FROM THE ARCHIVE  Pictured here are students from the MBA Class of 2019 celebrating the completion of the Executive Challenge, the culminating event of the autumn quarter, where students face real-world leadership challenges and practice strategies and skills they’ve learned.
One of our faithful correspondents, Neil Torrance, wrote from Banning, CA: "Hi folks! Well, all of our family members are in good health, have been vaccinated, and so far have escaped the various versions of COVID. In order to accommodate the rising infections, the main hospital here has added facilities in the parking lot. While my wife and I will soon celebrate our 64th anniversary, we are in stay-at-home mode. That gives me time to improve my vaccination mask and market a wristwatch that scans plunders from stores, accumulates the amount, and then audibly warns when $950 has been reached. Oh, to live in Frisco and Los Angeles, To all a happy and prosperous New Year."

And from Denis Wong weighing in from Honolulu, musing on the changes since 1954: "I was returning from the Honolulu Airport, just east of Pearl Harbor, dropping off my son Gary, who was returning to J.P. Morgan in New York City after the Christmas holiday season. I decided to take the tourist route following the seaside through the cities of Honolulu, Waikiki, and Kahala. What has happened over the 68 years since we graduated with a new, shiny MBA from Stanford?

“Hawaii’s warm water, soft winds, friendly clouds, and sunshine were the same as ever. Honolulu’s Aloha tower and docks were virtually unchanged, but the flat city of Honolulu grew with towering high-rises when Hawaii became a State in 1959. The Ala Moana Seaside Park faced the Ala Moana huge shopping center dotted with tall and pricey condominiuums facing the seaside. As I entered Waikiki, Hilton Hotels, big name retailers Louis Vuitton, Hermes, Gucci, Harry Winston, and the like were on each side of Kalakaua Boulevard. Luxury hotels are 85 to 90 percent occupied; others are lower, as the pandemic has limited travel—which affects unemployment, currently over six percent—as airlines have reduced flights. However, Kahala real estate is higher; it seems that prices increase as interest rates drop."

"As I reflect on the years I spent at Stanford, my military service in WWII and the Korean War brought me tuition and subsistence. I worked at Matson headquarters in San Francisco to fulfill the summer requirement—a wonderful experience in addition to case-study visits. I learned “How to Think” in Dr. Kreps’ controversial classes, especially on the question that he wrote on the board in econ class: ‘War is the background of business administration.’ It was a heady question for me, as I had just gotten out of the service. There is more truth than falsehood.”

"I return to Stanford Medical Center for a checkup annually. The campus has changed with new buildings. Lomme’s on El Camino and Howart’s on Middlefield are no longer there, nor is our dormitory. But the university has spawned technology research and is one of the most desired schools, for which we as graduates can be proud. Happy New Year!"

Palmer Jackson shared that his community in Montecito was the locale of one of the many California wildfires of late—the Thomas fire—and where a series of heavy rains then washed out a bridge to his home. He states that Megan and Harry live nearby, but are rarely seen. Palmer and his family also operate the Alisal Ranch, a resort north of Santa Barbara; and there was a major fire several years ago, dubbed the “Alisal” fire, adjacent to the ranch. Although the fire didn’t reach the resort, the fire’s name confused the public and did affect reservations.

Denis’ reminiscing back to 1954 and what Honolulu was like made me think back about my early days in the real estate brokerage business. I grew up in Atherton, and it was my main concentration when I started my firm selling residential property in the immediate area: Atherton, Menlo Park, Portola Valley, and Woodside. This, of course, was before Silicon Valley, the technological development that radically changed the area and its population and economy, along with the venture capital business. Property then in the area was cheap and plentiful, and prime acre lots in Atherton were selling for $25,000 as were prime three-acre lots in Woodside.

My commission then would have been on the order of $625. A comparable piece of Atherton property sold several years ago for $20 million. Available building sites really don’t exist and are largely a function of “tear-downs.” The demand, however, as well as the financial capabilities of the buyers, is such that further price appreciation seems inevitable. All this in less than 65 years. Steph Curry of the Warriors recently purchased a home in Atherton in the millions, on a site that I sold in 1958 for $25,000. (The house was torn down.)

I reflected too on my wife’s and my Stanford connections: Her father, sister, brother, niece, and nephew are all Stanford grads. And three grandchildren: one, a granddaughter who earned her undergraduate degree followed by an MA in education and MBA from the GSB in 2014, also married a business school classmate. Our two grandsons are graduates as well, one of whom is a director of Stanford Management Company. The mother of those three, a Stanford alumna, was a lecturer at the law school for over 20 years—phew!"

55 Gerald Smith wrote to share that after receiving his license for psychology 60 years ago, he is still practicing psychotherapy in San Mateo, CA. Gerald looks forward to almost every hour with his wonderful clients.

In March 2020, Harrison (Coleman) Norris fled his Swiss chalet to return to Wisconsin just hours before the borders locked down. Despite keeping a low profile and staying cautious, Coleman was diagnosed with COVID and later spent four nights in the hospital, taking remdesivir. Coleman seemed to recover with minimal consequences until early November when he developed a rather serious pneumonia that required a seven-night hospital stay and resulted in reduced lung capacity, which is likely permanent and requires an occasional portable oxygen concentrator and a mobility scooter when walking more than 100 yards is required. But, he said, life can still be fun and varied, although it takes planning and patient companions.

Coleman returned to his Swiss chalet in September 2021 and was very excited to learn that his young Slovenian friends wanted to throw him a 90th-birthday party. Wow, what a way to celebrate a new decade!

56 We were saddened to hear that Edwin Laak had passed away on December 18, 2021 due to complications from Parkinson’s disease. Ed is survived by his wife, Signe, and his four children, Bruce, Kristin, Kent, and Colin. Ed graduated from Stanford with a degree in Civil Engineering followed by an MBA from the GSB in 1957. Ed worked for Ampex as well as the Engineering Department at Stanford.

We were also informed that Gerald (Jerry) Weyrauch, retired U.S. Navy, passed away on January 10, 2021, at the age of 95. He was a past
Hello classmates,

This is our first communication in 2022, so HAPPY NEW YEAR, with hope that it is better than 2021. And I’m also sending hopes that you’ve all been able to get your vaccinations and one (or two) booster shots. Who knows, we may be getting annual or semiannual booster shots for a long time.

On a lull between variants, Delta and Omicron, we were able to have our 2021 Class of 1958 Northern California Stanford GSB Wine Picnic on Thursday, September 30, 2021, at the Rossmoor Picnic Grounds. Organizers were Ron Louis, Fran Matthews (widow of Harry Matthews), and Valerie Cooper. It was nice to have a sunny day, no masks, and lots of comradery. There were 15 attending, including classmates George English, Gib Saydah, Larry Brown, Ron Louis, me, and 10 guests. This is a delightful annual affair, so classmates near and far are invited.

Al Johnson is in a senior facility near Rossmoor. He and his friends play wheelchair volleyball with balloons a couple of times a week. One special rule is that the players must stay seated—no standing up in your wheelchair to hit a balloon. I hope to have a photo and game description for a future column.

We regret to inform you that Neda Brown, wife of Larry Brown, passed away in June 2021. You can find her obituary by googling Neda Brown. We send our heartfelt condolences to Larry and Neda’s family and friends.

In September 2021, a trip back to Fullerton, CA, gave me a chance to stop by Grover Beach, near San Luis Obispo, to see Bob Gold and his wife, Sylvia. Bob graduated from the Naval Academy in 1951 and served on destroyers and submarines until he resigned and joined us at the biz school in 1956. They rented a house in Palo Alto, and Sylvia became a nurse at Stanford Hospital. After biz school he worked for Hughes Aircraft in Canoga Park, CA, retiring in 1985. They moved to Grover Beach so their kids could grow up by the ocean. Bob is active in RAM (Retired Active Men) with about 75 men in his chapter.

If the Omicron restrictions are lifted, we have big plans for 2022, starting with the Super Bowl party in February; lunch in Sarasota, FL, on March 9; Half-Century Club in late March at Stanford; annual wine picnic in late summer; and dinner at the Crowne Plaza in late October to cheer on the Stanford football team as they file in for their steak dinner before the Homecoming football game. We’ll see, and I will report it all.

Our 65th reunion is the year of 2023, and we will celebrate all year!
Thanks to you, our classmates, for an outstanding response to the GSB, he was also a professional crop-dusting pilot before he went west.

An extract from a Curt Atkinson note received last year: “We are cutting back on travel but hope to visit the 2021 Passion Play in Austria and go to Argentina in 2022. I lived and worked in Argentina from 1966 to 1970 as president of FMC Argentina, with a factory in Cordoba and office in Buenos Aires. Headed several other companies until I retired in 1996. Since then worked as a volunteer in Salt Lake at an employment center and helped support two different art museums. Ann and I enjoy visits and time with my six children and 15 grandchildren and her five children and 18 grandchildren.”

Bob Gee, who monitors the Class of 1961 Renewal Fellowship, reported that distributions were made to two impressive students in 2021 and that the Fellowship fund is now $2,398,828. He sent this reminder: Any GSB gifts or bequests should be clearly specified to “Class of 1961 Renewal Fund GSB (endowed).”

In closing, I’m sorry to report losing Bob Waterman on January 2. He had an impressive personal and professional record, available by searching for “Chronicle: Robert Waterman” on the internet. He was also a close friend of many of us and will be missed. Our sincere condolences to Judy and to their extended families.

>>> Please send your news to: Fred Rehmus, rehmusf@gmail.com, 650-322-5063

Lew Gayner, ’61, with wife, Shirley, at their home on the Corsica River in Maryland.

Mal Huntley, ’61, with wife, Susan, by the brook at their summer home in Suffield, CT.

Ron added some background on Art Lith, whom we lost recently. “Art was a world-class swimmer in his South African youth and played rugby for Stanford during his two years at business school. He continued his lifelong swimming interest through seniors’ competitions.” Facts worth sharing that we didn’t know about Art. On behalf of all of our classmates, we send condolences and warm wishes to Art’s family.

We heard from Peter Hall, who came down with COVID during the Christmas holiday. (“Just felt like a bad cold.”) Peter’s New Year’s resolution is to be COVID-free in 2022. Peter added, “I’m scheduled to become a great-grandfather in March. Now, that can really make one feel old!” Peter is in touch with Jim Curry, who he warns is an excellent bridge player. (Drop us a note, Jim. It sounds like there might be more to the story!) Our good friend Kim Firestone wrote from the D.C. area: “Just celebrated #88 and Thanksgiving with my son Leonard in Fort Worth. He was elected to the Fort Worth City Council this year and is a busy guy, with four very active young kids. I’m still keeping busy in my restaurant and little specialty food market. At this point we’ve recovered nicely from the pandemic.” Kim wishes a happy holiday to all!

Some of you may have received a holiday message from Len Swartz from his home in England. Len’s message was: “Not a great deal to tell this year…other than staying at home and getting older. Len is now pushing 90, and his wife Hilary is 74. All of the family is doing well, managing work and school through the pandemic.” Our best to you and Hilary too, Len. We miss your visits.

We received an interesting email from Hal Eastman. “I’m slowly winding down my third career of supporting women entrepreneurs, after a previous 30-year stint in business and then 25 years as a dance photographer and publisher. (See haleastman.com). Great right-brain and left-brain experiences! My son-in-law, Anthony Doerr, won a Pulitzer Prize for fiction with his book All the Light We Cannot See and currently has a New York Times best seller, Cloud Cuckoo Land. (We’ve read All the Light and can attest to its captivating story.) “It has been an interesting experience to follow how the big-league publication world works after having had a few small dance photography titles published myself: Natural Dance, Vanishing Dance, and Dancelessness…quite a different world.”

We heard from John Rich from his digs in Idaho. John wrote: “Winter has come in strongly in the Idaho mountains. Our storms have been frequent and deep. Shoveling my deck has been my principal exercise. I do need to be in better shape before taking on any downhill skiing, but in the meantime I do have access to cross-country skiing in my meadow in front of my house. Weather permitting, I meet once a week with some music friends in Boise; but with many restaurants either understaffed or closed because of COVID, this has been more difficult. I am hopeful the new variant will quickly disappear and allow social activities to resume at some level. Over the holidays I did create a piano piece about watching the snow and shared it with friends via email and Facebook.” (We’ve listened to it, and it’s a beautiful melody. If you’d like to hear it, contact John at johnrich33@frontiernet.net.

Tor Andre Fusdahl contacted us from Portugal where he is enjoying a winter holiday with his wife, Unn, Tor: “Hello 62ers. Yes, I am still alive and now playing golf in the southern end of Portugal. Arrived here from Oslo on January 1 with three jabs and a COVID test. The Portuguese take this seriously. You cannot get into a shop without a mask. I’ve lost quite a few friends this last year. We are at an age where you start to wonder how many years you have left. I guess the New Year’s resolution should be (again): Do morning gym and daily walk. (It’s more fun to walk after a golf ball.) The world has changed a bit over these last 60 years since Stanford?” Yes, it has, Tor, but you seem to be doing a lot right while still chasing that golf ball in Tavira.

From our “retired” former class secretary Bob Martin, we heard: “At age 88, I’ve slowed down just a bit. I use walking sticks to complete my daily 50-minute walks and have retained the twinkle in my eye and sense of humor. My wife, Jennifer, and I are flourishing and marveling at the birth of our great-grandchildren. I recently heard from Leigh Durland, who lost his wife, Gall, some time ago. Leigh has remarried and moved from Vancouver, BC, to Penticton, BC.” (Leigh, it would be good to hear from you again about your life changes!) “We recently visited with Sherri Wood, Dave Wood’s widow. She has remarried and taken up lavender farming in the Capay Valley, CA, replete with rubber boots and hoe!” (Bob, we appreciate your continuing informational messages about your life changes and those of our classmates. Keep them coming!)
We also heard from Louis Lazar and Norb Hackett and hope to have more to share about them in our next edition. (No pressure, guys!) And last, but certainly not least, we communicated with our classmate George Parker, who maintains a very active lifestyle. George commented: “2022 will conclude not just with our MBA class 60th reunion but with my 49 consecutive years teaching in the MBA program. I think that’s approaching the record of 50 years that our classmate Jack McDonald achieved. All together, if you add six years to the front end when I taught at the Columbia Business School in New York City, it will be 55 consecutive years. I can attest that our GSB is thriving, attracting better and better students each year. They are going to make the world a better place. It’s easy to be proud of an affiliation with Stanford as a student, alumnus, or faculty member.” George and his wife, Joan, continue to enjoy their second home and horseback riding in Sun Valley, ID.

George added: “To those in our class who can read this, we have to be grateful for the years we have had. I hope all those who are able will make the effort to attend our next in-person reunion in 2022. There’s nothing like seeing old friends after all of these many years.”

We second that, George, and hope to see many of you there.

We would like to add a personal message to our classmates: We appreciate all of the compliments we receive for publishing the update. The real joy, however, is to hear from you, our classmates, and to share your messages. Thanks for your overwhelming response to our recent appeal. You are the ones who make the column successful.

FROM THE ARCHIVE

In 2020, Professors Robert Wilson and Paul Milgrom, PhD ’79, were awarded the Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences for “improvements to auction theory and inventions of new auction formats.”

Wilson and Milgrom are internationally known for their research and teaching on auction market design, pricing, negotiations, and other topics concerning industrial organization and information economics.

Another COVID variant scare has hit as I write this, but I hope by the time you get this update, that will have passed. These last two years have been trying for all of us, and we need a return to some semblance of ‘normal.’ Our new class notes editor, Chelsea Sun, reported to me that out of the 203 of us that started in 1961 as Class of ’63, there are 135 still living. As extraordinary as we all are, I’m sure that our numbers are right on our normal actuarial line. The bad news is that the “slope of the curve” is changing with the calendar.

It was great hearing from our classmate N.R. Kabra in India: “I have added a few more planetariums in India. Our company now represents M/S RSA COSMOS France for their excellent video projector system in India. In addition, we continue to represent Digitalis U.S.A. and GOTO Inc. Japan. We have appointed Mr. Bimal Bangar, a present director of the company, as the managing director. He is young and quite experienced. I will continue to be director of the company. My daughter is now the director general of Civil Aviation, and her job is to ensure that all planes in India are maintained per international standards. In short, she now acts as auditor of all the planes in India. Of course, she is one of the staff of a large organization. My grandson is an architect, but he has decided to become a professional photographer, which started as his hobby. I am already 86 years old, and I feel it is time to take it easy.” Our former class secretary and high-profile class member, Noel Fenton, checked in: “Sally and I are in good health, with four married children and 15 grandchildren living in the San Francisco Bay Area. Three of those four kids have Stanford MBAs, and the fourth, a Columbia MBA. One grandchild (so far) is headed to Stanford under-grad next fall. I’m still working part time at the venture capital firm I co-founded 35 years ago, and I’m filling the rest of my days with a few corporate boards, advisory board work with other venture capital firms, and philanthropic work through our family foundation. Outside of that, there are always lots of family activities with so many of us living close by. I do see that our deceased classmate, Jim Kaval’s son Dave is making a lot of headlines locally as the president of the Oakland A’s. Interesting fight over a new stadium.”

As for me (Duane Wadsworth), Lorna and I are in excellent health. Our two sons and their families in Wyoming and Boston are doing well. I frequently get an inquiry from a classmate for the email or phone number of a fellow classmate. Let me direct you to the excellent alumni directory that resides on the GSB website under the alumni section. You can stay in touch with any of our classmates by checking their listing here: gsbstanford.edu/alumni.

It’s been said that all good things must come to an end. Therefore, it’s with nostalgia that I have decided to conclude my tenure as your class secretary with this column. I followed in the competent footsteps of our two previous class secretaries, Noel Fenton and Niel Davidson. It is difficult for me to realize that I’ve done this job for 40+ years! Most of the time has been enjoyable as it’s given me the opportunity to reach out to many classmates with whom I might not otherwise have been in contact. I want to thank all of you who have provided the news for our class notes column in Stanford Business. Fear not, if you have an item to contribute, I ask you to email our editor at ccsecustanford.edu. I hope that 2022 is a good one for you, and I’ll see you, hopefully, at our 60th reunion next year. Stay well.

Thanks to all who submitted these notes. I hope many of you have discovered the Class of 1964 group on the Stanford GSB website: groups.stanford.edu. A longer version (essentially unedited) of this input has been posted since mid-January. As always, the following submissions are in alphabetical order. Enjoy!

Carol and Bill Coats sold their Tumble Creek home about a year ago and downsized full time into their Kirkland condo. “Then we bought a little bigger condo in the same complex. We downsized a little too much!”

Bill added, “A highlight from last summer: Carol and I celebrated our 60th by renewing our vows on the shores of Lake Jenny at the foot of the Grand Tetons. Our youngest son officiated. It was a fun event, and we are so grateful for our marriage!”

Hale Conklin wrote, “Sue and I are enjoying life and are in reasonably good health for octogenarians (we’re all pretty much at that stage now) and are at this moment on our first real trip since the start of the pandemic, a small-boat cruise in the Caribbean. But our biggest accomplishment is that we have moved from our home on a golf course to an apartment in a continuing care residential community. Whatever Sue and I have lost in creature comforts (i.e., being surrounded by all our accumulated junk), we have more than made up for in peace of mind.”

Throughout 2021, David Dubell began to learn how to semi-retire, as he and Judy continued to enjoy the remote living in Friday Harbor on San Juan Island, WA. The 2020 sale of the assets of his 109-year-old family-managed company, Pel-Freez Arkansas, required that
he rename the company so as to “handle some trailing liabilities, mainly the termination of its pension plan and settlement of a legal issue.”

[Editor’s Note: If you would like to learn more about the history of Pel-Freeze and rabbit farming, check out the longer write-up in the Class of 1964 group posting.]

Jim Fisher wrote, “My age is showing. After reading about the new [class notes submission] procedure, I left your email sitting in my ‘in basket’ for a week and finally deleted it, knowing I wasn’t inclined to follow through with it. Actually, I have nothing to report because I’ve been staying close to home during this pandemic.”

Doriana and Jim Fitch got away for 10 days in Paris at the end of August when the city was pretty empty. And as he wrote, “The COVID situation made it even more so. The restaurants were full, though. France solved the vaccination hesitancy problem. You don’t get into a restaurant, museum, or any place with a large crowd unless you have a vax card—and they check them. I play golf once a week, am on the Winter Park Planning and Zoning Board, serve as finance VP for our University Club (we have a $4 million endowment to manage), and try to lead a men’s monthly luncheon club, the Stag Club. Keeps me busy enough.”

Jerry Katell shared, “The pandemic has limited my travels to Aspen, where I am now. I sang for a party of 75 people a couple of nights ago here and am back up singing once a month at The Bourbon Room in Hollywood.”

Warren McCandles used the lockdown period to take flying lessons. He achieved his “solo endorsement” and did 100+ landings and six solo flights. The flight school is considered an “essential service” so it continued on during the lockdown. He added, “I learned at a beautiful, small, non-controlled airport just north of Pittsburgh. The instructor wore a mask, and we had lots of ventilation at 120 mph! A real adrenaline rush.”

Tom McIntosh shared that he appreciated receiving the periodic requests for news items and then reading them later when published—a welcome way for him and Jean to keep up with classmates and their adventures. He wrote, “But even for a normal year, the first two-thirds of 2021 had produced very little of interest for us to share with you and the class. But that all changed when, in early October, our son Kevin died of a heart attack while riding his mountain bike near his new home in Highland Village, TX. He was 58 years old. As one might imagine, events of this magnitude do not leave you quickly. Suffice it to say, Jean and I are both recovering and slowly moving ahead with our lives as one must, but the effort leaves us exhausted at times.”

[Editor’s note: I am very appreciative of Tom sharing this incredible experience and how he and Jean are working through it. A more complete write-up is posted in the class group.]”

In 2021, Anne-Marie and Paul Reynolds managed to stay symptom-free after three Moderna shots; some of their extended family had symptoms, but none were hospitalized. They postponed a cruise for a second time. Instead, during COVID lulls, they left the Colorado mountains for three 5,000-mile road trips through southern New Mexico, Texas, and Louisiana; northern Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Michigan; and various mid-America states. He added, “We have now visited 226 national park sites—only 200 to go. When not traveling, I finished another book (Entrepreneurship and Economic Development, The Global Scope of Business Creation), which kept me away from daytime TV. We are pretty tired of the masks.”

Elon Ting reported on his current status: “I am 83 years old, physically so-so okay, mentally deteriorating fast. But, I still can fake it, if I don’t write too long of an update! My home base is in Manila, Philippines. We would be most interested to entertain you if you are coming this way. My cell phone number is: 63 917 537 1401. I go to the office daily for one to three hours, mostly to read newspapers or watch TV, walk five to nine holes of golf, then eat, and sleep. Very challenging life!”

Tom Tisch and Rosemary left their mountain home at Lake Almanor (25 miles from Mt. Lassen) on July 17, when the air “quality” exceeded 400 ppm from the Dixie Fire. They have only returned for a day because they have a family living there who lost their home in the destruction of the nearby town of Greenville. Dixie came within two miles of Tom and Rosemary’s home, ultimately covered a million acres (1,500 sq. mi.), and lasted three months, devastating the Feather River canyon, Lassen National Park, and Plumas National Forest. Thankfully their home at Lake Almanor survived.

Tom wrote, “Desperate for a change, in October we embarked on a 3,000-mile driving tour of Nevada and Utah. We saw brilliant fall colors in the aspens just outside Salt Lake City. In Eastern Utah we saw spectacular countryside (e.g., the Little Grand Canyon) in the San Rafael Swell and thousands of pieces of “rock art” in the form of petroglyphs and rock paintings dating from 300 BC to 1200 AD. Returning home via Nevada’s ‘Extraterrestrial Highway,’ we were disappointed not to see any more land art.”

“Rosemary’s Prevention Partnership Int’l Celebrating Families!—a program addressing family substance abuse—continues to do very well. California’s Office of Child Abuse Prevention increased the number of agencies providing CFT and has twice extended the program.”

Jon Tompkins wrote: “In April 2021 I married Corinne Broderick. Sold my house of 18 years, and Corinne and I moved into a smaller house just around the corner from my old one. She also sold hers, and we spent a lot of the year scaling back to combine houses. We were able to make three nice road trips around the West. On one, we visited eastern Washington where my family came from. In the late summer, we spent a week-plus in the Jackson, WY, area with a portion of the trip visiting a pure horse ranch. Corinne has been going there for many years. I rode horseback several days and proved I could walk after getting off the horse. All in all, a very nice year.”

Ken Weiss wishes a happy 2022 to all. His message: “Life is fun but dangerous.” He shared, “On Mother’s Day, my car was totaled by a drunk driver who ran a red light. Luckily, Beatrice and I were not harmed. Also, old COVID has hit friends and relatives hard. It has spared my immediate family, so far, and we continue to live almost normally except for the precautions that we all know about.”

>>> Please send your news to: Hal Louchheim, hal@louchheim.com
From Pensacola, Pete Booth sent a dim-memory flashback: “I remember that way back at the start of our two-year program, we were welcomed by Dean Arbuckle. He stressed several imperatives, three of which my fading memory recalls: 
• Our objective is to prepare you to become the presidents (CEOs, today) of major businesses. 
• Surround yourselves with the smartest folks you can find. 
• Women hold a very high percentage of wealth in our country.

“And… from a class by Professor Theodore J. Kreps on the economy and economists: ‘If you lined up 100 economists, you would get 100 different answers.’

“I just published a third and final edition of Aircraft Carrier Command and have two more non-torial, anecdotal projects in the works: How Did You Meet Your Wife/Husband? and Airplanes I’ve Flown.”

Lauren Ward wrote, “With a nearly totally suppressed immune system and COVID raging, I’m hiding under any and all convenient rocks. My wife has been in the hospital with sepsis (a horrible disease) since the end of October, but we’re hoping she’ll be out in another month or so. Meanwhile, I’m an involuntary bachelor.

I’ve been doing a little fishing and duck hunting on San Francisco Bay with my son—but that, as The New York Times used to claim, is all the news that’s fit to print.”

Robert Hunter shared, “I talked to Ron Ritchie’s wife, Beth. She said Ron passed away in 2012, but some classmates might not know, since a notice went only to a Stanford University publication. She lives in Burlingame but since a notice went only to a Stanford University publication. She lives in Burlingame but

Dave Ellison wrote, “Nothing significant has changed regarding my personal information. I’m still living in Vermont, skiing, golfing, bike riding, and doing volunteer work in the community. I continue as treasurer for several organizations, although after 15 years I ended my days as treasurer for our local Rotary Club. We’ve basically stayed at home during COVID, having not left Vermont since a trip to New Zealand at the beginning of 2020. Not exactly exciting, but both Janet and I have stayed virus-free. I trust you’re all staying healthy in these challenging times.”

Steve Fairchild checked in: “Hey from NC. I hope everyone is getting back to normal. As for the latest happenings, I’m pleased to announce the release of my newest novel, a sequel entitled Lady Daiymo and the Silver Lining Curse. It’s now available on Amazon—and soon on other platforms. This sequel to the Silver Lining Betrayals continues the saga of entrepreneur Pug James, but with an unusual twist. He faces an adversary he will never meet. The Lady Daiymo aspires to lead a global technology company, and she must defeat Pug along with several other adversaries. Her weapons of choice include lessons from Sun Tzu’s Art of War, the samurai code, Deming’s quality principles, and Shakespeare’s King Lear. There’s more information on my website, fairchildjs.com—also on Twitter @StephanieS2957. Instagram @fairychild1R, and LinkedIn.”

Dan Barney wrote, “I continue to practice estate planning law in Norman and my hometown, Paul’s Valley, OK. Planning is constantly changing due to uncertainty and revisions to federal tax laws, etc. (Good luck, Congress!) It keeps my mind active. I also serve on several nonprofit boards. We frequently travel to our summer home in West Virginia and to visit daughters and grandchildren in Boston and Denver.”

