Outstanding generosity on William & Mary’s 11th annual giving day reached over 880 funds and initiatives across campus. This extraordinary expression of community pride brought 11,516 people together from across the globe to raise over $3.7 million for the university. Your incredible impact abounds.

If you missed One Tribe One Day, there’s still time to make an impact before our fiscal year ends on June 30.

Make your gift today at impact.wm.edu/fye
4.36
AVERAGE HIGH SCHOOL GPA OF ENROLLING FRESHMEN SCHOLARSHIP IMPACT FUND RECIPIENTS

1,290
NUMBER OF UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS WHO RECEIVED SCHOLARSHIPS IN THE LAST ACADEMIC YEAR

35%
OF WILLIAM & MARY UNDERGRADUATES RECEIVE NEED-BASED AID

Isaac Ceus Jr. ’25
KINESIOLOGY NUTRITION CONCENTRATION

“William & Mary helped me explore my passion for nutrition. I’ve always loved science, from biology to chemistry to anatomy, and I am a foodie who loves to cook and eat great food. I have been able to focus my studies at William & Mary on human nutrition thanks to support from the Scholarships Impact Fund. Thank you for your generosity in support of my William & Mary journey.”

AFFORDING OPPORTUNITY

William & Mary

giving.wm.edu/scholarships

Scholarships have the power to transform lives. Learn more by contacting Angela Bartee Ed.D. ’22, executive director of development for scholarships and student affairs philanthropy, at adbartee@wm.edu or 757-221-7879.
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ON THE COVER: FOR THIS REPRESENTATION OF RENEWABLE ENERGY, ZARA PICKEN USED DIGITAL ILLUSTRATION TO REPLICATE THE LOOK OF A PAPER COLLAGE.

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

A NEW ADVENTURE
On May 17, the Class of 2024 celebrated Commencement, joining a vibrant, close-knit community of over 110,000 alumni worldwide. Judge John Charles Thomas HON J.D. ’16, HON ’18, LL.D. ’24 was the keynote speaker this year and received an honorary degree. The first African American and the youngest appointee to the Supreme Court of Virginia, Thomas served on W&M’s Board of Visitors for nearly 12 years.
William & Mary boasts a most outstanding alumni body; one which is successful and good beyond that of many universities nationwide. With such distinction comes a significant responsibility for each of us to do our part in advancing its strengths.

Every graduate of William & Mary has the chance to enhance the university for the next generation of students — those who aspire to meaningful lives, however they define success. You can be a pivotal factor in their journey.

Now, you might ask, how can someone like me, situated miles away, contribute to the growth of a student in Williamsburg or an alumnus across the globe? The answer lies in what I label “Full Engagement.”

Full Engagement is about dedicating yourself to our alma mater in ways that enrich the student experience for years to come. It’s a straightforward measure to gauge the impact of alumni actively participating in initiatives that enhance the student and alumni experiences, consequently elevating the value of a William & Mary degree.

This entails giving of your time and resources, whether that’s by attending events or sharing your insights as a volunteer leader through the Alumni Association; serving as a mentor and leveraging your professional network for the benefit of students and fellow alumni (for example, by joining One Network at onenetwork.wm.edu); sharing your story about William & Mary to inspire others; and providing financial support to propel the university’s crucial endeavors toward a bright future. You can create the conditions for our community to reach its fullest potential. William & Mary will live into its greatness because we are Fully Engaged.

I invite you to join me in Fully Engaging with William & Mary, its students, its alumni and its future. The Alumni Association is committed to ensuring every former student has the opportunity to be Fully Engaged. Rest assured, our Alumni Association team will be by your side every step of the way, making the journey both fulfilling and fun.

Together, let’s embrace our Tribe pride, boldly champion our excellence and revel in the knowledge that our contributions extend far beyond ourselves, shaping a better world. I eagerly anticipate seeing you on the path to Full Engagement.
SAVE THE DATE AND TELL YOUR FRIENDS!

WILLIAM & MARY

HOME COMING

REUNION WEEKEND

OCTOBER 17-20

HOMECOMING.WM.EDU
FROM THE BRAFFERTON

Uphill Gains

BY KATHERINE A. ROWE
William & Mary President

Higher education in the United States faces a steep uphill climb. The challenges confronting colleges and universities are the starkest I have seen in my career. Trust in higher education has eroded; though the data remains strong on the long-term value of college degrees, students and families want to know that their education will ready them to navigate a future that seems filled with uncertainties.

As any long-distance runner knows, however, we can make the most gains on the uphills. William & Mary is America’s first university. We have a special obligation to lead today. Holding onto and rebuilding faith in higher education means we must deliver on three fundamental obligations as the Alma Mater of the Nation.

First, W&M must continue to ensure our students have a great on-campus experience. A W&M education should stretch students in transformational ways, so they graduate ready for global citizenship and professional life in the 21st century. As one of W&M’s most brilliant and distinguished alumni, Michael K. Powell ’85, D.P.S. ’02, puts it, “The jobs of tomorrow belong to those trained to solve tomorrow’s problems.”

To meet those challenges, W&M is continuing to evolve our curriculum. We weave 21st-century knowledge and tools into the enduring values of the liberal arts and sciences. W&M’s new School of Computing, Data Sciences, and Physics and new majors in marine science and cybersecurity ensure that graduates will have both the range and technical savvy to address urgent challenges facing our nation and world. Robert M. Gates Hall, honoring our chancellor and former U.S. secretary of defense, the Honorable Robert M. Gates ’65, L.H.D. ’98, will position W&M as the destination for research on global security, democracy and conservation.

Our second obligation as America’s Alma Mater is to recruit and retain extraordinary people. When accepting the Raymond A. Mason School of Business Principled Achievement Award this spring, Buffalo Bills Coach Sean McDermott ’98 remarked, “Our building starts with people, and it ends with people.” As a championship coach, he knows that success is only limited by the quality of the people who make up our community — their openness to transformation and commitment to supporting one another with grace in that growth.

For that reason, W&M systemically cultivates the arts and crafts of respectful disagreement that are so important in a pluralistic society. As part of our Vision 2026 Democracy initiative for the past four years, we have fully integrated a civics curriculum — called “Better Arguments” — into new student orientation. Our leadership boards, faculty, staff and even alumni have participated. Keep your eye out for opportunities to join us.

W&M continues to invest in exceptional talent. Generous donors at all levels support professorships, coaching and exceptional resources. In FY23, we raised nearly $20 million for scholarships. W&M has made major strides toward our ambitious goal to increase in-state Pell recipients to 20%. As the next horizon, we are looking to increase aid for out-of-state students — an essential commitment for a national university.

If we deliver on these two obligations — to continue to focus on outcomes and recruit and retain outstanding people who will drive innovation — then we will fulfill our third obligation as the Alma Mater of the Nation: to raise W&M’s prominence in our nation and world.

W&M has readied generations of students to lead in their time. We have solidified W&M’s stature as the No. 1 public university for internships. For three years in a row, W&M has received national recognition from the National Association of Colleges and Employers for our commitment to innovating career services. The Wall Street Journal has once again ranked W&M among the top public universities for high-paying salaries in finance, management consulting and tech.

As I write this column, we are two weeks out from Commencement for the Class of 2024. This extraordinary cohort began their college careers in the thick of pandemic. At their Convocation ceremony in 2021, Judge John Charles Thomas HON J.D. ’16, HON ’18 called on them to be “magnificent builders.” They graduate ready to build at their next destination, be it a job, military commission, graduate school or service opportunity. When I talk with them on campus about how much effort they committed to be here, now, on the threshold of their degrees, I feel immense pride and hope. They remind me that, with a resilient mindset, we can make the most gains on the uphills. Congratulations to the amazing Class of 2024: the people who will always find a way.
HARNESSING THE POWER OF CONNECTION.

W&M RANKED #1 FOR INTERNSHIPS

W&M is committed to guaranteeing a funded internship for every undergraduate who seeks one. Since 2021, the university has quadrupled the number of students who receive support for unpaid or underfunded internships, and funding to support students has tripled. You can help.

RECRUIT
Offer internships, externships, networking and jobs

ENGAGE
Participate in informational interviews, career panels and meetups

GIVE
Give to the Career Center Student Internship Fund

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

WILLIAM & MARY
A $30 million gift from a William & Mary alumna who is a W&M Foundation trustee will pay tribute to former U.S. Secretary of Defense (2006-2011) and current university Chancellor Robert M. Gates ’65, L.H.D. ’98 with the first academic building in the nation to bear Gates’ name.

The W&M Foundation, which owns and operates the currently vacant Brown Hall property, will partner with the university to transform the existing structure and create Robert M. Gates Hall. The renovated building will serve as a hub for research and teaching that spans disciplines, addressing global challenges such as economic development and inequality, geopolitical conflict, national security and conservation.

A LEED-certified, state-of-the-art facility, Gates Hall will be home to three university-wide centers. All three generate research of national and international consequence: the Global Research Institute, the Institute for Integrative Conservation and the Whole of Government Center of Excellence. In addition to the lead gift, endowments have been created to support the academic centers and the long-term care of the building.
Using sustainable design principles, the construction project will reduce waste by renovating rather than demolishing the building. Gates Hall will incorporate gathering spaces and common areas to spark collaboration and redefine how academic structures can help advance big ideas. Students, faculty, staff and alumni from across the university will connect with thought partners and industry leaders to discuss vital global issues.

“I have long admired President Rowe’s leadership and am thrilled to support her bold vision through reimagined spaces where new knowledge can grow, and grand challenges find solutions,” says the donor, who wishes to remain anonymous. “I am thankful for the opportunity to recognize Chancellor Gates,” she adds. “Given the divisions in our nation and world, we need leaders of his caliber, patriotism and integrity — now more than ever.”

As U.S. Secretary of Defense, Gates was hailed as a strategic problem-solver who transcended politics and cut through bureaucracy to strengthen the nation’s security. He is renowned for his humane and candid leadership, and his care for those who serve on the front lines, earning recognition as the “Soldier’s Secretary.” Gates is the only secretary of defense in U.S. history to serve in successive Republican and Democratic administrations.

“We are deeply grateful for our trustee’s passion for conservation and sustainability — so important to the work that will take place in this special building,” says President Katherine Rowe. “Like the chancellor, she is a true servant leader; she does not seek recognition for herself. Through her partnership, across the university, she has inspired us to aim high. Gates Hall will build on other initiatives that her generosity has brought to life here. “William & Mary’s commitment to the values of excellence, integrity and public service is underscored by this recognition of the chancellor,” Rowe elaborates. “Throughout his career, Robert Gates has championed the power of education and scholarship to advance democracy and build a better world. In these classrooms and meeting spaces, future generations of public policy leaders, conservationists and national security experts will pursue those ideals.”

During a recent visit to campus, Gates said he feels humbled and overwhelmed to be recognized at his alma mater through the naming of Gates Hall. “This is the greatest honor I’ve received in my lifetime,” he says. “William & Mary is where I felt called to public service, and I can see that the call to make a difference is still felt strongly here. This building will serve as a hub for generations of students and faculty to cultivate new ideas to contribute to the nation and the world.”

BUILDING ON HISTORY
Taking on a 21st-century mission will breathe new life into a building that ended its use as a residence hall in 2021. Purchased by the W&M Foundation in 1939, the year the W&M Foundation was established, Brown Hall is located at the corner of Prince George and North Boundary streets. It sits across from William & Mary’s Historic Campus at the outer boundary of Colonial Williamsburg.

“The Foundation’s mission is to partner with the university to provide vital resources for scholarships, professorships, research and program funding. That is why I am so excited by the flexible design and the way the building can evolve to meet the needs of future students, faculty and staff,” says W&M Foundation Chair Janet Rollins Atwater ’84, P ’17, P ’20. “This is the definition of ‘adaptive re-use’ — reimagining century-old spaces for cutting-edge work, thanks to this investment by our generous trustee.”
Named in honor of a Methodist family who helped to fund construction, Brown Hall was built in 1930 by the Women’s Missionary Society of the Virginia Methodist Conference. It originally served as an off-campus residence for Methodist women students at William & Mary. Later, it served as men’s housing, Army housing, rented space for service families, upperclassmen residences and most recently a freshman dormitory.

Archaeological digs that William & Mary faculty and students and researchers at Colonial Williamsburg have conducted over the years show that the site directly beneath Brown Hall originally had been home to the Williamsburg Bray School, which enslaved and free Black children attended in the 18th century. A historical marker at the site commemorates the Bray School’s foundation in 1760 and operation there for several of its 14 years. The surviving Bray School building was moved to a different location on Prince George Street in 1930 and relocated to Colonial Williamsburg property in 2023.

William & Mary is partnering with The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation to uncover, document, preserve and disseminate the history and legacy of the Williamsburg Bray School. The W&M Foundation has provided three time periods for excavation on the site during the past three years, including this spring and summer, in addition to earlier archaeological work in partnership with Colonial Williamsburg and the university.

Plans call for exhibits inside the new Gates Hall that will honor and tell the story of the Bray School and the children who studied there, with input from the school’s descendant community in designing the commemoration.

“It’s fitting that this building will honor Chancellor Gates, given that during his tenure, William & Mary has advanced its partnership with Colonial Williamsburg, has undertaken the Bray School project and has engaged with the community to tell a more expansive story of our university and the nation,” says Ann Marie Stock, the university’s presidential liaison for strategic cultural partnerships.

“I’m exhilarated to think about world leaders converging at Gates Hall on the site where the Bray School once stood and where enslaved and free scholars were empowered by learning,” she says. “While new discoveries are being made in this vibrant research hub, we will also continue the archaeological and genealogical research and oral histories that will further illuminate the rich history of the Bray School.”

**A MODERN MISSION**

Scheduled for groundbreaking this fall after archaeological work concludes, Gates Hall is set for completion in time for the nation’s 250th anniversary in 2026. Williamsburg anticipates millions of visitors throughout that year and beyond to celebrate the historic milestone.

Gates Hall will host prominent events such as the bipartisan Gates Forum, chaired by Chancellor Gates. Launched in 2022 to convene leaders from across the political spectrum to reform and strengthen U.S. non-military instruments of power, this annual convening is a model for others the new academic hub will host.

Prior to the opening of Gates Hall, GRI, IIC and WGC are operating from and in partnership with Swem Library in a new section they’re calling The Hive. They have already collaborated on projects, including the Nepal Water Initiative to examine fish biodiversity and the Whole of Government Center’s National Security Conference. In addition, WGC and IIC are developing a geographic information system course, and GRI faculty teach in a military training program led by WGC.

By bringing these three academic centers together, William & Mary fulfills important strategic goals in Vision 2026: to expand the university’s reach, educate for impact and evolve to excel.

“Gates Hall will provide room to host thought partners from outside W&M, which could include diplomats-in-residence from the U.S. Department of State, military experts, scientists from Conservation International or linguists from Tokyo University. The next generation of national security leaders — whether at the U.S. Army Special Operations Command or through the Global Innovation Challenge for undergraduate students — will receive training that leverages the talents of the combined centers in ways that traditionally siloed buildings cannot,” says WGC Director Kathryn H. Floyd ’05.

**Statement from Merchants Square Association:**
The Merchants Square Association welcomes this transformation of the currently vacant Brown Hall into a dynamic new facility. Our members look forward to the opening of Robert M. Gates Hall on the site, and to the vibrance it will bring to the corner of Prince George and North Boundary streets.
The classrooms and shared spaces also will be available for use by all W&M students, faculty and staff.

“We are thrilled that state-of-the-art technology in the new building will allow our students and faculty to connect with partners around the world in new ways,” says Global Research Institute Director Mike Tierney ’87, M.A. ’88, P ’15, the George & Mary Hylton Professor of International Relations. “But there is something about face-to-face engagement that ignites the creative process. Random interactions spark ideas that lead to creative solutions. This new building is designed to encourage those spontaneous encounters.”

The W&M Foundation is partnering with the W&M Real Estate Foundation, which will serve as the construction manager for the project. Plans for the building incorporate bio-design elements that reflect qualities fundamental to the IIC.

“Thanks to the donor’s extraordinary leadership and vision for how William & Mary can make a difference in the world, Gates Hall will serve as a hub for addressing global challenges that cut across the mission of IIC, GRI and WGC,” says IIC Executive Director Robert Rose. “The building will be the home for many undergraduate courses and programs, bringing hundreds of students together each year to enrich their academic journey with interdisciplinary courses and applied experiences.”

Once the renovation and expansion are completed, Gates Hall will encompass two wings with a courtyard in the middle. A spectacular atrium, an outdoor balcony and an outdoor learning space are among the ways in which the design will connect the built environment with the natural environment, the inside to the outside, people to nature and people to people.

Information about giving opportunities and ways to support the work taking place in Gates Hall can be found at magazine.wm.edu/support-gates-hall.

LEGAL MATTERS

EVOLVING ADMISSION LANDSCAPE

Takeaways from the Virginia law

BY CATHERINE TYSON ’20

On March 8, Gov. Glenn Youngkin signed legislation prohibiting the consideration of legacy status in admission decisions at public institutions of higher education in Virginia. The governor’s decision follows a unanimous vote by both chambers of the Virginia General Assembly in January of this year.

This legislation states that universities and colleges in Virginia must not provide “any manner of preferential treatment in the admissions decision to any student applicant on the basis of such student’s legacy status or such student’s familial relationship to any donor to such institution.” The law will take effect July 1.

This decision makes Virginia the second state to approve bills against the consideration of legacy status in admissions, following a similar decision in Colorado in 2021. Other states, including New York and Connecticut, are considering comparable legislation. These state discussions are part of a nationwide conversation following the Supreme Court’s June 2023 ruling on affirmative action in higher education. This decision has increased scrutiny toward policies at universities that preferentially admit students in certain demographic groups.

As a public university in Virginia, William & Mary is subject to the new law, which minimally impacts admission processes. The university uses the same review process and admission standards for all applicants, including those with legacy status and/or donor relationships.

“The university uses a comprehensive, holistic admission process to ensure that each incoming class reflects the strengths and academic caliber of our talented community,” says Tim Wolfe '95, M.Ed. '01, associate vice president for enrollment and dean of admission.

Consistent with recent years, legacy students comprised 8% of W&M’s incoming class in 2023. The academic profile of admitted legacy applicants is on par with W&M’s overall admitted class, with a median SAT score of 1440 and a median GPA of 4.33 for entering legacy students in 2023.

“Legacy students remain an important part of our community of belonging, and we welcome all family members of our alumni to consider W&M as a top choice,” says Wolfe. “The longstanding connection our alumni feel with their alma mater and their active engagement with the university help William & Mary thrive.”
RECOGNIZING PUBLIC SERVICE

BUNCH, TRAMMELL AWARDED HONORARY DEGREES

When the William & Mary community gathered in February to celebrate the founding of the university 331 years ago, two exemplary individuals received honorary degrees. • W&M Chancellor Robert M. Gates ’65, L.H.D. ’98 conferred upon Lonnie G. Bunch III an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree and upon Jeffrey B. Trammell ’73 an honorary Doctor of Public Service degree during the Charter Day ceremonies in Kaplan Arena. • Bunch is the secretary of the Smithsonian Institution and was founding director of the Smithsonian’s National Museum of African American History & Culture. Trammell, who served as W&M’s rector from 2011-2013, is a leader in strategic counseling, politics and education and an advocate for LGBTQ rights. • In his keynote address, Bunch reflected on the power and purpose of history. “Ultimately, for me, when I think about the power of history ... it’s a mirror to America. It is a mirror that makes those who are invisible, more visible. It is a mirror that gives voice to those who are silent. It’s a mirror that says, ‘Let us live up to the founding ideals of this nation. Let us celebrate and revel, but let us also live up to those ideals.’” • Read more at magazine.wm.edu/2024-honorary-degrees.

— GABRIELA TRAUTTMANSDORFF ’26
JUST TWO WEEKS AFTER WINNING AN ACADEMY Award for the screenplay of his film “American Fiction,” Cord Jefferson ’04 shared key pieces of advice for those pursuing a career in the arts: Keep creating work that you’re proud of and don’t let rejection get you down.

Jefferson spoke to a full house at the Kimball Theatre in Williamsburg on March 23 as part of the Ampersand International Arts Festival, of which William & Mary is a sponsor. During a conversation moderated by fellow filmmaker Milan Chakraborty ’00, he described some of the ups and downs of his career in the entertainment industry. For example, after getting his first big break writing for the television show “Survivor’s Remorse” in 2014 and transitioning away from journalism, it took about nine months before he found his second job.

“I almost quit,” Jefferson said. “I called my manager and said, ‘I’m not independently wealthy. I can’t go for a year without working.’ By that time, I’d started eating into my savings and I had turned down other full-time journalism jobs to give this a go, and it just felt like nothing was going to happen.”

His manager advised him to give it another two months and then reassess. “About three weeks later I got an interview with Larry Wilmore, who was producing his last episode of ‘Black-ish’ at the time,” he said. Wilmore hired Jefferson to write for “The Nightly Show with Larry Wilmore,” a new series he was planning to host on Comedy Central.

Jefferson went on to write for the acclaimed TV shows “Master of None,” “The Good Place” and HBO’s “Watchmen,” for which he won an Emmy along with show creator Damon Lindelof. (Read more in the spring 2021 W&M Alumni Magazine article “Art Mirrors Life.”)

Winning an Emmy doesn’t guarantee smooth sailing, however. In October 2020 — the same year he received the award — Jefferson experienced a crushing setback when Apple TV+ shut down “Scraper,” a series he had developed based on his time previously working for the website Gawker.

“We had written the entire season,” Jefferson said. “They started telling me where I should look for my apartment in New York to be near the production offices. It was so close, then at the last minute it was, ‘No, we’re not doing this.’”
He thought that might be the end of his quest to produce his own project.

“By that point, I was pushing 40 and I thought this isn’t going to happen for me,” Jefferson said. “I’ll be able to work in writers’ rooms and that’s great. I’ll make a good living and I’ll be allowed to be creative, but I’m not going to run my own thing ever.”

A couple of months later, he discovered the novel “Erasure” by Percival Everett while looking for a book to read over the holidays. The more he read, the more he identified with the protagonist, a professor and author named Thelonious “Monk” Ellison, who is frustrated by white publishers’ expectations that Black authors should write about racial stereotypes.

“It was like, wait a minute. I’ve got two siblings. This is how my father is. My mother didn’t die of Alzheimer’s, but my mother died of cancer,” Jefferson said. “There’s a scene where one of the characters talks about how he went to William & Mary. So it just felt like there was so much in this that was speaking specifically to me and my life.”

After reading 50 pages, Jefferson started thinking he might want to adapt the script. “Within 150 pages, I started reading the character of Monk in Jeffrey Wright’s voice,” he said of the actor who eventually was cast in the role. “I started picturing Jeffrey Wright in all the scenes. I called my manager and said I think I found the first movie I want to direct.”

The resulting film, “American Fiction,” includes book covers designed by a fellow W&M graduate, Catherine Casalino ’03, who knew Jefferson when they were students and stayed in touch as they progressed in their careers.

The movie received four Oscar nominations in addition to winning the Academy Award for Best Adapted Screenplay. Jefferson also won BAFTA and Critics Choice awards for adapted screenplay and an NAACP Image Award for Outstanding Writing in a Motion Picture, and the film received two Golden Globe nominations. Made for less than $10 million, “American Fiction” so far has earned over $22 million, according to the Los Angeles Times.

During his acceptance speech at the Oscars, he urged the industry to give other new filmmakers a chance. “Instead of making one $200 million movie, try making 20 $10 million movies or 50 $4 million movies,” he said. “I felt so much joy making this movie that I want other people to experience that joy, and they are out there. I promise you.”

Still, Jefferson cautions against relying on external validation. To work in the entertainment industry, “the number one quality you need to have is resilience,” he told the Ampersand festival audience. “You are going to get told ‘no’ so much. If you’re the kind of person who doesn’t want to face rejection all the time, I would say it’s not the career for you, and that’s OK.”

Those who persevere in film and television work have to navigate a multilayered bureaucracy and they need to see value in the work they’re creating, regardless of whether they make money from it, he said.

“You write a script and then you send it to producers or executives and see if they want to fund it,” Jefferson said. “When I’m doing that, the only thing that keeps me sane is coming home and having something else to write, because whatever happens, even if every single person in the world says ‘no’ to it, I can come home and write something that’s just mine and I don’t care what other people say. The constant churn of make stuff, make stuff, make stuff — that, to me, is equally important. And the more you make, the better you’ll get.”

True to his own advice, Jefferson has other new projects in the works. He is currently writing and executive producing a limited series for Amazon Prime Video starring Scarlett Johansson based on the novel “Just Cause” by John Katzenbach.

Noting he grew up in Tucson, Arizona, Jefferson said he’s also writing a noirish, contemporary western right now, about two brothers who are tracking down a third brother they haven’t seen in six years.

Responding to a question about whether he’ll continue to work on projects in which race and racism are central themes, he said, “I’m always going to want to put Black people in my movies. But I don’t know if I want to talk so directly about race anymore. I just want to show Black people living their lives, the same as anybody else.”
A single question sparked a movement to boldly shape the future of William & Mary Athletics: Are we All In? The William & Mary community’s resounding answer to that call enabled the university to exceed its $55 million campaign goal, signaling to all 23 Division I varsity teams, their fans and W&M as a whole that athletics at the Alma Mater of the Nation matters and is a critical part of W&M’s commitment to excellence.

The All In campaign for W&M Athletics was launched during the pandemic, at a time when our way of life was upended and uncertainty was rampant. It was a rallying cry to strengthen our financial foundation, build community, ensure equity and reimagine a new home for athletics. Victory ensued, as it always does when the William & Mary community comes together in support of a cause it cares deeply about — and ultimately, everyone came out a winner.

“At W&M, we meet challenges head-on. Propelled by the generosity of so many, we crossed the All In finish line for W&M and for our student-athletes,” said President Katherine Rowe. “We have reinforced the essential role of athletics in the life of the university. William & Mary’s long-standing commitment to our 500-plus student-athletes is more relevant today than ever before: This is the institution where you can realize your full potential both in competition and in the classroom. I am grateful to every person who has invested in our vision for a more sustainable athletics program.”

In total, the campaign raised $57.2 million, including $13.2 million for scholarships, thanks to the outpouring of support from 11,206 donors. Of those donors, 3,280 gave to athletics for the first time and 2,310 donors made their first gift ever to W&M. Nearly $3.4 million was secured for
ALL IN FOR ALL: Athletes across sports benefited from the campaign, from enhanced facilities to increased program and scholarship funding.
GO TRIBE!: Along with meeting the overall fundraising goal, the All In campaign strengthened community, increased annual giving to varsity teams and supported the W&M Athletics Complex.

Foundational to All In’s success were the volunteer leaders who put their full weight behind the campaign, including Campaign Chair Sue Hanna Gerdelman ’76, P ’07, P ’13, and Honorary Co-Chairs Todd Boehly ’96 and Katie Garrett Boehly ’95, Jill Ellis ’86, L.H.D. ’16, P ’27 and Betsy Stephenson P ’27, Jennifer Tepper Mackesy ’91 and D. Scott Mackesy ’91, as well as Mike Tomlin ’95, L.H.D. ’08 and Kiya Winston Tomlin ’96.

It was also the vision of the Boehlys and Mackesys that spearheaded efforts to reimagine the new home for W&M Athletics. The William & Mary Athletics Complex encompasses the soon-to-be-constructed Mackesy Sports Performance Center and revitalized Kaplan Arena — which now features a new state-of-the-art scoreboard, lighting and sound, as well as a renovated weight room and locker rooms — the Mackesy Tennis Center, Busch Field and the Tribe Field Hockey Center. As part of All In, Dillard Field will also see major upgrades that will benefit the entire campus community, particularly for varsity teams as well as intramural and club sports.

The complex, when complete, will represent an identifiable front door to W&M Athletics on campus — a gathering place for our entire community that symbolizes the university’s commitment to holistic excellence. With continued support, the university will have greater means to focus on whole student-athlete development by transforming where players train, compete and study.

Read the full article online at magazine.wm.edu/all-in-for-the-win.

BY&LARGE

INTRODUCING HEAD COACH BRIAN EARL

Brian Earl is the new head coach for William & Mary Men’s Basketball, Director of Athletics Brian D. Mann announced on March 23. Earl, who stepped into the role immediately, is the 32nd head coach in the program’s 119-year history. • Earl joined W&M after spending the last seven seasons as the men’s basketball head coach at Cornell University. There, he led the Big Red to numerous offensive milestones and its first-ever NCAA National Invitation Tournament bid this year. He has a degree in economics from Princeton University, where he was the 1999 Ivy League Player of the Year. • “I am extremely honored to be joining the William & Mary family,” Earl says. “My entire coaching career has been spent working at high-academic institutions with exceptional student-athletes, and I found that combination again here in Williamsburg. My family and I look forward to immersing ourselves in the university and the community with the goal of building a basketball program that students, faculty, fans and alumni will be proud of.” • Read more at magazine.wm.edu/brian-earl.

—W&M ATHLETICS
Experts on next-generation quantum technologies, mental health in schools and blue crab fishery management in the Chesapeake Bay — these are just a few of the 10 leading William & Mary educators who were recognized on May 10 as the 2024 recipients of the highly coveted annual Plumeri Awards for Faculty Excellence. Nine professors and one coach were selected for their achievements elevating excellence at the university and providing the most personal educational experience possible to our students. They each demonstrate deep commitment to the core award values of passion, vision, leadership and excellence.

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 support to nearly 250 faculty members and coaches to date.

The 2024 cohort is an impressive list representing the best of William & Mary faculty, on the leading edge in their respective fields. Members of this year’s class are Patton Burchett, religious studies; Brian Castleberry, English; Audrey Horning ’89, anthropology; Romuald Lipcius, marine science; Elizabeth Mead, art & art history; Irina Novikova, physics; Janise Parker, school psychology & counselor education; Joshua Puzey, biology; Daniel Runfola, applied science; and Michael Powell ’04, athletics. Read more at magazine.wm.edu/plumeri-2024.
A WORLD OF OPPORTUNITY

Two 2024 graduates tell how study abroad programs enhanced their W&M experience

BY JARIUS ALEXANDER ’24 & SOPHIE WORKINGER ’24

From architecture and design in Copenhagen to human rights movements in Kathmandu, William & Mary students have access to hundreds of study abroad programs in more than 55 countries around the globe.

William & Mary is first among public universities in the nation for study abroad participation, with more than 55% of undergraduates completing a study abroad program. The emphasis on global education is part of the university’s commitment to offering the most personal educational experience of any public university and preparing students to thrive in whatever careers they choose.

The diverse opportunities offered by the Reves Center for International Studies’ Global Education Office also include more than $600,000 annually for study abroad scholarships as one of many efforts to reduce financial barriers.

For a firsthand look at the benefits of studying abroad, we asked two 2024 graduates who participated in summer programs through the Reves Center.

The Friends We Made Along the Way

“Beauty to her, as to all who have felt, lay not in the thing, but in what the thing symbolized.”

This line describes the title character in “Tess of the d’Urbervilles” looking down on the majestic Vale of Blackmoor and reminiscing about what it used to mean to her. When I first read it in my Thomas Hardy class at Christ’s College in the University of Cambridge, it flew over my head. How could Tess look at the beauty of the vale and not be struck by its glory? I found myself even more perplexed when our professors took us to see the real Blackmore in all its astounding glory. I remember looking at the long stretch of rolling green hills and charming quaint farms and being mesmerized by how pretty it all was.

As I sit several months removed from my time in England, I’m reminded of all the beautiful things I saw that summer — the streets of Bath, the mysterious Stonehenge, the nightlife of London, the royal mile of Edinburgh and of course Blackmore Vale. Now I look at the pictures of all these amazing places, and Hardy’s words begin to make more sense to me.

As I sit back on my summer abroad, the most meaningful part was not the gorgeous locations in Europe, the film and English classes that counted toward my major, or even the scholarship I received that made it all possible. What I think made my study abroad trip amazing were the William & Mary people I got to experience it with. Thanks to them, I learned that world travel was easier than I previously thought, and became aware of postgraduate opportunities outside the U.S., as students described their international dream schools. I remember late nights in the Christ’s College buttery debating our Darwin class over darts and a drink, and warm evenings planning our weekends as a group trying to maximize the number of museums and pubs we could hop in just a few days. From office hours in a local bar to punting down the river Cam, we all grew very close that summer and every day felt like a new adventure.

As I write this piece, I am looking at a picture in which I sit on a beach in Cromer, gazing into a friend’s camera. Even though it’s one of the most gorgeous beaches I’ve been to in my life, what I think is beautiful about the photo isn’t Cromer itself, but what it and my entire summer trip abroad symbolize: The friends I made across the pond.

Jarius Alexander ’24 is an English and film and media studies double major from Nokesville, Virginia. He will be pursuing an M.A.Ed. in secondary English at W&M’s School of Education and plans to apply to the American Film Institute’s screenwriting program.

Discovering a Passion for Environmental Leadership

I spent the spring of 2023 basking in the hot sun of southern Spain — the perfect end to my European studies major. From attending a class on intercultural communication to catching a whirlwind of $30 flights across Europe, my
BY LARGE

semester in Seville was the idyllic study abroad experience. Yet after the semester, I wasn't quite ready to go home. William & Mary was piloting a new study abroad trip in The Hague, Netherlands, focusing on climate change and sea level rise. Starting a week after my semester in Spain, it explored a topic I am passionate about but didn't major in at William & Mary. Thanks to the Robert M. & Rebecca W. Gates Scholarship, a merit-based scholarship for students in global-related majors, my trip to The Hague was completely funded. Thrilled to start Study Abroad Part II, I packed my bags, said goodbye to my Spanish host family and began my eight-day journey from Spain to the Netherlands.

The Hague program was monumental in my decision to pursue a career in environmental work. Some days, we would attend lectures with local university students or hear a company talk about their new technology for floating wind turbines. Other days, we would learn how to cook with seaweed, attend a conference on environmental education and democracy, or visit innovative flood control architecture. Out of the entire trip, my favorite activity was visiting a parking garage. This was no ordinary garage, though. Instead, it was cleverly designed to protect the nearby town from rising sea levels while simultaneously serving as habitat for native species, a beautiful park for people to enjoy and, of course, a place to park your car.

The program culminated with each of us writing a final paper comparing how the Netherlands and the U.S. deal with a certain aspect of climate change. I chose to explore the disparity between biking in the Netherlands versus in Williamsburg. This paper led me to research urban planning, history, carbon emissions and perceptions toward different modes of transportation — all of which prepared me for an emissions reduction internship with the City of Williamsburg.

I had spent years assuming that if I wanted to fight climate change, I would have to study biology and chemistry, yet my time in The Hague taught me that it truly takes people from all professions and backgrounds. As my senior year winds down, I am looking forward to graduate school, where — thanks to The Hague and a little parking garage — I will pursue nonprofit leadership and environmental studies, preparing myself for a career in helping our planet.

Sophie Workinger '24 is from Chattanooga, Tennessee, and is double majoring in global studies (European concentration) and government. Next year, she plans to attend graduate school at the University of Pennsylvania.
FROM ROCKET PITCH TO LIFTOFF

THREE W&M ALUMNI TURNED ENTREPRENEURS PIONEER INTERACTIVE SOFTWARE DEMOS

BY CATHERINE TYSON ’20
Imagine being asked to buy a car without ever test driving it. Feeling a little hesitant? You’re not alone. Getting to “try before you buy” is a key part of most high-dollar purchases.

