

Summer 2001

Dear FOOT Alumni Leaders,

It's hard to believe another year has zoomed by. In my quest to get to the Vineyard and totally relax, I'm trying to send this out a bit early. So greetings from New Haven this year! It's June and a lovely day back in the Elm City. As many of you know there was quite the political graduation this year, first Hillary and then George W. I confess that I didn't get to either speech, but there is a good presidential quote having to do with FOOT. A friend of mine reminded the President when he was at Yale a few weeks ago that his daughter participated in FOOT. His face lit up and he said, "Yes, FOOT, it was a great morale booster for my daughter; it's a great program." So there—we may not go down in the annals of memorable quotes by George W., but at least we are there! Some news about FOOT—we are keeping the same number of trips this year at 44, but we are adding three FOOT groups to go work on local organic farms for the week instead of hiking. We are calling this program HARVEST. We are also pulling out of the Adirondacks to our chagrin because they have reduced the group size to 8 max! We decided that this was just too small for a good FOOT experience, so instead we will be hiking in the Delaware Water Gap region. For those of you who don't know where this is, it is actually not in Delaware, but on the PA-NJ border on the Delaware River. In any case, we have a great group of leaders as always. A large group of them, around 18, are now biking across the country for Habitat for Humanity.

So now on to the Alums. Remember that some of the news is a bit dated since I always get a flurry of correspondence right after the newsletter goes out. We must begin with **Jamie Williams** '86, our founding father (and I can now call him that because he and Florence will be having a baby this summer!) "Thank you so much for the 'congratulations' and the baby FOOT t-shirt! We are pretty excited and a bit scared, but hopefully our new addition will not slow us down too much - we hope that our efforts to turn our child into a river rat doesn't backfire into bringing up a republican stock broker. In any case, we have a July 1 due date. Life in Montana is going well, working hard but also having a chance to enjoy this incredible state. I was really bummed to miss the YSFES 100th reunion, but hope you all had a good time." I did remind him about the infamous butt & quarter game. He responded, "Believe it or not we did show a group of donors (Jamie is Head of the Nature Conservancy in MT) the quarter in butt trick on the Yampa several years ago- it was hilarious (a particularly close group) but I don't recall raising any money off that trip." **Susan Lamar** '86 checked in: "Yes I have moved to Albuquerque and am working at the VA Hospital. I had a chance to do the lower half of the San Juan this September: The water was LOW- very different from when we were last there." I had several communications from **Liz Ablow**, '87. "I am now working for Seattle City Light which is a public utility of Seattle. I am working as a fisheries biologist/Senior environmental analyst. The main watersheds are the Cedar and Tolt Rivers. The work consists of everything from dealing with compliance issues, being involved in a few stakeholder groups that identify and implement restoration projects, monitoring and utilizing money that has been set aside as mitigation for FERC licensing and overlapping with the endangered species act issues that are a hot topic in the pacific northwest with the plight of the salmon, particularly chinook and then of course bull trout. There is lots to learn. Other than that...Dick has reopened his restaurant a week before I started my job. So we are going through a lot of transitions. We were back east at the end of August. I hope all is well. We seem to be thriving...I have a new email address and phone number. The email address is Elizabeth.Ablow@ci.seattle.wa.us. My new work telephone number is (206) 386-4592. For the few who may have lost our home email and telephone number it is Walablo@aol.com and (206) 329-3689. At Christmastime, Liz wrote, "I hope you had a happy Holiday and were able to sit back a little... that was our goal of the season: RELAX. I know you guys are getting the snow... Now it is time for us. We have season ski passes this year at our local resort and our kids are signed up for lessons... but we need more snow."

Nina Kallen '87 sent in one of the best FOOT memoirs for my book project (yes, still on the burner, and yes, I would still like submissions...) So as not to spoil the fun of a book if I ever get there I will only give you excerpts: "For the first FOOT leader training trip, I brought hiking boots I had had since I was 12, a huge, borrowed backpack which wouldn't tighten on my narrow hips, a cotton-stuffed sleeping bag that had been given to my parents as a wedding present, cotton socks, cotton jeans, cotton t-shirts, and a hand-me-down, never-thick and now worn extremely thin, wool sweater. It was late April or early May, and dipping down towards freezing. I was not then familiar with the Appalachian Mountain Club motto "Cotton Kills," which refers to the fact that cotton retains water, whether from rain or sweat, and draws away warmth. Did I mention this was also my first experience with cold-weather camping? A little while into our first trip someone mentioned we had just hiked a quarter mile. I thought they must be joking--it had to have been five miles at least. The backpack had cut off all circulation to my arms and was surely compressing my vertebrae (borrowed, oversized equipment), my feet were bleeding (cotton socks), and I thought I might be hyperventilating (general wimpiness). By the time we reached camp I had already developed the metaphor I would use until the end of the whole FOOT experience. I pretended I was Frodo in the land of Mordor. (Frodo was an everyman character in JRR Tolkien's Lord of the Rings who endured great emotional and physical hardship, including climbing over a mountain and crawling through a sweltering desert, Mordor, with little food or water, in order to save the world.) It got worse. The low-impact philosophy of FOOT meant tarps, not tents, and now I was in a cotton sleeping bag in the open air in very cold weather. The low-impact philosophy was forged in many of the FOOT leaders by their participation in Outward Bound or NOLS, expensive programs which I understand were designed to build the same camaraderie and confidence that army platoons develop during war (I'm not kidding) by teaching people to enjoy physical hardship while living outdoors. So on the training hikes, whenever there was a choice between taking a break or doing one more mountain peak, the votes were nearly unanimous in favor of the peaks. I didn't vote. I was a quarter mile behind, trying desperately to catch up to the group. I am Frodo in the land of Mordor, I would say to myself." Nina, 40 Florian Street, Roslindale, MA 02131 (617)327-9523. Ninakallen@hotmail.com. Great story, Nina! I hope it will inspire others!

Melissa Balbach '88 sent this in: "Please change your email contact information for me. Going forward, please use Mbalbach1@hotmail.com. I am leaving Works. FYI - a voluntary departure. All is well." **Patrick Whelan** '88 wrote, "I am so pleased to be receiving the FOOT reports. Something that we started 16 years ago is still running strong. FOOT was by far the most important part of my undergraduate experience. Thanks for your dedication, Cilla. The news around here is the arrival of another set of feet to the Whelan house: John Patrick Whelan, born March 16, 2001. His 8-year old, older brother Kyle (the oldest of the next generation?) is very pleased and a big help. Kyle wears his FOOT t-shirt almost every week. In July we will be going to North Carolina for our annual outdoor adventure. I hope to make trips like these with my sons a tradition that lasts until I can no longer walk. I will be starting my 14th year of teaching at Saint Stephen's Episcopal School next fall. I have a new address: 3127 Riverview Blvd. Bradenton FL 34205." I got the following from **Roger Wynne** '88: "Thanks again for all the

energy that you pour into FOOT. You are amazing and you should remain justifiably proud of what you have helped grow. I'm doing fine in Seattle. I'm still practicing land use law, mostly for cities and transit agencies. It's exciting, if too often consuming, but we still make some time to ski and hike. I'm always happy to hear from FOOT folks who are new to Seattle or are even considering the move: rogerw@preston-gates.com. **Christine Walravens** '88 wrote: "I received the annual FOOT newsletter today and knew it was finally time to send in news. Nicholas is 2 1/2 and quite a hiker. Have any other little FOOT shirts made it to New Mexico yet? My husband, David, and Nicholas and I have signed on for 3 more years in New Mexico. I now get the privilege of spending every 4th night at the hospital as part of my training in pediatrics. Nicholas has been lucky enough to see **Diana Selig** '88 at least once a year for his whole life. He also got educated about banana slugs by **Ann Vileisis** '89. He made me blush by being more interested in the garbage truck emptying the trash than in our lovely lake destination when we hiked with Ann and Di, but... what can I say? I look forward to getting the FOOT newsletter each year and am amazed by its growth. Like many other alums I'm going to be long on words and short on cash! Next year!"

Greg Felt '88 emailed this news: "I've been trying to clear my desk, an archaeological feat that would challenge the Leakys, and came across your summer 2000 newsletter. Wow. It is simply amazing to me what has happened - The thousand mile journey begins with a couple of Feet. I think back to that first conversation with Jamie about the concept, hiking out of Cataract Canyon in snow with a lion doubling back on us. I think back to the tiresome and endless meetings about the program, working our way through the Dean's office. I think back to that first trip with **Beth Morrow** (**Florence** was one of our Footies) and a second with **Kashka**. The attempts at open trips during the year (what I called WANDER - Wilderness Adventures Negating the Duress Experienced Regularly). All punctuated by that continuous eastern rhythm of pizza and beer, pizza and beer... I can't believe the number of people who now participate! As you probably know, I continue to work as a leader in the Colorado boating world. I am vice chairman of the Arkansas River Outfitters Association, sit on the Board of, and am the former chairman of, the Colorado River Outfitters Association, and am the Outfitter Representative on the Arkansas Headwaters Recreation Area Citizens Task Force. Canyon Marine, our rafting company, took about 7000 people down the Arkansas River and/or to the Rio Grande in Big Bend last season. ArkAnglers, our fishing guide service, guided about 1200 anglers last season and opened a fly shop in Buena Vista, Colorado (my partner in ArkAnglers owns one in Salida). We manage about 18 river guides and 12 fishing guides and all the chaos that comes with it. My wife Susan is in transition, recovered from a horrific auto accident last spring that took two lives, and looking at the world and the gift of life with new eyes. Our daughter Kestrel is in first grade and son Rowen is in pre-school. For me, life consists largely of the struggle which is a small business, and the outfitting business in particular. I do get a lot of boating in and fish as much as I can. Increasingly, trout are taking priority over Class V - am I kicking the adrenalin habit or swapping it for some more subtle middle-age endorphin? It's all good, as my guides are apt to say. I would be glad to host a reunion trip. Again, thank you for all you've done with FOOT and for continuing to include me in your mailings." Greg's number: 800-643-0707. CanyonMarine@cs.com. You will hear more about the reunion trip at the end of this newsletter!