Jim Seed wrote, “With over 80 percent of us still standing, all in our ninth decade, it looks like we’re a hardy group. I’m glad to still be part of this slowly shrinking crowd! Don’t get COVID—‘nuis’ said for now.”

“…from a class by Professor Theodore J. Kreps on the economy and economists: ‘If you lined up 100 economists, you would get 100 different answers.’” — Pete Booth, ’65

Jim Stirling shared, “Always good to hear from you. I’m still among the working class—as is my wife, whose business turns 100 this year. It’s debt-free, earning 20% on equity, and she’s aggressively looking for a talented entrepreneur/partner who will take it to the ‘Big B.’ My beloved employer, UBS, now gives me credit for 57 years—very kindly it to the ‘Big B.’ My beloved employer, UBS, now gives me credit for 57 years—very kindly

Bob Lissner wrote, “I’m working full time at full speed with a business plan in hand for Ederra Hills, my family’s 7,200-unit Reno residential project—approved but still in the design stage. Of course, at 80, ‘family’ means mostly kids and grandkids. Every Tuesday, Win Derman does a one-hour podcast, an interactive show with guests from various backgrounds who’ve done well for themselves. You can read about it and subscribe to it at www.feelitlive.com. It’s free.”

As for me, Wil McKnight, my news is turbulent and more medical than business—a two-month saga that began Saturday, November 20. About midnight, I got up from my calls for help. Finally, my next-door neighbor heard my primal screams about 4:00 p.m. Tuesday—a 40-hour night after I fell—and called 911. EMTs took me to Methodist Hospital-Arcadia ER where they applied an IV for acute dehydration and a BiPap mask because my lab showed 451 (target is 1,000). Admitted later that night, and once stable, I was moved to the rehab unit on Thursday, November 25. Rehab included physical therapy (PT) and occupational therapy (OT), but Methodist Hospital (MH) did little to diagnose why I fell—mainly delivered pal-
full time. Since 1996, I’ve written books for training construction supervisors through workshops. COVID restrictions totally killed that market. So, I edited my main book’s 6th edition line-by-line to turn it into self-study and sell it through Amazon. Then I created Think Like a Foreman, a 175-page self-study version for crew members—a huge market. Now I’m finishing up my Amazon application, preparing files to print start-up inventories of the two new books, finishing a 120-page leader’s guide for workshops (as COVID restrictions relax), and revising www.HardHatOnline.com. I’m unaccountably fortunate to survive a tough medical episode, with no COVID symptoms ever, and to have a dozen doctors at Cedars, all senior specialists—as good a line-up as Steven Spielberg has—and his name is on a building. And I’m lucky to end up with an entrepreneurial business life I enjoy—one that has a strong upside. Like I’ve often said, I’m goin’ out feet first with a business plan in hand. Just not yet.

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On November 13, 17 members of our class met with their wives for a 55th graduation-anniversary dinner hosted by Len Baker at the Pacific-Union Club. Four of the attendees came from outside the Bay Area, and the small number meant that everyone got to know someone with whom they had had no contact for 55 years. Afterward Doug Draeske wrote: “Folly and I very much enjoyed the postponed 55th anniversary of the Class of 1966 graduation. It was very generous of Len to invite us to his wonderful Pacific-Union Club. The food, drink, and environment were all superb. It was good fun to see classmates. It was a great idea to give Len a gift of the first edition of the Milton Friedman book. I wonder if he will actually read the book again. I hope to get to another reunion.”

After dinner, Chris Smith and Jerry Davis from Australia showed their video that talks about the influence of the GSB on their lives. As a group, we decided to send a monthly gift of flowers on behalf of the class to Chris and Sandy Smith in appreciation for all of those areas, which I research work in all of those areas, which I presentations. Fortunately, there is a lot of university research work in all of those areas, which I freely plagiarize. Along the way I was fortunate to have the help of talented people from several winery customers—in the beginning Kendall Jackson, who were then themselves just starting out; then Hess Collection, who were then a boutique in Napa, and for the last 15 or so years Caymus Vineyards, with whom I’m riding into the sunset. And, I still call it a hobby.”

Rusty Rost reported: “I am enjoying Florida, though frankly, it is getting a little crowded. People are moving here because they appreciate Governor DeSantis, one of the few

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On November 13, 2021, the MBA Class of 1966 met at the Pacific-Union Club to celebrate their 55th reunion.
governors in the whole country who still thinks people should be treated like adults and make their own health decisions. Enjoying fairly great results from ping-pong with a former military champion... who gives me lessons once a week... though sometimes I am the teacher. One thought I recently shared with my grandkids and nieces: When they get to be my age, only then will they agree that one regret they have is wishing they had had more kids? A not too subtle sell, no? It is not too late at our great age to read John/Romans. I trust we all want to bless and be blessed in our senior years. The lack of state income tax helps too. I am still working every day for a nonprofit... can't seem to find the word 'retirement' in the Bible. I wouldn't want to take on Wayne Mehl climbing the Matterhorn or in a PowerMan contest, or Kurt Faxon in golf.”

Ken Rees commented: “It’s been several years since I began winding down the family business, and now my retirement is complete. The process was prompted by my wife’s Alzheimer’s diagnosis 14 years ago. Gae’s decline has been gradual, allowing active travel in the early years. She now lives in a nearby memory care residence, where we are together often. We both enjoyed a 50th anniversary celebration last fall with about 75 family and friends. I enjoy service with my church and several other local organizations. My four children have helped direct our giving plan, which is focused on efforts that show promise in reducing generational poverty. Of course, I also enjoy observing the progress of my children and eight grandchildren through the myriad challenges of this new millennium.”

Len Baker, who is nearing the end of an almost 50-year career in venture capital, reported that he is involved at a policy level in the Environmental Defense Fund, particularly in climate change. He has developed a paper, “Five Pillars of Climate Strategy,” describing his approach. First, individuals and firms who emit CO2 should pay for their damage. He favors a “cap and trade” system of charging these costs based on emissions. Second, political parties must stop using climate as a partisan attack weapon. Third, a global solution is required; carbon reduction must include all countries. Poor countries, many of which have strong sunlight and dense forests, can cut carbon more cheaply, and the rich countries could pay them through a carbon trading system. Fourth, technological innovation could change the game. Dozens of firms are developing small-scale, safe, modular nuclear-fission reactors; and many others are working on solar-energy-based hydrogen transport fuel. One promising idea is to soak up carbon in volcanic basaltic lava rock, which stores it permanently and has huge capacity. Finally, we must adapt, prioritize, and make tough trade-offs. We cannot save all species or preserve all shoreline buildings. Farmers will have to change crops and land will be used differently. He estimates that the chances of limiting warming to two degrees centigrade is less than 50/50, particularly since aerosols and other pollutants, which need to be cleaned up, actually cool the planet by as much as one degree. Thus, a back-up plan is desperately needed. The only promising one he has learned about is solar-radiation management. There is a Harvard study aiming to replicate the effect of volcano eruptions by using airplanes to scatter reflective particles into the stratosphere. Early models suggest that the planet could be cooled by one degree for $5 billion to $10 billion per year, yielding, he estimates, at least a 100 times cost/benefit advantage. In a separate effort, a West Coast group is working on using sprays of microscopic salt particles to brighten ocean clouds, making them reflect more sunlight back into space. He is supporting both these research projects, which are underfunded. He sees climate as a moral issue but commented that our actions are not moral unless we think

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— Robert Bateman, ’66

hard about their consequences.

James Bird wrote from Deal on the East Kent coast of the English Channel that he participated, virtually, in Mike Sladden’s 80th birthday party last March. Mike now lives in Dorset and has two children under 10. Those invited to the party received three excellent bottles of red wine from France, California, and Lebanon. The wines were tasted and comments were shared on Mike’s wine choices while Zoom attendees wished him a very happy birthday and a long life ahead.

Craig Leslie informed us that he is alive and well and living in Mission Viejo, CA.

Bill Hendrickson reported that after five years as a B-52 combat navigator; 20 years in commercial and corporate finance with Citibank, Manufacturers Hanover, and The CIT Group; and 25 years selling residential real estate in Brooklyn, he is finally back in California. Since 2018, he and his wife, Teresa Titch, have been living in beautiful Pasadena where they are miraculously managing to renovate a cape-style home that is almost as old as he is, to publish the Boulevard Sentinel – providing local news for the residents of Northeast Los Angeles, and to stay healthy through the pandemic.

>>> Please send your news to:
Robert Bateman, grobertbateman@gmail.com
John Walker, jwalk650@icloud.com

The ink had not dried on my first return effort when my predeces- cessor, Bruce Mowat, wrote a note: “Thanks for being such a perfect success. The only error I noted is in the hot air balloon photo. It’s not Larry and Pat Briscoe. In fact, it’s Paul Brandstad and his wife Christine.” I offered to correct it, and he said, “Don’t think you need to correct it. Folks will just toss it off with “That’s just like Williamson.”

My news, in the past three months, is that I’ve had two heart attacks, three trips to the cardiac catheterization lab, four stents, and a pacemaker. Thus, you’ll see responses below pertaining to how many stents other classmates have. I think I’m in the lead.

For example, Richard Morrison said, “Zero cardiac stents. Wisdom teeth intact. Still working, chairman and SVP of Suggestions, a major supplier to the Corvette (really hot car).” Richard was alluding to his Molded Fiber Glass Company, which has been building the bodies of ‘Vettes forever.

Ed Johnson wrote, “I was part of Silicon Valley’s Band of Angels. Only middling success, but a lot of fun. But, then, a miracle. The very first company I invested in way back in 1998, on whose board I sat for a while, WENT PUBLIC in February! It felt like winning the lottery; my investments over the years were multiplied many times over. Our good fortune allowed Susan and me to set up a Charitable Remainder Unitrust with Stanford.”

Jon Holman said, “Imagine my pleasant surprise when I saw my name among the list of heavy hitters involved in raising money for the OSB. I’m not sure if I deserve to be on that list, but I did work hard to get guys to part with some shekels, and I’m honored that you mentioned me. What an amazing class we are.”

Ken Eldred wrote, “Robertia and I made it to our 50th in June. I know I am behind you, Bob, but we are catching up. For our 50th, we took the family to Maui for two weeks. While that is an easy trip from California, it is altogether different when traveling from Dallas, where we have been living since 2012. I am still working on some start-up activity, but for the most part that is winding down in favor of nonprofit work where I spend at least half my time. It too is a startup, and once again it takes as much effort, if not more, to start a nonprofit than it takes to start a for-profit. But rewarding to see God at work in both areas of my present and past life. Due to COVID our travel has been somewhat restricted. My middle son, Kary, is working for me in our family office and has proved to be a better investor than his dad. He manages most of our alternative investments except one, my company in India, which has proved to be my longest-term investment, eclipsing Inmac. Still doing startups, but my startups are becoming less frequent as I spend more time on starting and developing nonprofits. The longest, single start-up investment I have made is in India where we have roughly 3,000 employees. We have a unique space in the industry, or should say spaces, which should provide robust growth to allow us to transition out of the company over the next few years.”

Rod Bergman wrote, “We are still moving along. Yep, had COVID. Breakthrough case. No fun. My wife, Jill, was sitting on the couch and wondered what smelled. My shirt after a hike was on the couch. It smelled okay to me. COVID. We have 7 children and 26 grandchildren. Unlike many, Jill loved being pregnant. We live in Kaysville, UT, in the summer and St. George, UT, in the winter. My problem is arthritis. One knee replacement, two hip replacements, one shoulder replacement. Other parts should be replaced come summer. First, I need a post in my back between two vertebrae. But I still hike and ride a bike.”

Dave Krattebol wrote, “No real news and zero cardiac stents—thankfully. Hope yours are working well, Bob.”

John Rollins wrote, “Retirement is really good here in DC. Lots to see and do. My life as a board member is morphing to nonprofits. Now only one of the six is a corporate board; the rest are all volunteers. My newest is president of the Dartmouth Class of ’66 and chair of the class’s executive committee. I have no cardiac stents and no replacement parts.”

Terry Eakin countered, “Three stents were put in 15 years ago!”

Steve Miller (whom I’ve labeled “Under-taker to Corporate America”) has continued his colorful career as a “Turnaround Expert,” helping troubled companies get straightened out. The list includes Chrysler (VPE then vice chair 1980–1992), Waste Management (CEO and chair 1997–1999), Bethlehem Steel (chair and CEO 2001–2003), Delphi (CEO and chair 2005–2009), AIG (chair 2009–2015), and Hawker Beechcraft (CEO 2012). Most recently, he became chair of Purdue Pharma (maker of OxyContin pain pills) in 2018, helping that company navigate a complex and controversial bankruptcy process. “I have no stents, but I did have a prostatectomy in 2002.”

Richard Hinkley wrote, “None here (stents)—yet. The old pump is still humming along. Who knows for how long?” And Ken Meyercord wrote, “Zero, but don’t mourn. It’s not because I’m dead . . . yet.”

Dave Lederman said, “My bit of news is that Susan and I celebrated our 60th wedding anniversary at the end of January. Several of our children are old enough to be closing in on retirement and Social Security. We have lived in Marin County for the past 11 years, having finally escaped LA. I’ve joined the AF club (atrial flutter or atrial fibrillation) and have regular heart rate conversations with Laura Escobosa.”

Alan Bell said, “One stent, no prostate.”

Some sad notes: Mark Johnson wrote that his father, our classmate William (Bill) Johnson, passed away, and Bob Bell, who had lived in Las Vegas for years, passed away in November. After receiving his MBA, Bob worked for Boise Cascade Corporation for many years. Following his time there, he worked as CFO of several start-up companies in Oregon. He enjoyed spending time with many Northwest Stanford MBA alumni over the years. Bill is survived by his wife, two children, and three grandchildren.

We were also sad to hear that John Peters passed away in September. John spent approximately 35 years in the US Navy finishing as the Military Assistant to the Secretary of Defense. John then worked at IBM in Boulder, CO. In 1996 he and his wife, Joan, moved back into their Aiea Hawaii home. He will be remembered in his youth hometown of Columbia, MI and again on May 11 at the U.S. Naval Academy.

FROM THE ARCHIVE

1982

Shirley M. Hufstedler, an alumna from Stanford Law School and former U.S. Secretary of Education, is pictured here teaching Sloan Management at the GSB in March 1982.

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Nick Falk wrote from London: “As a winner of a Harkness Fellowship, I was provided with tuition, a new car (a Chevy Belair), and enough funds to live quite well and spend the summer travelling ‘round the States. I lived with Roger Coates and Ed Gill, an Englishman who was lost to ‘pot,’ which was another novel experience.

“It was a shock to have to master a range of case studies, from which I at least learned how to read fast. It was only when I returned 50 years later that I discovered Stanford’s beautiful, landscaped campus with its great sculpture collections.

“I became involved with student politics. I got appointed to a university committee to resolve the future of SRI after its involvement in counter-insurgency during the Vietnam War was discovered. With Professor Ezra Solomon, we came up with the idea of selling SRI to its employees with constraints on the kinds of work it could engage in.

“I don’t recall great divisions between Republicans and Democrats like those we now read about in the papers. It was encouraging to see
at the time how Stanford University responded after Martin Luther King’s assassination. It seems the U.S. has become much more polarized, and no longer the growth model it seemed at the time.

“During vacations I drove all around America with another Harkness Fellow and met some amazing people. I also saw how downtowns were being hollowed out, which inspired my lifelong interest in how cities decline and fall, or can be regenerated. San Francisco’s renaissance was a huge influence, especially its music venues, and places like Ghirardelli Square, which I sought to replicate in projects I later initiated in London Docklands.

“The other great inspiration, apart from the pleasures of moving to a house on University Avenue with fellow GSB students, was the ethics seminar at Lake Tahoe. I met Saul Alinsky, the great community organizer, who stressed the freedom graduate students had to follow our own values. Perhaps that encouraged me to set up my own firm after working for McKinsey.

“I should mention my good fortune in meeting up with Chris Cadell. We drove round Mexico in 1967 in his car, looking at archaeological sites. Chris compensated for my weaknesses when we set up URBED (Urban and Economic Development) Ltd, which is still going as an urban design cooperative based in Manchester.

“Now, I am finishing off a book on how cities can change direction and trying to refine the lessons through initiatives in mid-sized cities such as Oxford, Cambridge, and Bristol. The URBED Trust’s biggest project has been in southern India, where I have funded building a pilot eco-house on the campus of social enterprises called SCAD (Social Change and Development). The project recently won a top award from the Indian Green Building Council. My current focus is on how to scale up the development of affordable and sustainable neighborhoods. The website for the project is smarterurbansanitisation.org. Any advice or help will be gratefully received.

“I am entering into a civil partnership with Esther Caplin, who came with me to the reunion. We’ve lived together for the past 30 years in her London flat, and my house in Stroud, Gloucestershire, so we seem to have tested each other out!”

John Ward wrote: “I just retired after 50 years of teaching, the last 20 at Northwestern’s Kellogg School of Management. I am grateful to Stanford profs Ed Zschau and Hal Eyring; they inspired me to an academic career. I’m also grateful to former students and colleagues who generously endowed The John L. Ward Center for Family Enterprises at Kellogg. Great memories in class notes!”

Thanks to Allen Phipps for his notes: “Here’s a story from Cal. I was the student commander of the Army ROTC cadets my senior year at Cal. Twenty-five hundred of us were drilling at Edwards Field. In the spring, we were met with anti-ROTC, anti-war protestors. An Oakland Tribune reporter asked me for my reactions. I told him I’d call him back and immediately called our commander for advice. After a few long seconds, a booming voice shouted: ‘Philips! Do you want your commission?’ I replied, ‘Yes, sir, Colonel!’ ‘Then don’t EVER talk to the press.’ I learned from then on to avoid the press.”

Allen added, with characteristic resilience and wit: “I’m battling metastatic prostate cancer. I’m now on hormone therapy that suppresses testosterone and starves the cancer cells. Hot flashes, growing boobs, and a bigger tummy are among the reported side effects!”

And from Bill Farley: “I retired several years ago after a fulfilling career in finance and board work. I lived in New York City, London, Brussels, Dusseldorf, and eventually Minnesota. I also retired from Minneapolis in favor of sun and warmth in Naples, Florida — clearly joining the older generation! I devote time to coaching talented lower-income high school students to get summer employment and admitted to college. Work is rewarding; students are talented.

“Kathy and I have two daughters: One is an editor for Fast Company magazine in New York City, and the other is a digital marketing specialist for LJ Hooker, a real estate company in Sydney. They each have two children. When COVID relents, we will visit the Aussies.

“Sports continue to be important: I enjoy golf, biking, horseback riding, and hiking, but not jumping off the ground. Online lectures keep the mind challenged.

“One of my more memorable nonacademic events at the B school was when Tom Ballard and I were ‘selected’ (I do not recall how) to meet with the SDS group, formed by Tom Hayden, who had taken over the administration building. Our task was to learn their demands and convince them that the GSB was full of sympathetic anti-war capitalists. The latter part of the message had no chance.

“At our age, health, family, and friends are all that is really important. I feel lucky to enjoy all three. I wish the same for each of you.”

And here’s some humor from Bill . . .

“A senior-aged foursome starts their round. After the first shot, the player turns to one of his pals and says, ‘My eyes aren’t as good as they used to be. Did you see that ball?’ His friend replies, ‘Yes, I saw it, but I don’t remember where it went.’

David Otte poetically offered: “Jane and I feel most fortunate: 57 years married
53 years loyalty to GSB
52 years in our Boston home
4 children and 7 grandchildren, all thriving, close and close by
Countless friends and relatives here and abroad
All our best wishes to all classmates.
Hoping you are all well and keeping optimistic.”

Jonathan Dana sends news from LA: “I never would have guessed that 50 years from our GSB days I would still be making movies! I have Ron Wilton, Mike Nolan, Ben Wootten, and Bill Reid to thank for that initial opportunity to join their company after their success with Darkness, Darkness. My first feature doc, Sandstone, shot in 1972, is still in distribution, streaming on Indiewire. That $56 royalty check I received last month for Sandstone has a special place in my heart.

“2021 was a banner year for me movie-wise. Our action movie with Liam Neeson, The Ice Road, was a success internationally and then sold in the U.S. to Netflix. It felt good for an old guy! Our documentary Halleluja(h: Leonard Cohen, a Journey, a Song premiered at the Venice and the Telluride film festivals. This summer, Sony Pictures Classics will release the movie in theaters. A music doc/biopic about the jazz player, Wayne Shorter: Zero Gravity, will be finished this year.

“I am somewhat ambivalent about working this hard. I am grateful that I still have the health and the grit to keep doing it, but making and marketing movies is not a half-way kind of thing. Once you step onto the playing field, there is only one speed: GO! I am grateful to work with people who respect my need to age gracefully, and with their help I have been able to create an environment where my age and experience are an asset.

“There is no way to overstate the value of my Stanford days to the substance and quality of my life. I hope these profound friendships can endure for many more years to come.”

Dick Wollack sent his best to all classmates: “I used COVID time to reflect on many of the positive things in my life. The GSB was in the top 10. Great education and wonderful addition to my professional and personal life, especially the close friendships formed there.” — Dick Wollack, ’69

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“Here’s the one thing that attending the GSB didn’t help. I bought Starbucks’ stock at $17 a share shortly after its IPO. It doubled to $34 in about six months. Then I remembered one of the lessons from our marketing course: Consumer products can’t keep going up forever; they peak. I sold the stock and loved the double. Had I not sold, here’s what it would be worth today: $1.5 million. Thankfully, other things I learned at the GSB helped my bank account.”

And from Tom Hout: “We were blessed with strategy professors Ed Zschau and Hal Eyring, who were far more than just classroom professors. Ed became an entrepreneur and
congressman, and Hal became a college president and later the right-hand man to the president of the Church of the Latter Day Saints. They founded a high-tech company together. I trace the course of my 50-year career and fascination with business analysis to these two guys.

“I best recall a 1968 football game when #1 USC came to Stanford with the dazzling tailback OJ Simpson leading the way. USC won a close and dramatic game in the old stadium. Our dean, Ernie Arbuckle, dressed up as a cheerleader and led cheers!”

“A more innocent time? Probably not, as the U.S. was breaking down much like it is today. But it sure feels good looking back at our privileged campus life when young people like us were being welcomed into emerging fields like tech, venture capital, consulting, etc. Lucky us!”

Gary Erickson remembered: “I started with you all in fall 1967 but was unable to finish with you due to the unfortunate conflict (war) in Vietnam. I recall vividly the excitement and sense of possibility that I felt at the start of the program; I will always identify with you as part of the Class of ’69.

“I received my draft notice in December of 1967, after LBJ had suddenly and unexpectedly ended draft deferments for those already enrolled in graduate academic programs. More than a few classmates were gone, due to the sudden ending of grad-school deferments. I would love to hear from others who also started in the Class of ’69 but were unable to finish. In January 1969, I appeared for Army duty at the infamous Oakland Induction Center.

“Despite Vietnam, I spent most of my Army service in Germany, at the 18th Finance Section in Frankfurt. My wife, Jane, was able to join me there, and we had a great time exploring Europe in our ’63 VW Beetle. After my service ended, I returned to the GSB, but this time as a PhD student. Army life gave me time to rethink; I decided that an academic career would best suit me.

“I finished my PhD in 1978, started my academic career as an assistant professor of marketing at UPenn’s Wharton School, then moved in 1980 to the University of Washington’s Foster School of Business, where I spent the remainder of my career, retiring in 2012 as professor emeritus. Jane and I live in Kirkland, WA, across Lake Washington from UW, and we enjoy the proximity of our two children and three grandchildren. Best wishes to all.”

Richard Gregory recalled “an enjoyable two years” and acknowledged his debt to the faculty.

“...There were a number of great economics professors there at the time, including Ezra Solomon (later advisor to presidents); Nobel laureate Robert Wilson (who taught us the limits of statistics); Alan Manne (economic models and their limits); and George Bach.

“I had done an MA in econ at Stanford (very mathematical), but the business school guys’ market-based ideas were a lot more helpful in my World Bank career. I enjoyed the accounting and finance guys (there weren’t any women profs at that time), who taught me a lot that proved useful later.

“As one of those ex-military in our class, I spent part of three years helping keep the two Chinas apart. Later, I spent time in Hong Kong and witnessed headless bodies floating down the Pearl River, daily evidence of the Cultural Revolution.

“We were aghast at the Maoist and violent tactics used, i.e., burning down the international students’ center, stifling debate to impose their views, and the complete misunderstanding of what the Maoist/Marxist revolution actually meant to those caught up in it. After China opened up, one of my colleagues calculated that about 100 million died in China alone.

“One of my favorite memories was when professor George Bach agreed to hold a debate on Marxism with one of the resident Maoists from the Graduate School of Economics in the GSB auditorium. In Bach’s view, Marxism as a viable economic system had been amply disproved during the 1930s and after. The core of the campus revolutionary group had packed the first row; when Bach was clearly winning, they tried to shout him down. We vigorously returned the favor, and unfortunately never heard a real debate.

“On the other hand, it was also great fun to meet the great American social activist and Obama mentor, Saul Alinsky, at the pre-second year retreat at Fallen Leaf Lake, along with some business leaders. He was definitely a more memorable character than the business guys!”

Clark Abbott, JD/MBA ’70, affirms with ’69! Clark shared that he remembers Marcia, Haleyon, Markey, and Carol as courageous women classmates. “We are at our vacation home in Stowe, VT, from June to October. If you are ever coming east, please give us a call.

The GSB development office has my numbers. It’s a tight window, but several classmates made it! After 14 years at Morgan Stanley, I spent three years at a small Houston investment banking boutique before being summarily fired. Co-founded my own operation in 1986, and we are finally in the process of admitting that I have retired. I missed the last reunion but fully intend to make the next one if it happens. I have split my IRA among Yale, the law school, and the biz school in my revised will. We attended a good school; it has become a great school. Indeed!”

George Crowell wishes the best to everyone: “In the way of news, I do remember Joan Baez and Dave Harris. I also remember our support for Dave’s opponent in his run for Stanford student body president. If I recall correctly, someone was renting Ms. Baez’s home and held a campaign rally for Dave’s opponent, which included a topless dance by his competition, Vicky Drake, on top of the dining room table. In those days, there was no requirement to be a full-time Stanford student to run for student body president. Rumor had it that she was taking a remote learning class from a North Beach club.

“Two of my three boys are following in their dad’s footsteps by not having offspring until their mid- to late-30s. Expecting two grandchildren this year. My third son, the eldest, is holding off until he receives reports from his twin, younger brothers on whether it is a good idea or not.”

Bob Berkowitz’s sense of humor—and Bob—are going strong. His family is growing, with grandchildren, and, according to his family holiday letter, a collection of attentive dogs. Bob notes that it’s ironic that COVID variants are given Greek names, while classics departments are dropping requirements for studying Greek and Latin.

Don Rich sends good news that since taking an alternative treatment for cancer two years ago, he’s been feeling healthy. Don reminisces about driving a VW Beetle with Marty Stites and Mike Horst in Rome. They took a crowded ship from Brindisi to Piraeus and met up with Alkis, Dick Theriot, and Tom Paulson. “All of the trip photos were stolen in Vienna, along with my camera. If anyone has photos from the summer adventure of 1969, please let me know! What great memories of Stanford life!” Don is staying young by traveling across the U.S. in an RV, along the way visiting friends whom he hasn’t seen in many years.

We noted Nick Graves’ passing in the GSB fall newsletter. Here are the facts: He died on April 3, 2020, in San Francisco, of complications from lymphoma. He earned a BS from the University of Washington School of Engineering, and then his MBA at Stanford. Nick worked with the Peace Corps as a civil engineer in Ecuador, where he met his wife, Mary. He subsequently had a long, successful career in finance, both internationally and in the U.S.

Nick’s rich personal life centered around serving on local boards and leading numerous nonprofits and philanthropic organizations that reflected his life-long engagement with music, the arts, and the outdoors. Passionate about fly-fishing, Nick was committed to improving fish habitats. He loved backpacking and wilderness experiences with his family.

