedic surgery and associate director for education of the Winthrop P. Rockefeller Cancer Institute. His clinical practice focused solely on bone and soft tissue oncology and his NIH support on cancer education. Following retirement, Rick has found new interests in local theater where he works under the direction of his daughter Lauren, who is the props master for the Argenta Community Theater. Together they bring a little magic and joy to live local theater. Rick’s greatest joys are his children and grandchildren. Spending more time with them and his wife, Alison, has been remarkably reenergizing. Alison’s younger brother, Tom Duffy ’79, and sister, Barbara Duffy ’82, are W&M graduates. Alison retired after a career as an IBM project executive. Richard and Alison have four daughters and six grandchildren (four girls and two boys). Rick would like to thank not only the College and its science professors, but also the arts and music faculty who have greatly enriched his career and personal life. Who knew that taking sculpture classes and playing in the band as electives could have had such lifelong benefits?

Stephen Turner shared he retired on Jan. 31 from Swedish Match’s U.S. Division, headquartered in Richmond, Virginia’s Financial District, after working in various areas of information technology and business intelligence since October 1986. He added that his two-year roommate at W&M, Mike Gornicki, also retired from his consulting work in New York on the same day. In the Class of ’77 Homecoming picture I emailed to classmates this past January soliciting news, Steve spotted former Yates Basement “Project Minus” residents Mike Gornicki, Bill Myers, Doug Jones, Mark Palmer, Joey Pierce, Mark Woolley, along with Pat Steele Stoner, Barbara Leary Jones, Angie Briggs Overbey, Cindy Bennett Jarboe, Ann Ruble, Chris Jackson, Pat Nicaragua, Pat Giermak Millea and Jerrold Epstein. Daniel “DJ” Janosik had hoped to participate in last fall’s Homecoming & Reunion Weekend but could not due to multiple conflicts. He sends greetings to all. Like many of our classmates, he can’t believe that 45 years have passed since graduation. Between then and now, he spent two years doing missionary work in Japan and has married to Ann Hoyt Janosik ’80 for 40 years. Daniel and Ann have one daughter, Anna, who is married to David Cooke. They have three children. Daniel continued his studies after W&M by earning an M.Div. and a M.A. in Muslim studies at Columbia International University and a Ph.D. in historical theology at the London School of Theology. He has been a teacher/professor of a wide range of courses in biology, English, Old Testament, New Testament, historical theology, apologetics and Islamic Studies. At present, he is teaching at four seminar-level courses this semester and enjoying the opportunity to research and write books. He shared that amidst these events and accomplishments, the joy and real meaning in his life are the result of his giving his life to the Lord, Jesus Christ, after his freshman year — that has made all the difference! As they say in Japan, ganbatte! “Keep on keeping on!” He has adjusted to having to read what others are writing and seeing a photo from him online.

Paul C. Saville was featured in “The 2022 Power List” appearing in the Sept. 1, 2022, edition of Virginia Business: “Saville joined Ryan Homes, now a subsidiary of NVR, in 1981. Rising through the ranks of the home building business, Saville worked as its chief financial officer, treasurer and executive vice president before being named president and CEO in 2008. Over the years, Saville was named executive chairman of NVR’s board. A graduate of William & Mary and the University of Pittsburgh, Saville is known for his significant contributions to cancer research, including a $20 million gift to Inova Healthcare in 2020 to establish the Inova Saville Cancer Screening and Prevention Center in Fairfax County, part of the Inova Schar Cancer institute.”

Martin Phillips ’77, M.A.Ed. ’83 shared things have been eventful for him in Orlando. Hurricane Ian on Sept. 29 flooded Martin out of his house and he’s been staying with friends, then a hotel, and now in a rental house while he’s been dealing with getting the house dried out and getting it restored. Fingers crossed that he can return to his house in April. He’s eventually going to have a brand-new house, brand-new furniture, new clothes, a new car … and he will no longer have to agonize about decluttering the house and deciding what unused clothes to give to Goodwill! 60% of his development was flooded out, but now they have melded to help them get back on their feet, etc. Unaffected neighbors were helping out immediately, and are now friends with names, instead of friendly faces only by the way it was passing by. Martin feels fortunate to have insurance through the National Flood Insurance Program, which most of his neighbors did not have since his neighborhood wasn’t in a flood zone. He added that one day it’ll be an interesting story to relate … being evacuated by airboat floating next to his car in his driveway and stepping out of his front door as the rising water began seeping in beneath the threshold … the evacuation center, the Red Cross … one day it’ll be an issue once more. Martin also shared he’s been thinking of Fort Myers, we used to go there on family vacations growing up … I have been fortunate in many ways with this to be sure and have the peace of mind to have a trusted friend who is a general contractor whom I’ve gone to for my project. We’ve known each other about 20 years; she worked for the Marines here while I worked for the Army, and now she just retired from there, segueing into design and general contracting as her second career, and I’m her first client! She designed and built her own home several years ago, doing the same (facilities construction) effectively for the Marines as a first career, though I was a project director myself in the Army. It’s so worth it to let someone else manage and direct everything with a clear objective mind/view. Yes, it’ll work out well in the end and be better than it was the day before the flood.”

These updates remind me that nearly 50 years after meeting one another in 1973, we continue to share bonds of friendship that instruct, inspire and encourage one another that did not end with commencement. The paradigms for understanding and problem solving that we learned together continue and I can’t wait to receive the next installments classmates will share for the fall issue of the W&M Alumni Magazine. Classmates, thank you for your news. Send updates and photos and know that the Class of ’77 cares.
system operation and maintenance. Dave’s wife, Kris, continues to work at a local church preschool. The family crew is doing well. Their oldest daughter, Meghan, is a child life specialist at a children’s hospital. Their second daughter, Kelly, is engaged to be married Memorial Day weekend, and their son, Connor, coaches track for a liberal arts college in the Twin Cities.

As previously mentioned, Dave enjoys the outdoors. Unfortunately, despite winter 2023 in the Midwest shaping up to be one of the best for snowmobiling in several years, Dave may have to take a pass this season. Last November, “at the end of four days up at my hunting property, I slipped on a snowy slope, caught my leg on the way to the ground, and tore the quadriceps tendon off the kneecap, along with a couple other things… The drive home was tough. I had surgery on Dave to have stuff re-attached and am now in recovery mode.” We wish Dave a full and speedy recovery and hope to see him at our Big 45th on October 21 during Homecoming & Reunion Weekend.

Speaking of former Tribe football players from our era, many were there to support W&M in the second round of the NCAA playoffs last December, when W&M earned a decisive victory. Keith Potts, Keith Finman ’79, Allen Goode, Brett Bettge ’81, Hank Zimmermann, Tom Rozantz ’79, Mark Mullady, Joe Manderfield ’79, Gray Oliver and his wife, Cynthia, were all there. Rolfe Carawan ’78, M.Ed. ’82 and his wife, Lea, took a break from their ministry and grandparenting duties to also enjoy the game.

Sadly, as this article was going to press, I learned of Brett Bettge’s sudden passing. I will always remember Brett with a big smile on his face. Sincere condolences to his wife, Jana, and his extended family. Brett will be missed by many in the Williamsburg community where he has resided for most of his life since graduation.

It was really nice to hear from Ralph White, who was featured in this column last year when he was recognized in the U.S. Congressional Record. Ralph retired from the U.S. Government Accountability Office in May 2022 after 39 years of federal service. Ralph jumped into retirement, spending much of last summer researching, writing and readying himself to be a historical guide on the Missouri River in Montana, retracing a stretch of the Lewis and Clark trail. Ralph guides with an outfitting company called Lewis and Clark Trail Adventures (LCTA). In summer 2023 Ralph will be guiding more trips. August, he will guide a four-day Missouri River trip followed by a three-day hiking trip on the Lolo Trail through the Bitterroot Mountains from Montana into Idaho. Ralph says he is still in touch with Robert Schouma cher, Jeff Tarkenton ’78, J.D. ’81 and Brady Earnhart. He says he had a great time at our class’s 40-year reunion, which included a “wonderful dinner at the Inn with Brian Blount and Jim Butler and spouses.” Let’s hope he plans to make it back for our 45th. It would be fascinating to hear about his upcoming adventures. And YOURS too! Carpe Diem.

The Epic Story of America’s Great Migration,” and a chance to experience the recently completed Hearth: Memorial to the Enslaved, which Evalyn described as thought-provoking, moving and beautifully designed, serving as both a reminder of our history and a welcoming portal to the W&M campus for everyone. Celia, Karen and Evalyn were especially delighted to see their freshman year RA from Barrett 3rd West, Sue Manix ’79, at the Women’s Weekend! Evalyn also found time to visit with a colleague on the faculty in the physics department and enjoyed seeing the updates and changes to the department. Again, thank you, Evalyn, for writing most of this column for me!

Until next time, I wish you all the best of everything and look forward to hearing from you. Take care and be well.

**1978**

*Class Reporter*

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Congratulations to Hamner Hill ’78, J.D. ’81 of Cape Girardeau, Missouri, on receiving the 2022 Faculty Merit Award from Southeast Missouri State University for excellence in teaching. Hamner, a professor of philosophy, political science and religion, has enjoyed a variety of positions during his 36-year career with the university. He served as interim dean of two colleges and as chair of four departments and taught in criminal justice. Hamner received both his bachelor of arts in philosophy and his Juris Doctorate from William & Mary. He also earned a master’s degree in philosophy and a doctorate in philosophy from Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri. He has been published in journals such as Law and Philosophy, the Archiv für Rechts und Socialphilosophie, The Canadian Journal of Law and Jurisprudence, and the William & Mary Environmental Law Review. He has also served on the medical ethics committee and institutional review board at Southeast Health and is president of the Cape Girardeau Unitarian Universalist Fellowship. However, it’s his commitment to the Southeast Missouri State women’s soccer team that he says he is most proud of: “I’m the top faculty supporter, and I rarely miss a home game.”

It was good to hear from Dave O’Neill ’79, who reached out from Minnesota, where he has been enjoying retirement the last couple of years. In addition to his many outdoor pursuits (more on that later), Dave continues to volunteer on his homeowners association board, managing its wastewater system operation and maintenance. Dave’s wife, Kris, continues to work at a local church preschool. The family crew is doing well. Their oldest daughter, Meghan, is a child life specialist at a children’s hospital. Their second daughter, Kelly, is engaged to be married Memorial Day weekend, and their son, Connor, coaches track for a liberal arts college in the Twin Cities.

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Until next time, I wish you all the best of everything and look forward to hearing from you. Take care and be well.

**1981**

*Class Reporter*

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Hello again ’81ers, I hope this column finds everyone well. We have a couple of updates that I’d like to let you all know about.

978

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1979

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1980
1982

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Greetings and happy 2023!! It is January as I write this. Our travel bug took us to London and Portugal over the holidays. When all the (adult) kids can join us, we are in it! It’s magic! We started on London for New Year’s Eve and had a lovely time in the sights — we are admirably Harry Potter geeks, and we finally made it to Warner Brothers Studio for the Harry Potter tour just outside London. We tried six years ago and literally missed the bus. Our expectations were high, but WBS exceeded them! The sets, models, costumes, props — they are all there. We highly recommend it for Harry Potter enthusiasts. We also made it to Portugal, first to Porto, and then on to Lisbon. Paralleling our trip were Rob Kravititz and his friend Martha, only they toured Lisbon and then Porto! It was nice to give each other pointers on what to see! Rob and Martha posted some amazing pictures of their journey on FB, which we really enjoyed. The Douro River Valley is stunning, and we visited several vineyards there, as did Rob and Martha.