However, if you were a company looking to buy software before 2020, there was no easy way to “test drive” it beforehand. This could make selecting the best product a long, arduous, frustrating and somewhat opaque process. Overcoming this problem is the goal of Navattic — a company creating interactive product demos to curate a better experience for software buyers and sellers.

Key to Navattic’s story are three William & Mary alumni — Neil McLean ’18, Chris Hoyle ’18 and Natalie Marcotullio ’19. How they ended up working together is no coincidence. Their story starts at William & Mary, where, through the university’s entrepreneurial community, they forged a bond of friendship grounded in a shared interest to create solutions for everyday problems.
Entrepreneurship and New Beginnings

Propped up against a wall in William & Mary’s Entrepreneurship Hub is a sign that reads, “Make your idea more than an idea.” That phrase, which serves as the Hub’s tagline, was coined by McLean, now CEO of Navattic.

An out-of-state student from Michigan, McLean entered William & Mary with an eclectic set of interests that he pursued with a double major in art history and data analytics.

“I’d always maintained an interest in startups, but coming into W&M I wasn’t clear about a) whether my goals were attainable and b) how to go about achieving those goals,” says McLean.

One day, while walking through Miller Hall, home of the Raymond A. Mason School of Business, McLean discovered the Entrepreneurship Center, where he would find the answers to both those questions. It was also there that his friendship with Hoyle began.

A student-athlete on the men’s track and field team, Hoyle pursued his interest in engineering as a computer science major at W&M.

“I took my first computer science class freshman year and was sold right off the bat. I carried that textbook around with me everywhere and read it during all my other classes,” says Hoyle.

Like McLean, Hoyle had a passion for “solving problems and bringing ideas to life.” Following that interest, he also found his way to the Entrepreneurship Center. Having sustained several nagging injuries during his time on the track team, Hoyle decided it was time for a change, joining McLean to work at the Center.

Central to McLean and Hoyle’s entrepreneurial experience is Graham Henshaw, assistant provost for entrepreneurship at W&M. With a background in startups and a passion for creating community, Henshaw sees his mission as making W&M entrepreneurship a cross-campus movement.

“Entrepreneurship is about cultivating the tools and mindset to thrive in an ever-changing world,” says Henshaw. “Those skills are valuable regardless of your major.”

To promote that message, W&M launched the Entrepreneurship Hub in 2019, moving the core of the university’s co-curricular entrepreneurial activities from the business school to Tribe Square on Richmond Road. This location brings together students and faculty from all corners of the university, providing easy access to anyone interested in entrepreneurship.

Before the Hub’s launch, Henshaw looked to spread the word about the far-reaching benefits of entrepreneurship education with student voices.

“When I came on as executive director, I knew we needed a core student engine to tap into university-wide connections and spread the word,” he says.

In pursuit of that strategy, Henshaw became the faculty advisor for Tribe Ventures, a student...
organization focused on cultivating entrepreneurial thinking. A few years later, Tribe Ventures became part of the Entrepreneurship Center, morphing into a fellowship program for interested students.

FROM CONSUMERS TO CREATORS

As two of the Center’s original five fellows, McLean and Hoyle played a foundational role in creating what entrepreneurship looks like at W&M today. This experience was transformational for them both, taking them from “a consumer’s mindset to that of a creator,” according to Henshaw.

“Graham Henshaw gave us a tremendous amount of autonomy and ownership from an early stage,” McLean says.

This ownership came with significant responsibility to ideate, plan and execute the Center’s events and to track student demographics and engagement. As operations fellow, Hoyle wore many hats and was challenged to use his computer science background in new and innovative ways. He spearheaded building the Center’s website and developed different automations to raise student awareness and interaction as well as monitor attendance trends. This all involved a level of technical expertise, mathematics and troubleshooting that required tremendous creativity and focus.

“Working as a fellow was a great opportunity to apply the knowledge I was learning in the classroom in a practical way,” Hoyle says. “Graham really pushed us to develop sophisticated solutions to solve the Center’s problems.”

While Hoyle dove into the data, McLean got to work planning events to increase student engagement. One such event, which remains a core part of entrepreneurship at W&M, was the Rocket Pitch.

The Entrepreneurship Center began hosting pitch competitions every Friday, from 1-2 p.m. Participating students had 90 seconds to explain a problem of interest and their ideas for how to solve it. Winning pitches went on to compete at a larger end-of-semester competition with a panel of expert judges. Rocket Pitches were a fun, informal way for the fellows to drive student engagement with the Center, inspiring ideas and increasing participation.

However, McLean points to the coworking sessions after Rocket Pitches as the secret behind building the Center’s community.

“After Rocket Pitches, we had Coworking Fridays — time for students to socialize, share ideas and collaborate on projects. That is really where the community was created, during that unstructured, informal time.”

Thanks to culture-building activities such as these, more and more students started to show up for events at the Center. One of those students was Marcotullio, an inquisitive and somewhat skeptical junior.

As an 800-meter sprinter on the women’s track and field team and an art history enthusiast, Marcotullio shared similar interests with McLean and Hoyle. However, unlike the duo, she did not initially feel drawn toward entrepreneurship.

“To me, an entrepreneur equaled Mark Zuckerberg — a genius from birth who had wicked coding skills,” she says.

Lacking those wicked coding skills herself, Marcotullio didn’t see how this world could apply to her. However, moving into her junior year, she experienced some injuries which prevented her from continuing to run competitively. With a lot of time on her hands and a bit nervous about her post-graduation career opportunities, Marcotullio said yes when one of her friends invited her to a Rocket Pitch.

Rather than meeting a bunch of coding whiz kids (although there were some very strong coders, Hoyle included), Marcotullio was struck by the creativity and openness of the community.

“People were just throwing out these crazy ideas and trying to be as creative as possible,” she says. “There was a sense that anything was possible.”

This focus on innovation and thinking outside the box appealed to Marcotullio as a marketing major with a creative mindset. At her fifth Rocket Pitch, she decided to throw out her own idea — an app that would help people identify and sort recy-
Marcotullio eventually decided to become a fellow alongside McLean and Hoyle, using her marketing skills to spread the word about entrepreneurship at W&M.

In addition to Marcotullio’s work as a fellow, she also pursued her own entrepreneurial project, co-founding WM Laptops. A student-run venture, WM Laptops supplied students in a pinch with Chromebooks and made over $1,000 in revenue.

“It was an incredibly valuable experience,” says Marcotullio. “I learned about supply and demand, the customer experience and that I could try something completely new, figure it out and succeed.”

For Marcotullio, McLean and Hoyle, their time at the Entrepreneurship Center helped them get comfortable with the unknown, adapt to change and thrive in new and challenging situations. Not long after graduating from W&M, these newfound skills would be put to the test.

**DISCOVERING OPPORTUNITY**

After graduating, McLean, Hoyle and Marcotullio set off on different paths. McLean started a position as a solutions engineer at Oracle. Hoyle worked as an independent developer, helping early-stage startups build and grow their products. He also launched several startups of his own. And Marcotullio worked for Map My Customers, where she had interned during college.

2020 came, and with it the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. Resolving to make the most of online work, McLean, Hoyle, Marcotullio and a few other W&M friends decided to co-quarantine at a series of Airbnbs. Ending their leases and packing up their things, they headed off to their first location — South Carolina. It was at that first small Airbnb that the idea for Navattic took form.

While road tripping during the pandemic, McLean was still employed at enterprise software company Oracle. In his role, he frequently worked alongside the sales team to demo the company’s products to potential clients. McLean quickly discovered pain points in the process of software buying and selling that made it time- and resource-intensive for the seller and overly complex for the buyer.

Central to these difficulties was the inability of would-be buyers to try out the product for themselves. The tools simply didn’t exist to provide them with a hands-on, interactive demo. Instead, they were offered long video demonstrations — which often went unwatched — or “sandbox
environments” which allowed them to play with the product but required engineering support to maintain and often broke during demos.

Ultimately, this meant companies trying to sell software were losing out on deals and those on the purchasing end were losing precious time and resources in the process.

“The key entrepreneurial tenets that Graham had preached at the Center really impacted me, so when I encountered these pain points, I didn’t just think, ‘Oh well, that’s how it is.’ It was so clear to me that there was a problem worth solving and that we could really make a difference in the space,” McLean says.

Creating a solution began with falling in love with the problem.

“The Lean Startup” was one of the most influential books that Graham recommended we read,” McLean says. “It taught us the foundational importance of asking, ‘Is this a problem worth pursuing?’”

Partnering with Randy Frank, a like-minded colleague at Oracle, McLean began interviewing over 250 other pre-sales engineers. The duo quickly found that what they were experiencing wasn’t an isolated problem, but one with vast potential for impact.

**THE IDEA TAKES SHAPE**

During this stage of interviews and insight, McLean began to talk to Hoyle about Navattic. Through his work as an independent developer, Hoyle had become somewhat familiar with how early-stage startups grew and sold their products, but knew less about enterprise software sales.

“I remember being very surprised by the complex process that potential customers had to go through to get a product demoed,” Hoyle says. Intrigued by what McLean and Frank were working on, Hoyle was eager to lend his skills to the budding venture.

Working together, the trio brought the right blend of talent and expertise and began to take their ideas to the next level. In the summer of 2020, they secured a spot at Lighthouse Labs, a startup accelerator in Richmond, Virginia. The small amount of funding they received from that opportunity allowed Hoyle to begin working full-time on Navattic.

The name Navattic is a combination of “navigation” and “automatic.” The idea behind the nascent company? Build a “try before you buy” experience for software. That is, create hands-on, interactive product demos. On the seller’s side, this provides a quick and easy way to highlight key product strengths; on the buyer’s side, a way to efficiently evaluate the usefulness of the software.

To accomplish this, Navattic pioneered a novel technique to capture interactive copies of any software application without requiring engineering support.

“This sort of technology didn’t exist in the market and required significant technical investment and trial and error,” Hoyle says.

Iteration by iteration, their software began to gain more traction.

“In the second half of 2020, it became very clear that our product had a strong market pull,” McLean says. “We’d hop on a call with a potential client and they’d ask, ‘When can you guys get us started on this? Could we sign up tomorrow? Next week?’ We had 10 people commit to paying us $500 per month within a period of two weeks.”

In the following months, Navattic’s growth progressed at lightning speed, testing the limits of the trio’s grit, discipline and dedication.

**WINNING OVER Y COMBINATOR**

For any startup team looking to catapult its growth, Y Combinator is the place to be. A world-renowned startup accelerator, Y Combinator (YC) provides funding and advice to catalyze the most promising innovators of the hour. With an acceptance rate of only 1.5%, it is “tougher to get into YC than Harvard,” says Henshaw. Despite the odds, McLean, Hoyle and Frank decided to give YC a shot and applied in the fall of 2020.

Just a few weeks before the YC application deadline, the team decided to majorly overhaul their product based on feedback from their most recent round of customer discovery. To meet the deadline, Hoyle worked heads down for two weeks to create what became the first truly interactive product demo. Fittingly, it was a demo of YC’s own software.
Sure enough, they got through to the interview stage. However, after the interview, their application was denied. The rejection email came with a small caveat. They were told, “If you can sell and onboard five YC companies in the next 30 days, we’ll give you guys another interview.”

“That was on Oct. 30,” McLean says. Including the Thanksgiving holiday, this gave Navattic only 15 business days to “take a fledgling product that barely worked and get five YC companies signed on.”

While others might have relented in the face of a near-impossible challenge with an uncertain outcome, McLean, Hoyle and Frank knew this was a once-in-a-lifetime chance. They decided to go for it.

The following 15 days were an all-out sprint during which the team refined their product and pitched themselves to as many YC companies as possible.

“It was the most intense period of rapid prototyping, working at all hours to build effective demos,” says Hoyle.

The end of November arrived, and “through an extraordinary amount of outreach, will and persistence,” Navattic persuaded not five but seven YC companies to purchase their product. Y Combinator accepted them into the program. During the three months at YC, they grew in leaps and bounds, developing a consistent product and grossing over $120,000 in revenue.

“Having the encouragement and guidance of that startup community was a real turning point for Navattic,” says McLean.

As a pioneer in the interactive demo space, Navattic uncovered a problem with massive market potential.

“People didn’t know this problem could be solved and so there was a tremendous amount of latent demand for demo technology and automation,” says McLean.

Answering that demand, a wave of like-minded startups swept into the space. Several of these companies quickly outpaced Navattic in funding and size.

“Some of our competitors raised north of $60 million and brought on hundreds of employees,” says McLean.

This disparity in growth initially earned Navattic a reputation as an underdog. Unfazed by these early challenges, McLean, Hoyle and Frank continued to pursue the problem they had set out to solve. To aid their efforts, they focused on growing a lean, talent-dense team relentlessly focused on executing for clients at the highest level.
They sought out individuals who were not only experts in their fields, but who also shared the entrepreneurial mindset and loved “the daily grind.” As a former Entrepreneurship Center fellow at W&M and a good friend, Marcotullio fit right in with the team.

During the early Airbnb days, McLean had asked for Marcotullio’s take on Navattic’s marketing and sales strategy. When Marcotullio moved back to New York, she kept up with the venture’s progress on phone calls with McLean. What started as occasional conversations turned into an offer to join the team in 2021.

“The stars just sort of aligned,” Marcotullio says. “I had just started looking for a new challenge, and they were hiring a head of marketing.”

In building the Navattic brand, Marcotullio embraced the narrative technique “show, don’t tell,” taking every opportunity to highlight Navattic’s strengths by spotlighting client success stories.

“The goal was to make our customers the heroes as much as possible,” Marcotullio says.

Thus, skillfully and somewhat paradoxically, Navattic became the “company everyone was talking about” without having to say much about themselves.

The industry buzz surrounding Navattic has continued to grow. Despite 2023 being a challenging year for tech companies, Navattic doubled its customer base, helping to create over 18,000 interactive demos and surpassing 7.5 million demo views.

Underdog no more, Navattic has become the market leader in its space, according to software-ranking service G2. Maintaining a lean team of 23 full-time employees, the company currently manages over 750 clients, including big names such as Cisco, Dropbox and Bloomberg.

**STAYING TRUE TO THEIR ROOTS**

Looking back on the path that led them to Navattic, McLean, Hoyle and Marcotullio give a lot of credit to their time as entrepreneurship fellows with Henshaw.

“Working with Graham to create the Entrepreneurship Center was really Navattic 0.5,” says McLean. “It was there that we learned the essential tenets, skills and mindset to succeed during Navattic’s journey. Graham instilled in us the belief that, with consistent work and determination, we could make a change in the world.”

While McLean, Hoyle and Marcotullio did enter the startup world, entrepreneurial thinking is “far more than just startups,” according to Henshaw. Rather, it’s a “broadly applicable toolkit and mindset” that Henshaw sees as a real differentiator for graduates.

“If you can come to an employer and speak to entrepreneurial experiences that have enhanced your ability to be open to risk, tolerate ambiguity, to improvise, to fail wisely, that employer is going to want you over the student who can show they got a 4.0 GPA.”

McLean, Hoyle and Marcotullio’s efforts as students to make entrepreneurship a cross-campus movement have paid off. In 2019, W&M opened the Entrepreneurship Hub in Tribe Square, across Richmond Road from Blow Memorial Hall.

Upon entering the Hub, visitors are enveloped in the energized buzz of student conversation, walls plastered with sticky notes and an atmosphere crackling with creativity, optimism and innovation. The Hub’s location reinforces the message that entrepreneurship is open to everyone — a message that is clearly resonating.

“This academic year we engaged with over 1,000 students from 52 different majors,” says Henshaw. “So, this is truly a cross-campus movement.”
SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS

W&M ALUMNI FIND OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES IN THE GROWING FIELD OF RENEWABLE ENERGY
Like many people around the world, Pip Decker ’04 takes steps to reduce his personal carbon footprint: He buys local organic produce, recycles household waste, drives an electric vehicle and uses a bicycle for transportation when practical. But he and other William & Mary alumni are also pursuing solutions on a much larger scale.

They are launching and advancing renewable energy projects and infrastructure around the world. They are helping companies of all sizes reach net-zero emission and sustainability goals. They are accelerating carbon capture efforts and shaping climate policy.

Countering global effects of climate change such as rising sea levels, biodiversity loss and more frequent wildfires, droughts and floods is important to Decker, co-founder and CEO of New Jersey-based Current Trucking. It’s why he launched wind and solar ventures and why he now runs an electric trucking firm.

“Growing up, I had a lot of concern about what my future would look like, and ultimately I believed we had to hit this head on,” he says. “That’s why I chose this adventure.”

‘The Right Policy Framework’

While taking an entrepreneurship class at William & Mary about two decades ago, Decker studied the redevelopment of Richmond, Virginia’s Shockoe Bottom district from an industrial area with defunct tobacco warehouses into what is now a lively neighborhood with offices, apartments, shops, restaurants and historical sites.

“It encouraged us to see things not just as they were, but what they could be,” he says. Government incentives such as historic rehabilitation tax credits helped to attract development that revitalized the area. Similarly, public policy measures have incentivized development of renewable energy projects around the country, leading to cost-competitive, market-based power generation.

“When you think about it, every great project starts with the right policy framework,” Decker says. “Understanding how that policy was created was a key piece in what I wanted to do, which was ultimately get into projects that were good for the environment. How you do that brought me to my public policy major.”

During a summer internship in Washington, D.C., in 2001, Decker worked with the House
Committee on Energy and Commerce on legislation to enhance energy conservation, research and development. He also had an opportunity to drive one of the first hydrogen fuel cell vehicles — a prototype valued at $5 million.

“That set me in motion by seeing how policy is engaged,” he says. “I saw groups like Toyota and others bringing new technology to the fore, and the convergence of great technological progress and great public policy.”

Although he was just 20 years old at the time, Decker attended cocktail parties and asked the congressional representatives what they thought about the outlook for new technology being presented.

“I got to see first-run policy ideas as well as products that were coming,” he says. “I fell in love with the idea of promoting national exploration of renewable energy projects.”

To land his first job, he made dozens of cold calls to companies working on such projects. In one interview, he was asked if he had any windy land.

“I didn’t have windy land, but I told them I’d go find them some and lease it,” he says. “That allowed me to get my first renewable energy project experience.”

Decker spent 17 years developing wind and solar projects, first working for other companies and then starting his own: solar developer SunEast and then BMR Energy. Now majority owned by Sir Richard Branson’s Virgin Group, BMR operates wind and solar projects in Jamaica, St. Croix, St. Thomas, Grand Cayman, Costa Rica and Guatemala.

The idea for Current Trucking came to Decker as he watched two men installing solar panels on a roof in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, a country plagued by widespread poverty and pervasive violence. Seeing renewable projects being adopted even in challenging markets like this gave him inspiration to push into new territory to reduce pollution: heavy-duty trucking and utility vehicles. Manufacturers were starting to come out with their first models of electric semi-trailer trucks, forklifts and vans.

“I wanted to be part of that and help lead it out,” he says. “We’re servicing a need for operators who want a zero-emission solution.”

Current Trucking supplies and maintains vehicles and builds charging stations for its clients in drivers’ yards and parking lots. Since its launch in January 2021, the company has delivered the first charging station and electric vehicles for the Port of Virginia, the first charging station in the Port of Newark and the first electric bus at Denver International Airport.

In April, Decker participated in a White House Roundtable on Zero-Emission Freight Infrastructure and spoke about the Newark Heavy Duty Electric Depot Project, which he said involved multiple stakeholders coming together: “It truly takes a number of key players all pulling at the same time.”

Among the difficulties Decker has faced are persuading farmers to place 400-foot wind turbines within sight of their homes, moving massive pieces of equipment to the top of a mountain in Jamaica and talking transportation entities into trying new technology. But he points to successes such as the Jamaica project eliminating the need for 500,000 barrels of oil each year.

“When I close my eyes at night, the wind projects are spinning. The daytime projects are producing power from the sun. Our trucks are rolling with no emissions,” Decker says. “If you start adding up the projects that I and my partners and teammates and

— Pip Decker ’04
former colleagues have done, it becomes a very large impact globally.”

**Wind and Water**

Charles J. Natale M.A. ’82 knows how difficult it can be to go first. As former president and CEO of environmental and engineering firm ESS Group, he guided environmental studies for the first large-scale offshore wind farm in the continental United States, known as Cape Wind.

Located in Nantucket Sound off the coast of Massachusetts, the project proposed in 2001 was to include 130 wind turbines across two dozen square miles, producing electricity to be transported to the mainland via underwater cables. The project received all the needed state and federal approvals, but opponents cited concerns about the effects on property values, tourism and wildlife. Ultimately, financing for the project fell through and the developer ended it in 2017.

Now, more than two decades after the Massachusetts project’s proposal, Natale sees conditions being much more favorable: “The public’s perception of a Cape Wind-type project has turned 180 degrees.”

He points to Dominion Energy’s Coastal Virginia Offshore Wind project, scheduled for construction starting this spring, with 176 wind turbines being built 27 miles off the coast of Virginia Beach. Natale served as a technical and regulatory consultant to Dominion in the early planning stages of the project, which is expected to generate 2.6 gigawatts of electricity — enough to power up to 600,000 homes when completed in 2026.

The Virginia project has several advantages over Cape Wind, he says. One is that the turbines are located farther from shore than the Massachusetts project, which was 15 miles out and thus, more visible. Technological advances have made it possible for a longer transmission system.

In addition, when Cape Wind was developed, the largest wind turbine was 3.2 megawatts (MW), Natale says. “Now, we’re seeing projects off of Maryland and Virginia that are up to 16.5 MW and we expect the near future will bring 18-20 MW offshore wind turbine generators. Larger capacity generators result in more efficient wind energy capture and fewer units being
installed in the seabed — hence reducing potential overall environmental impacts.”

With more projects like this in the pipeline, he sees an important role for William & Mary’s Virginia Institute of Marine Science.

“VIMS is already playing a significant role with the help of Dominion,” says Natale, who serves as vice president of the VIMS Foundation Board. “We expect to play a larger role as well, because once these offshore energy resources are built, there’s very comprehensive and rigorous environmental monitoring that goes on, particularly for fishing and fish habitat-related aspects.”

Prior to the start of construction, the institute has been helping Dominion to conduct a Resource Characterization Study of black sea bass and channeled whelk so that any impacts to the species can be monitored, says Joshua Bennett, vice president for offshore wind at Dominion Energy and a fellow VIMS board member.

“VIMS is using their vessel R/V Bay Eagle, as well as two local fishermen, to conduct the study, which is a great partnership with the fisheries community,” Bennett says, adding that VIMS is also doing an economic analysis of fisheries-dependent use of the area.

Natale says he expects VIMS’ students, faculty and research vessels will continue to be involved in the project.

“We’ll be doing fish surveys. We’ll be doing water quality monitoring and shoreline resiliency monitoring,” he says. “All the things that we do and teach and share at VIMS are front and center here on a project in our own backyard. So we’re really excited about it. Virginia is going to be in a good spot to showcase that this technology can really work.”

A Dynamic Industry

Darpan S. Kapadia ’95 has seen substantial growth in the renewable energy sector over the past two decades. When he joined LS Power in 2004, the energy infrastructure company had 30 employees. Today, nearly 400 people work at the New York City headquarters and corporate offices in New Jersey, Missouri, California and Texas, with hundreds more working on various projects and affiliated businesses.

LS Power, which invests in, develops and operates renewable energy and energy transition projects and platforms, had been a client of Kapadia’s when he was a vice president at Goldman, Sachs & Co.

“They were thinking about shifting the strategy of the company, and that made it a good fit for me to join and help them evolve the business,” says Kapadia, who advanced from his initial position as head of strategy to his current role of chief operating officer. “As the sector continued to evolve and grow, we’ve done the same.”

When the company was founded in 1990, its focus was building natural gas-fired power plants. In the mid-2000s, LS Power started building solar projects in California. In addition to its current renewable energy sources — utility-scale solar, wind, hydro, battery storage and natural gas-fired projects — the company operates 780 miles of high-voltage transmission lines that deliver energy to population centers.

“As the grid evolves from one that’s built around fossil generation to one that’s built around renewable generation, the transmission part of the business has to adapt as well, because the location of those supply sources are different,” Kapadia says. “You need a holistic set of tools, from supply to transmission to distributed solutions, to transition the economy.”

To help balance the volatility of energy sources such as solar and wind, LS Power began developing energy storage facilities using batteries and acquiring pumped-storage hydro projects to ensure that electricity is available when it’s dark out or the wind isn’t blowing.

“When you have a sector that’s changing this quickly, you identify problems and then focus your people and your capital on those problems,” he says. “We’ve been tackling all these parts of the ecosystem as we’ve seen the opportunities arise.”

Opportunities often come with challenges. Among those are maintaining both reliability and affordability while transitioning from one set of technologies to another.

“If you compromise either of those two, you’re going to lose the support of policymakers and people for the transition,” Kapadia says.

Projects sometimes encounter opposition from property owners and interest groups, as happened recently with a powerline project in Maine.

“We always listen and engage very closely with the communities and the local policymakers to get their support,” he says. “From my perspective, that’s one of the exciting things about this business, because you’re adding something to the system that didn’t exist before, and creating jobs and tax revenue and along the way you’re bettering those communities.”

Kapadia serves on the board of directors for several companies LS Power has invested in, including electric vehicle charging company EVgo Inc. and renewables and battery storage platform REV Renewables LLC.
The former economics major and class president also serves his alma mater as vice chairman of the William & Mary Foundation Board of Trustees. Last year, he made a $1 million gift to the Career Center Student Internship Fund that allows at least 100 undergraduates per year to receive up to $5,000 each for unpaid or underpaid applied learning experiences.

Kapadia sees renewable energy as a promising field for William & Mary students to pursue, with growth opportunities in business, science, engineering, research, government and policymaking roles.

“The industry is a fascinating one because it’s constantly changing, and that rate of change has been accelerating over the past 10 years,” he says. “But also, our work has a real impact on the environment and communities. It’s a combination of the dynamism of the industry and the impact you can have that’s made it really fulfilling.”

Managing Risk

Like Kapadia, Kristen Hamel ’12 works for a company that develops and operates renewable energy projects. In her role as associate director of market risk management at San Diego-based EDF Renewables North America, she ensures that its wind and solar farms, storage facilities and electric vehicle charging centers are operating efficiently and profitably.

Originally from St. Louis, Hamel was drawn to William & Mary for its strong academic reputation as well as its golf program. She started out in public policy, but pivoted to a finance degree after spending a semester in Washington, D.C. After graduation, she worked as a management consultant in Washington before pursuing a master’s degree in international economics at UC San Diego’s School of Global Policy and Strategy.

“My current role within EDF is very much like being an internal consultant, helping to provide analytics, research and strategy recommendations for our renewable portfolio,” she says. “Being able to pull on my undergraduate degree in finance, and then combining it with the work I did in grad school in economic research, is the perfect blend of both of those.”

Among the risks she analyzes are the effectiveness of evolving technology, how reliably and cost effectively renewable energy projects adapt to a changing power grid, and fluctuating renewable procurement goals set by state and federal governments.

From a policy perspective, thinking has shifted from limiting or taxing carbon emissions to providing incentives to develop renewable energy projects, says energy expert and economist Allen Fawcett ’97, director of the Joint Global Change Research Institute—a partnership between the U.S. Department of Energy’s Pacific Northwest National Laboratory and the University of Maryland in College Park.

Through investment tax credits included in the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022, for example, “there are a lot more carrots in the form of how we are incentivizing the clean energy transition and making sure that the technology change we need to see is coming into place,” says Fawcett, former chief of the Environmental Protection Agency’s Climate Economics Branch. “When you look at the market, you see the huge expansion of wind and solar technology. There’s a long history of support that has driven down the cost of these technologies.”

Hamel would agree, citing rapid expansion in solar projects over the past five years.

“We’re seeing a lot of solar growth all throughout North America, starting first in California several years ago but now making its way

At the core of it, I feel like we’re doing something good for the planet by building more renewable energy projects that reduce carbon emissions. I’m excited to see where the technology continues to grow and develop.

— Kristen Hamel ’12
across the country from Texas to New York, Ohio to South Carolina,” she says. “There’s a lot more interest because the technology improvements and policy incentives are promoting continued growth of utility-scale solar.”

A subsidiary of the main utility provider in France, EDF Renewables operates in 22 countries, supplying power to utilities and to corporations working to meet sustainability goals.

“At the core of it, I feel like we’re doing something good for the planet by building more renewable energy projects that reduce carbon emissions,” Hamel says. “I’m excited to see where the technology continues to grow and develop.”

She is also encouraged by the increasing number of new college graduates choosing careers in renewable energy.

“When I joined EDF about seven years ago, I was one of the younger people in our company at age 28,” Hamel says. “And now we’re seeing a whole younger generation enter the renewable workforce. That’s been a cool shift to see.”

**Accelerating Carbon Removal**

Ryan King ’03 had always wanted to work in sustainability, but as someone whose primary focus is developing and marketing new companies, he found limited room to explore that work.

When he launched food delivery company Hello Fresh in the United Kingdom in 2011, for instance, he ensured that biodegradable material was used in packaging. He had received an MBA from London Business School earlier the same year and he built the startup after joining Rocket Internet, a company that incubates and develops web-based business models.

“Many companies have sustainability programs, but it’s not the primary aspect of the work that they do,” King says. “I wanted to find something that could grow and that was 100% focused on sustainability.”

He found that opportunity a couple of years ago when a business school friend introduced him to Jim Mann, then CEO of the Future Forest Co., which plants trees to remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. King liked the idea, but he didn’t see it as a growth business. Then, Mann told him about a plan to create a new company with a mission of broadscale carbon capture through a groundbreaking method called enhanced rock weathering.

“He said, ‘Actually, what we want to do is make the planet fit for future generations through this new way of removing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.’” King signed on to become the chief commercial officer for the new London-based venture, called Undo, which split off from Future Forest.

The concept is to speed up a naturally occurring carbon capture process by spreading crushed silicate rock on agricultural fields, with the added benefit of enhancing soil. Spreading the crushed rock increases the surface area for a chemical reaction that occurs when carbon
dioxide mixes with rainwater to form carbonic acid. As King explains it, the carbonic acid mineralizes and forms bicarbonates that eventually make their way through soil and river systems to the ocean, where marine organisms use them to make skeletons and shells.

“We’re on the forefront of developing this technology, commercializing it and bringing it to market,” King says. “The success metric that we hold ourselves to is, ‘How much carbon dioxide are we removing from the atmosphere?’ To me, that’s really exciting.”

Undo’s ambition is to be the first company to remove 1 million tons of carbon dioxide, with the ultimate aim of removing 1 billion tons. This is measured by tracking the volume of rock moved from quarries to fields and predicting how quickly the rock will weather based on analysis of its mineralogy, King says.

“We capture all that data and then we get it audited and verified by two different third parties,” he says.

In telling why he founded the company, Mann expresses a sense of urgency: “Even if we eliminate fossil fuel use and decarbonize all areas of our lives, such as transport, manufacturing, energy, infrastructure and food production, we’re still going to have CO2 lingering at elevated levels in our atmosphere … and it will keep increasing the earth’s temperature unless we can remove it.”

The commercial part of the business, which King oversees, involves selling carbon credits to businesses such as Microsoft and British Airways, allowing them to make progress toward their net-zero emission goals. Undo works with businesses that are also taking other steps to reduce their environmental impact, such as an airline investing in more fuel-efficient planes.

“If you tell everyone in the world they can’t fly anymore, the response will be unproductive,” he says. “You have to support those companies that are trying to do the right thing because it becomes a virtuous cycle. Once you start making things more efficient and talking about them, then you’re encouraged and incentivized to do more.”

For King, who studied international relations and finance at William & Mary, one of the biggest challenges of his job has been educating potential clients about Undo’s carbon removal process and how the company works with communities — partnering with farmers to spread the crushed rock and with universities on soil sampling, for example. But he wouldn’t have it any other way.

“I’ve worked in a lot of different kinds of companies, and I find building and scaling companies fulfilling in many ways,” he says. “But I never had that real passion for the product or service we were putting out. Now I do. “I’d love to be able to say when I’m 80 years old that I helped mitigate some of the worst impacts of climate change through the decisions we made and the actions we took.”

ONLINE: Read more about research at William & Mary related to renewable energy and climate change at magazine.wm.edu/energy-research.
Since rolling out its Climate Action Roadmap outlining steps toward greater sustainability nearly three years ago, William & Mary has significantly expanded its use of both geothermal energy and solar energy.

A new geothermal system at Monroe Hall will be operational this fall, efficiently heating and cooling the building by circulating water underground. Construction is also taking place on Barksdale Field to install 238 geothermal wells that will serve as sustainable energy sources for Lemon and Hardy halls, along with Jamestown East. This system is projected to reduce energy use across the three buildings by approximately 60%. (The soccer fields will be restored after that work is completed.) An additional 230 wells are being constructed to serve the new housing and dining facilities under development for the West Woods, and Old Dominion Hall is scheduled to receive a geothermal system in 2025.

Through a 20-year power purchase agreement with Dominion Energy, William & Mary started sourcing nearly 50% of the university’s electricity this year — a greater percentage than any other public university in the state — from a 20-megawatt solar facility in James City County that began operating in November. In addition, 786 solar panels will be installed as part of the West Woods development; of those, 647 will be placed on the rooftop of the dining hall.

William & Mary and the University of Virginia have committed to becoming carbon neutral by 2030, the universities announced in 2019. The two Virginia institutions are sharing information and collaborating on initiatives toward zero net greenhouse emissions.

“Approximately 40% of carbon emissions come from the built environment, so it is critical that William & Mary continues to implement the use of sustainable energy initiatives and other green building strategies in order to make progress toward its carbon neutrality goals,” says Dan Pisaniello, university architect.

At least 18 W&M structures are certified through the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) system, based on factors such as site location, water and energy efficiency, building materials and more. Among those are the School of Education, the Raymond A. Mason School of Business’ Miller Hall, Integrated Science Center 3, the Cohen Career Center, McLeod Tyler Wellness Center, the W&M Law School addition and the Alumni House expansion. The new Robert M. Gates Hall also will be a LEED-certified building.

W&M’s Green Fee program has funded numerous smaller renewable energy projects as well, such as installing a new electric vehicle charging station at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science’s Eastern Shore Laboratory and a solar trellis and device-charging station in the law school courtyard. In addition, W&M Libraries received an electric cargo delivery bike and Dining Services now has an electric golf cart capable of moving compost bins.

To read more about the W&M Climate Action Roadmap, visit: magazine.wm.edu/climate-action.
THE MANY SIDES OF JOYCE HILL STONER '68

Joyce Hill Stoner ’68 is many things: an eminent art conservator, a teacher, a playwright, an author, a historian, a mentor, a friend to many. She’s the foremost expert on the techniques of the late American painter Andrew Wyeth. She’s got a way of telling stories that makes them dramatic and funny, no matter the subject.

BY CLAIRE DE LISLE M.B.A. ‘21 • PHOTOGRAPHY BY MICHAEL MIVILLE
toner has worked on art from the Smithsonian Institution to the Metropolitan Museum of Art to the Winterthur Museum. She has touched the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel, interviewed the who’s who of the art conservation world and written the definitive textbook on restoring paintings. She is now a named professor and director of the Preservation Studies Doctoral Program at the University of Delaware and an instructor and paintings conservator in UD's joint program with Winterthur.

She calls herself both a conservator and a restorer. She notes that elsewhere in the world, art conservators are called restorers, and curators (those who manage collections) are called conservators. “Restorers can sometimes be seen as hacks without training here in the U.S., but I use the terms interchangeably because I’ve worked with so many people from other countries,” says Stoner. “Just don’t call us conservationists,” she adds, laughing. “Those are the ones protecting fish and wildlife.”