Truly a gentleman of the world, Nick had strong people skills as well as formidable analytical and cognitive talent. He kept his expansive world of friends close, with humor and generosity.

>>> Please send your news to:
Mike Horst, michaellhorst@gmail.com
Allen Phipps, amphipps38@gmail.com
Bob Selig, BobS@davisinstruments.com

“The theme of my life since the GSB has been ‘The Intangibles,’ which year after year increase in importance...intangibles in management, finances, relationships, and personal development.”

— Ron Hansen, ’70
With a degree from Cornell in 1967 and JD/MBA degrees in 1971, David Worrell reported from Pasadena about his eclectic career: “Quite a path from my Clairton, western Pennsylvania, steel-mill-town upbringing! Through it all I have been blessed with strong friendships that have influenced my nonlinear career path and my life. At no time before or following graduation did I ever have a plan. Instead, I have been careening from opportunity to opportunity, almost all offered from some personal relationship.

“For instance, I got a glimpse of what living in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia was really all about after joining a small international law firm with one significant Middle East arms-dealer client. Later, after leaving San Francisco for Chicago, I entered the world of global hotel development with one of my Cornell roommates. And then later, while growing a company with two law school pals into what has become the largest franchise network in Russia, we non-Russian–speaking adventurers helped our franchisees open over 700 Subway restaurants throughout Russia.”

“Here in Pasadena, a Cornell fraternity brother and I were redeveloping a manufacturing facility, previously listed on the National Register of Historic Places, into a residential community with 400 units when we learned that a repertory theater company needed a new facility. We gifted part of the property to the theater group, and it has become their new home venue and, at the same time, has increased the community’s cultural opportunities.

“Along the way, there were long-term consulting relationships including with a major U.S. entertainment company, a Hong Kong-based hospitality and real estate holding company, and a large Japanese construction firm. Different cultures, different people, and now friends. These employment roles, consulting relationships, and entrepreneurial steps did not grow logically one from the other but instead lurch in a nonsequential fashion from one friendship to another. From Clairton to California, Europe, Russia, China, Japan, Southeast Asia, Africa, and the Middle East, my life has been so enriched by friends! Even my marriage in 1984 to Julianne, in Florence, Italy, officiated by fashion designer and politician, Emilio Pucci, arose out of a blind date set up by a law partner. Julianne, after working in Australia and traveling back to San Francisco from the Far East, left journalism for a rewarding marketing career. From marketing and management roles at IBM (when we met), U.S. Leasing, GE, and Haworth, she later built a successful residential real estate career here in the Pasadena area.

“There have been a few challenges along the way, most notably a throat cancer diagnosis in 2010. Thanks to early treatment by my surgeon and the City of Hope, I now am cancer-free. I am so grateful for the Smart friends, colleagues, and acquaintances who opened the doors for Julianne and me to such a wonderful, unplanned journey.”

Ron Hansen, who divides his time between Maui and Australia, presented this update: “The theme of my life since GSB has been ‘The Intangibles,’ which year after year increase in importance… Intangibles in management, finances, relationships, and personal development. In our Class of ’70, I was ‘intangible’/invisible the first year, since I started with the Class of ’69, then interned in finance for a year, and returned for my second year with our class. What a change from the engineers, ex-military, operations research guys of ’69, to the bright, financial, marketing, venture capital guys of ’70!

“Upon graduating, I accepted neither of two financial analyst job offers but instead set up a desk in my apartment and joined an ex-stockbroker recommending private companies to angel investors. My job: financial and strategic analysis for presentation of investment opportunities. This evolved into consulting with the private companies, which led to valuation of their equity shares…including presenting expert testimony in California’s Superior Court. Valuations of equities and fractional real estate interests have comprised the last 30-plus years of my career. Consulting has paid the bills, but real estate investing has built wealth, and I still manage two remaining Maui properties.

“In retirement I’m a board member of the Foundation for Meditative Studies, where my third wife, Lee, and I met 27 years ago. I enjoy taking foster-care kids on outings, leading seminars on nonviolent communication, and celebrating with Lee’s grandkids and family in Australia.

“Our time is split between Maalaea, Maui, and New South Wales, Australia. We have a beach condo near Byron Bay where we enjoy swimming, walking, and yoga. I am grateful for good health. I’ve had one hip replacement and a thyroid condition that cleared up with coaching by my naturopath wife, who specializes in anti-aging protocols.

“Intangibles have risen to the top of my values chart: In business, valuing intangible assets of all types; in management, emotional intelligence over intellectual intelligence; in relationships, effectiveness of listening and empathy; in personal development, meditations give me daily rejuvenation for all aspects of life. I’m happy that my GSB focus on ‘How can I increase my net worth?’ has given way to the advancing value of today’s GSB students, ‘How can I make a difference in the world?’

“May we all enjoy lives filled with compassion, peace, and enduring happiness. Come by Maui in the summer, or Byron Bay in the winter, and share an ocean walk.”

Class Remembrances: Ever since my initial class notes column appeared more than 50 years ago, every classmate who has died has been mentioned. Often we don’t learn of the passing of classmates until years afterwards, as you will see in the listing below. I regret to report the passing of nine classmates, and I include each classmate’s date of death.

Kris Fridth Storaasli (September 16, 1987) graduated with an AB in Philosophy from Stanford in 1986 before attending the GSB. She married our classmate, Paul Storaasli, who died on March 7, 2016.

Gérard Mital (June 21, 2010), one of our eight French classmates, graduated in physics from the École Polytechnique, and at Stanford received both an AM in Economics and an MBA in 1970. Upon graduation he joined McKinsey in France. In 1989 Gérard launched a film production company, and in 1993 he created Paris-based Medialab, which processes video and images. While at the GSB, Gérard’s wife, Christine, who predeceased him by four years, studied economics at Stanford and went on to a successful career in journalism. They leave behind two sons.

John Schier (April 9, 2019) earned a BSEE from Rice University and lived his adult life in Austin, where he worked before and after the GSB at Texas Instruments. He and wife
Patricia raised two daughters, Christy Schier and Elizabeth Machado.

Jim Hoffman (December 27, 2019) passed away from complications of Alzheimer’s disease. A graduate of the University of Michigan with a degree in aeronautical engineering, Jim married Nancy during our second year at the GSB and settled in Los Altos Hills. They have two children, John and Karen, Stanford ’99. Jim worked at a variety of companies including Brooks Products, Raychem, and Sun Microsystems.


Tony Fisher (August 6, 2020) passed away doing what he loved, riding horses in the wilderness. Tony worked seven years in real estate in the Bay Area before moving to Calgary and worked as a commercial real estate broker and investor/developer. He became a naturalized Canadian citizen in the mid-1990s. Tony and his wife, Susan, with their two sons, Kent and Peter, settled at a place with 20 acres where, as Tony said, “The horses were a lot handier, and we adopted two mustangs, which I gentled and trained.”

Gene Thornton (October 5, 2020) passed away while walking along the Marin County Trail. After receiving a degree in mathematics at Oregon State University, he served two years in the Army in Germany. Following the GSB, Gene worked as an accountant at Southern Pacific Railroad in San Francisco. A lifelong student of tournament bridge, he was awarded the highest rank: Life Master. Gene and his wife of 33 years, Blair, have two sons, Jeff and Tim, and three grandchildren.

Dick Shafer (June 1, 2021) graduated first in his class in 1956 from the U.S. Naval Academy and went on to a distinguished career serving on destroyers and submarines. Dick and his wife, Cleo, raised three children: Steven, David, and Kari. Following Cleo’s death, Dick married Patricia Ely and they settled in Lincoln, CA, where he was president of Badger Development Company. Woody Howse and Dick were close friends and colleagues, having served two years together aboard the USS Theodore Roosevelt, a Polaris submarine. “Dick played a meaningful part in my life, and I will be forever grateful.”

Hugh Tirrell (January 23, 2022) formed his film company, Visucom Productions, shortly after business school. Through his script writing and directing, he built a business producing more than 60 films. During his travels he noted that few people knew much about their home states and nothing about the others, so he decided his legacy would be to create a children’s book on each state of the union. He published four books in his I Am America series. Kidney failure in 2005, followed by years of dialysis and two kidney transplants, one of which was in China, interrupted his work.

To the families of Kris, Gérard, John, Jim, Dick Williams, Tony, Gene, Dick Shafer, and Hugh, the class sends our condolences.

Please send your news to:
Peter Schroeder, ptrschrdr@aol.com

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We’ll start with a special salute to the 31 classmates who attended some or all of our in-person 50th reunion. With apologies to anyone I missed, attending were Joe Bagley, Ian Baird, Tom Barton, Terry Cloudman, Sam Colella, John Davis, Terry Duryea, Paul Engel, Chuck Foster, Chip Fowler, Joel Friedman, Kirk Hanson, Bruce Hopkins, Jerry Ireland, Charles Kimball, Bill Laughlin, Francis Leffler, Eric Levenson, Tony Muller, Peter Palecek, Howard Palefsky, Tom Penn, Bill Poland, Jake Rohrer, Ned Rowe, Marc Shapiro, Bill Stocklin, Stan Thomas, Fred Tileston, Anna McCullough Willis, and Ken Woolley. For some perspective: The GSB believes there are still 294 classmates living, 27 of them outside the U.S. Terry Duryea, Joel Friedman, and Jake Rohrer deserve special credit for developing the Saturday and Sunday morning sessions. The only program that did not work well was the online social gathering, which was intended to be a way for our overseas and domestic alumni to socialize using REMO software. Unfortunately, no overseas alumni joined the call. Our in-person activities began on Friday night with a cocktail party at the elegant Park James Hotel. Not only did it make a great icebreaker for reintroducing classmates, it also allowed attendees to partner up for dinner. In my case, it meant Bill Poland and I would be entertained by Ken Woolley’s wild antics in the aircraft business. The next morning, resuscitated by hot beverages, we were engaged by two highly entertaining speakers. Professor Paul Oyer spoke on the economics of the sports industry, followed by Dr. Allen Mishra, founder of CareToBeVital.com, who addressed igniting personal vitality. The afternoon was open, and some of us used it to watch Stanford upset Oregon. The evening found us enjoying balmy weather for dinner on the Stanford Golf Course patio. The GSB outdid itself with the liquor and food. We were also joined by former registrar, Lary Hovemate, married to Tony Muller.

Our all-too-short reunion concluded Sunday morning with a lecture and a class panel. Professor Scotty McLennan, former Stanford religious dean, led a discussion on how The Great Gatsby is still relevant to us in our 70s. Interestingly, Scotty was a roommate of Gary Trudeau, who based his Doonesbury character

Members of the Class of 1971 at their 50th reunion.
“Rev. Scotty” on Professor McLennan. The ethics discussion led nicely into classmates Kirk Hanson, Peter Palecek, Howard Palefsky, and Tom Penn sharing their personal and career experiences. With lunch in our bellies, we ended our reunion. I believe that classmates who attended would tell you that the in-person experiences exceeded their expectations.

One of the benefits of a reunion is that you get more personal updates. Kirk Hanson shared that he has been retired for three years following 23 years teaching at the GSB and an additional 17 years at Santa Clara University. He is writing an ethics newsletter, has published one post-retirement book, ROTTEN: Why Corporate Misconduct Continues and What To Do About It, and is helping establish ethics centers at other universities. His wife, who started two Silicon Valley software firms, is serving on boards, and they are itching to travel again as soon as possible. Kirk is joined by at least two other classmates bringing books to market. Just published is Max James’ The Harder I Fall, The Higher I Bounce. Max claims it’s #1 in eight Amazon categories and in four countries. The other book highlights Ken Woolley’s success with Extra Space Storage.

Robert Boyd proudly shared that his son, Robert A. Boyd II, has joined Tyler Perry Studios as chief operating officer. Robert II most recently served as COO of Swirl Films. Incidentally, he was born during his father’s residency at the GSB. And the family news continues with word that Robert’s sister, Dr. Lisa D Cook, has been nominated as the first residency at the GSB. And the family news continues with word that Robert’s sister, Dr. Lisa D Cook, has been nominated as the first Black woman to serve on the Federal Reserve Board of Governors.

Leo Hindery is primarily residing in a suburb of Charlotte where his wife’s family home is located. Leo is now serving as chairman of Trine Acquisitions. In November, Trine II, a special-purpose acquisition company, closed a $444 million initial public offering.

Bill Leighty reported that he is using his small Palm Springs wind plant to hopefully demonstrate that “complete, benign, continental-scale energy systems based on carbon-free fuels” are technically and economically superior to the existing electrical grid.

Corresponding from Santiago, Chile, David Madison highlighted that his daughter Annette has ended her third year of residency in internal medicine and will now begin endocrinology. Her husband, Gonzalo, will be starting oncology. Davis looks forward to his Peace Corps reunion in San Diego.

And a little news from our family. Son Fraser has recently been hired by Coursera to serve as their senior director of global sales strategy and insights.

Thanks to everyone who submitted photos and write-ups for our class reunion book. If you haven’t done it yet, you can still submit to contact@stanford.brightcrowd.com. That’s it. Carry on.

>>> Please send your news to: Jerry Ireland, jimirele@comcast.net

### 50TH REUNION: OCT. 6 – 9, 2022

#### 72

“Read about all those people who have retired. Retired? Who has the time?”

— Scott Anderson, ‘75

Greg Osborn and his wife, Candace (whom he married in 1970 on the Saturday after graduation from Stanford undergraduate), have lived in the same house in Palo Alto since 1979. “Five great kids (and now 12 grandchildren) later, and after a career in commercial real estate development here locally, I’m done.” Both are “thoroughly enjoying being retired.” Candace had a private family therapy practice. “I’ve done the Alcatraz Sharkfest swim many times, and swimming and biking are the exercises of choice at this stage. I send best wishes to all of our classmates.” Info: Greg is one of the Vietnam veterans in our class, having served a tour the year prior to the fall of 1972, and we are very grateful for his service.

Uh-oh… what did Gary Andazola do? He reported that he has been “working on the chain gang.” Upon a careful examination of his missive, though, I found that the above-referenced “chain gang” was the one assigned to SOU home football games. “Been at it for three years now and enjoy being on the sidelines so close to coaches and players. I may have to give it up eventually, as it can be a challenge running up and down the field trying to keep up with these young players whenever there is a big play.” Also, Gary reported that he had been skiing for the first time in 40 years and “had a great time on the slopes near Flagstaff, AZ… finished the day without a fall or injury, just tired legs.” His travels have been curtailed due to the pandemic, but he is planning a trip to Panama later in the year, and is making longer-term plans for relocating with his girlfriend to Central America when she retires. And Gary opened and closed his email with the apology that he didn’t “have any exciting news”!

On a personal note, I’m forever grateful to Gary for getting me through first-year accounting!

Speaking of gratitude, Peter Carey wrote that he and his wife are thankful that “we, in our ‘retirement routine,’ have probably been affected least and infected not at all…” by COVID. “The pandemic has given us the opportunity to interact more regularly in a support capacity with our remote grandchildren. Care for the youngest members of our family has been filled with joy and satisfaction as the lives of these two little people are filled with options and opportunities. On the other hand, care for the eldest member of our extended family has been challenging and tinged with some sadness and frustration as we watch his options and opportunities diminish with age and infirmity. We have renewed our own efforts to age gracefully and gracefully, and we hope our children are taking notes of our efforts to care for older relatives. We have promised them we will not be stubborn and contentious in our older age. And we have advised them that if we forget this promise (which we may), to keep reminding us of our pledge!” While travel plans have been disrupted, they continue to walk, jog, or ride bikes in the park. “We have found over the years that our ‘relief valve’ in stressful times is Mother Nature — she provides the rhythm, the order, the tranquility, and the beauty that is otherwise sometimes missing in our daily lives — and she does a good job of mitigating the influence of Father Time.”

After a four-month recovery following hip surgery, Tsuneo Yahagi has resumed playing tennis again and is back up to a few times a week. He said that the Omicron version of COVID has really upset society in Japan, but that he and his extended family remain free of infection. Tsuneo remains very active after retirement and was recently appointed as the executive policy advisor to the governor of one of Japan’s prefectures for Japan’s Super City project. He was also appointed chairperson of a special council, with the aim of establishing “an extremely innovative university” focused on the most advanced data science. “I am recommending to focus on AI and robotics, in which Japan has been far behind the U.S. and India. I have also suggested that we should include rich liberal arts courses, including management, in the curriculum.” Both the Super City project and the new university project are long-term efforts (five to seven years) “and therefore I have to stay active. As I will be 80 next month, health is the most important personal objective.”

Jim Noyes reported that he is still playing pickleball daily. “74F on Hilton Head Island today [December 27] and I don’t miss my skis...”
or 2F in Colorado.” The name “pickleball,” he argues, doesn’t do the sport justice, and suggests “tennis” probably sounded silly in 1873. He had a couple of recent COVID-appropriate visits with David and Nora Kennedy of nearby Bluffton.

Ron Kopicki wrote at length about the global issues he is concerned about for 2022. “The challenges for the year ahead are daunting... They include a clear-eyed acknowledgement that the capacity of our planet to support a population of 8 billion is degrading, a rolling slow-motion collision between ideologies of radical nationalism and liberal democracy here in the U.S., a head-to-head confrontation between Biden and Putin derived from Putin’s apparent commitment to reclaim parts of the old Soviet empire, an increasingly divisive global confrontation regarding the best economic management models involving the Chinese Communist Party and its intrusive governance model for its private sector versus other more laissez-faire modes of global production/distribution/social media control... I am loath to even mention the world-wide COVID epidemic. Anyway, the global agenda is loaded.” Ron and Anne are still enjoying their “clan of four little granddaughters” and have had only a small skirmish with COVID when their oldest granddaughter tested positive with a mild case. Their son, Alex, continues to grow his company and “is a much more entrepreneurial businessman than his dad.” Ron shared that he spends most of his time reading (history and current affairs), painting, and fishing. “I think that I am improving... at the painting.”

Peter Patch was more focused, but equally as expansive, on the domestic political front. “I am also watching the national political environment with great concern, foreseeing a possible Biden-Trump rematch in 2024,” which he views as a 50-50 proposition, and fearing another contested election. He and Linda are “comfortably set up here on the Upper East Side of Manhattan — with a view of the East River and the Triboro/RFK bridge out our windows...” They are being careful about COVID “but are happy together dealing with the strange realities of the situation.” Being fans of cruises, they adjusted early by pretending that they were just “stuck in port for a few days,” that Port of New York delay now having turned into “500+ days and counting.” Peter Patch wrote at length about the old system that we used to communicate about through the years. “As you have guessed by the subject of this email, we’ve lost Mike Naeve. On December 4, I Zoomed into a wonderful tribute for Mike hosted by his two fabulous daughters, Alex and Rebecca. It was special being able to put faces to names of his friends that I’d been hearing about through the years. Margie Masters and Bruce Miller were the other two GSB classmates who attended.”

“We were asked to send in photos, so I sent a few of my favorites from our GSB yearbook (groups.stanford.edu). I learned that as recently as 2015, Mike sang his favorite Harold Hill number from The Music Man at an FBI talent show and was thrilled that he could remember all the words! I was reminded that in May 1973, a few months before we all arrived at the GSB, Mike tragically lost his first wife, Sheryl, who had been his high school sweetheart. He met his second wife, Pam, through an Army buddy. He and Pam had Alex and Rebecca in 1984 and 1987,” Sending our thoughts and prayers for Mike’s family. Please drop me a few lines when you have a moment. Wishing you a great New Year with safety and health.”

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Scott Anderson dropped a note after seeing the last column. “Read about all those people who have retired. Retired? Who has time?” Scott shared his current pre-retirement activities — teaching accounting full time at Chapman University, continuing to run his registered investment advisory business, continuing to work for his daughter part time in her financial planning business, and slowly phasing out his tax practice. And, in his spare time, he finished the second edition of his book Making Sense on the Dollar, just published on Amazon. Sounds more like my “retirement.” On the other hand, Dave Dorman has been much more successful at retirement, “diligently playing golf twice a week, working on the ‘Aina (land), and helping our daughters with their homes.”

Just before this column went to print, Jeannette Heidrich sent a note that she had the honor to win First Place in Class 10 in a National Garden Club of America photography contest called “This Land Is Your Land” for her photo of the night-blooming cereus. “Here is [my] story of the flower. I first saw the flower...in Bali, when friends gave me a plant that they said would open that evening, so I took it to the hotel, put it in water, and set my alarm for 2:00 am. I got up, and yes! The bud had opened...”

— Jeannette Heidrich, ’75

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Wow! What an incredible ReOnion we just had down on The Farm. Why ReOnion? You just had to peel off each layer to find the truth and the fun! I heard one of our classmates, unnamed, remark that it was the best 45th ReOnion we’ve ever had! No kidding. Our ReOnion Committee worked tirelessly, through pandemic and pestilence and oppressive effects of climate change to bring to you, the Great Class of 1976, the most splendid, magniforum, spectacularum events memorial of our 45th ReOnion at the Gragitate Shool of Bidness, that is, the Stanford GSB.

Oops! Am I plagiarizing my last column? I guess the 45th was just so spectacular, I can’t shake it from my brain. Yes, it was. More on the 45th later. This column had a challenging deadline, which I have missed. Many excuses, but suffice it to say Omicron and the Rose Parade and kids moving east and Omicron... By now you have received a number of Stanford emails pitching the new community tool, Stanford Groups (groups.stanford.edu). Simply log in with the user ID and password you have been using forever to access the Alumni Network or register for events, like the 45th. Then follow the directions. Oops, again, I forgot. We are Stanford MBAs — we only give directions. [Laughter track plays in background.]

I heard from Seth Fearrey, our ever elusive, wandering classmate. Seth related his 2021 travels, which included Switzerland (Zurich, Basel), France (Strasbourg, Colmar, Biarritz,
Class of 1976 septuagenarians doing a bit of goat yoga.

Corsica), Spain (Bilbao, San Sebastian, Menorca), and Italy (Ravenna, Florence). Since Kyrgyzstan’s Sputnik vax isn’t recognized by the EU, he ducked into France (Corsica) to get his Pfizer pokes. Kyrgyzstan, of late, has been caught up in bits of controversy. Neighboring Kazakhstan is caught up in domestic turmoil as of this writing with the Kyrgyz parliament approving the sending of troops as part of the CSTO peacekeeping effort. Please wish Seth well.

Koichiro Fukui wrote to say that life in Japan has been challenging. Heavy rains brought a mudslide, partly damaging his home. Fumie has been homebound, so to speak, as COVID has canceled many of her concerts in Japan and Europe. She is now working on becoming a tennis pro! Three of their four children are living in Japan; the fourth is living in Germany.

Now back to the 45th... The reunion leadership team hopes to keep the MBA ’76 website up and running and more or less up-to-date, with a trove of incredibly interesting stuff. Well, that’s what the dweebmaster said as he slinked into year-end roses stuff. Brenda led the charge to create our website in the run-up to our spectacular 45th: stanfordgsb1976.org. The website photo policy is simple. If it’s a photo, send it to moi. As we look forward to our 50th, gathering more “the way we were” images will ensure a wonderfully entertaining collection at our next gathering. And who knows, if moi gets enough images, you may not have to hear moi croon ever again! Pretty much all of the images collected during the ReOnion are, or will be shortly, up on our website, along with the videos from Saturday night. Bear, oops, bare in mind, the videos appear lengthy, but you can always return to view another couple of minutes or so.

Please remember to thank our ReOnion leadership team each and every time you see them. We need them again for the next one!

Reunion Cochairs: Charlie “I said one hour only!” Shalvoy, and Brenda Bock “Will anyone attend?” Sussna

Events: Liz Duffett, Ken Imatani, Willis Newton, and Lowell “Have we reached the 50-mile marker yet?” Sears

Party Planning & Meals: Gretchen “PayPal only” Carey, and Ann “I do this for a living” Dolan

It Guru: Dean Meyer [Editor doesn’t know what “It” is.]

At-Large: Tom Cooper and Cherrie Nanninga. [/"Large" refers to location, not pandemic poundage.]

Class Gift Cochairs: Lili Pratt “Can’t you do better?” King, and Ken “Dig deeper!” Imatani

Master Webster: Joanne Poon GSB ’XIX

[Editor: She prefers to remain class-anonymous.]

What’s amazing, even in the era of pandemic, the returning gang was huge. Here’s my guess list conjured up for my last column, due two months before our 45th gathering:

- Doyle Arnold, Rich Jirumu, Bob Field, Renita Esayian, Curt FitzGerald, Vernon Oakes, Avner Mandelman, Jurg Conzett, Betsy Taylor, Gary Mistlin, Barry Dolan, Araby Leary, John and Nancy Sasser, Wayne Thurman, Paul Cooper, Pat Jones, Michelle Chau, Kate Ecker, Elizabeth Strutzel, Iris Schencke, Nancy Walsworth, Maryelle Johnson, Tom Hoster, Tom Cooper, Swift Barnes, Stephen Koch, Shaun Maguire, Oliver Wesson, Peter Hwang, Rand Selig, Armand Chau, Braden Rippetoe, Faruq Ahmad, Jim Mansuetto, Chris Cline, Jack Morgan, Seth Feary, Lam Nguyen-Phuong, Koichiro Fukui, Andrew Cummings, Gray Oliver, Wes Clelland, Ted Job, Paul Cooper, Doug Anderson, Mary Ellen Zellerbach, Stephen Wei, Bernard Coley, John Orcutt, Jim Boettcher, Fred Williams, Dave Zentmyer, Christine Crocker, Peter Pratt, Larry Kaplan, Ira Hall, and, of course, the ReOnion Committee.

Much to my surprise, I think my batting average was pretty high, well, after x-ing out our international classmates who couldn’t get into the U.S.

The Scribbler says: It’s been a pleasure, an udder joy, to have scribbled along the way. Now into my 21st year! Keep those cards and letters coming, folks, until we have a winner.

Please send your news to:
Charlie E.P. Wood, cepw@cepeterson.com
This past winter we shared in the loss of our classmate, Rick Woolworth. Rick spent most of his 35-year Wall Street career with Morgan Stanley where he had been a managing director. He went on to be the founder and president of Telemachus, a nonprofit whose mission is to mentor emerging leaders from around the country through intergenerational friendships. Rick helped found the Trinity Church in Greenwich, served on the board of Lux Forum, and had been a trustee of the Morgan Stanley Foundation and Groton School. Rick and Jill were members of the Stanford Distinguished Careers Institute (DCI) seeking to improve the life journey of accomplished individuals in midlife by helping them renew their purpose, build a new community, and recalibrate wellness. As Ace Frank eloquently expressed, “Rick, to me, was one of the really great members of our class...an understated gentleman who did everything well, and his wife, Jill, the same, without pretense.”

Last summer an email from Newton Don arrived along with a batch of pictures from back in the day. One of his COVID shutdown activities was scanning old photos and sharing them with friends, including Stuart Lum and Barbara Kemp. In a second exchange he noted that about three years prior, he took up the oboe. He had been taking lessons from the English horn soloist from the San Francisco Symphony before COVID struck. Newton noted that he was getting better, was never great, but still found that music can be such a pleasure. Around his yard in San Francisco, he has been successfully battling the gophers and voles, but not without some casualties to roses, aralias, and dahlias.

A few columns ago the “shocker” that Steve Klosterman and his wife, Linda, had left their San Diego beach digs for a high-rise condo in the city was reported. That was only the beginning. In May 2021 they bought a new condo in Boulder, CO. Combating supply chain issues, they got it furnished for a Thanksgiving stay. Steve and Linda’s daughter, Vanessa, lives nearby with her husband, Justin. Calling the condo a second home for now, Steve sees it becoming their primary residence in two to three years. With no plans to retire from his job as a fiduciary investment advisor, he notes that his firm, Halbert Hargrove, has a Denver office. Meanwhile, back in CA, Steve was honored to be elected chairman of the San Diego Foundation, the area’s community foundation. He noted that several years ago, Connie Matsui served a two-year term in the same role. He continues to be active at UCLA, including serving on the UCLA Investment Company Board.