I got a brief hello from **Karen Shipley Taylor** '89, TaylorKS@aol.com who is still in CT with two kids! **Trex Proffitt**, also '89, trexler.proffitt@ucr.edu wrote in: "I thought you would enjoy this response I got from Trex Co. Inc., a firm in which we own 10 shares (TWP NYSE). (We purchased this stock for the obvious reason, but it was also recently voted the best small business in America in Inc. magazines rankings, and won some prestigious recycling award.) Anyway, I inquired on their web site as to the origins of the company name, and just giggled furiously at the excellent reply below. Aside from the permutations of T.Rex, such as the notable band and dinosaur, the actual brand Trex is chewing gum in Spain, lard in England. Let me know what else you find. Best, Trex, whose name is memorable, easy to write and say, sounds nice before 'deck', and doesn't really mean anything." Trex is either now with second child or about to be. **Ben Saylor** '89 saylor@dtgnet.com has sent me several emails. "It was great to see you and Steve last month. Thanks so much for stopping to visit. (Steve & I went to South Dakota last summer! Loved it!) We recently got your excellent letter detailing the rest of your trip. It made our week. Betsy and I are heading to Sylvan Lake in early September, and we will be sure to check out Harney Peak as you suggested. Good luck with the fall trips. P.S. Trex, Beth, and baby Catherine came to visit the weekend after you departed, and we figured out that a bit of yogurt is the key to surviving those fiery chicken satays that almost scorched us all to death. Betsy and I had a baby. Jonathan Monroe Saylor (Jay for short) was born on Feb 9 at 1:53 am during a South Dakota blizzard. He weighed 8 lbs 12 ounces. As you might imagine, mom and dad are delighted but a bit fatigued. Can't wait to introduce the newest member of the foot family to you. Jay has already explored the Badlands twice and taken many a snooze on hikes through the Black Hills. Work remains hectic but rewarding. The weather remains zesty. **Carrie Anne Hatcher** '89, chatcher@umich.edu penned this: "I had a whiff of FOOT this morning. I was just outside and the breeze was crisp and fall-like, I was using the hose and the cool morning water reminded me of FALL FOOT trips. I'd just received your email and was thinking of all those FRESH folks and leaders and crews out on the trails and you back on the ranch. You do such a wonderful thing with your FOOT efforts. I can't say enough. I know it must be gratifying, but ... it is an enduring gift to all of us who participated. I wish I could say I was out on the trails myself when the sensory memories carried me to the Catskills, singing Alice's Restaurant with Michael and treating freshfolk blisters before another long day of hiking. However, I suppose it's quite meaningful that the memories come back in such everyday contexts (and that I live in Ann Arbor where trees abound, if not mountains and vistas). A brief update: I got married this summer to a wonderful man, Joshua Kay. We met in the psychology doctoral program at Univ. of Michigan. yes, uh-oh, another psychologist couple! We had a wonderful outdoor wedding here in Ann Arbor on Henry Ford's old farm. **Ann Vileisis**, **Trex** and Beth and Catherine Proffitt, **Karen Shipley Taylor** (and family, including son, Charlie, who was ring-bearer), and **Baker Mallory** were there. I wish you and lots of other FOOTIES could've been there. It was a magical day -- replete with rainbow(S!) I'm working full time on my dissertation as of tomorrow, after finishing up three years of internship last week. I'll write with a more up-to-date report after I finish, and after Josh and I find job and post-doc respectively. We'll see where we end up ... and if we have a new addition to the family by next summer. Thanks for the wonderful newsletter you send each year. It's a total joy to read! I hope you and the ol' house and family are well. I really missed seeing you at the Yale Reunion last year. Next time. (I missed it due to attending a wedding) Who knows when we'll next be through New Haven... or y'all through Ann Arbor??" And a newsflash just in from Carrie: "Hi Cilla, How are you? I hope you're having a great summer so far. I'm sure FOOTers are getting excited already. I remember with so much anticipation. I think I wrote you a few months ago after I defended my dissertation with general news, but I wanted to add that we bought a home in Ann Arbor. Our new address: Carrie Hatcher-Kay and Joshua Kay 822 Loyola Dr. Ann Arbor, MI 48103. 734-995-8909. Josh and I are preparing for a 10-day backpacking trip up in the Upper Peninsula and are eager to see how many bears and wolves we might run into on Isle Royale and in the Porcupine Mountains. We've never been up to the UP after 6 years in Michigan, so this should be great. Many of my backpacking skills (e.g., gorp preparation late at night) are infused with so many great FOOT memories. I start my post-doctoral fellowship at the UM Hospital in Child and Adolescent Psychiatry on July 2, so I am savoring these last days for gardening and home projects -- and this camping trip! I hope to see you and other FOOTERS next year for the Reunion. Take good care and thanks again for preparing the wonderful Annual Newsletter. It's become quite a great tradition." **Ann Vileisis** '89 just mailed me this letter: "Greetings from the Little Truckee River, where I have been working this week, distracted only, or should I say a lot, by several mergansers that seem to troll this stretch, floating like snorkelers. Because the water is clear I can watch them underwater with my binoculars—sure beats sharpening pencils for procrastination! Pretty much all's the same with us; we are still writing and

traveling and living in our van in western mountains, all in California this year. We actually spent the winter at a beach house in Santa Cruz which is a wonderfully sweet little city, with organic salads and vegetables that are unsurpassed anywhere I know. I am working on a book about how Americans have lost track of the knowledge that their food comes from nature. It's very challenging to bring it all together—lots of times I feel like my head just isn't big enough—those are the times I gaze at mergansers. This summer Tim and I celebrate our 10th anniversary of togetherness with a long raft trip on the Salmon River where we first met. This year I saw lots of FOOTies! **Trex Proffitt** at Carrie Hatcher's wedding last summer (we three were in the same FOOT freshmen group!), **Eve Vogel** in Portland, **Trex** and **Ben Saylor** and **Ben Doolittle** at **Tiffany Bingham's** wedding. Tiff was a stunning bride in royal purple! And, of course, **Jamie and Florence**, who are expecting any week now! We hope to head to Montana in late July to meet the baby Williams—how exciting. Lots of babies this year. I haven't met Jay Saylor, but plan to go to Spearfish in the fall. Trex should be on #2 any time now too—he's a great dad. We also did a lot of speaking at conferences and on campuses this year, especially Tim. Take good care and a big FOOT HUG."

Theresa Johnson '90 skeeko@earthlink.net sent this: "I haven't seen ANY old FOOTies except Kashka, who is in Chicago with her baby girl Nicola. My son Makai is now 9 years old and I am teaching Spanish in Arkansas after having lived 1990-1998 in northern California in or near the redwoods. Might be getting married and moving this 2001. Cleaning out the attic -- I just unburied my old FOOT/TOE training materials, our shirts, some pictures of one Horse Island trip, the old green bomber FOOT station wagon." This announcement arrived: "**Michael Kahan** '90, Gabriella Safran, and Eva Hannah Safran Kahan are very pleased to welcome Frieda Ruth Safran Kahan born May 17, 2001 at 12:26 am in Stanford, California. Weight at birth: 6 lbs 12 oz.Length: 19.5 inches. Dad and big sister Eva are thrilled. Mom is very happy and recovering well at home. Frieda is terrific. mkahan@sas.upenn.edu."

Eric Greenwald ES '90, FOOT 86-89, 92, 93, 95, 98, 00 (I think that's right) eric.greenwald@aya.yale.edu made his near-annual return to FOOT last year to help out with the program. "**Jay Readey**, **Dave Lewicki**, **Brian Kinlan**, **Jeff Grigg** and I had made some noises during the first ever (official) FOOT Alumni Trip (FAT) (hiking in the Adirondacks this past August on a wild FOOTie-spotting expedition) that we would try to spur some activity on the listserv. I guess we didn't get very far on that one, but there is time to make amends. Thank you Roger, for reminding me about this. By the way, it was 14 years ago (I remember because Roger was my FOOT leader). Let me get the ball rolling for a little banter on this listserv by opening a topic for discussion: dealing with bears in the back country. I will offer the following initial contribution in honor of Brian Kinlan, who developed a very effective means for scaring bears away from the campsite. We awoke one morning to the sound of Dave's dog Amelia (I hope I got that right) growling like crazy. We could see a large, dark form moving around the perimeter of the campsite. From the comfort of our sleeping bags in the lean-to, we began to make some noise. For about an hour the bear probed our campsite from various angles, looking for a weakness, but finding only vigorous tauntings. It was not until later, as we were assembling an oral history of 'The Bear Incident' and assessing the level of collective bravery demonstrated, that we reconstructed Brian's contribution to the barrage of taunts. We decided that his periodic repetition of the incantation 'shoo, bear' (in a mild, plaintive voice) certainly must have shaken the large animal to its core. Thus, I can heartily recommend this technique for inclusion in the annals of anti-bear practices. It's the best thing since bear bags... I am glad to hear that FOOT remains so popular, but it must be a huge pain to interview all of those people (wonderful people though they may be). I hope that all is well with you." **Kashka Kubzdela** '90 kubz@aya.yale.edu emailed me: "I can't believe FOOT has grown to 44 groups! That's not only hard to believe, but to imagine. It was only eight groups, I think, when I was a FOOTie. It's certainly a very well growing baby you've got. I was talking, of course, to all my fellow FOOTies during our tenth reunion (the bond really lasts), and we were all saying (including Eric Greenwald) that we should have another FOOT leaders reunion, this time in a kids friendly style, since more than half of us have procreated. We all got very excited about. What do you think? Thank you again for the info and I hope to see you sometime soon! Congratulations on the incredible growth of FOOT!"