Conservators clean, preserve and repair works of art. Stoner describes art conservation as a “three-legged stool” that requires science, art history and studio art skills.

“You must love the art,” she says. “You will train for as long as a doctor, but not make the money they do.”

Being a strong problem-solver is also important. “I love every day because it’s never the same — always a new challenge. But that wears some people down,” she says. “I had a student who always wanted one ‘right’ answer. He’d ask, ‘Should I use this technique on this painting?’ I’d always answer, ‘It depends. What are you trying to achieve?’ He left conservation and went into dentistry.”

THE STUDENT Stoner’s dream as a student was to work in theatre. Her mother and sister had gone to the women’s college Mount Holyoke in Massachusetts, but Stoner was interested in “not having an all-girls cast,” she laughs. After seeing William & Mary’s campus and Colonial Williamsburg, then hearing about longtime theatre professor Howard M. Scammon Jr. ’34, she was hooked.

She filled her need for the stage with performances in W&M Theatre productions of “Kiss Me, Kate,” “Damn Yankees,” “Carnival” and other productions. With the Backdrop Club, she and the late Bill Brooke ’68 wrote the music and lyrics for “Stop 13,” a musical named for the number of the Colonial Williamsburg stop on the W&M bus route.

It was because of “Hamlet” that Stoner met her future husband, Patrick Stoner ’69. Patrick played the title role while Joyce played Ophelia — and Joyce’s boyfriend at the time directed the workshop production. When the boyfriend went off to the Navy, Joyce and Patrick began dating. They were married in the Wren Chapel in 1970.

Patrick, who was a theatre major at W&M, went on to a career in public broadcasting. He is a well-known film critic for WHYY, the PBS syndicate in Philadelphia, and has interviewed actors such as Tom Hanks and recent Oscar winner Da’Vine Joy Randolph.

Unlike Patrick, Joyce Hill Stoner became a fine arts major, following another of her passions, on the reasoning that theatre could always be part of her life outside her career.

Thomas Thorne, one of her favorite professors, showed her class a series of paintings he had done of the old Williamsburg mill in the style of Renoir, Cezanne and Monet.

“And I saw that and I said, ‘I wanna paint 22 self-portraits in the style of the Old Masters from cave painting to pop art.’ If you can imagine the
chutzpah of me as a junior! And he said, ‘It sounds like you want to go into art conservation.’ And I said, ‘What is that?’”

Thorne, as well as fine arts professor and art historian Carl Roseberg and chemistry professor William G. Guy D.Sc. ’69, helped encourage her toward the field and acquire the skills she needed.

She did end up making those 22 self-portraits and most of them survive today. Stoner uses them in her classes at Winterthur for experimenting with different cleaning and repair techniques. “They became sacrificial,” she laughs.

In her senior year, while on an internship at the Smithsonian, she met visiting expert Rostislav Hlopoff, a renowned objects conservator for major collectors and the Frick Collection in New York City. He told her to smash a flowerpot and put it back together to develop Fingerspitzengefühl — in German, “fingertips feeling” — the feeling of a smooth seam, a perfect join. It’s a feeling she still uses in her work to this day, especially when filling in losses in paintings.

“So back on campus, I put my little flowerpot in a bag, and was going to smash it in there, and Mr. Roseberg said, ‘No, no!’ And he threw it — WHAM — against the wall like he was bowling! So I picked up all the little pieces, put them in a sandbox and got to work,” she says.

The next year she was accepted into the only graduate program in the nation for conservation, at New York University. It had been founded in 1960, and it only admitted two men and two women per year. William & Mary previously had sent Ben Johnson ’60 and Jim Greaves ’65 (both of whom remained in the field and later worked at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art), so “William & Mary was uniquely informed about art conservation — which was certainly not true of, I would say, 95% of all the other universities in the U.S.,” says Stoner.

She was inducted into Phi Beta Kappa and graduated from W&M with a Bachelor of Arts in fine arts, summa cum laude. Degree in hand, she headed to NYU to learn to become a conservator.

Today at William & Mary, interested students are encouraged to explore conservation as a career option as well.

“My department is taking steps to help our students prepare for graduate study to lay the foundation for a professional career,” says Alan Braddock, chair of the Department of Art & Art History and the Ralph H. Wark Professor of Art History, Environmental Humanities and American Studies.

On April 1, an eminent art conservator from Durham University in the U.K., Emily Williams, visited Cristina Stancioli’s art history class on cultural heritage to discuss her work. In the fall, the art history department plans to host a public forum with conservators on current issues in art conservation and how undergraduates can best prepare for graduate study in the field.

Several W&M faculty have experience in and conduct research on the chemistry side of art conservation, including Tyler Meldrum, director...
of undergraduate research, who has studied with his students the material properties of paint in collaboration with the National Gallery of Art, and Kristin Wustholz, who has worked with the paintings conservation lab at Colonial Williamsburg and the Philadelphia Museum of Art to use surface-enhanced Raman spectroscopy to identify pigments in works of art.

William & Mary students also go into internships and other programs to explore this career track. Lorelei Peterson ’25 will be attending the San Gemini Preservation Studies field school in Italy this summer. She’s an art conservation major in the critical curatorial studies track.

When Braddock told her about the program, she was excited to attend to get hands-on experience in preservation work: “I love studying art and I also want to make it into a career. This can show me how people decide what to restore and how to restore it and how different departments of museums work together, beyond what we learn in class.”

THE ORAL HISTORIAN Stoner went into conservation at a key time for the field. The 1966 flood of the Arno River in Florence, Italy, had made global news for its impact — the waters damaged or destroyed millions of works of art and priceless manuscripts. Volunteers called the “mud angels” came from all over the world to assist in cleanup and restoration efforts. Their efforts led to new protocols in conservation and increased interest in and funding for cultural preservation worldwide.

But 40 years before, a quieter renaissance of art conservation had upended the trade.

In 1928, the first research laboratory in an American museum opened at Harvard’s Fogg Museum (the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City and the Louvre in Paris opened theirs three years later). The two men often referred to as the fathers of modern art conservation worked together there: Rutherford John Gettens as chemist and George L. Stout as head conservator. (In a nod to her love of theatre, Stoner refers to them as “G&S, the Gilbert and Sullivan of conservation.”)

In 1974, Gettens spoke at the American Institute for Conservation meetings in Cooperstown, New York, and urged those present to begin “collecting material for a history of the conservation of cultural property.” He felt it was important to record personal anecdotes of working on art and the personal stories that informed the official records.

Upon leaving the conference, he began writing his own personal history — an effort that was cut short by his death 10 days later.

Stout was aware that Stoner served as managing editor of NYU’s Art and Archaeology Technical Abstracts journal as well as the conservation department’s librarian. He asked her to carry out Gettens’ idea.

Thus, the Oral History Project was born in 1975, led by Stoner and sponsored by the American Institute for Conservation and the Foundation for Advancement in Conservation. There are now more than 500 interviews in the archive, conducted by more than 100 conservators and students.

“Conservation used to be, when I started at NYU, a quiet thing that you didn’t tell people about. You just did it,” says Stoner. “And now it’s everywhere. Museums all have blogs and YouTube videos about it. The public is interested.”
THE TEACHER Once Stoner finished her studies at NYU, she and Patrick stayed in New York City while Stoner took on a series of internships and contract assignments treating paintings.

Then, suddenly, Virginia Commonwealth University reached out to her and asked her to substitute for someone on sabbatical. She was to teach a class designed to help undergraduates get the science, art history and hand skills needed to apply to graduate programs.

“I had no desire to teach, particularly,” says Stoner. “But I love it. I like to say I’m a vampire, feeding off the students to keep me young and energetic.”

In 1974, the Winterthur/University of Delaware Program in Art Conservation opened, just the third graduate program in the nation (it is still only one of five). Stoner left VCU to become a professor there in 1976, spending half her time teaching and half her time working on Winterthur’s paintings — in particular the works of 18th-century painter Charles Willson Peale.

By 1982, though, the National Endowment for the Arts funding the program relied upon — funding that had been inspired by the devastating flood in Florence — had ended.

“I was called into the dean’s office at the University of Delaware, eight months pregnant, and told, ‘We’d like you to become director, but the program will close unless you raise an endowment.’”

And so she did, raising $6 million — at one point hiding her new baby in a bouncer behind a door so she could give a major donor a tour (the donor, upon hearing about baby Eliza, asked to look behind the door to meet her).

At that time, a master’s was the terminal degree for conservators. When a new president arrived at UD in 1987 and challenged each of the university’s departments to think big and come to him with visionary ideas, Stoner asked about founding a Ph.D. program in art conservation.

“Otherwise, curators will always have Ph.D.s, and we won’t, and we will be paid less and have less attention paid to us,” says Stoner.

The president and faculty senates approved the program. Stoner became the director in 2005, a position she holds to this day.

Stoner describes the layers of conservation education like this: The undergraduate pre-conservation program is like pre-med. Then there’s a master’s program, training the doctors and surgeons who do the day-to-day medical work. A Ph.D. program is like the cancer researchers. They become experts on particular artists, techniques, philosophies and changes in the field, and publish their findings.
But to run a Ph.D. program, Stoner felt she should have a Ph.D. herself.

She chose as her subject James McNeill Whistler, whose “Harmony in Blue and Gold: The Peacock Room” she was restoring as senior contract consultant at the Freer Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C. “The Peacock Room” is opulently decorated in blue-green paint and gold leaf, with Anglo-Japanese murals of peacocks on the walls and window shutters.

“We used to laugh up in the scaffolding, saying, ‘Wouldn’t it be lovely if we could hold a séance with Whistler and ask him how glossy he wanted the varnish?’ Then, when I started working with Andrew Wyeth later, I was happy to be able to ask him directly about varnishes.” Wyeth, when Stoner asked him about his own work, said he had stopped using varnishes altogether. “He wanted the surfaces to look dusty,” she says. “Like dead flies, or a mummy. Just so dusty.”

THE ARTIST’S CONFIDANTE Stoner divides most of her life as a conservator into three parts: 10 years of Charles Willson Peale; 10 years of James McNeill Whistler; and then 10-plus years of Andrew Wyeth. She became very close with the famed American artist before his death in 2009 as his primary conservator, remains connected with his family and has served as a board member of the Wyeth Foundation for American Art since 1999. That year, he also painted her portrait.

Wyeth is known in American popular consciousness for his famous 1947 painting “Christina’s World,” in which a woman lies in a field and looks over at a barn and farmhouse in the distance.

Stoner met Wyeth in 1997. The Delaware Art Museum and the Farnsworth Art Museum were organizing an exhibition about Wyeth and his son Jamie, as well as Wyeth’s father, the painter N.C. Wyeth, and Howard Pyle, the painter who trained N.C. Wyeth. Stoner wrote a booklet about their techniques that accompanied the exhibition.

She traveled to Maine to interview Andrew in what would be the first of many conversations over lunches and drinks with him and his wife, Betsy, who was constantly quizzing her on various art history concepts (“Why did the cavemen paint?”) or stopping her in her tracks with pronouncements such as, “Artists don’t want to hear what’s wrong with their paintings” (making writing a treatment proposal quite difficult)!

Stoner also got to know Andrew Wyeth’s neighbor and muse, Helga Testorf. Wyeth had a public scandal in 1986 when a series of 247 paintings he had made of Helga over 14 years (some of them nude), without the knowledge of his wife or Testorf’s husband, were purchased by a collector and exhibited.

“Andrew had one personality with Betsy, but was more himself with Helga,” Stoner says.

Being able to work directly with the artist on his works changed the way she approached their restoration. For example, if a painting had a scrape on it from handling that would normally be inpainted (retouched) by a conservator, Wyeth would instead say, “Keep that scrape! It makes the barn look more real, like it has more age and more use,” says Stoner.

Wyeth often worked in tempera paint, which can develop efflorescence over time — a white dust that looks almost glittery. If some had developed on a painting depicting snow, he did not want it removed. “If other conservators haven’t read my papers or asked me about it, they’ll just brush it off,” she says, with a hint of frustration.

It’s generally accepted now, she says, to follow the wishes of a living artist, but she acknowledges that there are complicating factors — such as if the artist’s wishes would cause a work to deteriorate or would add something new to a painting.

In one case, when Stoner removed varnish from a Wyeth painting that had been wrongly coated by an art dealer, Wyeth’s signature was soluble in the varnish. He stood beside her while she removed it and then he re-signed the painting — however, the signature on it was almost 40 years newer than the painting, creating a headache for future authenticators (though Stoner carefully documented the change).

THE AUTHOR The Oral History Project is not the only way Stoner has documented the changes in the field of art conservation over her lifetime.

She also edited the 900-page “Conservation of Easel Paintings,” which was first published in 2012. Stoner said it was quite challenging, as conservators from different countries and schools of thought often disagreed about which techniques were best.

Her co-editor, Rebecca Rushfield, assembled the extensive bibliography. Rushfield also works with Stoner on the Oral History Project and has contributed to Stoner’s theater productions. She met Stoner as a student at NYU when Stoner was working on the journal Art and Archaeology Technical Abstracts.

“She’s very convincing. She was telling us about how important abstracts were and ‘didn’t we all want to write abstracts for the journal?’ She’s a big concept person, whereas I’m more in the details. For the book, for the Oral History Project, she just knows everyone and persuades everyone to contribute.”

A second edition of the book was published in 2021 to include new research and technologies.

“The new techniques since 2012 are just so exciting,” Stoner says, citing scanning macro
X-ray fluorescence (MA-XRF), a nondestructive imaging technique, and computer weave mapping, which can show whether two paintings came from the same rolls of canvas, as two of many examples.

“When I was at NYU, I could put all the books I needed to read for conservation in one suitcase,” she says. “Now I can’t even put all the books published in one year in a suitcase.”

Aside from advances in technology, Stoner sees the diversification of the conservation industry as a positive sea change.

“The current art conservation programs are working together to try to get curators and professors at HBCUs, when they see a student who is interested in conservation, to encourage them to go into the field — just like Tom Thorne and Carl Roseberg did for me at William & Mary,” she says.

Though she made the decision to become a conservator, Stoner didn’t leave theatre behind — far from it. She decided do “conservation by day and theater by night,” and her theatre productions are some of her proudest accomplishments.


Creating theatre productions about historical figures from the art world — including the three main artists in her life, Peale, Whistler and the Wyeths — allowed her to mix her passions. She was also commissioned by the Delaware Humanities Council to write musicals about women’s suffrage and the Underground Railroad for Delaware schools.

She is currently the lyricist for “Shanghai Sonatas,” about Jewish refugee musicians in Shanghai during World War II. “Shanghai Sonatas” has been workshopped several times in New York City and recently in Los Angeles.

Looking back on her career, Stoner says conservation is now a “10-legged settee” — along with the three original elements of science, art history and studio art techniques, she adds ethics, fundraising, diplomacy, museum management, legal issues, public outreach, education, diversity, health and safety, and documentation using sophisticated imagery. But it’s an environment in which she thrives.

Alongside her program director and conservator duties, she’s still in the classroom, ensuring the next generation of conservators are preserving art for the next generation.

Rushfield remembers when Stoner brought a group of students to a conference in 2006 for the anniversary of the Florence flood.

“She really mentors her students, providing experiences for them, introducing them to the people she knows and keeping in touch long after they’re her students,” she says.

As to Stoner’s impact: “Joyce is one of those people in the field who is known by just her first name. You say ‘Joyce’ and everyone knows who you are talking about.”
Whether you need advice, know about a job opportunity to share, want to grow your business or are seeking to connect with others in your field or city, the W&M One Network platform makes it easy for you to tap into your trusted network.

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TAking the Stage

W&M Theatre staged a production of “By the Way, Meet Vera Stark” in the renovated Phi Beta Kappa Memorial Hall in February and March 2024. The play, written by Lynn Nottage and directed by Tia James, takes a funny and irreverent look at racial stereotypes in Hollywood.
Kristen Baum ’94 knows just how special the monarch butterfly is, having dedicated her career to researching the insect and its migration patterns. In November 2023, Baum was hired as the new director of Monarch Watch, an international program based at the University of Kansas (KU) that focuses on the conservation and study of monarch butterflies. The program started with a small monarch tagging project in 1992 and expanded from concentrating on research and outreach into international conservation efforts.

A former resident of Waynesboro, Virginia, she grew up in the Blue Ridge Mountains near the Appalachian Trail. Her childhood cultivated Baum’s love of nature, and William & Mary appealed to her as an academically rigorous institution situated in a beautiful natural environment.

After an orientation assistant who helped her move into her dorm told her that she could use her leg strength from her years of cross country and track in high school to become a proficient rower, Baum joined W&M’s rowing team. She remained on the team for all four years at W&M. The early-morning practices, physical toll and intense competitions all helped her create deep bonds with her teammates that Baum says taught her valuable life skills.

“When you’re rowing or sitting in a boat with eight other people, you’ve really got to count on everybody else to do their part. So, there’s a lot of team building and perseverance,” says Baum.

Baum earned her degree in environmental science and took courses in other fields relevant to her career now, such as economics, sociology and government.
“That multidisciplinary perspective has been very beneficial to me,” Baum says.

Baum completed an internship and a couple of field tech jobs, during which she volunteered at a wildlife rehabilitation clinic and conducted research on butterflies, lizards and small mammals. She continued her studies by acquiring both an M.S. in wildlife and fisheries sciences and a Ph.D. in entomology from Texas A&M University.

Baum took a postdoctoral position for two years at Louisiana State University that also focused on habitat fragmentation. She then settled into a faculty position as a professor in the Department of Integrative Biology at Oklahoma State University, where she worked for a little over 18 years.

When she arrived at OSU, one of the first projects she worked on was investigating pollinator responses to patch burning in rangeland sites, which involves the purposeful burning of a specific section of pasture every spring and summer to alter patterns within the plant community.

“Patch burning has lots of impacts on pollinators, in terms of floral diversity and resource availability,” Baum says. “And when you burn in the summer, one of the first plants that regrows and actually blooms is milkweed.”

Milkweed is a central part of a monarch’s lifecycle, as the host plant for the butterfly to feed on to grow from a larva into a butterfly. Without milkweed, monarchs would not be able to survive as a species.

When Monarch Watch’s founding director, Orley “Chip” Taylor, stepped down last year, the recruitment team at KU began searching for a replacement who could also join the research and teaching faculty. Soon, they discovered that Baum was perfect for the role, additionally hiring her as a professor in the Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology and a senior scientist with the Kansas Biological Survey.

As she assumed this new responsibility, Baum learned more about Monarch Watch’s education, conservation and research programs to identify the areas on which to focus as the program develops.

She explains that research is one of the foundational elements of Monarch Watch, providing scientific information about the monarch’s migration. Monarch Watch started out as a tagging program in 1992 with volunteers catching and placing tags on the monarchs in order to track their migration patterns.

“Our tagging program is focused on the fall migration,” Baum explains. “People order tags throughout the year, and we’ll send out the tags when it’s getting close to the start of fall migration, based on where people are located. We have people tagging from southern Canada all the way to southern Texas.”
The tagging process goes hand in hand with another of Monarch Watch’s goals, which is to encourage more community engagement with the sciences.

In 2005, Taylor started the Monarch Waystation program to address the need for more monarch habitat. He encouraged people to grow nectar and milkweed plants in the hopes that these sites would provide more resources for monarchs to survive.

More than 46,000 Monarch Waystations have been registered so far. Monarch Watch also offers programs for free milkweed for schools, educational nonprofits and large-scale restoration projects. She explains that education is a key piece of Monarch Watch’s mission, which connects with the organization’s conservation goals.

Through efforts to increase education about monarchs, Baum hopes to gather more support for pollinator conservation efforts as well.

“We depend on pollinators for our food, as well as habitat and food for wildlife,” she says.

In Baum’s opinion, climate change and habitat loss are among the primary challenges facing monarchs today. She says that drought conditions throughout the fall migration route including Oklahoma, Texas and Mexico contributed to the decline this year, which was the second lowest population size on record. However, she says there is still much reason for hope, considering the progress made over the past decade.

“Ten years ago, the lowest population size was recorded,” she says. Since then, “there have been so many different new groups, networks and organizations that have formed to support monarchs — it’s impressive, the amount of interest and concern. It’s well beyond anything I would have expected back in 2014.”

Baum has confidence that Monarch Watch will continue to make a positive difference in the conservation of the monarch butterfly and other wildlife. She hopes to expand Monarch Watch’s research and education efforts to both spread awareness about monarch migration and promote the creation of more habitat.

“It’s a great foundation to be able to continue to expand on,” she says. “I’m really excited about all the opportunities.”

— Gabriela Trauttmandorff ’26

ONLINE: Read a longer version of this article at magazine.wm.edu/ monarch-butterflies.

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Create an account on William & Mary’s my1693.com online portal to update your contact information, sign up for events, check your giving history and more. Alumni also gain access to exclusive services like the alumni directory and library resources.
An Hour for the Soul

Jennifer Gray Braswell ’08 creates a space for fitness and community

SMALL BUSINESS  Stepping into Hour Cycle feels like home. There is a certain warmth — and not just from the rigorous workout curated by Jennifer Gray Braswell ’08 and her staff. Hour Cycle, an exercise studio in downtown Richmond, Virginia, is a vibrant space designed to celebrate music, culture and fitness.

Hour Cycle is not your typical indoor cycling class. “A couple things set our business apart. We’re not just Black owned, but Black led,” says Braswell.

She shares the importance of presenting positive images of Black excellence, health, joy and body image. Hour Cycle celebrates the culture it’s inspired by and the people it’s created for. The studio’s core values state a commitment to staying real and moving forward together. Describing the community that participants build, both on and off the bike, Braswell says, “We have a wide range of people that come in, but everyone comes in with pure intentions and the same set of values.”

Braswell’s love for cycling began as she explored various exercises to prepare for her wedding. Realizing how much she enjoyed participating in indoor cycling, often called spin classes, she became an instructor.

The inspiration for Hour Cycle blossomed during the summer of 2020, a time of difficult transition and unrest for Braswell and the nation. As people around the United States and the world reacted to the murder of George Floyd, Braswell also navigated the journey of being furloughed during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Her husband asked her what she would do with her newfound availability if she could do anything in the world. She answered, “I would open a hip-hop spin studio.” A few months later, her cycling studio opened in September 2020.

Braswell sought to create a space “centered around the Black experience,” where Black people and their allies could exist safely. A place where, even for just an hour, they could let go of the world’s troubles to have fun moving their bodies. She notes that she was able to do just that by relying on the support of her William & Mary community.

Braswell, who grew up in Richmond, decided to attend William & Mary because she wanted a well-rounded education. “I felt like William
& Mary gave me what I needed. I was not 100% sure what career path I wanted to go in. I really appreciated the liberal arts style of education, so I could try a bunch of different things.” Braswell ultimately decided to major in psychology.

She also wanted to be surrounded by the high-quality individuals W&M attracted. Her favorite memory while at the university was becoming a member of the Mu Upsilon Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. in the spring of 2007.

She cherishes the community of support that her sorors — sorority sisters — created for her, especially when she was expecting her son during her senior year.

“It was a lot of my older chapter sorors who had graduated who wrapped their arms around me and took care of me because I was away from home,” she says.

Her time at William & Mary granted her the opportunity to strengthen many skills that she values and still uses today.

“William & Mary was one of the first places that I put together a business plan. Raising money for Ebony Expressions [the student gospel choir] and trying to fill out grant information for Delta prepared me for starting Hour Cycle.”

Her William & Mary experience also helped with time management and the ability to juggle competing priorities, she says.

Braswell, who also earned an MBA from Virginia Commonwealth University in 2015, says these skills aid in overcoming the challenging responsibilities of running a small business while balancing her professional career as a human resources executive and her roles as a wife and mother. Accomplishing this balance is a huge endeavor, but she celebrates the best moments.

For Braswell, the highlight of being a business owner is witnessing the development and community support of her vision. “One of the best parts is seeing the growth, the joy it brings people and knowing that it is grown from scratch,” she says. “This is not a studio where it’s a bunch of my personal friends and family humoring me. We’ve had 3,000 individuals come in. I don’t know 3,000 people.”

Building and furthering relationships is a large component of the mission for Hour Cycle and a personal goal for Braswell in her efforts to stay connected to William & Mary. “I had a good community at William & Mary. Leesa Christian ’08, M.Acc. ’09 was my friend as a student and she’s one of my instructors at Hour Cycle. There are so many people I can call right now. They are a solid group of people that I can reach out to or can reach out to me, that I only know because of our time at William & Mary.”

Braswell also stays connected to the university by engaging with the Hulon Willis Association, the W&M Alumni Association’s network for alumni of Black and African descent, and by attending Homecoming & Reunion Weekend.

She encourages current students to lean into her philosophy and build meaningful relationships while at William & Mary: “Build relationships with people. Don’t be so focused on the next step.” Braswell encourages students to focus on the present and the people going through the experience with them. “Make sure you’re putting as much effort into the people around you as the people are pouring into you.”

Braswell’s upbeat personality and motivating coaching make attending a cycling class at her studio an unforgettable experience. “If you’re on the fence about taking a class, just do it. Know we are here celebrating just moving your body. Take the time to invest in yourself and invest the time to try it out. You’re going to have a good time, even if just because we have a fire playlist, which we always do.”

Attending Hour Cycle, we are reminded that we’re all running out of or toward something. Even after the final cool down and stretch, her voice still echoes, “1, 2, 1, 2, get what you need ... push through.”

— VALERIE BROWN WILKINS M.ED. ’08 & FAITH ODOM ’22

PHOTOS: ALFRED HERCZEG P ’23

MOVE FORWARD TOGETHER: Braswell’s classes celebrate Black excellence, health, joy and positive body image — all to a hip-hop playlist.

“Build relationships with people. Don’t be so focused on the next step.”
A New Chapter for the Writing Center

Name change reflects its mission to grow the communication skills students need at W&M and beyond

TRIBE PROFILE The William & Mary Writing Resources Center has always been about more than writing. Staffed by trained undergraduate students known as consultants, the center helps students with all forms of communication. Both the consultants and their consultees use the skills they learn in a wide variety of careers after graduation.

This past January, to better reflect the skill development it provides, the center was renamed the W&M Writing and Communication Center.

The center has been a staple of the William & Mary community since its opening in 1987 and it serves a significant portion of the student population. In the 2022-2023 academic year, with a staff of 34 undergraduate consultants in the fall and 13 more trainees in the spring, the center saw 801 clients and conducted 1,724 appointments.

Director Lori Jacobson, who also teaches courses through the English department, says the name change speaks to how multimodal projects are becoming more prevalent in higher education and professional careers.

“William & Mary students write a lot of academic essays, so we know that the support is needed and valued, but we help with other kinds of communication as well. We think of it as writing writ large — writing in all its forms,” she says. “Forms of digital composing are becoming more common in academic communications.” The WCC advertises that it can provide support with presentations, podcasts and multimedia projects.

“We think the new name reflects what we were already doing — helping students with multimodal communication — but also what we would like to help them navigate in the future,” Jacobson says.

The Writing and Communication Center is currently staffed by 40 undergraduate students who undergo a semester of training and, upon completion of the training course and a shadowing process, work as peer consultants in the center.

Consultant alumni, who have gone on to thrive in a wide variety of professional careers inside and outside of professional writing and academic fields, serve as a testament to the center’s long-lasting commitment to promoting communication skills to student consultees and peer consultants alike.
Former student writing center administrator and peer consultant Jackie Keshner ’19 counts the adaptive communication skills she built there as one of her strengths. Keshner is an investor relations director at Gateway Group, a firm that provides strategic financial communications services in Newport Beach, California.

At W&M, Keshner majored in English with a minor in economics. When she initially joined the job market, she says, she wasn’t considering a job in finance. However, Gateway Group was looking for both business and English majors with strong communication skills. She took the plunge and today, she leads comprehensive investor relations campaigns at the firm.

As a writing consultant, she learned that “it’s more of you asking questions and encouraging the consultee to speak than it is you having to know all the answers.” In her investor relations work, asking questions ensures her clients feel heard and understood, she adds. “They’re also an opportunity for me to just keep learning how to help in an empathetic and thoughtful way.”

Keshner’s goal in investor relations is to make information “accessible to an ever increasing and evolving audience,” a hallmark of the Writing and Communication Center’s goals for the future. In her job, she frequently encounters the challenge of sharing items such as earnings releases and investor presentations to different audiences, which require various approaches to frame the information accessibly.

“An earnings release, for example, could be read by someone who’s been invested in this company for years, or the audience could be a first-time investor who just bought their first stock and is brand new to finance terms,” she says. “I have a lot of empathy for them because I was that person coming into this.”

The name change is only the beginning of a new chapter of growth for the W&M Writing and Communication Center, which plans to continue to adjust to trends and innovations in communication.

“We know that communication is changing,” Jacobson says. She specifically points to the rise of data visualization: “Data is a big part of the way people think about the world and the kinds of questions they ask.”

Keshner attests to the importance of being able to effectively communicate data, as she regularly makes investor presentations that include graphical representations of revenue and financial trajectory. The WCC aspires to better support students in data visualization or narrative presentation, as well as “whatever future students need support with, in terms of their communication skills,” Jacobson says.

“We are ready and excited about the possibilities for the future,” Jacobson says. “We think the name change is a signal for the kinds of things we are already doing and the things we aspire to do.”

— MARY BETH BAUERMANN ’24
The Way We Were

The Class of 1974, Olde Guarde and Boyle Society gather for Traditions Weekend

THE OLDE GUARDE

The No. 1 song for 1974 on Billboard’s Top Hot 100 singles chart, Barbra Streisand’s “The Way We Were” speaks to memories and the chance to “do it all again.” With a mix of nostalgia and excitement, the Class of 1974 gathered on campus April 19-21 to reconnect with classmates, reminisce about their student days and experience William & Mary today.

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 was a Presidential Conversation about William & Mary’s new school, which will bring together data science, computer science, applied science and physics to meet the needs of students and employers worldwide. As part of W&M’s Year of the Arts, the Boyle Legacy Society heard from students involved in many different forms of art on campus, from creative writing to architecture to music.

The Class of 1974 far exceeded its fundraising goals, presenting President Katherine A. Rowe with a check for over $14 million, representing gifts from 48% of the class. The class gift supports scholarships, internships and applied learning opportunities, and other funds throughout W&M.

In a ceremony at the Wren Building on Sunday, the 50th reunion class donned graduation caps and gowns and was inducted into the Olde Guarde. Sam Sadler ’64, M.Ed. ’71 provided reflections on the legacy of the class, from hard-won student freedoms to memorable concerts and escapades.

The weekend concluded with the Olde Guarde Luncheon and an overview of the work of W&M’s Virginia Institute of Marine Science from Dean and Director Derek Aday. This year’s Olde Guarde Distinguished Service Award recognized Stuart Richardson Dopp ’62, P ’92, G ’23 and Dan Dopp ’62, P ’92, G ’23 for their exceptional dedication, involvement and continued service to the university.

Though the weather was unexpectedly cold and wet for this April weekend, it couldn’t dampen the spirits of the almost 450 attendees.

As Streisand sang in 1974, “So it’s the laughter we will remember, whenever we remember the way we were.”

— CLAIRE DE LISLE M.B.A. ’21
WOMEN’S NETWORK Founded in 2018, during the centennial celebration of the admission of women to William & Mary, the Society of 1918 is committed to growing the engagement, leadership and philanthropy of W&M women. This vibrant group of women, dedicated to being “by women for women for William & Mary,” supports each other, provides feedback to university leadership on key issues, comes together regularly and gives to causes that advance women and William & Mary.

The Society now comprises over 600 W&M women — alumnae, spouses, faculty, staff, mothers of students and beyond. Members represent a wide range of ages, backgrounds and industries. They provide philanthropic support to funds across the university as well as to the Alumnae Initiatives Endowment (AIE), which underwrites regional gatherings and W&M Women's Weekend, bringing women together for invigorating learning, fun and networking activities. Since its founding, the Society has hosted more than 130 in-person and virtual events with over 12,000 registrations.

In 2023, the AIE also funded grants for faculty and students of all genders for projects that address the needs and interests of women. Projects included mentorship programs for physics undergraduates and for VIMS students, a weekend-long event by the Student Accessibility and Disability Alliance, an artist-in-residence at the Muscarelle Museum of Art and much more. Grants will continue to be awarded each year.

New for 2024, the Society sponsored a 12-week cohort experience, “Navigating Life Transitions,” in which 52 W&M women met with executive coaches and received peer support. “The connections between women of all generations because of our shared love of William & Mary have been really powerful,” says Shanda Cooper Goff ’06, chair of the Society.

Learn more about programs for W&M women, including the Society of 1918, at wmalumni.com/women. — CLAIRE DE LISLE M.B.A.’21

THE GIFT OF MEMBERSHIP

Joining the Society of 1918 is an excellent way for 2024 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 600 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
Top Career Tips
From W&M Professional Development Week 2024

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
William & Mary is committed to preparing lifelong learners equipped to navigate rapid change and thrive from their first job to their last. W&M’s annual Professional Development Week is a key part of this commitment. This year, close to 1,000 members of our community came together from Feb. 26-March 1 for a mix of virtual and live events for networking, career development and personal growth. Sessions were designed to provide useful insights to participants at all stages of their careers, from current students to executives. They featured learning objectives based on the National Association of College and Employers (NACE) career competencies.

Professional Development Week was sponsored by W&M’s Office of Career Development & Professional Engagement and the W&M Alumni Association. Thank you to all the alumni who generously volunteered their time to share valuable insights and practical tools gleaned over the course of their careers. Read on for their top career tips.

— CATHERINE TYSON ’20

1 Create a career you are proud of based on who you are.

Early in his career, Oz Parvaiz ’99 was told that “Nice guys finish last.” After a few attempts at the tough guy routine, he decided it wasn’t worth it. It wasn’t who he was. He embraced being kind and found it built trust in those around him. He now views kindness not as a weakness but as a superpower. So be yourself. Don’t let other people’s ideas of who you should be change who you truly are.

FEATURING
Oz Parvaiz ’99, Capital One

2 Flourishing in a fast-paced world requires living a life aligned with your values.

Caught up in the rush of daily life, we often lack the time to be thoughtful about our priorities and the direction of our lives. As a result, our wellness can suffer. According to Kelly Crace, vice president for health & wellness at W&M, taking agency over our lives begins with understanding our core values. Defining what is most important to us and actively working to live accordingly is essential to achieving a deeper state of wellness, productivity and fulfillment.

FEATURING
Kelly Crace, William & Mary

3 There is only one version of you. Find your unique strengths and channel them.

If you love what you do, you will never work a day in your life. But how do you find what you love? According to W&M alumna Erin Ewart ’00, a critical part of the process is uncovering where your true strengths lie. These are strengths that go beyond what you are good at — rather, they are found at the intersection of what you do well and what energizes you. Understanding these strengths and using them as a navigational tool can help us find roles in which we thrive.

FEATURING
Erin Ewart ’00, Careers for Social Impact

4 Step out of your comfort zone and embrace productive conflict.

Conflict, especially in the workplace, is a pain point most people seek to avoid. But delaying confrontation can lead to tension and miscommunication, negatively impacting us and our teams. In a session titled “Tools for Productive Conflict,” Gráinne Sibley ’99 challenged participants to face conflict head-on. Approaching challenging conversations with intentionality and a clear communication plan can ultimately improve our work environment and relationships.

FEATURING
Gráinne Sibley ’99, Alpha Omega Leadership
5 Invest time in your team. The returns will be priceless.

Whether kicking back at a company barbecue or giving feedback on performance, the key requirement for building strong teams is time. As a manager, when you spend time with your team members, you communicate that you care. So be curious. Get to know the people you work with on a personal level. Ask questions and actively listen. This will make your workplace a space of trust built on strong and sincere relationships.