The last issue of this column highlighted Bob Thompson’s relocation to Franklin, TN. It turns out he is already entertaining MBA ’77 visitors. Bob hosted and provided local tours to Chip Glassanos and his wife, Barb, when the couple made a week-long visit to Nashville. While in Music City, the Glassanoses found plenty to do, as Chip noted, “moving from one honky-tonk to another listening to good music and sampling the local beers and whiskey.” Continuing that theme, they also attended four concerts at the iconic Ryman Auditorium, Bridgestone Arena, and Grand Ole Opry. Bob and Maryett joined them at the Opry for a Christmas Special. On their last night in Nashville, they were awakened by air raid sirens when the recent tornadoes slammed the area. Chip had to admit, “I will take earthquakes any day of the week over tornadoes.”

Peter Kent also made a visit to Bob and Maryett, finding the Franklin and Nashville area engaging. Peter’s September visit also offered the added advantage of seeing in person Stanford beat Vanderbilt, a rare win for Cardinal football last year.

I (your secretary) found that Peter spends a one-on-one father-child week with each of his two children every year and has been doing this for over 30 years. I learned this when an email showed up in October telling me that he and his daughter Ashley would be hiking for several days in Shenandoah National Park, and that he had just been reminded by Benito Almanza that I live close by. As a result, one night Marilyn and I joined Peter and Ashley for dinner near the park. Coincidentally, that afternoon they had hiked the five miles of trail that Marilyn and I maintained for 16 years. Small world. Professionally, Ashley works for the IRS, but her passion is dance. She is a leader in the Brazilian Zouk dance community in DC.

The switch to the Stanford Groups application adopted by the GSB this past fall triggered a welcome note from Marv Pollack. Marv noted that retirement has been good. The pandemic put a crimp in his travel plans, but it was a treat having the family bundled together at home in 2020. He did take two Stanford Travel trips to China and New Zealand before the lockdown, but then two more trips were canceled. Marv and his husband’s (Barry Taylor) daughter, Molly, is a freshman at Princeton this year. She took a gap year the previous year, which, Marv noted, “will go down as one of the best decisions of her life.” Their son, Hudson, is a junior at the Hudson School. Marv finds his board work, including with the Hudson School, and other business projects keep things stimulating, and their place in Michigan gives them a chance for plenty of outdoor distraction.

At the new year, a note arrived with pictures of Stanley Haar along with a distinguished label on a bottle of cabernet franc from the Haar Family Vineyard. After closing down his commodity trading advisory business, Haar Capital Management LLC, in Boca Raton, FL, he and his wife, Ana, decided to return to California and are now enjoying semi-retirement on their vineyard property in Paso Robles. Stanley still does a little proprietary trading in the wild world of commodity futures and consults part-time for an investment manager in Claremont, but his main focus now is growing wine grapes to sell to some local wineries.

Tom Murphy responded to my call for input with a life event most in our class are experiencing around this time — our undergraduate 50th reunions. Tom was in the Naval ROTC while an undergrad at Notre Dame, and this reunion was particularly special due to the high attendance by his ROTC classmates, who had been a very small percentage of his class.
Before the GSB Tom served on a destroyer where he qualified as officer of the deck (when underway) and command duty officer (when in port) as an ensign. Highlighting a special reunion event focused on the service of those students, Tom concluded, “Notre Dame hit exactly the right tone in remembering those times yet putting a positive spin on our service.” In response to a question I had for him, Tom added, “I am now at five (holes-in-one). Played golf for 50 years and never even had one; five in 10 years of retirement. The link is clear: If you want one, retire!” And since we were talking about reunions, he offered, “Moral of the story: Andy Cowherd will be glad to hear that I look forward to our 50th reunion in just another few years and will plan to attend!”

A welcome note from Bob Loew provided this summary, “After doing business-related things into the early 90s, I made a major career switch into teaching and taught high school math for another 15 years before retiring. Now I’m engaged in a combination of volunteer work and international travel. I went to East Africa (2018) and climbed Mt. Kilimanjaro in a raging blizzard, as it turned out. On other occasions, I went to Spain (2013 and 2015) and hiked the Camino de Santiago, a 500-mile pilgrimage trek. While there, I had a nice encounter with Carlos and Mela Nunez, who were also there visiting their daughters, who had relocated from Mexico.” Responding to my inquiry, Bob added, “I’ve done several disaster relief projects over the years. 2005 in Sri Lanka with the Peace Corps, following the Christmas 2004 tsunami that hit southeast Asia. In the past five years, I’ve done four other projects in the U.S. with Samaritan’s Purse, which involved cleaning up after major hurricanes and the fire in Paradise, CA.” Bob indicated he’ll see us at our 45th.

I look forward to seeing all of you October 6–9. Block off those dates now!

>>> Please send your news to: A.ScottDuncan, duncan77@alumni-gsb.stanford.edu

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Our own Roberta Denning has been elected to Stanford’s Board of Trustees. A long-time arts and humanities advocate at Stanford, she started her five-year term February 1st. Her list of Stanford honors is long, including the Gold Spike award, one of Stanford’s highest honors for volunteer service. She helped found Stanford Arts Council in 2006 and is either serving now or has served on the Anderson Collection Management Committee, the Humanities Task Force, the Humanities and Sciences Council, the Major Gifts Committee, the Think Again Steering Committee, and the Stanford Challenge Steering Committee, among others. She and Steve have also provided funding for several Stanford projects, including the Knight-Hennessy Scholars program (the Denning House), the Institute for Human-Centered Artificial Intelligence, the Natural Capital Project, and others. Roberta is currently on the boards of the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, The Shed in NY, the Storm King Arts Center, and the advisory board for Columbia Global Reports. She has previously served on the San Francisco Symphony Board and the American Museum of Natural History Advisory Council as well as several nonprofit boards in Greenwich, CT. And in case you think this may all be going to her head, she told me “I’m pretty sure I’m the oldest member of the (Stanford) board, so I am planning to embrace my status as an elder.”

Jenny Warden wrote: “In August we joined a small group of photographers in Wyoming to photograph the beautiful wild horses there. Half the herd were Paints, and they stuck together. It was a healthy, playful herd with lots of foals and yearlings. We saw them in a variety of settings at different times of day. When we were walking around, I complained that the forage didn’t look too good. The farrier among us, who knew more about horses than the rest of us put together, said, ‘You think it’s bad. But you are not a horse.’ Friends of a Legacy keep a kind watch over them. Loved the Buffalo Bill Art Museum in Cody and the Dinosaur National Monument on the way out. The continuing severity of COVID keeps us thinking small about travels. We’re looking at bird photo trips for next year — eagles and ospreys in British Columbia or red egrets in Texas. I continue to enjoy the garden club. There are 4,000 here. In August we hosted a stone fruit tasting accompanied with runny French cheeses. Saved the best dishes to plant.”

Orest Zuk wrote: “December finds me in the middle of a major vortex. Since August I have been more than passively involved in the situation within Eastern Europe between Ukraine, Russia, NATO, and the U.S. My area of expertise puts me very close to the start of a major disturbance. What makes this extra interesting is that I have met over time with all the major players under wildly different circumstances. I have no influence with any of them but have a strong understanding of what’s going on behind the scenes. The situation is obviously tense but there are sides that make the confrontation far more dangerous than what is reported in the press. I believe and hope there will be a resolution with limited additional violence, but the stakes are high as the conflict started over two years ago. My house in Ukraine is a bit too close to the action.”

Tony Gaetjens wrote: “Visited daughter, son-in-law, and grandson in Manhattan this summer. While there, celebrated 70th birthday by running the Loop trail of Central Park (6.1 miles), and obtained my senior citizen reduced-fare Metrocard.”

An exhibit of Darrell Lorentzen’s artwork was held at Images Gallery in Greenwich, CT. The proceeds from the sale of Darrell’s paintings go to the Farmlink Project, an organization that connects farms that have a surplus of fresh, nutritious produce to communities in need. Here’s Darrell on her work: “I see myself as primarily a colorist. I am drawn to the colors in the natural world, those of skies, mountains, oceans, flora, and fauna. My process begins by painting a stack of papers with acrylic paint so that I have a catalog of colors to draw from in creating a painting. I mostly work from my own photographs of landscapes and nature. The playful part for me is finding the right colors that will describe the subject that I want to paint. Each color is then cut and glued down as a separate piece of paper to create the painting. I call this process painting with paper, and the paintings are papercolors. My background includes watercolor painting and patchwork quilt making. I have been influenced by these two art forms in developing my approach to painting with paper.”

We shouldn’t be surprised that Trip Hawkins has been mentioned a number of times in the
press around the death of John Madden, the former Hall of Fame NFL coach and the face of the Madden NFL video game created in 1988 by Electronic Arts. Apparently Madden NFL is a multibillion dollar franchise for EA. The publisher has sold over 130 million copies of Madden games to date, generating at least $4B in total revenue. Barron’s estimates that the Madden franchise’s annual revenue for EA is north of $600M.

Chris Seaver has been sending me articles about cases that U.S. Bankruptcy Judge Marvin Isgru has ruled on for a number of years now, but I’ve been negligent about reporting them here. The latest was last summer when oil companies were ordered to help cover $7.2B of the costs of capping and abandoning offshore wells in the Gulf of Mexico. He also approved McKinsey & Co.’s settlement with the Justice Department watchdogs over how the firm discloses potential conflicts of interest, effectively ending a legal battle on transparency in the U.S. bankruptcy system in early 2021. Chris sent his wishes to us all that “2022 brings you and yours health, happiness, and prosperity.”

Jeff Grubb wrote: “Sandy and I are well and still living in the Portland, OR, area. We are blessed with four grandchildren with one more on the way in late January. I am spending most of my time as a trustee of the Murdock Charitable Trust based in Vancouver, WA. I also have a couple of business ventures, including a cattle company that is involved in regenerative grazing with pasture-raised natural beef. I wish everyone a great 2022!”

Joan Illand wrote: “I’m happy to say that I’ve developed a reliable online community for putting processed food addiction and diet-related diseases in remission. Amazingly, the Processed Food Addiction textbook is selling in the top 0.4% of Amazon books. I’ve become a contributor to U.S. News & World Report on food addiction. We’re building a marketing operation. I could use help there if anyone’s looking for a fascinating project. I live in Seattle with three grandchildren between Seattle and Portland. I’m grateful to be close to them. As the years go by, I’m ever more grateful to the GSB Class of ’79. Thank you all for your support.”

I leave for Kauai in a few days but unfortunately have missed visits from Steve Cisesinski and family as well as Eric Schwartz. Aloha to you all.

Please send your news to: Sue Campbell, suecampbell21@aol.com

Continuing the momentum from our October 2019 reunion and seizing the opportunity presented by pandemic-induced widespread familiarity with virtual meetings, our class has held four online mini-reunions. They proved a wonderful way for dozens of classmates to catch up.

Luis Brandão is spending the 2021–2022 academic year as a visiting professor at the University of Texas in Austin. After almost 20 years, he has found the growth amazing, and the area is becoming a significant high-tech hub with Apple, IBM, Samsung, Tesla, and others setting up shop. His family is in three different countries—he is in the U.S., one son and wife are working in Belgium, and the other is working in Brazil.

Bill Broadbent died in September 2021. Throughout a long career in finance, he left a philanthropic legacy in education, Montana environmentalism, U.S. squash, and many other areas. He is survived by his wife, Camille, and his children, Avery and Will.

Peter Gilmore reported that his oldest son, David, married Sumaya Saluja in the beautifully decorated, ornate San Francisco City Hall in December. The couple graduated from the Fletcher Diplomacy School (Tufts) five years ago. In the wedding picture, the fathers held pictures of the mothers (in Ecuador and India), absent due to visa processing issues. The event was streamed to both mothers via Facebook Live. Peter’s daughter Franciska, 21, coordinated the event! David works with the UN in Yangon, Myanmar, and his wife is working with the Asia Foundation. The full wedding celebration will be held in India in late 2022.

Mark Lorberbaum died in November 2020, in Cincinnati, OH. After getting his chemical engineering degree from the University of Minnesota, he married Sally and they moved to California where he worked for Alza. After the GSB, they returned to Minnesota to be near family as they started their own. He had a long and successful career at 3M. He later moved to Cincinnati where he met and married Amy. In retirement he enjoyed traveling, photography, and time with family. To Amy and all of Mark’s family, we send our sincere condolences.

Jeff Clark reported: “I retired in June 2020 just in time to care for my wife, Pam. Since then, she’s had two rotator cuff surgeries, two shoulder replacements, a crushed foot, a broken vertebra, and the removal of a brain tumor. We’re helping ensure that surgeons can afford good schools for their kids. We have five grandkids from our first daughter, Kim, who was born in between our years at Stanford. We also have a son who is married and living in Wilmington, NC, as well as a daughter who, because she has POTs, lives with us.”

Lennie Copeland wrote: “My fabulous, comfy home burned down in the California wildfires. I hadn’t been able to insure it, being in a fire zone. Many GSB classmates were amazingly thoughtful in messages and generous in gifts to GoFundMe for my daughter, who also lost everything. Every now and then I remember something gone and feel the devastation all over again. I am told the pain never goes away, but actually I am doing fine on my land up in the hills above Ono. I love having chickens, deer, bears, birds, and green all around. What worries me the most is all those others who have lost their homes to fire, floods, and tornadoes. I am so sad for them.”

Jeff Epstein reported: “I’ve enjoyed co-teaching Engineering 245, a lean startup, hands-on workshop class at Stanford Graduate School of Engineering, for the past eight years. Fast-growing startups that launched in our class include Zum, Nova, and FreeWill. Mark Wolfsen, Jim Van Horne, and other inspiring GSB faculty helped me learn about finance, which led to my career as a chief financial officer at Oracle, DoubleClick, and other companies. Today, the GSB offers finance classes on investing in public markets, venture capital, and private equity, but nothing on...”
CFO Leadership; so the GSB has accepted my proposal for a new course to begin in April 2022. I've recruited three former-CFO friends to develop and co-teach the class with me. We'd love to have classmates drop by and sit in.

Rick Holbrook wrote: "I continue to work as an investment advisor, helping clients manage their investment portfolios. It is work I enjoy a lot, and I have no plans for retirement! Plus, I have the extra bonus of being able to ride my bike to and from work—a wonderful way to get in 24 miles a day. Even during COVID, I continued to go into the office. My volunteer activities include service on the board of a group that serves the homeless in San Mateo County and also on the board of a group that seeks to increase multi-faith understanding and common service."

Esther Koch has channeled her passion for gerontology and her mother’s illness into a philanthropic relationship with the Jackson Laboratory, culminating 20 years of volunteerizing with the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society and spurred by her lifelong friendship with a Lowell High School (San Francisco) classmate, the doctor who heads the laboratory.

Daisuke Kotegawa reported: “COVID-19 kept me in Japan, except for a short trip to Moscow in early June to see my friends there, including prominent ballet dancers at Bolshoi Ballet Theater. I remain active as advisor to the Canon Institute for Global Studies, as dean of the Oita Prefectural College of Arts and Culture, and as board member and advisor for many Japanese companies. Prime Minister Kishida’s new cabinet includes ministers who had worked for me in the Ministry of Finance: the ministers of health and welfare and the one in charge of economic security, plus the deputy cabinet secretary and a new special assistant to the prime minister. After 25 years of confusion, the new cabinet is the first where political leaders will work in close collaboration with civil servants. A bright future is envisaged. I hope to visit Stanford again and enjoy good wines from Napa and Sonoma.”

Howard Kroymann wrote: “I’m still living in Palo Alto with Cathy, my wife of 47 years. I’m in good health—still playing handball three days a week. My two sons are in startups. My older son, Dan (married with two kids), is a founder of RecRoom—a virtual reality gaming/social media platform. My younger son, Tyler (married), is at Plenty—a vertical farming company. I’m still running my own business: iSales. We deliver lead generation and badge-printing services to trade shows across the country. Barcode scanners, mobile apps, badges, barcodes, exhibitors, trade show leads, etc. Another year of the pandemic will likely put an end to that!”

Ramzi Louza reported: “I am still working in Saudi Arabia but am semiretired. I’m frequently in Amman, Jordan, where my family resides, and I have four businesses there that I established years ago to occupy me when I retire completely: two restaurants with the best in international food in Amman, a franchise gift shop that sells dates/chocolates/biscuits, and a physiotherapy center. My eldest daughter just graduated from Yale university with an MBA and works for PwC in New York as a consultant for digitization projects. My family is healthy and doing well, and I am blessed with beautiful seven-year-old twin girls. Of course, I miss our class reunions; my MS makes it difficult for me to travel.”

Michael Lutz reflected: “I am in the fourth stage of my life: (1) research physicist, (2) high tech entrepreneur, (3) world-sailing cruiser on two ocean-going catamarans over 15 years, (4) graduate school lecturer in bioengineering at UC San Diego, where I run an interactive workshop on the business of biotech. Still going strong as the oldest member of the class.”

Richard McCombs published a book about his experiences managing one of the first American companies to operate in Vietnam after President Clinton lifted the trade embargo. Keep Smiling describes living and working there for a joint venture in the rice industry. As he noted, “My GSB education didn’t begin to help me understand how to interact with the Socialist Republic Government of Vietnam.” Available on Amazon or richardmccombs.com.

Keith Milne wrote: “I enjoyed a fabulous 45-year Stanford undergrad combined ’75/’76 reunion in October. The highlight by far was being with Jan Swanberg, ’76, and Lou Ann Winchell, ’75. We laughed a lot together!”

James Morton reported from Singapore: “Last year Florian Weidinger, ’11, and his team from Hansabay merged into Santa Lucia Asset Management. I am pleased with what we have accomplished, particularly our flagship Asian high-yield equity strategy that has outperformed the market over 21 years. Now that travel is getting easier, I look forward to visiting the companies our funds are invested in, though sadly no sign of China reopening yet. I think Singapore has handled the pandemic well. It would be nice to see classmates in person, though I have managed to maintain Zoom relationships with some, and it was particularly good that Ellen and I could meet up with Carmen and Ray Debbane, who managed to drop by our house in Italy last summer. Perhaps more people will visit Tuscany in 2022?”

Ken Powell wrote: “I’m retired from General Mills as CEO/chair. The new job is taking care of twin grandkids—so fun—as part of our COVID bubble that includes both sets of grandparents. Wendy and I are busy on boards and staying active. I chair the board of regents of the University of Minnesota, which has been a very rewarding experience. And we are traveling a lot to outdoor destinations for hiking! We’re healthy and feel very lucky that we live close to both our daughters and grandkids, especially during the pandemic.”

Jim Russell reported: “I’m working with Ray Noel looking for a good home for Lasertronics. The company has 25 patents on using lasers to strip coatings without damaging the substrate. Needs to be part of a larger company for market success. When the good home comes along, I’ll segue into retirement. I worry about the trajectory of our fragile democracy, but I’m grateful for good health, a happy (mostly) grandson, and nearby skiable mountains.”

Craig Schuler shared that he is “Retired, fat, dumb, and happy. Rosanna and I are doing great together. Through her, we have two very young grandsons. Appreciating each day and hoping for as many more as possible.”

John Stehler wrote: “Michael and I have both been working from home since March 2020, spending a lot of time between Zoom calls in the garden (we’ve never done as much weeding!) and many days never venturing out even to check the mail. My company (ThoughtWorks, TWKS Nasdaq) went public in September, which pushes retirement out a few more years. Our daughter, Gabby, is in grad school at Washington State to become a teacher and just got engaged to her boyfriend of seven years.”

80 Aloha from Hawaiiland. Rambling news to report for this column. A smaller turnout for our COVID-era class reunion. Classmates Stephanie Anderson, Kristi Smith Hernandez along with Dick Demarle, Laura Power (traveling from Vermont), Antonio Puron and his wife from Mexico City, Lewis Griggs with wife Johanna up from Berkeley, Laura Wilson Mugilia and husband Bob from Seattle, Steve Berg (whose daughter is a Stanford undergrad), along with a few others found their way to Palo Alto to attend the long-delayed, semi-virtual class reunion. Let’s all hope that our class reunion attendance rebounds in 2025, so mark your calendar now for that event!

Lewis Griggs made medical history recovering from both intense chemo and radiation to kill stage 3 cancer only then to survive two heart failures and a lung collapse under a COVID ventilator and emerge from this medical nightmare with an amazing gratitude for life and looking like he just finished a modeling gig. Lewis is a Certified Professional Co-Active Leadership Coach, and for the past decade he has been teaching and facilitating spiritual groups after having recovered from three near-death experiences.

And in the “whatever happened to” segment of the column, Vinod Khosla was
an early backer of Commonwealth Fusion Systems, the largest private investor for nuclear fusion and one of several startups racing to be the first to generate carbon-free energy. Vinod, through Khosla Ventures, has also invested in Impossible Foods, the plant-based alternative meatmaker. Vinod’s investing credo: “If you’re right, you make 100 times your money!” Project Redwood continues to thrive with YTD (that’s year-to-date, for those who might need to start taking Prevagen, the television-advertised memory pill) total grants in excess of $3.6 million and over 62 organizations funded in 29 countries. Every dollar donated to Project Redwood supports nonprofits working to alleviate poverty around the globe. Martha Perry Clark and Carol Head were the 2021 Project Redwood cochairs.

Heading to Lake Tahoe, Tom Rackerby said he’s getting back into adventure mode, recently biking 202 miles in Oregon last September, and he missed the reunion by hiking Utah’s five national parks with Stanford Travel. Tom highly recommends Stanford Travel and booked a trip to Ireland last March. Staying close by in the Bay Area, Donna Allen along with husband Harvey, ’72, emerged from their Woodside hibernation and started traveling again to local spots in California’s Humboldt Redwoods State Park before turning east for travel to New York and Connecticut, including a visit to the food CIA (Culinary Institute of America). While in New York City, Donna and Harvey met up with Susan Ip and Man Kong Tsui at their condo in New Rochelle, NY, overlooking Long Island Sound with the New York City skyline in the distance. Also in New York City, Jim Lavin reported the birth of a new grandson (he has four daughters, so this has been happening frequently) and recently ran a 6:45 mile at the Fifth Avenue (New York City) Mile. He is training hard and hopes to finish in the top half overall in the New York City Marathon. Of course, any medical emergency can be immediately dealt with by his wife, Gila, a medical doctor who has delivered more than 3,000 babies (and continues to do so) or one of his three daughters, who are either practicing medicine, researching medicine, or attending medical school. I told Jim and Gila to come to Hawaii and make sure Gila brings her prescription pad. And in Minneapolis, Larry Cerf and wife Karan are also experiencing new grandchildren, and Larry continues to litigate the return of Nazi-era, unlawfully seized family property with a recent court appearance at the Potsdam Courts.

And down here in Hawaiiland, when everybody said the movie theater business was doomed and dead, along came Spiderman III, setting new box office records (in both box office and popcorn sales). TGM (Thank God for the Marvel Universe of action adventure super heroes).

>>> Please send your news to:
Scott Wallace, scottchaw@aol.com
Richard has moved into semi-retirement in the family real estate business and is happy to have his son, Ryan, joining him in the business.

Be sure to check out all the photos that Tony Christopher organized from our reunion. Here’s the link: https://bit.ly/ClassReunionPhotos. I’ve pulled a few from the site to include here for your viewing pleasure. I sure am envious of those who were able to attend in person. Many of you wrote of your frustrations with reduced travel and visiting this year, but hopefully 2022 will bring us a greater sense of normalcy.

Best excuse for missing the reunion belongs to Barb Bishop. Her flight got delayed for five hours because the plane she was first on got hit by a bird, requiring an engine swap. By the time Barb could have arrived, most of the reunion activities would have been over. And she would have been cranky! She wrote that although she now lives in Southern California near Palm Springs, she continues to work with the Monterey arm of the Stanford ACT program. She’s looking at using some of those projects to help nonprofits to work on DEI initiatives.

Dave Ring wrote that he has sold his country place near Healdsburg and is now living in a new house right in town, walking distance from the center, although, as he puts it, there are fewer reasons to go out these days. He still serves on the grants committee of their local community foundation, but he’s maxed out in terms of serving on the board itself. He finds the work rewarding, but like so many other undertakings, it’s been completely upended and reinvented several times during the pandemic.

A personal note: My advocacy work continues, as you’ll see from the photo. The latest in Texas is that we’re leading many other states in our attempts to ban books that have been written by or about BIPOC and LGBTQ+ people. My own book has escaped notice thus far, but school boards around the state are asking libraries to pull 870 titles identified by one of our state legislators as inappropriate. Librarians, principals, and superintendents are retiring early because it has become so difficult.

Have a great spring, and may 2022 bring us all back together in health and good spirits.

Jerry Norman has an interesting take on tech and his career: “I’ve had three careers, all looking at first like ‘technical is an advantage.’ I was wrong about that for all of them.

Success in media weather is much more about the presentation than the accuracy of the forecast.

Success at product management through VP of sales and marketing was much more about the people, both inside and outside, than numbers or algorithms.

In the late ‘90s, CRM consulting looked like a combination of tech and D state processes. Wrong! The tech is simply table stakes; success is all about change management for the users and their supervisors. I migrated into ERP-related systems, and it’s the same thing — education. (Of course, the customers think it’s all about tech . . .)”

Claude Leglise ended 2021 “with a trip to Quebec City to celebrate Christmas French-style without actually going to France. There were Christmas trees, snow, Santa Claus; it was perfect. On the way back I discovered the Niagara wine region and its really interesting wines. Like most classmates I have become adept at holding Zoom meetings and workshops, but I have not mastered finding new customers online. This is obviously a new skill I need to develop. Zoom also helps keep in touch with a family that is spread around the world: France, Japan, Oregon, and more. We wish we could see each other in person but have not had much success recently.”

Lynn O’Leary Pieron related that she “is busy leading the search for a new lead minister at her church after the prior one was caught with his hand in the cookie jar. Prayers will be appreciated by those so inclined!”

Paul Jakab has been working as senior commercial counsel for Penumbra, Inc., a medical device company in the East Bay, since 2015 — remotely since March 2020. His daughter, Michelle, is a software engineer, working for iFixit in San Luis Obispo; and his son, Andrew, is a junior at UC Davis, majoring in applied math and economics and looking for a summer internship.

Mike O’Brien reported: “Still running my financial service fund and had a good year. Still have a high schooler at home! Still swimming and active with three men’s groups, and on the board of directors of a bank in Staten Island and a Montessori school in NJ. Hope to come out for the reunion!”

On one of our Zoom LFP’s last year, I learned that Treadwell Davison retired and moved back to eastern Virginia, on a creek, where he grew up. It sounds idyllic to me, and he agrees that it is! He wrote that while life is not terribly exciting, he and his wife, Judy, get fulfillment by “mixing up volunteer work in the Episcopal Church, nearby Democratic politics, a few small, local nonprofits, and property maintenance/repair with attention to the needs of some older family members. Sometimes our master’s degrees and careers come in handy. We also keep in touch with our former work colleagues and happenings in those ecosystems.”
Chuck Flynn wrote that his third child, 33-year-old Michael Flynn, is a lecturer at Stanford's Graduate School of Engineering and recently moved to Austin, TX, where he works for Rivian. Michael met his fiancée, Taylore Jaques, who works for Apple, at Stanford. Older siblings, architect Katie Flynn and Salesforce VP of sustainability Patrick Flynn, are crazy busy with work and raising their kids who number seven between their two families. For the past 18 years, Chuck has been busy starting and leading a private equity fund of funds business. Bobbie is now 20 years into her teaching career, currently specializing in three-year-old preschoolers. Sherry and Rick Warp celebrated their 50th anniversary, hosted by their children. Daughter Erica lives in London with her family and works for Babylon Health. Her husband, Rich, won an Emmy for his audio work. Daughter Lindsay, a corporate litigator for Gibson Dunn, lives near Rick and Sherry, so they have one set of grandkids nearby.