Eve Porter '90 portereve@yahoo.com sent her greetings: "I hope you're doing well these days, and here's my message! I'm the research director for an executive search firm, Isaacson, Miller, in Boston. I've been there for a couple of years and it's going pretty well. Happily, I've got a nice range of responsibilities and we do searches with some great clients – all mission-driven in one way or another, including nonprofits, health care organizations, and universities. (We're looking for the new president of Tufts right now and a while back I think we even found a development person for Yale Forestry!) I'm still living in Cambridge, and now my boyfriend, Duncan, and I have two dogs: Circe, a wildly athletic mutt who's 5, and Picus, a surprisingly calm 9 month-old black lab. We've taken them snow shoeing and skiing, romping on the beach, hiking and all manner of other silly outdoor things. Still no camping, but maybe in time...I hope everyone's doing well. I love getting the FOOT list and hearing what's up..." Later she added: "Hi Cilla! This time, I'm trying to write the email that I always intend to write to you as soon as I think of it, instead of writing it in my head a million times and never typing it out. I've thoroughly enjoyed hearing the latest FOOT news and I always enjoy the big annual update. I'm doing pretty well these days. I'm attaching a photo of our dogs -- Circe, 6, is an avid swimmer, frisbee catcher and ball-chaser, not to mention hiker, and Picus, the black lab, just turned 1 and is taking to hiking, canoeing and wading... This photo of them staring at a great bone is the label we put on the home made dog biscuits Duncan (the other half of "we") makes from scratch (most popular flavor: flax seed and beef broth; most popular shapes: chili pepper and moon). We're spending as much time as we can in New Hampshire this summer, doing all sorts of good things. Oh, and I'm still working as research director for Isaacson, Miller, an executive search firm. I hope you're doing well. I occasionally run into a fellow FOOT person, and it's always a kick. Take care, and thanks for keeping us all in touch! All the best, Eve Porter 16B Grant Street Cambridge, MA 02138 tel: 617 441-8822. elporter@aya.yale.edu."

Danielle Berger '91 danielle.berger@hotmail.com sent in her hello. **Milena Novy** '91 mknovy@yahoo.com responded, "Thanks for your email! I saw **Jamie and Florence** at a wedding last summer in Colorado, and we had some good FOOT reminiscences. I've been in close touch with **Josh Barkan**." **Diana Fisher Gomberg** '91 wrote: "Glad to hear FOOT is thriving. Wow--150 leader applicants! It sure has grown since the 80s! I've been loving your summer letters. Thanks so much for keeping us all in touch. Things here in Newton, MA are going really well for us. Richard has opened a private practice in psychiatry. Richard and I have two little girls now (by the summertime newsletter Lily will be 3 and Maya will be 1) and we live on the Charles River where we canoe as much as we can, which translates into as long as we can keep the girls seated. I'm not working for pay, but the girls keep me busy. I'm also volunteering as a La Leche League Leader, which means I help Moms with breastfeeding and parenting issues. We are hoping to attend next spring's big FOOT river adventure and this spring's Yale reunion. Our e-mail is lilyfish@flash.net and our website is <http://www.flash.net/~lilyfish/> Thanks again, Cilla. I hope this has been a great year for you!"

From **Tali Zulman** '91: "I look forward to your 'State of the FOOT Nation' addresses annually! They always make me both nostalgic and humble. Elad and I live in Berkeley, California. Orli, my 3 year-old, told me this morning the view from our bedroom of a willow tree 'is like Sesame Street.' I think she means Big Birs, who she's only seen a couple times. Does this mean she's developing a better appreciation for nature after our recent camping trip in the wine country? I must say, I read with envy about the amazing wilderness adventures and travels folks are having. Our adventures lately have been more stroller-friendly. We are blessed with two delightful girls, Orli and Maayan, keeping us young. Orli loves the outdoors, and our recent first camping trip with kids was so successful that she's going again next month. This trip promises to be more peaceful; her baby sister will be staying home- she was kicked out of the tent at 4am one night for disturbing the peace. That' OK, baby had a beautiful hike and

watched the sun rise with her dad! Career wise, I practice and teach primary care medicine at Kaiser, Oakland. About 1/3 of my patients speak Spanish only and about 1/4 are affiliated with UC Berkeley. I'm particularly inspired by my senior patients. One is 83 years old and she just returned from another backpacking trip in the Sierras. She walks 5-10 miles a day when she's home. I wish us all so many years enjoying the outdoors. Love to all and if you're ever in the bay area, give a call. PS-- As for me, FOOT always has a very special space in my heart. It was the transition that bridged my childhood appreciation of nature with the place nature holds in my adult life. My second daughter's name Maayan means 'spring of water' in Hebrew. When life gets tough, I always take a hike and if I'm lucky, I come upon a river or stream and family, friends, and nature is all I ever need to heal." I received a warm letter from **Aaron Scott**: '91. "Thanks again for the FOOT update- what a wholesome bunch of people (though I think I saw some mention of the CIA in one of the paragraphs). I hope you are well and that FOOT is prospering. In fact we take our brand new family practice interns on a 12 hour version of FOOT during their orientation. basically a climb up 10,000' Mt. McLaughlin in So. Oregon- a ratty volcano with some great ass-shredding glissades. In the resume department I'm an assistant professor at Oregon Health Science University's rural family practice residency (part-time) and I also work part time in an ER in Northern California. This situation keeps my medical landscape very heterogeneous and provides me with tons of free time that I squander training for triathlons and exploring the globe (recently France, Cameroon, and Belize). No wedding vows or children yet, but I'm surrounded by incredible, wonderful people. **Josh Barkan** '91 keeps sending me funny form letter emails—however, he did contact me directly recently. He included info about **Karen O'Brien**. "She's due in August—is working as an OBGYN in Providence, and has married a nice guy named Ian. Lots of funny stories about her patients. As for me, everything is pretty good on this end. I'm going to start teaching at Harvard in the fall in the Expository Writing Department. I'll be doing a course on Updike, Bellow, Roth, and Cheever, while I continue to write my own fiction. Looking forward to it."

Chris Roberts '91 Crisnhanna@aol.com always has lots of words: "Hello everybody. Thanks to Cilla for getting the list-serve going again. I wanted to let everybody (assuming that at least the people from 1987-1992 might care!) know that Hannah (my wife) and I are moving to London and that our address will be: Chris and Hannah Roberts William Goodenough House Mecklenburgh Square, London WC1N 2AN England. From the US, our phone will be 011-44-207-837-8888. Please let us know if you are passing through. We're making the move so I can enroll in a theology PhD program, and so Hannah can be closer to her family. Two weeks ago we took one last camping trip in the US, with **Eric Steadman** and his new fiancée. So send your congratulations his way. I'm waiting for Eric Steadman to make his wedding plans. He's supposed to be getting married sometime in June 2001, but he hasn't chosen a date yet. It would be a dream come true for me if Hannah and I flew over the US for Eric's wedding and the FOOT trip in one fell swoop." From his Christmas card: "Dear Friends, Life degenerated into farce one night this year in the Nevada desert. Driving along a remote road where you only see a small ranch town every 100 miles or so, and only a couple of other cars in a day, we had stopped to camp for the night. Sleeping out under the stars in our underwear, glorying in the night sky, it suddenly occurred to Hannah to ask: 'Chris, do you have our car keys?' Chris: 'Yes, in my trousers, securely locked inside the car!' In the morning we got out of our fix (with a handy rock, and two days later in Kansas there was a shop to replace the glass), but this story combines two themes of our year: travel and suspense. At the end of our Christmas letter last year, we knew our move up from Washington DC was imminent, but we weren't yet sure where we would end up and what our new lives would be. Today we are writing to you from our small flat in central London, where we have lived since September. Roughly speaking we live in Bloomsbury, and blue plaques noting where various famous writers once lived dot the neighborhood. Virginia Woolf would have been in what is now our building's basement, and the poet H.D. was next door. One block over they can claim Dorothy Sayers and Charles Dickens. Hannah has two part-time jobs. Three days a week she works for the North London Muslim Housing Association, getting local mosques, churches and synagogues involved in urban regeneration programs. Two days a week she helps and east London church turn a large (unused and unpopulated) cemetery into a community garden. Chris is a full-time PhD student in theological ethics at King's College, which is part of the University of London. So far he has been reading a lot of dead guys from the second through fifth centuries. Eventually he hopes to write a thesis which contrasts the different answer given by Christianity, modern democracy, and postmodernism to the question 'What is a human being?' He'll try to tame the question and make it manageable by focusing on cases in sexual and marital ethics. In April, we walked coast to coast across the north of England. We followed Wainwright's popular route across the Lake District, the Pennines, and the North York Moors. This route is 190 miles and took us 2 weeks. Most of it is well marked, but there were more than a few moments to try our skill interpreting topographic maps. We slept at farmhouses, pubs, and B&B's along the way. Our best host was a sheep-farming family, who let us 'help' them helping the ewes bringing new lambs into the world. In early May we began what we called the '100 days' - a journey by land and sea from Yorkshire to Jerusalem to San Francisco (cheating only when we flew across the Atlantic). We took a ferry to Belgium, a train to Venice, and then leisurely tooted down Italy by bus, train, and Vespa. Another ferry across to Greece, stops in Delphi, Athens, and the lovely island of Ikaria, and then another ferry (two days in a cabin with no porthole!) to Israel. We lingered in Israel for two weeks... By this time it was late June, and time to fly from Jerusalem to Baltimore. We basically did a load of laundry at Chris' parents house and headed back out the door to San Francisco. In the next six weeks we put 10,000 miles on the car (and smashed one window- see above), as we visited, camped, hiked, caved, fished, canoed and ate across the continent. Sitting ambivalently next to all this travel and leisure is a trip that Chris took in January to Haiti. Lead by a group called the Ministry of Money, this trip was styled as a pilgrimage of 'reverse mission.' A reverse mission means that instead of going overseas to save the natives, we assume that the heathen in need of conversion are ourselves. The conditions in Haiti, only two hours flight from Miami, are almost impossible to imagine until you see them. Hundreds of thousands of people living in slums built on sewage. If you can afford to eat every day, you are considered well-off. Nothing works- the government, the economy, the infrastructure. And yet it cannot be denied that the Haitian Christians whom Chris met had a freedom, joy, and generosity which are almost invisible in wealthier places. The point of visiting such a place is not to save it but to break open our own hearts, and spend time trying to understand what it means to claim that Jesus blesses the poor. We are very nearly overwhelmed by Haiti, and sharply aware of what a privilege it has been to have our sabbatical time. How can we hold it all together? Hannah found a saying which helps, from Gustavo Gutierrez, a theologian from Peru who is very active on behalf of the poor in Latin America. He said, 'To have a healthy spirituality, we must feed out souls in three ways: through prayer, both private and communal; through the practice of justice; and through having those things in our lives (good friendships, wine-drinking, creativity, and healthy leisure) that help keep the soul mellow and grateful.' We know that our souls have been fed this year, and that we have more than our share of reasons to be mellow and grateful. We hope the same is true for you and your family this Christmas. Please keep in touch and let us know if you are planning on coming to London."

