

Summer 1997

Dear **FOOT Leaders**,

It is that time of the year again. I have finished another school year, the FOOT trips are already full for August and I am back on the Vineyard trying to unwind. As usual, we have a great new group of leaders for this year. And, as usual, the FOOT program keeps getting more and more popular. We added two more trips this year, so we are up to running 33 trips simultaneously. I need a huge master board that monitors everyone's movements during the FOOT week. Some of you know that FOOT is now on email--we are the first undergraduate Yale program to have our own listserv, many thanks to the hard work of Eric Greenwald! So some of the news I will be reporting, some of you have already picked up via the internet. I suppose that some day we will be totally on-line, but I still like the old-fashioned form of a letter.

I got up here to Vineyard with all the mail that came in this year, but I forgot to bring old lists that have people's class -- so I have organized this year's letters chronologically as best I could. Sometimes all the old leaders seem like one big amorphous group so I apologize if I have you out of place!! (perhaps in the future, you could identify yourself by name and class --how impersonal, but necessary!) I'm not including an address list this year, but have added in addresses if they are new from last time or unusual.

So, here is the news from fall 1996-spring 1997: **Jamie Williams** ('86) writes from Colorado: "Life is characteristically hectic here--the Yampa River project continues to go well (Jamie is head of the Nature Conservancy in his part of the state). Florence and I are building a small cabin in Paonia and took a week off with many friends to do this (an Amish-style barn raising). **Ann Vileisis** and Tim Palmer were there among others. Jamie and Florence are off to Alaska this summer for three weeks of kayaking with Ann & Tim. Steve and I may head out to Colorado in August for a weekend rafting trip with Jamie & Florence. **Liz Ablow** ('87) had a second child this year: Sara. (see photo) Liz works for an environmental consultant firm as a fish biologist and her husband has a small restaurant in downtown Seattle. She managed to go skiing in British Columbia and does a fair amount of hiking. **Patrick Whelan** ('88) is still teaching in Sarasota, Florida. He and his family went to Cumberland Island for a 6 day trip at the beginning of the year. **Roger Wynne** ('88) sent a brief message from Seattle--"all is well, if too frenetic. I need to ramp down the pace several notches." He is now the proud owner of a new internal frame back beauty and is thinking of donating his old external to FOOT! I take it Roger is still lawyering out there. I still have vivid memories of Roger at a Hockey game playing his tuba and catching the puck in it!

**Melissa Balbach** ('88) emailed: "Greetings!! I am down here in Austin, Texas working for a computer company. I still haven't figured out what a good liberal arts Yankee like myself is doing working for a high tech company in Texas, but I'm having a good time. I've been down here for nearly two years at this point, having moved here to work for Dell after graduate school. I have to say that Austin is really the great town that everyone says it is. It is laid back, and has great music and a great outdoor scene. I am now finally able to do so many of the things that I wasn't able to do while living in New York or Philly. In fact, I got to the point that I had to buy a house in order to have a garage to store all of the toys in. Since moving down here I've been able to do tons of mountain and road biking and recently bought a sea kayak to use both on the rivers and down on the coast for fly fishing. I still work too much to be able to do any of this stuff as much as I would truly like, but hey, it's a lot better than before. And Austin is actually quite a scenic town. I live in a part of Texas that is called the Hill Country, as it is surrounded by lots of cedar covered rolling hills. It doesn't have the hardwood forest of the northeast, but it does have its own particular beauty. And the music scene is terrific!! Tons of great local performers, many of the folk/bluegrass/singer songwriter genre. And much of it for free. For a while I was spending a lot of time with **Lee Deigaard** ('92) who I was able to meet as a result of your FOOT directory. Wonderful person. Unfortunately, she has moved off to Indiana, where she is enrolled in a 3 year MFA program in sculpture (after completing her MA in creative writing here at UT)." Then a recent update was emailed to us: "I just gave notice (April) that I will be leaving the company (along with my boyfriend). The main reason for leaving is to pursue an intriguing job opportunity outside of Austin (as much as I hate to leave Austin). But since we're leaving, might as well put the time to good use. As such, we're taking 4 months to travel through the western US. We're taking 4 bikes and 6 fly rods and planning hitting Utah in May, AZ & NM in June and CO/WY/MT/ID in the months of July and August. We're planning on doing a fair bit of mountain biking and fishing, as well as lots of back country camping.

**Kristin Mitchell** ('89) has been very good this year with sending me lots of great photos! (see photo section) She and her fiancé, David Thomas, bought a house in Seattle last June. It's a 1904 Craftsman with lots of extra room, so if people are in Seattle, look her up! 1922 11th Ave. East, Seattle 98102 (206-328-8859). She spent two weeks in the Canadian Rockies, backpacking, swimming, swatting horse flies and spotting grizzlies (3 of them!). She sees **Betsy**

**Jubitz Sayler** and **Hope Weckin** from time to time at the University of Washington hospital center. Kristin is now a resident there. **Carrie Hatcher** ('89) is still a graduate student in Ann Arbor, MI. She sees **Trex Proffitt** and Beth and **Kashka Kubzdela** in Chicago. She's having fun in the midwest. She's dating a guy named Josh who's quite wonderful who is also in clinical psych. She finds the sunsets the most spectacular display of bright red-orange-yellow-purple-blue-pink clouds and even rainbows over the "heart of America" cornfields. She had a great visit with **Karen Shipley** Taylor and loved her son, Charlie, who is now her godson! Karen is still at the Wooster School in Danbury, CT.

**Frank Levy** ('89) wrote that he was quitting his job in marketing for scientific-Atlanta in Atlanta and will be returning to Boston. (He graduated from Harvard B-school in '95). His last backpacking adventure was cayoneering in Utah in '95! This year he spent all his vacation time to visit out-of-town friends and for the Olympics which was a blast. He's only done a few hikes in the north Georgia mountains which look a lot like the Catskills. Are you now in Boston, Frank? The address Yale gave me is Box 346, 955 Mass. Ave., Cambridge, MA 02139. **Toby Kovacs** ('89) sent news that his girlfriend, Rachel, and he hiked eight days in the Olympic National Park. He stayed two days in Seattle with **Ben & Betsy Saylor**, who were wonderful hosts. Ben is an excellent gourmet pizza chief! A Christmas card from **Trex & Beth Proffitt** ('89) reported that they were still in grad school in Chicago and enjoying their studies immensely.

The big news from **Paul Jahnige** ('89) and Sally Loomis is the birth of their first child: Sage Jahnige Loomis, born July 27, 1996. (see photo) They are still doing community forestry in Baltimore. Paul is the executive director of Community Resources. I look like their program is expanding into Philadelphia and DC. The mission statement reads: "We believe that urban issues are everyone's issues. The plight of our urban environment is critical, not only because urban communities are besieged by poverty, pollution and a lack of opportunities for youth, but because their 'urban issues' affect the health of our ecosystems, our communities and our economies on a regional scale. A degraded environment affects the quality of life for everyone who lives, works, plays or learns in and around that environment."