Before the holidays, we celebrated the wedding of Beth Alford Wolfe's daughter, Patrice, to Matt Burton. It was a beautiful, joyful wedding in Hilton Head, South Carolina. Beth and Tommy were glowing, as were all of Beth's sisters and many nieces and nephews. Several of Beth's W&M friends were there, including Katie Winter Gray, Debbi Pierce and her husband, Jim, and Brenda Bloomer Hargett and her husband, Joe, as well as their kids, Tyler and Heather, with their spouses. Not surprisingly, the reception was quite the dance party! The happy couple reside in Charleston, South Carolina. I heard from Tom Hearn, who wrote the "past year has been good for the Hearns. Two of our thrones moved back to Charlotte, North Carolina, so everyone is back in town, not that we ever see them! Dana Disque Hearn and I spent 10 days in Venice with Birdie McG Scott ’84 in November. Great weather and few tourists.”

He also wrote about a lovely memorial for his father, Thomas K. Hearn Jr. “My dad was a philosophy professor at William & Mary for 10 years in the 1960s and ’70s. Interestingly, he was the first recipient of the Thomas Jefferson teaching award at the College. He spent the last 22 years of his career as the president of Wake Forest University (1983-2005). When he died in 2008, he was working on a book of essays he had given over the years, titled 'Leaves From a President’s Notebook.’ The Center for Creative Leadership in Greensboro, North Carolina, where Dad had been very active, helped me finish and publish the book. The book can be purchased through Amazon, Barnes & Noble, or the Center for Creative Leadership.”

What a lovely way to honor your father.

In the news is Kathryn Lehr, who ran for office in the Colorado House of Representatives, District 49, in Boulder, Colorado, in the November 2022 election. She has lived in Boulder for 33 years. Katie also received an MBA from University of Colorado Boulder and is a small business owner. Finally, the William & Mary Foundation announced the addition of four new members to its Board of Trustees, one of whom is our own Steve Tang. Congratulations Steve! You can read more about Steve in the spring 2022 issue of the W&M Alumni Magazine.

That’s all the news I have! PLEASE send me your updates! I do see Facebook posts from time to time, but I need to hear directly from you on your news! Nothing is too small! What trips have you been on? What are YOUR kids doing? Have a great spring, everyone!

1983

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Hark!

Happy 330th Birthday to W&M this February. It was a glorious week-end! The hearns were moved to the Bray School off campus, where it’s been hiding in plain sight adjacent to the Phi house, to its new home in CW. Don’t know about the Bray School? It’s the schoolhouse in which black students were educated, free and enslaved, from 1760-1774. (See page 16.) Back in our day, it was student housing. It fell into disrepair and was condemned. Decades later, carbon dating was done to determine how old it was. Amazing story/history! Then at 4 p.m., the Center Day Ceremony took place at Kaplan Arena. Chancellor Robert Gates ’65, L.H.D. ’98 spoke, along with keynote speaker Linda Thomas-Greenfield D.P.S. ’23, United States ambassador to the United Nations, who received an honorary degree. The next morning, the Alumni Medallion and Service Awards were given out. And yes, there was a large contingent of family members (15) in attendance to honor one particular Medallion recipient, Dr. Stewart Sell ’56, my dad! All the awardees are incredibly accomplished and it’s always a treat to hear their stories. It was fun to share the celebratory weekend with Jane Kaplan ’56 (yes that Jane Kaplan, they are classmates), and most of the Spot ’82 regulars, too, including Dave Lucas ’80 and his wife, Tracy, Marcia Seymour Horst ’82 and Jack Horst ’81, Don Morris ’82, Nancy Cote Kane ’84, Betsy Dolan ’84, Dick Peterson and Lois Korb and Petered, it’s magnificent! Steveangang Tang ’82, Dru Mears, Jeff Harrell and his wife, Nancy, Jim Crockett J.D. ’81 and Betsy Pendleton Crockett ’85, Julie Dodit Andino and Mark Andino ’80, Johnny “Mick” Mickens ’14, Ally Phillips ’16, Christie Baty Hudgins and Fraser Hudgins ’84 and Beth Sala Covin. Pat Adkins ’58, Sean Sell ’87, J.D. ’93 and Stephanie Sell Kinzel ’91 joined in the “Sell-ebration” too. Many of these folks also attended Jack and Marcia’s Super Bowl party on Sunday. Others in attendance for the Super Bowl in the Griffin’s Roost party room included Mary Liz Smith Sadler ’65 and Sam Sadler ’64, M.Ed. ’71 and Pam Kravititz ’86 and Tracy Melton ’86.

In town for the awards ceremony was Dana Disque Hearn ’82. She came to see her friend Tamara Weynitz by 80 receive the Douglas N. Morton ’62 Alumni Service Award. Tamara is active with the Charleston alumni network, serving as president since 2019. While at W&M, Tamara was on the track, volleyball and club rugby teams.

Congratulations to Kappa Kappa Gamma on the occasion of their founding at W&M 100 years ago. Centennial celebrations are in the works and will happen by the time this magazine reaches your mailbox. Hope to fill you in more next time.

Jeff Barna apologizes if he ever offended any of you when we were back in school. He says he’s fully reformed largely due to having married classmate Lora Fawley Barna, who, he assures, has never offended anyone, ever. They are now giving birth to their first child! Eleanor Mae Barna, born in August to their son, Andrew Barna J.D. ’18, and his wife, Morgan. Jeff and Lora live in Long Beach, California. They have two other children, Katie, an actress/model in New York, and Lizzy, a grad student at George Washington University. Jeff says Lora retired 32 years ago and has the best job in the world.

Very sad to report that Gary McDonald passed away in November in San Francisco. Gary came to W&M from Newport News. After graduation Gary found success in broadcast journalism. He was a producer in St. Louis, San Francisco and Knoxville, Tennessee. Gary became head of public relations at the University of San Francisco.

Congratulations to Christie Baty Hudgins, who was recently chosen as one of the WTR 1000 — the World’s Leading Trademark Professionals. Christie works for the Washington, D.C., office of Finnegan, a trademark firm. She is fortunate to be able to work mostly remotely and to live in Williamsburg, WTR recognized Finnegang as a top-tier trademark firm nationally, stating...
1984

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Greetings to the Class of 1984! It has been great to celebrate special birthday days with classmates over the last year as so many from our class began a new decade of life. In November, I celebrated Laurie Raymond Benson’s birthday with her husband, Chris; her daughter, Kimberly; and my husband, Greg Miller, at Laurie’s home in Beaufort, South Carolina. Later that weekend, we met again at Joanna Ashworth’s Charlotte, North Carolina, home for another birthday gathering for Laurie, with a surprise visit from Alison Hawley Ewing and Linda Reynard Bashnight, who traveled from the Washington, D.C., area to celebrate together.

Karen Thorne Alexish was mentioned in another birthday in the Chesapeake Financial Post highlighting 50 women who have made contributions in sports in the South Jersey region in honor of the 50th anniversary of Title IX. Karen played both field hockey and basketball while at William & Mary, graduating among the all-time top 10 in points, goals and assists in field hockey. She was All-American in field hockey multiple times while at William & Mary, also serving as team captain. A senior member of the engineering staff at Lockheed Martin, Karen was inducted into the William & Mary Athletics Hall of Fame in 2016.

Among several other notable William & Mary alumni, two classmates were profiled in the Virginia Business 2022 Power List. Victor Branch is the first Black president of Bank of America’s Richmond market, and he has effectively used his leadership role to advance initiatives to promote financial literacy and workforce development programs for students at the historically Black Virginia Union University as well as the city’s underserved minority communities. In addition, he is credited with the bank’s decision to increase its funding efforts advancing racial equality and economic opportunity. Victor has worked for Bank of America for nearly 40 years, and he recently completed his term of service on the William & Mary Board of Visitors.

Kevin M. Phillips is chairman, CEO and president of Mantech International Corp. in Herndon, Virginia. Kevin joined the firm in 2002 and became president and CEO in 2018. He became chair in 2020 and, in his current role with the company, he leads 9,400 employees. A former Army reservist, Kevin is currently serving on the William & Mary Foundation’s board of trustees.

On a sad note, I recently learned that Jeff Wolf passed away. Jeff played baseball and football at William & Mary and was recognized on All-American teams in 1984 and 1985. He participated in sports throughout his post-collegiate life, sharing his love of all sports, especially baseball, with the adult teams he played on as well as with countless youth he coached over decades. Jeff played for the Chesapeake Braves beginning in 2000 and began managing the Men’s Senior Baseball League team in 2002. He was a member of the MSBL all-star at the time of his induction into the Chesapeake MSBL Hall of Fame in 2011. When I met him at the home of Tony Traver ’85 and Karl Guillem Traver ’85 during Homecoming in 2019, it was obvious that his greatest joy was his family, and he spent much time volunteering as a coach for his daughter and twin sons’ sports teams. In a beautiful celebration of the passion Jeff had for sports, his family will be holding his Celebration of Life at a parking lot near the stadium. I am sure there will be many William & Mary alumni in attendance to remember Jeff together. He is survived by his wife, Lisa; his daughter, Allison; and his sons, Mitchell and David. I don’t know his professional background, but he seems to have been absolutely beloved by his W&M teammates and Kappa Sig brothers, as well as so many in the baseball community in Maryland where he lived.

Many thanks to Mrs. F., the parent of a classmate, for her lovely note! Your kind words were so appreciated and absolutely made my day!

I hope to see many of you at Homecoming & Reunion Weekend, this year, which will be held Oct. 19-22, 2023. Between now and then, please keep in touch and send along any updates you’d like me to share in the next Class Notes! You can also post your own update by joining the W&M my1693 online community at www.my1693.com. Hope to see you there!

You go girl!

1985

Class Reporter
ELIZABETH WISEMAN PITTS
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Hope 2023 is going well for each of you! I had so much news from Alison Weichkopf and Tony Traver ’85 last time that I am going to finish up with her news first.

Alison recently had lunch in NYC with Anne Sorenson Shaver and Ann Searle Horowitz.

Anne Sorenson Shaver lives in the Bay Area with her husband of 33 years, Dave. Her oldest son, Tyler, graduated from University of California San Diego, works at a startup and recently bought a house with his high school sweetheart. Her middle son, Andrew, went to Columbia University and works for PwC, speaks five languages and lives in Europe. Her daughter, Olivia, is at University of Southern California studying psychology.

Ann Searle Horowitz is coaching a YMCA swim team, works with classmate Paul Stratta on the iPlayMeZZ tennis app and just finished the sequel to her middle grade novel “Trident.” She was excited to play in the Eastern Tennis Sectionals with her USTA team in fall 2022.