I heard from **Sumner McCallie**'92 smccalli@mccallie.org a few times. "150 leader applications sound like a wonderful thing, but also a nightmare of time! I still remember sitting with you and **Lee Deigaard** trying to figure out how to choose between some great folks. Hope all is well for you! I am now the Dean of Residential Life here at McCallie School in Chattanooga. Lots of guys to keep track of, but they are great as is the faculty. Hard to imagine doing anything but working here! Great to hear about the potential [alumni?] FOOT trip! I'll be there whenever it comes together. Let me know if you need help with food organizing (given I still have images from many years ago standing with 8 carts and 4 baskets in front of the check out counter 3 minutes after the store closed and before the check-out person in her first week!...Teaching a medical ethics course and building Habitat for Humanity homes. We are on our third this year. Also next summer, we are off to Portugal to build there. Seems like a

summer Habitat trip is becoming a tradition (Guyana, Fiji, Romania, and now Portugal!).” A later email included: “Just finishing my first full year as Dean of Residential Life at McCallie School here in Chattanooga, Tennessee. I have never learned as much about how boys grow and mature; the joy is beginning to see how to shape a community to best support their exploring the world around them. A central theme in this awareness came from an article I came across this past year which began, ‘When times are good and there are plenty of bacteria to eat, *D. discoideum* -- a species of soil amoebas -- are loners. These microscopic one-celled animals are content to crawl through their environment, absorbing whatever food they come across. But when famine or other catastrophes strike, something remarkable happens: exchanging chemical signals with their freely moving neighbors and using their protruding pseudopoda for propulsion, the amoebas seek each other out and stick together to create a multi-celled creature that can sense both light and heat and can travel faster and farther than any of its component cells traveling alone.’ What I have realized is that this describes McCallie. First, the guys here are certainly “content to crawl through their environment, absorbing whatever food they come across.” More subtly, though, there is a real sense of support and care here (much like we attempted to develop on FOOT trips.) And when folks recognize how they can play a role in something larger than themselves, the result is a functioning, even thriving community. Best of luck this year as FOOT tries once again to foster this type of family feel! Take care, Sumner” I was happy to hear from **Karen O’Brien** ’92 Kobrien@wihri.org. “Hi Cilla--I always enjoy settling down for a good read of the FOOT newsletter each year. Thank you for so painstakingly putting it together! I finished my residency in ob/gyn at UPenn in June and have just begun a fellowship in Maternal Fetal Medicine (high risk pregnancies) at Brown. My husband Ian and I are truly enjoying Providence, RI which has undergone a tremendous revitalization in recent years. I keep running into FOOT people! A friend of mine from medical school got married in May and the wedding party went on a river rafting trip in Durango the week before. Florence and Jamie Williams and Milena Novy were among the rafters! Best wishes to you, Cilla, as you continue to coordinate FOOT. I have such fond memories of our trips.” The latest news about Karen is that she is pregnant. She was spotted at the recent reunions by **Josh Barkan**.

I received **Katie Michel’s** ’93 holiday card. “Adam and I have moved: 532 West 22nd Street, Apt 2A, New York, NY, 10011, 212-741-7257. Would love to hear from FOOTIES, because the only one I see these days is **Laura Bradford**.” **Matt Eddy** ’93 Matteddy@aol.com wrote this a while ago so I am sure he is settled now: “I’d have some interest for either June (alum trip), although I don’t know where the winds of change will take me once I leave FES next December (2000). Keep me posted!” **Jessica Jones** ’93 jaj@aya.yale.edu wrote: “Now that I’m on the listserv, I can’t resist posting a little note. I’m living in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, loving it, and working for WUNC Radio, an NPR member station. If any of you are ever in my neck of the woods, please stop by...hope you are all happy and well...would love to hear from some of my long-lost FOOT buddies!! That’s so great that so many people want to be FOOT leaders. It is a very cool thing to do!” I just received a new address card from **Seth Hawkins** ’93 hawk@aya.yale.edu. He as wife Kelly have moved to: Point Breeze, Pittsburgh, PA 15206. “A trip would be so much fun! I will be in the Emergency Department in June, so there’s a good chance I’d be able to trade around shifts to make it. Kelly and I had our kiddo -- Ethan, now 7 1/2 months -- and we’ve never left him with someone for that long... but right around then might be a good time to try out a long visit with the grandparents! As for news, I continue with my emergency medicine residency here at Pittsburgh, which has been great. Western PA and WV are great for outdoor fun, and I like the program here a whole lot. It is especially strong in areas of interest to me, like EMS, aeromedicine, and wilderness medicine. Let me know if something gets set up, and if I can help. Take care! Sounds like FOOT is the hip thing on campus now! Well, we always knew it was anyway.” And from **Burch & Rachelle LaPrade** ’93 RLapdvm@aol.com: “We just got the latest installment of the FOOT newsletter -- how amazing to realize how big FOOT has become and to see how many classes come after us! We must be getting old! What a tribute to all your hard work and your vision that FOOT has become what it is today. I hope Abbott has the opportunity to experience FOOT in 2017. Things here are fairly constant. I feel fortunate to have my job be what I love (she’s a Vet) and to have the flexibility to be home with Abbott quite a bit. Burch has quit his job and started an internet company with some partners. It is called brightroom.com and offers an internet solution to event photography. He is working crazy hours, but really enjoying it. Abbott is growing like a weed. He started walking about a month ago and shows no signs of slowing down. Soon, we will have him hiking next to us instead of riding in the backpack!” And later: “So good to hear from you and great to know that FOOT went well this year. A young woman who lives on our street just started at Yale and went on FOOT to our great excitement. Mailing address: 300 Capricorn Ave. Oakland, CA 94611 510-595-9252. You probably don’t remember her, but my closest friend from Yale was on my freshmen FOOT trip -- Katie Brittin -- and we are getting ready for her wedding next month. Hard to believe it has been 11 years since we met in a dorm room on Old Campus!”