FEATURING
Kristen Vaughan ’00, Accenture Federal Services; AJ Dronkers ’08, Paycom; Andrea Deege ’94, Korn Ferry; and Denis Beausejour ’06, O.C. Tanner

6 Finding the profession that’s right for you requires immersive experiences.

Especially early on in your career, it can be difficult to discover what you want to do and who you want to be. Internships are a great way to help you find the answers. Providing hands-on learning and real-world work experience, they can show you what you love and what you’d prefer to avoid. Regardless of what you take away from an internship, each experience is a step in the right direction.

FEATURING
James Ambrose ’07, Microsoft; Royce McAllister ’07, Ticketmaster; Jane Raleigh ’13, Kennedy Center; Lydia Lee ’24, William & Mary; and Phil Heavilin, William & Mary

7 Look at artificial intelligence as a powerful tool, not an all-encompassing solution.

AI might look like an unbiased guru capable of correctly solving every problem, but this is not the case. AI is created, optimized and ultimately used by human beings. It is, therefore, subject to some of the same mistakes and biases we see in ourselves. To successfully integrate AI in the workplace, we must evaluate it with the same rigor we apply to our own work and approach it as a tool, not a solution.

FEATURING
Kira Allmann ’10, William & Mary; Gabrielle Hibbert ’17, New America; and Catherine Gregory ’09, Ada Lovelace Institute

8 The secret ingredient of a thriving career is relationships.

Fundamental to any successful career is a set of strong relationships. Whether with mentors, colleagues, managers or peers, the relationships we form over the course of our careers are invaluable, helping us navigate from one opportunity to the next. Be purposeful about investing in and maintaining relationships, even if it’s only meeting for coffee once a year. You never know what life has in store.

FEATURING
JD Due, William & Mary; Jenay Barbee ’05, Defense Civilian Personnel Advisory Service; and Brian Jenkins ’16, Armed Services Arts Partnership

To view presentation recordings, check out the online version of this article at magazine.wm.edu/pdw-2024.
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Class Notes
What’s The Story?

You’ve got mail! From parents’ care packages to notes of encouragement during finals, student mailboxes, located on the lower floor of Sadler Center, are still an important part of life at William & Mary.

— 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. To submit your news, contact your class reporter or email alumni.magazine@wm.edu.

1956

Class Reporters
ED AND BELINDA WATKINS
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To those of you still to celebrate your 90th birthdays in 2024, we say, “best wishes and congratulations!”

Diane Hamel Hoyt

she says is “still keepin’ on!” She married a New Englander and converted to “New Englandism,” skiing and sailing. Their four sons (all in their 60s) have stuck around and are forming a support staff, providing entertainment and adventurous grandchildren — one in New Zealand, one in France and others in Africa. Diane says she is healthy, but a bit slower. February (when she wrote this in Massachusetts) makes her remember, longingly, springtime in Williamsburg. I (Belinda) was born in Quincy, Massachusetts, but left at the age of 3!

Hugh MacMahon

confesses he will probably not be going on any more overseas trips, but may go up the inside passage to Alaska. Hugh admits that his computer was hacked.

He was able to get out, relatively unscathed, with much help.

Les Sykes Waldron

wrote on Valentine’s Day that she and Jim would stay home that day and celebrate with some special cheesecake. Favorite pastimes for them are eating out, seeing shows and reading. Les recently read “The Monuments Men.” She says it is awesome (and I agree).

Happy to hear from Will Molineux in Williamsburg, who says there is a great amount of construction going on at W&M. Will is still teaching Osher Lifelong Learning Institute classes on Williamsburg’s past and they have been well received. His wife, Mary Sawyer Molineux ’75, has taken up watercolor painting.

Glenna “Tiny” Bailey

sent a note saying she keeps in touch with Vickie Stone Velsey.

Tiny’s niece, Emily Clark Hines ’85, is retiring from teaching music. Emily was the little sister of our daughter, Caroline Watkins ‘83, in Kappa Delta at W&M. Caroline is now retired from AT&T. Now, does that make you feel old?

We were about to send our news to the College when the mailman came, bringing a letter from classmate Marcia Page Cooley. The notecard pictured a wonderful (her word) museum, which is the gift of a local, the founder of Chapman University, Marcia and her husband, Bob, have been docents there for several years. After 65 years in California, Marcia says she has little contact with William & Mary. Since all three of their children are in California, Marcia and Bob will stay put! (Although she won’t brag about California taxes and politics!)

Life is very much in the “slow lane” for the Watkins family.

Keep in touch!

1957

Class Reporter
PETE KALISON
pkalison1@verizon.net

A very sad communication from Vince DeVita ‘57, D.Sc. ’82. He lost his beloved wife of 66 years, Mary Kay Bush DeVita, on Jan. 2. Vince is the Amy & Joseph Perella Professor of Medicine at the Yale University Cancer Center. Suzy Tully McCarthy sent us a note that she resides in Portland, Oregon, and has two W&M alumni in the family: a daughter, Cara McCarthy ’85, and a daughter-in-law, Nellie Troy McCarthy ’91. Suzy enjoys keeping up with classmates.

It was good to hear for the first time from John Oellerman. John has been married to his wife, Barbara, for 45 years. He misses very much visiting the College, especially the Olde Guarde gathering during Traditions Week-end every spring, but travel just isn’t possible for the two of them now.

We always look forward to hearing from Mary “Mickie” Curro, who always has information for us, and this newsletter is no different. Mickie continues to keep in touch with her Tri Delta sisters, including Lillie Kocher and Mary Ripley Harris. Mickie resides in Portsmouth, Virginia, near her oldest son, Carl, who is just 45 minutes away. Good health enables her to drive and travel. Mickie continues to take small acting roles in local productions, write poetry and paint. William & Mary theatre and the Backdrop Club remain vivid in her mind.

Marsha and I have a very busy spring ahead of us. We have one grand-daughter graduating from the University of Michigan and three granddaughters graduating from high school. We intend to make all the graduations. All three high school seniors have applied to W&M!

1958

Class Reporter
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Greetings, Super-Agers! We are fortunate to live in one more revolution — the artificial intelligence (AI) era. Just as our parents lived through the horse to automobile stage, the post-industrial revolution of modular homes and TV, we have been able to experience the internet and the beginning of AI. I remember my first emails in about 1988 and those original computers, which were much better than all those stacks of cards at the Harvard computer center and having to use the typewriter and Correcto Type. At the MIT Media Lab in the late 1980s, I hung around with some of the pioneers like Nicholas Negroponte and Marvin Minsky. After that, I plunged into expert systems, management information systems (MIS), smart cards, smart cities, computer-aided design and computer-aided manufacturing (CAD/CAM), robotics, Watson and the first stages of AI machine learning. There was an “aha” moment about 10 years ago, but that fear of job loss faded away — until now. I think we are finally in the first grade heading to second grade in our knowledge and the concomitant need for guardians. AI has become trendy and phony in certain ways, but the slow progress toward real machine language is happening. I taught an Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) class recently in memoir writing and AI enhancement tools, reported previously. The academy I founded is looking at housing and urban issues this year through the lens of AI. I head a Harvard Kennedy School of Government-Washington, D.C., working group on AI and I am in an American Bar Association section on AI.

I am working with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) on their plan in response to the recent executive order from the White House. Those in the class who are interested, please let me know!

Robert Bradley sent me some photos of his new “digs” and told me about
a very interesting exhibit he saw at the Harvard Graduate School of Design. Robert has also agreed to be the first oral history volunteer in the Class of ’50 series. Please see the online version of it and others who have stepped up. I hope to hear more from others!

I am looking forward to the biennial World Urban Forum (WUF) in Cairo, Egypt, in November. I have worked with HUD, the National Building Museum and other public interest groups on a series of hearing W&M programs. I also taught an OLLI class at American University, “The Lost Cause: A Case Study of the Removal of the Lee-Jackson Windows.” It was based on my recently published book, as reported previously. I also published the first of the nine-book series on Mary Tillinghast, a famous Gilded Age stained-glass window designer, and the biography of Robert Lawrence Tillinghast in the series on Tillinghast and slavery. As a precedent to that, I visited with Jody Allen Ph.D. ’07, director of The Lemon Project at the College. While I was there, I had a delightful lunch with Mary Ann Breese Brendel and Betty Joyce Nunn McKnight. I recounted to them my recent “award” from Politico, an online magazine that asks a trivia question in their frequent “Inside Congress” column. This one was a no-brainer for me, of course: “Which college had a royal charter and also was connected to the first four presidents of our country?”

1959

Class Reporter
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Jay Lawler and I have just attended two wonderful W&M weekends.

We attended Charter Day Weekend to celebrate the College’s 331st birthday and to honor this year’s Alumni Medallion and Service Award winners. The previous weekend, we attended the very successful annual auction to raise money for W&M Athletics.

At Charter Day, I saw Jim Willard, my most faithful correspondent. As chairman of the group of former state officials (one a W&M alumna, Carol Wampler ’70) they are volunteering their time in an effort to lobby the Virginia General Assembly to properly fund our state parks that are underfunded by $100 million per year. They have spent many hours in the halls of the new General Assembly building rallying support for adequate funding. Thanks for this most important work, Jim, as our state parks are indeed jewels that need care.

I heard from Martha Fisher Redsecker, who sent this: “I am retired from four fulfilling careers: the Department of the United States Navy, then IBM, where I was a senior computer systems analyst under contract alternatively to the CIA in Langley, the Joint Chiefs of Staff in the Pentagon and the commander-in-chief, U.S. Atlantic Fleet (now U.S. Fleet Forces Command). I also took time with home-making and motherhood while working in real estate and Girl Scout troop leadership. My husband, Jim, two daughters, and I renovated old houses on Maryland’s Eastern Shore. We lived on the Corsica River in Centreville, Maryland, where I was happy to participate in integrating the Girl Scout troops. I have kept up with my ‘equality’ work after attending the March on Washington in August of ’63. I have spent time in my careers working toward Martin Luther King Jr.’s ‘I Have a Dream’ speech fulfillment. When I was the personnel officer for U.S. Customs and Border Protection in Washington, D.C., I drove in to work 85 miles each way, five days per week, from our 40-acre horse farm in Millington, Maryland, until reassigned by Customs to Riverside, California, to serve in the U.S. Customs Aviation Program as the civilian personnel officer at March Air Reserve Base in the ’80s. I lived there until Jim died and I retired to Las Vegas. I have continued my ‘work for MLK’s dream.’

Martha, what an impressive career you have had — and are still having!

Barry Martin, who still lives in Sacramento, California, sent a note saying that our class president and NAACP leader, the late Jim Williams, died July 9, 2023, in Raleigh, North Carolina. His wife, Gay Barnes Law, visited her son in the Bay Area during the holidays and both of them joined Barry and his wife for lunch, where they reminisced about Tom and W&M.

One of our close friends, Elliott Schaubach, died Jan. 19. He and Jay played golf together as each other’s member guest at The Princess Anne Country Club and Salisbury Country Club for 30-some years. Carolyn Todd Schaubach died in November 2020. It is always so great to hear from you so keep the news and notes coming! And, as always, GO TRIBE!

1960

Class Reporter
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Nancy Moore Kiser writes, “We are still enjoying our life in the Northern Neck. It is a wonderful community and hopefully we can remain here in our home despite some of the problems that come with ‘old age.’ We love our church, our friends and our pastoral surroundings. My husband, John, has just retired from active practice as a dermatologist at the Cleveland Clinic, where he now serves as senior dermatologist and director of Dermatopathology Fellowship. She adds, ‘I have been honored in the past few years by being named ‘Master Clinician’ by the Cleveland Clinic and the American Academy of Dermatology.’ Her husband, John, has just retired from active practice as a Cleveland Clinic orthopedic surgeon. Wilma adds that her five granddaughters have all graduated from college with honors, and three with master’s degrees. ‘All is well in Cleveland.’

Catherine (Fay) Young Kaufman reports that she’s ‘still anchored in west Los Angeles (a couple of blocks from UCLA), writing a novel that she’s been working on for seven years. ‘I’ll finish it soon if I just keep showing up. Took time out for a jazz cruise in January with about 100 of the best jazz musicians in the U.S. and some beyond. Never got off the ship — too much wonderful music.’

James Egan sent a short note saying that he is semiretired and working just one long day per week as a psychiatrist. He reports that he is divorced, but has five wonderful children and 11 grandchildren.

Dick Neely reports that his son-in-law, Colton Seale, who was a counterintelligence officer for the FBI, will be on a CBS series titled “Interrogation Room.” The series has been purchased by CBS, but a beginning date has yet to be announced! While at the FBI, Colton personally formulated the agency’s interrogation program based on rapport versus torture and led the FBI’s interrogation team during the hunt for Laden. According to Dick, “other than that, things are pretty normal.”

Margaret “Bonnie” Hines reports that she has been a lawyer in Washington, D.C., for a number of years and is now retired. She would enjoy hearing from anyone who wants to get in touch. Her email is bonnita@aol.com.

John Fronefield sent a nice note: “Helen and I live in La Jolla, California, in a retirement community on the ocean. We retired in 1999 after Helen’s career in the Air Force and returned to Alaska, which had been an assignment for her from 1985-1991. We then spent several years traveling the country in an RV in the fall, winter and spring. Later, winters were spent in Surprise, Arizona, and summers in Alaska.”

Di Tito Alexander ’61 and I enjoyed a great weekend at Charter Day Weekend on campus in February. We connected with Miles Chappell over ample fine Italian wine.

JAMES L. "JIM" LAWLER
reminisce about our days as students and to hear about Miles’ latest art history project. A highlight of our visit to the campus was a tour of the newly renovated Phi Beta Kappa Memorial Hall (home of the Department of Theatre, Speech & Dance) and new adjacent Music Arts Center. The complex includes multiple performance halls, rehearsal spaces, shops, classrooms and amazing technology for all types of performing arts. Sitting next door is the breathtaking expansion to the Muscarelle Museum of Art that will triple the size of the museum.

1961

Class Reporter
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For many years, Teddy Johnson Taylor, Sue Yarnold Dilloway and Holly Ruffner Clark gathered for a destination get away. After Sue passed in 2021, Teddy and Holly decided to continue that tradition. Last October, Ted and her companion, John Sanford, met Holly and R.L. Clark in Knoxville, Tennessee, drove through the Great Smoky Mountains. Holly said, “The best part of this trip was just spending time catching up on recent events and remembering those wonderful times when Teddy, Sue and I met during sorority rush in 1957.”

Nancy Espy Bedford writes, “My husband, Charlie Bedford, passed away three years ago. Each Jan. 23, two friends here at Lenbrook, an Atlanta retirement community, and I commemorate and honor our husbands, all three of whom died on that date years earlier. I am planning a second riverboat cruise in May to Paris and Normandy in honor of the 80th anniversary of D-Day.

Patty Moore Myers and Nancy Hutton Lowrance are longtime members of the Richmond (Virginia) Pi Beta Phi Alumnae Club. They play bridge once a month with Betty Parker Featherston. Patty says, “I am fortunate that my family, including my son and daughter, plus three grown grandchildren, live here.”

From Joan Costabel Austin: “The only mildly interesting thing I’m into at present is studying furiously to prepare to give tours of the stained-glass windows in the Briarcliff Congregational Church, to which I have belonged for the past 45 years. As a tour guide, I’m still working at Kykuit, the Rockefeller Estate near in Sleepy Hollow, New York.”

From Peg Grim Davis: “Since retiring in 2003, we have downsized twice. We first left our home of 30 years in Madison County, Virginia, and moved to Urbanna. However, as we moved toward 80, we felt the need to give up the responsibilities of taking care of a house and boat. We moved to a cottage at the Masonic Home of Virginia in Richmond that puts us halfway between our daughter in Williamsburg and our son in Charlotteville. In August, we will celebrate our 60th anniversary with our family (children and grandchildren included) on a cruise.”

Joan and Ron Willard continue to enjoy life at Greenspring Village in Springfield, Virginia, their home for 15 years. Their two youngest grandchildren attend junior and senior high school. Isabella excels in cross country and Aiden in baseball.

Wendy Seipel: “I am a retired urologist for 18 years and I am still married and looking forward to our 59th anniversary next month. We’re still living on the farm here in Winchester, Virginia. A little over two years ago, I left half of my colon in the OR. Since then, my wife has a new nickname for me: Semiconciseipell!”

Dan Link writes: “I am in my seventh month of residence in Melbourne, Australia. Life is great. I have taken up Pilates and lawn bowling.”

Don Weissman: “Mark Bauman, a highly honored chronicler of the contributions of Jewish people living in the southern United States, was a visiting professor at William & Mary in 2005 and is doing so again this year. I learned about this when I, once again, thanked him for his role in my physical and family and southern American Jewish history. We moved to Evans, Georgia, to a home more suited to our limited mobility and I will hopefully physically and mentally able to continue substitute teaching in the local high school.”

Sue Bruron Cole: “I’m very grateful to be 85, which will happen before this is published. Shortly before our 43rd wedding anniversary, my husband, Dean Bailey, and I began the process of a divorce. He stayed in Virginia, and I moved to New York State. I worked in the kitchen and got a job almost immediately as a tour guide with Grayline. Then, I reconnected with my first love from high school, David Cole ’60. We married in 2007 and we were very happy just outside of Cincinnati. He died in 2011, but those few years together were fabulous, and I cherish the memories. Dean died in 2017.”

After David died, I moved to Hopatcong, New Jersey, close to my oldest daughter and grandchildren. I live in a very small log cabin that was one-a-season summer cottage when it was built in the 1940s. Benton Bailey ’85, my first born, is a successful corporate lawyer in Montclair. My son, and middle child, is a musician. In 2023, he and his wife decided to make a permanent move to France. In 2006, Sara, my youngest, married a young man who was born and raised in France; she has been in Melun since 2004.”

From Liz Rader O’Neill: “I’ve been a couple of beautiful concerts and am going to see Yo-Yo Ma at Spoleto in May. My two daughters, grandchildren and I will be together in Pisa in October. I am going to see Yo-Yo Ma at Spoleto in May. My two daughters, grandchildren and I will be together in Pisa in October.”

From Susie Radford Rice: “ Widowed life continues blessed with 2 1/2 mile walks every morning, gardening, housekeeping, loads of church activities, neighborhood meetings and travel. I leave for a three-week cruise from Santiago, Chile, to Miami in late February.”

Gerry H. Goldsholle writes that The New York Times contacted him and his wife, Myra, in October, for a story on how couples handle things when one spouse (Gerry) wants to stay in the long-time family home and the other prefers to move to a retirement community. He writes, “It quoted me as saying, ‘We are both in perfect health,’ but we recognized things can change. Two days after the photographer came to our home to take pictures for the story, my wife collapsed from a previously unsuspected illness. She died a week later — the same day the Times’ story appeared in print. The lesson for us all: our time is getting short, so try to enjoy everyday and continue to make a difference.”

Paul Verkuil ’61, D.P.S. ’17 was in Williamsburg last spring to attend events around the W&M Public Policy Program and the Global Research Institute, GRI, led by Mike Tierney.
I recently spent a wonderful time chatting with Bob Stoy '61, M. Ed. '65. He stays in touch with Dave Fiscella and Judy Trimm Fiscella '62 and Barbara For- agh, who has returned to the Chesapeake area. He also spends time weekly with Larry Peccatiello '58, M. Ed. '59, his fra- ternity big brother.

Margaret Barnhart Gunn and Ken Levine met Joe Alexander '60, M.A. '62 and me for lunch at Berret's during Charter Day Week- end. Margaret is busy as ever working with the Bray School and Brunt Parish. She's involved in many Osher Lifelong Learning Institute classes, where she sees many alumni. Joe and I were so glad to see so many class- mates and friends over Charter Day Week- end. We spent a lovely evening with Debbie and Ron Monark chatting and eating (or doing typical activities when together). Throughout the weekend, we also had time to connect with Bob- bie Berkeley Ukop '61, L.H.D. '23 and Jim Ukop '60, L.H.D. '99, Marshall Aucaff '62, L.H.D. '07, Dottie Nowland Gabig, Pris Edwards Howard, Jay Lawler '59 and Kathy Watson Lawler '59, and Dan Dopp '62 and Su- art Richardson Dopp '62.

Dale Harris Cohen wrote that she and Dick Cohen '61, B.C.L. '63 are fortunate to have their children and their families nearby for getting together on special occasions. All 12 celebrat- ed Dale and Dick's 60th wedding anniversary and then got together again at Thanksgiving. In April, they joined William & Mary friends Judy Hall Halesky and Paul Hale- sky '50 on an Oceania transatlantic cruise from Miami to Barcelona. They visited the Azores in Por- tugal and several places in Spain. They celebrated with their daughter and her family in Hilton Head, South Carolina, one of their happy places. A weekend in a luxury sta- tionary Airstream trailer at AutoCamp-Catkills reminded them of their trailer and motorhome days. Dale enjoys book club, bridge and mahjong while Dick keeps up with maintaining the house and yard and having lunch with friends.

Betsy Holland Lungar and George Lungar celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary at a bed-and-breakfast near Bardstown, Ken- tucky. Travel took the Lungers to Avalon, New Jersey, and Highlands, North Carolina, with a highlight being traveling to Williamsburg to celebrate the 50th reunion and to visit our college graduation. They stayed in Yorktown and were surprised by an annual 10:30 a.m. parade celebrating the end of the Revolutionary War when Charles Cornwallis surrendered to George Washington in a small cave nearby on that date and time. They headed to North Carolina's Outer Banks before going home. Christmas was in Phil- adelphia with their son and his family.

Sherrill Parrish Swan and Al have homes in Colorado and Tampa, Florida. They traveled to the two included lots of friend and family visiting. A cruise took them to Scotland, where they saw the Edinburgh Tattoo, very impressive — especially for Al, who always wanted to see it.

Lee Williams McBride's two daughters and grandchildren came to visit. Her daughter Meg and Meg's family came from Bali, Indonesia.

Lee and Marie Lynn Hunken both wrote about getting together in the Southwest. Marie said, “Lee McBride traveled the many miles from Washington, D.C., to New Mexico to join New Mexico resident Jo- hanne Riddick and me, traveling from Tucson, to spend time together. We enjoyed the many sights, museums and great foods offered by New Mexico in the Santa Fe and Taos areas and to our delight, a successful reunion of college friends from decades past.” Lee said it was nice to see old friends and discover a new part of the United States.

Joe Cunningham wrote about playing golf with Lou Holtz a few years ago at the Augusta National. Lou was the golf coach during our last years at William & Mary, in addition to being the assistant football coach. This brought back many memories of playing golf with the team. The rest of the foursome was John Saunders, a Holtz colleague, and Bernie Saunders, a pro- fessional hockey player. All four were writing books. Joe self-published “Boating in Ohio” in 2019 about the Gnadenhutten Massacre in Ohio. In 2023, he self-published “Blackbeard Island.” Ber- nie Saunders had talked about learning to play the guitar and this prompted Joe to learn how to play the cello.

Alex White sent a photo of his wife, Veda, and himself in Taos. Great photo of a beautiful landscape and two fine- looking people.

As quilting is some- thing I love to do, I am looking forward to going to Williamsburg next week with three friends. We’ll go to the quilt show in Hampton and sew in one friend’s time share, talk, eat out and have fun the rest of the time. Williamsburg and quilting are two favorite things.

Happy spring to ev- eryone. Enjoy the sun and flowers now, but keep thinking ahead to next fall and save the date, Oct. 17-20, 2024, for Homecoming & Reunion Weekend and our class of ’64 60th reunion. The kickoff committee for our gathering started with our very special cheerleaders, Carol Ev- ans, Dick Goodwin and Sam Sadler ’64, M.Ed. ’71, also Sue Roache Warner, Don Beck, Maynard Williams Randolph and Ginny Peirce Volkman. Carol says that most of our reunion will be on Friday and Saturday evenings of Homecoming. The W&M Alumni Association has provided a list of accommodations on the Homecoming website. Reserve now. Let’s make this an especially big octogenarian party as well. Let’s contact former roommates, sports teams, Greek brothers and sisters, club and ac- tivity members, invite one and all. And Carol says to call her at 757-945-2947, if you have suggestions, questions, thoughts and especially if you’d like to join in the planning.

Here are some memo- ries of our 50th reunion and induction into the Olde Guarde: John Stilka ’64, M.Ed. ’70 writes, “I recall attending our 50th reunion and it was a delightful seeing classmates and catching up on past times. Receiving the Olde Guarde me- dallion at a ceremony in front of the Wren Build- ing was a very special moment. I look forward to our 60th reunion. Wow. How fortunate we are to have the opportu- nity to once again meet old friends. This also gives us a moment to remember colleagues who have left us. Memories of Kafka Sigma fraternity brothers and football teammates linger to this day. I will miss the ‘war stories’ of things we did back then. Those stories were always embellished with the thoughts of hap- py times. "Since leaving W&M in 1964, life has been filled with many adven- tures. Gerry FitzGer- ald ’63 and I married in 1963 and were blessed with our son, John. We married in 1976, Gerry and I went our separate ways, and I married Patricia, whom I met in Heidelberg, Germany, on military as- signment. Patricia and I married in 1978. We are still in touch with Gerry, who lives in Gloucester, Virginia. “After graduating in 1964 and being commis- sioned in the U.S. Army, military life continued for 23 years with tours mostly in Europe. I retired as a lieutenant colonel and went into public education in Northern Virginia where I was a teacher, guidance counselor and vice principal until 2001. Patricia and I continu- ed to live in Northern Virginia for many years in the Shenandoah Valley, where we owned a home for 20 years. We also owned a place in Belfast, Maine, which was our summer retreat and still is. We moved to Beth- lehem, Pennsylvania, in 2014 where I grew up and then decided to move back to Virginia in 2022 near the kids. We now live in a retirement com- munity at Brander- mill Woods in Midlothian, Virginia. There our three children and seven grand- children live. Being close to Williamsburg is neat. We plan to attend W&M
activities and attend football games. Still love Williamsburg.”

Terry Price Arnold ’64, M.Ed. ’65. “GREETINGS to my dear classmates. I continue living in Virginia and have a condo in Lynchburg, having sold my home five years ago. I have my 8-year-old grandson every other weekend to provide love and opportunities for him after the loss of my dear daughter, her momma. My son and his family live in Winter Park, Florida, and wish we were closer so that I could see my 5-year-old granddaughter more. Along with being a mom and having a career after college, university and doctoral studies, I was involved in music education, vocal music, theatre and in the arts for many years. Age and autoimmune illnesses prevent me from much active participation now, but I was onstage in many theatrical and musical productions and received recognition in juried shows for my paintings. I read a lot, enjoy decorating and cooking, and try to be my best caregiver. I enjoy keeping up with longtime friends through Facebook and various heritage societies and continue researching and helping others in historic preservation and genealogy. I have fond memories of working at the Heinz History Center in Pittsburgh for her experiences on her high school rifle team. The exhibition, “A Woman’s Place: How Women Shaped Pittsburgh,” opens in March and Trilby attended. Her team photo, letter sweater and 100-10X target are on display. In 1961, Trilby was the national top scorer in junior small bore competition. And get this: Trilby tried to join the W&M rifle team, but was turned away because the Southern Conference prohibited women from competing. She advises us that the conference has changed that policy (we would hope!). Congratulations, Trilby on this very impressive acknowledgement of your achievement! We always like to hear from Judy Pollard Harned because she tells us about the Rappahannock River fun, the blackberry garden that produces jams and cobbler, and usually (but not this time) about dancing with Dave Harned ’62 to ‘60s music. They will celebrate their 60th anniversary in August. Two of their daughters live near them, and the other is in Kansas City. They gather as a family often, which includes their five grandchildren. Judy and Dave are busy with their grandchildren’s activities and projects. She says they take up a whole pew at church these days. Keep dancing, kids!

Ted Fecteau lives in “beautiful New Zealand” in spite of the ravages of climate change, COVID-19 and global conflicts. Although he and his family have both had “worn parts,” he is well. He shares good memories of working at the Kings Arms Tavern with Terumi Tokita ’67, who lives in New York City. Ted informs us that his W&M roommate, Dick Paxton Woodhouse, died in April 2022 as a result of a car accident. Dick grew up in Bristol, Virginia, and was a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon. He retired to Cooperstown to be near his beloved Cardinals baseball team. Ted says that Dick is missed as a favorite uncle and by many close friends, such as Ted. Our sympathies, Ted.

And finally, a catch-up tale from Fran Drewny Green. Sixty years ago, she and Bob Green secretly eloped. They had to keep it a secret so Fran could continue to live in the dorm. Bob was a Richmond Professional Institute (now Virginia Commonwealth University) student, so they lived in Richmond for Fran’s senior year. She drove to Williamsburg for classes. After 15 years of marriage, it was time to have a child. Their son, Jay, moved to Colorado when he graduated from James Madison University and married there. After living in the Outer Banks of North Carolina, Fran and Bob retired in 2013 and moved to Colorado to be near Jay and Laura in Centennial with their three children and two dogs. Fran and Bob and their poodle, Baguette, live in Fort Collins. “And now we are living happily ever after in Colorado.”

We hope this happy tale reaches you living happily ever after, too. Since this isn’t always the case, we hope that as we move along in our 80s, it’s as good as it can be.

And on this cold and rainy Virginia day in February, Ginny and Joe are in Florida and Barb and Tom are headed to California. Thanks for staying in touch and looking forward to hearing from more of you next time. Stay well.

1965

Class Reporters

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Exciting news from Trilby Busch: She is being honored at the Heinz History Center in Pittsburgh for her experiences on her high school rifle team. The exhibition, “A Woman’s Place: How Women Shaped Pittsburgh,” opens in March and Trilby attended. Her team photo, letter sweater and 100-10X target are on display. In 1961, Trilby was the national top scorer in junior small bore competition. And get this: Trilby tried to join the W&M rifle team, but was turned away because the Southern Conference prohibited women from competing. She advises us that the conference has changed that policy (we would hope!). Congratulations, Trilby on this very impressive acknowledgement of your achievement! We always like to hear from Judy Pollard Harned because she tells us about the Rappahannock River fun, the blackberry garden that produces jams and cobbler, and usually (but not this time) about dancing with Dave Harned ’62 to ‘60s music. They will celebrate their 60th anniversary in August. Two of their daughters live near them, and the other is in Kansas City. They gather as a family often, which includes their five grandchildren. Judy and Dave are busy with their grandchildren’s activities and projects. She says they take up a whole pew at church these days. Keep dancing, kids!

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1966

Class Reporter

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So, I take it back — you actually CAN lose a document on the computer. I hit delete on a thread of eight notes from you all and the whole thing disappeared — forever! I’d like to blame it on the fact that my 13-pound puppy, Meg, is sitting on my lap while I type and occasionally adds letters of her own while I am composing. Anyway, if you do not find your newsy note in this article, please don’t be offended and resend next time I come begging.

The big news now — we are turning 80! That is a shock since we started together when we were “mature” 18-year-olds. Many of you have already started celebrating this milestone and I guess I can whine a little here. My birthday falls two days before our oldest grandson graduates from UNC and three days before Mother’s Day. Guess who is going to be chapped liver?

Dottie Gilbert Jordan and Tom Jordan enjoy meeting up with Mary Brennan Alie and Ray Alie ’71, M.A. ’72, as they all are in Williamsburg. Dottie mentioned watching the changes on the campus and being able to enjoy the activities. Mary has been an interpreter for Colonial Williamsburg since retiring from the Kalamazoo, Michigan, Public Schools and Ray is a mediator for the court systems in the Hampton Roads area. Tom works from home in sales and marketing and has no plans to retire and Dottie loves retirement but does lots of volunteering.

Linda Johnson Morris and Ed Morris (WM ’63) live in Florida and Barb and Tom are headed to California. Thanks for staying in touch and looking forward to hearing from more of you next time. Stay well.

1962

Class Reporter

BRENDAN ALIE
442 Avinger Lane, Apt. 812
Davidson, NC 28036

So nice meeting up with extended family with a break during COVID-19. She and Ed are celebrating their 58th anniversary this year and have lived in Charlottesville for over 40 of those years. Next they have two family weddings and their annual trip to the Outer Banks of North Carolina. We had a quick visit with Pete Nance and Judy Poirch Nance ’69 and Max, a cute little Havanese, and included Sandy McNell Kern ’68 in the festivities since we are longtime friends.

Bernie Leig has had a tough time after falling during this year’s trip and breaking his ankle in two places. There is a reason our doctors always start off their yearly conversations with “have you fallen since your last appointment?” Mary Ellen Downing Gordon-Scudder is a passionate member of Citizens’ Climate Lobby, a grassroots organization whose mission is to create the political will for a livable planet. In February — when I am writing this — the Mid-Atlantic regional conference was held at William & Mary in recognition of their active chapter of involved students.

Vic Bary stays busy as the Cranford (New Jersey) Historical Society curator
and newsletter editor. He was interviewed for a local blog about the visits to Cranford by four different presidents. He also put together a "Histories Mysteries" box of items for the local second graders to guess what these ancient items are — like a black Bakelite dial phone. And after he and Maureen travel to Morocco, he will be doing a 90-minute presentation to local history teachers on the history of Cranford. Sandy and Keith Dauer are involved with the history departments at their alma maters — Sandy at Indiana State and Keith at the College. One of the history professors visited them and Keith said the appearance of the department had changed dramatically. A young, quite good-looking, conservatively dressed and well-mannered man with more piercings on his countenance than either Sandy or Keith had ever seen before was proof of the thesis.

I received a chatty note from Spencer Timm commenting he was one of the oldest members of our class at 24 and thus his life has slowed down quite a bit. He frequently spends time with friends having organ concerts as they discuss their various health issues. Since his grandchildren are headed off to college, he and his wife are thinking about staying in Florida year-round and leaving Massachusetts behind. Marilyn and Dan Nase have been busy with their Harvest of Life Ministries. They ship Spanish study Bibles to detainees in immigration detention centers in Texas, Arizona and Georgia. Dan is also back in the prisons doing English and Spanish services in three prisons close to Tallahassee. Dan is proud to announce that his two new titanium knees are great.

Jake Smith ‘66, J.D. ’74 and Ginger Graef Smith ‘69 stay busy with their kids, grandkids, boating and W&M activities. Living in the area is great for them as they had a big tailgate at Homecoming & Reunion Weekend and went to the Charter Day celebration. Jake reported that his 13-year-old grandson doesn’t know why he has to go to school because he can find anything he needs to know on YouTube — yikes! The Smiths will be going to Charleston, South Carolina, for a St. Patrick’s Day party with other alumni.

Mary Ellen Coleman Culp is now married to a bionic man as Clyde Culp ’65 has new titanium shoulders.

Boyd and Pat Adams Clark are into eclipse chasing and plan to be in Texas on April 8 for the next total eclipse — hoping we all have clear weather that day. Classmate John Leavy got on the 80 train early and had a nice celebration with all of his family there. Betty Bishop Griffin ’67, M.A.Ed. ’73 and I can tell you that is never an easy thing to do with everyone’s schedules.

We now have our last grandson graduating from high school in May!! He is the baby and says he is 5 feet, 16 inches tall. He is now the tallest in the family — a claim his father had until he had three sons who just kept growing. I continue to love our community. Just recently we were asked to fill out a form on what we thought about various aspects of The Pines. I told them I felt like I was living at the “Cheers” bar — everyone knows my name. This is one big family and that is special.