**Ben Sayler** ('89) sent this news over the internet: "Perhaps of some historical interest: **Betsy Jubitz Sayler** ('91) and I were the first two FOOTers to wed each other. That was back in 1991. In 1996 Betsy graduated from med school and I finally defended my doctoral dissertation in Atmospheric Sciences, both at the University of Washington. To celebrate we went hiking along the southern coast of Africa and through national parks in Zimbabwe. This year Betsy is a resident in primary care in internal medicine at the University of Washington. My job's a bit nebulous, but I love it too. I work through the University with the Seattle Public Schools to reform their elementary science curriculum. I also do scientific research on the dynamics of the atmosphere. Betsy and I just spent two of our precious weeks of vacation on a fabulous trip through Thailand. Note that Thailand in March is hot. Real hot. Snorkeling around the islands of Ang Thong National park in the Gulf of Thailand is a good way to cope. We used a cool Yale connection who's doing research in Thailand (Thamora Fishel, '88, who was a TOE enthusiast) to get invited by some park rangers to camp on one of these remote islands a rare opportunity for tourists. We tried but failed to connect with **Lori Sherman** ('88) who is a doctor for Doctors Without Borders near Three Pogodas Pass...Betsy and I are in the midst of a little project (that's masquerading as an epic saga) to put a guest room in our basement. We'd love to have visitors to make it seem worthwhile. Outdoor recreation is outstanding around here. if you like telemarking, the glaciers of local volcanoes typically provide excellent terrain 'til mid-July. They're still at 4308 Second Ave.NE Seattle 98105.

**Eric Greenwald** ('90) has been such a wonderful supporter of FOOT. He wins the Alumni Devotion Award! He not only came back and did support crew last year with **Jay Ready** (they created 'Club FOOT' in the wilds--with volleyball court, juice bar and hammocks--for the hiking groups in the White Mountains), but then he practically single-handedly put together our FOOT email Listserv. Thank you, Eric! Eric also informed me that he will be leaving his lawyer job at Shearman et al to work for the CIA! He didn't say much more about his new job.. I believe his new address is 2714 Quebec St., NW, Washington DC 20008 (202-537-6154).

**Aaron Scott** ('90?) is a resident in Oregon. He's excited to have a universally applicable skill. When not sewing people up, he does his best to break his own bones by crashing his own mountain bike. (Only a thumb, so far!) He gets truckloads of snow so he's started to cross-country ski again--unfortunately lots of the national team trains around there so he always gets his ass kicked. He was hoping to join the Crater lake ski patrol last winter. He thinks of FOOT folks a lot and marvels at the sense of community we have --rare in a world of frequent moves and distracting work! **Baker Mallory** (90?) spent last summer in Cambridge where he was at architecture school. He worked with Graham Hund(sp?) Architects on a restoration of the Shubert Theatre in Boston and did lots of fly fishing. In the fall he took courses in the landscape architecture department and spent much time in the woods around Boston doing ecology experiments and learning the Latin names of all the trees, shrubs, vines and plants in New England. How about Quercus alba?? one of my old favorites!

I received a wonderful letter from **Renny Gleeson** ('90) He wrote: "First: FOOT gave me some of my fondest memories of Yale, all the way through. I remember all the kids, my co-leaders, the wind, cold, rain, heat and trowel. Second, to update you all: I'm still painting and sculpting. Two more shows this summer. I'm working for the artist I was working for before, and work takes me around the globe. I model objects, maquettes, etc., then see to it that they get built correctly, then I place them wherever (so far: France, Spain, Germany, Switzerland, California and yes, Pittsburgh)! We're in the middle of making a big project for a '97 exhibition in Los Angeles, so I'll probably be spending some time out there. I've also taken another job creating images (drawing, then computer manipulating them) for a CD-ROM game based in 205 AD Rome. The project is extremely realistic and historically accurate--we're using Yale's Russian expert on Rome as an adviser and two principles in the venture are from Columbia's architecture faculty and digital labs. It's funny and my drawing and movies will figure prominently in the final product. I'm basically working around the clock,

9:00am--1:30/4:00am!!” A more recent email updated us on this project which gives it a different spin: “Making illustrations for this little firm called Cybersites has led me down the stinking road to ruin that has thus far found me writing, designing, art directing and producing on line games for them. This is all well and good, but it is not the painting that I set out to do. Therefore, for every degree my compass is shifted from the true north of high art, there is an attendant price point. And I am hardly near the financial place I need to be if they are paying me for my life, which is what has in a sense become the case. It’s seductive--the work is interesting, intellectual and beautiful, but...So that said, I am seeing the beautiful and dynamic Pam Lloyd (‘90) my longtime love, who is now pursuing her MBA at Wharton and will graduate in June and rejoin me in NYC (if all goes well and she ignores the desperate pleas of her parents).

**Eve Porter** (‘90) is in Massachusetts and is tempted at the possibility of helping out with support crew. **Stewart Moritz** (‘90?) is married to Dr. Maura O’Shea and is living in San Francisco. Maura is a new resident at UCSF Ob/Gyn. Stewart began working as a lawyer at Kecker & VanNest, a small litigation firm. He was pretty excited though he’ll work harder than he did last year as a law clerk for a federal circuit court judge! Stewart took some days in the Ansel Adams Wilderness (SE of Yosemite NP)--amazing High Sierra views, mountain lakes, etc. September is the perfect time for a visit--weather and crowd-wise. Eric Greenwald and I had toyed with the idea of a post-bar exam trip to Yosemite, but he decided to do support crew instead! Maura and I also spent a week day-hiking around Mt. Shasta. Pretty amazing country up there too. Everything is on such a grand scale out here! **Eric Braun** (now Eric Harris-Braun) is still living in Newtown, CT doing computer work. He published a book on the subject a while back.

**Diana Fisher Gomberg** (‘91) sent the following news: “I’m planning to go to Alaska this summer with my husband Richard Fisher Gomberg (‘91). We’ve signed on to a kayak trip near Juneau and the Tongass National Forest. Other than trip planning, we’ve been house hunting, which has proven less fun than I anticipated. I am working for the state of Massachusetts now on a network of residential programs for teen moms and their babies. It’s part of welfare reform, so my mission is to make sure we collect quality data that will eventually show how effective or ineffective the new policy is. (wasn’t that said diplomatically?) So, management and evaluation of public health programs is my current career. Previously, I was doing policy work in DC and Cambridge as a contractor to the EPA. Much as I wanted to work in the environmental field, the two positions I had were, how shall I say, totally dry. So, I went off to public health school and now I’m working on teen parent programs, which has been very interesting so far. If you’re passing through Boston, give me a call!” 704 Mt. Auburn St. Watertown, MA 02172.