Paul Sabin ’93 announced the following: “I’m headed on vacation tomorrow and wanted to get this off to you beforehand (before I forget). Yes- Emily and I had a baby boy in January- Elijah Charles Bazelon Sabin. He’s a big smiler and charmer and keeps us quite busy. It’s been a big spring with Emily finishing Yale Law School and me finishing my Berkeley PhD on the politics of the California oil industry. I’ve also launched the Environmental Leadership Program (www.elpnet.org) with a number of Footies and Yale People involved, including Sally Loomis, **Ben Strauss**, Caitlin DeSilvey and many others. It’s all a bit dizzying and I hope it calms down soon. We’ve moved to Boston so Emily can clerk for the year and I can do a postdoctoral fellowship in business history/business-government relations at the Harvard Business School. I thought you might like to find out more about this leadership project (Environmental Leadership Program). It has FOOT’s mark all over it, with many Yale and FOOT people involved in the planning and current implementation. Environmental Leadership Program (ELP) is a non-profit organization dedicated to training emerging environmental leaders in the United States. It is a program to help visionary individuals in higher education, non-profit organizations and government become catalysts for better environmental policies and practices. It delivers the skill training, peer support and community building that emerging environmental leaders need. Some of the current ELP Fellows are honing their skills as they reduce lead poisoning among low-income Hispanic children in Arizona, improve the environmental performance of the computer industry, engage Baltimore youth in the search for solutions to urban environmental problems, and strengthen local government environmental protection programs in Florida.” I noticed that **Ben Strauss** ’94 is on the Organizing committee. To find out more, write Paul at Elpnet@mindspring.com or check the webpage at www.ELPnet.org. And from **Emily Swanson** ’93 chica@sprintmail.com: “The newsletter has grown to behemoth proportions -- it’s lovely to read. Everyone’s doing such great and different things. Do you feel proud of FOOT? It made a huge difference for me, you know. Self-confidence, love of nature, ability to do things I never dreamed of... news from here -- got married last May (a year ago now) to my partner the lovely Lisa Locher (which I guess means that I am a lesbian now) -- a lawyer here in Boston -- I myself am now out of med school and internship as well, starting an anesthesia residency, working my tail off and generally having a good time -- which is to say, I love being married, my job is a blast, and that’s a good thing because there’s no time for anything else. My last hike was running up 7 flights of stairs to a code, and the gasping for breath and ache in my thighs reminded me of where MY priorities have been! Continue to be very active in my church here in Boston which keeps me anchored in a lovely community. I’d love to write a little something about FOOT for such a publication if it were to come into existence. I’ll do my best -- I do have creative bursts in the occasional day off.” The funniest bumping into an old leader occurred when I (Cilla now speaking) was on my way to Martha’s Vineyard last Thanksgiving. I was taking the shuttle bus from the parking lot to the ferry and couldn’t help but overhear this hilarious story a young woman was telling her friends about how she drove up here at the crack of dawn but then to her dismay discovered she couldn’t turn her car off! She drove around to several gas stations where no one could help her. After spending more time than anyone should to simply turn the engine

off, someone discovered that the problem was that she was still in gear and not in park –there was something wrong or misleading about her stick shift. Then I heard her say stuff about New Haven, and then Yale and then Yale-China. So I couldn't resist to ask her if she knew **Jen Weyburn** whom I had seen a lot of last year and who had worked at Yale-China. She not only knew Jen, but it was **Jessica Plumb '93** –a former FOOT Leader herself! I swear she has a new look—she used to have long curly blond hair—and now it's much shorter, straight and more brown! In any case, she is now living in Washington state on the Olympic Peninsula. She met the man of her dreams in an interesting way. I'm not sure if you call it fate or a coincidence. One of her best friends wanted to set her up with her brother who lived in another state. Jessica wasn't into blind dates so she said no. Then while she was at a huge dance celebration in upper state New York (Syracuse?) she bumped into this nice young man, they started dancing, fell in love, and you know the rest! As it turns out, it just so happened to be the brother of this good friend! Wow. **Jody Esselstyn '93** is living in Charlottesville, VA where she bought a house with her husband, now a landscape architect student at UVA. Jody finished her family nurse practitioner at Yale. They are expecting a baby soon!

I heard several times from **Meg Wickwire '94** mwick118@earthlink.net who taught this last year at BB&N, but is leaving teaching for new horizons. “Yeah! Next reunion trip! Can we go sea kayaking this time? Don't feel too badly about the christmas card. I didn't send one! I do it about every other year. This year, I actually planned to do it and had a letter all written, but it just wasn't me, somehow. It's been a hard year, actually. I really like Boston, and I can't tell you how thrilled I am to be back in a winterzone. If I can say that in January, I must really mean it! Teaching, though, has been wearing me to the bone. This new school is full of wonderful people, but nearly every one of them has been a teacher for a long, long time. Just to keep up, I've been working intensely every weekend, every break, and the usual 11 hours or so each weeknight. It's no fun being in a culture of intense workers who ALSO have a lot more experience! So despite the fact that I truly believe teaching is my calling, I've decided to leave it. I will miss it a great deal, but the moment I made the decision, I was really excited about the possibilities in the business world. I was also really excited about the possibility of going out on weeknights now and then, taking a day off for a long weekend, planning a vacation NOT when work tells me to. So after this weekend (62 comments to write to parents ---- arggggh!), I'll be starting a more serious job search. So far, I've only done a couple of informational interviews. I'm looking forward to digging in! No particular leads yet, but I'll work on it. Hey, speaking of leads, are there any FOOT leaders in the consulting biz in Boston? There's one company I've had my eye on that was founded by two Outward Bound leaders. It's fully corporate (i.e. not outdoor based anymore), but their leadership model is based on expedition hierarchies in many ways. Clearly an interesting possibility, but one I've only just begun to research. Anyway, back to comments. I'm really glad you wrote—I have been a communication slacker for sure! But now that I'm so close, I'd love to see you sometime. Now your turn to update me, m'dear. How is FOOT? What are the numbers? What is the culture like among leaders? Where are you sending 'em? And how are YOU? Steve? I hope all is well.” Later she wrote: “So I figure I can pick and choose a little bit. I don't have to grab the highest paying option, so I can base my decisions on things like potential mentoring, intellectual challenge, office camaraderie. Or maybe I'm kidding myself. I guess I won't know until I start! Anyway, here's my snailmail address: 74 A Russell Avenue Watertown, MA 02472 (617) 923-6212. Thanks again, Cilla. Let's be in touch soon! Heck, I'm so close we should meet for a hike with the pooches!” More recently she wrote: “Is school as crazy for you as it is for me right now? The kids remain great, but it's all so hectic! Doesn't help that I'm A) spending the summer in England finishing my Master's, B) unemployed as of August 22nd. Much to work out. On my good days I call it a time of great growth. On my crazy days, I just sigh and smile.”

Elizabeth Murdock '94 murdock@aya.yale.edu sent this: “How are you? Things are going very well in DC--still loving my work with endangered species here at NWF, Paul is happy in his job at EPA, and (did I tell you this already??), we got married over Labor Day weekend! (That's the big news, of course.) (And so far married life has been great!!) I will write you sometime soon when I have a chance to write more extensively, but for the moment, I wanted to pass along a press release about the Campus Ecology Fellowships NWF gives out. This might be of interest to FOOTies and others. And please give my best to Steve. I keep meeting more and more people from the Forestry School, and they were all his advisees! My news, briefly, is this: 1) I got married in September (Labor Day weekend)! Paul and I have been together for almost 4 years now. (I don't think you've ever met him--my fault, because I missed you at reunion last year!) 2) I'm still living in DC, still working at the National Wildlife Federation, where I work on an endangered species campaign called “Keep the Wild Alive.” (You know this well, probably, given that Steve was kind enough to come and give the keynote speech at our North American cats workshop in February. And please tell him once again many, many thanks from me!! Not only did he give the speech, but he was a very valuable contributor to the workshop discussions!) I've been spending a lot of my energy on cats, as well as on carnivore issues, a bit on coffee, and a bit on an endangered Brazilian macaw. It's loads of fun, and I feel I've finally found one of my many callings. It's very exciting--especially to those who know me well (like Meg Wickwire) and are probably tired of hearing my angst. 3) Paul and I went backpacking in Chile in February, just following the NWF cats workshop. It was my first trip ever ‘south of the border’--and we went WAY south, all the way to Patagonia's Torres del Paine National Park. It was BEAUTIFUL! Amazing mountains, beautiful plant life, glaciers that stretch for miles, and every valley different from the one before. Now I just want to go back. So that's it in a nutshell. Work is calling, and I don't know when I'll have time to write next. So I hope you get this. I'll be looking forward to getting the newsletter. Everywhere I go in life I keep running into FOOT leaders and FOOTies--it's good to know the connection is still strong. So when's the next all-FOOT rafting trip?” In fact, Elizabeth just sent in an update where she reported a canoeing trip on the Potomac River with **Peter Braasch, Scott Walsh, Eric Greenwald** and almost **Seth Dunn** as a warm up for the reunion trip!

Speaking of **Scott Walsh '94** scottw@aya.yale.edu: “I graduate from business school on May 20, 2001. Wow, congrats on your bumper crop of potential FOOT leaders!” **Jennifer Weyburn '94** jennifer.weyburn@yale.edu finished working at Yale-China last July and has moved to New York. She was interested in working in arts management, but I have yet to hear what she is up to. **Deborah Blanchard '94** dgb@mail.utexas.edu wrote: “Thanks for the reminder of the upcoming newsletter. Every year I get it and remember that I meant to send something in! Thanks to the wonders of the electronic age, I'm actually getting around to it this year. I was actually just talking fondly about FOOT the other day, trying to explain it to a somewhat amazed Texan- it's WAY to hot to think about leaving our central A/C cocoons for more than a few hours in the August Texas heat. I just graduated from the University of Texas Law School in May, and I'm currently studying to take the New York Bar exam in July. Needless to say, studying for the bar is not much fun, but I try and make the most of my study breaks by enjoying the numerous public tennis courts & swimming pools Austin has to offer, not to mention the great live music scene (no really, I am studying!). I plan to move back to NYC in September & I hope to do something in the international environmental policy field- my main focus in law school. We'll see what happens. My brother **Elliott '98** lives in San Francisco & works for a .com venture capital firm. I hope all is well with you. I can't wait to read this year's edition of the newsletter- I love hearing what interesting things all the former FOOT folks are doing.” **Mark Barnett '94** gave a call. He will be attending Yale Law School next fall so he will be in the New Haven area. He is still with **Katherine Gergen** who is at Yale med School. I see Katherine from time to time walking around New Haven. **Jay Readey '94** jay_readey@yahoo.com sent this last summer: “Dear Friends, Today is my last day at Urban Solutions, and I want to touch base with folks about the future of the organization and my whereabouts. Thank you to everyone who has been supportive and encouraging as the organization has developed over the last three years. It is with pride and great memories that I move on. Urban Solutions has merged with a youth employment training organization called Youth Fair Chance, and has moved to the Youth Fair Chance