Scott Ukrop and his wife, Lilo, are still in Richmond, Virginia, but find they are spending a good amount of time in Louisiana, where Lilo grew up. Scott is a managing director at NVR, an early-stage growth fund investing primarily in tech and better for you/better for the planet consumer goods companies, where he works closely in an industry defined by his fellow alum Laura Mooney Markley ’07, M.Acc. ’08. Lilo is teaching a second-year class at the Darden School at the University of Virginia, where she and Scott代谢, and Lilo’s son, Ned, got married in Dallas in July 2020, and their daughter, Polly, got married on Avery Island in Louisiana in October 2021. Ned and his wife live in New York, where they are working following Ned’s graduation this past spring from Darden. Polly is completing her MBA at Darden and will be working in NYC last year after graduation. Their younger son, Mac, is working in Washington, D.C., in real estate finance, and despite the number of Darden family members, has no plans to attend there (at the moment).

J.D. Neary has been in Richmond, working at the McGuire Woods law firm, since 2003. He is presently the chief legal talent officer. He is happily married to Mary Beal Neary, and they have two children: Jack (recently engaged!) and Gretchen. Both children choose UVa, which is questioning as a personal failing...

Jim Lovegren and his wife, Deidra, are transi-
toning back to Virginia from their longtime home in Florida. They recently bought a condo in Charlottesville (the place that they were set up on a blind date 50 years ago by She-Chris Neikirk). Deidra has just published a book, “The Medicine Girl,” which is on Amazon. Jim worked in Big Law for 20-plus years and still has his own firm but has been working full time for the past 18 months at the Small Business Administration, Office of Disaster Assistance on the Shuttered Venue Operators Grant program. They have three children who are all doing well.

Now to begin the news from Marna Ashburn, who moved back to Williamsburg in 2015 and is enjoying life with new and longtime friends. She still writes (www.householdbaggage.com) and does a podcast (www.ethicsandetiquette.com) as well as takes advantage of all the local area has to offer.

**Susan Hodgins Franz**, who lives three miles from Marna, is staying active in state and national politics and spends time in the winter at her home in Florida. She lives in the same neighborhood on the James River as Marna, who lives three miles from Marna, is well.

**Tony Traver**, who attended an outdoor concert last summer and hung out with Dave Anderson ’86 at the beer tent beforehand and found him to be the life of the party. Susan and Marna discovered by accident that their fathers both went to Granby High School in Norfolk at the same time, and Marna’s grandmother taught piano to Susan’s dad. They had plans to get their fathers together for a reunion, but sadly Marna’s dad passed away from pancreatic cancer before they could make it happen.

**Marge Johnson Bessler** and her husband, **Joe Bessler** have lived in Williamsburg since John retired from the Army. (He’s now a Department of Defense civilian.) Kari and Marna ran into them on the Capital Trail when they were biking, and John and Marge were walking their dog.

Marna bought a queen headboard off Facebook marketplace only to find the seller was Keith Exton and his wife, Cindi. They’ve sold their house in Governor’s Land and are living temporarily in an apartment while they renovate the house near their Cherry’s restaurant in CW. Marna got to hang out with them at their epic Duck Donuts Tailgate during the Elon game.

**Elaine Carlson ’84, Ed.S. ’94, Ph.D. ’97** is Marna’s go-to in Williamsburg for attending W&M soccer and volleyball matches. She recently retired and invited **Ann Kempski ’84** and Marna to Duck, North Carolina, for a fun September beach week to celebrate. **Keith Halligan Zimmerman ’84 and Marna stay in close touch as they do a podcast together called “Ethics and Wake Forever: A Thought-Provoking Dialogue About Everyday Dilemmas”** (available on Spotify and Apple). Kelly is an attorney with a wicked sense of humor who brings a great perspective to each episode.

The nice thing about living in Williamsburg is that Marna gets to see albums as they pass through. In August, she had dinner at Paul’s with Angela Hussey Owens, who traveled from her home in Colorado Springs to help her daughter, Savannah, get settled before she starts her MBA at W&M. Angela’s high school classmate, **Tom Tierney**, has returned to his hometown of Garden City, New York, after living in Wilmington, North Carolina, near his brother and sister for several years.

**Mike Lorch** (now retired) flies in from New York a few times a year to play golf with friends in Williamsburg, and he and Marna always get together for dinner.

In June, Marna spent a terrific long weekend with **Mary Willis Jones** and her husband in Tommy, at their lakeside home in Salisbury, North Carolina.

Thanks to Alison and Marna for all the great news! Hope to hear from more of you soon. Valete, omnes!

**Class Reporter**

**BECKY BARNES THEUER**

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In December, **Carla Nagel Winters** and her husband, **Mike, saw Chip Puskar ’87** (known professionally as Charles Esten) play at a charity concert in Hopewton, Bahamas, and talked with his wife, **Patty Hanson Puskar ’87**. Their daughter, **Addie Puskar ’22**, is a graduate student at W&M and plays soccer for the Tribe. **Lynn King Robertson** is working as a traveling nurse. In December, she was enjoying an assignment in California, where she was able to spend more time with her adult children and her new grandson, born last year. She returns to Virginia occasionally to visit family.

**George Calvert** is now fully retired after 31 years with Amway, running their R&D and supply chain organizations. He and his wife, Kelly, live in Grand Rapids, Michigan, and spend a lot of time traveling. As much as possible, they are in Tybee Island, Georgia, during the winter.

He remembers his friend, teammate and fraternity brother, the late Bob Solderitch ’86, M.B.A. ’90, as one of the nicest human beings anyone will ever have the chance to know. He will always remember stromboli. Mama Mia’s with him.

**Tom Iannacone** is in his 37th year with PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) and plans to retire next year. Currently living in West Bloomfield, New Jersey, he has done two tours in Tokyo, Japan and has also worked in Boston, Houston and Milwaukee, Wisconsin. His daughter graduated from Boston University and works for PwC in the Manhattan borough of New York City. His son is a junior in the Carey School of Business at Arizona State University. As his career winds down, Tom is exploring options for the next phase of life.

**Ronald “Butch” Atkinson ’86, M.Ed. ’95** will retire in June from Chesterfield County Public Schools in Virginia after 36 years of working in public education. His last position there is assistant principal at Tomahawk Creek Middle School. As a retirement plan, he and his wife, Melissa, are the proud new owners of Coalfield Station Antiques in Midlothian, Virginia — an antiques mall with approximately 87 booths and 70 vendors. They are looking forward to growing the business, spending time with family and reading more books.

On Jan. 2, 2023, **Ron Hann ’86, M.A. ’87** joined PricewaterhouseCoopers as the Institute for Regenerative Medicine, part of the Wake Forest University Medical School in Wil-
storm and operation iraqi freedom. Ron also served in the nato peacekeeping mission in bosnia-herzegovina as part of operation joint forge. He was awarded the defense exceptional civilian service medal when he departed dtra in recognition for 37+ years of government service in and out of uniform. Ron and his wife, marsha haynes hann '87, are busy house hunting in the winston-salem, north carolina, area. They are happy to announce the arrival of their first grandchild, chamberlain elizabeth may, born july 12, 2022.

Thomas weidner IV reports that his wife recently won a chili cook-off. Just before the band nest pas returned to the states for homecoming & reunion weekend last fall, writer julia dekorte '23 talked with members chip puskash '87, p'22, dennis whelan '87, chris neikirk '89, art schmalz '88, clem cheng '86, p'19 and john “rocker” henrickson '88 to hear the story of how the group formed by theta delta chi fraternity brothers over 20 years ago was still playing together. Find a link to the story in the online edition.

According to grand Rapids business journal dated Oct. 17, 2022, andrew owens, CEO of millerknoll, a designer and manufacturer of furniture. She is responsible for the company’s worldwide operations. Previously andy had a 25-year career with gap inc.
played: Charles Esten Puskar '87, Clem Cheng '86. Dennis Whelan '87, John Hendrickson, Art Schmalz and Chris Neikirk. They worked in a new cover of Steely Dan’s "My Old School" lyrics: "Oh no, William & Mary won’t do...

" Chris states the band could not have done it without the great help of Patty Puskar '87, Jeff Williams and Cory DeAngelo '90. N'est Pas had a blast; the crowd was fantastic. (See photos online). They are trying to make it happen again for Homecoming 2023 — the 35th for us '88ers.

Thanks very much to those who wrote in, we love to hear from you and to see your photos. Send in an update or talk a friend into doing it, and we hope to see you at Homecoming & Reunion '23, Oct. 19-22, celebrating W&M’s 330th year.

1989

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1990

Class Reporter
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1991

Class Reporter
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At the beginning of the year, R. Joseph Barton '91, J.D. '00 founded the firm of Barton & Downes LLP with Colin M. Downes and paralegal Ming Siegel '16. Based in Washington-
ton, D.C., he represents employees, veterans and servicemembers across the country in individual and class action litigation involving issues of employment, employee benefits including under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act and the Uniformed Services Employment and Re-employment Rights Act. Best wishes to them on their new endeavor.

Congratulations to Carol Bowman Kennedy! At the beginning of 2023, she became clerk of court in Henrico General District Court. I am completely biased, having known Carol for so long, but she is going to be amazing in this new position. Her husband, Jim, runs a food truck in the greater Williamsburg area called FoodaTude... Food With Attitude, so check it out if you ever see the truck parked around town.

And a final congratulations to Cliff Pleige '91, M.A. '93, J.D. '95, M.B.A. '96! He received the College’s 2022 Prentis Award. The award recognizes those in the Williamsburg community who perform extraordinary service to the community and have a connection to W&M. Cliff is CEO and president of the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, chair of the W&M Foundation's Board of Trustees and a faculty member at the Raymond A. Mason School of Business.

Please send any good news you have my way!

1992

Class Reporter
BARRY KEITH
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Happy spring.

In Williamsburg, William & Mary has named Matthew L. "Matt" Brandon as associate vice president for alumni en-

1993

Class Reporter
GREGORY IMBUR
gmturin46@gmail.com

1993

ALUMNI MAGAZINE
W&M ALUMNI MAGAZINE
**1995**

**Class Reporter**

**SHANNON E. KREPS**  
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Alla Vysotsky Schay '95 was appointed global chief operating officer of Makosi, a leading variable workforce provider. She brings with her 15 years as an executive at Sterling, a $700 million-plus global industry leader in employee background screening and identity solutions.

Alisha Graves '99 and Kathleen Mogelgaard '99 have been working together from opposite U.S. coasts to champion gender equality, reproductive autonomy and access to education for women and girls in West Africa. Read more in the W&M Alumni Magazine online exclusive article “Agents of Change.”

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**1996**

**Class Reporter**

**BETSY ROSENBLATT ROSSO**  
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A January highlight for my family was our long weekend in the mountains of West Virginia with our friend, J. McCravy '94, Erin Beatty McCravy '94 and their teenagers. Some of us went tubing and some of us learned how to put snow chains on tires so we could maneuver our minivan two miles uphill in the snow to our Airbnb. We played board games and listened to music and were made fun of by our children. Just like old times, plus the children.

Another classmate who knows the joy of living with teenagers is Sara Padilla, who wrote that during the pandemic, she became grant portfolio director at Habitat for Humanity of Oregon. In that role, she manages the organization’s development team and co-chairs the Oregon Housing Alliance’s Homeownership and Asset Building Workgroup. She and her husband and their two teenage boys live just south of Portland, Oregon.