**Katie Hackett** (91?) traveled to Africa last year and report that it was fabulous. “I wish I could’ve stayed longer--so many interesting people, sights, sounds and smells. I really had a great experience and feel so fortunate to have been able to see so much. I started in Eutrea which is just north of Ethiopia, in fact, it gained its independence from Ethiopia just 5.5 years ago so it’s an absolutely fascinating place to visit/live. I stayed there for 2 months forking for the ministry of tourism and the Red Sea Printing Press and then went to Kenya for 4 months to work with UNICEF on a water management/public information program. In-between those two projects Ted (boyfriend) and I toured Ethiopia briefly--a must visit--and then went through Tanzania and Malawi. Two major highlights of the trip were Nanzibai and Mt Kilimanjaro...yes, we made it to the top of Mt. Kili (19,600’) in time to see the sun rise from the top on Christmas morning. It was quite emotional--I burst into tears as the sun poked up over the horizon. I think part of my outburst was sheer exhaustion--we started our final ascent at 12:30 am. Climbing to the top was the most physically exhausting thing I’ve ever done--it took literally all of my mental power to put one foot in front of the other. With only half the amount of oxygen there is a sea level, you can imagine our lethargy. Anyway, I’m now waiting to hear about grad school.” Her most recent address: P.O.Box 68012, Tucson, AZ 85737.

**Melina Novy** (‘91) is in grad school at the Woodrow Wilson School in Princeton but is currently in Prague doing research. She was married last year. If you happen to be in Europe her address is: 20 Stresovicka, 162 00 Praha 6, The Czech Republic.

**Louisa Castrodale** (‘92) wrote that she is in the middle of fourth year stuff at vet school (since I received this last summer, obviously this is now dated). She spent two weeks in Arizona on a Hopi reservation hanging out with lot of horses, cows and Hopis. Also took a short little week-long jaunt to Lone Pine, CA to wander around the Sierras a bit with a Yale friend who is a ranger there. “Rather impressive set of mountains.” The bears were out in full force every night! She then traveled to New Orleans, Atlanta and Suriname to hang out at a bunch of zoos. She’s thinking hard about getting an MPH next year, maybe at Tulane, to better qualify herself to work overseas. A more recent email reported that she was hanging out in Atlanta finishing up the last bit of vet school with externships at the Zoo/CDC. The weather is most magnificent so she’s been out and about in the forests. **Karen O’Brien** wrote that she got married, after four years of engagement last June. The wedding was on a sunny day in Massachusetts and was full of Scottish uncles in kilts, Gaelic blessings and a bagpipe to walk her down the aisle. She graduated from medical school last May (‘96) and began her residency in Ob/Gyn at UPenn. **Steve Bunyak** (‘91) moved to Maryland from Virginia so his wife, Sasha, could pursue a one-year research fellowship at the National Institute of Health studying multiple sclerosis. Steve is still at STRA, an environmental consulting firm, but is looking for new environmental work. Away from work, they have been having a great time taking pottery, including a trip to the Smithsonian to meet with a curator and handle 15th century Japanese and Chinese ceramics--a neat experience! Steve has been playing soccer and both have been enjoying DC’s museums, film festivals and outdoor activities. Actually, Steve and Sasha got married this May on, can you believe it, the island of Martha’s Vineyard (where I am now on location)! It was a small family affair and they hope to celebrate with more friends on both coasts sometime in ‘97.

I received an electronic email Christmas card from **Ben Harley** who is still in Europe. I unfortunately have forgotten his class--sorry Ben, I know you are one of the early ones!

**Kashka Kubzdela** ('91) defended her dissertation in May. I hope all went well. The topic was "The Effect of Group Size on Feeding Competition and Female Reproduction Success in Sifakas." **Tali Zulman Ziv** ('91) had a baby over the course of the year! I believe she is still doing medicine in San Francisco. **Ben Doolittle** is about to get married and will finally be leaving New Haven. He had completed Div School and then Medical School at Yale. I will miss not seeing him hiking around the town.

**Emel Gokyigit** ('91) is now at law school. I'm not sure where--I know she got into Harvard, but then she would have to live apart from her new husband who would be in Philadelphia, I think. So she could be at UPenn. The address Yale gave me was: 2206 Kater St. Philadelphia, PA 19146. **Chris Roberts'** ('91) big news is that he is getting married this August in England! **Eric Steadman** will be best man and **Ben Doolittle** a groomsman. Chris had gotten kicked out of England last year (March '96) for being unable to convince a custom's officer at Gatwick airport that the documentary film he was helping with for the BBC was legit. Once back in the US, he worked on a potato farm in Aroostook County, ME--the same farm where **Eric Steadman** and **Jeanette Demallie** had once done stints. Spent a few months traveling around and showing Hannah (fiancee) our nation's sites. Around Halloween convinced her to become his fiancee. Things were looking good except for one thing, no job. A PBS series he was hoping to work on finally got funded and now he is an associate producer of "Perspectives: The Newsweekly of Religion & Ethics." The show goes on the air in September. Chris moved to DC which is where they'll be broadcasting from and that is where he and Hannah will be living after the wedding. Chris met Hannah when they were both studying theology at Oxford. She's been the production manager for a small touring company that puts on Greek dramas, and doing a little acting in a community theatre. She's excited but a bit agog at the prospect of coming to America, so Chris is keen to introduce her to as many FOOT friends as possible (so she'll be convinced that all Americans are friendly, smart and fascinating.)