Center at 560 Ella Grasso Boulevard, New Haven, CT 06519. Please visit the web site at www.urbansolutions.org in the future for news of the changes and programs. Lead management staff include AmeriCorps program staff Tracy Duva and Lance Josie, and Operations Director **David Lewicki** '97. The organization will continue to offer training and employment activities in high technology and the environment. In two weeks I will begin a joint program in law and business at Yale University. (he's now been there a year!) Although I will continue to use this Yahoo account, my primary email address for the next four years, effective today, will be jay.readey@yale.edu. I hope to study the kind of public-private and for-profit/non-profit partnerships in which Urban Solutions has been engaged, because I believe them to be essential to building an economy that affirms community life and the public sphere. I remain committed to members of the Urban Solutions organization and the communities to which it belongs, and I hope you will all join me in support of its important mission. Best wishes in all your endeavors." I had a short visit with **Heidi Ellis** '94 when she was in town visiting her brother Curt who is a current FOOT Leader. Heidi is living in Boston doing an internship with childhood trauma. She has her doctorate in psychology from the University of Oregon. **Charlie Hale** '94 should be at Harvard Business School by now.

Kristen McDonald '95/6 kmcdonald@amrivers.org '95/6 was temporarily lost, but then found. "Cilla - thanks for your attention to getting that mailing to me! I look forward to reading it, as I do every year. I am still working at American Rivers, and considering a return to school - law or grad - which will hopefully include moving back west to my home state of Oregon. Hoping to boat this summer with **Anne Egger** '95 and her man Clay - I had the delight of seeing them both and attending a reunion gig of 'High Speed Buck' in November, 2000 - Anne and **Sarah Kelly** '95 goin' wild on bluegrass, also attended by **Leah Kelly** '98 and **Geoff Tanner** '95." Speaking of Anne. **Anne E. Egger** '95 annegger@pangea.stanford.edu sent this: "I was glad to see I made it into the letter as having totally missed seeing you while I was in town for the Slavic Chorus reunion--I was hoping to get a chance to see you then. I did stay with **Geoff Tanner**, who is pretty much the same as ever. Anyway, I'm in my third year of graduate school at Stanford for geology. Still keeping a place in Utah (can't quite leave there for good...), and getting back there as often as I can. I have a million other things to tell you about, but thought I'd just get in touch first, and at least give you my new address, email, phone, etc.: 12655 La Cresta Drive Los Altos Hills, CA 94022 (650) 559-9629. **Rebecca Whitney** '95 is teaching English at a secondary school named the San Francisco University High School.

I was delighted to hear good news from **John Lozier**. '96 john-lozier@uiowa.edu "Married Nicole Laaveg on May 5. Hands down the woman of my dreams. Nicole is absolutely perfect for me. You would approve. Honeymooned in Roatan, Honduras, May 13. My goodness is that lovely. Graduated medical school May 11. That's Dr. Loz to you. Bought a house May 31. Don't I seem a bit young to be doing that? Moving to Salt Lake City June 4. If you visit, bring beer. I'm glad to hear that so many are interested in being FOOT leaders. That was always one of the proudest badges I wore at Yale. Thanks for the great-as-ever update! Enjoyable to mark time with all the achievements of my fellow Footies." **Matthew Litwin** '96 mlitwin77@hotmail.com surfaced with this: "So good to hear from you, and great to hear that FOOT is so popular--congratulations! Please use this email to communicate in the future. I hope you and your family are doing well--I'm looking forward to this year's update letter-- hopefully I'll have some good news for you, I'm planning on going to either Nepal for trekking or canoeing in the Okavango Delta in Botswana." **Ivan Kerbel** '96 ivan_kerbel@hotmail.com and I kept missing each other at reunion. However, we did communicate a few times via email: "Thanks so much for the FOOTie contacts ... it's nice to know who's in the neighborhood, and there is a lot to explore out here woods-wise. I've got to buy myself a flubby and start organizing trips (though the surfing and cycling habits also have to be satiated). I think I'm angling towards a life as professional latte drinker. (which is to say, still job hunting...) I am stoked about doing the FOOT thing in 2002! I am enjoying my new life here in San Francisco with roommates Gus Elliott and Todd Enders, both Yale men, and am trying my best to fit in some surfing in between the workaday grind taking Caltrain to and from Palo Alto. I saw **Anne Egger** a few weeks ago, and there have been recent **Geoff Tanner** and **Sarah Kelley** sightings as well. Life in California is good...How are things in the fatherland (New Haven)?... I moved from my job at General Electric to eLease Financial Services in Palo Alto, CA, but I hope you've all had a very merry holidays. Despite Alan Greenspan's best efforts, I'm having a first-hand taste of the .com "consolidation" going on in my new home town. As of Christmas, eLease has been sold to Boston-based PrimeStreet.com, and the better part of our company has been made redundant. (I'm part of the better part, of course.) I thought I might rely on all of your considerable experiences to help me in my hunt for new people to work with. I am committed to San Francisco long-term, and I haven't yet been narrowed down to a specific professional niche ... which leaves me open to suggestion. I wish all of you health and much joy in the new year. Please feel free to give my whereabouts to any FOOTies passing through San Francisco. I've been trying to schedule a time to see Rebecca Whitney and Perry Devalpine out here -- it's so good to meet up with FOOT folk. I have no important news at the moment. I'm working for a litigation graphics boutique, enjoying west coast living, and surfing as often as I can. Contemplating what to do next ..."

I recently had a wonderful short visit with **Blake Esselstyn** '96 blakeman@aya.yale.edu. I invited him back to Hopkins to speak at our Cum Laude ceremony (we have this tradition of inviting 10 year Cum Laude graduates back to speak). He is living in Boston at the moment working with a geographic information systems (GIS) firm. **Megan Murphy** '96 wrote me a nice long letter! "As you can probably tell by the stationary, I am now (scarily enough) a full-fledged corporate attorney out here in sunny California. Although my new proximity to a whole gamut of outdoor activities is exciting, I am adjusting somewhat slowly to the culture out here, and have begun referring to Palo Alto as the 'Stepford City.' My cynical, somewhat gloom-and-doom nature can't seem to accept that the people out here are really as happy and carefree (and wealthy!) as they seem. But that's the boring developments in my life. Over the past few years I have been fortunate enough to do quite a bit of traveling, usually with my fearless friend and fellow Footie Ms. **Katie Brandi**. Together we have bandied about much of Eastern Europe and Southeast Asia, and don't seem to be sick of each other yet. (Of course, we host group "emotional shield" sessions everywhere we travel. We find it to be an invaluable ice-breaker). Unfortunately the next big adventure is still in planning stages, as it may have to wait until 1) Katie finishes what is sure to be the next great American novel (as I type, she is ensconced in the YADO writing academy in upstate New York); and 2) I get fired from this ridiculous lawyer job, and pursue my true calling as an FBI agent and/or firefighter. We are always soliciting for travel suggestions. This past summer (while allegedly studying for the CA bar exam) was especially busy. The enclosed picture was taken at high camp on Denali, 17,000+ feet. On the way down, hence the huge smile. I was fortunate enough to summit on May 31, 2000, along with 6 others from an Alpine Ascents International team. The experience was everything I dreamed it would be and more, and has certainly changed my life in more ways than I anticipated. Of course, I give all credit to my FOOT hat (see picture), which was truly my lucky talisman on the trip. Unbelievably, I lost it almost right after this picture was snapped, in some arctic gusts on the fixed lines down to 14,000. Is the FOOT store still always open? Maybe I could even get a free hat, as a reward for my extraordinary promotional activities?? ... In July and August I traveled overland through much of Eastern Africa. Unfortunately, my planned climb of Kilimanjaro had to be called off due to a nasty case of malaria, but I did get to jump off the highest commercial bungee in the world (fun) and boogie board down some Class 5 rapids. While everyone else was in the raft. (not so fun - in fact, should be illegal). I am still not sure how I feel about Africa sometimes, but it was an unforgettable trip. More than just giving you a life update, though, I wanted to take a few lines to let you know how proud I am to have been a part of FOOT when I was at Yale. I looked up the FOOT web page to get your Yale Station address, and couldn't help but laugh at the online leader facebook. Looks like the same crazy cast of characters as always! I hope they realize (and I'm sure they do) what a special group of people FOOT is, and what a monumental impact the leaders have on the lives of a bunch of scared 18 year olds. Yes, FOOT

certainly gave me some terra firma to stand on during those first few crazed weeks at Yale. But is also allowed me to really get to know some of her true individuals, in the most complimentary sense possible. It gave me my best friend, my partner in crime and my soul mate in Katie. (and thank god for **Phil Mundy**) But above all, it pushed me to become a better person when I was there, simply by being in and around such an extraordinary group. In fact, it continues to do so now, in the form of the sometimes disconcerting (as in 'what the heck am I doing with *my* life?') alumni newsletter. FOOT is a very special, very precious thing, and I am eternally grateful I was allowed to play even a very small part in it."