As for me, I’m still involved with regional theatre, TheatreWorks Silicon Valley, and have especially been enjoying a weekly casual bridge game with Lynn Pieron, Amy Christen, and Kathy Ormseth (Tom’s wife). It’s interesting to see what has sustained us through the pandemic — bridge has been a big help for me.

As you know, we have our 40th reunion coming up, October 6–9. Wendy Franz Richards is excited to be our reunion chair. It’s not too soon to make your plans and your reservations. Please come!

——— Please send your news to: Julie Kaufman, julie@juliekufman.com

88 Greetings, MBA ’83 classmates. Thanks to all of you who sent me updates this past month. Please keep them coming!

Don Ankeny is president and CEO of Westcore Properties in San Diego. In his spare time he has become an accomplished bicyclist, reporting “I am excited to once again participate in the Challenged Athletes Foundation’s (CAF) $1 Million Dollar Challenge — an exhilarating 7-day, 620-mile bike ride from San Francisco to San Diego.” This year was Don’s 6th time riding in the event. “The CAF mission is near and dear to me: We help people with physical challenges pursue an active lifestyle through physical fitness and athletics. CAF raises money to give those with the desire to live active, competitive lifestyles every opportunity to compete in the sports they love.”

Campbell Edlund continues to run the digital marketing agency she founded, now entering its 32nd year and is “relieved we’ve continued to grow even through the pandemic and delighted to be working from the summer house with a view of the Anniquam.” (Parenthetically, just down the street from classmate AP Duffy.) More importantly, she’s thrilled that her daughter, Jessen, is off to vet school at UC Dublin — great school, rambunctious rugby team, and plenty of Guinness.

Ann Duffy indicated that she is “blissfully retired from ‘EarnedIncomeLand’ and also from most of my boards; focusing on family and shoring up two ancient structures we live in, one of which is falling into the sea. Time split between Wilton, CT, and Gloucester, MA, (specifically a small Brigadoon-like spot called Anniquam) with annual forays to Anguilla and wherever my buddies drag me. Platform tennis keeps me partially sane and distracts me from a life of crime in the chillier months, tennis when the weather permits. Am grant(dog)mother to a feisty little spitfire named Harley, and my kids are all fine and kinda launched (pandemic set back a few plans). I see Thayer Wendell McKenzie all the time, as she lives near Gloucester when she’s not in Florida, and I also stay in touch with Laurie Foster and Lynn Baine. Knee-deep in planning DAR/MOU/H’s 45th reunion in June, but expecting it will be canceled due to Zeta or whatever variant we have achieved.”

One of the highlights this fall was getting together with Diane Gates Wallach for lunch in Denver. She has been enjoying her role at her family’s company, serving on several community boards, and being a newly minted grandmother. She has been particularly involved with the 36 Sports Strong movement, which fought for (and essentially prevailed on) restoring the 11 orphaned NCAA sports teams and sports clubs that were cut by the university last year for budgetary reasons. It’s an important area, particularly given how Stanford traditionally ranks at the top nationally in terms of NCAA sports overall, and personally for Diane, who competed on the field hockey, skiing, and lacrosse teams. Toward the end of the year, Diane summed up 2021 saying that she and husband, Marshall, spent a lot of time together — “just the two of us! Too little family, too few parties, too much Zoom, more books read, more golf played, and a few more fish caught on sunny days!”

I visited with Glenn Ikemoto in 2020 in connection with travel to Sonoma where both he and Linda Parker Pennington have homes. Linda’s is a weekend place, and Glenn lives there full time with his family. Both greatly enjoy being part of the Sonoma community. Glenn recently completed a major renovation and addition to his new home close to the main square in downtown Sonoma, and it is both beautiful and functional. I was supposed to be back in Sonoma for New Year’s, but I had to cut short my trip due to COVID’s resurgence and consequently missed celebrating New Year’s Day (a big feast day with football in Glenn’s family). I am hoping to get back again to Sonoma at least once in 2022.

After leaving BCG, Koofo Kalkstein has been on several educational institution boards, including chairing the San Francisco Friends School. A 12-year member, he now serves as the vice-chair of the board of Swarthmore College. He and his partner, Becky, split their time between San Carlos and Center City Philadelphia, about 10 miles from the college. They spend their free time traveling and hiking, primarily in Europe.

Indi Rajasingham wrote that he has become active on public policy and legal issues surrounding patents, and that recent trends are undermining the value of patents both to inventors and to the startups created to develop new technologies. “The innovations of individual inventors and their startups are the core of American innovation,” he wrote, “and a source of prosperity over the last two centuries; the patent system is the catalyst for such innovation.”

Tom Russo wrote to let me know that he is still enjoying life in Lancaster, PA, and that his investment firm was recently renamed Gardner Russo & Quinn LLC. Congratulations, Tom! It’s not every day one of us becomes a named partner!

“…just the two of us! Too little family, too few parties, too much Zoom, more books read, more golf played, and a few more fish caught on sunny days!”

— Diane Gates Wallach, ’83

Finally, as most of you know, it’s now 20 years since Jim Hake founded Spirit of America in response to the attacks of 9/11. Spirit of America is a citizen-funded 501(c)(3) nonprofit that directly contributes to the safety and success of Americans serving abroad and the local people and partners they seek to help. Spirit of America remains a “not-neutral” non-governmental organization; it takes America’s side and only provides assistance in response to needs identified by deployed U.S. troops and diplomats. As such, it represents a new private-public model to support America’s security, leadership, and values. General Stanley McChrystal calls it “an innovation important to our country’s future.” Spirit of America is the only nonprofit officially approved by Congress and the Department of Defense to work alongside deployed U.S. troops and provide private assistance in support of their missions. Since 2003, it has worked alongside U.S. troops and diplomats to deliver the goodwill of the American people and address local needs in more than 90 countries.

I reached out to Jim for an update, as I was curious what Spirit of America was doing in the aftermath of the U.S.’s impromptu exit from Afghanistan and the subsequent takeover of that country by the Taliban. In mid-August, Spirit of America launched its Afghanistan Emergency Fund aimed at helping Afghans fleeing the Taliban. Their entire team is reportedly focused on helping Afghans being evacuated. More recently, Spirit of America, in partnership with the U.S. Embassy in Dushanbe, announced a financial commitment that will keep the Afghan Somoniyon School open to students.
from Tajikistan’s Afghan refugee community. Responding to a critical need of refugee children, Spirit of America is investing more than $80,000 to sustain the school’s operations for the next 12 months.

For those of you who don’t know Jim’s story: Since we graduated, he founded Access Media, one of the first internet media companies and later sold it to Softbank. In 2000 and 2001, Jim was named a Technology Pioneer by the World Economic Forum. He is currently a member of the Council on Foreign Relations and an honorary member of the U.S. Army Civil Affairs Regiment. Jim is also a contributing author to Warriors and Citizens, a book edited by General Jim Mattis and Dr. Kori Schake. Well done, Jim!

A picture tells a thousand words. This picture reflects a fortunate connection from over 40 years ago that has bettered the lives of a whole region of Europe and beyond and has been rewarded for its positive impact by the pope and others. In the photo our classmates Joe Sweeney and Steve Luczo are embracing Dr. Phil Zimbardo, professor emeritus at Stanford University. The picture was taken over the Christmas holidays at Dr. Zimbardo’s house in San Francisco after a lovely dinner prepared by his wife, Christina. While the photo captures a moment in time, the friendship goes back to the 1970s, and the relationship has led to immeasurable impact on the lives of thousands, if not millions, of charity recipients. Joe was Dr. Zimbardo’s teaching assistant in the 1970s. Joe and Steve met in 1978 and have remained great friends ever since. In Steve’s words, Dr. Z had started doing charity work in his ancestral home town of Cammarata, Sicily. When Steve discovered his family’s ancestral land just outside of Corleone and wanted to do something to improve the lives of the children there, Joe connected him with Dr. Z. This connection led to the establishment of the Zimbardo-Luco Fund, a fund that promotes culture as an essential tool for the sociocultural development of human resources. The fund also promotes an annual Festival of Culture, which provides scholarships, prizes, and awards for local artists of Cammarata, San Giovanni Gemini, and Corleone. It also developed a center to help individuals who face physical and mental challenges. That fortunate introduction has had a major impact. How major? In 2015, to recognize his support for education in service to the Italian Republic, Italy’s President Sergio Mattarella honored Steve with the title Cavaliere dell’Ordine della Stella d’Italia (a knighthood known in English as the Order of the Star of Italian Solidarity). In 2019, Pope Francis presented Steve and Agatha Luczo the Pontifical Order of Pope Saint Sylvester (one of five Orders of Knighthood awarded directly by the pope), in recognition of their philanthropy. Steve’s charitable work extends well beyond his ancestral home to include his primary focus on global environmental issues and programs to help at-risk children in the urban centers of the U.S. He is a member of the National Council of World Wildlife Fund, a member of the advisory board for All-Stars Helping Kids, and a senior advisor to the non-profit educational organization Silicon Valley Japan Platform; and he is active in a variety of charitable and for-profit ventures through a wholly owned entity, Balance Vector, Inc. Steve is also a major donor to Stanford University, Stanford Hospital, the World Wildlife Fund, and the Palo Alto Medical Foundation. In 2017 he received from Queen’s University of Belfast the honorary degree Doctor of Science (economics) for services to business and commerce, in recognition of the role that Seagate Technology has had in Northern Ireland since 1993. Steve, from a business perspective, is known for his huge success at Seagate. He retired from Seagate a couple of years ago and stayed on the board up until this year. During his second period as CEO, from 2009 until October 1, 2017, Seagate’s stock appreciated by 1600%, placing it among the top five performing stocks in the S&P 500. He currently serves on the boards of Morgan Stanley and AT&T as well as several smaller private companies.

Steve wrote that his transition to a third career has been fantastic. He founded a private equity firm called Crosspoint Capital Partners in 2019 with his good friends Greg Clark and Matt MacKenzie, former CEO and general counsel of Symantec. They raised $1.3 billion last year and are investing only in cybersecurity and privacy companies.

Steve moved to Paris with his wife and four children in September. He wrote that it has been a fabulous experience so far and they are enjoying the different perspectives on the world. He added that he has continued working, as he wants his kids to see that he is contributing to society, if private equity can be considered as such . . . ? I think the many recognitions you have received say that you have contributed to society, Steve.

Finally, for many of our classmates, one of the most important contributions Steve made while being a co-founder (along with Robert Moog, Dave Bagshaw, and Scott Sotranik) of the Hercules Horseshoe Club (HHC) and of the Hard Core Awards. Both activities were centered on fostering cooperation and conversation among teachers, administrators, and students. According to his bio, Steve still holds the record for most consecutive match wins at the HHC. Bob, Dave, Scott, is that correct?

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I hope this column finds all of you well. Thanks to those who took the time to shoot me a quick email with your updates. I invite all of you to email me your updates, however short or long.

It is amazing to think that we are coming up on two years of living under COVID rule. My hope is that all of you can experience the positive that this pandemic can bring. My heart goes out to those who have struggled or experienced loss.

Since my last column, we had our in-person (delayed) 35th reunion. About 50 classmates met on October 8–9, 2021, to catch up in person. We were able to take advantage of the smaller group attending the reunion by having more in-depth personal reports and intimate meetings. Overall, the reunion was enjoyable and successful. Having said that, I truly look forward to our next reunion in 2025 when all of us can meet in person.

In case you missed it, last fall, Jim Friedlich, MBA ’85, in “Voices” on page 62.

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and, again, I look forward to meeting with classmates who enjoy the sport.”

Ernest Jacquet reported: “Kids doing great: Gabrielle (a seven-year-old when we were at the GSB) teaches Medicine at Boston University; Alexandre (age three at GSB) graduated from the GSB and is COO of a digital media startup. I focus on building a few companies: one is America Clean Energy Partners, whose mission is “Cleaning the Environment for Future Generations”; another is my “legacy project”: building the leading C2C deferred parcel delivery company in the world, International Package Shipping. I was elected chair of the Richard Taittinger Art Gallery on the Lower East Side where we are transforming the way art is sold to millennials. I am still sailing out of Newport, RI, and Martha’s Vineyard in the summer and moving to Fort Lauderdale in the winter — if in the area, please call me.”

Mark Zitter wrote: “I’ve been in touch with many other classmates beyond those I saw at our reunion. My Touch-Feely group has been meeting every other month, and our class’s Learning Group on Systemic Racism continues to hold outstanding Zoom sessions on a regular basis. Recently I reconnected with Som Das over some mutual business interests, which is a pretty good trick for me since I’m retired. The nonprofit I chair, the Zetema Project, held its first in-person meeting in two years and piloted a hybrid approach that worked well for both on-site and remote participants. On the personal side, Jessica and I finally are empty nesters and recently celebrated our 25th wedding anniversary.”

David Muller reported: “Thank you to everyone who submitted a piece for the book Vignettes, Lessons & Stories. I think it is an understatement to say that nothing has ever been published that even remotely compares to this exquisite compilation. The greatest part of doing it was having 200+ Zoom calls with my classmates during the process — and coaxing people to submit a piece. While all the submissions were fantastic, I think everyone would agree that the entire endeavor would have been worth it just to read the submission by Professor Phillips, and that doesn’t even count the beautiful pieces submitted by Q Bell, Steve Krausz, Bruce Golden, and Jim Lussier, among others. I plan to do it again next year. For anyone with whom I have not spoken, or even for those with whom I did speak, I love doing Zoom calls to catch up and would be absolutely thrilled to hear from you at any time.” Speaking of publications, Paul Guenette reported that his memoir, From Kalamazoo to Timbuktu (“a rollicking tale of a well-lived life, guaranteed to make you grin, cringe, and guffaw!”), had a successful launch.

Kudos to a few of our classmates who participated in GSB ACT (Alumni Consulting Team) projects: Linda Lazor for her work with the “I Have A Dream” Foundation, Su Moon Paik for her work with the Almaden Country Day School, and Andrew Rich for his work with the Quantum Leap Healthcare Collaborative. And thanks to all of you who contribute meaningfully in your chosen volunteer endeavors.

Again, I invite all of you to drop me a quick note with an update on you and our classmates.

Quotes for the issue: “Philosophy does not claim to get a person any external possession. To do so would be beyond its field. As wood is to the carpenter, bronze to the sculptor, so our own lives are the proper material in the art of living.” (Epictetus) “Make no mistake about it — enlightenment is a destructive process. It has nothing to do with becoming better or being happier. Enlightenment is the crumbling away of untruth. It’s the complete eradication of everything we imagined to be true.” (Adyashanti)

Hello GSB ’86 classmates! I hope all is well.

For this column, I’ve planned something different. During our 35th reunion festivities in October 2021, Kathleen (Kathi) Gwynn gave a wonderful talk. She was the MBA admissions director who welcomed each of us to the Class of ’86. During her talk, she shared facts and stories about how she chose the members of our class. For space reasons, I’ve shortened her talk slightly. I hope you enjoy her remarks about our class!

Kathi Gwynn’s Remarks, October 2, 2021 — “Reflections about the Class of 1986”

On the occasion of the 35th Reunion of the Class of 1986

Thank you, Patty (Einarson), John (Helding), and members of the ’86 reunion committee for the opportunity to join all of you tonight, whether you are here in person or via Zoom. It’s a special honor.

This event brings me back about 37 years and one week! I remember standing in front of you at Bishop Auditorium welcoming you to the GSB. All of you were excited to be here and some had already been here for about a month while enrolled as “poets.” More than a few of you that day were wondering whether I’d made a mistake in admitting you. That’s based on one-on-one conversations I had with some of you after you arrived on campus in 1984 — and already tonight. I assured you that I hadn’t made a mistake!

I thought I’d share a few numbers about the competitiveness of the admissions process you went through, then talk about my philosophy on building an MBA class at the GSB, and finally discuss what makes your class unique.

Let’s start with the fall of ’83 when you started to apply to the GSB. Virtually all of you were working full time; only a few of you were still undergraduates. You had either already taken the GMAT, or it was facing you in October ’83 or January ’84. You might have been applying to two to four schools; that’s a small number compared to today.

You might not have known the GSB’s MBA Admissions Office expected to receive, and did consider, over 5,100 applications that year. You probably also didn’t know that I was 29 years old when I made the decisions on your class.

There were only 410 offers of admission made to enroll the 318 members of your class. And I know there were exactly 218 students on registration day because there were 318 seats in the classrooms you occupied for your sections. The school required that every one of those seats be filled, and none of you could be left to stand or sit on the floor.

To say admission was competitive would be an understatement. At that time, the GSB was THE most competitive MBA program in the world to which to gain admission. Less than 8 percent of those who applied for the Class of 1986 received an offer, and 77 percent of them accepted. That 77 percent yield was the highest among MBA programs. With that as background, let me describe my philosophy as the director of admissions, or as I was known in many quarters, and quite accurately, the director of rejections.

First, and as required by the school, you had to have strong academics to be considered. Over 3,500 of the applicants for your class met that standard. Each application had to be reviewed closely.

I wanted individuals who would be willing to contribute to the class, both in the academic setting and outside of it. The GSB was known for its collaborative quality when compared to other top schools. While it was important for candidates to be assertive and appropriately aggressive, I wasn’t interested in candidates who were willing to run over others. The GSB believed that leadership meant bringing others along with you and being ethical in your actions, as well as being competitive with regards to other companies or countries.

I focused on how you thought about yourselves, and equally important, what others thought about you. In building your class, the school and I required diversity. I need to clarify something here. These days, “Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion” is fortunately much more comprehensive than what “diversity” signified in 1984. Back then, diversity included racial diversity but, in the school’s context, it went beyond that. It was also considered a hallmark of the GSB. It differentiated us from other schools. We had the luxury of so many great applicants that I could pick-and-choose for diversity. So, in addition to racial diversity, I sought diversity in several other areas:

- In unique personal experiences or backgrounds that would enrich conversations and life objectives for you and your classmates
- In professional experiences:
  - By admitting women, as they were only 38% in 1984.
  - Within international candidates
    - Through candidates who might be focused on nonprofit or government careers, as we had a public management program integrated within the GSB.
    - And through individuals who could think “out-of-the-box.”
  
The last one is the BIG ONE. In my shorthand, it’s creativity, and it’s clear that your class is a great example of it. Research available
at the time demonstrated that although people use both the left and right side of the brain, they usually will have a dominant side. Left-side-dominant individuals are numerically inclined, logical, analytical, and likely to think in words; the right side of the brain corresponds to creativity, big-picture thinking, emotions, and non-verbal communication. It was evidence of [creativity] that would make me sit up in my chair late in the evening. Whether it was one of your references who mentioned it, or one of your essays that provided an example of it, or the fact that your work experience or outside interests and activities demonstrated a passion for it—any evidence of creativity, big-picture thinking, and skills in nonverbal communication caught my attention.

I was fortunate that the applicant pool for your class had a large group of people who had that creativity and big-picture thinking I cherished. Your class had numerous notable creatives. You probably remember your ground-breaking production of Equus. Also important, there were musicians and bands, writers and authors, individuals whose talents came to the fore in Touchy Feely and in negotiations class. There were others who started the first AIDS awareness program, including securing buy-in from Stanford’s President Don Kennedy, who hosted a reception at the university to raise funds and support for those with AIDS. There was always something going on in your class. There were ideas floating everywhere—for businesses, for supporting the arts, for supporting education, for supporting each other. THAT was what made your class unique.

And what made YOU a member of the Class of ’86? People often asked me what led to their admission. If you did so 37 years ago, I would have told you—and possibly you still remember. I’m not going to remember it now, so please don’t ask me. But it was there. Whatever you brought with you to orientation 37 years ago enabled you to be a valued member of the Class of ’86.

I am very grateful I had the opportunity to admit you to the GSB and to see you here again, and hopefully to hear some of your stories today. Thank you!

>>> Please send your news to:
Melissa Nidever, nidever@berkeley.edu

35TH REUNION: OCT. 6 – 9, 2022

Welcome back! With the GSB magazine’s publication schedule having changed from three issues a year to two, it’s been a while since my last update, so let’s jump right in!

Wendell Birkhofer retired last year from a 40-year career in the investment field. He co-founded a small brokerage firm with his dad after getting a BA from Stanford in 1978; then after leaving the GSB, Wendell joined Dodge & Cox in San Francisco as an equity research analyst. He ended up staying there for over 33 years, eventually becoming a senior portfolio manager, though “I never dreamed that the final months of my career would be spent

Leigh Johnson, wife of Roy Johnson, ’86, Lauri Campbell, Teri Tompkins Read, Melinda Lehman, and Peggy Froes Wagner, all ’86.

Betsy Cotton and Carolyn Gazeley, both ’86.

Kirk Millet, ’86.

Kent Libby, ’66.

Perry Dembner and Laurie Hodder Greeno, both ’86.

Teri Read, Melissa Nidever, and Todd Harris, all ’86.

Margaret Tobin, ’86.
Eric Rosen’s win over Rich Enthoven capping off a great weekend. The event had a terrific turnout of players, non-players and several spouses. Lots of Boston-area folks showed up for Friday’s dinner, and Clara Spalter Miller stayed for the whole weekend. David Tolkowsky surprised the group by coming from Tel Aviv. The weather cooperated for Saturday’s tour of Boston, and Stanford football defeated #3 Oregon during the pre-poker dinner. Congratulations to Kevin for orchestrating a successful event, and to Eric for his big win.

And while I’m sort of on the topic of Stanford football—just call me Mr. Smooth Transition—John Hou sent me a couple of great pictures from last fall’s Big Game, during which he met up with Walt Borst, Peggy Brannigan, Kevin Callaghan, Karen Shishino Jordan, Mark Jung, Howie Rosen, Tony Stayner, Paul Zuber, and several spouses and other family members.

Laurie Girand announced her candidacy for State Assembly District 74 in late December. You can visit her website, votegirand.org, to learn more about her campaign. She’s excited about the opportunity for change in California because redistricting and term limits will shift power in the state legislature over the next couple of years. Laurie welcomes support of any kind, including encouragement and endorsements. Her primary election is in early June.

Although 2021 was somewhat uneventful for Aamir Shah, he said that he expects that 2022 may bring some big changes. After 30+ years in the U.S. and Europe, he might finally head back to Asia this year for a business start-up opportunity in the Middle East. He’s also looking forward to a trip to California for a wedding this summer, when he hopes to meet up with Ajay Singh, Greg Morris, and Susan Boyce.

Congratulations to David Dodson, who was awarded the 2021 MS Distinguished Teaching Award at the GSB. This quote from one of his students tells you all you need to know about why Dave got the award: “Dave is more than just a teacher…he is a mentor and a life guide whose closing remarks at the end of the quarter were described as truly breathtaking and memorable.” Congratulations, Dave, on this great recognition!

In Bart Narter’s own words: “Who would have imagined that I would be getting married for the first time, at age 60, with a Parkinson’s diagnosis, to a Stanford grad? I certainly would not have been so bold to imagine any of this happening, but there you go. Jorge Reyes and I married on October 23 in San Jose. He brings incredible joy to my life on a daily basis.”

Mark Hurley, Karlyn Carnahan, and Sue Boyce were present for the celebration.

Jeffry Weisman and Andrew Fisher took advantage of the COVID “downtime” in early 2021 to undertake a major renovation of their house in San Miguel de Allende. They also bought a new apartment in Mexico City and built out the interior over a five-month period. Then in a burst of admirable stamina, they moved into both places just two weeks apart, with client installations in San Francisco during both the week between the moves and

Eric Rosen, ’87, poses with his trophy and runner-up Rich Enthoven, ’86, after last fall’s World Series of Poker.

Jorge Reyes, Bart Narter, ’87, exchanged wedding vows in October.

(L-R) Paul Zuber, ’87, Michelle Jung, Walter Borst, ’87, Kevin Callaghan, ’87, Mark Jung, ’87, Christina Borst, Anne Hou, and John Hou, ’87, got together for dinner after the Big Game.

(L-R) Tony Stayner, Howie Rosen, Peggy Brannigan, and Karen Shishino Jordan, all ’87, enjoying the view from the 50-yard line at last fall’s Big Game.

Cathleen and Scott Richland recently moved from Pasadena to Orinda, 25 minutes from their son in San Francisco and just over an hour from their other son in Santa Cruz. They’re thrilled to be back in northern California and look forward to reconnecting with friends in the area. Scott has been chief investment officer at Caltech for almost 12 years and now commutes between Orinda and Pasadena, as needed. Thanks to great endowment returns under Scott’s leadership, Caltech is one of a handful of universities in the country that has need-blind admissions and full-need financial aid. Cathleen remains extremely busy in the local community and celebrated her fifth anniversary of lung-cancer-free living in 2021. Their older son is getting married this spring.

Kevin Callaghan hosted the 36th GSB World Series of Poker in Boston last fall, with working from home, watching the stock market drop 35% at the start of the pandemic, then fully recover in five months.” A major highlight was analyzing the media/entertainment industry during a period of massive technological change (the demise of newspapers, the growth of the internet). “I immensely enjoyed serving our clients, both institutions and high-net-worth families, to achieve their goals.” Celeste and Wendell raised two children, Wiley and Elise, both Stanford grads, but tragically lost Wiley to bipolar disorder in 2014. Wendell’s post-retirement plans include philanthropy with a focus on ocean conservation, disadvantaged youth, and mental health. He and Celeste are also building a new home in Portola Valley, not far from Zott’s.

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the week immediately after! This past January, they displayed their lighting collection at a show in Paris.

Finally, congratulations to three of the outstanding women from our class for the following recognition and achievements:

**Sakie Fukushima** was featured prominently last fall in a *New York Times* Business section front-page story on women serving on boards of directors of Japanese companies. Since 2001, she has served on the boards of 12 major Japanese companies including Sony, Bridgestone, Mitsubishi, and Konica Minolta, and on the advisory board of the Development Bank of Japan. In most cases, she was the first woman ever to serve on these boards. She was also the only woman vice-chair of Keizai Doyukai (Japan Association of Corporate Executives) from 2011 to 2015. After four years at Bain right after the GSB, Sakie spent 20 years with Korn Ferry, where she was a board member for 12 years and CEO of its Japan operations for nine. In 2008, *Business Week* included her on its list of “The World’s 100 Most Influential Headhunters,” the only Japanese person and one of just nine women on the list. Sakie is truly an important role model for women in Japan, which the Davos World Economic Forum has recognized repeatedly last fall in a front-page story on women serving in executive ranks, and the Davos World Economic Forum is among 153 countries in its *Global Gender Gap Report 2020*. My thanks to Sakie’s husband, Glen, for providing all this information. In his words, “She is a typically modest Japanese woman (which is one of the reasons she has been so successful in Japan) and would never promote herself, which is why I am taking the liberty of sending you this email.”

**SVB Financial Group**, the parent company of Silicon Valley Bank, added **Busy Burr** to its board of directors in November. In announcing the move, the board chair cited Busy’s past work at Carrot, Inc., Citigroup, and Humana. “Busy’s... direct experience with investment banking, corporate venture, entrepreneurship and the health care field will be extremely relevant as we grow and innovate our business in all of these areas.”

**Lauri Kien Kotcher** was named CEO of The Shade Store, a window treatment brand, in late 2021. In recent years, The Shade Store has grown to more than 100 locations, and last year it purchased one of the country’s largest remaining custom window treatment workrooms. The company has also been partnering with marquee names in the design trade. Lauri was most recently the CEO of Hello Products, a personal-care brand that was purchased by Colgate-Palmolive. In the announcement of her new position, Lauri said, “I have spent the entirety of my career building and growing consumer brands that people fall in love with, and I can’t wait to share my experience with The Shade Store team and bring that customer passion into the home.”

Thanks to everyone for your news and photos! I look forward to hearing from you again in another few months.

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Please send your news to:

*Arthur Diaz, acdusa@yahoo.com*

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88 It doesn’t seem so long ago that many of us were turning 50, beginning to experience shifts in our life’s priorities and sharing some pretty interesting life reflections. Notes from you this past January reveal that shifts seem to be happening again.