1967 
Class Reporter ROGER HALL
P.O. Box 1404
Ashland, KY 41105
CommishWH@gmail.com

I was able to communicate with Heywood Wigglesworth ’67 (aka “Wigg”), now a resident of Henrico, Virginia. He recently retired from the Henrico Department of Public Utilities and is now a volunteer at the Virginia Department of Historic Resources. He reported that there are other W&M graduates working there and he “[r]egales them with tales of ancient times when women were not allowed to talk out of windows and when Crim Dell was only Landrum Pond.”

Memories returned of Marv Levy when a Buffalo Bills kicker recently was “wide right,” a move that probably cost them the game. Coach Levy was not in the Class of 1967, but he was our coach and is in the Professional Football Hall of Fame. A great coach and a great man.

1968 *
Class Reporter SANDRA ABICH SIMMERMON
1145 Rockbridge Avenue
Norfolk, VA 23508
Sandra.Simmermon@gmail.com

Brian J. Wolf writes: “Kathy and I recently celebrated our 55th wedding anniversary!! We never expected that one of our gifts would be from the National Headquarters of the Kappa Sigma Fraternity. Kappa Sigma’s magazine featured ‘In My Words: The Oral History Project,’ Entries were solicited from the worldwide membership on the topic of how being a member of Kappa Sigma was a life-changing experience. I was humbled to be one of the brothers whose entry was chosen for the publication. I hope to hear from my brothers in the Nu Chapter at William & Mary.”

Patricia (Pat) A. Carlson emailed: “Since graduating, I completed a Ph.D. at Duke University and then was one of the first three civilian women to teach at the U.S. Naval Academy. I then moved to the Midwest and took a position at the Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology, a private college of engineering. I just retired after 47 years of teaching there.”

By the time you read this, Ronald (Ron) Phillips may have completed his mission. He states, “My current preoccupation is training for my eighth and final (meaning I will reach Santiago de Compostela) Camino on the Via de la Plata this spring. I have only 408 kilometers to go and have my sins forgiven — though only retroactively.”

Dianne Doyle Colton resides in Williamsburg and writes: “As we approach our 56th reunion, I thought back to the circumstances that brought me to William & Mary. My high school guidance counsellor and a friend of ‘beyond’ Ridgeway, Virginia, was the incomparable Jack Garber. I was reasonably sure he had hung the moon. He called me into his office one day in the fall of 1966 and told me I should apply to W&M and not bother applying to any other schools. Since it was Mr. Garber, I agreed, and the admission officials doubtlessly found some quota for a small-town girl from south-central Virginia. When I arrived at the new and extremely muddy DuPont dorm in the fall of 1964, I had never even visited Williamsburg or the campus. Somehow, I muddled through with a degree from a university whose name can still raise eyebrows. It is a blessing beyond measure to be a retired elementary educator. During my 39-year career, there was the ‘open’ classroom, court-ordered court-styled boarding, Title I, Reading Recovery, Reading Specialist, wild swings in the pendulum of best practices, more testing than an elementary student could handle, basal reading books, then no basal reading books and the end of writing in cursive. I made it out the other side, as elementary education suited me very well. I have a daughter and son. Both are married and have provided me with four grandchildren. They live in North Carolina and Tennessee, so I don’t see them nearly as much as I’d like. I’m active in my church and Sunday school class, playing piano as needed. Three days a week, I volunteer at Habitat for Humanity ReStore, which has been so successful we’re building seven new homes this year in the local area, including three 3D-printed homes. (I taught two of the new homeowners in fifth grade!) Otherwise, I simply count my blessings and look forward to continuing old friendships.”

Please check to make sure the College has your correct email address. You can do this at my1693.com or filling out the form at wmalumni.com/update. Some people did not receive an invitation to our 55th reunion because the invitation went to a former email address. Can you do this at my1693.com or filling out the form at wmalumni.com/update. Some people did not receive an invitation to our 55th reunion because the invitation went to a former email address. Also, if you do not get the Class of ’68 Updates from Kathy Burge Callaway and Bruce Oliver, please send an email to burceoliver1968@gmail.com if you wish to receive the updates. You’ll find pictures and memories from our time at W&M, as well as pictures from the present and timely information on events for our class.

Thank you to those who have sent emails. I look forward to receiving information from the rest of you!

1969 *
Class Reporter WIN WHITEHURST ‘69, M.ED. ’72
2206 Raymond Avenue
Henrico, VA 23228
winwhitehurst@yahoo.com

Dear Friends:

February is bringing me little information about our class. Please consider this an impassioned request for news!
Cheri Anderson Leheuw wrote recently. Her son’s family is very involved in BMX (bicycle motocross) racing since her grandson is nationally ranked first in one of his specialties and fourth in the other. A recent competition was in Lexington, Virginia, where Liz Ramsey ’69, M.A. ’74 was able to meet up with Cheri’s daughter and cheer on Cheri’s grandson, who won his heat.

Susie Smith Stewart ’69, M.A.Ed. ’72 let me know that Liz had a ball! Cheri stays busy in Florida with her animals and reading. She says “life is good” for her and her husband.

In early March, the Rev. Jim Cobb served as “theologian-in-residence” at St. Stephen’s Lutheran Church in Williamsburg. The Saturday presentations were on the topic, “Christian Nationalism,” and he also preached at the two Sunday services. He has lectured at various venues in Virginia. Jim and his wife are retired in Virginia Beach.

Donnie Chancellor Wintemute has again won the top Realtor award in Northern Virginia. She continues to be a “top producer.” She seems to have real estate well in hand and to be a leading businesswoman in the Alexandria area. Contacting Donnie...

Susie Smith Stewart ’69, M.A.Ed. ’72 and Ron Stewart ’70 are well in Williamsburg. She stays busy with three young grandchildren living nearby and daily Jazzercise. She and her brother Les Smith ’65, J.D. ’71 regularly walk around Queens Lake.

Had a nice letter from Dave Appler ’68 and Phyllis Kline Appler ’69, M.A. ’74. They are so busy it makes my head spin with children and grandchildren in Kentucky and Georgia, so truly, no one’s both places last year. Phyllis stays busy with their church, the women’s club and volunteering, while Dave still plays the trombone when not volunteering for the Lions Club and the church. I hope their 2024 travel will include Williamsburg in October.

Now the bad news: Cheri also let me know that Judy Lane Knott died in early February in Arlington, Virginia. She worked for more than 50 years at the Department of State, most of the time in the Office of Overseas Schools. In retirement, she was active in her neighborhood and enjoyed traveling and collecting antique glass. She is survived by her three sisters and many nieces.

Dave Ellenson ’69, L.H.D. ’08 died in December. He was a widely respected rabbi and scholar who worked for years to forge alliances among the branches of Judaism. He earned his M.A. from the University of Virginia and his Ph.D. from Columbia University. He was ordained as a rabbi at HUC-JIR in 1977. He served for many years as president of Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion (HUC-JIR) across its four campuses. After retiring from HUC-JIR, he served as the director of the Schusterman Center for Israel studies at Brandeis University, where he also taught. He is survived by his wife and five children.

Milton and I continue to enjoy retirement in Richmond, Virginia. We recently added Hollie — a lovely little Sheltie puppy — to our family. We’ll be happier when the “housebreaking period” is over! She is a delight, but cleaning was never my thing! (See our online Class Notes for a photo.) Please call or come by if you find yourself in Richmond.

1970

(saturday, i think) for our class to get together and catch up, but not a big weekend (like the young-sters have!). Don’t let another year go by without coming to catch up with folks you haven’t seen in way too long. There are more and more of us on the In Memoriam list, so we don’t know how much more time we have. Just be there!

And don’t forget the Class of ’69 Scholarship Fund. We are so close to having a million! A few dollars each could do it! Go Tribe!

1971

Class Reporters
LYNN GREENWOOD FRISICA ’71, M.S. ’74 & JIM FRISICA frisica71@aol.com

From Gregory Pence, philosophy professor at the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) and director of their Early Medical School Acceptance Program: UAB supporters Marnix and Mary Heersink “gave almost $100 million to name UAB’s medical school a few years back. They recently gave another $50 million to renovate the main teaching building of the medical school and now by naming a big area of the second floor after me, in recognition of my nearly 50 years’ association with the medical school. I was humbled, flattered and very grateful.” See the online edition for a photo.

And from Sue Regis: “Life is good here in northern Vermont. Our regular world travels have been curtailed since the past several years so that we could give the best days to our two older dogs before they crossed the rainbow bridge. We took a local approach, enjoying the simplicity of the outdoors in Vermont and Maine. We also had the privilege of helping neighbors start and grow an amazing maple sugar-ing operation. It’s been a blast being a volunteer in pretty much all aspects of the business. This new year, we find ourselves starting a new circle of dog life with an English cocker spaniel puppy named Archie. What a joyful whirlwind! Later this year we will start some travels again with Botswana and Patagonia/Antarctica.”

My next deadline is mid-June, so please send news.

1970

Class Reporter RANDY PEARSON VAN DAM
rpvd921@yahoo.com

After a gallant effort by Kathy Plasmati Baldwin, our hope that the College would assist with an event at Traditions Weekend to celebrate many of us turning 75 has been diminished. However, there is still hope to gather informally in Williamsburg. Happy 75th, whenever it may occur, to our classmates!

The magazine version of this report has a word limit, so please see the expanded online digital version for more details.

Cary Kennedy sent us the following capsule of how he passes his time. “Kathleen and I remain happily situated on the western end of James City County, Virginia. Kathleen enters her 45th year as a musician and Celtic harpist for Colonial Williamsburg. I divide my time assisting with coaching chores for the William & Mary Rugby Football Club, attending church on Sunday, doing sawmill work (all profits go towards cold beer, gasoline and Fig Newtons at my favorite gas station) and having fun flying at my trips to both. If you are in Isle of Wight County on a sunny day, look up, and you might see my clubmates and me chasing the clouds. Kathleen and I host our classmates every year at our home all day Friday for Homecoming & Reunion Weekend.

Pat Graves and Alice Szemore Graves ’74 graced our portal this year. Please visit! Yours in Green & Gold, Cary and Kathleen.”

Char Sandquist Phillips emailed a very comprehensive history of the ’71 Gamma Phi and their gatherings over the years along with the story of her very interesting life after graduation. Char writes, “We do feel incredibly blessed to have committed to being together and loving each other for so many years. We actually grow closer the older we get.” Read the stories about Gamma Phi and Char in the online edition.

The W&M Alumni Magazine staff sent us two published tidbits (from the Salisbury Post and The Enterpriser) about classmates David Post and Clyde DeLoach. David was re-elected to the Salisbury, North Carolina City Council, and Clyde has served on the Patrick County Board of Supervisors in Stuart, Virginia.

We received a short note from John Crowe who said, “I will put together some thoughts. Rick Sterling ’69, M.B.A. ’71 along with Jim Runyon ’69, M.B.A. ’71, along with Hermina Cuervo Delgado ’68, were the main reasons I went out for the gymnastics team. They were all ‘larger than life’ to me. Will be back in touch.” Hoping to hear more from John in the future.

We reconected Hal Hardaway and John Hendel. Apparently, Hal and John have become amateur Williamsburg historians and have a mutual interest in the Civil War Battle of Williamsburg. Hal said, “Please tell John in the following capsule of how he passes his time. “Kathleen and I remain happily situated on the western end of James City County, Virginia. Kathleen enters her 45th year as a musician and Celtic harpist for Colonial Williamsburg. I divide my time assisting with coaching chores for the William & Mary Rugby Football Club, attending church on Sunday, doing sawmill work (all profits go towards cold beer, gasoline and Fig Newtons at my favorite gas station) and having fun flying at my trips to both. If you are in Isle of Wight County on a sunny day, look up, and you might see my clubmates and me chasing the clouds. Kathleen and I host our classmates every year at our home all day Friday for Homecoming & Reunion Weekend.

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Virginia, to Williamsburg and the Battle of Williamsburg. It includes a hand-drawn map of the battle. Sent it to experts like Jack Gary, head
Colonial Williamsburg archaeologist. A couple of them told me it provided
a “TON” of new information and disproved previous assumptions. I haven’t read the letter, but I will talk to them to learn more about the battle.”

Lynn and I are healthy, doing fine and spending the winters in Florida. We had Kathy Plas-
mati Baldwin and Jim Baldwin ’70 as house guests and they were greeted with a tornado
that touched down about three-eighths of a mile from our home. A little scary. I don’t think
Florida homes have no base-
ments! We just returned from Surprise, Arizona, where Jim’s tennis team
played in the United States Tennis Association Men’s 65 & Over National Invitational.

Recently, we had contact with a number of classmates including Vicky Peters Han-
sen, Richard Hansen, George “Scooter” Smith (Lynn’s “cousin”), Reggie Lewis, Scott
McEvoy and John Hempel, who we have tasked with the job of class investigation rep-
porter. Our policy is not to include any individual information in this report unless we receive permis-
sion.

The Alumni Associ-
iation has changed the
online access to the alumni directory to reflect current privacy laws. Only registered members are listed, which results in a very limited base. In order to be a useful tool, we need more registrants. If so inclined, please take a minute and register at
my1693.com.

Stay safe and healthy. Please send your stories, including photos, for consideration. You might be surprised how
many classmates have said how much they enjoy reading them.

1972

Class Reporter
PEGGY CORSO GOULD
13906 Edgecomb Court
Centreville, VA 20120
dbgould@starpower.net

It’s a sunny day with
spring around the corner. The thought of spring
brings to mind college
days and sunbathing on
dorm roofs. It was one
way to start your summer
tan!

From news clips, I have
updates on two class-
mates. I hope I have more
report the next time around.

Chris Stann Cow-
ard has published a
cross-genre novel titled
“Perpendicular Women: A
Advances in the Mult-
iverse.” It is consid-
ered science fiction and
women’s fiction. The
main characters, Kara
and Pandora, are two
women living what seems
to be parallel lives in two
different universes. Both
universes connect, and
they join forces. That’s
all I can divulge, so read
the book to follow this
fascinating story. Access
a link to the book in the
online edition!

Some of you may have
read this update on Rick
Platt from the Williams
& Mary online magazine. As the campaign
campaign for W&M Athletics
was about to close, Rick, a
self-professed procrasti-
nator, donated $2.3
million to the effort! Among
other things on the
athletics department’s list
of updates and improve-
ments, his very generous
contribution will allow
the total transformation of
locker rooms for the
field & track and cross
country programs for
both men and women to
begin. Rick was a member of
the cross country,
track & field and swim-
ning teams during college
years but also found time
to write for the Flat Hat
and work at WCWM,
the college radio station.
After graduation, he
wrote articles on running
for the Virginia Gazette
and was a founding senior
editor for Running Times
Magazine. An interesting
point from the article is
that his personal invest-
ment of $2,009 in Apple
stock when it was a fledg-
ling tech startup is what
increased in value to the
$2.3 million he donated
to the College! What a
story, and what a won-
derful way to give back
to our alma mater. Rick lives
in Williamsburg and runs
35-40 miles each week,
taking advantage of the
Lake Maotaoka trails. He
holds the Virginia state
record in the 10K for
men ages 55-59, and his
lifetime best in the mar-
thon is 2:23:55. He has
been involved in several
running organizations. Read more in the online
edition!

That’s our news for this
column. Remember your
friends would love to hear
what’s going on in your
life. Take care and enjoy
every day.

1973

Class Reporter
JAY A. OSELL
319 Washington Avenue
Batavia, NY 14020
jaySELL@yahoo.com

Greetings and Saluta-
tions:

A significant change is upon
us — it’s in the mid-40s
here in western New York
and sunny, which for
mid-February indicates
we might be down to
three seasons in what
has been a distinct four
seasons environment
between Lakes Erie and
Ontario. Also, the Buffalo
Bills and the Bills Mafia
are getting used to having
a W&M presence in Head
Coach Sean McDermott
’98 with three of
his assistants — Joe
Brady ’13, DJ Mangas
’12 and Christian Taylor
’07 (defense quality
control) now on staff.
(You can watch this
W&M Athletics Hall of
Fame induction ceremony
on YouTube.) One of our
contemporaries, Kevin
Rogers ’74, was part of
the Cleveland Browns
rebuilding program.

We are now a year out
from our 50th reunion/
Traditions Weekend and
the Class of ’74 is pre-
ping for their three-day
weekend in sunny Wil-
liamsburg (April 19-21). I
talked to Paul Dayer ’74
who, with his wife, Anne
Totty Dayer ’74, is part
of the planning committee
along with our ’74 liaison,
Lynn Cole ’74.

Tom Flesher in San
Francisco/Napa Valley,
California, recently put
his musical talents to use
with a Rieger Orgelbau
pipe organ concert at
First Presbyterian Church
of St. Helena with an
eclectic selection of clas-
sical pieces, concluding
with a unique rendition
of Procol Harum’s “A
Whiter Shade of Pale.”
The local media gave it
two thumbs up.

Vero Beach, Florida,
provided a backdrop for a
gathering of ’73 alumni in
early February. Bruce
Wachter and Joanie
Spiegel Wachter, Judy
McCusker Coblenz
and David Coblenz ’74,
Kitty Ammen Mortara,
Carol Flood Keane and Jim,
Sally Struckell Jenkins,
Mary Sammons Rordam
and Ron — who enjoyed the
sun and warmer climes, 50
years of friendship/mar-
rriage and no photo bombs
by Goog.

As you probably saw in
the winter 2024 W&M
Alumni Magazine, D.
Bruce Christian
and his wife, Spas, provided a
$2.5 million scholarship
and applied learning en-
dowment for out-of-state
Pell Grant-eligible un-
dergrads attending Their
Majesties Royal College.
As an out-of-state (New
Jersey) attendee myself
who parlayed Nation-
al Merit scholarship
dollars with track & field
scholarships to make my
four years super afford-
able in much different
economic worlds, this will
be game changing for we
out-of-state interlopers.
Bruce is a Lynchburg,
Virginia, native and Spas
is from Chicago, so there
is a certain symmetry to
their gift for future W&M
undergrads.

Last and by no means
ever least, Charter Day
2024 celebrated the Col-
lege’s 331st birthday. Our
own Jeff Trammell ’73,
D.P.S. ’24, former rector
and head of his own pub-
ilic affairs consulting
firm in Washington, D.C.,
and a long-serving member
of the Board of Visitors
from 2005-2013, received
an honorary degree to go
along with his 2017 Alum-
ni Medallion. Jeff does
not rest on his laurels nor
get much sleep, but that’s
good news for the rest of
us W&M alumni.

Sad note in case you
hadn’t seen or heard,
Becky Deans Cres’s
husband, Chip Cres
’71, passed away.
There is a scholarship
endowment Becky and
Chip set up as part of
their legacy of almost 50
years of marriage and
connection to the Alma
Mater of the Nation. (If
you’d like to contribute,
look up fund No. 4926 at
give.wm.edu.)

Uplifting closure —
Rick Platt ’72, W&M
swimmer and runner,
made a $2.3 million
gift to W&M Athletics
with the express goal of
overhauling the men’s
and women’s track locker
rooms under Zable
Stadium. The long-term
Williamsburg resident
and Peninsula Track Club
stalwart as well as still
race-ready Thincslad (35-
40 miles/week), coupled
with the efforts of
Randy Hawthorne ’67, J.D.
’70, M.L.T. ’71 and
Shelby Smith Hawth-
orne ’67, M.A.Ed. ’75,
has put private
philanthropy into a public
university near and dear
to his heart. (Read more in
the W&M Alumni Maga-
azine’s online exclusive
article, “Longtime Runner
Rick Platt ’72 Donates
$2.3M to Support of
W&M Athletics.”)

Keep me posted on your
grandkids, their parents
like Bob Gottke (and
Michelle) and Lynn Cole

1773

SPRING 2024

W&M ALUMNI MAGAZINE

73
1974

Class Reporter
MARY MILEY THEOBALD
’74, M.A. ’80
5 Countryside Court
Richmond, VA 23229
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marymilytheobald.com

By the time you read this, we will have celebrated our 50th reunion. I’ll put the news I gathered there in the column to come. Meanwhile, I want to remind you that if you missed Traditions Weekend, you still have a 55th and 60th reunion to look forward to. We can also attend the Olde Guard events held at every regular Homecoming. If you haven’t been to Williamsburg in a while, I had a tour last year and they do a nice job of seeing the campus — so many new buildings and beautiful gardens and memorials — the place has never looked so grand. Be sure to get a peek inside the new Phi Beta Kappa Hall. The theater is named in honor of our classmate Glenn Close ’74, D.A. ’89, H.F. ’19, who was the special guest and parade grand marshal at Homecoming last year.

Jim Theobald has been sorting through boxes of memorabilia from grade school, high school and college years — at long last! He’s found his freshman Green & Gold; concert ticket stubs from when Chicago, Bad Finger and the Doors played at W&M Hall; the scavenger hunt list for Lambda Chi’s drive for their Commons dining card; his Yates room key deposit receipt for $3; a copy of the Flat Hat welcoming us to campus; his roommate assignment: the late Mitt Romney ’77; and lots of snapshots of long-haired boys and pretty girls. I wonder if Swem archives will come calling?

Rob W. Estes and Jean Berger Estes ’75 were among several donors who made large gifts totaling $3 million to W&M Athletics near the end of the All In campaign. The family of the late Hays T. Watkins LL.D. ’82, W&M rector from 1987-1993, contributed to the campaign in his honor. The Watkins family graduates include three generations, starting with H. Thomas Watkins III, in our class, then Catherine R. Watkins ’05, and Hays T. Watkins IV ’11. Their gifts will support planned renovations to the Kaplan Arena as part of the new W&M Athletics Complex.

News from Eve Earley, who lives in Indianapolis. She has been semi-retired since 2019 but still sees half a dozen regulars a week in her home for chiropractic care and craniosacral therapy. She loves her twice-weekly class called Embodiment Dance, which combines Eastern and Western movement techniques. Also, her Dances of Universal Peace community does Sufi dancing once a month to promote love, harmony and beauty. In good weather, she enjoys bicycling. When the snow falls, she straps on her cross-country skis and heads down the driveway to the park next door. Eve volunteers with the Hoosier Environmental Council, an advocacy organization. She and her significant other, Michael Fischer, celebrated their 20th anniversary last year. She looks forward to seeing longtime friends at Traditions Weekend. (Notice I didn’t say “old” friends.)

Check out these two videos on Cornell Christianson’s YouTube channel @cornellchristianson from the Marilyn Monroe musical “Marilyn Exposed” that he wrote and is producing. The play opens this fall Off-Broadway. “The Smartest Girl in the Room” is meant as a nod to “Diamonds Are A Girl’s Best Friend,” and “My Heart’s An Open Door,” is the first lesbian love song duet in a musical. His previous two musicals were shut down due to COVID-19. “It Came From Beyond” ran 15 months; “Wicked City Blues” ran nine months. Both will be reopening this coming winter. Cornell lives in Brooklyn.

1975

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Bob Wilson sent news of upcoming W&M Varsity Wrestling Alumni reunion on June 8 in Hampton, Virginia, at the home of fellow ’75 wrestler Steve Forbes ’75, J.D. ’81. Other wrestling alum: Don Brizendine, Gary Burrow, Mike Furiness, Mac Pierrey (deceased), Dan Rosenkranz, Dave Topping, Rocky Trudgone and All-American awardee Mark Belknap. Let us know how the reunion went, Bob.

Bill Smyth is a model of community involvement. He volunteers at a drive-through presentation at a local hospital, two preservation societies that run spring and fall house and garden tours, the town planning commission and the local high school, where he takes pictures of classroom and fine arts activities for posting on the school’s website. What a great asset you are to your community, Bill, and a wonderful example of service for others.

Judith Baroody has published her first sci-fi novel, “Return of the Silent Sovereign,” a story that combines “Star Trek,” “Wonder Woman,” and a bit of “Romeo and Juliet.” That’s an intriguing plot teaser, Judith! She continues to work for the State Department and most recently traveled through the entire Panama Canal with her husband. Check the online magazine for a great photo of Judith and “friend.”

Lynn Dillon and John Dillon met up with Ed Burnette ’75, J.D. ’78 in Lynchburg this February for a Mardi Gras fun party. Ed is back to playing trumpet and singing backup vocals with his new band. “Second Wind.” The band plays classic hits from the Beach Boys to Bruno Mars. Joining in the Mardi Gras fun were Melissa Wright Johnson and Wayne Johnson, Doug Reichert and Donna Pollini Reichert ’74, Catherine Peppiatt Madden ’76 and Charles “Chip” Mason ’78. Continuing the fun in March, a large group of Tribe members went to The Barns at Wolf Trap to hear John Lloyd Young, one of Broadway’s original performers in “Jersey Boys.”

Joining with Lynn were Claire Monahan Dare, Barb Bingham, Tricia Pugh Manning, Alison Williams Duncan, Dru Conway Kevit ’76, M.Ed. ’77, Betsy Moore Hanlon ’76 and Mary Hutchinson Wilson ’74. All live in the greater D.C. area and have the good fortune to gather often.

More reunions were the Fi Phis gathered for TWO reunions last fall — September for their annual beach gathering in Sandbridge and December for Richmond’s Fan Holiday House Tour. At the beach were Jean Berger Estes (our hugely gracious host), Jan Wampler Booker, Leslie Himmeldreth Dell, Melissa Wright Johnson, Nancy Tienken Milburn, Cathy Gonzales O’Kelly, Cindy Holbrook Gubb, Jan Rivero, Lisa Grable, Sue Hansen Gerdelman ’76, Beth Sanders Welsh ’76 and Emily Davies ’76. Jan’s meeting up in Richmond were Kathy Burke Dictor, Cindy Reason Broten, Jean Berger Estes, Jan Wampler Booker, Melissa Wright Johnson, Cathy Gonzales O’Kelly, Jan Rivero, Emily Davies ’76 and I was there too! This time, some stayed with Jean, and some stayed with me. My house was one of the houses featured on the tour. All agreed — our reunions restore our souls. Go wine and silver blue!

Mary Gentile, formerly a University of Virginia Darden School of Business ethics professor, is the creator/director of “Giving Voice to Values.” GVV is an innovative approach to values-driven leadership development that has been shared with over 1,400 educational institutions and businesses worldwide. Highlights of the curriculum include the development of a suite of new educational materials applying the GVV approach to technology ethics scenarios, collaboration with the United Nations Principles for Responsible Management Education, a GVV Working Group to be led by The Ethics and Compliance Initiative (ECI) bringing together leaders from a variety of industries to explore ways that GVV can be utilized in business, a new course on ethical leadership based on GVV offered by the Open Society University Network for 12 institutions around the globe and travel grants for audiences in China, India, Africa, Europe and across the U.S.A. and much more. For more information go to www.GivingVoiceToValues.org. Send news, classmates, and GO TRIBE!

1976

Class Reporter
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Greetings classmates! Hope everyone is doing very well. As we write at the end of February, win-

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ter has not been as snowy as many were predicting and I’m not complaining about that! Anybody out there do any skiing? Tell us about it if you did.

Last November, the Richmond paper had a nice article citing Chris Davis and his company Ready Reef’s efforts to help protect the Chesapeake Bay through the development and installation of living shorelines, consisting of living materials such as marsh grasses and oyster reefs rather than concrete seawalls or the harder stones that normally make up riprap. Most of his projects over the last 12 years have been on the western shore of the bay, from the Northern Neck to the Lower Peninsula, and most do require long-term maintenance thereafter. So, if you own waterfront property anywhere that leads into the Chesapeake, contact Chris and see if there’s something you can do to help protect the environment and our precious Chesapeake Bay.

Sue Hanna Gerdelman was elected to the governing body of the W&M Foundation Board of Trustees. Nancy Wonnell Mathews and her husband Hal were cited for their generous donation to the Athletic Director’s Strategic Initiatives Fund as a part of the W&M Athletics All In campaign. Their donation will help the athletics director steer support to where it is most needed. Nancy and Hal have been football season ticket holders since 1986. Sue and Nancy are both prior recipients of the Alumni Medallion.

Finally, I received a nice email from Mark Swingle. In March 2023, Mark retired from his position as chief of research and conservation at the Virginia Aquarium & Marine Science Center, where he worked for more than 40 years. In fact, Mark was the very first full-time employee hired by the aquarium prior to its opening. Among his many and varied responsibilities over the years, Mark built and evolved the research and conservation division, as well as worked with exhibit design and animal acquisition and care. Since retirement, Mark has been doing some consulting and traveling to music festivals. Mark and I made a pact that if the Tribe basketball team ever makes the NCAA tournament, we will do our best to be at the game, no matter where it might be played. Go Tribe!

Remember that this is your column, so please consider sending along some information to share. Tell us about your travels, your grandchildren, your activities … Stay active, be well. Only two years until we become members of the Olde Guard! Now if that isn’t something to look forward to, I don’t know what is.

1977

Class Reporter
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“...too old to set a new goal or dream a new dream.” This saying from C.S. Lewis captures the sentiments of our classmates as they continue to impress us with their transition from active careers to retirement, travel and more time with their families.

I thank our classmates who offered the following updates. As you travel and visit family and classmates this summer, remember to take a photo to share in our online class reports. My wife, Marinda, and I have been visiting Pigeon Forge, Tennessee, in early March, so I hope to share a special memory with you in our fall class report.

Glenn Crawford

1967

has been teaching an undergraduate finance course at W&M’s Raymond A. Mason School of Business since 2011, following his retirement from a 27-year career in investment banking. His three children are fifth-generation graduates of the university. Elizabeth Crafford ’15 is engaged and living in Denver. Meredith Crafford ’18 works in Washington, D.C., as a consultant for Alvarez and Marsal. And James Crafford ’20 is a musician living in New York City.

Borden Austin left William & Mary in the middle of his junior year and finished at Virginia Commonwealth University. He considers himself an alumnus of both W&M and VCU in the 30 years in the relocation industry and retired in 2021. He overcame cancer 15 years ago. Borden is married to Mary Laura Teague-Austin. They live in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. Mary Laura is an alumnus of Salem College. They have not had children. Borden remembers many great concerts at William & Mary Hall, Hampton Roads and Norfolk during the ‘70s. He still finds recordings of them on the bands’ websites, including when Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young played at Norfolk and when Chuck & the mercurial Dead performed at W&M Hall. He fondly recalls the wall art of Yates Hall middle earth, frisbee throwing in front of Yates and so much more. Thank you, Borden, for your great update.

Martin Phillips ’77, M.A.Ed. ’83 thanked me for checking on him after his home flooded in September 2022. While there are a few details to finish, Martin is done rebuilding and remodeling his house. After a long year of work, he moved back in and restarted a “normal” life. In fact, he felt a timely chance to “downsize” the accumulations of many years! Currently, Martin is working on his 1967 Mercedes 250sl. It’s collateral damage from the flood, as is his 1965 Thunderbird and his 1937 Hudson. It’s always “something” with his old cars. Martin stays active in the Bach Festival Choir of Winter Park, Florida. His Christmas concert this past year was broadcast on PBS and is available on YouTube. His 89th annual Bach Festival occurred in February, with two major choral pieces performed afterward: Paul Mora- ve’s “Sanctuary Road” and Gioachino Rossini’s “Stabat Mater.” Martin’s choir performed the Rossini final movement with the visiting London Royal Philharmonic Orchestra at the end of last year. This was his 24th year since the choir’s still amazing and fun for him. So, between his house, old cars and choir, there’s always something to keep Martin busy.

A great moment shared by freshening yassesmate who have remained friends these past 50 years was shared with me by Joan Mitchell. She writes that last summer Sue Haulenbeck and Young Titrington, Dava Hansen Unglesbee and her (Joan). To celebrate the 50th anniversary of their freshman year in Brown Dormitory, 3rd Floor, and the start of their friendships, Sue invited them to a reunion in Ocean City, Maryland. Within 48 hours they had all cleared their calendars and said yes to the invitation! For the first time in 50 years, these classmates spent time recalling vivid memories and family stories and sharing lots of laughter and love! May we all be so blessed with friends such as these. Congratulations to Pamela “Pam” Jordan Penny ’77. Her J.D. ’16 for receiving an Alumni Medallion, the highest and most prestigious award given by the William & Mary Alumni Association, at a ceremony during Charter Day Weekend in February. Read more in the online edition.

Our deepest condolences are extended to the family of Hulon Willis Jr. ’77, who passed away tragically in a car accident on Jan. 16, 2024. The alumni community is mourning alongside Hulon’s family, including his daughter, Mica Willis ’13, and his sister, Kimberly Willis Miles ’80, and the rest of their family, who have been involved with William & Mary for decades. Hulon recorded an oral history about his experiences at the university in 2018. You can access this recording in the online edition. His father, Hulon Willis, Sr. M.Ed. ’56, was the first African American student at William & Mary. The Hulon Willis Association was named in Hulon Sr.’s honor in 1992, as was Willis Hall in 2021. See the online edition to read more.

Classmates, thank you for your news. Send updates and photos and know that the Class of ’77 cares.

1978

Class Reporter
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I greatly appreciate receiving emails from classmates we have not heard from in quite a long time (or ever!). Thank you!

Douglas Evans writes, “The impetus for this (reaching out) was a minor reunion. I lived next to Skip Sacks freshman year, shared a room in Project Plus with him during our sophomore year, went with him to Edinburgh University and shared a flat there during our junior year, then walked with him and...”
sat next to him at graduation. In the intervening 45 years, I have seen him briefly three times. Last August, we arranged to meet in Cleveland, a place that is mutually inconvenient and that neither of us had ever been to nor had any particular reason to go to (other than to get together). He is doing great, and we had a blast.”

I asked Douglas for a brief self-update: “The short version is that after W&M, I got law degrees from the University of Amsterdam and Northwestern University, then pursued a career in international law in various locations around the world. I have been retired for 15 years now, living with my wife of 35 years in San Francisco.”

I located an article recognizing Stewart J. “Skip” Sacks as the recipient of the 2019 Robert M. Stanton Real Estate Teaching Award from Old Dominion University’s Strone College of Business. A belated congrats, Skip! The award was in recognition of Skip’s role as an adjunct professor and in establishing and managing a commercial real estate internship program for the Hampton Roads Association for Commercial Real Estate. Skip is a graduate of the University of Virginia School of Law and has served as Virginia state counsel for Stewart Title Guaranty Co.

It was good to hear from Frank Vecchio who wrote with news that he and his wife Sheryl, “just returned from a 17-day European vacation: four days in Rome and a cruise on the Oceania Riviera ship (all of this started with a miler to W&M alumni from GoNext Travel). Ports of call were Salerno, Italy, then Sicily, where I visited my grandfather’s hometown, Malta, Katie, with a miler to Athens, Greece, and then Dubrovnik, Split and Zadar, Croatia. Our final port was Venice, Italy, where we spent a few days.” The cruise, “was a bucket list for us and the ship was first class.” After spending two years at W&M, Frank transferred to the University of Houston, graduating with a B.B.A. He retired from corporate sales in 2023 and joined Sheryl to form The Vecchio Group in The Woodlands, Texas, located just north of Houston. It certainly sounds like he’s enjoying his second career, “We are having a blast helping clients buy, sell and invest in real estate. Keeps us on our toes!”

Storm Simenson has “attacked the pandemic road to recovery with a vengeance” including a March 2023 trip to Egypt and Jordan with his son Roger Simenson ’12 where they experienced iconic pyramids, a Nile cruise and visits to the Dead Sea and Petra. In September, Storm traveled to Turkey visiting colorful Istanbul, exploring the ruins in Ephesus and Pergamon, riding in a hot air balloon and traversing the caves of Cappadocia. In 2023, Storm and his wife Rickarda also enjoyed visits to Salt Lake City, their Rehoboth annual beach week and our 45th College of William & Mary reunion.