Chris Finch noted that his teenage son, Fisher Finch '27, was accepted early decision to William & Mary and will be a freshman in fall 2023, joining Chris’ daughter Bella Grace Finch '25, who is a sophomore now. “They’ve brought the Finch family GPA up considerably,” Chris added. Chris caught up with classmate John McCauley for the University of Connecticut-Maryland women’s basketball game in December and celebrated Christmas in New York City with his family and classmate John Novogratz. The Fincks live in Maidsen, Virginia, just outside Richmond.

Perhaps Fisher will run into Alex Hatfield '97, and Phil Hatfield '94, who will also be a freshman at William & Mary this fall. Anna is looking forward to socializing more once her son is off at school. “We will be empty nesters and we’re looking forward to spending time with W&M friends all over.” Anna works as chief of staff at St. Catherine’s School — an independent Episcopal girls’ school in Richmond. She has also served for the past two years as president of the William & Mary Alumni Association’s Board of Directors.

“I want to encourage all alumni to get involved with the W&M Alumni Association — come to events (especially Homecoming!) in Williamsburg and closer to home,” Anna wrote.

Yet another Tribes-person settled in the Richmond area is Todd Anderson '96, M.B.A. '03, who moved back to Virginia in June 2022 with his husband, Wes Clay-Anderson, and their two boys Davis (7) and Noah (5), after living in Chicago and Columbus, Ohio. Last October, Todd became vice president of compliance advisory at Discover Financial Services. He divides his time between working remotely from Richmond and in his office in Chicago.

Meanwhile, Matthew Williams recently completed training with the Professional Association of Diving Instructors to become a certified Diving Master — the entry level of professional scuba diving designations. “I can be found diving with Patriot Scuba in Occoquan, Virginia, if there are any adventurous souls looking to learn a new way to explore!” Matthew wrote. He also earned the designation of Chartered Property Casualty Underwriter to further his work for North American Risk Services as part of the claims management team. Matthew and his wife, Adriana, — who were married in 2016 — live in Springfield, Virginia. I always love hearing from the Class of ’96. Get in touch anytime!

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**1997**

**Class Reporter**

**CATHERINE YOUNG HAGERTY**  
tribe1997@hotmail.com

Hello classmates! It’s hard to believe we’ll be celebrating our 25th reunion at Homecoming & Reunion Weekend this fall. Hope to see many of you there. In the meantime, two updates to share...

Congratulations to MP Gay, who got married back in October of 2021 to Matt Krouse (a University of Virginia grad). They had their
wedding celebration at the Williamsburg Inn last May with about 20 W&M friends in attendance. MP and Matt live in White Plains, New York, with their two dogs. MP is the senior director of communications for Food Allergy Research & Education.

Jennifer Hall Cosgrove '98, M.B.A '20 just joined Apellis Pharmaceuticals' legal department as the senior compliance manager. She helps support the North American commercial, medical affairs and R&D organizations.

The National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders (NIDCD), a member of the U.S. National Institutes of Health, recently named Elka Scordalakes-Ferrante as the next chief of the Science Policy and Planning Branch (SPPB). Elka started working at NIDCD in 2014 as a health science policy analyst and was appointed as the SPPB deputy branch chief in 2018. Prior to joining NIDCD, Elka served as a scientific health analyst, NIC; IRTA fellow, NIMH; post-doctoral fellow, University of Texas Health Science Center; and IRTA fellow, NINDS. She's also the recipient of multiple NIDCD and NIH Director's Awards. Elka received her doctorate from the University of Virginia, where she studied behavioral neuroscience, neurobiology, neurophysiology, molecular biology of the gene, developmental mechanisms and fundamental immunology.

If you have news of your own to pass along, please email me at amcox@hotmail.com. We'd love to hear from you. Until next time!

2000

Class Reporter
MINDY (MACKERETH) MARIS williamandmarmindy2000@gmail.com

The William & Mary Foundation announced the addition of four new members to its Board of Trustees, including Hilary Grant Dixon.

Sarah Shallcross Fox and her husband, Brett, welcomed their third and fourth kids to the world in June 2022 — identical twin boys! Sarah reports that Remi and Zane already love wrestling with each other on the floor and snuggling with their adoring older siblings.

Two months after the boys arrived, Sjol and Liz Hemming Johnson visited with their daughters for a week to give Sarah some much needed help.

Evelyn Vanderhorst Lee, Truist Financial Corp.'s regional president for the greater Washington region, was named to the 2022 Virginia Business Power List.

Jennifer Farris Szakaly was one of the 2022 Top Dentists featured in Coastal Virginia magazine.

Jayson Traxler has been promoted to president of Stax, a Boston-headquartered global strategy consulting firm. Traxler joined Stax in 2021 as managing director and chief operating officer.

2001

Class Reporter
LAUREN MORGAN ELLERMAN '01, M.S. '23 liellerman@fifthwirm.com

Friends,

Happy spring, Class of 2001. Hard to believe we’ve been away from Williamsburg for over 20 years. I am thrilled to be the Class of 2001 reporter and hope you will email/write me with your updates and big news. You can find me on FB and IG (I am way too old for Tik Tok!)

Laura Keehner Rigas was just appointed to the W&M Board of Visitors by Gov. Glenn Youngkin — congratulations Laura! We are so proud of you!

Matt Joosse is now a practicing orthodontist in Williamsburg of all cool places where he and his lovely wife, Alex (W&M professor in public policy), and three kids live. Visit his office or online — www.joossefamilyorthodontics.com

I recently became a graduate of W&M’s Raymond A. Mason School of Business after completing the Master of Science in Marketing (online) so I can learn how to better market/promote my law firm in Roanoke, and Whit Ellerman's business, Cardinal Bicycle. If ever in Roanoke, please come see us — we would love to feed you at our restaurant or gourmet grocery store.

I look forward to sharing our class news together! Lauren

2003

Class Reporter
NINA R. STRICKLAND SIMONE nrsimone@gmail.com

Greetings Class of 2003! As I write this spring’s entry, I’m in the throes of one of those bizarre experiences for which one is qualified based solely on their role as progenitor. I'm teaching my daughter to drive. This should not be happening for several reasons, mainly that I don’t really know how to drive myself. “Mom, what does this sign mean?” “Keep your eyes on the road.” “They are on the road.”

Travis Simone was disqualified based on an exhibit error and an interpretation problem. So here I am, sweating in the passenger’s seat, feeling deep levels of Imposter Syndrome. But the Influencers tell me that Imposter Syndrome can be overcome (and monetized!). So be on the lookout for the Nina Simone Driving School coming to a curb-less parking lot near you.

Thank you to those of you who sent in updates. One note: Most of you write to me after you read the newest issue. That’s great. You’re great. Thank you. But my deadline for the next issue is exactly three days BEFORE you get your issue. Still with me? There's an issue in which you look and say “Where am I? What is with that useless class reporter!” I'll never send my kid to HER driving school.” These are all natural responses, but I promise, you are not forgotten (usually). It’s a timing thing.

Let’s jump in...

Since the last three years have been a haze of child-rearing and various pandemic protocols, Suzanne Berman can’t remember how many of her children she has announced in the alumni magazine. She is the proud mom to Jonah (6), Tessa (4), and Nora (2). She lives with her husband, Ken (and the children), in Takoma Park, Maryland, where she works as a policy and communications consultant to nonprofits.

Jeremy McClery shares: “On Nov. 8, 2022, I was re-elected to a fourth term as mayor of Woodstock, Virginia. I have served as mayor since 2010. “In the past you have wanted an update on family, as well. My wife and I have a law practice in Woodstock, and we have four children.

Joanna Groarke writes: “I’ve been promoted to vice president of exhibitions and programming at The New York Botanical Garden in the Bronx. I now oversee all exhibitions, education, interpretation and public programming for the 250-acre National Historic Landmark site.”

Congratulations to Kelly Caufield, who has recently been appointed executive director of Common Sense Institute Colorado, a nonpartisan organization dedicated to the protection and promotion of Colorado’s economy. Prior to this position, Kelly was vice president of government at Colorado Succeeds. Finally, many of you know of the passing of our classmate Susan Tuck Rooksby last year. Her husband, Jacob Rooksby ’04, graciously sent me the eulogy he gave at her services. I leave you now with some of Jacob’s words about Susan, and life.

“We met at William & Mary, a place we both loved, as two unformed, stumbling college tour guides with similar Midwest backgrounds. We fell in love there, at the young ages of 19 and 20, over long walks in Colonial Williamsburg; outings to see esoteric films at the Kimball Theater; long nights spent studying but mostly talking about our dreams; an appreciation for Cheese Shop
sandwiches, Paul’s Deli and Vietnamese food; and a mutual perspective that life is meant to be experienced, treasured and enjoyed to the fullest, without consideration of convention. Susan showed me what it meant to seize the day, to seize life. It was her approach to everything.”

Go in peace friends. Go Tribe.

2004

Class Reporter
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It’s another late spring/early summer, and we are only a year and a few months away from our 20th college reunion! I am really starting to focus on the “age” thing. It is not because I feel like a midlife crisis is setting in (I will never have one), but since I have my dream car — which is a station wagon), but that in my workplace, I (and most of you) are protected from age discrimination. Yes, people over the age of 40 are covered under age discrimination laws (verify that with your Equal Employment Opportunity specialist).

For me, Bethany was always the youngest one at my job. Now, I am just one of the “old-timers,” and the youngest group in our office are in their late 20s. In addition, when I started working full time after college, most of the people I worked with had been there since the early 2000s has been there a really long time! It is just the never-ending cycle of time. OK, let me get us out of this funk I just put us in; however, I do want you to keep in the back of your mind about our upcoming 20th class reunion. Start making plans! But first, the news.

Back in October, Vince Piattelli ‘03 dropped me a line about what he and his wife, Bethany Brookshire, are currently pursuing these days. Bethany was a fellow history major who would attend the Phi Alpha Theta history society meetings with us officers. Yes, we talked about history stuff, but the conversation ALWAYS got off track, of course! And if you were a Phi Alpha Theta member back in the day, we tried to have our pub nights at Gambols in Colonial Williamsburg. Good times. Anyway, Bethany is currently working as a freelance author, journalist and podcast host. Her first major book, “Pests: How Humans Create Animal Villains” was published and released on Dec. 6, 2022, via ECCO, an imprint of HarperCollins. Pests is “an engaging and revealing study of why we deem certain animals ‘pests’ and others not — from cats to rats, elephants to pigeons — and what this tells us about our own perceptions, beliefs and actions, as well as our place in the natural world.” Bethany traveled extensively in her reporting. During the process, you would have found her anywhere from a “rat safari” in New York City to a more traditional safari in Kenya, where she spoke to local farmers about the impact of elephants on their livelihoods. The book is garnering excellent reviews — earning stars from both Kirkus Reviews and Publishers Weekly. Bethany and her husband live outside of Washington, D.C., with their two cats. Congrats, Bethany, on your published work! I know it will be a nice addition to your bound honors thesis on the Home Guard of North Carolina during the Civil War (see, I do remember a little from college).

Again, keep sending me those updates about what you are doing these days — whether professionally or what you did on your staycation! I look forward to hearing from you all. Take care,-Owen

Class Reporter
BEN BALDWIN
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Hello Class of 2005!

I hope you are having a great spring! Send me any and all updates.