Many of us have now celebrated our 60th, some more quietly than others. We are setting new goals and starting encore careers; our children have matriculated through college, grad school, and are now on to getting married, even having babies. Wow — even a few of us are enjoying an encore marriage! And, sadly, 33 years out, several classmates have transitioned to another realm, most recently our JD/MBA classmate **Tim Craig**.

Our dear classmate **Tim Craig** passed away in November 2021. Tim was a calm, friendly, and thoughtful presence in our class. Tim had a heart attack while having dinner with his wife of 44 years, Therese Ojibway, and his son, Clinton. He passed shortly thereafter. Tim received his JD/MBA from Stanford and went on to a successful career as an entertainment lawyer. Among other things, Tim was passionate about film, Native American issues, all Detroit sports, and advocating for youth who have autism, particularly his son. May Tim rest in peace and may his family take solace knowing that Tim contributed greatly to the projects that he was so passionate about. He was deeply appreciated and loved by many members of the Class of 1988.

Lots of notes to share with you all.

Remember that former class secretary **Stacy Carlson** worked in Washington, DC, as staff director of the House Administration Committee before becoming a speechwriter for Secretary of the Treasury Hank Paulson during the Great Financial Crisis of 2007–2009? Well, talk about encore careers! Stacy’s now a third-year master of divinity student at Virginia Theological Seminary, will be ordained an Episcopal priest in September, and is stepmom to four great adult kids, ages 24 to 30. In April 2021, Stacy and Kevin Kelly declared their wedding vows. Nevermind that COVID safety protocols in those days (hopefully now a distant past) were max to guests! Stacy and Kevin made the best of it with the kids fulfilling critical duties and close friends, like classmates **Marty Keaveny Bradt** and **Bess Weatherman**, attending via Zoom.

And, we have another newlywed in our ranks, **Cam Hewell**. Cam’s wedding to longtime sweetheart, Scarlett Collings, took place over the August 21, 2021, weekend. Thanks to eyewitness **Rob Henderson**, we learned that “In true Texas Hill Country fashion, festivities began at Poodies Roadhouse in Spicewood, where the revelry benefited from Texas’ famously lax attitude toward COVID restrictions. The party subsequently spilled over to Cam’s ‘estate’ on Lake Travis, and finished with the big event at the Lakeway Resort in Austin. The shindig was so youthfully exuberant, it was hard to detect that the guests were decades out of school.”

Many bemoaned travel limitations imposed since March 2020, but not **Jim Villanueva**. Jim kept himself active with plenty of outdoor fun. Last year, his activities included mountain biking in Montana with **George Davis**, **Greg Jones**, **Fraser Black**, and **Bob Grady** as well as several golf vacations with friends.

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Mary (Jassim) Bellack’s family reported that she has found a calling as chief party planner, post medical device career. Mary started off big during the summer of 2021 planning a rocking 60th birthday and 50th anniversary backyard bash. Photos document that several classmates were in attendance: Alan and Terry (Stromberg) Thygessen, Randy, PhD ’88, and Chrissy (Burnley) Bucklin, Joe Davis and wife Stacey Wueste, Frances Hochschild, as well as Craig and Gina Jorasch, both ’89. Heard on the street: Even the local police showed up!

Later in the year, the Bellacks continued their debauchery when celebrating the marriage of their oldest child, Garrison, with a three-day destination wedding held at the Hotel Del Coronado on Coronado Island. The wedding reception was relatively contained, with guests suffering only one broken wrist. Clearly, the Bellacks are enjoying retirement. No word at this time on what’s up for 2022.

Classmates also shared some pretty awesome personal accomplishments.

Robbie Bach just released his first novel, *The Wilkes Insurrection*. It’s described as “a techno-thriller filled with heart-pounding action, compelling characters, and shocking plot twists.” His main characters include an elusive extremist hell-bent on destroying America; a woman of uncommon valor haunted by her tragic past; a dark-web hacker confronting his conscience; and a failed intelligence officer in search of redemption! Robbie’s receiving high marks (4.6/5 on Amazon) for his great storytelling and being compared to authors Tom Clancy, Jeffrey Archer, and Nelson DeMille!

Since retiring from Microsoft in 2010, Robbie’s taken on a variety of roles and responsibilities, some of which could serve as rich sources of ideas for his next techno-thriller. Robbie’s role as board member for the Bipartisan Policy Center, a think tank focusing on finding solutions for our most challenging political issues—health care, energy, national security, the economy, housing, immigration, infrastructure, governance, and education issues—is likely to be content-rich.

Congrats, Robbie, on this successful book release, and thank you for applying your mind to drive positive change in our communities.

 Fellow class secretary, Bob Grady, shared a photo with this caption: “Harking back to GSB days and the 1987 ‘Avenue of the Giants’ marathon, in October 2021, I ran and actually finished the Boston Marathon. The race is typically run on Patriot’s Day in April, but last year it was postponed due to COVID.” Bob used the occasion to raise funds for the Brain Aneurysm Foundation (BAF), and he and his colleagues from Summit Partners raised over $200,000 for the BAF and other charities in connection with the race. Bob’s finishing time was not disclosed…

Justin Manson sent exciting news from across the pond. “I was appointed an OBE by the Queen at the 2022 New Year’s Honours for Services to Business and the Economy. This came following my time as interim CEO of UK Government Investments (UKGI).” Looking up Justin’s new honor, I see that OBE stands for Officer of the Order of the British Empire and is given to people who have made a major contribution to their line of work. Justin’s reflection in the CEO report of the 2019-UKGI annual report describes the UKGI work: “A lot of what we do is dealing with the difficult problems that the private sector can’t deal with or doesn’t have to deal with. Public servants have to deal with the world “as it is” — whether that is the health service dealing with COVID; the police and security services dealing with terrorism or, closer to home in UKGI, dealing with unpredictable corporate distress situations, curing a once-unsellable mortgage portfolio, or streamlining the management of nuclear decommissioning. We stop bad stuff happening, and we make good stuff happen that wouldn’t otherwise.” Congratulations, Justin! You and Robbie should definitely compare notes — maybe you already do?!

Messages about another amazing undertaking, still yet to come to fruition, came from across the world, Australia, home to Mark Richardson and his wife, Polly. Mark has been incredibly busy for the past 30 months developing and managing every aspect of The Last Great First — A Journey for the Future of our Planet — a $1.5 million, unsupported 110-day ski crossing of Antarctica in -40°C temperatures. Working with the Antarctic Science Foundation, the team of two doctors, one of which is Mark’s godson, will collect real-time ice temperatures; glacial measurements; and atmospheric, meteorological, and cloud data across the whole of Antarctica. This data, recorded for the first time ever, will be made freely available to the world’s scientists. See more on thelastgreatfirst.com.au.

Mark added that “any remaining time I have is taken up with our three-year-old grandson, Louis. Wow — that certainly feels like aging!”

Next issue, I bet we’ll have some notes that fall into the category of “pearls of wisdom learned while babysitting my grandchild.” Personally, I’m not at that stage yet, but I did just buy my mother-of-the-bride dress for our daughter’s May wedding. This event will also be a three-day extravaganza!

And with that, your friendly scribe will sign out. Stay well, everyone. May we all be reading this column next during a lower-stress time period with the Greek alphabet all but forgotten.

Cheers,
Alison, Bob, Frances, and Rob

>>> Please send your news to:
Bob Grady, bgrady22@gmail.com
Rob Henderson, r.henderson@alumni.stanford.edu
Frances Hochschild, fhochschild@gmail.com
Alison Poetsch, alisonlongp@gmail.com

Chris Marino said that he “caught up with Jim Madsen on a road trip to The Farm Winery back in October, and it turns out that Jeff Green was there too! He was there helping Stan Kaplita get Zeze Farms going. Missed connecting with Stan, but a very fun time anyway.”

Roy Noda reported: “Got together for a Christmas party in Tokyo on December 4. Mostly face-to-face, but hybrid with some participating on Zoom.”

Zahra Maher reported: “The move to Princeton has been full of ups and downs. The high school in Princeton is great, and we love it. I get to take advantage of lectures and theater at Princeton University… was delighted to meet up with Julie Gillete, her husband, and their son. Their daughter, Anna, now attends Princeton. I continue to do my investment management job and actively invest in the market, but I already miss the big-city vibe. We go to New York City a lot and have met with Wayne Waddington a few times, who has the cutest, most
beautiful son, Augustus! During our recent ski trip to Deer Valley, I had lunch with Kim and Mike Persky, who now live there (sadly, forgot to take a photo!). I have spoken to but am still trying to catch up with Pericles Mazarakis and Robert Ottenstein in New York City. The pandemic doesn’t help. Please call if you visit Princeton!”

From Gary Hammer: “We’ve been very fortunate during the pandemic. Everyone in my immediate family has stayed healthy and productive. Xenia, ‘90, is teaching high school math at Castilleja, a girls’ school in Palo Alto. It is especially challenging in COVID times, but she loves the work and the kids. Our youngest is finishing college this spring (Cal Berkeley), our middle one is halfway through law school (Georgetown), and the eldest has just recently relocated for work from Chicago to . . . back in the Bay Area! Yes, Xenia and I are glad to have son #1 nearby again, and #2 now will be spending his upcoming law school summer in San Francisco, too!

“My latest startup (Safetrust) has been keeping me very busy, and we’re doing well in our space: software/hardware for physical security in the enterprise and commercial real estate markets. On top of typical ‘who should enter’ functions, we also will provide sophisticated data services around staff location, use of corporate resources, etc. We are in negotiations for our Series A but are already cash-flow positive with two customers in the Global 50, and several other large enterprises are moving forward with our products and services. I manage our enterprise relationships here in North America. Working very hard, but it’s been fun.”

On November 20, Andrew Feiler presented an exclusive author’s discussion and tour of his premiere solo exhibition at the National Center for Civil and Human Rights in downtown Atlanta for the GSB Club of Atlanta, the Stanford Club of Georgia, and Atlanta’s All-Ivy Alliance. This impactful exhibit features photographs from Andrew’s latest book A Better Life for Their Children: Julius Rosenwald, Booker T. Washington, and the 4,978 Schools That Changed America. Andrew’s narrative tour concluded with Q&A and a book-signing event. This exhibit is already booked at numerous museums across the country through 2024, so check his website (andrewfeiler.com) and watch for it in a city near you!

Rebecca Macieira-Kaufmann published FitCEO: Be the Leader of Your Life in September. The book is about achieving holistic health—at work, home, and play. It shares lessons learned over decades of leadership, fitness, transformation, and life to enable any reader ready for “immediate and imperfect action” to make small changes in habits that can manifest in lifelong change. The book can serve as a powerful tool for a CEO, leader, parent, friend, or just about anyone.

Victor Gilberti, sending best wishes to all classmates and their families, reported that he survived COVID: “Gained and lost COVID 15 lbs. Still need to lose the pre-COVID, post-GSB 25 lbs.” The upside of COVID: Victor has developed a superpower: “I can navigate around the world in one day!”
every pothole between home, Starbucks, Panera, Chipotle, 5 Guys, Jersey Milkes, and any number of pizzerias — by memory. Sometimes all in the same day, because you know, teenage boys can eat at random hours and frequently. This is somewhat ironic since DoorDash and Instacart are my clients. But it was a darn good excuse to get out of the house.” Victor is still working with Joshua Sommer, ’88, on private company valuations and related analysis and trying to navigate the special-purpose acquisition company (SPAC) craze with clients.

Going back further into 2021, Roy Noda reported that “April is the best season for the view of Mt. Fuji, as well as a socially distanced and masked round of golf” with classmates Steve O’Neill, Jun Iseda, and Tak Nagato. They were evenly matched, with only six strokes separating the high and low score, and will be playing again in June.

Bob Drach pointed out our classmate Stan Kaplita and his ag-tech startup, Shamrock Greens, Inc. The business leverages best practices from controlled-environment agriculture, healthy eating, and sustainability with solid engineering and logistics execution. His farms take up one percent of the footprint of conventional farms, conserve water, and deliver a consistent variety of fresh greens to markets and commercial food distributors. “I know that many of us are recovering entrepreneurs, and I for one am glad to see that our class still has a few startups in the pipeline. I believe that Stan is in early stages yet but with retail contracts for store trials and plans for future rounds of funding based on hitting preset velocity and productivity metrics. You may want to reach out to him if you have an interest in this type of business.” shamrockgreens.com

It is our sad duty to report that John Neil passed away last July. According to Simon Glinsky, “John was a friend to many in the class, well-liked, and an Arjay Miller Scholar, to boot. He was truly enjoying his Colorado environs in recent years, based in a marvelous Denver home. He also worked with me and Gary Kremen at The Glinsky Group and Match.com earlier in his career. I have many fond memories of John’s laughter and intellect and will miss him.”

As our final update, Adam Kaiser related how he weathered 2021:

Hello, GSB classmates! We’re just docking the Dolce Vita here at our customary slip in Ibiza, having completed the crossing in a mere two weeks, give or take. The trip was a rough one, and, I must admit, I was never so happy to see that old familiar shoreline. Pulling into the berth, I threw a wave to my buddy Thurston Howell III, perched in his usual seat atop the Andiamo, a svelte, 75-meter multi-hull. Our twin turbo-diesels are in dire need of a tune-up, and Philomena and I are in need of some R&R. We’d grown tired of the season in Biscayne Bay, and when I lost all that money to Borowitz in the fronton and turned my ankle on the pickleball court, we looked at one another and said, “Ibiza! No more jai alai for me (at least for a while!).

Once we’ve rested up a bit, I’ll go back to doing what I do best — sitting on my fundament, sipping 30-year-old Pappy van Winkle while they pay me like Justin Bieber to sift through the micro currents of global cryptocurrency fluctuations. That’s just the tonic for me! When Thurston asked me how I’d managed to graduate from the Freedom to the Dolce Vita, I said: “Easy! You get into Bitcoin at $10K and out at $30K, you get into Litecoin at $50 and out at $200, you get into Dogecoin at $0.05 and out at $0.10. It’s that simple! Huzzah!”

Looking over to portside, I can see my pal Smirnoff in slip 3A, where his 90-meter Tahtoo sits placidly at its mooring. Smirnoff looks good in a suit, knows his way around a pie chart, speaks five languages, and is a wiz at inspiring legions to do more for less while he does less for more. Now, Smirnoff is forever trying to get me into his version of a perfect hedge, where every position has a 100% inverse correlation to the first position, and every inverse has a 75 percent correlation to the reciprocal of the second position. See? Neither do I...
Cornell, studying mechanical and aerospace engineering. Natalie is taking a gap year from the University of Puget Sound, working and performing in several local musicals. They are great kids, with very different personalities and passions! Nicholas was #1 in Colorado in biathlons (a sport that combines cross-country skiing and rifle shooting), and one year he was #2 in the country. He is also an ace drone builder and operator. Natalie is an artist and has a beautiful singing voice as well.” After 15 years creating and running a large single-family office for a multi-billionaire in the oil and gas industry, Lisa started her own boutique multi-family office six years ago. “I currently work with three families in the venture capital and commercial real estate industries based in California and Aspen. I have built an amazing national network after 25 years working in this niche industry. We would love to help a fourth client family, if anyone is looking. On the weekends I enjoy hiking and snowshoeing in the mountains outside my door and skiing at the resorts only two hours west. I love to show off Boulder — if anyone is vacationing here, looking at the University of Colorado for their kids, or even considering retiring to Boulder — if anyone is vacationing here, the resorts only two hours west. I love to show off Boulder — if anyone is vacationing here, looking at the University of Colorado for their kids, or even considering retiring to Boulder (we have received a few calls), please reach out!”

Mike Fitzgerald reported, “I’m still living in New York City (23 years and counting), and I enjoy working at MidCap Advisors, LLC, where I provide M&A advisory services to lower middle-market (under $100 million) companies, most of which are founder- or family-owned.” Mike brings diverse operational and management experience to helping his clients figure out when is the right time to sell and how to position their company for sale. His typical client is a baby boomer who is very independent and who merits a lot of respect for growing the kind of successful, under-the-radar businesses that are being snapped up by private equity firms these days. “Our clients have built fantastic businesses over 20, 30, or more years, but most have never been through a sale, so it’s all new, and it’s very personal for them. We spend a lot of time both educating and also getting to know them and what they value besides money. I’m fortunate to have had some clients who have become good friends.” On the personal front, Mike volunteers for Project Redwood, the nonprofit founded by the GSB Class of ’80 that is dedicated to alleviating global poverty. “I also have a 20-year plan to develop a profitable second serve in tennis,” Mike revealed. You can find Mike playing tennis and running in nearby Central Park during his free time. He enjoys getting together occasionally with fellow New Yorkers Howard Altmann and Michael Goldstein, among others.

Since our GSB graduation, Michael Goldstein has led a varied career that includes successfully restructuring companies; transforming old-line companies into modern enterprises; consulting to a Fortune 50 CEO; and founding media, technology, and nonprofit organizations. Over the past year, he’s focused increasingly on public interest activities, co-founding several nonprofits, and participating with classmates on various projects. “One group of nonprofits is dedicated to using data and technology to shine light on the activities of key private and public sectors. For local government accountability and to redistribute the benefits of big data, we have started https://datasoucenj.org. New Jersey Institute of Technology’s Ying Wu College of Computing is our primary sponsor. To reveal the deceptions involved in top-tier college admissions processes, we launched https://transparencyinadmissions.org. Next, we will focus on automating the collections process for those with uncollected legal judgments, which accounts for 80 percent of all civil court judgments. Then, the activity turns to surgical supply pricing in health care, which is gamed by the big distributors. The other set of activities involves waste-to-energy processes to help clean up our environment in a financially sustainable way. I am working with Philip Father, who founded a company purchasing the rights to a system platform originally built by Fortune 500 SAIC for forward military operating bases in Afghanistan. Philip and I have leveraged the platform to present a solution addressing forest fuels reduction to mitigate the number and intensity of wildfires. We are joined by Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, Rutgers’ Industrial and System Engineering Department, the Gudivole Rancheria Tribe, and others. In addition, the chair of Rutgers’ department and the lab’s head of bioenergy have joined with me to launch a new nonprofit, Emissions Safe, to ensure that emissions and effluents from waste-to-energy processes are nontoxic to humans and the environment.” Michael welcomes any classmates with an interest in helping on these projects to reach out. He praises Laura Abramson, Winningham OBE, citing the positive feeling and motivation he’s received from monthly contributions to City Harvest London, her food rescue organization. “Think about donating as you will get much more in good feeling than the cost of the donation,” urges Michael. “I hope you and your families are well and safe.”

Philip Father has been looking skyward for his entire career. An aerospace engineer before business school, he pivoted to management consulting after graduation. However, the majority of his career has since been dedicated to being a serial entrepreneur and founder/CEO in the high-tech, satellite, and renewable energy space. Philip is currently founder and CEO of satellite venture Scepter, Inc. He’s now raising $400 million — over time — to deploy satellite detection technology that monitors air pollution and provides customer-specific, real-time atmospheric data to aid in compliance and improvement toward environmental sustainability goals. Philip is excited to share that Scepter will be the first satellite company to collaborate with ExxonMobil, an important “anchor customer.” Scepter satellites will — on a global, real-time basis — detect and quantify leaks of methane and other harmful greenhouse gasses that contribute to climate change. What does this mean for anyone who’s concerned about climate change (and really, shouldn’t everyone care)? “This agreement is an important sign that maybe the energy industry can be counted on to step up to fixing environmental problems that have resulted from their operations,” said Philip. “Hopefully, the public won’t have to rely solely on regulatory agencies for environmental protection.” Scepter’s data can be used by a cross section of industries — transportation/automotive, insurance, financial services, health care, agriculture, and big pharma, too. We’ll work with early adopters in each vertical and drive uptake from there.” Philip is also chair and founder of Trio Renewable Gas, an energy firm that deploys systems that convert carbon-based waste into renewable energy. If these technologies sound complicated, that’s because they are. “There are easier ways to make money,” Philip notes. “I’m trying to take all my years of training to do something that’s bigger than any one of us.” Philip stays grounded by spending time with his family, at the gym, and occasionally catching up with GSB classmates.

Scott Kleinman is also committed to preserving our earth. This January, he became director of development, corporations, and foundations of Parks California, the three-year-old statutory partner of the California State Parks. “Our vision is to ensure vibrant, healthy California parks that welcome, engage, and
Inspire by developing innovative partnerships between government agencies, businesses, nonprofits, and communities," Scott stated. "The organization had to do a lot of COVID pivoting during its start-up, especially in addressing one of its core initiatives—advancing equitable access to parks. It has worked closely with its partners to develop virtual and hybrid educational park experiences. Lots of big challenges around climate resiliency and restoration. Urban parks are part of our mission, too." He added, "On the personal side, my 24- and 22-year-old sons are both doing great. Instead of celebrating our 25th anniversary in Italy in 2020, my wife, Sheryl, and I bought and are enjoying kayaks!

John (Jack) McCaw and wife Kathy spent a week-and-a-half cruising the Caribbean late last year to finally break out of the pandemic routine. "We live in Tampa, FL, in the same house since 12/31/90," Jack shared. "We built it when we moved here in ’98, but had no idea we’d be here this long. In the first part of 2022, we’re having a major renovation done, so it may seem like a new house in the same location. We love the location and will use this as our retirement base." The view from their home is idyllic—just beyond a pond, Jack and Kathy can see pine trees standing out against a clear, light blue sky. From their lanai, they’ve seen ospreys, otters, bobcats, gators, turtles, herons, cranes, egrets, ducks, anhingas, and other wildlife. "I’ve been working since 2018 in architecture at DTCC, the premier post-trade market infrastructure for the global financial services industry," Jack said. "Interesting current challenges there include modernizing our legacy systems and working with other industry leaders to achieve trade settlement on the day after trading (T+1). It’s interesting and challenging, and on a good day, fun." Jack said he plans to continue to work for the time being, and will wait to see how “the new abnormal” will play out. "I’ve restored a couple of 18th-century houses in County Cork, Ireland, where she is happy to welcome 2022 and ready to party.

Valerie O’Donnell, ‘90, in County Cork, Ireland, where she is happy to welcome 2022 and ready to party.

Alan and I hope to visit us after visiting college friends on study abroad in the U.K. At the time, information about this new illness was sparse but scary. I remember lying in bed feeling awful and on the one hand, wondering if I was going to end up hospitalized, and on the other hand, being in complete denial that I could actually have COVID. By the time my PCR test came back, a full six days after my initial symptoms, I was mostly recovered. Interestingly, my loss of taste and smell didn’t show up until a few days later, and I remember it as the weirdest thing—like someone completely erased every scent from the world. I realized how important my sense of smell is for keeping me safe—I could no longer rely on my nose to save me from the gas on my stove that didn’t ignite or the food in the back of the fridge that had been in there a little too long. Over the past two years I’ve learned to be a little bit better at rolling with the punches, and I’ve felt so lucky to savor some very special family time with my grown children. But boy oh boy, do I desperately miss traveling. Hoping to hop continents sometime later this year...keep your fingers crossed for me (and for all of us!).

Speaking of rolling with the punches, David Picklenpol shared the following: "Go with the flow. Shake it up. Embrace change. In May 2021 my flight back to Shenzhen was refused, which triggered a series of unexpected events, resulting in our repatriation to Colorado. This brought to a close our 16 years living in China, 27 years abroad. I continue to serve AAC Technologies in an adjusted role as chairman of European and American regions. I’ll be spending 50–60 percent of my time in the EU.” Welcome back, David! Tammy Chang and family have also recently moved: "We finally are back in the Bay Area after living in Orange County for 20 years, and we just moved into our new home in Morgan Hill. Our house is in a relatively rural area but close enough to civilization. I am looking forward to participating in more GSB events, and I signed up to be a co-facilitator for a GSB Asian Circle group. Of course, Brandon Hasse can be an honorary member of the Circle! I look forward to the Chinese New Year of the Tiger and hope the King of the Jungle will bring us all great energy!"

I may not have gotten out of my backyard much in the past couple of years, but a group of intrepid GSB travelers certainly did. In October, Eduardo Pretelli, Hui (Tong) Lancaster, Maria Jenson, and their spouses traveled to Tanzania to go on a safari and climb Mt. Kilimanjaro. Eduardo wrote, "It’s a beautiful country with very kind people who still helped us forget about COVID for a few weeks. After a year’s delay, we were lucky to go after the health situation had improved and before Omicron sent us back into lockdowns. Unfortunately, the timing no longer worked for Carolyn Schuetz and Laura Hattendorf to join, but they summited with us in spirit." Congrats, Eduardo, Hui, and Maria! And we have more intrepid travelers in our class…Bruce Brugler reported that "last summer, Cam and I followed up our 2020 hike of the John Muir Trail (215 miles) with a 10-day, 130-mile hike of the Big SEKI Loop in the Sierra Nevada. It was a real backcountry adventure featuring remote and unmaintained..."
trails, six passes over 10,000+ feet, bears, and lots of hard miles with heavy backpacks; but we were rewarded with spectacular views, blissful solitude, and lots of great time together without social media or news of the pandemic. Work-wise, I continue to help run the West Coast operation of Tiedemann Advisors, a leading multifamily office (MFO) and trust company. We will soon complete a merger that will give us a global footprint and make us one of the largest MFOs in the world. Pretty cool stuff!”

Other classmates didn’t let COVID stop them from exciting life events. Mike Clouthier and his wife, Whitney, are still living in the Denver area. Mike shared: “We have managed to get all three boys through college. The next major milestone was adding a daughter-in-law to the family. We were happy to do that in November when Tommy, our oldest, got married in Omaha, Nebraska. Some in the class may remember that Tommy was born between first and second year while we were on The Farm. What made the occasion even more special is that our classmates and great friends Harol Koyama and his wife, Penny Nakamura, and Rob and Tracy Fenty joined us. We had a great time catching up and celebrating.” Itzik Goldberger is a very proud grandfather with two new grandsons. He wrote, “My younger daughter, Mor, who was 5 when we started at the GSB, is now a mother of a 2½-month-old baby, and my older daughter, Nitzan, just gave birth to her second son.”

Last but not least, Zoe Dunning was appointed by Speaker Nancy Pelosi to the U.S. Air Force Academy Board of Visitors in December. Congrats, Zoe! Zoe continues to love facilitating Touchy Feely for the GSB (along with Campbell Frank and Tony Levitan) one quarter each year.

With that, I’ll sign off. Know that I, along with your classmates, love to hear from each and every one of you, so please don’t hesitate — send me your news early and often. Wishing you all health and happiness in 2022!

>>> Please send your news to:
Alison Leupold, alisonleupold@alumni.stanfordgsb.org

Since all roads lead back to The Farm, let’s start there:

Mike Zimmerman wrote that “things have been pretty good Down Under in Sydney, considering. My biggest GSB-related news is that I was fortunate enough to be able to travel back to Stanford in September to drop my daughter off for her freshman year. During our trip, we reconnected with GSB ’94 classmates, including a number of classmates with children starting in the class of ’24 and ’25 as well (see picture of some of them: PY Nicole Chang, Giuseppe Zocco, and Dave Golob). A very notable shout-out and thank you to Greg and Sarah Sands and Chris and Kim Drew for hosting me for most of my trip, and for their roles as fairy godparents to Lucy while she’s over at The Farm.

“The most wonderful part of the trip was being able to celebrate the memorial of our
classmate Alastair Ramsay with so many others in Yosemite at Brian Anderluh and Lee Zimmerman’s Rush Creek Lodge. We were so fortunate to have Alistair’s son, Tom Ramsay, who is also a member of the class of 2025, join us for the weekend.”

Ariel Poler just launched a new startup, Reveri Health, with Stanford professor Dr. David Spiegel. “Our app uses self-hypnosis to treat anxiety, chronic pain, addiction, and other conditions. Hypnotize yourself and let me know what you think! On a personal note, Cindy and I love living at Stinson Beach, between the ocean and the mountains — plus I get to foil the Bolinas break most days (see picture of Casper DeClerq after surviving a wing foiling session). In 2021 I got together with Greg Waldorf, Casper, and Gil Kliman, which was great.