Mark Finley “stumbled into a chance to work on my flying down in Chile (with Paraglide NE) in October 2023 and, alas, had to miss our 45th. “There are other flying trips (Mexico and Colombia) on my docket where the skills from this trip are a prerequisite. I’m thinking that as much as I want to spend time with my W&M friends — I’m not getting any younger and the sky is calling.” The good news for us: Mark says, it “probably will cause me to skip ahead to the Big Five Oh (50-year) Reunion.” Please stay tuned for the online version of Class Notes to see photos Mark has shared of his recent paragliding adventures.

They are quite impressive to say the least!

John Friedery and Melissa Dozier Friedery continue to keep active. In addition to alpine and cross-country skiing at their place in Breckenridge, Colorado, they have recently added fat tire snow biking to their winter adventures. They enjoy traveling and lots of quality family time which includes gathering several times a year with their four adorable grandchildren who live in St. Louis, Missouri.

That’s it for now, I hope this column finds you enjoying this season of life and inspires many of you to reach out to others after all these years and also, I hope, to reach out to me. See our online edition for short poems from T.S. Eliot and Henri Cole ’78.

Carpe Diem.

1979

Class Reporter

Peggy Doyle Grant

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Greetings from sunny and sometimes water-logged Southern California.

A couple of our classmates were in the news recently.

Katherine “Kathy” Dalton Mika was the recipient of a Douglas N. Morton ’62 Alumni Service Award during this year’s W&M Charter Day Weekend. As her award citation stated, “Kathy has served on the W&M Charlottesville-Highland network leadership team since 2006, including terms as secretary, treasurer and president. She helped recruit the first Young Guard and Olde Guard representatives to the board in 2010, increasing the board’s diversity. She continues to be involved in the network’s events and has served as volunteer lead for many of them, including the popular polo match at King Family Vineyards and service days at James Monroe’s Highland. When she isn’t volunteering tirelessly for our alma mater, Kathy spends her time working as a pediatrician.”

In October, the Family Medicine Education Consortium honored Jim Ledwith with the Family Physicians Who Are Changing Our World Award. The award recognized Jim’s service and advocacy for responsible care for patients who depend on opioid medication, and his leadership in training family physicians on how to treat pain and opioid use disorder. The award also acknowledged Ledwith’s “decades of leadership in caring for the uninsured and other vulnerable groups, notably through his work with medical students at the University of Massachusetts T.H. Chan School of Medicine, at the Worcester Free Care Coalition University and through his founding and ongoing support of the Ledwith-Lewis Free Clinic in Tappahannock, Virginia,” according to the release. Jim earned his M.D. at Virginia Commonwealth University Medical School and completed his residency at the Toledo Hospital. After many years in private practice, he joined the faculty of UMass Chan Medical School in 2005. Jim has left full-time practice and teaching but continues to serve as a consultant in opioid management. Jim lost his wife, Lauren, to breast cancer in 2017 and remarried in 2022. He and his wife, Anne Madigan, now live in Scottsdale, Arizona. Read more about him in our online edition at magazine.wm.edu/class-notes/1979.

Don’t forget to make plans to attend our 45th reunion during Homecoming & Reunion Weekend this fall, Oct. 17-20, 2024. I know many of you in Williamsburg for this fun weekend. Until then, be safe and send news!

1980

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We are well into 2024 as I write this. Winter is still hanging on, but sometimes you’d never know it with the crazy weather we have been having. I hope spring is coming soon and that you are doing well.

Last fall, the Virginia Gazette published an article about Linda Tjossem focusing on the celebration of a lifelong friendship that Linda developed while at W&M with her best friend, Laurie Middleton Hardaway. The article chronicles the normal and extraordinary things they shared with each other — Homecoming, reunions, marriages, raising children, professional accomplishments, retirements and “everything in between.” Linda had a long career as an air traffic controller in several different states, and Laurie practiced law in the Hampton Roads area, but what the article was truly focusing on was how their friendship got Linda through a most horrific bicycle accident, including a traumatic brain injury and the long recovery afterward. In Linda’s words (and Laurie’s title), “I don’t know where I would be without her.” Laurie was by Linda’s side every step of the way — driving Linda to doctor appointments, physical therapy and wherever she needed to go, and Linda couldn’t be more grateful. Their bond was ignited in the fall of their sophomore year and has been nurtured ever since. That accident occurred over 10 years ago, and I can only imagine that they have been enjoying life’s events and retirement in the years since. Wishing continued good health to both and hoping that everyone has that lifelong friendship to celebrate!

This past fall, the Wil-
lly & Mary Foundation announced the election of three new members to the Board of Trustees, and one of the three was none other than Clay Perfall. Congratulations, Clay! Clay has had a long association in various capacities at W&M, including serving as a trustee of the Mason School of Business Foundation and is now a trustee emeritus. He started his career in the business world at Arthur Andersen, where he became a partner and afterward served as CFO and CEO of several publicly traded companies before entering the private equity sector. Currently, Clay is a board member and chair of the audit committee at Enovis Corp., a leading medical technology innovator focused on orthopedics, and serves on the board of advisors of Scenthound, LLC, which is a franchise of dog wellness centers. In his spare time, Clay supports various educational programs and organizations across Virginia. He and his wife, Anne Montgomery Perfall '89, enjoy dividing their time between Alexandria, Virginia, and across the country in Park City, Utah.
Well, that about wraps up the news that I have for now. Remember me when you are celebrating those life events and accomplishments! We would all love to celebrate with you. Take care and be well!

1981

Class Reporter
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Hello again '81ers! I hope this column finds you all healthy and happy. I was thrilled to get an update from one of my best friends at school, Jan Scovers Harrod, and her husband, Bill Harrod '82. They recently returned from a "trip of a lifetime" culinary tour and cruise through the Rhône region of France, enjoying delicious French cuisine and wine along the way. Jan moved to Mooresville, North Carolina, in May 2021 after living in Northern Virginia since childhood. Prior to the move, Jan worked for nine years in early literacy outreach for Fairfax County Public Library, presenting story times to at-risk preschoolers at Head Start classes and day care centers across the county. Jan also ran her own business teaching preschool music for many years. She spent 13 years in various positions at the Washington Post in the Style and Metro sections and as sales manager for the Washington Post Writers Group.

Jan and Bill have two grown daughters and four (almost five!) grandchildren. Bill is federal/public sector CTO for a cybersecurity company, primarily working on federal government contracts.

One other update: David N. Kelley has joined O'Melveny as a partner.

Always so nice to hear from friends and classmates from W&M. Please share your news with all of your friends.

Go Tribe!
Mike "Fitz" Fitzgerald

1982

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Greetings everyone! It is February as I write this, and I have not heard from any of you!! I'm going to be forced to give you an update on me and any bits of news I gleaned from Christmas cards. Yes... that is what it has come to.

Not much new in Dallas, but my kids are on the move. Nick, 28, just took a job with Meru Consulting and will be moving from Los Angeles to NYC this summer. Just as he moves from Los Angeles, Olivia, 21, will be graduating from the University of Virginia with a degree in systems engineering and moving to Los Angeles to work for EY Parthenon to do strategic consulting. Noah, 26, is staying in Denver, so we'll still have a Conner kid in three time zones. And with us in Central Time, we've got all of 'em covered!

During the holidays, I saw Rob Kravitz and his friend Martha at our annual Christmas party. They had been in Portugal AGAIN and announced that they were moving there this spring. Big life change for them! We are planning our trip to Portugal now...

We also recently saw Brenda Bloomer Hargrett and her husband, Joe, for a Southern Methodist University basketball game and ran into their son, Tyler, and his wife, Maddie, with Brenda and Joe's newest grandchild, Parker. She is adorable! That makes three grandkids for the Hargretts!

Beth Alford Wolfe and her husband, Tommy, recently moved from their home of 30- plus years in Fairfax Station, Virginia, to a lakeside home in North Carolina. The move puts them closer to their families from W&M. But if you happen to be watching women's basketball (college or pro), the commentator may be Sue's daughter, Kim, for a Southern Methodist University player and as sales manager for her own business teaching Head Start classes and as sales manager for the Washington Post Writers Group.

One other update: David N. Kelley has joined O'Melveny as a partner.

1983

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Homecoming continued...


Other alumni attendees: Adrian Vodislav '13, Aidan Holmes '27, Betsy Pendleton
many folks were gathered around the TV to catch a glimpse of Taylor Swift or cheer for the commercials. I was partial to the Dunkings! Earlier that day Kim Eckert Failon ’85 and Maureen Dubus Stengel ’86 hosted a Pi Phi Galentine’s brunch for the mid-80s. Carol Doub Kelly and I represented for ’83. Nancy Cote Kane ’84 made a special guest appearance all the way from San Diego! She was in town for Charter Day. Nancy serves on the Annual Giving Board. The ’85s included Kim, Diane Limm Warren ’85, Betsy Powell Mullen ’85 and Margie Krebs ’85. And from the Class of ’86: Maureen, Janet Lawson ’86, Christine Lindsey Sourd ’86 and Chantal Emerson ’86. Virginia Gamma Pi Phis, mark your calendars and stay tuned, because plans are in the works for The Centennial Celebration scheduled for April 5-7, 2025.

Caroline Boyd Tricario retired from her financial services position due to struggles with Long COVID in 2020. She and her husband, Doug, live happily in New Hampshire with their five rescue dogs. She is the former CEO of the Animal Rescue League of New Hampshire, so that explains the dogs, especially Edgar Allan Poe aficionado Alex Zavistovich says that he continues to make radio dramas based on Edgar Allan Poe for NPR. Check out the online version for more. The third annual Doomsday 24-hour marathon reading of Poe will be livestreamed in May from the Enoch Pratt Library in Baltimore.

You may have learned that fellow alumna Hu- licon Willis Jr. ’77 passed away unexpectedly in a car accident in January. Last I heard, the driver who hit his car was being charged with involuntary manslaughter. Hulcon is in the middle of a three-generation W&M family. In- dulge me while I tell this story of the intersections of two families. I had the pleasure of meeting Hulon about 5 1/2 years ago, in fact at our 35th reunion, when Dave Lucas Jr. ’80 was celebrating his 60th birthday. Dave is the Sig Ep big brother of Bud Phillips ’82, so we were at the party to celebrate with many other Sig Ep brothers, Golden Hearts and others. Hulon, also a Sig Ep, had dragged his daughter, Mica Willis ‘13, along to show her what a “real party” looks like. It was there that I met Mica and soon discovered that she knew Pi Phi sisters Samantha Phillips ’14 and Ally Phillips ’16. Mica tells her version: “My dad drags me out to that Sig Ep party in Colonial, it seems very far away, we were driving like forever. There are all these old folks. All of a sudden, ABBA can be heard and here comes these (old) guys all dressed up singing and dancing along with customized words to ‘Dancing Queen’ in honor of Dave’s birthday. Literally, where am I?” It was an epic party, Viking helmets and all. Over the next few years, I’d run into Hulon at W&M events in Richmond or Williamsburg, I always said “Hi” but I was never sure if he knew who I was. He seemed so reserved. Recently, Mica, Ally and I have served on the Annual Giving Board. During the Homecoming Class Ambassador reception in 2022, I said I wasn’t sure her dad remembered me. She grabbed my hand and marched me right over to him. While we were talking, Hulon mentioned his dad, Hulcon Willis Sr. M.Ed. ’56, saying something about him coming to W&M from Perry High School. “WAIT, WHAT? You mean Perry High School in Pitts- butted?” Yes, that Perry High School,” he responded. He looked a bit confused. “NO WAY,” I said. “My dad, Stew...”
a faculty member in the Wayne State University School of Medicine in Detroit.

**Susan Maxson Lyons** is an attorney at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the General Counsel.

**Amy Campbell Parsons** and her husband are living in Hutchinson, Minnesota. She teaches English to high schoolers. **John Huss** is chair of the philosophy department at the University of Akron, whose president is Gary Miller ’76, M.A. ’79.

Two years ago, **Cynthia Storer** moved to Florida. She teaches online for the Master of Science in intelligence analysis program at Johns Hopkins University.

Bruce Whitehurst has been with the Virginia Bankers Association for 31 years. He and his wife really enjoy their three grown kids.

**Richard DeLoria** continues to work with the Albemarle County Attorney’s Office in Charlottesville, Virginia. His wife, **Donna Wade DeLoria** ’87, also an attorney, remains in private practice with Kristina Hofmann ’05, J.D. ’08.

David Nygaard has downsized his jewelry business and only works by appointment.

**Christine Melly Foreman** has been remarried to Jeff Sipe for five years. She works at Optum (part of United Health Group) as a senior product director.

**Alison Seyler Nagel** and Bill Nagel ’90 are in New York City. Alison is the sales director at MIA New York City. Alison is married to Jeff Sipe for five years. She works at Optum as a senior product director.

**Michelle Christie Halsey** has earned her California Single Subject Credential and teaches high school English virtually.

**Chris Marks** of Bath, Maine, began serving a three-year term on the city council in December.

**Terry Lancaster Dolson** is the senior associate director of community-engaged learning at the University of Richmond.

**Marc Magnus-Sharpe** ’85 and his wife, **Sarah Bottoms Magnus-Sharpe**, of Amelia Island, Florida, enjoyed catching up with **Joanna Ashworth** ’84.

**Laura Martin Dunlap** and her husband, Dave, celebrated their October wedding anniversary in Prague, followed by a stop in Paris.

**Judy Cicatko Strang** ’86, M.A. ’90 has started the Sourwood Forest residency program and is seeking writers, artists, researchers, and/or academics who would like to spend a week or two at her home in the woods of Amherst County, Virginia. See FriendsofthePedlar.org.

**Katherine MacGregor Treser** and her husband, Steve, of Blacksburg, Virginia, have four children plus an extra son who joined their family during his freshman year of high school.

**Maria Reyher Meredith** arranged a Zoom call with freshman hallmates from Yates Hall’s basement. There was much reminiscing and laughter.

**Elizabeth Moliter** is enjoying her latest role as owner and principal consultant at Art of Work Consulting in Austin, Texas.

**Terry Blackwood** and his wife, Mo, of Richmond, Virginia, converted a 1918 duplex to a single-family home.

**Lisa Von Eschen** Berry and Anne Fallon Guarnieri got together last spring to celebrate Lisa’s son’s graduation from NYU.

**1987**

**Class Reporter**

**LISA FRAIM SEU**

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I am writing this in late February and the weather is slowly starting to get warmer here and there. Matt and I are heading down to the ‘Burg (we are there almost once a month, it seems) for a weekend of games and will be cheering on Tribe Baseball, Tribe Women’s Soccer (spring season) and Tribe Basketball.

We were down earlier in February for the W&M Gold Rush weekend, which is timed alongside Charter Day and W&M Athletics’ Lord Botetourt Affair. The Gold Rush game also serves as a reunion weekend for basketball alumni, who were honored at halftime of the men’s game. Some familiar faces in the crowds for the fun weekend were Dave Ficsella ’61 and Judy Trimm Ficsella ’62, Marc Magnus-Sharpe ’85, Emily Powell Boddy ’88 and Mark Boddy, Drew Gilfillan, Lee Norris Barnes and Billy Barnes ’82, Marsha Fishburne Lycan, Ken Taylor ’89, Julie Stackford Cunningham ’88 and David Bond.

**Tim Carroll** has been named to the Board of Trustees of the William & Mary Foundation. Having spent many years in the tech industry, he is currently with Microsoft as the lead of their Weather & Climate portfolio. (The W&M Free School District is a tax-exempt charitable organization that may issue private funds to help support students, faculty and other priorities of the university.) Tim is supportive of many aspects of W&M, including its Global Research Institute, Tribe Women’s Soccer and the Tribe’s Club Men’s Lacrosse program. You may remember that Tim was part of a talented group of freshmen that had been recruited to play men’s lacrosse at W&M, not knowing that the 1984 season would be the team’s final year as a Division I team. Despite that disappointment, they stayed at W&M and, alongside upperclassmen, transformed into a strong club team and forged lifelong friendships. Tim, Rigg Mohler and other former players were featured in an online article in the W&M Alumni Magazine last summer detailing their loyalty to the Tribe players in the program today, their recognition of Coach Bill Devine J.D. ’86, and their commitment to each other. Tim is a dad to twins and has also spent years coaching lacrosse in Maryland. Read more about him in our online column at magazine.wm.edu/class-notes/1987.

After more than 30 years as an educator, **Matt Deluca** ’87, M.S. ’96 continues to inspire and share his love for theater arts. Following several years after college acting and directing, Matt became an educator after earning a master’s degree in education. Initially teaching in an elementary school setting, he moved on to middle school, where he was a dean specializing in math and science education, but also was pivotal in reviving the theater and dramatic arts program. An article on the district’s website states that the theater arts program participants grew to almost five times its size. In the Mineola Union Free School District in New York, he manages and directs four major musical productions a year at the high school and middle school levels. He not only manages scores of students in the cast, but also the student-run crews, parent volunteers and community supporters. Matt has previously been nominated for the Tony Awards’ Excellence in Theatre Education Award which, according to its website, is an award that “recognizes a K-12 theatre educator in the U.S. who has demonstrated monumental impact on the lives of students and who embodies the highest standards of the profession.” He just directed his 52nd musical (“Seussical”), overseeing 195 cast and crew! (As a retired first grade teacher whose largest class was 29 children, I am exhausted just reading about this!) I was in touch with him in February as he was enjoying some well-earned R&R at the beach before his next show (“Young Frankenstein”) was to premiere in just five weeks. I have been lucky enough to see one of his productions a few years and it really felt like we were at a Broadway show.

I hope all of you are doing well. I look forward to seeing you at Homecoming Weekend 2024, which is Oct. 17-20.

**1988**

**Class Reporters**

**DAWN E. BOYCE**

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**LIZ TURGMAN**

Class Reporters

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**Tommy Lewis ’88**, M.B.A. ’91 spent last Christmas break with his family in Cocoa Beach, Florida. He and his wife of 30 years, Meggan, have five children: the two oldest, Caleb and Mary Hannah, are out on their own, and the three youngest, Sarah Larkin, Tobias and Micah, are in college. See the online edition at magazine.wm.edu/class-notes/1988 for a great photo of Tommy’s beautiful family.

Tommy reports that he is thankful to the Lord for each of his precious family members and to W&M for all it gave him to prepare and set him on his course and journey in life.

**Andrea Topps-Harjo** produced “The First Lady of BPF: The Tonesa Welch Story,” which was nominated for an NAACP Image Award. Congrats!

Having been ordained a Catholic priest on May 15, 1983 (the same date as his graduation from W&M five years earlier!), last year Father Don Plantly celebrated 30
years as a priest of the Diocese of Arlington, Virginia. This year marks his 10th as pastor of St. Charles Catholic Church in Arlington. He continues to love serving the many young adults and enjoying the youthful vibe of his parish in the heart of the Rosslyn-Ballston Corridor, right across from the Potomac River from Washington, D.C. He keeps in touch with and occasionally gets together with classmates Mike Egge, Molly Curtin de Marcellus and Vince Haley.

Since Jan. 1, Alan Edwards '88, Ed.S. '93, Ph.D. '01 has been serving as the interim director of the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV), where he's worked since shortly after he completed his doctorate. This June, Alan and his wife, Connie Newman Edwards, will celebrate their 36th wedding anniversary. Their cats remain unimpressed!

On Feb. 14, Kirby underwent a bone marrow transplant at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore as a hopeful cure for a very rare cancer, cutaneous lymphoma, with which he was diagnosed last summer. Kirby underwent six rounds of chemo throughout the fall, which he both tolerated and responded to quite well; this bodes well for how he'll respond to the transplant. Eric Hoy helped Kirby tremendously by coordinating daily rides required to and from Hopkins, staying with Kirby in Baltimore for the first six days of preop leading up to the transplant, and serving as his executor, trustee, power of attorney and so much more. Kirby's transplant of stem cells occurred on Feb. 14-15, followed by a 60-ish days period of daily visits to Hopkins, after which Kirby, power of attorney and so much more. Kirby's transplant of stem cells occurred on Feb. 14-15, followed by a 60-ish days period of daily visits to Hopkins, after which Kirby, power of attorney and so much more.

Jill Ellis '88, L.H.D. '16 was added to the Virginia Sports Hall of Fame. Ellis led the Women's National Olympic Team to victory in 2015 and 2019 and now serves as the president of the San Diego Wave FC. The induction ceremony was held in the Richmond area April 19-20, 2024. William & Mary also named a field in her honor. Read more in the online column.

Debbie Mackler Fisher, an architect in Southern California, was interviewed by Voyage LA as a “hidden gem.” Find the link to the interview in the online column.

1989

**Class Reporter**

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**Save the dates — Oct. 17-20 is Homecoming & Reunion Weekend and our 35th reunion!**

Plan on arriving by Friday afternoon in time for the parade and staying for the Class of 1989 Reunion Party on Saturday night. For more information on all Homecoming events and to add your story and photos to our digital memory book, visit our class page in homecoming.wm.edu.

In honor of our reunion, we’re also giving back to W&M. Your gift of any size to any area of the university will help us reach our participation goal and most importantly, continue to make an impact at our beloved alma mater. Make your gift today at giving.wm.edu.

A special thanks to our Class Ambassadors — Anne Ferrell Leggett, Becky Samuels Paquet, Catherine Nelson Schlawin, Dee Dee Vantree-Keller, Delta Helmer, Doug Casey, Doug Williams, Gene Foley, Grant Phelan, Heidi Hanzel Van Voorhis, Jennifer Sage Lian, JoAnn Adams Ruh, John Windt, Kiki Dunton, Maise O’Flanagan, Mark Washko ‘89, M.P.P. ‘94, Paul Cullen, Sarah Wells McWen ’89, M.A.Ed. ’93, Sean Power, Shannon Watson and Stella Crane Alexander — for spearheading the outreach for our reunion class gift and encouraging our classmates to attend the reunion.

Delta Helmer moved to Ephrata, Pennsylvania, has two more cats in the household because they came with an awesome guy, and was recently promoted to the program area director for Platform Solutions. She was also the excursion manager and volunteer coordinator for the Virginia Museum of Transportation and the 611 steam engine, a 650-passenger, 11-car train that ran for 3 1/2 hours twice a day Friday through Sunday for five weeks. She also volunteers with three other train organizations — one in Fort Wayne, Indiana, one in Robertsdale, Pennsylvania, and one out of Roanoke, Virginia, where she is on the board (and is the treasurer, membership chairman, communications chairman and, because she was tired of “man” titles, grants czarina). She also works part-time as a car host and the only woman they have in train service.

Amy McCormick Pressed! will celebrate their 36th wedding anniversary.

1990

**Class Reporter**

**DORI KOSER PITZNER**

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Summer Wilkes was recently named zoning administrator in Purcellville, Virginia, as reported in Loudoun Now. She holds a Master of Urban and Regional Planning degree from the University of Virginia. Until last May, she was teaching high school humanities and literature at Providence Preparatory Academy in Purcellville. Previously, she worked as an urban planning consultant for Marstel-Day LLC in Fredericksburg, Virginia, and was director of planning and zoning for Beaufort County, South Carolina. Summer lives in Charles Town, West Virginia.

Duane Milne is running on the Republican ticket for Pennsylvania state senate in the 19th legislative district (Chesapeake area). After graduating from W&M, he earned a doctorate in political science from the University of Delaware. For nearly three decades, he taught government at West Chester University. He served six terms in the state House of Representatives from 2007 until 2018, representing the
167th district. Duane has also an Army Reservist who deployed to the Middle East in 2021-2022 for several months.

Alicia Bond, co-chair of the Parent & Family Council at W&M, was quoted in an online W&M Alumni Magazine article about how the fall 2023 semester proved to be one for the record books for the TutorZone, which is supported by the Parents Fund. In just this one semester, the TutorZone provided 744 students with 3,516 hours of free tutoring services, thanks to the support of W&M donors. Read the article in our online edition, magazine.wm.edu/classnotes/1990.

Janet Saunders and Tim Daly lived in advising dorm halls in Monroe, stayed great friends through college, both moved to Northern Virginia after graduation, and then fell in love and married a few years later. Tim works for the National Council for the Social Studies and Janet works for the National Academy of Sciences.

They have two daughters: Kathleen graduated from the University of Maryland Washington in May, and Claire Daly ‘21 is now a freshman at William & Mary. Janet says moving her in was surreal, though Claire has a much more modern room and better food options than we did! Tim and Janet are looking forward to the next four years of visiting “way too often” and getting reacquainted with the ‘Burg.

Former Buffalo Bills player Steve Christie and his “Green Machine” custom trailer were featured in a Wall Street Journal article in January. Find the link in our online edition.

Veterinarian and entrepreneur David HawORTH was featured in the W&M Alumni Magazine for his work at Vidialia, which aims to improve cancer treatment for pets. Read more of his inspiring story in the fall 2023 edition.

1991

Class Reporter
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In partnership with W&M Athletics and Campus Recreation, Jennifer Tepper Mackesy, D. Scott Mackesy and John Goodenow “Goody” Tyler III HON ’11 are funding the enhancements to Dillard Field, including the installation of new turf, a scoreboard and lighting for evening use. The revitalized William & Mary tennis center, part of the new W&M Athletics Complex, is named for the Mackesys, who made the project possible. Scott is a former tennis standout for the Tribe and Jen made four appearances in the NCAA Championships during her time with the women’s soccer program. The Mackesys are also part of a NU/NY Gotham FC soccer team owner- ship group that includes several sports luminaries, among them Eli Manning, Sue Bird, Kevin Durant and Carli Lloyd. The team won the 2023 National Women’s Soccer League Championship.

The Mackesys also are part of the ownership group of Charlotte FC with Todd Boyley ’96.

In January, Williamsburg hosted its inaugural Last Word Comedy Festival, featuring 50 acts and 150 performers over four days. Craig Cackowski performed as part of Orange Tuxedo, a husband-wife improv team from Los Angeles. A College Improv Showcase featured W&M students. The organizers hope to make the festival an annual event.

In February, Mike Graves and Trish Davis Graves gathered in the Bahamas with seven of Mike’s squadron-mates and their wives from when he was stationed in Okinawa, Japan, as a Marine Corps pilot from 1994-1998. Afterward, Trish and Mike went to the Kennedy Space Center and Disney’s Hollywood Studios.

Kimberly Dietrich Westrich shared that she rejoined the National Pharmaceutical Council as chief strategy officer last December. She works at NPC 80% of the time and spends the rest of her work week as a life coach and yoga teacher with her company, Kimpossibility. She said having dedicated time to help people improve their health and happiness has brought harmony to her life.

Election season is upon us! Amy Padden is running for district attorney in Colorado’s 18th Judicial District (Arapahoe County).

Muri Dueppen is running for the Carroll County Board of Educa- tion in my home state of Maryland. Muri is the corporate relations officer at the National Aquarium in Baltimore. All of her children attended Carroll County public schools from kindergarten through 12th grade.

She is the co-founder and co-leader of VOCAL Carroll County, which promotes increased citizen involvement in local government and good governance by elected officials. She has been endorsed by the local labor union, the Carroll County Education Association, which is a branch of the Maryland State Education Association and the Greater National Educa- tion Association. Muri has formed a joint campaign finance committee, the Slate for Student Success, with another candidate, Amanda Jozkowski.

As always, would love to hear from you!

1992

Class Reporter
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Greetings, classmates! I hope you’ve had a good start of 2024 and are looking forward to summer.

Rob Perkins has authored a children’s book about his beloved English bulldog, who is obsessed with riding on anything with wheels. “Dolley’s Trolley: A Bulldog’s Adventures” is available on Amazon. A portion of the proceeds will be donated to MidAtlantic Bulldog Rescue.

Tara Smith Thomas was re-elected in November to her seventh term as treasurer of Gloucester County, Virginia.

In another update from last fall’s polls, John Graham won re-election as clerk of the Circuit Court of Southampton County, Virginia. He is happy to put his government degree to good use.

Teresa Saponaro Belmont has enjoyed walking around on campus a couple times of late and notes many new buildings on “New Campus” since our graduation. She is in New Jersey and has started a new job working for IEEE Standards Association.

Lynn Tunnell Dickinson and Derek Dickinson were driving through New Jersey and stopped by to see Teresa. They are in the Washhine, D.C., area after living in Texas for many years. They are both attorneys.

Teresa shares that Chris Cestaro came to visit while she was in Williamsburg. Naturally, they went to the Cheese Shop for house dressing. Chris is a prosecutor for the city of Richmond.

Andrew Alexander shares some ideas for young people starting out in the business world in a phone interview, the first I’ve had as our reporter. Andrew is a financial advisor with Central Virginia Wealth Management, living in Richmond, Virginia. He shares that it’s important to decide if you’ll attend school to specialize in an area of business or enter the “real world,” in which you should be willing to accept an entry-level position to gain experience. He also mentions that social networking is critical, but that the United States is set up so you can live a fruitful life with a peak at 20 or 30 years from graduation. Andrew underlines that he is happy he lives in the States. There may be a more extensive piece about our interview, including pictures of Andrew, in a future online edition.

Earl Granger ’92, M.Ed. ’98 has been named chief development and impact officer for the Executive Leadership Council, as reported by the New Pittsburgh Courier. The ELC is a global membership organization for Black CEOs and senior executives of Fortune 1000 companies. Prior to assuming this role, Earl served as associate vice president of development for a decade at the William & Mary, which completed a $1 billion fundraising campaign with an emphasis on scholarships.

Andy Corea received the Trailblazer Award at the South Asian Bar Association of Connecticut’s Annual Awards Dinner in September. Find the link to read more in our online edition, magazine.wm.edu/classnotes/1992.

Mark T. Smucker, president and CEO of the jam and jelly company that also makes Jif peanut butter and Folgers coffee, was interviewed for the spring 2018 issue of the W&M Alumni Magazine. Smucker’s has recently scored a sweet $5.6 billion deal to acquire Hostess, the iconic producer of Twinkies and Ho-Hos, as reported by Forbes magazine.

Jen Sullivan writes: “After a 17+ year career at Charles Schwab, most recently as an information technology program director, I was laid off in late October and decided to retire early. My days have been filled with

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pickleball and studying for FINRA's Securities Industry Essentials exam, which I successfully passed in early February. In spring 2022, my wife, Suzette Sager, and I moved up to Davis, California (I earned my MBA at UC Davis Graduate School of Management in 2000), from the San Francisco Bay Area, and we love it here. Our son, Bryce, is a junior at the University of Nevada, Reno, majoring in anthropology.

Thank you for sharing your news! My summer is shaping up busily. I will grade French Language and Culture exams with the College Board and will take my first trip to Africa to learn about life in Senegal with a group of W&M Pre-faculty teachers. In between, my son, Eli, who teaches high school English, will marry his fiancée, Jess. I hope you’ll have a lovely one, too. Consider marking Homecoming on your calendar. Oct. 17-Oct. 20.

1993

Class Reporter
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Greetings, again, Class of 1993! Since the last entry, I have not heard anyone’s news, and it would be great to share memories of classmates and meaningful experiences. I’ll make an effort to do so, with the hope that others will do so in the future.

I’ve been impressed by the work and accomplishments of Dan Polis and Crystal Anderson Polis, who have kept quite active with their W&M network. Crystal recently shared a video of the space capsules Dan has been involved with at Sierra Space Corp. in Westminster, Colorado. I’ve recommended that the magazine write a longer story, and I am sure there are many others like Dan who are part of a team here on Earth creating new technologies and applications. Find a link to a video in the online edition at magazine.wm.edu/class-notes/1993/

Where are your friends’ ideas and efforts taking place? Your classmates and friends would like to know, please share!

Kim Keiserman ’93, M.A.Ed. ’96, who has been in Port Washington, New York, for more than two decades, is currently running as a Democrat for the 7th District in New York. She plans to advocate for policies that increase public school funding so that our children have a fair, inclusive, and prosperous future.

Another ’93 classmate of ours, Kirsten Schinke Jones, is featured in a W&M Alumni Magazine online exclusive. I was surprised to learn she and her husband had been living in Budapest, Hungary, around the same time I had been living there as an educator. Our current passion: butterflies. Kirsten’s journey from volleyball athlete to parent who helps support other families raising athletes is interesting, and you can read about it in our online edition.

To complete this particular correspondence, I’m looking over to Facebook a bit more. I know it’s not the best source, and many no longer use that platform, so I will try to be selective and succinct.

Dr. W. Stewart Laster is bringing smiles to the masses in Raleigh, North Carolina, with Laster Orthodontics; he’s frequently posted pictures of his children participating in wrestling, cheer and other sports.

Tom Burch continues to live in Paris, raising two daughters with his wife and running long distances into and out of the City of Lights.

Scott Hunter is living in Norfolk, serving as district manager at InSpiry.

Denzel Hankinson ’94 has been CEO of DIInfrastructure since 2007 and is living on a farm near Leverett, Massachusetts.

Harris Kay is still practicing law in Chicago, and we are overdue for our next meeting, though I don’t get to the Windy City that often.

As a divisional manager at T. Rowe Price, Mary Helen Donovan is living in San Francisco, and she continues to advocate for animal rescue.

Allow me to once again solicit your submissions. It could be anything: a fond memory that you and others have, a personal experience that you and others might be interested in, or just an update on one or more of your friends that are doing good work out there. I don’t want to leave out a message from you if you truly have one to share. Thank you in advance!

1994

Class Reporter
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Greetings and salutations, dear classmates! I’m excited to announce that some of you are going to hear from me a bit more as I’m helping out as a Class Ambassador, working on supporting fundraising for Homecoming & Reunion Weekend and other projects. Homecoming has been announced so book the hotel you can for the Oct. 17-20 weekend. I’m working hard to be there in person. Enough about me, let’s hear from our classmates!

Donnetta Beatty shared she is the proud principal of J. Fithian Tatem Elementary School in Haddonfield, New Jersey. In November 2023, their school was awarded and honored by the U.S. Department of Education in Washington, D.C., for being an “Exemplary High Performing School” and the school is now a “National Blue Ribbon School for 2023!” Congratulations Donnetta for the amazing work your team has accomplished. You can learn more about this in our online edition at magazine.wm.edu/class-notes/1994.

Christopher D. Booth, my former brother-in-shares, shared some of his experiences since graduating. Christopher has more than 20 years of U.S. government experience as a national security professional, beginning with his active duty service as a U.S. Army commander and cavalry officer. He double majored in history and government, practiced as a litigator following Vanderbilt University Law School and is a distinguished graduate of Marine Corps University Command and Staff College, where he was also a Gray Scholar and fellow in the General Robert H. Barrow Fellowship at the Brute Krulak Center for Innovation & Creativity. He is currently living at the U.S. Embassy in Oslo, Norway, and is a nonresident fellow for the Irregular Warfare Initiative.

Angela Small published her second novel, “If I Promise You Wings,” with Algonquin Young Readers in January 2023. Her first novel (“Bright Burning Stars,” 2019) was made into a film with Amazon Studios! You can catch up on her creativity at her website AKSmall-Words.com. Following the trend of entertainment and media, Stephanie Szostak just finished a five-season run in ABC’s “A Million Little Things,” after appearing in movies including “The Devil Wears Prada,” “Dinner for Schmucks” and “Iron Man 3.” Stephanie shares elements of her story in her first book, “Selfish: Step Into a Journey of Self-Discovery To Revive Confidence, Joy, and Meaning,” in partnership with the mental health advocacy nonprofit Give an Hour. Read more about her in our online edition.