Here are some updates from your classmates: Kevin Kilroy did a big life switcheroo. After completing medical school in 2018 and psychiatric residency in 2022, he moved with his wife and toddler to Cleveland and now works as a psychiatrist at Veterans Affairs, helping veterans.

Rachel Fitzgerald McNamara figured she had to tell her classmates the following news, in what is the least “age” thing thing she’s probably ever done: She and her husband band (Doug McNamara ‘04) booked last-minute tickets sight-unseen on Priceline, got a good enough deal and traveled from Maryland to Bozeman, Montana, with their two kids (Flynn, 7, and Ella, 11) in December to see the Tribe take on the Montana State Bobcats in the NCAA quarterfinals. It was freezing cold, the game was a bummer and for some reason all of the Bobcats sitting near them seemed to think W&M was in Tennessee, but it was the perfect excuse to surprise visit friends who live in Bozeman and get the kids out in the snow. And now everyone in the family has W&M winter gear. See a picture in our online edition!

After a long delay due to COVID-19, Jennifer McFerran and TJ Baranek finally had their wedding celebration in Alaska last August. Jen and TJ were joined by about 35 of their friends and family from Guam and those living on the continental U.S. and Hawaii. It was a fabulous time on the Kenai Peninsula. They were engaged in Juneau and really fell in love with Alaska, hence the wedding location (plus they figured they would have only about four attendees if they did it in New Zealand).

Adam Gismondi recently won the championship for the fantasy football league that he plays in along with several other W&M ’05 alums. This is the second time Adam has won in three years, perhaps a dynasty is in the making? His team beat the teams of Kevin Kilroy and Andrew “Gammy” Miller in the playoffs. The last time he won, he used his winnings to fund a mural with the quote “Can’t Dance” by Blunt-nuffin (aka Bradley Pearson and Keith Devereaux), starring me as the dance talent.

At the time of this article going to print, it is a mid-winter. January is a great time of fresh beginnings for many new possibilities. What will you try new this year? What do you hope to accomplish in 2023? This year, I just want to live fully. No regrets, no overstimulating, just lots of joy and memory making. Whatever you decide to do this year, I hope your year is a great one! And in that list of resolutions, add emailing me! Tell me what is happening in your life. Did you get that promotion? Did your family expand? Have you started a new hobby? Or have you reconnected with some Tribe members who you haven’t seen in a while? We want to know!! While no one wrote in this time to fill us in, we did hear about some pretty amazing classmates and their contributions thanks to news clippings and promotions!

Recently, Josh Sundquist was featured in an online exclusive article for the W&M Alumni Magazine, “A Step in the Right Direction.” In this article, we learn that Josh is serving as executive producer on the new Apple TV+ kids show “Best Foot Forward.” In this show, we learn about his experience attending public school after losing his leg to childhood cancer. We love that Josh is making such a positive difference in the lives of kids and bringing awareness too!

Congratulations to Margo Dey Bailey, who was recently elected to the Board of Directors at ZS & Gallagher LLP. This promotion was effective on Jan. 1, 2023, at the Washington, D.C., office in corporate and financial services. This company provides a variety of complex, business critical issues and has approximately 1,200 attorneys worldwide in 40 practice areas.

Finally, back in September, the James Wood High School’s P. Wendell Dick Athletic Hall of Fame inducted its new members. One of those honored was our very own Saralyn McHale Shopard. During her time at the school, she was a standout in basketball, track and field, and volleyball. She set records and was on nearly every All-District team while in high school. When she got to W&M, she continued her standout performances in track and field, serving as a four-time Colonial Athletic Association track champion, among other collegiate honors! This honor at James Wood was made even sweeter in that her husband, Logan, was a fellow inductee for his contributions in football, basketball and baseball. While I am super impressed with their athletic contributions, I
am even more stoked that they are both making a difference in education, each serving the school system in Virginia currently. Talk about some amazing role models for their students to look up to!

That is all the updates I have for this time. But I would like to send love and shoutouts to two of my sorority sisters, Julia Johnson ’03 and her adorable little boy, Henrik, 7 months old at this time, fill up my Facebook page with their adorableness. And Angela Delgado ’10 is a superhero! She was/is a foster mother and has since adopted two positively handsome kiddos: Dash and Buster. She is the epitome of superwoman! There are so many amazing alumni and dads out there, but these two ladies are on my feed and in my hearts as I write this! Until next time, have a great year, full of wonderful adventures and positivity! Tribe Pride Wishes, Amber

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2007

Class Reporter
COLLEEN SCHNEIDER CAMERON
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I hope 2023 has started off well for everyone! I received another round of great updates from several of our 2007 classmates. This year I know many of us are celebrating 20 years since we graduated high school, which for me is only slightly horrifying. Even though we are officially old now, we are living life to the fullest, experiencing career wins, personal accomplishments, parenthood and much more. Our positive influence is felt all around the world. Please continue to send me any updates, big or small, that you would like to share. I know your fellow classmates would love to hear from you.

Nathaniel Baldwin and his wife, Nicole Escudero, welcomed their son, Nicolas Joseph Baldwin, on Jan. 19, 2023. David Bisaha has been promoted to associate professor of theatre at Binghamton University, State University of New York. His book, “American Scenic Design and Freelance Professionalism,” was published by Southern Illinois University Press in 2022. Lauren Kloss Jacobson was appointed as the chief investment officer of Hamilton College, managing its more than $1.3 billion endowment. Jacobson currently serves as managing director and co-head of marketable assets classes at Columbia Investment Management Co. Mary Catherine McGinn Mohr is still in the Navy, and she is currently serving as an orthodontist in Okinawa, Japan. She and her husband, Brad, welcomed their first child, James Bradley Mohr, on Oct. 1, 2022.

On a much-anticipated voyage, Mary Ogburn and Saylor Bane ’22 finally reached the Antarctic Peninsula in January 2023. Mary works as international programs and development director at American University’s International Programs Study Abroad and Saylor participated in AU’s Antarctica program.

Christopher Rodd ’07, M.B.A. ’18 sent me news of a recent vacation he took with his family. He, his wife, Michelle, and their children, Charlie (5), Rylee (8) and Taylor (8), went skiing New Year’s Eve morning at Mammoth in Southern California and then celebrated New Year’s Eve at Universal Studios in Los Angeles.

After spending eight years establishing the Global Fund to End Modern Slavery and overseeing $80 million of anti-trafficking funding around the world, Helen Wong Taylor made the bittersweet decision to transition to philanthropy. As the director of grantmaking at Meyer Memorial Trust, she leads a team that grants $40 million each year to accelerate racial, social and economic justice for the collective well-being of Oregon’s lands and peoples. Meyer funds with an anti-racist, intersectional feminist lens to support BIPOC-serving organizations (Black, Indigenous and people of color). She loves being able to invest in communities that reflect the one she grew up in and neighborhoods that she now frequents. In her free time, she’s enjoyed exploring the West Coast with her family and all the natural beauty that the Pacific Northwest has to offer!

Vault Comics, where Damian Wassel is the co-founder and CEO, announced an investment round with participation from major investors, and the launch of a new division, Headshell, to create graphic novels with iconic recording artists like Metallica, Def Leppard, Fall Out Boy’s Pete Wentz, The Beach Boys, Redman and more.

While still connected professionally to the United Methodist Church, Elizabeth Wright is about to celebrate four years of being the executive director at Austin Region Justice for Our Neighbors, a nonprofit law office that provides free immigration legal services, education and advocacy in Central Texas. She is very proud to be a co-author and -editor of “The Truth in Our Stories,” a book published last year which includes 12 personal narratives and corresponding data on the realities of immigrant life in the United States.

Hello, Class of 2008! I hope everyone is having a wonderful spring. Thanks to everyone who submitted an update for this issue and all the issues over the past 15 years. I have really enjoyed being your class reporter since we graduated in 2008. You can email me updates at any time at aj pins08@gmail.com.

Ed Baumann and Meghan Baumann ’10 welcomed their third child, Zackary Griffin Baumann, on Jan. 20, 2023. His middle name is an homage to the beloved alma mater of their family!

In January 2023, Chris Adams completed his Ph.D. at the Institute of English Studies, University of London. He successfully defended his thesis, “A Publishing History of Queer British Fiction, 1940-1970,” which he is now working on and hopes to turn into a book.

Joe Dorfler bought a house and moved to Easton, Massachusetts. He also started a new job at the law firm Rich May, mainly representing utilities and solar developers in energy-related matters. Perkins Coie promoted Jonathan Goddard to partner on Jan. 1, 2023.

Meghan Cooper welcomed her third son, Julian Guel Cooper, in July. Her older brothers Aidan (4) and Holden (2) are absolutely in love with their new little brother. They relocated to Rochester, Minnesota, in September after Meghan accepted a job as a urologist on faculty at the Mayo Clinic within the Department of Urology. She is helping to expand their Interstim program for males with overactive bladder/urge incontinence, as well as their non-muscle-invasive bladder cancer surveillance program. Her husband, Jeff, continues his consulting work and recently closed on a position with New York Life as a financial adviser.

2008

Class Reporter
ASHLEY JEAN PINNEY
Ajpinn08@gmail.com

’09 received the Alumni Service Award during Charter Day Weekend. Jimmy is a board member of the W&M D.C. Metro alumni network and engages with students through the W&M Washington Center. He is also the co-chair of the Crim Dell Leadership Circle and a member of the inaugural advisory board for the Crim Dell Association, the LGBTQ+ alumni group.

James Emanuel is a new partner at Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner’s St. Louis office. He has a national practice focused on complex products liability, mass tort and commercial litigation matters. He regularly defends major pharmaceutical, biomechanical, medical device and consumer products manufacturers in state and federal courts throughout the country in complex, high-stakes litigation.

In September, Steve Harris ’08, M.P.P. ’10 became the chief operating officer of the Hampton Roads Alliance. Be sure to register for Homecoming & Reunion Weekend as we celebrate our 15th reunion!

2009

Class Reporter
ANDREW FOILES
afioles@gmail.com

Hello Class of 2009! We are in a brand new year full of promise and if you are anything like me, you have already started to accumulate many worries to thrust into the Yule Log fire in just 11 short months time. Happy New Year! Thank you to those 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 brag about your accomplishments. Be sure to send me any updates and life milestones you are celebrating so they can be featured
here and in 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 that supports photos, so feel free to send those in along with your updates too.

Go Tribe!  
Andy

Updates:  
Tom Milteer married his husband, Leon Harden III, in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, on Nov. 11, 2022. They have several W&M alums in attendance, including Nubia Dickerson, Katy Lang, Lauren Doll and Olyvia Salyer ’12.

Julianne Thomas-Drolet was promoted to senior advisor, environmental and social risk management at Export Development Canada (EDC), Canada’s export credit agency. In her role she ensures that business is done responsibly through environmental, social, and human rights safeguards, as well as supporting Canadian companies as they integrate environmental and social governance in the evolution and competitiveness of their business.

Kristin Davis graduated with her Ph.D. in ecology from Colorado State University in December 2022. She is currently a postdoctoral researcher at New Mexico State University but working remotely from Fort Collins, Colorado, on a project that incorporates decision science and ecological modeling to identify potential drivers of population decline for the American kestrel, the smallest falcon species in North America.