Mark Lange has taken up wing foiling and is learning a lot from Michael Samols, who practices his foil techniques in his front yard in New Zealand. We imagine Mark, Casper, Ariel, and Michael will soon be tearing up the globe with their gear.

Kristin Morse is SVP of strategic insights at Wells Fargo and recently road-tripped to Paso Robles.

Tim Harkness founded Unchained Labs to solve problems for biologics and gene therapy companies, and he is excited to take the business to the next level with The Carlyle Group.

Dave Gulezian is co-founder and CEO at Alucia, which helps leading life science companies supercharge scientific exchange with their Beacon content management and HCP engagement platform.

Andrea Rice continues her work as managing director of Management Leadership for Tomorrow, where she is designing the world’s first Black Equity at Work certification. This is a comprehensive standard for employers committed to achieving Black equity.

Thane Kreiner is CEO of the Marin Agricultural Land Trust, or MALT, which is supporting climate beneficial and racially just food system development.

Susan Doherty Rosen is adjusting to her new status as an empty nester. “Life happens so fast when you have twins. Eighteen years ago, during one trip to the hospital, we transformed from being a DINK couple (double-income-no-kids) to a family of four. Then, 18 heartwarming and rewarding years later, we wave goodbye as we drop Sam off at Lehigh University in Pennsylvania and Juliana at Tufts. Just like that, our house is suddenly empty, except for our 11-year-old lab, and we are a little bit forlorn. Grateful for the joy and sense of purpose we enjoyed while our twins were in the house with us, we now watch from afar, marveling at the way they tackle their worlds with grace and persistence. These days, Susan and Howie cycle the roads and trails around Woodside. “We are always happy to take old friends on new routes, so feel free to contact me for a free tour of the best of Woodside bike rides!”

Kirk Engel has served as regional director of operations and campus director at Unitek College since 2015.

Gerald Wluka let us know that he’s got “one kid off to college. Second is applying.” And also that he’s an employee (rather than an owner) for the first time in 20+ years. He’s “seeing if I have the patience to work in the large company environment that I am now a part of (after my company was acquired).”

Suhail Rahuja took a break from his hedge fund life in London, to visit Jim McCarthy and his wife, Stacy, in Porto, Portugal. Suhail has been working at Capeview Capital since 2010 doing European long/short. He spends a lot of time hanging out with Giuseppe Curatolo. Any other fellow GSBers who will be visiting London should give them a shout. Jim reported that he and Stacy retired in 2019, packed up their San Francisco condo, and began long-term global nomadic travel. They were in a detox center in Ko Pha Ngan, Thailand. “It could have been worse,” Jim wrote, with a smile. Since 2020, Jim and Stacy have relocated to Portugal, which he describes as “a lot like California… in many of the great ways.”

As for me (Roy), we’re four years living outside Boston after a dozen in London. Obviously the last two have been strange at best, but the quality time with my teenagers has been wonderful. Enjoyed one quick trip out to the Bay Area this past year for some surfing with Anthony Lee followed by excellent food and drink with Ranah Edelin, Bill Park, and Gerardo Capiel. Be well and stay well, all!

See Rob Siegel, MBA ’94, in “Obstacle Course” on page 44.

See Jeff Skoll, MBA ’95, on page 30.

See Greg and Susan Doherty, ’94, and Howie Rosen, ’87, with their twins Juliana and Sam in New York City.

Darcy Leschly, darcy@leachly.com

25TH REUNION: SEP. 8 – 11, 2022

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Not much to share during this pandemic period apparently…

Gerald Wluka let us know that he’s got “one kid off to college. Second is applying.” And also that he’s an employee (rather than an owner) for the first time in 20+ years. He’s “seeing if I have the patience to work in the large company environment that I am now a part of (after my company was acquired).”

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>>> Please send your news to:

Nick Mansour, nickmansour@stanfordalumni.org
Roy Vella, royvella@stanfordalumni.org
Tracy Shields Williams, twilliams2@yahoo.com

25TH REUNION: SEP. 8 – 11, 2022

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Thanks to everyone who wrote in this quarter. It was great to hear from you! I also very much enjoyed catching up with Doug Hendrickson, Janet Hall, Christine Brueschke, Jason Brueschke, Scott Davidson, Lisa Davidson, Raj Patel, Orlando Bravo, Gabrielle Hull, and Glenn Solomon in Paló Alto this September when we were dropping our son off at Stanford.

Ashley Stirrup checked in to report that “2021 was a big year. I married Joana Chua, and our five daughters were our best people. Then I moved to Pleasanton and started a new job as COO of a startup called Shoreline.io. Our daughter Emmy Sharp kicked off her Stanford beach volleyball career, and Stanford played in the NCAA championships for the first time in school history.” Warren Packard, Jon Ekonak, and their spouses were able to join the new couple for their wedding in Hawaii.

John Galaviz started a new gig in September as CFO of Relation Insurance Services, Inc., a PE-backed insurance brokerage. He mentioned that his previous company, where he was CFO of a PE-backed insurance brokerage, was sold in April 2021. Ken Fine noted that he and Leah “moved to Portola Valley. Both children are out of the house (college and beyond). We’re now learning how to be empty nester. Drop by anytime! I’ve taken over the CEO role at Heap. We recently completed a successful funding round, while Leah continues to work with lung cancer nonprofits.”

Our amazing friend Kristina Omari had an elegant and lovely birthday celebration in San Francisco last July. She recently became the EVP, finance at Everly Health and was recently awarded the Stanford GSB 2021 “Tapestry Award”!

Last, but definitely not least, Joe Wadowski wrote in to let us know that he “retired from Amazon in June 2020 after an amazing 15 years, most recently leading the Alexa software team. Since then, I have focused on family and travel,
sailing in the Caribbean, and living part time in Spain, though still happy to call Seattle home. Also investing (focusing on machine learning and life sciences, including agriculture), spending as much time outdoors as possible, and wishing my boys wouldn’t grow up so fast!” Joe’s family was able to travel to the Galápagos Islands in November.

That is all for now. I look forward to seeing everyone at the upcoming 25th reunion!

>>> Please send your news to:
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Josh Pesikoff, jpesikoff@alumni.stanfordgsb.org
Liz Tennican, liztennican@gmail.com

Happy New Year, classmates! And OMG… please go away Omicron… although it didn’t stop Tatiana and me from taking a trip to Paris this winter, where we were lucky to catch up with Jen Yun, Roger Tjong, and Alex Alfonsi. Since I didn’t get hundreds of class notes submissions, as your class secretary I’ll travel the globe to pressure you into them. Alex reported: “In short, with reduced international travel (in particular to Africa) and professional time on the road (in Europe with clients), I have found myself spending more time outside Paris (in particular in Corsica) and cycling or running (in the mountains). After biking down to Nice with my son in 2020, 2021 was the year of the passes in the Pyrenees, the GR20 trek in Corsica, and fabulous trail-running races in the Mont-Blanc and Vosges mountains. More sports challenges are ahead in 2022! Our kids (21-year-old daughter and 15-year-old son) are gently on their way out of the nest; and Céline and I are always looking forward to meeting GSB classmates, sharing news and fond memories.”

Heading farther east, Andris Berzins reported that “2021 was a great year on the work side — Change Ventures Fund II made the final close on December 31 at over $50M in commitments and with a couple of very likely unicorns already in our portfolio. The Baltic states’ startup ecosystem is on fire. On the personal front, family is all good; and I continue to serve in the Latvian National Guard. Owing to the delights of the body passing 50 years of age, though, I have shifted roles to driver, so I got my truck driver license this spring and was certified on a 6-wheeler off-road bike, which was the most fun military training I have had yet!”

Classing up the intercontinental contributions, I was muy contento to hear from Maria Sayans. “Pete is going to hate me for sharing this photo, but I just have to show off my gorgeous kids. Sue me; I am a proud mama. Big news for us this year…let’s see: still living in the U.K., still the same jobs (Pete in the broad CSR and green investment world, Maria making games). Kids, 17 and 14, doing well — full-on teenagers but luckily they don’t hate us (yet?). Had pretty significant building work done on the house and have been living in a building site for the past four months. Managed to see the Cadogans when they visited the U.K. and promised each other we would do another river trip once travel is more relaxed. Managed to see the Vidagurenas in the U.K. and promised to meet this summer in Greece. I turned 50 and due to COVID restrictions, I had to have not one but three birthday parties.” File that under ‘on brand alumni’.

Speaking of “on brand”…the Goose is still bringing classmates together. One of those is Mike Duran: “Two highlights from 2021 were definitely the local Goose get togethers arranged by Owen West and Allison Shaheen Virsik, and by Josh Becker winning his state senate bid. As for us, things are really good — Dione is doing great, the kids are all progressing in school, things are good on the work front… and I just had an opportunity to celebrate Kevin Frick’s 50th in Cabo with him.
and Josh Klahr. Seems like it’s an up and down road with the pandemic, but hopefully things will continue to trend in the right direction.”

Firouzeh Lari Murray was also gracious to send us evidence (photo credit: Bob Tinker) from those Goose reunions!

David Williams, also one of the Goose alumni party people, said he and “Tracy, ’96, thoroughly enjoyed getting back some aspects of normal life: Our teenagers went back to school in person, jumped back into sports, and went out with friends. We did too — catching up with classmates not only on Zoom, but also for cycling, dinner, and Dutch Goose mini-reunions. Looking ahead: After six amazing years, I recently left Zendesk to embark on an entrepreneurial adventure in 2022. At home, our Series A round to fund that bar will. Stay well, everyone!!!

>>> Please send your news to:
Eden Godsoe, edengodsoe@hotmail.com
Peter Kenyon, pkenyon@yahoo.com
Ben Nemo, bnmomt@gmail.com

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In September, Peter Biro spent a few days in California catching up with ’99ers. He walked the Dish and went to Zotts with fellow Allies99 working group members Dollya DePasquale, Heather McLeod Grant, Rich Menendez, Sabah Mirza, and Sarah Rogers. The next day, he caught up with Jon Miller, Scott Ellis, Guy Yalif, Ken Branson, and Dan Gordon. Pete Hartigan also had some news from the Bay Area:

“Derek Fairchild-Coppoletti recently visited the Bay Area, and Lynda Talgo kindly hosted a brunch in San Carlos with Derek, Carla de Cervantes, Nadine de Coteau, Janice Lin, Libbie Bock, Dany Levitt, Jen Mazzon, and Pete Hartigan. One highlight was cupcakes from Sabah’s daughter’s bakery — amazing!”

In recent months, Robert Tomkinson made the most of an open “travel window.” He cheered on his kids at their sporting events, watched Christina Romero O’Reilly’s boat at the Head of the Charles Regatta in Boston, and relished a weekend of food and outdoor fun in Montana with Chris Moore, Tom Pitsick, and Steve Henkenmeier.

After leaving Yelp and before starting a new consulting gig, Robert made his first visit to England in almost two years to see family — and to bag some rain-soaked peaks in the Lake District! Back in California, the wildfire smoke cleared enough for sunnier summit selfies on Half Dome. In December, Robert visited Mike Fee, who proved again that he is the best if ever you need someone to hype you to the finish line of the Sacramento Marathon.

Throughout the year, Robert enjoyed connecting with GSB ’99ers around the world through bimonthly online wine tastings. The latest went hybrid, bringing 15 GSB ’99ers and
partners together for pinot noir and lunch in Napa. How great it was to see people in person! partners together for pinot noir and lunch in Napa. How great it was to see people in person!


Peter Biro, Heather McLeod Grant, Sabah Mirza, Sarah Rogers, and Rich Menendez, all ’99.

Jon Miller, Peter Biro, Scott Ellis, Guy Yalif, Ken Branson, and Dan Gordon, all ’99.


a challenging two years, but we’ve managed to survive and even find silver linings in the pandemic. In the fall my daughter, Somerset, returned to in-person class at the hybrid Middle College program (Woodside High School and Cañada College), and recently she was accepted at Scripps College. My husband, Elliott, is looking forward to returning to the office at Alphabet’s X, where he is head of Mineral, an ag-tech startup whose prototype was recently featured in the Smithsonian’s new exhibit on the future.

“After an exhausting few years, I decided to take a one-year sabbatical from Open Impact, the philanthropy advising firm I co-founded six years ago. It’s nice to have a break from 8-hour Zoom days and client service; this has allowed me to focus on health, family, home projects, and volunteer work. I’ve loved being part of the Allies99 Working Group, and I’m stepping into a cochair role with Peter Biro this year. It has been a great way to reconnect with many classmates. I’m also working with a local philanthropist to launch a wellness program for BIPOC women social justice leaders. I welcome the chance to connect with others working in philanthropy, nonprofits, or on sabbatical and contemplating a career shift.”

Jay Eum has founded GFT Ventures, an early-stage venture capital firm focused on frontier technologies, including AI and blockchain. Jay wrote, “Special thanks to Pete Hartigan for his support!”

To wrap up this newsletter, an update from Europe from Marta Garcia: “Richard Sanders and I managed to spend Christmas with family this year. Having had COVID last Christmas and been “triple vaccinated” since, we were permitted to travel to Spain, where we spent a week with my family—a great time to reconnect with siblings and cousins.

“We then made our way to the Alps, where we happily spent time with our three girls. Our eldest (Alice, almost 17) is preparing for exams and thinking about university (perhaps in the U.S.). Our second daughter (May, 14) loves drama—she says she’d like to be an actress (!). Clara, 11, recently moved to secondary school. We are both still working hard. Richard is at Permira, running their tech group/funds while getting involved with firm management. I have now been at Social Finance, running the international development team for over seven years—still trying to figure out how to improve the world. For 2022, I’d love to be more in touch with friends and family—for which there never seems to be enough time, especially during the pandemic. I hope to connect with many of our classmates in 2022!”
It was amazing, despite COVID, to see so many folks get together for the “modified” reunion on campus. We don’t have the exact numbers, but there were -to tables outside at Vidalakas and some great stories to be told (see some great photos on our class Facebook group). It was amazing that the foundations of friendship we built at the start of this century still hold so strong. It was as if no time had passed.

Sanae Ishii is back in Japan and joined Duke Takatsuki’s portfolio company as head of HR. The company is the personal care business of Shiseido and sells shampoo, conditioners, and in-bath treatment goods (some brands include Tsubaki, Fino, Uno, Seebreeze). Sanae’s daughter is now 13 years old.

After 25 years in California, Creighton Reed reported big news: At the end of the school year in June 2022, he’ll be moving back East, to Washington, DC. Creighton wrote, “I’ve joined percipient.ai and will co-head our customer-facing side out of Reston, VA. We sell a computer vision analytics platform to the intelligence and defense communities, and I couldn’t be more excited about our opportunities. I’m also excited to rejoin the national security community, albeit again on the commercial side. Bebe (13, 8th grade) is finishing the final year in her K–8 school in San Francisco, and Will (16, 10th grade), is a sophomore at boarding school in New England. Here’s to a great 2022 — we are blessed on so many levels. Hope to see many of you in the DC area soon!”

Jeremy Taylor is living in Puerto Vallarta, and his goal is to slowly build a local culture of conservation. He is executive director of the Vallarta Botanical Gardens and shared “I am leading our conservation efforts and finding generous people to fund them. (vbgardens.org.)” Vallarta Botanical Gardens plays a vital role in a decade-long conservation project for the emblematic military macaw (ara militaris mexicanus), which was vanishing from the area until recently.

Rusty Gaillard shared that he has “been enjoying connecting and catching up with classmates 1:1 the past few months. A lot has happened in my life in the past few years. I left Apple after 13 years to start an executive coaching business, I got married (second time), my dad passed away (yes, we’re in that phase of life), my son started high school, which was a bigger transition than I expected, and I published my first book on creating a meaningful life (check it out on Amazon). I’m still living in the Bay Area in Redwood City and occasionally get to catch up in person with some of our classmates.”

Ben Sabloff wrote that “2021 was a big year for us, as not only did Susan and I celebrate our 25th anniversary, but Abby, who was born at the GSB, is now a college senior of legal drinking age. Both mean we’re getting old!! Live is now a freshman at UChicago where she plays soccer, and Eli is a sophomore in high school. The year was also big on the professional front, as I sold my consulting firm, AQN Strategies, to Key Bank, which was a great COVID transaction. So now, when I’m not busy integrating my team into the bank, I’m traveling around visiting friends to play golf, go skiing, or just spending some quality time. As I contemplate the next opportunities, I’m headings to Tahoe, Snowbird, and Deer Valley this winter; if any GSBers want to connect on the slopes, let me know. Maybe a Naughty Cupcake rebirth? It’s been a fun year with classmates despite COVID, as we have been lucky to be hosted by the Spights, Kavinolds, Harmon’s, and Willisons this year, who are all doing great. Keep an eye out for the Sabloff family as we come knocking on your door soon.”

Reshon Anderson recently started a new gig as chief digital officer at the hip and trendy jewelry retailer Kendra Scott. Reshon wrote that “the role requires a relocation to Austin, and I will have moved there by the end of January. I’m so excited to start this new adventure in Austin, and I’m already making connections there with classmates: I attended a GSB meetup in Austin where I caught up with Charlotte Dimery Davis; I hang out in Austin with Shade (Rasheed) Patterson when her daughter is there for softball camp; and I’m looking forward to catching up with Laura Arabie, who also lives there! I encourage any and all classmates who are passing through Austin to give me a shout.”

In December, Andy Mowat raised a seed round for his startup Gated that is changing how people communicate. Andy wrote that “this is a culmination of my last 20 years building sales/marketing machines to pummel buyers with email! Now I am making amends.”

Due to unforeseen circumstances, Mark Shaw and Allison Kluger’s mom could not take in a puppy, so they asked Nadine (Skuble) and Alex Terman if they would create a forever home for Bailey. (He was their dog’s cousin.) Nadine said, “He has added so much fun and love, and we are so appreciative of the opportunity! So, you never know what the GSB network will bring you!” You may also see Nadine on your TV screen, as Nadine is a regular guest on CNBC’s Fast Money!

>>> Please send your news to:
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She-Rae and Frederick Deschamps welcomed baby #3 in July 2021, Alina Xin Chen Descamps. Alina has roots in different languages (Armenian, Arabic, Hebrew, Slavic) and means bright, kind, beautiful, and noble. Xin is in honor of her great-grandmother in Shanghai, who just turned 100! Johann (9) and Thibaut (6) are in love with their new little sister. Alina is fascinated by their dancing and singing and more generally their very high level of kinetic energy!

Matt Scott and Gwen moved on toward the “Scott, party of three” cohort, welcoming Hugo in September 2021. The family is enjoying London, and they made a first family journey to the south coast of Ireland. Matt is co-leading the climate and resilience hub at Willis Towers Watson. The family is looking forward to moving toward Oxford later this year (for

Matt Scott, ‘03, with son Hugo and wife Gwen.
Spring 2022 Class Notes

a little more space for young Hugo to roam around—and to host GSB visitors, too.

Tomorrow, the online will and trust company founded by Dave Hanley, was acquired by the insurance company Ethos. Ethos was founded by Peter Collins and Lingke Wang, both ’16. Dave is excited for the new opportunities the combination brings. As always, Dave extends an invite to anyone who makes it to Seattle.

Adolfo Chou joined digital workspace provider, Mural, as CFO in January.

Monica Molenaar co-founded Alloy with Anne Fulenwider. They share the CEO responsibilities. Alloy received wide media attention in the second half of 2021 for the work they are doing to shape women’s health, and Monica and Anne are looking forward to more traction in 2022.

More than 30 classmates gathered at Ben Mitchell’s Felton residence. Thanks to Ana Pedros, Tracy Rentz, Davina Drabkin, and Beatrice Wong for spearheading the event and for Ben and Libby for being the location hosts. Watch for our 2022 details. There was talk of Seattle and a few other places.

Greetings, classmates. Can you believe our 15-year reunion is next year? With that thought, let’s dive into some updates from the class.

Congratulations to Keia Cole and her husband, Nick, who welcomed their first child. “Our baby girl, Emerson Cole Deane, was born on April 16, 2021. We are mostly calling her Emmie. Nick and I are navigating life as new parents in the middle of a pandemic. Emmie has even had the chance to meet a few of our classmates in person.”

After a decade in London, Kelsey Lynn Skinner and her family relocated back to California earlier this year. Kelsey will be launching the West Coast activity for her U.K. venture firm IP Group plc, specifically focused on connecting U.S. venture investors and companies with the IP Group global tech portfolio. After 10 years in London, a muddled accent, and an even more confused sense of humor, Kelsey is super excited to return back to the Bay Area and reconnect with friends and classmates.

Yuval Grill recently picked up running again, after a long pause. Once restarted, he didn’t waste any time. Yuval wrote: “With the reality of turning 40 in October, I decided to express my midlife crisis by reengaging in running—and had a busy fall running alongside other GSBers. At the New England Ragnar Relay, I was joined by my neighbor Brandon Staub, ’13, and Andrew Cantor, whose team of 11 earned gold in the men’s division. Then I ran the New York City marathon, beating my time from 12 years ago. Finally, in December I had an epic adventure with Thiago Borges, Dan Murillo, and our extraordinary host Diego Sternberg in Patagonia where we conquered almost 100 kilometers of El Cruce (alongside several dozen current second-year MBA students). Thiago also managed to be the fastest Brazilian in the race. I intend to remain friends with Thiago even though he tried to outprint me in the final 200 meters of the three-day race.”

Finally, congratulations to Kristin Sistos, who was recently appointed as a planning commissioner for the City of Manhattan Beach in California, where she has lived for many years with her family. The planning commission is responsible for long-range planning activities for the city.

We close with a plug for the WhatsApp group that has been set up for our class. In addition to the Stanford Group for our class that you’re already a part of, the WhatsApp group is another way to stay connected. If you’re not in the group and you want to be, please reach out to Ross and he’ll help you get connected.

That’s it for now. As always, we love hearing from you and hope to hear from more of you next time.

See Sarah Stein Greenberg, MBA ’06, and Lia Siebert, MBA ’07, in “How To,” on page 13.
Micah Siegel and Brett Laffel are thrilled to share the birth of their daughter, Sienna Zuri Laffel. She was born on October 23, 2021, weighing 7lbs 8oz. She is named in memory of her great-grandmother. Her older brother, Cameron, and older sister, Rowan, are incredibly sweet with her, showering her with hugs and kisses! Mom and baby are doing great, and both Micah and Brett are adjusting to the adventure of having three kids under three!

Irene Yuan and Colin Evran got “COVID married” at the end of 2020 (a 20-minute Zoom with San Francisco City Hall and a DocuSign marriage contract). They completed a six-month adventure in LA this past year and are now back in San Francisco and expecting a baby girl in April! Irene is still loving her job as VP of marketing at Ba&sh, the French fashion brand, leading a year of record sales as the business bounced back from COVID. Colin has been leading ecosystem growth and operations at Filecoin, a decentralized cloud storage network, which reached its own set of milestones in the blockchain space in 2021. “We’re excited to be back in the Bay Area with so many friends and classmates and to start this new chapter as parents!”

Branca Ballot de Miranda and David Marchaland welcomed their second daughter, Anna, in October. Ella is happy to be a big sister, just a little disappointed they cannot play magnet tiles yet . . . .

Alastair Rami and his wife, Pooja, welcomed their first child, Aria, this year. They have been hiding out in the Washington, DC, area since the summer of 2020, but they plan to return to New York City as soon as the pandemic meaningfully subsides.
Bryon Jansen met Emilie in Seattle back in February 2020. She is an engineer from the French island of Martinique. The two moved in together in downtown Seattle, near Pike Place Market. Bryon is now learning French.

After years of working in various product roles, Katka Opocenska finally took a leap of faith last year and started building her own company, AssetClass.app, a portfolio tracker and insights platform for the modern investor. She moved back to San Francisco to work alongside her co-founders, and the journey so far has been “both challenging and fun, just like they told us it would be!”

In 2021, Aditi Gupta started a business to help people discover and experience more joy in their everyday lives (check out reconnectwithjoy.com). In her courses and coaching, she uses tools that she has gathered from 12+ years of work in the nonprofit sector (with a focus on mental health) and while navigating her own mental health challenges. The pandemic enabled her to do this, for which she is thankful: “I realized that my purpose in life is to be joyful and spread joy among others.” If anyone from the community would like to chat about their relationship with joy, their thoughts, insights, or challenges, she would love to connect!

Doug Rickett happily reported that he recently went skiing for the first time in 20 years—now with kids! He is living in Belmont, CA, along with his parents and mother-in-law. He is delighted to be spreading love and money to the world with PayJoy.

Hi Class of 2015,

Hope you and your families are doing well. Hard to believe the world is well over two years into a pandemic, but we’re happy to be able to share continued good news from our classmates.

Our very own class secretary Aditi Banga and Jonathan Schwartz welcomed their baby girl, Eila—and said goodbye to sleeping in ever again—on December 1, 2021. In their completely unbiased opinion, Eila couldn’t be more perfect, and they’ve been enjoying this new phase of life with her more than they could’ve ever imagined. The name Eila has significance in both Indian and Jewish cultures: In Hindi it means “the earth,” and in Hebrew, “bright shining light.”

David Berkal and Leora Smith welcomed their first child, Ruby Lou Berkal, into the world on October 20, 2021, slowly growing Toronto’s GSB community.

Sally Chang noted that there’s been lots to be thankful for recently! She and her husband, James, welcomed baby Olivia on November 16, 2021. Big sister Charlotte is excited (though a little confused about how to play with her), and the family is doing well. This past year, Sally also started a new role leading the health technologies product team at Meta.

In June 2021, Jordan Stankowski and his wife welcomed the newest member to the family, baby girl Avila, a bright smile shining through a background of a global pandemic and suffocating California fires. With three kids ages five and under, they’ve officially thrown in the towel on a clean house or traditional date nights. Yet they’ve come to deeply enjoy their coffee walks around Lafayette Reservoir, weekends at Civic Park chasing the kids, and an evening respite with a bag of dark chocolate pretzel barkTHINS and an episode of Succession. And a request from Jordan: “Please reach out, if you find yourself near the East Bay, to
swing by for an artisanal cappuccino, Lady J
home-cooked dinner, or an evening beer—we’d
love to hand out more hugs this year.”

Jessica Verran-Lingard has joined Lucas-
film as associate principal counsel, where she
supports legal and business affairs matters for
Industrial Light & Magic (ILM), ILMxLAB, Skywalker Sound, and Lucasfilm’s technology
initiatives. She will continue to live in the
Bay Area and be involved in Stanford Alumni
matters, including as a board member of the
GSB Black Alumni Chapter and on the board
directors for the GSB Alumni Association.
Jessica is also a recipient of the 2021–2022
Stanford Award of Merit in honor of her service
launching Stanford Law School Black Alumni
Association with several other SLS alumni.
Warmly, Lauren & Aditi

Jessica Verran-Lingard, Lucasfilm

Warmly, Lauren & Aditi

Please send your news to:
Aditi Banga, aditi@alumni.gsb.stanford.edu
Lauren Zletz, lzletz@alumni.gsb.stanford.edu

Sara Dawes: “Who is this, you may
ask? After three years of fears and
tears, courage and doubt, euphoria
and joy, I finally want to share my gender
transition with all of you! Coming out has been
the hardest thing I have ever done, and the
most liberating. Exploring who I am, asserting
it to the world, and modifying my physical
and spiritual self in the process, has given me
peace and confidence that always seemed out
of reach. I feel truly grateful to live in a time
and place that allows it. My essence has not
changed; I’ve simply expanded out from behind
a dark shadow. I can now be really there for
you, allowing myself to be vulnerable as we sit
together. I hope to catch up soon!”

Angel Sarmiento is marrying Héctor Campos
this March! They dated pre-GSB, got together
after, and had a wonderful proposal in Colorado,
aided by Adriana Peón and her wife. Héctor
works for Condusef (Mexico’s Consumer Fi-
nancial Protection Bureau), and Angel is still at
Minu, an employee benefits startup. They also
recently adopted Jaimito.