Andrew D. Martin, chancellor of Washington University in St. Louis, spoke about the effects of the pandemic in higher education as part of the fall 2023 W&M Alumni Magazine feature “Rising to the Challenge.” Also contributing in that feature is Wade Whitehead, a fifth-grade teacher in Roanoke, Virginia, and founder of the nonprofit Teachers of Promise Institute and 501(c)(3) foundation that funds it. Wade adds, “Teacher quality has always been important, but pursuit of it has taken on a new urgency … the time is ripe to apply everything we know about great teaching so that all students can experience it.”

Completing our update with a lovely look on wildlife, Kristen Baun was appointed as the new director of Monarch Watch, an international program at the University of Kansas dedicated to the conservation and study of monarch butterflies. Kristen is well known for her work on monarchs and pollinators and also serves as a senior scientist at the Kansas Biological Survey & Center for Ecological Research and as a professor in the Department of Ecology & Evolutionary Biology. Read more in the Tribe section, page 50.

This has been a fantastic period for updates and I hope they keep coming in. See y’all at Homecoming!

1995

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1996

Class Reporter
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My husband (Randy Rosso ’95, M.P.P. ’99) just returned from Williamsburg, where he spoke on a panel about food, water, and housing justice at the W&M Program in Public Policy. He had a lovely time on campus and, happily for me, brought home bread ends and house from the Cheese Shop.

I was delighted to hear from Brian Dewey, who worked with me at the Writing Center at William & Mary. In his first Class Notes contribution, he shared that, “I just finished five years at Duolingo, working for them in their Seattle office. I had nothing to do with the crazy five-second Super Bowl ad, but I have been in one of Duolingo’s unhunged TikTok videos. I really enjoy working somewhere that’s doing good for education.”

Annelise Tarnstrom Osborne messaged me on LinkedIn about her forthcoming book. According to the Amazon.com blurb, “From Hoodies to Suits: Innovating Digital Assets for the Modern Social Enterprise” “connects the ‘hoodies’ who invented the technology behind digital assets and the ‘suits’ who run traditional financial markets in an entertaining and insightful guide for implementing digital assets in an institutional environment.” Annelise also serves on the board of W&M’s Boehly Center for Excellence in Finance. Congratulations on the new book, Annelise!

Branden Ritchie and Tricia Sniffin Ritchie are still living in Alexandria, Virginia. Branden is principal counsel for domestic trademark policy at the USPTO. Tricia is chief development officer at ACT for Alexandria, a community foundation. They enjoy trips to Williamsburg to visit their oldest son, Caden Ritchie ’27, who is a freshman. Go Tribe!

Valerie Horna Nelson wrote that she recently closed the show “The Mousetrap” at Brownwood Lyric Theatre in Brownwood, Texas, where she played the role of Mrs. Boyle. Valerie is still working for the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas as a data analyst, but continues to remain active in local theater.

Lisa Garner is currently living in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, pursuing her dream business. Lisa told me that, as a lifelong intuitive and healer, she created Reiki Wellness Animal Reiki, dedicated to the healing and well-being of animals through energy medicine. She has always had a special connection with animals and began studying Reiki and energy healing to serve her senior rescue dog, Lucy. Now a Reiki Master and Certified Animal Reiki Practitioner, she is honored to share her gift with others after seeing remarkable results with her own fur kids. Lisa is a rescue mom to four cats and two dogs. A portion of all proceeds from her practice go to local animal rescues. Follow her on Instagram @sacredwellness.

Karen Mertig and John Finarelli ’95 still live and work in Dublin, Ireland. They and their son, Trajan, are now proud dual citizens, after gaining Irish citizenship in 2023. “We consider ourselves lucky to have access to the USA and the EU in which to live and work and to have given our son this opportunity,” Karen reported. “Trajan is playing baseball on the Irish National Team, something we are proud of him. He is 16 and going into the equivalent of junior year, so the college search begins. William & Mary tops the list!”

Rebecca Finifter Wrotney works at a busy outpatient mental health center in Maryland, seeing Medicaid and Medicare clients while supervising four therapists and running an intern program. She was appointed to the Beauty Inclusion Council for Red Aspen for 2024 to help shape future product changes and development while also supporting customers and her team. This year she helped with house management for her daughter’s middle school production of “Grease.”

Finally, Emily Doherty wrote that Rob Doherty is currently battling Huntington’s disease. She invites students interested in research with Rob to send messages of encouragement (not “get well soon”) to Rob, care of Salem Health & Rehab, 1945 Roanoke Blvd., Salem, VA 24153. All of us look to our wives, Lisa and Suzanne, for their support.

1997

Class Reporter
MATT GIBERT
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Hello, Class of 1997! It’s been wonderful to get so many great updates from fellow class members. Thanks to those of you who took time to write.

Chris Elliott is now entering his eighth year in cybersecurity with the Department of Defense after a previous career teaching French. Last year he passed his CISSP (Certified Information Systems Security Professional) exam on the first try! As a proud international relations major, he remains grateful for W&M’s liberal arts education, which trained him well to adapt to and handle anything!

In February 2023, Laura Stevenson Canfield caught up with Becky Casaubon in the Berkshires. Coincidentally, they were skiing in the hometown of Caroline Barry Green, who happened to be in Virginia at the time. Laura’s family also spent Easter 2023 with Synta Keeling’s family. Laura has kept busy chartering her 13-year-old daughter’s soccer travel both domestically and internationally with the Olympic Development Team, and last November, she left her job at Amazon to return to her former employer, Gempact.

Matt Witt and his wife, Suzanne, celebrated 15 years of marriage last fall, and they recently rang in the New Year with daughters Catherine and Elizabeth. Brian also worked on a Caribbean cruise. He truly enjoyed receiving holiday cards from several old William & Mary classmates and friends this past season. It’s wonderful to see how well people are doing and how their families are growing up.

Since November 2021, Kendall Powell has been a senior editor at the Nature Careers section of the journal Nature. Her coverage of news and trends affecting early-career researchers keeps her close to her W&M roots in writing and biology research. Kendall is also a traditional member of the National Association of Science Writers, where she often gets to work alongside fellow Tribe alumni Matt Shipman ’98 and Bethany Brookes ’94.

Anna West is senior director of media relations at the Humane Society of the United States. After buying a few acres of former agricultural land two years ago, she is working hard to convert it back to a native forest ecosystem.

Elizabeth Callender is currently in Fort Meade, where she is studying strategic leadership at Army University; she will return to Northern Virginia this summer after graduating with her master’s degree. Elizabeth is on a training rotation from the U.S. Agency for International Development foreign service, where she’s had the opportunity to serve in Thailand, Senegal and India over the past decade. She’s looking forward to running into fellow W&M alumna once she’s back in Virginia!

I keep in regular touch with my high school classmate Ted Findler, who is now in his 27th year of teaching math and coaching track and cross-country at St. Albans School in Washington, D.C. He’s enjoying his four kids and reports that life is good!

I’m also in close contact with Scott Borden, who works with Marine Aviation and traveling around the world to train and support aviators and the intelligence Marines who work with them. Scott and his wife, Lisa Hagen Boyer ’99, live in Frederickburg with their three sons. They are thrilled to report that their oldest, Clayton, will continue the family legacy and attend W&M in the fall (Class of ’28). Congratulations, Clayton!

Several Tribe alumna recently descended on Houston for a great weekend reunion in February. Dave Chris-tensen and I were the lone representatives from the Class of 1997, but Bjorn Anderson ’98, Ben Graf ton ’98, Rob Rudin ’98 and Robb Rosell ’98 came to visit me and my fellow Houstonians, Mark DiBella ’98, Ryan Dobbois ’98 and Jim Zucker ’98. Dave is a banking and consumer finance attorney with Northern Bank in Boston. He and his wife, Kelly, live in Melrose, Massa- chusetts, with their three girls, Taylor, Eva and Charlotte.

Thank you for reading, and please keep the updates coming! Go Tribe!
1998

**Class Reporter**
ALEXIS COX
amcoxx@hotmail.com

Hope you all are enjoying a beautiful spring. If you have any news updates that you’d like to share, please send them my way. We’d love to hear from you! Now on with our latest news...

**Pat Rooney** oversees federal programs at the U.S. Department of Education that provide funding to schools across the country based on a formula that uses census poverty data. He spoke about the issue of teacher shortages and a continued drop in student enrollment in our fall 2023 W&M Alumni Magazine feature “Rising to the Challenge.”

**Kendrick Ashton** was chosen as one of Virginia Business Magazine’s 2018 Virginia Black Business Leaders Award recipients. Kendrick is the co-founder and co-CEO of The St. James Group, a developer and operator of performance, wellness and lifestyle destinations, brands, experiences and technologies.

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1999

**Class Reporter**
MAUREEN HOLBERT
102 Deerwood Court
Sterling, VA 20164
Holbert1M@gmail.com

Thanks to Meredith McGuire Corsino for her service as class reporter. I’m excited to take on the role and hope to see many of you at our 25th reunion, Oct. 17-20! Please read the online newsletter for more detail than can be printed in the magazine.

**Jen Alluisi ’99, M.A.Ed. ’00** works at a company that manages the operation and administration of professional societies and associations. This year marks her 19th wedding anniversary to her husband. They have a daughter and live in Crozet, Virginia.

**Betina Chan-Martín** lives in Los Angeles with her husband, two girls and dog. In July, she joined PEAK6 as chief product officer for their EdTech division. Her family visited Tokyo where she reunited with another W&M alum, Toshi Amano ’98.

**Elise Donnelly Ferree** lives in Claremont, California, with her husband, Patrick, and three children. Both are faculty members in biology at Scripps College and Pitzer College. Elise has fond memories of the W&M Outdoors Club, CCM and the biology department in Claremont.

**Eric Haas** took command of the National Ground Intelligence Center in Charlottesville, Virginia, in July 2023.

**Matt Henry ’99, Ph.D.** obtained his doctorate in gifted education administration at W&M. He and his husband, AJ, live in Alexandria, where they occasionally see Amy Sutton Graham and also Dan Flaherty.

**Cathy Higgins** and her daughters, Valerie and Gwyneth, moved from Texas to Virginia. Cathy is vice president, science programs at Stand Up To Cancer.

**Jeremy L. Hlavacek** is chief commercial officer at Experian Marketing Services. He lives in Westchester County, New York, with his wife and two sons.

**Maureen Ray Holbert** lives in Chesapeake, Virginia, with her husband, Brian, and daughter, Stella. Her fondest memories of W&M were as an OAD and campus tour guide, Kappa Delta Soroity, working at the Student Rec Center, and Young Life.

**Ramón K. Inocencio Jr.** is a CBS News foreign correspondent based in London covering Europe and the Middle East. He previously served as CBS News’ Asia correspondent based in Beijing and later Hong Kong — the first Asian-American to do so. He is married to Taiwanese classical pianist Hsin-Huang Huang and they have two 2-year-old boys.

**Matthew T. Lambert** was promoted after 10 years at W&M to senior vice president for university advancement in 2023 and also concurrently serves as the CEO of the W&M Foundation. He and his wife, Karen Silverberg Lambert ’98, have two boys.

**Angela Novak ’99, Ph.D.** is an associate professor of education and lives in North Carolina with her four kids. She received her doctorate at Duke in 2012, co-authored a book with Katie Dolph Lewis Ed.D. ’09.

**Courtney Rosenberg Orensky** works for Davern- eto & Company LLC in Richmond as an investment advisor, and her husband of 24 years, Ian Orensky ’98, works for Health Trust as vice president, pharmacy services for the capital division. They have two children: a daughter at Virginia Tech and a son joining the W&M Class of 2028.

**Nathan Stump** is in private practice with a mid-sized plaintiffs’ firm in St. Louis, Missouri, after almost 15 years as an assistant U.S. attorney. His wife, Monica, is the clerk of the federal district court across the river in Southern Illinois, where they have lived since 2012. Their daughter, Meredith, graduates from Notre Dame in May and their son, Jonathan, is at Swarthmore College.

**Kurt Williams** and his wife, Mary Totman Williams, are pleased to announce their son, Grady, has been accepted into the Class of 2028 and will be on the Tribe golf team.

In the news: The Washington Post quoted W&M law professor Allison Orr Larsen in an article on Jan. 29, 2024, and The Times Leader from Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, reported that attorney Sara Solfanelli would be the keynote speaker at the University of Scranton MLK Celebration and Award Dinner on Jan. 14, 2024.

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2000

**Class Reporter**
MINDY (MACKERETH) MARIS
williamandmary2000@gmail.com

Be sure to check out Kevin Byrne competing on “Squid Game: The Challenge” on Netflix. When he’s not competing on reality TV, Kevin is a senior vice president of analytics at an advertising agency and has a side hustle of making creative projects, including Halloween decorations, parade floats and photo backdrops.

Kevin noted, “I pursue unique and interesting adventures (lived for a month in a science museum, worked as a ‘tube talker’ at Blue Man Group, competed on ‘American Ninja Warrior’ and now ‘Squid Game’) to push myself to continue to grow and have fun. I think that exemplifies the William & Mary spirit and the fact that strong liberal arts education can prepare you for anything.”

Stunned and heartbroken by the sudden passing of their friend Adrienne Vaughan, six alumni, including Erin Dillon, Jennifer Smith, Christina Colabella Wilds, Stephanie Haberman Bordas ’01, Ashley Glaceel ’02 and Anne Desmond Warren ’02, collaborated with Vaughan’s widower and fellow William & Mary alumnus, Mike White, to find a way to honor her life. They established the Adrienne Vaughan Memorial Scholarship Endowment, which will provide need-based support for Virginia students from South Hampton Roads, including her hometown of Portsmouth. The founders of the endowment noted that Adrienne was proud of where she came from and of where William & Mary took her. Part of Adrienne’s far-reaching legacy will be helping students from southeastern Virginia access all William & Mary has to offer and use it as a launching pad of their own.

An invitation to the Alumni Career Design Fellowship came along at just the right time for Tunisia Riley. The program, which is based on peer support, empowered Riley to step into a new role as a diversity, equity and inclusion specialist after a decade in communications.

Since July 2023, Tom Yehl has served as the priest chaplain for the Catholic Campus Ministry at Virginia Tech.

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2001

**Class Reporter**
LAUREN MORGAN
ELLERMAN ’01, M.S. ’23
lellerman@fithlawfirm.com

We have a robust array of updates this issue, so let’s get to it!

**Jon Rogers** writes with some career news.

“At the Indiana Office of Technology, I lead the State Earn and Learn (SEAL) IT program, which reskills adults of all backgrounds into information technology/security careers through work-based learning. For our efforts, we’ve won back-to-back StateScoop 50 State IT Innovation Awards, a National Association of State Chief Information Officers State...
IT Recognition Award in Enterprise IT Management (2023) and an HR Impact Award from the Indianapolis Business Journal (also 2023). I also was recognized as a TechPoint Tech25 honoree in the Tech Innovation Strategy & Community category.”

Here is an update from John Castiglione.

“After investigating and prosecuting securities fraud for eight years in the Office of the New York Attorney General, I recently left government service to become chief legal officer of Flourish, a financial technology firm owned by MassMutual. I also had my first foray into literary criticism and scholarship published in the winter 2023 edition of The Steinbeck Review, an academic journal focused on the works of John Steinbeck. I live outside New York City with my wife and two children.”

You may have seen in the leadup to this year’s Super Bowl that W&M was well represented among the coaching staffs. Our own classmate David Corley served as the assistant quarterbacks’ coach for the Pittsburg Steelers during their playoff run.

Several classmates have been featured in the W&M Alumni Magazine recently. Rachel Swan ’02, M.Ed. ’07, principal at Laurel Lane Elementary School in Williamsburg, was interviewed for the feature “Rising to the Challenge,” in which she discussed educational issues following COVID-19 disruptions.

And Philip Clark ’02, M.Ed. ’03 was featured in the winter 2024 book roundup for co-editing “Invisible History: The Collected Poetry of Walta Borowski,” which won Publishing Triangle’s 2023 Thom Gunn Award for Gay Poetry.

Ashley Glace was awarded the Douglas N. Morton ’62 Young Alumni Service Award by the W&M Alumni Association Board of Directors at the most recent Charter Day ceremony. She also collaborated with Anne Desmond Warden and other alumni to establish the Adrienne Vaughan Memorial Scholarship Endowment. The award will provide need-based support for William & Mary students from South Hampton Roads in memory of their friend Adrienne Vaughan ’00.

Happy spring, Class of 2003!

We’re slogging along over here in the dark, snowless winter months of February in Williamsburg. The ice skating rink on DoG Street closed this week so now I’m just hanging on until the tulips emerge across from Paul’s. This is where I am: public landscaping marks my time. (Did I mention we’re slogging? What is slogging?)

But some of you are CRUSHING IT. A few shoutouts:

Congratulations to Jennifer Modell, who published her first book: “By Myself,” which won the 2023 Library Journal’s Best First Book Award. She has also written a short story called “The Dinner Party,” which was published in the American Historical Association’s December Perspectives in History magazine. Congratulations, Jennifer!

We have a “secret agent” hero amidst our class! Hanan Maarouf Attiyah, a technology integration specialist at Francis A. Desmares Elementary School in Flemington, New Jersey, entered a “Mission Possible: Operation Advanced Technology” competition and was one of five teachers in the U.S. to receive a $10,000 grant from the CIA in collaboration with the Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education. A couple of months ago, Hanan’s elementary STEM lab that she created with the grant money had its grand opening. Awesome, Hanan! Back in elementary, all we had was a computer lab that had very primitive Macintosh computers with a keyboard typing program and Oregon Trail.

As Cord Jefferson has been racking up nominations and awards for his “American Fiction” film, Ben Hartland has been taking a jab at the small screen with his television comedy sitcom “TEETH” about a suburban-raised anesthetist who moves out to a rural community and lives on his wife’s family farm. Ben takes all inspiration from his real life as an anesthetist who lives on his family farm near Berryville, Virginia, with his wife and two kids. Hopefully we will be able to see his series in the near future!

Amanda Crocker Jarratt is now Virginia Beach’s new deputy city manager who will oversee the departments of agriculture, convention and visitors’ bureau, economic development, and planning and community development. She recently worked for the city of Franklin, Virginia, for more than 15 years.

What do I love about the Class of 2005? I love how many of you are rocking the decade and some even to the next decade! You are the future!”

Here are some updates from your classmates.

Hello Class of 2005! Here are some updates from your classmates.

Michelle Neyland ’05 recently received the Eleanor Dodson Tragen Award, presented by the Associates of the 85
American Foreign Service Worldwide and the foreign service association DACOR for spearheading a successful pay equity campaign. Michelle, who has worked for the U.S. Department of State since 2009, assembled a team and helped to pass locality pay legislation (enacted as Section 9717 of the 2023 NDAA) for civil service employees who are spouses of foreign affairs and military officers and working remotely from overseas (also known as Domestic Employees Teleworking Overseas — DETOs). This legislation provides equitable locality pay to civil service DETOs across the entire federal government.

Kay Floyd ’05 and Pierce Blue ’06 welcomed Beatriz Valentine Blue on Sept. 2. Bee’s first name is a nod to Beatrix Potter’s love of conservation and literature. Her middle name is because she was made by science and one day after Valentine’s Day and, one year later, that was the same day they saw her on her 10-week ultrasound. Kay agreed with me that potty training sounds intense.

Weijia Jiang ’05 is still covering the White House for CBS News. In 2023, she was elected to serve as the president of the White House Correspondents Association for 2025–2026. She will be the first woman of color in the role!

She and her husband, Luther Lowe ’06, are also looking forward to more sleep with 20-month-old Jack and 5-year-old Frankie. Not sure how time flew by so quickly!

Laura Sylvest ’05 got engaged to Alok Bhupatkar in Playa del Carmen, Mexico, on Dec. 23, 2023.

Robby Willey ’05 spent his New Year waiting for his firstborn to make an appearance! Dean showed up a little late on Jan. 3, at 1:49 p.m. Robby and his wife, Lindsay, live close to campus, so Dean has had plenty of exposure to W&M in his short time with them!

On the professional front, the Virginia Beer Co. is getting ready to celebrate the brewery’s eighth anniversary in Williamsburg. Robby is joined by Chris Smith ’07 and Erin McInerney Smith ’07 and they are excited to grow their relationship with W&M (including work on an officially licensed W&M beer they hope to see come to fruition in 2024).

2006

Class Reporter AMBER WALKER GIDDINGS amber.giddings @accomack.k12.va.us

Thank you to everyone who sent me updates. Within minutes of reaching out, I had multiple responses. How I love W&M people!

A November 2023 article in the Richmond-Times Dispatch featured Meghan Atkins and her work as a state program implementer for W&M and University of Richmond athletics departments. Meghan is also a fifth-grade teacher.

Jamee Afeld Belsky and her husband, Michael, recently welcomed their first baby, Jackson, in November 2023. He is an energetic, happy little guy. They currently live in Montana, where Jamee and Mike both work as physicians and enjoy spending their free time hiking and exploring national parks.

In 2010, immediately after law school, Jonathan Carter moved to Washington, D.C., where he has worked for the IRS Office of Chief Counsel ever since. He met his wife, Sloane, in 2014 playing kickball and they got married in 2016. Their son, Wren (yes, in part, named after the Wren Building), was born in 2019. In 2021, they moved from D.C. to Arlington, Virginia.

Last year, former housemates of Lodge 6 — Kate Cunningham Rutledge, Joanna Greer Premand, Kellyn Johnson, Cristina Martinez, Brittney Pescatore and Priyanka Tandon Yeo, aka LodgeHOT — purchased an Alumni House brick. It’s been 17 years since they set foot in the Lodge, but the memories are still going strong. Thanks to all members of the Class of 2007 who attended their events, the best of which was obviously the Hurricane Ernesto Extravaganza.

Brittany Garcia-Martín and her husband, Ryan, welcomed a new addition to their family this fall! Gray Stahl Garcia-Martín was born on Friday, Oct. 13, 2023, and was 8 pounds, 10 ounces in weight and 20.5 inches long. Their daughter, Kaia, is delighted to be a big sister.

Jane Cardo Kennedy shared good news from the Garcia-Kennedy household. Jane and her husband, Arturo, added to their brood with a baby! Isabel was born on Oct. 27, 2023, and her brothers Felix (age 9) and Diego (6) are extremely proud of their little sister. They are living in Ashburn, Virginia, where Jane is the family liaison at the boys’ elementary school. She loves using her language skills honed at W&M in her job.

They moved to Maryland and are extremely proud of their little sister. They are living in Ashburn, Virginia, where Jane is the family liaison at the boys’ elementary school. She loves using her language skills honed at W&M in her job.

Post-W&M graduation, Mika Mason started a new job as an associate professor of global affairs at George Mason University. In November 2023, she and Jose Martinez Diaz de Rivera welcomed their daughter, Elena, and decided they might as well tie the knot. They held the small wedding with Jose’s older daughters and other immediate family at their home in Silver Spring, Maryland, this past December.

Christopher Seelige started a new job as an associate at Kaufman & Can- oles in Norfolk, as noted in Inside Business (Hampton Roads, Virginia). His specialties are maritime law and litigation.

2007

Class Reporter COLLEEN SCHNEIDER CAMERON cmschn@gmail.com

Thank you to everyone who sent me updates. Within minutes of reaching out, I had multiple responses. How I love W&M people!

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Christopher Seelige started a new job as an associate at Kaufman & Canoles in Norfolk, as noted in Inside Business (Hampton Roads, Virginia). His specialties are maritime law and litigation.

2008

Class Reporter ASHLEY JEAN PINNEY Applin08@gmail.com

Greetings, Class of 2008! I hope everyone is having a great spring so far. As always, lots of great updates to report. Thanks to everyone who made a submission! Feel free to email me your updates anytime at applin08@gmail.com.

Jimmy Lockeds- monds ’08, M.Acc. ’09 and Matt Lockmonds welcomed their daughter Kori Lockmonds on Nov. 24! They are having an amazing time getting to know each other and are excited for the first visit to William & Mary as a family of three! See a photo in our online edition.

Sarah McCartney ’08, M.A. ’10 is an assistant teaching professor with the Harrison Ruffin Tyler Department of History and National Institute of American History & Democracy (NIAHD) at W&M. She teaches courses about material culture, public history and American history, including a class on Colonial and Revolutionary War-era Williamsburg.

Teva Brown Clark started a new job at Raytheon as a reliability engineer. Raytheon is paying for the rest of her master’s degree in engineering (quality, reliability and statistical engineering). It will come with a Lean Six Sigma Black Belt certificate, too. She is finishing her final two courses this semester and the capstone in the fall. Her son is now 8 years old.

Tina Du was an invited speaker at the the IMCAS (International Master Course on Aging Science) World Congress in Paris in February. She gave a presentation on “Embracing Deep Neck Lift in Surgical Practice” at this leading international conference in dermatology, plastic surgery and aging science.

Johanna Quinn is the school librarian and media specialist at O.C. Taylor Elementary in Grapevine-Colleyville, Texas. She is known as the Ms. Frizzle of the library! She was awarded Teacher of the Month in December 2023 after receiving her master’s degree in library science from Florida State University back in 2010.
Brian Chiglinsky recently launched Ovation LLC, a speechwriting and strategic communications consulting firm, following a variety of positions leading communications in the public and private sectors, and in higher education. His real full-time job, though, is trying to keep up with his 2-year-old daughter Abby along with his wife, Crystal Adams Chiglinsky ’07. They live in Falls Church, Virginia.

The Kentucky Bar Foundation welcomed Neil Riley as a new fellow in their Fellows Program.

2009

Class Reporter
ANDREW FOILES
afoiles@gmail.com

Hello Class of 2009! I hope you have enjoyed the sights and scents of springtime and are actively prepping for the onslaught of pollen which will undoubtably consume us all. Lots has happened since the last issue, including One Tribe One Day! Thank you to all who participated in giving back to an area of campus which has impacted you. As a reminder, this is our reunion year and a great time to return to campus and connect with your other classmates from 2009 and beyond. I think I will place my Cheese Shop order now so it will be ready by October.

Thank you to those of you who shared your wonderfull 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 yourselves.

Be sure to send me any updates and life milestones you are celebrating so they can be featured here and on the online class notes. Your class wants to hear from you, whether it is a new job, a wedding, a new family member or some-thing outside of the norm. It is all important and worth sharing! Just send them to me at afoiles@gmail.com. There is also an online version which also supports photos, so feel free to send those in along with your updates too.

Go Tribe!

Andy

Update:
Greta Villarosa married Dr. Alexander Materna on Oct. 29, 2023, at The Mansion at Natirar in Peapack-Gladstone, New Jersey. Fellow alumnae Jennifer Peterson Nissley and Emily Blumenfeld were in attendance. Greta and Alexander currently reside in northern New Jersey and are in the process of closing on a new home.

Alex Kyrkos and his wife moved to Delaware County, Pennsylvania, last year and have bought their first house. He continues to work as the chief editor of the Dewey Decimal system remotely. Reach out if you’re in the Wilmington or Philadelphia areas!

Carrie B. Reyes: “In early 2024, I fulfilled a lifelong dream of opening a cat cafe. The cat cafe is located in Santa Fe, New Mexico, and is a temporary home for adoptable rescue cats.”

Margaret Schrack Esposito: “Had my third baby, Layla Alexander Esposito, on Nov. 10, 2023, delivered by Dr. Katie Peng ’11. Tribe delivering other Tribe family! It was a special experience.

Ross Gregg: “Jan. 1 of this year I am now a partner at our firm, Kemper Consulting, and starting my 18th session of the VA General Assembly.”

Jessica O’Brien: “My only news is that I have moved to Richmond, Virginia, from Williamsburg.”

Sarah Baum Miller and her husband, Kevin Miller, welcomed their second kiddo, Eleanor Wren Baum Miller, in early February. Big brother Declan is rocking his new role with “baby El-nor” as well.

Lara Curtis married Erik Vinh in Amherst, Massachusetts, on Oct. 16, 2022. In attendance were the following W&M alumni: Julie Collins, Dani Derringer Zhang, Sandy Givens, Chris Givens ’10, Samantha Grill, Kate Lee, Rebecca Lowdon and Jessica Ungre. The newlyweds reside in Western Massachusetts, where Lara was recently appointed the director of the full-time MBA program at the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

Kristie Dorfier Cadick and her husband, Mark, welcomed their second child, Alice Marie, in December 2023. She is a great baby and older brother, James, is loving his new role as the best big brother ever.

2010

Class Reporter
KARYN BRUGGEMAN
karynbruggeman@gmail.com

Cassie Crumal Allman and Zach Allman were married on Dec. 16, 2023, in Lumburg, North Carolina, at the Hudson Manor Estate. Fellow alumnae Ginny Bray Ho and Erin Skipper Weniger helped celebrate as bridesmaids. See photos in the online edition.

Jen Bickerstaff recently moved to Boise, Idaho, where she is now the vice president at Intuit managing QuickBooks Time and QuickBooks Workforce and is leading the Boise site. She also welcomed her second daughter in January 2024 and is excited to be enjoying maternity leave through the summer.

Mary Cimaglio and her husband, Alex Atkins ’13, M.P.P. ’17, M.S. ’17, welcomed their first child, Ford, on June 28, 2023.

As reported in the Newtown Bee, Philippe Halbert was recently announced as the Richard Koopman Associate Curator of American Decorative Arts at the Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art in Hartford, Connecticut. Philippe has been serving as interim curator of American decorative arts at the Wadsworth since November 2022.

Allie Hart just left Ruggable, where she was their head of global brand for the last six years, and started at Posh Peanut as their vice president of brand. She resides in Newport Beach, California, with her husband, two step kids, and a 2-year-old. She’s also serving on the board of the Corona Del Mar Baroque Music Festival (harking back to our days singing in the Christopher Wren Singers together!), and Laura’s House’s domestic violence shelter and resource.

Stephen J. Marietta was recently announced as a new associate at the Gibbons P.C. law firm. Stephen’s practice focuses on civil and criminal litigation and government investigations, with a concentration on trial- and appellate-litigation strategy, as well as personal injury/medical malpractice.

Emily Sample earned her Ph.D. in conflict analysis and resolution from the Carter School at George Mason University. Her dissertation looked at a feminist future of gendere prevention in the face of a changing climate.

2011

Class Reporter
KATE FOILES
katefoiles@gmail.com

Cristi Cooper and her husband, Alex Cooper ’11, welcomed their second child, Elizabeth Cooper, on April 29, 2024. She is a sweet baby girl and older brother, Alex, is loving his new role as the best big brother ever.

Emily Rowley, who also graduated from W&M in 2011, recently launched MDO Consulting, a speechwriting and strategic communications consulting firm, following a variety of positions leading communications in the public and private sectors, and in higher education. Her real full-time job, though, is trying to keep up with her 2-year-old daughter Abigail along with her husband, Chris Rowley. They live in Falls Church, Virginia.

As a reminder, this is our reunion year and a great time to return to campus and connect with your other classmates from 2011 and beyond. I think I will place my Cheese Shop order now so it will be ready by October.

Thank you to those of you who shared your wonderful pieces of news with me so that the rest of our class can celebrate along with you. It is always so uplifting to receive your emails and hear you brag about yourselves.

Be sure to send me any updates and life milestones you are celebrating so they can be featured here and on the online class notes. Your class wants to hear from you, whether it is a new job, a wedding, a new family member or some-thing outside of the norm. It is all important and worth sharing! Just send them to me at katefoiles@gmail.com. There is also an online version which also supports photos, so feel free to send those in along with your updates too.

Go Tribe!

Katie

Update:
Karyn Bruggeman moved to Richmond, Virginia, on Oct. 16, 2022. In attendance were the following W&M alumni: Julie Collins, Dani Derringer Zhang, Sandy Givens, Chris Givens ’10, Samantha Grill, Kate Lee, Rebec-

ca Lowdon and Jessica Ungre. The newlyweds reside in Western Massachusetts, where Lara was recently appointed the director of the full-time MBA program at the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

Kristie Dorfier Cadick and her husband, Mark, welcomed their second child, Alice Marie, in December 2023. She is a great baby and older brother, James, is loving his new role as the best big brother ever.

2012

Class Reporter
MADELEINE BRADSHERROWLEY
(703) 609-0570
maddie.b.rowley@gmail.com

Hello, Class of 2012! I hope everyone is having a great start to the new year.

My name is Cathy Kuang, and I have been given the privilege of contributing to this edition of Class of 2012 Notes. Thank you, Maddie Bradsher Rowley, for your hard work on our class reporter and for giving me the opportunity to write to our amazing class!

I am writing this just on the heels of an amazing girls’ cabin trip in Luzay, Virginia. Can you guess what was special about this trip? All six of us met at William & Mary! We reminisced on old times and rehashed juicy moments that resulted in many hearty laughs. I am so grateful for the friendships and sisterhood that were cultivated at William & Mary.

I have been very fortunate to have incredible women in my personal and professional life. My network has counseled, inspired and advocated for me. I want women in disadvantaged areas to have positive relationships and opportunities similar to the ones I have been blessed with. The sisterhood I found at William & Mary reinforced my decision to promote and support the advancement of women in my ancestral home of the Democratic Republic of Congo. Last year, I founded Sadi Alice Foundation (www.sadialicefoundation.org) to support the advancement of women in the Kasai region of the Democratic Republic of Congo. Our initiatives are focused on supporting women in three domains: women’s health, community building and professional development. Our mission is to empower women and give them opportunities to impact their communities.

We are currently looking for funding and partnership opportunities to support our agricultural, clean water, women’s health, and professional development projects. Our team is dedicated to...
offering services such as mentorship, skills development, and community engagement. We want to provide exposure and experiences that enable women to embrace their potential and define their future. We believe that every woman has the power to change the world, and we are here to support them every step of the way. “Behind every great woman... is another great woman.” — Kate Hodges

In Tribe We Trust, Cathy Kuang

Here’s what’s new with our classmates:

Anna Pettojhy and Christopher Fong welcomed their second child, a daughter named Cecilia Burton Fong, on Nov. 10, 2023.

Alicia Ottmann was named as the new chief strategy and growth officer for CenterPlace Health, a primary care health services provider in Sarasota, Florida. She is a member of the Virginia House of Delegates in the 25th District, is seeking the Democratic nomination to replace Representative Abigail Spanberger in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Jay Sogliuzzo and Sarah Cunningham Sogliuzzo welcomed their second child, a daughter named Clare Elizabeth Sogliuzzo, on Feb. 5, 2024.

Matthew Becker signed his first book deal with publisher Aethon Books, and his novel, a thriller called “RUN,” is scheduled to be published with publisher Aethon in 2023.

Maddie Bradsher Rowley was named as a Logos Fellow with the Manhattan Institute. The fellowship is a year-long accelerator program for emerging thought leaders in journalism.

Tom Seabrook and his wife, Bryn Seabrook, welcomed their second child, a daughter named Khaki S. Seabrook, on June 27, 2023. Tom is enjoying fatherhood and his time in grad school at George Mason University, where he is pursuing his Ph.D. in history.

2013

Class Reporter
LAURA BROND DZIUBAN
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Hello, Class of 2013! Thank you to everyone who shared their news with me and, by extension, our classmates. I always hear love from you and am so grateful when you share your news. Please continue to keep in touch and help keep us connected!

I had the immense joy of attending the wedding of Stephanie Krauss ‘13 and Pietari Sulkava on Jan. 20, 2024, in South Berwick, Maine. The Tribe Pride was strong with many other alumni in attendance: Megan Hermdia Lu ’11, Jasper Lu ’11, Matt Dziuban, Meagen Monahan, Avery Newton, Kevin Deisz Newton, Kyla Ainsworth Peck ’14, Emily Smith Thompson ’14, Will Thompson ’14, Sarah VanKirk Daniel ’15, Julia Oas ’15, Sam Schooler ’15 and Diana Roh ’16.