Meredith Fort '96 just started a two-year master's degree program at the University of Washington's School of Public Health. She is living in Seattle. **Leah Angell** '97 is always good about keeping in touch: "Hi Cilla, I hope that you are doing well! Here's my little update: I am about to graduate from Harvard Divinity School, and after that, I am moving to Los Angeles. I will be working and studying there for a year before starting Rabbinical school. Anyone who wants to visit LA can reach me at leahangell@hotmail.com. I have seen a lot of **Melissa Lee** and **Brian Ching** this year, which has been wonderful. Just yesterday, I ran into **Kayla Tabela** on the street here in Boston! Here's my new email address. It's leahangell@hotmail.com. I was in the Barnes and Noble in Harvard Square today, looking for this amazing new translation of *Inferno*, when lo and behold, I spied a book of Steve's on the display table! Yes, I bought *Kinship to Mastery*. I look forward to reading it. Take care! Leah." **David Lewicki** '97 david_lewicki@yahoo.com sent this email: "I have some exciting plans coming up: I leave for a summer in Peru on June 4th. I will mostly volunteer with an economic development organization there, but will travel and sightsee a bit. On August 23rd, I move from New Haven (after 8 wonderful years) to New York City to begin graduate school at Union Theological Seminary. I am entering school with an intention to pursue parish ministry when I graduate in 2004! Very cool. Hope this message finds you well and thank you very much for helping find some students to help LEAP." I (I being me, Cilla) saw **Melissa Lee** '97 running in East Rock Park. She is finishing up her stint at Yale Med School. She gave me the news that **Emily Wilk** '96 and **Dave Lambert** '94 are engaged! **Elizabeth Averill** '98 ejaverill@hotmail.com sent in the following: "It really is delightful to get a big collection of juicy tidbits about FOOT folks. So I decided I better check in as I think of it. I have been ridiculously happy post-graduation -- I liked Yale so much that I had some significant doubts about whether or not I would be as happy elsewhere. But so far so good. Spent two years living in Washington DC, a city where I found all sorts of nice new people to play with. Worked for a year and a half at the Dept of Justice in the Antitrust Division -- a job where I learned something new everyday (therefore a good fit for me). Then moved on (ever-so-briefly) to a private sector job at a place called the Corporate Executive Board, writing BS for-others-profit. That lasted all of six months and was not a good fit. But as mentioned earlier I did meet a splendid collection of folks in DC and lived in a perfect spot -- enjoyed spending time in a city with lots of green space and impressive structures. So that's the past. Currently, I'm spending the summer at home enjoying free time and quiet. It's as if I've taken my life and completely simplified it. Time to read and walk and think and travel. Figured I should do that before I move to NYC (yikes -- it's true.) Off to NYU Law School in late August. Excited about that adventure, only slightly sad that it will be so difficult to find the quiet and green spaces there. But we'll see -- please pass along my email and NYC telephone number to others (ejaverill@hotmail.com and 212-443-5815 as I would love to see other FOOT folks in the big bad city. Big piece of excitement is that I am spending two weeks in August hiking out West with a friend. Spending a week in Red Lodge, Montana and the Beartooth Mountains then on to Wyoming and the Tetons. I can't tell you how much I have missed hitting the trails with my pack...Anyway, one of the stops out there is a friend's wedding where I'm supposed to see **Elliott Blanchard** and **Dona Tversky**. (The closest I've come to any kind of FOOT reunion sadly.) Dona's spent the last year in South Africa and Elliott's been in San Fran. Both in good shape. News of other FOOT folks is all good as far as I know. I've gone down to Nashville a couple of times to see **Steph Park**, who has moved on to the more interesting part of medical training now. **Leah Kelley** is also doing well, and taking a year off from med school to teach on the West Coast... Take care and have a great time this fall with the next crew!" Speaking of **Leah Kelley** '98 here she is: (from Capitola, CA) "Holiday greetings from the sunny West Coast! It's been ages but I have been thinking of you, New Haven, and FOOT, and wanted to drop a line. How is everything? Hope things are well with you and that the program is happy and healthy as ever. I am taking a year's leave from medical school at the moment- finished two years at University of Chicago and just needed a break from school before heading off into my clinical years. In the interim I am living in Santa Cruz, CA and working on the clinical staff at the local Planned Parenthood clinic. The job is fun, challenging and totally reenergizing in terms of my desire to finish medical school. California life is treating me exceptionally well- it's warm and sunny, full of new friends and totally relaxing..."

I often see **Matt Kronman** "Boots" '98 running by (usually he is running and I am biking) matthew.kronman@yale.edu : "i hope things are well with you! i got home yesterday from a trip to south africa to find your FOOT newsletter waiting for me. as always, what a treat to read about what everyone is up to. i've got the next few weeks off before i begin my second year at the med school, and i just returned from a trip where i and four other med students were trying to set up a project for students who have completed their first year to go to south africa and work with hiv/aids orphans there. it was exciting and challenging, though i do have to admit i am glad to be back. so i am looking forward to seeing you with all the MOOT and FOOT leaders in August during the SOLO training." (He is doing the email thing and not capitalizing his "I's"!)" **Alec Bemis** '98 alec@brassland.org wrote in: "Nothing too exciting (read: manic) is going on in my life right now, which is actually a welcome change. I'm still working as a producer at a web development company called Funny Garbage, still writing a bunch for the LA Weekly and the Village Voice, and still comfortably ensconced in Brooklyn's Carroll Gardens neighborhood -- which will make this the first time I've lived at the same address for more than a year since I was in high school. I'm thinking I'm going to shake things up some later this year, but for now I'm inhabiting a comfy little groove." **James Matthew Carothers** '98 jcaroth@fas.harvard.edu sent this email: "I've finally gotten around to writing this e-mail. I've been thinking about for probably at least half a year...remarkable self-discipline, huh? Ha. I'm sure that you've probably already left for your summer travels; hence, this news probably won't reach you in time for the newsletter. Here goes anyway. I moved to an apartment in Brighton, MA (part of Boston) the summer after graduation with my long-time girlfriend Heather Chatman. She took a job at a public health research firm in Watertown, MA. I've been working on a PhD in the Program in Biological and Biomedical Sciences at Harvard since that fall (more about this in a sec). I guess the most noteworthy event that's taken place since I left Yale is that Heather and I will be getting married next March in New Orleans. Speaking of Yale, I do make it back every couple of months to visit my sister, Elizabeth (BK '01). I saw **Matt Stiebel** in Yorkside on one of my more recent visits. I ran into some other FOOT people at a Halloween party in Somerville a couple of years ago - **Dan Snow** among them. I saw **Kayla Tabela** about three weeks ago in an ice cream shop- we're going to make plans to hang out sometime soon. She seemed to be doing well. Although there are quite a few Yalies around Harvard (as absurd as that sounds), it's really nice to see some of the down-to-earth FOOT crowd. As for graduate school, things are going pretty well. I finished my preliminary qualifying exam this past spring so I'm an official PhD candidate (whatever that means). I doing my thesis research in the lab of Jack Szostak at Mass General Hospital (Dept of Molecular Biology at MGH, Genetics at Harvard Med). My work is very esoteric. I solve atomic resolution structures of RNA as well as try to generate an RNA molecule that can make copies of itself- all the while considering how these experiments might have implications for the origin of life. Overall, the lab is a great place to be. We do a lot of interesting experiments and the people are, for the most part, a lot of fun. And, most importantly I'm learning a tremendous amount. Okay, so how's this for a first effort? I'll definitely try to be more rapid with the updates in the future. I hope that this finds you well."