**Peter Ackerman** ('92) wrote a very long, enjoyable & informative letter. Last summer he was recuperating in Pittsburgh after a shoulder operation and found the time to write! "It's actually a good quiet time for me because for the last 2 years I was a graduate student in acting at ACT (American Conservatory Theatre) and I just graduated this spring ('96) and guess what? The professional theatre side of ACT has signed me to a contract for this whole year: Oct--June. I'm a professional actor!! Weekly wage, the union, benefits, big beautiful stage, the whole bit.I'm totally psyched. So if you are in San Francisco and you want to see a good play, come to ACT. Unfortunately, I can't promise all the FOOT alumni free tickets because I'm not yet such a big shot, and there could potentially be a lot of free tickets. I see lots of FOOTies. I lived with **Perry** for a year in San Francisco before he left us for Davis and I've seen Jake a few times and I went to **Paul Sabin's** wedding on June 16 (1996). **Rachel Huff, Jody Esselstyn, Mandy Rice** were all there. I see Mandy in San Francisco. She lives around the corner from me. On Labor Day weekend I'm going to Oregon for **Milena Novy's** wedding to this guy who was my landlord in Portland for a year back in '93. **Josh Barkan** will be there and Jody (she and I are on the circuit together). I was psyched to hear **Jessica Jones's** news, my old co-leader and I bumped into **Laura Bradford** (my other co-leader, who with me was convinced that we had poisoned our FOOTies by using the wrong kind of iodine. We were very dumb) last year in Palo Alto where I was visiting **Eric Steadman** whom I see a lot in CA. We still do our old, wired FOOT handshake. He was my leader. He blew up our stove and danced around spaztically while **Jeanette DeMallie** calmly put it out! He also, after repeating to us over and over in Bingham Hall how the wool hat was the most important item on a camping trip, forgot his. He didn't know that our trail extended on to the other side of the map, insisting in fact that it didn't, before one of my fellow FOOTies quietly flipped the map and showed him that it did. And you know, I wouldn't have wanted an other leader...I can't talk about my Yale experiences much without including tales from FOOT. It was the bookends to each of my years there. I remember you reading the index cards of the leaders who all seemed so exciting and worldly and OLD... And it's so rare that I go camping now that it bums me out. I've been to Yosemite once, and down to Big Sur, but I'm aching for a long trip. Oh yeah, I see **Jason Soll** too. He's still questing his way through the world. **Sylke Jackson** is in NYC working on film sets.

**Sumner McCallie** ('92) wrote that he is working at the McCallie School (any connection?) in Chattanooga, TN. "I cannot describe how super this place is -- the students and their enthusiasm, the faculty and their care for their students, and the administration and their understanding of how to build a strong community. Everything has truly come together in one of the safest, most challenging, most supportive places I have been a part of. My job is working with kids who are on academic probation (12 out of 750) as well as being available to help any student who walks in with any problem. I have been enjoying re-learning chemistry, physics, calculus, geometry, American history, etc.--everything in the high school curriculum. I cannot think of a better place to be. I have been thinking about trying to start an outdoor orientation program here at McCallie before the school year starts. FOOT would be a good model to work from--amazing how that program still has ripples wherever we look!" Sumner is still working at Camp High Rocks in the summer and anyone can get information about it on the internet under "Camp High Rocks."

**Burch LaPrade** and **Rachelle Lyons** tied the wedding knot this past August in CA. They honeymooned to the Galapagos Islands and the Ecuador rainforest. They went hiking with **Anne Cottrell** and her fiancé.(not as part of the honeymoon!) Anne is doing well. She just finished her first year at Berkeley Law School.

**Jake Bowers** wrote (or finally typed so I could read it!) that "I am finishing the first semester of my third year in the Ph.D. program in Political Science out here at UC Berkeley. My most recent research paper was about the impact of crossburnings in North Carolina between 1987-92 on the political behavior of African-Americans. In this paper, I am trying to understand when the threat of crossburnings mobilizes a community/catalyzes resistance versus when this threat

works to intimidate people and prevent their cohesion. Somehow all of the reading of Hobbes and Arendt in half my classes are supposed to mix with the statistics and econometrics problem sets of the other half of my classes somehow to produce a dissertation about stuff like this. Luckily, I have 3 or 4 more years in which such mixing can occur. Graduate school has managed to stop both my practice of music and my periodic backpacking trips. Hopefully this mono-focus will not continue. Since I don't have a car, and I don't have much time, my cool waterproof boots and my hyper-techno goretex rainsuit now serve to protect me from the rain while I ride my bike around town. My ratty old backpack has likewise morphed into the key to my urban laundry strategy."

**Stephen Kahn** ('92?) sent news from Harvard Med School. He had just returned from a trip at 5:00am to start working in the hospital at 8:00am. He was coming back from adventures in Hawaii with his brother and then a 22 day canoe trip with 14-16 year olds in the Minnesota Boundary Waters with Outward Bound. (Steve was an Outward Bound Instructor last summer!) He wrote: "It is so clear to me how FOOT was the ideal preparation for being an effective, patient and enthusiastic leader. It's a different population, with a lot of kids who don't want to be there and often have legal, drug or school issues but so much translates. Furthermore, the team building skills that I picked up with good old FOOT are even more crucial in school tutorials & now in the hospital with stressed out residents where you get more attitude than from even 15 year old boys withdrawing from cigarettes."

**Perry DeValpine** ('93) spent last summer at the Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory, which is a research station with quite a few outstanding ecologists tucked in a magical valley at 9,500', eight miles north of Crested Butte. It was great, but field work is a lesson in tenacity! He then returned to Davis and by now has completed year 2 of his grad school story. "I try to remain as open as ever to the unknown paths my life may take." Later Perry wrote the grad school was moving along well. "I'm taking my last class, research is under way, and Davis is generally a great place to study ecology and evolution, although I do encounter the occasional professor who could learn a lot about personal interactions from a group of FOOTers. Personal life is good too. As they say, 'I can't complain.' I've also been running a lot and day dreaming about running another marathon." This summer Perry will be in Gothic, Colorado--back at the Rocky Mountain Biological lab and would love visitors: RMBL, Box 519, Crested Butte, CO 81224. (messages can be left at 970-349-7481.)

**Katie Michel** ('93) updated us with this news: "After graduation I spent a year living in the Czech Republic working for a now defunct English-language newspaper, Prognosis. Then, I returned home and moved to New York City. I jumped from job-to-job for a while, and then found a random apprenticeship at a small letterpress. At the Grenfell Press we specialize in letter-press printing, typography and graphic design. We work with museums, galleries on contract design projects as well with artists and writers making books and prints by hand. It will be two years come January that I will be working a this job, and I can't even begin to describe how much fun it is. From the wilds of the Catskills to the canyons of New York City, life is different, but still pretty excellent. I can be reached at 212-741-7257; 749 Greenwich St. NYC 10014.