Hi all, after being a bit delinquent as your class reporter these past few magazine issues, our class notes column is back! There are plenty of updates.

Bailey Thompson Blake returned to the U.S. in March 2022, after a decade in Johannesburg, South Africa, with her husband, Chris. She is transitioning from education to health care and completing a pre-medical post-baccalaureate at Agnes Scott College in Atlanta. The pair are enjoying the mountains of north Georgia and both ran the Georgia Jewel 50-miler in September 2022.

Kristopher McClellan, assistant city attorney for Norfolk, Virginia, has been selected for The Virginian-Pilot’s Inside Business Top Forty Under 40, which honors young professionals who are successful in their careers and involved in the Hampton Roads, Virginia, community.

After years of learning about sustainable agriculture, Christy Ottinger and Connor Horne bought their own parcel and established Kitchen Girl Farm to serve their community and work every day to improve the environment around them. You can read more in the W&M Alumni Magazine online exclusive article “Stewards of the Earth.”

The winter 2023 print issue of the W&M Alumni magazine profiled the career path of Richard Walsh, who currently works as the Southeast regional sales manager for Cypress Grove Cheese, an artisanal goat cheese producer based in Humboldt County, California. Richard made the switch into food systems and agriculture after working for Booz Allen Hamilton and Whole Foods.

Shane Cooley moved back to Mollusk, Virginia, from Austin, Texas, where he’s continued to write and produce music from his home studio, Cooleyland.

Juae Son joined Fulton Bank’s new government services team as a vice president and relationship manager.

Kevin Leslie ’10, M.S. ’13 was chosen by the Hampton Roads publication Inside Business for its Civic Class 2023. He recently moved from a position as executive director of the Hampton Roads Biomedical Research Consortium to become Old Dominion University’s first associate vice president for innovation and commercialization.

Ad Forget published a cookbook, “The Buslife Kitchen: Cuisine for the Modern Nomad.” The book drew inspiration from AJ’s lifestyle living in a 90-square-foot converted school bus, the “Sweet Bee,” with his girlfriend and their pug, and their time traveling the country together.

Carl Kleinheinz and his wife are excited to make the trek from Pennsylvania down to Williamsburg again in summer 2023 after several years’ absence and are especially looking forward to visiting The Cheese Shop and catching up with some former classmates.

In December 2022, Rush Lester and Hannah Debelius welcomed their son, Fox Debelius. The couple got engaged on Nov. 27, 2020, but many friends and family (several Tribe alumni included) shared songs, poems, marriage advice, photos, baking skills and general good cheer.

Julia Applebaum Shriver was recently inducted into the Talawanda High School Athletic Hall of fame, as reported by the Journal-News in Butler County, Ohio. She is being honored for her achievements on the school’s swim and soccer teams, lettering in both all four years of

2010

Class Reporter  
KARYN BRUGGEMAN  
karynbruggeman@gmail.com
Hello Class of 2012!

I hope you’re all having a wonderful spring after a rainy and dreary winter (at least here in Maryland!).

A couple of weeks ago I applied to my dream job. It would have been perfect — a remote copy editing position at an exciting, brand-new publication venture out of Los Angeles. I wrote an introductory email to one of the co-founders and then, to my delight, was selected to take a five-hour-long, seven-page editing test in what I’m assuming was a first-round interview of sorts. I felt like I crushed it. I was making plans in my head as if I had already landed the job, pointing out local cafes where I could work during the day, planning out potential child care options, wondering if I’d be flown out to LA to meet the team in person.

Instead, (and I’m sure you’ve guessed it by now) I got the “thanks for your application and your time, but we’ve decided to go in another direction” email. I read it over and over again. It just couldn’t be. This was supposed to be my chance — my resurrection into journalism and an opportunity to be part of a startup-style newsroom.

I was bummed for weeks after receiving the email and any shred of confidence I had in my writing and editing abilities were blown.

I’m still disappointed that I didn’t even land a second interview, but if anything my reaction was proof that I wanted to be back in the game. I’m currently working on a few freelance articles that I’m hoping to pitch to that same publication. Who knows what’ll happen? There’s really no happy ending to the story per se, but I do know that the situation uncovered a level of determination in me that I forgot I had.

As Hannah, general of Cartridge, said in 219 B.C., “I will find a way or make one.”

In Tribe We Trust,
-Maddie

Here’s what’s new with our classmates:

Michelle Tillman married Mark Kinzie on Mount Hood in Oregon on July 23, 2022. Her bridesmaids included Katherine Stevens and Julie Silverman Donnell.

Aaron T. Savella was promoted to partner in the corporate and financial services department at his law firm, Wilkie Farr & Gallagher LLP. Savella practices law in Houston.

Brittany Rende Brickman married Donald Brickman on Dec. 3, 2022, in Providence, Rhode Island.


Brittany Sevachko Gabriel and Peter Gabriel are expecting their second child, a baby girl, in early April.

Hello, Class of 2013! Can you believe it has been 10 years since we graduated? I’m still wrapping my head around it — a whole decade since we rang the Wren Bell on the last day of classes, shared a moment during the candlelight ceremony and walked across campus in our graduation regalia. Will you be coming to our 10th reunion at Homecoming & Reunion Weekend, Oct. 19-22? I hope to see many of you then!

Thank you to everyone who sent me updates. Please keep sharing your news with me at laura.brond@wm.edu. Note that it’s not the @email.wm.edu address anymore. Wishing you all a joyful spring and summer!

Madeline Carreño Karp and Horacio Carreño welcomed their daughter, Nadia Seraph, on Jan. 15, 2022.

Emily Gilfillan-Benedix married Gary Benedix in Fort Orange, Florida, on Feb. 11, 2022. Laura Greaves and Kellie Dixon Bohnsack, Emily’s next door neighbors in Yates Hall, were bridesmaids, and it was a fun night of food, dancing and Jonas Brothers music. Check out our online Class Notes for a beautiful picture of the couple!

Kaitlin Jones Hinche ‘13, M.Ed. ‘16, Ph.D. ‘22 was hired as an assistant professor of counseling and special education at Virginia Commonwealth University and was awarded the Ruch Award for Excellence in Teaching last fall.

Katherine Arcement married Aaron Potkay on Oct. 1 in Toano, Virginia. The couple lives in Richmond with their cat, Nose.

Tara Toombs and her husband, Austin, welcomed their second son, Simon Austin Toombs, on Oct. 27 and are adjusting to a family of four — five if you count their dog. They are still stationed in San Diego.

Emily Bart Gatto welcomed her son, Hudson Joseph Gatto, on Oct. 31, 2022.

I hope everyone has been keeping safe and well! I’m excited to share some new updates from members of our graduating class:

Catherine Korizno recently got engaged to Vincent Dattilo in Atlanta. Catherine continues her work as an intelligence analyst with the Department of Justice and Vincent is a graduate of the University of Georgia School of Law and works as a contracts attorney at NCC Group.

Mary Ellen Garrett ’17 got engaged this past summer (on Aug. 19, 2022, at the corner of Henry Street and Cranberry Street in New York City’s Brooklyn borough). Meredith is a past intern of the W&M Alumni Magazine, and we could not be happier for her and Mary Ellen!

Zack Perconti will lead the government affairs efforts at Government Affairs Solutions (GA Solutions), a new firm based in Churton, Maryland, providing advocacy and other government-relations services to a growing list of clients. Beginning June 1, GA Solutions represents The American Pipeline Contractors Association and The Power & Communication Contractors Association, and more recently has signed on to represent the National Utility Contractors Association and the State Technical College of Missouri. This news was reported in the October 2022 edition of Utility Contractor magazine.

Matthew Groves and Sarah Maddox Groves welcomed their first baby, Mary Frances, on Jan. 13, 2023, at 2:22 p.m. She weighed 9 pounds, 4 ounces and measured 20 inches long.

Claire Etheridge Phillips accepted an offer to become a U.S. Foreign Service officer in September 2022. Claire and her husband, Henry Phillips ’14, will leave for her first assignment in New Delhi, India, in January 2023.

And finally, Ming Siegel assisted R. Joseph Barton ’91, J.D. ’00 and Colin M. Downes with establishing the law firm of Barton & Downes LLP based in Washington, D.C. As the firm’s paralegal, she assists in litigating individual and class action cases across the country on behalf of employees, veterans and service members involved in employment issues as well as the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA) and the Uniformed
Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA).
Thank you to everyone for your updates! Best wishes until next time.

2017

Class Reporter
CAPRIELLE D’ULISSE
capi.13@email.wm.edu

Eduardo Lins was the picture double for Penn Badgley’s character, Joe, in “YOU!” He writes: “I’m an actor based in London and was an extra on the show for one day (Delivery Man Unloading Truck). Two weeks later they called me telling me I bore a striking resemblance to the protagonist, and wouldn’t I like to be interested in joining? I accepted in being his double for the rest of the season. And so I was, from May to August last year. Look out for the back of my head, close-ups of my hands holding things, and generally any shot in which you can’t see Joe’s face on Netflix Feb. 9.”

Mary Egan Clark graduated from Columbia University’s Genetic Counseling Program, and is now at Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP) working as a genetic counselor.

Haley Kavanaugh and William Eshy ‘18 are getting married May 6, 2023, in St. Louis, Missouri, at the World’s Fair Pavilion in Forest Park. Corinne Giroux is maid of honor and a Tribe soccer teammate, and Jackson Eshy ‘16 and John Andrew Eshy ‘22 are the co-best men as well as Tribe soccer alumni.

Cole Gessner and Jessica Higgins ‘18 got married on Dec. 17, 2022, at Holy Trinity Catholic Church in Washington, D.C. Celebrating with them were 18 W&M alumni, including six groomsmen (among them was our classmate Ian Brown), six bridesmaids, and the father of the groom, Chris Gessner.

2018

Firstly, I must apologize for my negligence in contributing to the last magazine issue. I have no one to blame but myself and allowing my 3L year (often called 3LOL) to get the best of me.

Alex Xenos, however, probably would not have blamed me. Basically in his last year at Washington and Lee Law, Tatiana Venn has informed me that Alex passed the Virginia Bar this past summer and proposed to Tatiana this past fall. Congratulations to Alex on both counts, and we wish you both all the happiness in the world as you enter this next chapter in your life.

When I saw Tatiana’s message, it reminded me that I have neglected to mention Hunter “Mac” McConville’s engagement for several issues. Again, shame on me. He popped the question at a vineyard last spring, and we are all thrilled that his fiancée, Sophie, is joining our little college friend group via marriage.

Gabrielle Conception ‘20 is also recently engaged. Part of my weekly routine now involves checking her Instagram, where aesthetically pleasing wedding decisions she has recently made. I am anxiously awaiting what I know will be beautiful wedding photos in a little over three years, Sam.

Over last Christmas break ever, I caught up with Hollie Soave and Elizabeth Pokol ‘20 over the phone. Hollie matched at the Naval Medical Center Portsmouth as a future pediatrician, and Elizabeth just completed her first semester of law school at Boston College with flying colors.

Bezawit Yohannes recently contributed to the Young Guarda blog and discussed her journey in publishing, which began in her undergraduate years. She is currently a marketing coordinator at Simon and Schuster Children’s Publishing. So many of us slowly found our career paths at William & Mary, and I love hearing those stories, so please write in and tell me about them. You can read about Bezawit’s career at youngguarda.com.