Alex Gorham moved to Boston to start
b-school all over again (gf @ hbs). Good thing
red clothes still work!

Connor McCarthy and Caroline Matthews,
’18, got married in September! They started a
camping business together and bought an adven-
ture summer camp in the Allegheny Mountains
in May. They are days away from closing on their
second camp, a sailing and water sports camp in
Maine. They’re having a great time building an
outdoor recreation business that supports both
conservation and youth development.

Anuraag Chigurupati married Katie Col-
lins on October 3, 2021, in Philly.
Jenna Kaye-Kauderer and Scott Steinberg

Mélanie Merlet and Pilar Landon, both ’17, on
a hike in Scotland.
became parents this October with the birth of their daughter, Parker Kaye-Steinberg. Their family (including their dog, Rosie) continues to live in Brooklyn!

Mélanie Merlet still lives in London and is now on job #3 post-GSB, doing business development for startups at Amazon Web Services. She has taken on new hobbies, improv and bouldering. This year, throughout the pandemic, she would not have survived without the incredible GSB and Stanford communities and is particularly grateful to count on the mighty ‘17 London crew: Emily Henderson, who lives a 10-minute walk away; Alice Grant; Livia Palomo, who’s a great bouldering coach; Ted Orf; Matt Cooke; and Steve Khoury, who’s now busy changing diapers. Come visit us! Mélanie was also very lucky to attend Chrissy Donnelly’s wedding in Mexico, and go hiking with Pilaf Landon through Scotland and Madeira.

Molly and Michael Bobich welcomed Adelaide Elizabeth this past September. They live just outside of Boston and are enjoying this new chapter as a family of four.

The biggest update of last year (no, it wasn’t the new job) from Yuri and Gabrielle Sagalov is that they got a puppy! Cooper is the chief motivational officer of their WFH office, and he ensures they get lots of outdoor time in between nonstop Zoom meetings. He’s an easy-going Australian labradoodle and loves making new friends. Come and say hello when you’re in San Francisco!

This year Alex Manick and Randy Spock watched two out of three Fast and the Furious series, had their first child, and started a D&D campaign. They have collected 504 power moons in Super Mario Odyssey. Also, Randy started a new job at Wayfair, Alex remains at Schooner Capital, and they still live in Somerville, MA (and sometimes Maine and Miami). Visit anytime!

Sebastian Serra and Maite Diez-Canedo got married on December 4, 2021, in Cabo, Mexico.

Ankur Goyal’s startup, Merhaki Foods and Nutrition, and brand, &Me, were acquired by GlobalBees, a roll-up company in the D2C space in India. This was GlobalBees’ first acquisition in India. Within six months of launch and after this acquisition, GlobalBees became a unicorn. Ankur is glad to impact women’s health in India and looking forward to doing so globally.

Sean Milligan and Sara Giedgowd welcomed Susie Louise Milligan into their family on September 8, 2021. Susie is named after Sara’s mom and is loving mountain life in Park City. If anyone is visiting Park City this year, please let Sean and Sara know!

After two years of full-on nomadic living between Europe, the U.S., and Latin America, Omid Scheybani is FINALLY getting an apartment in New York and will try to cut back on travel. He made it through his third bout of COVID (one for every vaccination he got), so he might as well apply to be a lab rat for the CDC.

See Madeline Hawes, MBA ‘17, on page 30.

Despite the many difficulties of the past year, we have much to celebrate in the lives of our classmates! We’re so happy to share these professional and personal updates, and we hope to celebrate each of these and many more exciting moments in person in the not-so-distant future.

Ajab, a stock trading app in Indonesia, founded by Yada Piyajomkwan and Anderson Sumari, has just passed unicorn status. Yada is the second female founder in Southeast Asia to build a unicorn!

See Madeline Hawes, MBA ‘17, on page 30.

>>> Please send your news to:
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18 >>>> Please send your news to:
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StanfordGSB2018ClassNotes@gmail.com

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Catherine Rivera, ‘19, and Eric Dunn.

Emily Booth, ‘19, and Alex Debbink.

Jun Qu, ’19, and Sue Yean eloped in Yosemite.

Henry Trapnell, ’19, and husband Judd.

Helen Li and Nick Hubbard, both ’19, got married on top of Buttermilk Mountain in Aspen, CO.

Zhiyuan Zhao, ’19, and his wife, Meng, on their honeymoon.
Helen Li and Nick Hubbard got married on September 24, 2021, on top of Buttermilk Mountain in Aspen, CO. They met while at the GSB and were so blessed to be able to celebrate their marriage with so many classmates in attendance. Rajiv Tarigopula (a Safety First BPL teammate) officiated their wedding.

William Perocchi moved out of the 2BR apartment he was living in with Dennis Shiraev. Blair Markell and her husband, Zach, had their first child, Camden Markell, in September.

On November 6, Ben Akinbola proposed to his SO while overlooking the Pacific Ocean. Neither of them remember exactly what he said, but fortunately, she did say, “Yes!” Ben and his fiancée live in LA, where they both work in the entertainment industry.

Mark Schlifske, Matt Jensen, Dennis Shiraev, and Pat Gallagher went on a fishing trip together near Reno, NV. Meredith and Trent Hazy welcomed their second baby—a beautiful boy named Will—into the world on November 10, 2021.

Jun Qu and Sue Yean had a Yosemite elopement on June 8, 2021, and are finally married! They moved back to Australia in November and are now based in Sydney. They were sad to leave the Bay Area but excited to be closer to family for the next phase of their lives! He also shared that “professionally, I've left McKinsey and have joined Main Sequence Ventures, an Australian deep-tech VC firm that does early-stage investments in science and engineering innovations. My wife, Sue, has left Apple and in January will be joining Canva as a technical program manager!”

Patrick Robinson shared, “Our daughter, Pippa, was diagnosed with cancer in May of this year. Our GSB community has rallied to share so much love, strength, and support to help us through this incredibly challenging time. We appreciate you, and we hold you close. With love and gratitude!”

After a 16-month delay, Tucker Van Aken and Siau Rui Goh were married at Boyden Farm in Vermont on August 21. Although many folks couldn’t travel, the GSB (unsurprisingly) sent a strong contingent!

Henry Trapnell and his husband, Jud, moved into their new house in Philly—guests welcome! After getting married two years ago, Zhiyuan Zhao (ZY) and his wife, Meng, finally went on a honeymoon trip in the Maldives! Ran Fan and Mengfei welcomed baby Kailin into their family on July 16, 2021. The name embeds their wishes for Kailin to be happy, compassionate, courageous, and just. As a queer couple, Ran and Megfei are especially grateful for the activism that has allowed their baby to enter into a slightly more loving world.

Josh Mitrani, Ariel Siegel, and big sister Joey welcomed Isaac Samson Mitrani into the world this past May.

Aaron Wingad shared, “Zoe Weinberg, ’20, and I are engaged! We’re excited to celebrate with friends and family soon.”

Sarah Martin and Phil welcomed their
baby boy, Walter, in May. Sarah wrapped up her position at West Point, NY, and relocated to Paris, France, where she now works as an American exchange officer with the French Army. Phil released his war poetry book, No Poetry Like War. The Martins enjoy eating lots of crepes and croissants!

Trevor Prophet shared: “Wendy and I welcomed baby boy Deacon George Prophet on August 1, 2021. In his fifth month on planet earth, Deacon enjoys a good game of tickle torture, vice-gripping his hands onto 16-year-old brother Napoleon’s fur, drooling everywhere and on everything, and having playdates with his favorite GSB baby friends here in San Diego. He is very lucky to have so many GSB aunts and uncles to look up to, Love, The Prophets”

In July 2021, Tyler Smith was named chief executive officer of Health Data Movers (HDM), the digital health firm that he co-founded prior to GSB in 2012. HDM ascended to the Inc. 5000 list for the second year in a row, in addition to releasing its first proprietary product (convertIT) via the Epic app, Orchard. In April 2021, Alyssa Rapp, ’05 (and GSB lecturer), joined the board of HDM. Tyler also became a dog dad to Tatum, the ever-energetic Aussie.

Emily Booth and Alex Debбink got married this past fall in Chicago.

Catherine Rivera and Eric Dunn got married on October 17 after a postponement from 2020. They are so grateful to all the family and friends (including the GSB crew) who traveled to Chicago to celebrate.

See Edward Watts, PhD ’20, on page 30.

Erica Smith-Goetz, ’20, and Jon Smith-Goetz welcomed baby William in March 2021, and they moved to Boston in May for Daniel’s medical residency. Melanie heads across venture capital and private equity, and Wes started a venture capital fund called MVP with a couple of GSB alumni. Based in Menlo Park, they’ve enjoyed hosting GSBers passing through town, so reach out if that’s you!

After canceling a large wedding celebration and getting married in summer 2020, Erica Smith-Goetz and Jon Smith-Goetz were thrilled to finally celebrate with loved ones in summer 2021. “While still not quite the party we had planned, it was truly special to reunite with friends and toast to a year of marriage!”

Bonner Price and Justin Price welcomed Aster Katherine Price on April 11, 2021. It’s been an exciting and busy year for Melanie Goldstein Berenson. She and husband Daniel Berenson welcomed baby William in March 2021, and they moved to Boston in May for Daniel’s medical residency. Melanie heads Paradigm Reach, a diversity, equity, and inclusion eLearning platform. Melanie would love to hear from anyone visiting the Boston area and looks forward to being back together on The Farm in June.

Cathy Oved and Andrew Oved are overjoyed to announce the birth of their first child, Chloe Leila Oved, born on March 10, 2021. They look forward to taking Chloe to campus for lunch at Coupa, hikes on the Dish, and bike rides through Palm Drive.

>>>> Please send your news to:
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WELCOME BACK RECEPTION & COMMENCEMENT: JUNE 10 – 11, 2022

Hi, Class of 2020. Hope your year is off to an amazing start!

Joey Skavroneck and Rachel Hare got married in Wilmington, NC, on May 28, 2021. After a yearlong COVID delay, the anticipation turned into an amazing celebration. They are unbelievably grateful for the support of their GSB community throughout the entire wedding process. On their “would-have-been” wedding day in 2020, their closest friends threw them a socially distant celebration at The Compound. When the big day finally came around a year later, over 30 GSBers rolled out in full force to make it a day they’ll never forget.

After COVID required a smaller wedding ceremony on August 8, 2020, Aaron Kappe and Sabrina (Ramos) Kappe were finally able to celebrate their wedding, part two, one year later in front of family and friends in Napa. Even at the wedding, GSB guests remained conflicted about who was more involved at Stanford.

Sarah Moyer and Wes Moyer got married near Davis, CA, during COVID’s temporary respite in May. They spent their honeymoon exploring Greece. Sarah is enjoying her job at Jasper Ridge investing in companies and funds

Cathy and Andrew Oved, ’20, with daughter Chloe.
Starting Anew: Like the first blanket of perfect winter snow or the early blooms of fresh spring flowers, the theme of our inaugural class notes edition is starting anew! From planting the seeds of an early business, throwing down an anchor in a different city, or bringing new life into the world, our community has marched back into the world to new careers, new homes, and new experiences. Here’s our first official snapshot of what the Class of 2021 has been up to!

Seeds of Entrepreneurship: Thirty-plus classmates are deep in their founding journeys, keeping the GSB tradition of entrepreneurship strong. The 21 Fund has invested in 17 new businesses to date, covering a wide range of industries and ideas from inclusive health care, go-to-market sales solutions, and peer-to-peer sports gaming (to name a few).

For Vidya Madhavan, attending GSB and pursuing her entrepreneurship vision were always synonymous. Vidya created Schmooze at the GSB with the initial aim to spread humor and fun in a social networking environment anchored around memes. Since then, she has narrowed Schmooze’s focus on the wild world of online dating and recently closed a $3M seed round to take things to the next level. Vidya and her husband have relocated to an apartment in New York City with an open invitation to friends and classmates to “come, Schmooze with us.”

For Korn Lapprathana, the entrepreneurship bug didn’t bite until after graduation. Korn recently launched TechUp, a social enterprise tech bootcamp based in his home country of Thailand. TechUp trains motivated, high-potential individuals — regardless of education background — to become software developers and connects them to jobs in Thailand and abroad. Korn hopes to accelerate the digital transformation of Thailand while ensuring that access to opportunities are broad. Talk about a GSB changemaker!

We know the start-up grind is real, and we will be cheering on all our friends and classmates as they make each vision a reality. To our community of entrepreneurs: When you have a chance to come up for air, please send a line to the class notes team about how things are going!

New Additions to the GSB Family: We graduated as a class of 420, and that number will only continue to grow, starting with three beautiful, recent additions to our GSB family! We are mooning over these adorable baby pictures and sending a lot of love to all of the new parents.

Congratulations to Parul Chakra and her husband, Tapan Shah, on welcoming their baby girl, Aarya Chachra-Shah, on October 22, 2021, in California.

Congratulations to Mariana Giraldo on welcoming a baby girl, Alicia Diaz Giraldo, on November 19, 2021, in Florida.

Congratulations to Anna Kogan and her husband on welcoming their second son, Auguste Kogan, on January 4, 2022, in Paris.

Cheers to all the new parents! Let’s continue celebrating all our new GSB babies!

Happy Newlyweds: As the date of our class reunion ticks closer, we feel fortunate to share in the happy celebrations and mini-reunions that are the first round of GSB weddings!

Joan Grubb Sanna and Aj Sanna married on June 19, 2021, in Spring Lake, NJ.

Al Organ and Monica Organ married on July 17, 2021, in Chicago, IL.

Mariana Martins and Joao Almeida married on July 17, 2021, in Portugal.

Ali Lauer Cliff and Will Cliff married on July 30, 2021, in Poipu, HI.

Ross Bowen and Jill Fisher married on August 7, 2021, in Atherton, CA.

Dylan Robbins and Jordan Cook married on September 5, 2021, in Pebble Beach, CA.

Luisa Sucre and Nico Posada married on December 18, 2021, in the Dominican Republic.

Cheers to the wonderful newlyweds! Let the class notes team know more wedding bells ring for ’21 GSBers!

Big Career Moves: After all the soul-searching, cold emails, and recruitment grind, it’s always a highlight to hear from classmates thriving in their careers.

For Konrad von Moltkie, the GSB enabled him to create a dream job after graduation: running the venture capital and growth equity investment strategy for the owners of the Minnesota Vikings. Konrad is focused on early-stage investing in sports, technology, fitness, media, entertainment, real estate, and eSports companies. You know who to reach out to with any leads!

Now that we’re making our way back in the working world, please send us updates on how things are going! We would be thrilled to hear from you!

With love, Belinda, Adiam, Andrew

>>>

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Adiam Tesfalul, adiam.tesfalul@gmail.com

MS (SLOAN)

REUNION CELEBRATION: OCT. 6 – 9, 2022

Polina Bermisheva wrote in to say: Aloha!

Jagdeep Tetarwal shared that he is still working at Facebook, currently managing ML and data products. Jagdeep has two daughters, ages 11 and 4.

Steve Murray wrote: “I found my dream role (for now): combining operations, finance, strategy, and business development work for an organization in an industry that I never expected to work in — education — but one with ties into fields that I’ve always found important and interesting — psychology, human consciousness and transformation, psychedelic therapies, and interesting biotech applications of AI-related research. Mainly, however, really thankful for the transformational MS experiences and friends made along the way! Hope to see you all soon!”

Tomas Braun, partner at an early stage venture capital, sent this update: “I’m now joining a new startup (NFT marketplace for Latam arts and music royalties). Jazmin, my girlfriend, and I live between Buenos Aires, Argentina, and Punta del Este, Uruguay.

Peter Thompson wrote: “LucidLink is the startup we began on January 15, 2016. We just had our 6-year anniversary and have increased in size to 55 people. We live in San Francisco, our kids are nearly 10 and 12, and everyone is very supportive of my chaotic entrepreneur schedule.”
Wai-Seng Wong shared, “After a stint in the Bay Area doing tech investing, I am now in my warm tropical home city, Kuala Lumpur, running the strategic asset allocation and investment strategy function for Malaysia’s SWF.”

After leading the $2 billion divestment program at Brazilian National Development Bank, as chief privatizations officer since January 2022, Leonardo Cabral rejoined Credit Suisse as managing director, head of investment banking, in Brazil. “Gilara and the kids are good. The kids are almost teenagers now.”

Thiago Bonini wrote: “Since the GSB, Flavia and I have welcomed two boys, Felipe (now age 4) and Leonardo (age 2)—one more Leo for our MS ‘16 family! On the professional side, living the dream of starting a company. Vidia enables the uninsured population to access surgery affordably. We are at the seed stage and look forward to having a large impact.”

After five years living in Chile and working at Itaú bank there, Daniel Camarotto Mota is “back in Brazil, my homeland, working at Itaú BBA in an exciting challenge in Digital Cash Management, serving the 20,000 largest companies in the country. Aline, my wife, Lucas, 9 years old, and Matheus, 5 years old, have joined me. We are happy to be back in our country! At the same time, we miss our Chilean friends and Chile, a country in which we were very happy and where my younger son, Matheus, was born.”

Renan Pinto sent this update: “I can’t believe it’s been almost six years since we left the GSB! Andrea, Maria Victória, Gabriel, and I spent the past year between Brazil and the U.S., but we finally settled in Tampa, FL. I started working for the largest food and grocery delivery company in Latin America. It has been awesome and so much fun! Staying connected to my GSB fellows reminds me of how powerful and strong our network is. I’m very grateful for what we built!”

Pavel Danilov is still CEO of Fridge No More, a NYC online grocery business that has grown to $35m ARR. “My family, wife Uliana and girls Lisa and Nastya, joined me last April in NYC.”

Shanu Yadav wrote that “shortly before the pandemic, we moved to Washington, DC. We had a baby girl in 2019, who has been a stay-at-home kid so far! At work, I lead corp dev & fintech investments at a firm that specializes in consumer finance—it’s an exciting role!” Shanu said he looks forward to catching up with everyone at the reunion.

Saurabh Jha checked in: “Hey buddies, I’ve been running a food brand digital accelerator in India since Ritu, and I relocated to Bangalore in 2019. Ritu is currently piloting an exciting Healthtech in stealth. Every day spent building is exciting, and, once in a while, tiring. We miss you and look forward to seeing you again soon.”

Brian Phillips shared: “I joined Facebook shortly after GSB and have been there now for 5½ years building products both across the ads and media businesses and now for Oculus VR. I met my wife, Beth, in 2016 on a Facebook shuttle ride from the Marina to Menlo Park. Since then, we’ve moved a few times (Sausalito, Tahoe, and now Florida) and we’ve had a son (Mack, almost 2 years old) and daughter (Elle, 3 months). Miss you all and can’t wait to see you again soon!”

Saurabh Jha, MS ’17, bringing In the EV Transition.

Pivoting from environmental venture investing at Emerson Collective, Catherine Chien is now director, climate market strategy and investments at X, the Moonshot Factory. During the pandemic, she has abscended to New York City and is renovating a former artist’s loft with her partner.

Takashi Sawaguchi wrote: “Working at NTT Communications, overseeing global network services for Japanese multinational companies. Daughter Misaki is enjoying junior high school, will be a high school student in April, and is missing TGIF!”

Jilku Joseph sent news: “We’re living life in Cape Town, South Africa. Our little girl has just turned 4. That’s almost as long as I’ve been managing director of one of South Africa’s most loved personal finance apps, 22seven. We crossed a milestone—500,000 users—at the end of 2021, which is exciting!”

Ivan Lvov shared: “Natalia, Gleb (already 13 and almost my shoe size), and I still live in Palo Alto, though in a different neighborhood. 2021 was tough (serious injuries, both me and Gleb: all good now) and very rewarding, as we all learned how to enjoy simple things and love each other more. Work has been going well. The startup I’ve been with since 2016 has finally found PMF. I’ve put a lot of time and energy into it, so it’s a joy to see it growing and becoming a serious business. As we hired more people to manage growth, I started working on the next GTM strategy and took another startup for consulting, splitting my time between the two.”

From Jakarta, Indonesia, Yugo Shima wrote that he serves “as country manager of Uniqlo Indonesia. Enjoying being in the fashion business in this tropical weather. Misa and I have a two-year-old boy, and we are expecting another baby soon!”

Gil Rosen updated us: “Currently back at The Farm, finally finishing my public policy degree while investing in social impact early-stage ventures through my fund, Heads&Heart. Before the pandemic I was fortunate enough to take a small sabbatical and travel across South America to meet with many of you. Stanford isn’t the same without you guys, and every day I relive our memories. Hope to catch up soon!”

Sebastián Espinosa, MS ’17, at The Acropolis in Athens.

17

Saurabh Singh shared: “Hi. I am currently working to expedite the EV transition in the Indian last-mile mobility market through Greaves Electric Mobility, where I am heading business strategy and product planning.”

Sebastián Espinosa continues in his role expanding Coding Dojo’s impact around the world. The company is now in 20 countries, including Chile, Costa Rica, Tunisia, and Kenya.

Akhil Srivastava commented: “With the hope that your life is framed with all the colors of the rainbow making your life happy, we are sending out the happiest colors to you and family. Stay blessed!!!”

Jerónimo Garcia De Brahi shared: “We just came back from our trip to visit our family in Argentina after two years of Zoom calls! Business is still growing, and I am exploring new adventures professionally every day and enjoying the journey. Dani, my wife, started a personal project on Instagram @HistoriasEnCelofán, sharing personal stories of amazing human beings. Chewbacca continues enjoying the fun of having his humans almost full time at home.”

Tom Stevens sent this update: “Despite the current Omicron surge, we are all healthy and doing well. Tombot continues to make good progress, though it is challenging every day. Marissa is hoping to get into the studio soon to record her latest batch of jazz compositions.”

Michael Olorunninwo shared: “I began building GradientFI in October of 2021 to create new financial services experiences for startups and fast-growing internet businesses around the world, starting with streaming
Santi Syjuco reported that he and his family will soon celebrate their fifth anniversary in Seattle. Santi continues to work at Amazon building grocery shopping experiences, including launching over a dozen new grocery partners worldwide. His wife, Rina, started a successful cake business, @cakeson28th on Instagram, that has already been reported on in local and international media.

Mridula Saini shared: “After two years and $600K in pre-seed funding, my venture, ZILLIONS AI, in computer vision and AI is now gaining significant traction with our recently released MVP, new client projects, and our $5M seed-round, which is being mentored and led by one of the largest international high-tech accelerators.”

Ravi Kiran Gopalan updated us: “I’ve been working on our latest venture, Aira Technologies, in the intersection of wireless communications and machine learning. Our family is still in the Bay Area, and we’ve recently begun traveling domestically. Looking forward to catching up with many of you in 2022.”

Alina Dumitrache commented: “Making the most out of every moment in beautiful London and supporting babies’ having the best start in life as global innovation director of nutrition at RB.”

Joan Leal shared: “The Leal family is growing! Mateo Leal will be born in March; his sisters, Colomba and Simona, can’t wait to meet baby Mateo. The Leals are enjoying being back home in Chile. During 2021, Mayira launched a nonprofit financial education platform to help people in Chile manage their personal finances. Joan’s company is growing: Oceanus launched the Azul Project in Chile, an initiative to fight climate change by producing fresh water and contributing to the energy transition toward a 100-percent renewable grid.”

Adi Gigi commented: “I am still the CEO of Tesla Israel. Model 3 became the best-selling car in Israel in just one year. I was named one of the most 100 influential people by the largest economic newspaper in Israel (Calcalist), one of the most 50 influential women in the country by the Israeli Yahoo! (Globes), and the Person of the Year (Globes).”
wonderful jogging paths. The hot weather and cats-and-dogs rainfall won’t stop her! Megan Mellin, MBA welcomes her new baby, Orion Calder Mellin, on December 11, 2021, just five days after Joe’s first public art installation in downtown Redmond, WA. Megan is completing a coaching certification with a focus on impact-oriented founders and leaders, and the two bought their first house in September in Carnation, WA, a 2,000-person town east of Seattle in the Snoqualmie River Valley. A wonderful campground, 30-mile trail, and series of river beaches are just a short walk from their new house. “Come visit!”

Panos Madamopoulos-Moraris has been promoted to managing director for industry programs and partnerships at Stanford HAI. In his new role, Panos is leading core strategic partnerships, R&D, and revenue functions on behalf of the university. He’s always excited to connect with alumni founders, executives, investors, and researchers working on AI/ML and other frontier technologies. You will typically find him hosting big fat Greek meals at Kokkari in San Francisco or Taverna in Palo Alto.

Samantha Hagerbaumer joined the customer success team at Afresh, a GSB-founded startup working to reduce food waste at grocery stores through its AI-driven solution for fresh food departments.

Having developed the pioneering contact tracing app, TraceTogether, Jason Bay has moved on from GovTech Singapore and will be starting a new professional chapter at a Singapore-based unicorn.

Karen Wu turned a new leaf in her career this past year and moved from Chicago to the Bay Area to start a position as a senior business manager in development sciences at Genentech. “I now work with scientists much smarter than myself to launch new initiatives.” In her free time, Karen has been up to all sorts of shenanigans in the ocean — attempting activities such as surfing, coastal foraging, and crab snaring in the Bay. “I’m ready to move on from the Midwest, fully embrace Bay Area traditions, and trade in those Chicago hotdogs for Christmas crab!”

GSB hosted the MS Class of 2019 Reunion, held in October 2021.

Reunions: The GSB closely follows state, local, and university protocols regarding COVID-19. Please be aware that in-person events are subject to change if necessary. In the event of changes, GSB Alumni Relations will promptly notify you via email.

In Memoriam includes information that was available at press time on deceased alumni. Some information contained here may have arrived too late to be included in this issue’s class notes columns.
I love the faces candidates make when I ask them the question in a job interview. I wish I could’ve seen my face the first time I saw it. No one had asked me something like that before.

When I applied to Stanford GSB in 2008, I didn’t know what mattered to me, let alone why. I was just trying to make it out from a tough background. My parents had disappeared when I was a baby, and I became an orphan when my grandparents passed when I was young. By the time I was 17, I was couch-surfing in a way that some would describe as homelessness.

At 24, I was doing my best Gordon Gekko impression as a private equity associate, proud of my tie collection, and thinking about how to land a hedge fund job. I begrudgingly embarked, probably for the first time, on some self-reflection. It occurred to me that I was exceptionally grateful for three things: my grandparents, the boarding school that gave me a scholarship, and the people who had stood up for me and given me a chance.

As I wrote my application, I resolved that I would, first, for my grandparents, “build a family from the ashes and become a good citizen, husband, parent, and human being.” Second, I planned “to search for deserving students and provide an ongoing scholarship for the Hotchkiss School,” the boarding school I’d attended. “People wrote me off as a kid from a broken home, but a few adults believed in me. I owe it to the people who invested in me to impact the lives of others,” I wrote. I concluded that “repaying my debts to those who invested in me is my most important priority and responsibility.”

On the Farm I realized how I could achieve these goals. Before or after class, I went out of my way to walk past the cornerstone dedicated “to things that haven’t happened yet and the people who are about to dream them up.”

Since then, I’ve been fortunate to collaborate with many classmates as we pursue our mission to “chase meaningful problems with people we care about.” We’ve built companies that have provided loans to people who can’t get them otherwise, healthtech that enables better care, job opportunities, medical debt relief, software democratizing capital, and fair mortgage pricing.

I’m still not sure why I made those three resolutions in 2008, but I wouldn’t change a word of what I wrote. Each day my main goal is to try to live up to the first resolution with my wonderful wife and three children. The second was perhaps the easiest: As soon as I was able, I set up a scholarship for Hotchkiss students and am working to expand its reach. Finally, I beat the alarm clock most days — I wake up energized to build companies that give people a chance.

I’ve learned that being disadvantaged isn’t an excuse to be a “taker,” but a privilege to be able to multiply the opportunities I was given. It’s funny to chalk so much up to just one question, but I’m eternally grateful that it was asked and grateful to my classmates and collaborators who helped me pursue its answers.