**Matt Eddy** ('93) sent a postcard last summer that reported that he was traveling in Evisa, in the heart of the Corsica countryside. He and three teacher friends were hiking there for a few weeks before returning to DC for his fourth year of teaching at the Potomac School. It felt great to be in serious wilderness, climbing the highest peak in Corsica and bushwhacking down trail-less valleys. They refreshed themselves with skinny dips and long siestas by frigid pools. They didn't see an American tourist for 3 weeks--what an escape! Then about the new year, Matt wrote some more: "I write to tell you that I've moved into Washington DC proper but not for long. After 4 years of teaching I've come to realize that to get where I want to be as a teacher, I need to leave teaching for a while. wow. Big life changes ahead, I guess. I'm hoping to head to South America sometime in the fall, probably for some service work of some kind. I'm feeling wanderlust, the desire to embrace a different culture, the desire to get my head out of books and papers, and the desire to leave what is familiar far behind. Part of the motivation for my trip comes from my brother, who just finished hiking the southern 850 miles of the AT. I spent Thanksgiving with him, in a shelter outside of Roan, TN and we got to talking about the two different meanings of the phrase 'to seek your fortune.' One in a monetary sense, doesn't particularly grab hold of me at the present, but the other, the idea of going out into the world just for the sake of experience and wisdom-building--that interests me a great deal. So that's the spirit of my future. Potomac School has been wonderful to me and I'll treasure the time and friends I've had there." Matt said that he has seen **Perry DeValpine** and **Jason Soll**--they came down to his family's house for a Christmas party. Jason is working in San Francisco for a company that does high-end finishing and he says he's worked there long enough to be able to distinguish woods by smell. He has also seen **Ben Strauss**, who's returned from Panama and is working for an environmental consulting group in DC. He's doing great. I (Cilla) had a nice talk on the phone with Ben when he was in New Haven for a YSEC alumni reunion event: 10 years of YSEC. I also saw Florence Williams that time.

**Cesca Smith** ('93) just sent a postcard with the following information: she is finishing up a Ph.D. in Geology and Paleontology at the University of Chicago. She is living in Boulder, CO, however and loves the mountains nearby. Her parents moved from Massachusetts to Santa Fe only to have the sad event of her father contracting cancer and dying.

I attended a bridal shower for **Jody Esselstyn** ('93) in New Haven this past March at her aunt's home. **Tiff Bingham's** mom was there (said she was about to lead another NOLS course) as well as **Blake Esselstyn** and **Meredith Forte**. As Jody commented herself: "I just ended a 3-year commitment at the Planned Parenthood clinic in Burlington, VT as a health care assistant. The reason for my departure is two-fold--I will be marrying my partner of 3+ years, Jeff Aten (a Hamden, CT native and UVM graduate, currently working as a finish carpenter) and I want some time for hiking, reading, and relaxing before the big day (in early July). Also, I will be starting a 3-year master's program at the Yale

School of Nursing in September to become a Family Nurse Practitioner--so the time off is a last minute quest for a sane vacation before grad school and married life begin. I've loved living in VT and I expect we'll return someday."

**Ashley West** ('93) spent March-June '95 traveling to Vietnam, Laos, Nepal and Tibet with a friend from home. They tried to avoid tourists as much as possible. It was an amazing trip--Vietnam because of the war, celebrating 20 years of a unified Vietnam and American troops pulling out and because of the recent excitement around Vietnam's economy which is fast becoming a focus for American business, for better or worse. Laos, too, offered celebration of its own when we were there for the Pi Mai Lao--the Lao New Year. It's a 5-day festivity, full of parades, bright costumes, and most notably, water dousings. All week people throw water on each other, something particularly embraced by children! We timed our Nepal trek for the end of the tourist season in May and beginning of the monsoon season--leeches and all (but rhododendrons galore of every color). We hiked to Makalu Base Camp (17,000') in NE Nepal, on the other side of Everest. Makalu is the 5th highest peak and less traveled by tourists. Gorgeous! We were only in Tibet for a week. Absolute gravy! I loved it, but every moment was bittersweet because of the atrocities committed by the Chinese government & the everyday mix of despair, poverty yet proud resistance and faith of the Tibetan people. Someday you will have to see my slideshow. I spent this past year in Williamstown, MA in the beautiful Berkshires. I'm in a 2 year art history master's program run by Williams and the art museums here, Williams College Museum and the Clark Art Institute. I love it--a wonderful place to study with mountains, horses, streams, pastures in my backyard. I try to get in as much hiking & biking as I can out here in this idyllic place.

**Elizabeth Murdock** ('94) has been in touch both by letter and phone. She was in New Haven and so we had a nice chat on the phone. She left Oregon and moved to San Francisco and so I gave her all the names of former FOOT leaders in the area. She found a job at a small press company. She's at 3965 26th St. SF, CA 94131 (415-643-1739) I got more recent news that Elizabeth is about to go to Germany on some sort of program where she will be teaching over there. **Meg Wickwire** ('94) sent me a postcard last summer when she was in England studying at Oxford. She reported that Oxford was fabulous. She wrote: "My professor was phenomenally brilliant, but also amazingly down-to-earth, considering. The other students were a really neat group. Most of them were teachers and I managed to get some good advice between the library and the dining hall. As for Oxford itself, Lincoln College reminded me so much of Yale I hardly felt like I was away. Once big difference, though, there was a pub in the basement below the dining hall. Handy!" Meg was at Oxford through the Bread Loaf School of English getting a MA in English--though this will spread out over several summers. She quit her job at Student Conservation Association (SCA). She also traveled through Scotland with a friend and "discovered quickly that Scots are some of the gentlest people in the world except when they get behind the wheel of an automobile. One day we took a ride from two local women in a pickup truck over some of the harriest, hilliest, one-lanes curves I've ever encountered. At speeds that scared off even the bugs, I'm not sure which is more frightening, feeling only half of the wheels on the ground at any given moment or blinking my wind-whipped eyes only to see the driver maintaining full eye contact with her friend as we careened around another corner... Since returning home, Meg has been writing more than ever before, and though none of it is publishable yet, "I expect I'll be grateful for all the practice when I set out to write something for The Greater Good." Meg updated us with an email stating that after nearly a year of searching high and low, she found what she hopes is the ideal teaching position. Starting this fall, she'll be a middle school English teacher at Harvard-Westlake School in LA. Despite the smog, she's thrilled with the opportunity.