Because I have yet to figure out how to trick some poor, unsuspecting man into marrying me, I adopted a dog the weekend after Thanksgiving. Gospel is a cross between a bluetick coonhound and a treeing walker coonhound, and she has become a wonderful running partner and has established herself as a professional snuggler. She was a hunting fail dumped in the wilds of Franklin County, so we are working on her indoor manners and working through her trust issues with strangers (she currently requires Xanax when indoors with any other than myself). Gospel is lucky she is cute because she is an absolute handful, and I would not recommend adopting a neglected hunting dog immediately before law exams. Like most things, however, she is working out pretty well.

Cheers,
PMB

2019

Hi, everyone! I am feeling freezing down in South Florida, which tells me that I’ve been here for far too long. After successfully surviving half of law school, I did venture north to New York City to visit Matt Parciak, who recently moved into a Brooklyn apartment with flying colors.

Bezawit Yohannes recently contributed to the Young Guarda blog and discussed her journey in publishing, which began in her undergraduate years. She is currently a marketing coordinator at Simon and Schuster Children’s Publishing. So many of us slowly found our career paths at William & Mary, and I love hearing those stories, so please write in and tell me about them. You can read about Bezawit’s career at youngguarda.com.

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Cheers,
PMB

alumni, my brother recently proposed to his now fiancée, and I wish them the same heartfelt congratulations as to all of those recently engaged or married in our class. This includes the engagement of Nicole Efford and Ian Kunsey; Katie Ferguson and Ben Westerlund; and Alex Hayes and Elizabeth Vanasse ‘20. It also includes the marriage of Shannon Fischer and Joseph Plunkett; Rachael McCarthy and Joseph Wade; and Melanie Gooden and Cory Wilson. Ada Hinton was in attendance at Milane’s wedding, where she said the couple exchanged exceptional vows.

Ben Skopic and Margaret Williams ‘20 were also recently married in Richmond, with lots of William & Mary swim team alumni in attendance. Their swim friends very thoughtfully had a brick at the Alumni House engraved to celebrate the milestone!

In other news, Braxton is excited that Amy Nelson now lives in Chicago, and I noticed Emmel El-Fiky now lives in New York City while attending Columbia for her Master of Arts in politics and education.

Peter Brooks will soon be relocating to the Big Apple as well after spending the winter in South Florida. I’m hearing a dead horse now, but I was right about living in Brooklyn, Washington, D.C., departures continue. I hope you all are doing well. As always, you can email, text, call or write to either share something for the notes or just catch up. With that said, be sure to use my new email address since our promised lifetime email privileges are being revoked.

I was so excited to receive a FaceTime call from Klair Guhler and Emily Deem just the other day and hear about what’s going on in their lives. Klair is playing pickup basketball with the local boys in South Bethesda, and Emily is hard at work crafting some beautiful stained glass projects. It was also wonderful to hear from...
Stuart Dopp ’62, whom I served on the William & Mary Libraries Board, after my last notes. She’s old friends with Grace Prillaman’s family, it turns out! I’m glad my news is reaching far and wide. Until next time!

—

2020

Class Reporter
DEVON BORTZ
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804.928.6490

Lizzy Smith joined the Peace Corps as a youth development volunteer and will be serving in rural Costa Rica for the next two years. Her work supports programs and activities in a local elementary and high school to promote positive youth development.

Next time you see her, send a warm congratulations to Kelly Price! I heard that she was recently promoted to senior marketing programs manager at Industry Dive.

John Napoli got engaged to his longtime girlfriend, Eileen Dover. Emily Flack has been working as an actress in the DMV (D.C., Maryland, Virginia) area on film and streaming sets since the start of 2022. In addition to her on screen work, she is in rehearsals for a regional theater production that will run from March to June 2023.

After a year of working in the health care industry during COVID-19, Gwendylyn Turner started the continuation of her studies in analytical chemistry at Purdue University in West Lafayette, Indiana.

Taylor Brinker and her fiancée, Mary Weaver, recently moved into a new house in Nashville, Tennessee, with their dog Oscar.

After meeting at William & Mary during their freshman year, Emma Preston and Adam Kearney are now engaged! Margaret Williams

married Ben Skopie ’19 in Richmond, Virginia, on Sept. 3. The couple met at W&M on the swim team. As a wedding present, Ben and Margaret’s friends (Classes of ’19-’21) made a donation to the William & Mary Alumni Association to engrave Ben and Margaret’s names and wedding date into a brick at the Alumni House. See photos from their wedding in the online edition!

As always, send me an email, text, or DM with any news you may have! I’d love to hear from you!

Best,
Devon

2021

Class Reporter
JUDITH TAUBER ’21
jmt349@cornell.edu

Hello everyone! It’s been wonderful hearing from you all. What exciting adventures! Keep ’em coming!

Miso Park, October 2022: I’ve been finishing up my second last semester of my Master of Public Health program at the University of Virginia. I am currently looking for full-time jobs and interviewing with the UVA Health Administration Fellowship program!

Update from Miso Park, January 2023: I’m going to be finishing up my master’s (MPH) program this spring 2023 semester — I will be remotely interning with the National Women Infant Children Association (NWICA) thanks to W&M! I was still subscribed to my old public health minor program emails, and upon an email from Professor Obasanjo with an attached link to the NWICA internship program last month, I applied and got in!

Daisy Garner: I am currently still living in Austria and applying to graduate programs for next year! I am loving my time here and have been able to pick up my old hobbies again, like painting and ballet. I have also been meeting up with W&M alumni in the city.

Kiera Sears: I’ve finished my master’s degree in marine biology (third in my class!) and went to Australia in the fall to do some fieldwork with humpback whales. I’m currently living with my girlfriend in Ireland and saving up money to move to Australia in the summer.

2022

Class Reporter
SILAM BERHANE ’22
wm2022classreporter@gmail.com

We are looking for a new reporter for graduate alumni in the Arts & Sciences. If interested, please contact alumni_magazine@wm.edu.

Corey D. B. Walker Ph.D. ’01 (American studies), a professor of humanities and director of the African American studies program at Wake Forest University, began his duties on Jan. 1 as the interim dean of their School of Divinity, as reported by the Winston-Salem Journal.

Kevin Leslie B.S. ’10, M.S. ’13 (biology) is the executive director of the Hampton Roads Biomedical Research Consortium, which aims to reduce health disparities and strengthen the region’s biohealth innovation pipeline, as reported by Inside Business (Hampton Roads).

Alexandra Wilke M.A. ’05, M.S. ’08 (biology), a coastal scientist with the Nature Conservancy and manager of the Volgenau Virginia Coast Reserve, is aiming to save many species of shorebirds — which are some of the most threatened species in the U.S. — through outreach and education, as reported by Chesapeake Bay magazine.

Steve Harrison ’08, M.P.P. ’10 began serving as the Hampton Roads Alliance’s COO in September 2022, as reported by the Virginia-Pilot.

Cliff Fleet ’91, M.A. ’93, J.D. ’95, M.B.A. ’95 (history), president and CEO of The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation and chair of the W&M Foundation, received the 2022 W&M Prentis Award, which recognizes extraordinary service to the Williamsburg community.

Annette Saunooke Clapsaddle M.A. ’04 (American studies) was elected to the board of the Museum of the Cherokee Indian by a unanimous vote of the Eastern Band of the Cherokee Indians Tribal Council.

D. Blair Sweigart M.S. ’14, Ph.D. ’19 (computer science, applied science), U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) command-er and chief of modeling, simulation and analysis for the USCG Research and Development Center, is using his knowledge of networks and network theory to advance ways to track criminal, terrorist and dark networks.

Mason School of Business

If you are interested in reporting for graduate alumni from the Raymond A. Mason School of Business, please contact the magazine staff at alumni_magazine@wm.edu.

Allen Plummer M.B.A. ’06 has joined private equity firm Carlyle Group as global managing editor and head of content for the company. Splitting his time between New York, Washington, D.C., and his home just outside Philadelphia, Allen will oversee content on environmental, social and corporate governance (ESG), investor relations, employee relations and content marketing while building an in-house team supporting content marketing and communications. Allen was also a speaker during W&M Professional Development Week, Feb. 27-March 3 (wmalumni.com/professionalsweek).
School of Education

Graduate School Reporter

SUE HENSHON PH.D. ’05
Naples, Fl
suzannahenshon@yahoo.com

Former William & Mary men’s soccer head coach, Al Albert ’69, M.Ed. ’71 was recently elected to the United Soccer Coaches Hall of Fame. Al coached at W&M for 33 years (1971-2003) and had 29 consecutive winning seasons, leading the Tribe to 11 NCAA Tournament appearances. He also served as the United States Men’s Coach at the 1981 and 1995 Macabiah Games in Israel. Al received the Bill Jeffrey Award for longtime service to college soccer in 2003. Read more at magazine.wm.edu/online-exclusives.

Charlie Foster M.Ed. ’17 has been selected for the 2022 Veteran Champion of the Year in Higher Education list, honoring those who go above and beyond in advocating for veterans in higher education. Foster currently serves as the inaugural director of W&M’s Office of Student Veteran Engagement, where he provides veterans connections to campus resources, GI benefits, internships and employment opportunities. Read more at magazine.wm.edu/online-exclusives.

Ivana Marshall M.Ed. ’23 was recently elected to the Girl Scouts of the Colonial Coast Board of Directors. Ivana is the associate director of Alumni Engagement & Inclusion Initiatives at William & Mary and serves as the chair of the University Advancement Diversity & Inclusion Committee.

Alynn Parham

M.A.Ed. ’18 is a social studies teacher at Jamestown High School and president of WJCEA (Williamsburg James City Education Association), the local education union of WJCC.

Lastly, there is sad news to share with the School of Education community. Anne Houghton Moore ’70, M.A.Ed. ’77, Ed.D. ’84 passed away on Jan. 20, 2023. Anne had a long history of professional contributions to William & Mary and is part of a family legacy spanning four generations, including her son, Ben Pratt ’95. Friends wishing to make memorial contributions may donate to the William & Mary Diversity and Inclusion Fund (3960) in Anne’s memory.

Law School

Graduate School Reporter

MATT WIDMER J.D. ’05
morrorlan77@gmail.com

Donald C. Grey B.A. ’50, B.C.L. ’52 passed away on Dec. 5, 2022.

Philip J. Hendel B.A. ’60, B.C.L. ’64 passed away on Oct. 6, 2022.

Edward Kendall “Ken” Stock J.D. ’64 passed away on June 2, 2022. The Arlington Bar Foundation bestowed the William L. Winston Award to William Murray J.D. ’73.

Edward R. Blumberg J.D. ’75 is chair of the Board of Trustees of The National Judicial College.


Katherine M. Hessler J.D. ’88 has been appointed assistant dean, Animal Legal Education and director of George Washington Law’s new Animal Legal Education Initiative.

Brian Golden J.D. ’92 launched a real estate practice at Keegan Werlin LLP.

Steven J. Moore LL.M. ’92 passed away on Nov. 18, 2022.

Jan P. Myskowski J.D. ’92 joined Fierce Atwood LLP as a partner in the firm’s trusts and estates practice group.

Lisa H. Nicholson J.D. ’93 has taken the William Marshall Bullitt Chair in Business Law at Louis D. Brandeis School of Law.