Kristyn Kamke and Matthew Whitfield were married in the Wren Chapel on Sept. 23, 2023. The wedding was officiated by the former Monica Ridenhour. Numerous other alumni friends and family joined them in celebration, including Kelly Austin Wendt, Margaret Skipp ’13, M.A.C. ’14, Betsy Goldman ’14, Megan Zimpelman Gibson ’13, M.A.Ed. ’14, William Gibson ’15, Colleen Devlin, Joshua Anish, Paul Kamke ’16, M.A.C. ’17, Gwyneth McKenna ’16 and Daniel Bolger ’91. See our online Class Notes for some beautiful photos of the day.

Abhijet Goyal and Alison Roberts ’15 were married in Philadelphia on Oct. 14, 2023. Ryan Burbey and Amanda Burns Burbey ’14 welcomed their second baby, Reed Burbey, at St. Mary’s Hospital in Richmond, Virginia, on Nov. 2, 2023. Everyone is doing well and big sister Dahlia is thrilled!!

Melanie Levine and Matthew Muller ’12 welcomed a baby boy, Cameron Howard Levine, on Nov. 7, 2023.

Ashley Pettway-Carter recently published her first children’s book, “Ruby René Had So Much to Say,” with Penguin Random House. Available May 14, the book follows a talkative little girl who has to find a way to share her thoughts in school without getting in trouble with her teacher. Ashley is so excited to share this love letter to curious children with you! Visit it online to find a link for the book.

As shared on Frost Brown Todd’s website, Gus Herbert has joined the firm’s Louisville, Kentucky, office as a government relations principal in the firm’s Lobbying & Public Policy Practice Group. Previously, Gus managed political campaigns for the U.S. Senate and Kentucky Governor, among others, and served in numerous roles for Kentucky’s Commissioner of Agriculture.

Since graduation, Brita Wood has worked in local government, for-profit, and nonprofit organizations. She currently works for RTI International in Research Triangle Park, North Carolina, a nonprofit research institute dedicated to improving the human condition. In 2022 to 2023, her team worked with the city of Durham to produce a document available online. Help your librarian and the police force to connect people to the care they need, it shows that change is possible.

2014

Class Reporter
THOMAS E. VEREB
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I am writing this column in a season some know as Lent. From the Old English word “lencen,” this season sees the lengthening of days in springtime and looks to share in the experience. Knowing this is being read well after Lent, I trust the longer days have been delivered, and I hope you’ve got some bright spots to share! Here are some from our classmates:

Samantha Phillips completed her MBA at Oxford in September and moved back to Santa Monica, California, where she hosted a Friendsgiving with fellow Tribe members Meredith Seitz Halleen, Danny Anderson and Alex Vargo in attendance.

Marlee Burroughs and her husband, Ryan, welcomed a daughter, Ellie Jane, on Nov. 30, 2023.

Margo Thronson Bost and Stuart Bost ’13 welcomed their baby boy, Cameron Stephen Bost, on July 11, 2023. Margo, Stuart, and Cameron live in McLean, Virginia. A photo of Cameron can be seen in our online edition!

Emily Nichols Miles and Elizabeth Sogliuzzo welcomed their second child, Caleb, in October 2023. The accomplishments of Cameron can be seen in our online edition!

Bernadette Aylward and Brennan Dolson ’14, M.S. ’19 welcomed their first child, James Lakemon Dolson, in early February this year.

Sean Sweeney and Sarah Gilliland welcomed their daughter, Robin, on May 23, 2023.

And to correct one of the names from the last issue, I wanted to reprint and celebrate: Khaki LaRiviere and Nick Bryant were married on Oct. 14, 2023, at the Wren Chapel. Khaki’s bridesmaids were all members of the Tribe — Stacey LaRiviere (maid of honor), Meredith Looney, Rose Stillwell Baugh, Catie Shelton and Annie Soncram.

Congratulations to all! Looking ahead, Grey Gowder wants to share an invitation to attend The Hope Summit 2024, a conference and festival that the nonprofit he founded hosts in Charleston at the end of September each year. This is a multi-disciplinary and intersectional program that includes a conference, film festival, community solutions festival and other recreational and creative events. This year, the theme will be “reshaping our relationship with water, waterways, and the ocean through community-driven solutions” with keynote speakers Walla J. Nichols and Clare Fiesel er. More information can be found at thehopesummit.org.

Now you! Write in. The accomplishments above cast quite a shadow, I know. If it helps to see the bar lowered, I have not earned a new degree, fathered a child or founded a nonprofit, but I did finally see Dune Part 1, I’ve officially exceeded the renewal maximum on the first and only book I have checked out from the Williamson Regional Library (I’m sorry; it’s coming, I promise), and my wife has entered us into a sweepstakes to win Taylor Swift tickets (she did hint that broadcasting the sweepstakes might hurt our chances, so ... don’t look into that or anything), but how about you? Marvelous or mundane — what have you seen, what have you read, what are you listening to? Go Tribe!

2015

Class Reporter
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88 WMU ALUMNI MAGAZINE
SEE EXTENDED CLASS NOTES AT MAGAZINE.WM.EDU/CLASS-NOTES
Hello, Class of 2015! As of this writing, we just celebrated Charter Day, when both Carlton Smith '15, M.Ed. '17 and Kelsey Carpenter '15, M.P.P. '16 both received Douglas N. Morton '62 Young Alumni Service Awards. You can read more about their work with the alumni community in the previous edition of this magazine, but I wanted to highlight their work here and say thanks for all you do!

Over the holidays, I had the chance to catch up with Sam Brecker in Washington, D.C., Sam graduated from the Tufts Fletcher School of Global Affairs in December 2023. He is in the midst of a career transition into the area of global energy and climate policy after a number of years in the defense and technology consulting space. Congrats, Sam!

Also recently graduated from the Boston area is Sinead Durrant, who completed her Master of Science in applied economics at Boston College.

Meanwhile, Joe Soultau got married to Emily Lacroix on Sept. 16, 2023, in New Hampshire. He writes, “We also moved abroad and have been living in Lausanne, Switzerland, since December 2023. He is in the midst of a career transition into the area of global energy and climate policy after a number of years in the defense and technology consulting space. Congrats, Sam!”

Lizzie Dabbs Salita writes “My husband, Michael, and I welcomed our second child, Blair Adeline Salita on June 26, 2023, in Princeton, New Jersey. Her grandparents Andy Salita ’86 and Lisa Calos Salita ’87 are also alumni!”

Tyler Brent received his first promotion within the U.S. Foreign Service in late 2023. Upon completion of his second overseas assignment at U.S. Embassy Beirut in summer 2024, he will begin his third assignment in the Public Affairs Section at the U.S. Embassy in Islamabad, Pakistan.

Colin Vaughn '13, M.P.P. ’16, and Casey Guditis will finally (Casey’s word, not mine!) be getting married in November 2024.

Lastly, Zoë Mitchell writes in that Libby Kerven and Scott Klein are getting married over Memorial Day Weekend. The two met after William & Mary when they both moved up to Washington, D.C., but that William & Mary connection is strong.

Chris Albiston represented the Stars and Stripes as part of Team USA at the Beach Soccer World Cup, held in February in Dubai.

Jorge Parra and his wife, Lauren, welcomed a baby boy, Ezra, into the world this past October. They currently reside in Vermont where he is a diagnostic radiology resident physician at the University of Vermont Medical Center.

Dr. Kate Kiely and Josh Fleitman (now living in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania) are overjoyed to share the December 2023 birth of their first baby, a beautiful and healthy girl, Emma.

Ross Anderson recently graduated with his Master of Arts in clinical mental health counseling in December and now works as a therapist for LifeStance Health.

Brendan McNamara and Nic Querolo celebrated their wedding with family and friends on New Year’s Eve in Philadelphia. Many William & Mary graduates ranging from the classes of ’84 to ’22 attended. The couple lives in Brooklyn, New York, where Nic is a reporter for Bloomberg and Brendan is a Global Partnerships manager for Google.

Alexandra G. “Ally” Phillips received a Douglas N. Morton ’62 Young Alumni Service Award at a ceremony during Charter Day weekend. Ally is a founding member of the class ambassador program for the Class of 2016, encouraging classmates to connect with and give back to the university. She was nominated to the Annual Giving Board just two years after graduating and has served on the Volunteer Engagement, Participation and Development Committees.

Brian Jenkins ’16, executive director of the Armed Services Arts Partnership (ASAP), was the guest speaker at the Association of 1775 and W&M Military & Veteran Affairs’ breakfast to honor W&M military service members and veterans. He was also named one of Forbes’ 30 Under 30. He was recognized for his social impact with ASAP, which aims to combat isolation among veterans and improve their well-being through free classes and performances across an array of art forms.

Kyle Vachris married Allison Johns '18 on Nov. 18, 2023, in Alexandria, Virginia. The wedding included Anna Wilson ’17, Justin Fuller ’14, Ryan Corcoran, Brian Meyer ’17, M.Ed. ’19, Scott Vachris ’84 and Michelle Vachris ’84. Guests included over 30 alumni.

Thank you to everyone for your updates! Best wishes until next time.

2017

Class Reporter
CAPRIELLE D’ULISSE
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Hey classmates, hope everyone is well! I have been enjoying traveling lately, enjoying winter weather — which I am surprised at myself to write — hiking in Lake Placid, New York, and southern Iceland. I’ve learned that this Long Islander loves mountains and the views are well worth it as long as I dress warm enough! I got to explore Sólheimajökull glacier and enjoy the Blue Lagoon, but will have to return to see the Northern Lights.

In the fall, I went to William & Mary for Homecoming & Reunion Weekend. It was great to see people from our college days, like my Phi Mu sisters Jess Wakelin ’20, Mary Turgeon ’18 and Marit Haugen ’18 — in addition to meeting new ones — including fellow class reporter Sandra Abicht Simmons ’68 who was visited by the guests between dinner reservations.

I enjoyed staying with Kristiana Plumb Neiwender, who now lives in Williamsburg with her husband, Karl, who is an associate director of design at W&M. They have been renovating a house and my friends have immaculate taste. Her hospitality brought me back to the days when I would cozy up in her Ludwell apartment after a trip to Trader Joe’s to buy fall themed snacks, making tea and talking about the design trends we saw at Williams Sonoma. After the football game, we had to walk past the Randolph Complex to pay homage to the dorm we met at, Preston Hall. We started out as transfers together there and I stayed in the dorm as an Arabic House resident. Living in the Arabic House was a highlight of my W&M experience, and as a very social introvert I loved the layout of the dorm being like one big apartment. The Randolph Complex holds a special place in my heart, so it was great to see it and the Commons Dining Hall before the area makes way for a new era of community living.

Now for some news from the rest of the class.

I got a note from Richard Tischner: “I finished my contract in the Army and am currently working as a defense contractor at United States Special Operations Command at MacDill Air Force Base in Tampa, Florida. I’m married as of last year and have a baby on the way due in April! We just moved into a house. Still in touch with a majority of folks from my freshmen hall (Yates).”

Sophie Wollen got her law degree in 2023 from the University of Michigan.

Neal Courter wrote in an @wmalumni Instagram takeover: “I’m currently living an itinerant lifestyle working as an aerialist on tour with Cirque du Soleil! We spent the past nine months in Montreal to work on the creation and premiere run of Cirque’s newest Big Top production called ‘ECHO.’ I’m excited that we are starting our North American tour not too far from the ‘Burg — at Tysons Corner in the D.C. area!”

Neal was also featured in the online exclusive article “Neal Courter ’17 is living his dream with Cirque du Soleil.”

Emily Zinger and Kylh Stephen were married on a friend’s vineyard in Madison, Virginia. Many William & Mary friends were there to celebrate including
groomsman Brian Jenkins ’16, maid of honor Diya Uthappa ’17, groomsstress Abby Russo ’18, groomsstress Ivy Duerer ’17, bridesmaid Sofia Wolfe ’24 and groomsman Joshua Zinger ’20.

2018

Class Reporter
PHOEBE BRANNOCK
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Firstly, I would like us all to appreciate the beautiful cover of the Winter 2024 edition. I don’t know which I loved more: the thick, ethereal snowfall in front of the Wren Building or the cartoon of someone finally trying to fix Confusion Corner. I perused the issue while soaking in the tub after a 10-mile run one Saturday morning. I know we’re all almost 30 now because I have a hip that desperately needs a post-run hot water bottle, or else it becomes sore.

I would like to attribute the regimen of long runs through Virginia hills followed by hot baths (and a diet with a good amount of red meat) to staying warm at Hunter McConvile’s wedding, which had to have been the coldest wedding in all of Augustus Corcoran ‘56’s 286-year history. Hunter married his fiancée the weekend of Jan. 10, and I bundled up in my fur coat and stood in the snow when Sarah Anderson ’17, Anna Wilson ’17 and Lauren Hoak. Dillon Hayes, Matt Phillips ’17 and Ryan Harriss served as equally cold groomsmen.

We all — excepting Hunter, obviously — rented a house in Staunton, Virginia, that weekend. I traveled home to Staunton to see my parents the day before the festivities began so that I could pick up Ryan and Sarah from the Charlottesville airport the Friday before the wedding. That arrangement proved to be a fiasco that caused half of the groomsmen to arrive late to the rehearsal dinner. While I was on my Saturday morning run, everyone else slept in and then went to a greasy breakfast spot. We all stayed up entirely too late both nights. Sarah, Ryan and I even went to the one bar in all of Staunton that remains open past 11 p.m. after the wedding.

It felt almost like college again, despite Lauren’s engagement and now Matt and Anna’s engagement (which has been a long time coming). Between our poor timing and our disorganization, we clearly haven’t changed too much from our early 20s. We are all, however, a little less bright-eyed and bushy-tailed than we were when the real world was entirely in front of us. That was one of the best weekends for my soul I’ve had in a long time, and I wouldn’t have traded it for the world. We have frequent Zoom/Facetime/Google chat (whatever it is the kids are doing these days) calls, but it’s not the same.

Emily Martin is now married, Elisabeth Merrifield and Ryan Corcoran ‘16 tied the knot, and Isabelle Baucum ‘17 also recently wed. Briana Kulisch, a fellow Phi Mu, has a ring on her finger and will walk down the aisle soon.

Warmest wishes to all the newly married and engaged couples.

Cheers,
PMB

2019

Class Reporter
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Hello all!

In case I lose some of you halfway through my notes, let me begin by inviting you all to join me in Williamsburg this October 17-20 for Homecoming & Reunion Weekend and our five year reunion! By the time this issue is published, five years since our graduation will have officially elapsed, which is difficult to conceive given that’s longer than we actually spent as William & Mary students, yet I feel just as connected to our alma mater as I did five years ago. Some of you might not feel the same, but the best thing about the College is the enduring nature of its community. Our four years on campus were merely the beginning, and it’s never too late to rekindle old friendships or meet other William & Mary people. I look forward to seeing some of you then!

In terms of news, there are as ever a number of engagements to celebrate. Late last year, Will Goncher proposed to Cat Rubio. Then, in January, Alex Taylor, now a doctor resident at Sampson Regional Medical Center, became engaged to her Campbell School of Medicine classmate Justin Wain.

I saw Cat, Bronwyn Terrell ’19, M.A.Ed. ’20 and Emmel El-Fiky recently reunited for a weekend in New York City, more proof that our Cambridge study abroad during the summer of 2017 was the best thing that will last a lifetime. During that summer abroad, Kat Danstrom ’18, Matt Parciak and Julia Dalzell ’20 spent our free weekend together in Edinburgh, Scotland. Tack on Julia Stumphau, Sam Straussner and myself, and you complete the group of us headed to Iceland this May.

I am very excited to report that by the time we fly to Iceland and this issue is published, I will have graduated from the University of Florida Levin College of Law. I am also happy to announce I scored an interview with Kevin Hallisey ’21. Congratulations to all of us graduating with advanced degrees this spring, including Lizzie Torrez from Georgetown School of Medicine, Kara Brads from Campbell School of Medicine, Rui Yin from the University of Maryland with a Ph.D. in Biometrics, Zach Sims from Yale with an MBA, and Evan Oldschein from Brooklyn Law School.

Note, my email has changed again as I lose yet another .edu email address, but please do reach out. Congrats to Brianna Ferebee for her feature in the magazine’s fall issue for her work with the Bureau for Conflict Prevention and Stabilization!

2020

Class Reporter
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Hello, Class of 2020! I hope you are well and getting ready to embark on some fun summer adventures. At the time of writing this message, I have just started a new job as the strategic communications and marketing manager for the National Pharmaceutical Council in Washington, D.C. I’ll be taking the train up from Richmond often, so if you’re currently in D.C., I’d love to catch up or meet other William & Mary D.C. Metro Chapter Board. Feel free to reach out to her if you have questions about a career in consulting, are considering a move to D.C. or just want to talk about W&M over coffee!

John Napoli moved to New York City to work on his startup, “League: Manutes.”

Andrew Scaramuccia has joined Faegre Drinker as an associate in their D.C. office. He completed his J.D. last spring at the University of Notre Dame Law School.

Cat Green’s first book, “I Am Never Leaving Williamsburg,” will be published by fifth wheel press in February 2025. The book combines poetry and essays that detail her experience at William & Mary while navigating bipolar disorder, leaving the Catholic Church and understanding their queerness.

In November, Liam Watson was elected to the town council in Blacksburg, Virginia. He is humbled to be the youngest councilmember elected in Blacksburg’s 225-year history. Congratulations, Liam!

Diana Haemer graduated from Trinity College Dublin with a Master of Philosophy with distinction in Irish literature, a dissertation focused on queer coding and gender dynamics in Oscar Wilde’s plays.

After getting his J.D. at W&M Law School last spring, Lyons Lascara ’20, J.D. ’23 is now working as an attorney at Pender & Coward. He specializes in construction law matters and civil litigation.

Caitlin Macias Hentze is in her second-to-last semester of Columbia University’s Social Work Program. She loves working as a nonprofit consultant to help nonprofits build financial stability and raise funds. She is currently living in West
Palm Beach, Florida, with her plants. She enjoys volunteering and going to the beach.

In January, Garrison Adams started working at the Supreme Court of Virginia. He says that it’s been an enjoyable experience so far! Sophia Luwis was named USRowing’s 2023 Carie Graves Female Athlete of the Year. She was also featured in the W&M Alumni Magazine’s winter 2024 issue. I was excited to see that Joel Cafco started a new role as an editorial and social media assistant at Harper’s BAZAAR. Congratulations, Joel! Check out his articles online.

Madeline Russo ’19 and Wade Strain ’19, M.S. got married on Jan. 6, 2024, in Richmond, Virginia. The couple met their freshman year at W&M and dated for seven years before tying the knot. They are now beginning a year of remote work across nine U.S. cities.

Go Tribe and keep in touch! 2021

Class Reporter
JUDITH TAUBER ’21
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Happy spring! I’m writing this in 20 degrees Fahrenheit Ithaca while looking at the most recent snowfall, but by the time this is published, spring will have arrived here, too. I promise you that everyone here is counting down the days until it’s warm enough to be outside without a winter jacket! I’m looking forward to hearing your news, so please share it with me at jmt349@cornell.edu.

Miso Park writes: “I have recently been employed by a nonprofit called National Academies for Sciences, Engineering and Medicine (NASEM). I will be working there as a membership associate. Fun fact: NASEM was established by Abraham Lincoln and the building I will be working at is a six-minute walk away from the Abraham Lincoln statue at the National Mall!”

Melina Cieni ski was recently featured in the Mecklenburg Sun for a free program on vermicomposting she organized at the Occoneechee State Park. She is a community forestry specialist with the Virginia Department of Forestry.

Hey everyone! I’m so proud to be able to update you that with you all! Please keep them coming! As expected, the Class of 2022 is out doing amazing things and making an impact on the world around us in virtually every field (not surprising). Here are some of the ways we’re killing it out in the world:

I’m sure we all remember getting our grad photos taken by Jamie Holt, so it shouldn’t come as a surprise that she started a new job as the director of athletics photography at the University of Virginia! I’m so happy to watch and see where your amazing talents take you — UVA is lucky to have you! See a photo in the online edition at magazine.wm.edu/class-notes/2022.

Speaking of amazing things, Nitya Labh and Alton Coston ’23 have been awarded one of the world’s most prestigious graduate fellowships. The scholarship offers one year of funding for graduate studies in global affairs at Tsinghua University’s Schwarzman College in Beijing and includes an immersive experience in China, lectures by global leaders and career development resources like internships and mentors. Way to go Nitya and Alton, this is only the beginning of the amazing things you’ll achieve! Read more about it in our online edition.

Rachel Faga is currently in her second year of the doctorate of audiology program at University of North Carolina Chapel Hill and has just put two songs out on Spotify and Apple Music (linked online)!

The album is titled “Things I’ll Never Say Out Loud” and can be found under her name! Her fondest memories of W&M include doing a Homebrew every semester and the local weekly open mic night.

Upon receiving his Bachelor of Science in mathematics, Alexander Berliner went to the University of Arizona for their doctoral program in statistics and data science. The sunny Arizona weather is always inviting in other words distracting, for outdoor activities — hikes, tennis, and trips to the Californian coast that are turning him into a pseudo surfer-cowboy. Alexander is grateful that he was able to embrace the well-rounded liberal arts education W&M provided, especially now that he is narrowing his specialty.

That’s all for now and til next time, let’s go Tribe!

2023

Class Reporter
JULIA DEKORTE ’23
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Hi everyone! Happy spring! Half way one year since graduating! I hope everyone is doing well. As I’m writing this, I just started a new job as a research associate at Dynamics Search Partners. I’m loving it so far! I’m also joining the crew of New York-based W&M alumni and moving to the East Village. I can’t wait!

If you recall my last update, DJ Olson and I were training for a half marathon. I’m happy to report that we both completed the half! Less than two weeks later, DJ underwent a long-anticipated shoulder surgery to fix his torn labrum and is slowly but surely recovering from that.

I’ve of course been keeping up with my sorority family: I’m very excited to be moving even closer to Kate Vermilyea ’22, meaning more dinner dates, happy hours and Central Park walks.

Rebecca Rogers ’22 is enjoying Randolph-Macon College’s physician’s assistant master’s program and was just elected president of the student society. Carolina TenS ’19 started working as an editing associate at magazine@wm.edu. She is also a new reporter for graduate alumni in the Arts & Sciences. If interested, please contact alumni, magazine@wm.edu.

Christine Baumann Feurt M.A. ’78 (biology) is the coastal training program director at the Wells National Estuarine Research Reserve and research associate at the University of New England’s School of Marine and Environmental Programs. In January, she presented “Marshes for Maine’s Future: Turning the tide on marsh loss in Maine” at the Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions at the University of Maine. This news was reported in January by the Sun Journal.

Ashley Heilprin J.D. ’13, M.P.P. ’13, litigation partner at Phelps Dunbar LLP, has found many opportunities at the intersection of public policy and law. She serves as counsel to the Orleans Parish School Board and has done much policy work for them as reported by New Orleans CityBusiness.

Graham Ousey M.A. ’93 (sociology), professor of sociology at W&M, has published “Immigration
**GRAD**

will oversee the Special-Carpenter Technology '99 graduation and I’ll be sure to update, name and year of graduates. If interested, please contact alumni@wm.edu. The following items were compiled by our editorial team. Please see the online class notes for links to more information about the stories below.

**School of Education**

We are looking for a new reporter for graduate alumni from the School of Education. If interested, please contact alumni@wm.edu. The following items were compiled by our editorial team. Please see the online class notes for links to more information about the stories below.

Wordell Davis M.Ed. '66 and Peg Grim Davis '61 retired in 2003 and downsized twice. They left their home of 30 years in Madison County, Virginia, and moved to Urbanna, where they lived on the water. But as aging became a bigger number, they have now settled in a cottage at the Masonic Home of Virginia in Richmond, which is right between their daughter in Williamsburg and their son in Charlotteville.

W&M Professor Christopher R. Gareis M.A.Ed. '92, Ed.S. '93, Ed.D. '96 was awarded a $400,000 multiyear grant from the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) for a data-driven pilot program called Bridging the Gap, which is designed in response to the profound learning losses brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Alan Edwards '88, Ed.S. '93, Ph.D. '01 was named by the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia to be interim director in January. He has been on staff at SCHEV, the Commonwealth’s postsecondary coordinating agency, since 2002.

Earl T. Granger III '92, M.Ed. '98 was appointed chief development and impact officer by the Executive Leadership Council, the global membership organization for Black and minority executives and former CEOs, senior executives and board members of Fortune 1000 and equivalent companies, top-tier entrepreneurs and global thought leaders, as reported by the New Pittsburgh Courier in December.

Kim Garber Keiserman '93, M.A.Ed. '96 is running for New York’s 7th Senate District seat, as reported by the Wiliston Times. A Democrat who serves on the North Hempstead Housing Authority Board of Commissioners, Kim works as an education consultant. The primary election is June 25 and the general election will be held on Nov. 5.

**Mason School of Business**

Graduate School Reporter

JOY GONZALEZ M.ACC. ’23
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Hello, Mason Graduate School of Business.

Congratulations to all the May 2024 graduates! We are honored to now call you alumni and wish you all the very best in years to come.

We just have a few updates from our graduates in this issue. Please keep in mind, if you ever want an update posted, just send an email to joyago@protonmail.com with the subject “Mason Class Update.” Include your update, name and year of graduation and I’ll be sure to add it to the next issue.

Brian Malloy M.B.A. ’99 has been appointed senior vice president and chief operating officer of Carpenter Technology Corp. In his new role, he will oversee the Special-Alloys Operation and Performance Engineered Products business segments. Congratulations, Brian. What an achievement!

Alexis Ekman Smith M.B.A. '93 has been chosen as one of 17 executives to be honored as a 2024 Virginia Black Business Leader. She is employed at TowneBank as president of the Williamsburg and Peninsula regional operations. In her spare time, she is an avid volunteer with the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Peninsula and Habitat for Humanity. Very nice, Alexis. Congratulations!

Nichelle Stone '09, M.B.A. '23 has been appointed to the Norfolk School Board in Virginia by a unanimous vote. Nichelle is passionate about issues such as chronic absenteeism and teacher shortages and hopes to work with the school division to tackle such issues. Congratulations, Nichelle, we appreciate your service to the city!

Lorrie Fluharty Asker M.B.A. ’91 has been appointed as executive vice president, chief banking officer at First Interstate BancSystem in Billings, Montana, where she oversees retail and commercial banking operations across the bank’s 14-state footprint. Congratulations, Lorrie, promotion well deserved!

**School of Law**

Graduate School Reporter

MATT WIDMER J.D. ’05
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Please see the online version of these notes at magazine.wm.edu/class-notes/law-school for much more news.

William R. Munroe '64, J.D. ’66 passed away on Feb. 15.

Lorraine D. Fornter J.D. ’81 passed away on Jan. 2.

Thomas S. D’Antonio J.D. ’82 is a partner at Hodgson Russ LLP. The family of the late Hays T. Watkins LL.D. ’82 made a $1 million gift
to the All In campaign in his honor.

The Hon. Kendall Newman J.D. ’84 has retired as the chief magistrate judge in the Eastern District of California.

In December, Steven Kramer J.D. ’86 was named Faculty of the Month by the Arizona Bar Foundation for the work he does with the Arizona High School Mock Mediation program.


Christopher C. White J.D. ’95 joined Steepto & Johnson PLLC.

M. Ann Neil Cosby J.D. ’98 is now a partner at GreeneHurlock PLLC.

Priscilla H. Muhlenkamp J.D. ’98 was elevated to managing partner at Fragomen.

Kevin Rasch J.D. ’98 is general counsel of Health Plans Inc. and corporate vice president of Point32 Health at the Endowment for Health.

Craig Dixon ’97, J.D. ’00 was honored with a 2024 Virginia Black Business Award from Virginia Business.

James W. Beers J.D. ’01 joined Troutman Pepper as an environment partner.

Monica W. Wharton J.D. ’01 was appointed to the American Hospital Association Regional Policy Board.

Sarita Bhandarkar J.D. ’02 joined Orange Bank & Trust Co. as vice president and trust officer in their trust and estate department.

Cheran Cordell Ivery J.D. ’03 is a city attorney in Alexandria, Virginia.

David Massaron J.D. ’04 has been named the chief economic development and real estate officer at General Motors Inc.

Misty Whitehead J.D. ’04 was elected to the Henrico County Board of Supervisors.

Maxwell H. Wie-
National Park Service’s South Atlantic-Gulf Region. She is helping parks across the southeast (including the Virgin Islands National Park) on challenges related to coastal vulnerability and adaptation, sediment management and coastal policy. Parks are a wonderful place to apply your science for management purposes, so reach out if you have ideas or want to collaborate!

Jacques Oliver M.S. ’00, Ph.D. ’05 became chief of the Ecological and Health Processes Branch in the Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) Office of Water Health and Ecological Criteria Division in February. He’s now on a management team with Kathryn Gallagher Ph.D. ’95, who is chief of the Ecological Risk Assessment Branch within the same division.

We are sad to report that Jennie Gundersen ’85, M.A. ’86, Ph.D. ’95 passed away in November. Jennie worked as an environmental and research chemist with the EPA for nearly 30 years in various positions in D.C., Annapolis, Maryland, and Narragansett, Rhode Island. At EPA, Jennie contributed to groundbreaking work related to fracking, PFAS, endocrine disruptors and microplastic pollution and developed innovative analytical chemistry methods for emerging pollutants. She was known for her positivity, kindness, dry wit, prowess on the bass guitar and immense sense of adventure. Jennie will be greatly missed.

Call-in your “Quips” (Glo-Quips style news is always welcome!) to your class reporters, Scoop Hinchey and Newshound Nestlerode, to share with fellow alumni — y’all know who you are!
In Memoriam

Below are the names of members of the William & Mary community whose passing was reported between Nov. 6, 2023, and Feb. 1, 2024. 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

Susie Gray Seay
Henzie '46 of Los Angeles, California, died April 1, 2022.

Betty Gardner

Karl Henry Zickrick
'48 of Denison, Texas, died July 28, 2022.

Richard Garland
Drake '49, M.Ed. '53 of Richmond, Virginia, died Jan. 12, 2024.

Audrey Allein
Hoistma '49 of Baltimore, Maryland, died Nov. 9, 2023.

Jeanne Wright Massaro

Howard “Snookie”
Carte Robertson Sr. '49 of Reedville, Virginia, died Dec. 20, 2023.

Lee Riggins Rich

Barbara Alabaster
Hoover '51 of Wilmington, Delaware, died Dec. 2, 2023.

Paul Edward Webb Jr.
'51 of Virginia Beach, Virginia, died Dec. 8, 2023.

Douglass Townsend

Freddy Ann Bailey
Clark Jr. '52, P '85 of Richmond, Virginia, died Jan. 10, 2024.

Karl Thomas

John “Jack” Henry
Parker IV '54 of Kilmarnock, Virginia, died Nov. 14, 2023.

Peggy Joyce Hedrick
Deierholz '55 of Jupiter, Florida, died Jan. 23, 2024.

Bettie “Betsy” Henly

James Nimmer

Charles Anderson
Sullivan Sr. '56 of Vero Beach, Florida, died Nov. 8, 2023.

Lawrence “Larry”


Mary Kay Bush

Alonzo “Kit” Andrew

Sollace Molineux

May Sue Reese Glascow

Lynn McDaniel
Jack '59 of Fishers, Indiana, died Jan. 4, 2024.

Thomas “Tom” Lee

Betty Bernard Alby

Gary Alan Sterner
'60 of West Hartford, Connecticut, died Dec. 6, 2023.

Karl Forest
Gretzinger '61 of Marietta, Georgia, died Nov. 5, 2023.

Jethro Meriwether
Hurt III '61 of West Palm Beach, Florida, died Nov. 9, 2023.

David Joseph Gatti
'62 of Columbia, South Carolina, died Nov. 12, 2023.

Jeffrey McKenzie

Sandra Hancock
Martin '62, P '89 of Montvale, New Jersey, died Nov. 8, 2023.

Terry Dee Kester
'64 of Canby, Oregon, died Oct. 25, 2023.

Thomas James Kirkup
'65, P '92 of Henrico, Virginia, died Jan. 17, 2024.

Jerry Lawrence
Garner '66, P '92 of Midlothian, Virginia, died Jan. 25, 2024.

Carolyn “Kay”

Margaret Gay North- way '67 of Lantzville, British Columbia, died Jan. 15, 2024.

Rabbi David Harry

Edward “Ed” Carroll
Bryant '71 of Washington, D.C., died May 1, 2024.

Ralph “Chip”
Lynnwood Crews '71, P '08 of Williamsburg, Virginia, died Jan. 13, 2024.

Loyd Dennis Rawls
'72 of Newport News, Virginia, died Jan. 12, 2024.

Linda Kay Beaver
Rice '72, M.Ed. '75 of Manakin Sabot, Virginia, died Aug. 5, 2023.

Borislav “Boro”
Djordjevic '73 of Annapolis, Maryland, died Nov. 26, 2023.

Lucas Arthur Snipes
'73 of Troutville, Virginia, died June 19, 2023.

John Wright Finta
'74 of Vienna, Virginia, died Jan. 14, 2024.

Susan Catherine Min-
gee '77, M.A.Ed. '86 of Hampton, Virginia, died Nov. 11, 2023.

Hulon Lavaughan Wil-
is Jr. '77, P '13 of Chesterfield, Virginia, died Jan. 16, 2024.

Alexander Kirkand
Kennedy '79 of Tows on, Maryland, died Nov. 7, 2022.

William “Clark”

Charles Robert Car-
son '86 of Canton, Georgia, died Dec. 6, 2023.

Donald “Pete” Peter

Michael “Mike” Sher-
man Rodgers '92 of Atlanta, Georgia, died Nov. 30, 2023.

Sonia Rajiv

Aidan Kennedy

GRADUATE ALUMNI

Doris Moore Shea
M.Ed. '62, C.A.S.E. '71 of Richmond, Virginia, died Jan. 15, 2024.

Kenneth G. Butler
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Degree</th>
<th>Location/Other Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alice Taylor Seaman</td>
<td>M.A.Ed. '75</td>
<td>Suffolk, Virginia, died Nov. 23, 2023.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lorraine Diane Fortner</td>
<td>J.D. '81</td>
<td>Miamisburg, Ohio, died Jan. 2, 2024.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Donald Joseph Messmer</td>
<td>of Richmond, Virginia, died Nov. 15, 2023.</td>
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This is Why

Making a future gift through your will, trust or retirement plan can create ripples of impact for decades to come. Students like the Showalter-Beldegreen scholars at William & Mary’s Raymond A. Mason School of Business are afforded increased opportunities to flourish thanks to the visionary gifts of two women. Legacy gifts made by Joan Showalter ’55 and Karen Beldegreen HON ’06 are providing these students and the students of the future the chance to build deeper connections and achieve greater success.

Real-world outcomes like these are why generations of alumni, parents and friends have made legacy gifts for the future of William & Mary. You can provide meaningful opportunities for the students, faculty and programs you care deeply about today and help the community you love to flourish for all time coming. Join these visionary leaders today and decide what your legacy will make possible tomorrow.

Make an impact. Fund your Why.
Plan your future gift today.

Rachel Drazdowski, J.D.
Executive Director of Gift Planning
rdrazdowski@wm.edu | 757-221-1291
The Principled Achievement Award is presented annually to an individual who demonstrates a passion to make a difference in the world through their leadership. The recipient embraces the tenets of the William & Mary Honor Code, serves as a role model for principled leadership, promotes diversity of thought, and demonstrates ethical, compassionate behavior. The 2024 recipient is Sean McDermott ’98, Head Coach of the Buffalo Bills.