**Marty Hale** ('94) sent in the following news: "I was at a conference in San Fran and who should I see but **Crickett Johnson**!! Cricket was in a power suit, jet setting off to Utah for skiing, and probably for some corporate raiding on the side!! I half expected her to be playing bobbity bop bop among the convention visitors...but no such luck! My new job is groovy...Otherwise, some news...I made my first appearance on network TV--on the Maury Povich show! It aired in May. The segment was on short guys who dig tall women. And, it was part of a broader show with the theme "opposites attract." At first, they told me I was too tall (something I don't hear too often), but after giving the producer a few good lines (such as "my women NEVER get the short end of the stick"), they asked me to come on. I couldn't refuse the honor of appearing on such a high quality show--my fellow panelists included a dwarf married to a transvestite (a fact revealed only at the end of the show), a woman married to a circus performer who lighted firecrackers on his chest, and a 97 year old priest who fathered a child at age 71. (His wife was in her early 30s at the time!) My fellow short guys included Ron, a 30 year old struggling salesman, and Jeffrey, a 40 year old, leather clad dentist with broom-like chest hair, more gold bracelets than the late notorious BIG, and a penchant for lousy humor writing. During our segment, the cast of 'opposites' outlined above voted on which one of the short guys should go on a date with Emily, a monstrously tall, 6'5" model, with hands bigger than Michael Jordan and an Adams apple the size of a grapefruit. Luckily, Jeffrey won the honors. I have a feeling that they will appear on a later show, because I believe that Emily was most likely a man." Marty is working in Southport, CT (some kind of investment work) and still living in New York. **Charlie Hale** ('94), **Meg Wickwire** ('94) and I just had lunch together on the Vineyard (the Hales have a homestead up here too!) so I was able to catch up on some more gossip. Yes, Meg is going to LA this fall to teach, after attending 5 weddings this summer and Charlie is leaving his job at Alec Brown and is moving to a management position at a software company--still in Boston. Charlie spotted **Josh Cott** and **Sara Heitler** at a Scotch-tasting event sponsored by the Yale Club. When Charlie was out west on a business trip, he was spotted by **Burch LaPrade** and **Rachelle Lyons** when he was running on the beach!. He also reported that **Charlie Simonds** was last spotted somewhere in Wall Street. Charlie has the best collection of "Yo moma" jokes--just ask him to send you a few: "Yo moma so fat when she back up she beep."

**Greg McClain** ('94) has left San Francisco and moved to Honolulu, Hawaii. He heard through the grapevine that FOOT was not accepting rising sophomores as leaders, but this is not true since we have about 25 new sophomore FOOT leaders this year.

**Jason Soll** ('94?) wrote last summer; "I'm living in San Francisco--this is Baghdad-by-the-Bay. A stopover for most wandering twenty-somethings--impromptu FOOT reunions happen here all the time. We saw **Sara Heitler** and **Mark Barnett** who stopped to imbibe the pleasant vibe that flows from my groovy flat. Mark went off to the Sierra Nevadas to up with **Ben Madley** who is hiking the Pacific Crest Trail with his girlfriend. By the way, I want **Dave Lambert** and **Anne Egger** to know I'm a Class III river Guide for a non-profit called Friends of the River which works to defeat the dreaded Auburn Dam and preserve free-flowing rivers everywhere. I took Mark B. up to the river two weeks ago and he had a blast. Mark, by the way, has been working for the San Francisco Bay Estuary Project and was recently appointed to the Berkeley Commission on solid waste. For paid work I work for a progressive wood products company: veneers, custom furniture, etc. I hope to bolster our efforts to promote sustainable forestry management through selling 'certified' veneers and general education for suppliers and clients. Hopefully, I can tailor this position to my interests in marketing and publicity of environmental causes, work I had been doing in the past two years as an event organizer for Greenbelt Alliance, a regional land conservation organization. Otherwise, for fun I learned to scuba dive and just returned for navigating the kelp forests of Catalina Island, CA. How about an underwater FOOT trip?? I guarantee no mosquitoes and fresh fish every meal!"

**Phil Mundy** ('94) sent greetings from down under in Australia. He is down there working at the Sydney Grammar School. **Nye Wright** ('96) is there as well. They're giving **Geoff Tanner** a run for his money to see who is farther away. Phil wrote: "Things are going well down here. The work is hard and keeps coming. People don't double up on preps, so I have four classes and four preps. I learn the material the night before and then teach it the next day. The Australian history has provided the biggest puzzle to figure out so far. The kids are really different. The whole cultural thing is disguised by the common language, but there are differences underneath. I'm only beginning to realize the extent to which social interactions are different and how I have to start at square one with personal communication skills. The school is very British and quite old-fashioned--it reminds me of Dead Poet's Society. I've been up to Cairns to snorkel on the Great Barrier Reef, hike through the rainforests of Far North Queensland, and drive through the Atherton Tableland, an agricultural area in the middle of the Great Dividing Range. Over the summer (Dec-Jan. here) I went down to Tasmania and hiked the 85 mile Overland Track which was spectacular. We hiked up some rugged mountains, across alpine moors, and through lush forests. I also went to Southwest National park to do a shorter hike that though only about 50 K was much more rugged. In Tasmania I also visited Hobart, Launceston, Port Arthur, and the Cascade brewery. In Dec. I also paid a visit to the Snowy Mountains (as in the movie, The Man from Snowy River). I climbed Mt. Kosciusko, the highest point on the continent (at a whopping 7,200'). Believe it or not, there is a road that goes all the way to the top, but I didn't use it. I spent the night in a slightly more sheltered but incredibly vast alpine meadow. Streams flowed out of banks of melting snow and billabongs bubbled up everywhere. A rather spectacular place to camp. I've made some smaller excursions to the Blue Mountains about two hours west of Sydney and to the parks about 3 hours south of here around Nowra. There are a lot of amazing things to see. I plan to go to the Red Centre and then up to Darwin and Kakadu National Park on the north coast of the Northern Territories. If anyone happens to be stopping through Australia, FOOT people are always welcome! Phil can be reached at c/o the Sydney Grammar School, College St., Darlinghurst, NSW 2010 Australia (61-2-9361-5679)

**Ben Madley** ('94) has seen several FOOTies in the Bay area: **Mark Barnett**, **Perry DeValpine**, **Katherine Gergin**, and **Paul Sabin**. Ben completed a 9 week, 550 mile saga along the Pacific Crest Trail with Erica Adshead ('94). They survived the heat in the south (90 degrees in the shade in the southern Sierra), snow storms at 12,000' and tenacious marmots and black bears. It was a tremendous time, even as they ran low on tang!

**Peter Braasch** ('94.5) sent a long email as follows: "Since I graduated, things for me have been a huge mix of good and bad. After graduating, I spent about 6 months working at 2 restaurants, REI (yeah, great toy store), roofing, and sub teaching in order to get myself to Israel for about a year and a half. Things were going real great until, 3 months into it, I began having these crazy health problems, about 5 months and much aggravation later, I was diagnosed as having chronic fatigue syndrome, but I was encouraged to try to revise and continue my plans in Israel. I gave it about a month a gave up. Came back to NC Feb. of '96. Between July and November I had a great remission...bought a beautiful sea kayak (while working at REI again), did some paddling with both **BC Connolly** and **Seth Hawkins** (currently at UNC med school...actually, Seth and I went paddling right when hurricane Bertha was at the coast (250ish miles away) and it was quite an adventure. The winds must have been gusting up to 40-45 mph and there were some significant capsizing going on. Our worst nightmare was that at one point some folks had stopped their car at a nearby overpass and it looked like they were concerned about us...we had real ugly visions of a helicopter rescue and a news report about two current REI employees/Yale grads...but alas, nothing of that sort. We did fine. The only casualty was my paddle floated away and I believe my FOOT hat sank. In August I started my job hunt, looking for work in the DC/NYC area. Mostly looking for environmental nonprofit work, but really interested in a mix or blurring of the line between environmental and social justice. So, in the interim, I worked on a Congressional campaign. The good news is that we won. The bad news is that my body fell apart again. So, in desperation, I began seeing an acupuncturist in November. In January, he determined that I had a small intestinal parasite (very possible, I was working in fish ponds). He treated me and I have been going great for 1-2 months now. So I am back to my job hunt and gonna be heading up to DC. So, that is the

summary of my crazy life. It has been pretty frustrating and disappointing but I am also trying to get what good out of it that there is to be gleaned. Take care and be well..."