Ivan J. Bates J.D. ’95 was sworn in as Baltimore’s top prosecutor in the State’s Attorney’s Office.

Cliff Fleet ’91, M.A. ’93, J.D. ’95, M.B.A. ’95, is this year’s recipient of the Prentis Award, which recognizes those in the Williamsburg community who perform extraordinary service to the community and have a connection to W&M.

Crystal Roberts Jezierski J.D. ’97 joins Guidepost Solutions as senior managing director.

Audra Dial J.D. ’98 was awarded the 2022 Citizen Lawyer Award.

Scott D. McBride J.D. ’99 has been named the associate deputy chief counsel for Trade Enforcement and Compliance at the U.S. Department of Commerce.

Jonas J. Simcox J.D. ’99 at Booz Allen Hamilton has been named a partner at Stoel Rives.

Richard C. Spoor J.D. ’14 was elected partner at Keating Mullen & Klekamp.

Kevin S. Elikker J.D. ’14 has returned to Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP as counsel in the firm’s Richmond office.

Jenna Poligo J.D. ’14 has been named a partner at Steol Rives.

Jacob A. Cain J.D. ’19 joined Maynard Cooper Gale.

Bryn Clegg J.D. ’21 joined Wilcox Savage.

Alec Hoeschel J.D. ’22 has joined the Delaware law firm of Morris, Nichols, Arsh & Tunell LLP.

Oluwasayo A. Ayemoni J.D. ’22 has joined Shook, Hardy & Bacon.

Madeline Blackburn J.D. ’22 is an associate at Shearing & Gordon.

Savannah Kibble J.D. ’22 has joined Faegre Drinker.

Jonathan N. Marchuk J.D. ’22 is now an associate at Kaufman & Canoles.

Keith H. Bensten J.D. ’08 was named a partner at Day Pitney LLP.

Lindsey R. Vaala J.D. ’08 was sworn in as U.S. magistrate judge in the Eastern District of Virginia.

Christopher K. Gottfried J.D. ’09 is director of the William & Mary Law School’s Corporate Compliance Certificate Program.

Julie Silverbrook J.D. ’12 was awarded the 2022 Taylor Revely Award.

Rebecca L. Van Derlase ’09, J.D. ’13 has been promoted to counsel at Olshan Frome Wolosky LLP.

Anna M. Killius J.D. ’13 was named the new executive director of Chesapeake Bay Commission.

We are so sad to report the recent passing of our fellow benthon and Maury Hall lab mate, Alessandra Sagasti Ph.D. ’00, after battling pancreatic cancer. Alessandra was a professor of biology at Montgomery College in Takoma Park, Maryland, and a devoted mom, teacher and naturalist. Our sympathy goes out to her husband, Chris Taggi, their daughter, her entire family and all of her friends.

2022 was a busy year for Jessica Lisa Ph.D. ’15. Jess and longtime beau, Danny Bender, tied the knot in a small, toes-in-the-sand wedding ceremony on the beach in Long Branch, New Jersey, in September, officiated by her cousin. Jess and Danny (and furry siblings Gus and Nova) welcomed daughter Lily in November. Jess joined the faculty at Georgian Court University in Lakewood, New Jersey, in 2021, where she teaches microbiology. Congratulations!

Thanks to roving reporter Matt Harwell Ph.D. ’00, who shared that he and Tracy Holton the W&M ALUMNI MAGAZINE and interns from in and around the Oregon State University’s Hatfield Institute.

Virginia Institute of Marine Science

Graduate School Reporters

ELIZABETH HINCEY
MALLOY
M.A. ’96, PH.D. ’02
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JANET NESTLERODE M.A. ’96, PH.D. ’04
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We are so sad to report the recent passing of several VIMS alumni, former staff and interns from in and around the Oregon State University’s Hatfield Institute.

Virginia
Marine Science Center campus in Newport, Oregon. See a photo in the online edition. Among those who attended were **Sandy Blake Boles M.A. ’94, Larry Boles M.A. ’96, Scott Marion M.S. ‘02 and Jami Ivory M.S. ’16.**

The group plans to hold meetups on a regular basis to reminisce about their Gloucester Point days and perform quality assurance checks of the local brewery commodities. Contact Matt to receive updates on these future events: harwell. Matt@epa.gov.

Readers, your class reporters, Scoop Hinchey and Newshound Nes-tlerode, want your updates for future columns. Call in more “Quips” 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 Sept. 21, 2022 through Jan. 25, 2023. To read extended obituaries, please go online to our magazine website at 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

Jean Brooks Oberg
Peebles Jones '43 of Norfolk, Virginia, died Nov. 7, 2022.


Catherine Logan Collins Munroe '48 of Timonium, Maryland, died Sept. 22, 2022.


Harriette Elaine Fox Palko '48 of Jacksonville Beach, Florida, died May 23, 2022.

Calvin Omah Tiller '48 of Fowhatan, Virginia, died Nov. 5, 2022.


Henry Rosovsky '49 of Cambridge, Massachusetts, died Nov. 11, 2022.


Doris Faye Lerner Baumgarten '51 of Aiken, South Carolina, died Sept. 21, 2022.


Dr. Martin Rosenberg '51 of Laguna Woods, California, died Oct. 3, 2021.

Harvey “Harv” Lasky '56 of Modesto, California, died July 25, 2022.


Betsey Davis Hatha way III '58 of Newport News, Virginia, died Nov. 19, 2022.


Majorie “Marge” Willard Duer '55 of Salisbury, Maryland, died Dec. 16, 2022.

Jean Graham Shepard Weisz '55 of Santa Cruz, California, died Oct. 25, 2022.

George Anthony Cicala '56, M.A. '58 of Tamarac, Florida, died Nov. 8, 2022.


Harvey “Harv” Lasky '56 of Modesto, California, died July 25, 2022.


Jo Ann Love Fleming '57 of Louisville, Kentucky, died July 7, 2022.


Bette Anne Brown Hinkle '60 of Oakton, Virginia, died Aug. 18, 2021.


Paul Frederick Berg raus '62 of Boyce, Virginia, died Nov. 19, 2022.


Thomas “Tom” Edward Murphy '63 of Williamsburg died Nov. 19, 2022.


Majorie “Marge” Willard Duer '55 of Salisbury, Maryland, died Dec. 16, 2022.

Jean Graham Shepard Weisz '55 of Santa Cruz, California, died Oct. 25, 2022.

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Betsey Davis Hatha way III '58 of Newport News, Virginia, died Nov. 19, 2022.


OBITS

Sandra “Sandy” Reese

Gary Warren Alphin

Eleanor Rhea Brown

Diana Edwards Murnaghan

Celia Wayne Curlee Johnson

Diane Edwards Murnaghan

Eleanor Rhea Brown

David “Dave” Laurent Kern

J. Edward Olson

Gary Warren Alphin

James “Jim” Staniel Branyon

James “Jim” Harry Harris

Sandra “Sandy” Reese Hoyer

Hon. James “Jim” Windfield Lewis

Larry Benton Qualls

OBITS

Nicholas “Nick” Craig Sayers ’67 of Tampa, Florida, died Nov. 9, 2022.


Gerald Hampton Burnett ’68 of Ruckersville, Virginia, died Jan. 12, 2022.


Christine Nathalie Hall-Sizemore ’70 of Richmond, Virginia, died Jan. 1, 2023.


Jeffrey “Big” Moran Mann ’71 of Cockeysville, Maryland, died Oct. 5, 2022.

Pamela Hilton Snow ’71 of Ashland, Nebraska, died Sept. 7, 2022.

Brian Wade Davenport ’72 of Vienna, Virginia, died June 8, 2022.

James “Jim” Warren Graves ’72 of Shreveport, Louisiana, died Nov. 12, 2022.


Donald Wayne Campbell ’75 of Gloucester, Virginia, died Dec. 24, 2022.


Branden Michael Renfrow ’76 of Norfolk, Virginia, died Aug. 1, 2022.


Dr. Stephen Thomas Percotte ’77 of Verona, Pennsylvania, died April 24, 2020.

Mary-Waite Meredith Faulconer ’78 of Atlanta, Georgia, died Nov. 19, 2022.


Linda Kay Jones Meyer ’80 of Richmond, Virginia, died Sept. 21, 2022.

Gary Lee McDonald ’83 of San Francisco, California, died Nov. 10, 2022.

Laura Plante White ’84 of Richmond, Virginia, died Oct. 22, 2022.

Marc Allan Wright ’85 of Elkridge, Maryland, died Nov. 28, 2022.


Elizabeth Marshall Keys ’97 of Crofton, Maryland, died Nov. 17, 2022.


STUDENTS

GRADUATE ALUMNI


Frederick George Wedell M.B.A. ’71 of Birmingham, Alabama, died Nov. 15, 2022.


Phyllis Anne Rojko Pearce ’74, M.Ed. ’76 of Berryville, Virginia, died Sept. 17, 2022.


Steven Jarvis Moore LL.M. ’92 of Corbin, Kentucky, died Nov. 18, 2022.


John Alden Williams of Baltimore, Maryland, died Nov. 30, 2022.

Mary Louise Diggs of West Point, Virginia, died Sept. 26, 2022.

Barbara Stevens Ball of Williamsburg died Nov. 24, 2022.

FRIENDS OF THE UNIVERSITY

James “Mike” Kokolis HON ’05 of Williamsburg died Jan. 12, 2023.

Helen Weisman Lansburgh of Dallas, Texas, died Nov. 15, 2022.

A BRICK IS FOREVER

The engraved bricks on Clarke Plaza at the Alumni House tell so many stories, and what better gift to give to that someone special.

Inscribe your message on a brick at the Alumni House to add your story to the thousands of bricks from generations of W&L alumni and friends. Learn more at wmalumni.com/gifts-gear or call 757.221.1168.
“Making a gift to advance William & Mary’s future is an affirmation of the university’s excellence and ensures that this excellence will continue in perpetuity.”

Leanne Dorman Kurland ’75, P ’05 and R. Alexander “Alex” Kurland HON ’19, P ’05

“Why do we give? There is something truly special about William & Mary. Our family ties run deep — from Leanne’s father, Lee Dorman ’45, and her sister, Lois Dorman Smith ’68, through our long involvement and support over many years, to that of our son, Lee Kurland ’05, who is now serving on the Annual Giving Board. Leanne’s father established an endowment to support the restoration and perpetual care of the Wren Building and funded faculty professorships. We have committed to both a professorship and a scholarship in our estate plans to help future generations’ access to the education and experience that is William & Mary.

You never know the impact you will have on someone’s path. When you sit down with a student and hear of their incredible achievements or how they have been transformed by a class or a professor, you cannot help but be moved. When you make a commitment to William & Mary’s future, you know you are making a difference for generations to come.”

For assistance with your charitable gift plans, contact Kirsten A. Kellogg ’91, Ph.D., Assistant Vice President of Principal Gifts and Gift Planning, at 757-221-1004 or kakellogg@wm.edu.

giving.wm.edu/giftplanning
The MBA Program at William & Mary is proud to present the
Principled Achievement Award to
Anna Maria DeSalva ’90
Global Chairman and CEO | Hill+Knowlton Strategies

Principled Achievement:
Integrity, Humility, Success