I (Cilla) was sitting in a cafe near the campus with the present FOOT coordinators and who walks in but **Scott Walsh** and **Sarah Kelley**! We had a nice time catching up. Scott is in the DC area and Sarah has been working on a sheep farm in Lyme, CT.

**Geoff Tanner** ('95) was still in India the last I heard from him. He was hoping to see more of the country this time around. "As for school related things, they're going smoothly. We're trying to organize more local camping/day hiking trips besides the one we did last April to a nice spot a few miles outside of town over very beautiful, though somewhat stark and barren terrain. The kids didn't really know what to make of the crazy creek chair I brought along and many were a bit afraid to try it out! Those who did got a big kick out of it though. Part of the trouble in getting these things organized here is that this part of India isn't really geared towards hiking/trekking, neither terrain, nor attitude, nor availability of many resources. Yet trying to meet or overcome the challenge to have a fun trip should be a good, though likely frustrating experience. We'll see what happens."

**Anne Egger** ('95) sent news from Bluff, Utah. She wrote: "**Dave Lambert** and **Emily Wilk** stopped through Bluff on their way to Tucson. They will both be going to school there. I've also seen Sarah Kelley who came west to visit me and been corresponding with **Geoff Tanner**, **Sue Lamar**, **Paul Jahnige**, **Perry**... I've been pretty busy. Still on the river right now though fall will bring an exciting new project. A few of us here in bluff will be working on an educational interactive CD Rom for Colorado Plateau Geology. Right now, of course, we are searching for some funding. Winter will take me down the Grand Canyon again, and possibly to Mexico again. But otherwise, it looks like I'll be in Bluff for a while. **Rebecca Whitney** ('95) is teaching English at a secondary school in San Francisco. She can be reached at 1234 Grave St. Apt.1 SF 94117 (415-563-8587).

**Sara Heitler** ('96) moved to Boston where she is helping start up a new school there. Things are going well and she is happy. She's at Apt.1, 27 James St., Brookline, MA 02146. **Dan Filler** ('96) wrote: "My freshman FOOT trip was the first time I ever wore hiking boots and now I am fully committed to an AT thru-hike this spring. That trip started me along a path that has changed my relationship with the natural world, people, and myself. All of my experiences with FOOT have taught me the important lessons about happiness, hard work, friendship, my weaknesses and my strengths."

**Peter van Roessel** ('96) wrote a very long & fascinating letter and I will only quote some of it. "I had been debating a long while whether to pursue biology or medicine. As I was not in a position to decide when applications for programs were first due last fall, I decided instead to look for an interim position as a research assistant in neurobiology -- wanting, in a sense, to give basic research another try as I gained a more realistic understanding of what life as a scientist would entail. I have since found myself in Tübingen, a small university town in the south-east of Germany. I'm working here at the Max-Planck-Institute für Entwicklungsbiologie--a relatively large developmental biology research institute associated with the Max Planck Society, a semi-private network of German research centers in the physical and social sciences. Our current project involves the development of new technologies for quickly analyzing gene expression in single cells of the developing zebrafish, an animal that's been heavily studied in the last few years as better model for vertebrae growth. The work is giving me a lot of new challenges, but I am tremendously enjoying the combination of an exciting project and a wonderful and very international community of very motivated and creative people, many who have been extremely kind to help me find my way as I've settled I these last two months. The challenges of work are also happily balanced by other aspects of life here. My attempts to learn German are starting finally to pay off and I'm very much enjoying practices with the Tübingen Ultimate Frisbee Team (this must be a side skill one picks up on FOOT). I've also been very lucky to have found a small chamber orchestra with which to play on weekends--even managing to find some friends with whom I trade cello lessons for language help. So things are starting to fall in place, despite the fact that this place is on a strange side of the Atlantic. Perhaps the only things left is to find some better hiking trails in the Swabische Alps--my first attempts at hiking in Europe left me (and the irony here is terrific, after all those hikes in western CT) with Lyme Disease. I must say, though, that after all those SOLO courses, I was definitely on top of the first symptoms, so it was thankfully never more than a nasty rash..." Peter then goes on to inform me that he has decided to stay on with his project as a graduate student. He asked me to write a letter of recommendation for him and explained why he thought the FOOT experience was appropriate. He states so eloquently the transcendent qualities of FOOT. (In fact, so many of you have--I should publish them someday!): "In writing responses to the questions on the application, which included writing about my extracurricular activities and interests (and, of course, FOOT) I became only more convinced that you would be more qualified than my professors to comment on many aspects of my capabilities for productive contribution to the scientific community...Science doesn't rest on technical ability or encyclopedic knowledge--the most important requirements, and those most frequently put to use, are abilities to work constructively and thoughtfully with others for a common goal, and to conceive of that goal as a process, not simply a set of final results. These are things that FOOT has very much helped to teach me, and things for which FOOT serves as a wonderfully concrete sort of metaphor. Science, of course, depends on the peaks it attains, but these are qualified always by the path one takes to reach them. As I've been writing this application, I have thought a great deal about the skills I learned and the perspectives I gained through FOOT. I think perspective is perhaps the most important idea, as this is what FOOT has most helped me to learn. In a general sense, as a participant, twice a trip leader, and in my last year a summer coordinator, I had wonderful opportunities to appreciate the different meanings the program has for those who experience it in different manners--it challenged me in my first year as something terribly new and unfamiliar, and in my last year as

terrifically enormous effort of organization and planning, which I knew was achieved by so many people playing so many different roles. I remember being particularly awed by the arrival of the first groups of freshmen my last year, thinking of all the different facets of the program's preparation, and of all the different people and personalities behind that preparation. It seemed like I was watching the Space Shuttle take off, where rockets, once irrevocably lit, both put to the test and give meaning to the months of previous effort. Also, in leading trips, however, FOOT both requires and develops a very fluid sense of perspective. One must work to understand empathically how different people (including oneself) experience a shared situation in different ways, and how the different backgrounds and ideas about the future each hold affect and inform this experience. One must work to appreciate the different functions every individual has in a group, and adjust one's own contribution accordingly, so that the resultant whole functions better than simply a mix of individual parts and so that a new and shared background of experience can be created together.

"Even backpacking itself provides a unique sort of perspective--it grounds one in both time and place. An outlook from a mountain top, over trails and peaks one has already covered, gives a hiker a wonderful sense of where he or she stands, and what has been accomplished to get there; turning directions, and looking ahead, shows clearly what lies to come. Even when one lacks such a visual sense of attainment or future challenge, a good leader must always keep in mind what has passed and what is ahead--from tired switchbacks and important discussions to weather forecasts and climbs ahead. Interpreting and predicting (in science as in backpacking) are important abilities to cultivate and strengthen, and this depends in large part on adequate preparation and good confidence--again a message that FOOT makes clear, as in a wilderness context having adequate knowledge and practical preparation is a very real issue of physical safety. The lessons FOOT has are obviously not limited to these, of course. Particularly in its function as an orientation program, the responsibility for leading a trip manifests itself not as the need for guiding others by the hand through an unknown environment, but rather as the task of equipping them to deal effectively with new challenges and new situations, be them physical emergencies, worries about school, or simply steep trails to a peak. And I think that as teachers and leaders, scientists have a similar responsibility--they must equip others thoughtfully with the knowledge necessary for the understanding of new concepts and for the responsible use of the technologies these concepts make possible. Even at the quotidian level, the skills developed organizing and leading trips are beneficial to the planning and undertaking of scientific endeavor; one must learn to deal elegantly, innovatively and effectively with only available and often limited resources, whether this involves splinting broken fibia, with an inflatable air mattress or re-designing an experimental protocol to circumvent an inefficient reaction step...I think the thing I appreciated most about FOOT, though, is the opportunity it presents simultaneously to both teach and learn--to and from others and oneself. This is one reason I am attracted to a graduate program such as that I'm finding here in Germany. Though there are no more formal classes in this sort of a program, I extraordinarily value to chance it provides to interact with such dynamic and creative people, in all different stages of professional and academic development, who are so willing to share their insights and perspectives on their research, and who are so motivated to challenge themselves with new problems and new ideas." wow! --Peter, you have captured such a wonderful essence of FOOT or any good group experience (but especially FOOT!)--I cherish this letter.

**Cathy Stroker** ('96) called from California for a reference for the Peace Corps. I hope this has worked out!  
**Oliver Pierson** ('96) wrote from Madagascar. He said: "I'm working at a 156,000 hectare protected area that we are trying to convert to National Park status. I'm working in conjunction with a U.S. NGO called Conservation International. I am working on a few different projects: trail, campground and other park infrastructure layout, construction and mapping, an endangered freshwater turtle population study, and am managing the project's field headquarters/training site. Madagascar is an excellent place to be working in conservation because it is a relatively new concept here that is just taking off and many people are really excited about it. It's also a difficult place to be, as 90% of the ever-growing population is dependent on the land for sustenance, and much exploitation and deforestation results. But there are at least still forests left to save!

Of this year's graduating FOOT Leaders: **Michelle Anderson** is planning to stay in New Haven (she thinks it's a great city!); **Leah Angell** will be teaching English at the Peddie School in New Jersey; **Cat Balco** is painting a huge mural for a store in East Haven this summer; **Brian Ching** is going to med school but deferring for a year; **Blake Esselstyn** is heading to Panama for service work; **Meredith Forte** is heading for Honduras (or was it Guatemala?) also for service work; **Jesse Heitler, Jon Klein, Greg Nelson** and **Kayla Tabela** are all heading out to Denver together to work on a new computer project/company Jesse is trying to put together. Good Luck to you all!

Whew!! I believe that is it for this year. If I misplaced your letter please forgive me! I can see early stages of senility setting in. Some news of me. Steve and I traveled to Greece and Turkey in December-January. We loved Turkey-- Got hooked on all the rugs! The best Greek and Roman ruins are in western Turkey. We are planning a trip to Thailand this summer (yes, we know it will be very hot). Steve has yet another book out: Kinship to Mastery--so rush down to your local Barnes & Noble & get it! At least check out his cute photo on the jacket. I am still teaching history and environmental studies at Hopkins. We still have three dogs: Beecher, Samson & Willy and two cats: Aldo & Leo.

On a final note, many of you wrote wonderful comments about **Jason Karpf**, who tragically died last year. I want to share a few: "Jason was the epitome of all that is good in people. FOOT and the world was so lucky to have Jason in it. I know he affected so many people simple with his openness, selflessness, and love." (Baker Mallory) "I really appreciate the scholarship you're putting in his name. I know Jason would have appreciated it. He loved FOOT. We talked about FOOT all the time. In fact, in May of '95 we went camping together with another friend in Yosemite and laughed a lot about old FOOT times. I just can't believe it. But to know his name will always be associated with

FOOT is meaningful to me.” (Peter Ackerman) “I am so sorry to hear of Jason’s death. I remember him vividly--his warmth, enthusiastic and generous spirit.” (Karen O’Brien) “I am grateful for the kind letter you wrote about Jason. I think he was the very first person I met at Yale. We both arrived early for FOOT and spent a couple of hours wandering around seeking our colleges without a map. I think that we found Trumbull, but never managed to find Pierson. We didn’t really see each other except through Peter Ackerman’s performances here in the Bay area. So I did feel distant from the tragedy of his death, but I still feel sad.” (Jake Bowers) “I was so sorry to hear about Jason. I have so many great memories of FOOT and so many of them involved FOOT leaders. The news of Jason’s death made me stop and reflect about all the great times we had being a part of FOOT. I am happy that FOOT is naming the scholarship fund in his honor, because in countless ways Jason was the FOOT spirit--all the intangible qualities that creates fabulous FOOT leaders were summed up in him which you, Lee and Emel, eloquently wrote in your letter to all of us.” (Katie Michel) “Thank you for your kind words about Jason. We miss him.” (Jason Soll) Remember that any donation to FOOT goes to the Jason Karpf Memorial Fund for scholarship for students who need financial aid. Send checks payable to “FOOT” to FOOT, P.O.Box 201434 Yale Station, New Haven, CT 06520.

If you want to get on the listserv, please send or email me your email address. My home address is 57 Edgehill Rd. New Haven, CT 06511 (203-865-9126). Email (through Steve): [stephen.kellert@yale.edu](mailto:stephen.kellert@yale.edu). I’m having a little trouble getting my email hooked up here on the Vineyard so if you email and don’t get a response in a while, please be patient. In any case, I hope you have all had a happy and productive year! Please keep sending me cards photos and letters. I really do cherish them all. Keep the FOOT family alive and well.

Cheers and OXOXOX,

CILLA!