Probably the FOOT Leader I've seen the most is **Jeff Grigg '99**. In fact, I see him daily for he is now teaching English at Hopkins and is helping run the Summerbridge Program. I always do a double take when I see someone pouring coffee into a FOOT mug! He is wowing all the students with his wisdom and good cheer. And from **Jonathan Griswold '99** Jonathan.Griswold@MercerMC.com "What a pleasure to pour through the alumni newsletter and to see the photos of other FOOT leaders. I wanted to give a general word of thanks to FOOT, give my own update, and get some information on alumni support crew. Many have already expressed what FOOT did for them as freshmen, as a leader I was thrilled by the trust and responsibility it gave me. I now have the confidence to organize my own trips backpacking as well as organizing other activities and groups. I was also lucky to have an awesome co-leader and 8 freshmen of unbridled enthusiasm with the majestic White Mt.s as a backdrop. That the tireless behind-the-scenes workings of yourself and the support crew were essential goes without saying. I just returned from a weekend at the Dartmouth Outdoor Club's Moosilauke Ravine lodge. I had wanted to get up there for a while and finally decided that I could bring about 50 colleagues (I'm working for Mercer Management Consulting in Lexington MA) with me. Climbing Mt. Moosilauke was the perfect work-related activity. In 3 weeks I leave for the San Juan Mt.s of Colorado for a week's backpacking trip with **Stacy Ho** (FOOT '98) and a few friends from home. I still hope to drag **Micah Jacobs** along, but scheduling is difficult. I appreciate the organizing wizards and core committee gurus of FOOT even more right now. In other background news, I spent last summer attending a friend's wedding in France, showing another friend around Brittany and visiting a third friend in Ghana (the Perfect introduction to Africa). The travels of other FOOT people continue to inspire me. I'm now living near Porter Square Cambridge, rowing on the Charles and trying to visit other classmates in my work-related trips." Jonathan is inviting anyone interested in joining a hiking trip in Glacier National Park in August. The plan is still being firmed up, but on the definite list is Stacy Ho and Trevor Uhl (both class of 98) and then a couple possible additions from other friends. They would be there from 8/20 through 8/25, both backpacking and doing day hikes, possibly preceding the trip with a weekend in Banff, in Alberta. He'd love to add a couple FOOT leaders, current or alums, to the group. If you're interested contact him. He'd also love to hear from anyone who's been to Glacier and has sage words of FOOT advice on camping there. **Ben White '99** benwhite77@hotmail.com is at Harvard Med School. He went on its orientation hiking trip called FEAT (actually started by former FOOT leaders), but I had to get him geared up with all the proper FOOT equipment before he went. I sent him some zipper pulls, a mug and some recent FOOT T-shirts. He responded with this: "THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU. What a nice surprise to receive all the great stuff from you. You have no idea how many wonderful memories you have just brought back in the last 2 days. The pictures and letter were superb and I can't wait to bust out my FOOT shirt and snazzy mug (and yes, the zipper pulls are already on my jackets). Really, thank you so much for the kind gesture. That really brightened up my day and has spurred me to get in touch with some old friends that I have lost touch with this year. So I guess in short, you rock." Later he sent this: "WHAT A FANTASTIC TRIP! The cup, t-shirts, and zipper pulls were great, but even more valuable were the games, tricks and morale boosting techniques I learned as a FOOT leader. Thanks a ton!" He can be reached at benwhite77@hotmail.com. **Angie Yim '99** is at NYU Med School. **Brian Kinlan '99** brian@kinlan.com was around last August for the trips but then headed to California: "As many of you know, I am about to trek west for the next 5 or 6 years (at least). Later this month I'll be starting my Ph.D. in the department of Ecology, Evolution, and Marine Biology at UC-Santa Barbara. I'm heading to the Bay area first, but since I won't have regular email access for the next couple of weeks I wanted to keep you all posted on my new contact info. As of September 18 you can call/write/crash on the futon at 6750 El Colegio Road # 444 Goleta, CA 93117-4281 (805) 971-5886. My permanent email is brian@kinlan.com -- this is a forwarding address so it will always send mail to the right place. Hope you are all well and enjoying the last little bit of summer. For those of you with whom I've been woefully out of touch, I haven't forgotten you and I hope to catch up in the next month, as things settle down. I expect to see all of you in Santa Barbara at some point in the next few years. No excuses!"

Nick Frankfurt '99 mailed in a nice long letter: "Dear Cilla, How are you? Firstly, I want to thank you for writing the FOOT alumni notes. It is a great feeling to know that you will help keep us in contact as we roam about in our post college years. How did the trips go this year? I had pangs in late August as my internal clock reminded me that it was that time of year again; a time to do a frenzied packing job and ride Metro-North to New Haven, to sleep on sheetless mattresses in Bingham and shake out tarps, to greet knobby-kneed freshmen at Phelps and strap old pots and pans to their backpacks. Beware, Cilla. You may see me on Old Campus next August. Things are good with me, but I still feel a little shocked that college actually ended. For some reason I couldn't really picture life without Yale and then, BOOM, it's a Monday morning in September and my mom is telling me to shave and move out of the house. Whoa. Luckily, **Samantha Schroeder** (remember her?) was there to bail me out. She needed a co-pilot for their drive cross-country to visit her brother. I volunteered. And here I am, in sunny southern California, cocking my head skywards to gape at those silly palm trees. It's been an odd year of new experiences. For example, before I left the east coast, I had surgery for the first time. As far as surgery goes, it was the fun kind: hernia. I know what you're thinking: 'Not you Nick! You're so young and spry. How?' It all happened during the Habitat Bicycle Challenge. Somewhere in the Rockies something popped. I looked down one day while bathing in Utah and noticed a ping-pong ball sized lump where no ping-pong sized lump had been before. I ignored it for two weeks and then, while taking a shower in a Nevada high school locker room, said to fellow HBC rider, John, 'Hey, check this out!' His reaction ('Ohmigodwhatisthat?!!') raised my level of concern. So I toweled off, got on my bike and rode to the Hawthorne hospital, where I met a doctor who said, 'Yep, that's a hernia, alright. Can you fix my son's bike?' I helped his son change a flat, rode off, confident in the knowledge that any day my intestines might rupture and send me into toxic shock. But as the doctor put it, 'It probably won't happen.' I resumed biking gingerly at first, so as not to pop another gasket, and soon regained my usual cycling gusto. I had surgery in late September in New York, took codeine for two weeks, eventually kicked that habit, started walking with a cane, and before I knew it, I was sitting next to Sam, grinding her transmission through the wheat fields of Nebraska as she tried to teach me to drive a standard. Right now I live in Santa Monica and work in Hollywood. Work-wise, I'm illustrating a book on dinosaurs for a paleontologist at the LA County Natural History Museum. When I'm not drawing pictures of Titanosaurus (long neck, four legs, plant-eater, walnut-sized brain), I can be found on Sunset Blvd, assisting at a graphic design studio. As part of this illustration project, I spent March and some of April in Patagonia with a crew of scientists digging for titanosaurus bones and making sketches. We not only found the dinosaurs, but we also found thousands of their fossilised eggs. They are grapefruit size and hard as rock. Just the sort of thing you can picture as a paper weight on your desk at home. But, fossil smuggling is punishable by imprisonment in Argentina. So, rather than spend much of my twenties languishing in a Patagonian jail cell, I left the eggs behind. Though that jail thing does sound sort of romantic and would certainly afford me the time to write my memoirs. One of the best parts of being in Patagonia was wearing my blue Patagonia fleece, which struck me as funny, since there's this enormous region in South America that doesn't seem to know that there's an American clothing company named after it. I tried to explain to some of the young Argentine guys that their country is all the rage on college campuses in New England, but they didn't much care. LA is a trip. I bought my first car and have already paid more in parking tickets than I did for the vehicle. But I love it. It's a boxy grey Saab. I live near the ocean, surf at Malibu when I have time and often see dolphins and seals playing in the kelp beds off shore. I saw Lawrence Fishburn once too. Gimme the gothic drab of New Haven over the sunny boardwalks of Venice Muscle Beach any day. None of the vagrants here know my name and they have better tans than I do. There's a guy near my house who sculpts naked women out of sand every morning. Which is neat. But, I miss the East Coast. I have the strange sensation that the longer you stay in LA the less likely you are to leave. We'll see. Any FOOT alums out here, let's do lunch. Cilla, I hope FOOT has another great year. Enjoy the fall

weather. If I make it to New Haven I would love to drop in on one of your local alumni dinners. PS- Enclosed is a photo from my trip to Patagonia. Those are the vertebrae of a dinosaur's tail that I'm dusting off, believe it or not!" And then this update just came in: "I illustrated a book on a dinosaur nesting ground in Patagonia called Walking on Eggs. It's published by Simon and Schuster and came out this month in bookstores and on Amazon.com. There's wilderness, natural history, teamwork, and reptiles, so I think it will have wide FOOT appeal. [end plug] This summer I'm off to Mongolia to look for more dinosaurs, and I hear that **Katie Scharf** '99 is there studying agricultural practices. If so, I hope to find her. Have you heard from her? Well, that's my update. I hope the coming FOOT season is awesome."

Wow, we have made it to the new century! **Tara Cronin** '00 wrote this: "Hi everyone! I'm here at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine for the next four years, so if you are passing through Pittsburgh, come pay me a visit: 401 Shady Ave, Apt C506 Pittsburgh, PA 15206 (412)361-6621 taracronin@yahoo.com. **Melissa Garcia** '00 sent a holiday card. "Best wishes this holiday season from an ex-FOOT chair. I hope all is well in New Haven-- I heard that this summer's trips went off without a hitch! I've settled in New York and work at the Fresh Air Fund, a not-for-profit that sends disadvantaged NYC kids to summer camp and on host-family visits in the country. I'm definitely having fun in the city but am excited to see some mountains next week when I go skiing in Austria..." **Erin Johnson** '00 sent her greetings: "Many wishes for the happiest holidays and may your New Year's hold the promised of grand adventures in 2001. I am here in UT once again, living at home and reveling in my beloved homestate. Life with the Johnson clan is zany and amusing and rarely lonely, though I do miss the Yale friends and think of them often. The landscape is constantly challenging me and taunting me through the windows at work. The great outdoors is so accessible and I only wish I could take advantage of that fact more often. One day, I happened across a FOOT reference in my own hometown newspaper. It was so nice to see FOOT all the way out here in SLC. Life speeds along at breakneck pace despite my best efforts to slow it down. I'll hopefully be visiting **Katie Scharf** in Mongolia sometime this spring/early summer and perhaps **Kristen Karsh** in Tasmania. We'll be sure to send postcards of our excursions. I hope you are happy and well."

A quick note from **Boomie Aglietti** '00 laurent.aglietti@yale.edu informed us that he and **Megan Campisi** are both in California now. I briefly saw **Jacob Heitler** '00 jacobheitler@hotmail.com as he and his girlfriend were about to travel across the country to San Francisco. Before that he had sent: "How's it going? I heard FOOT went great this year, and I was psyched to hear about the new Pooohs. You know one of them was my co-leader one year? I am looking for jobs out in San Francisco, and I was wondering if you have any old-FOOT connections that might be helpful. I'm looking for a position where I can learn about business and maybe use some of my more quantitative analysis skills as well. I ran into **Jeff Grigg** on the street last night. Sounds like he's been running into you in the halls these days! Anyways, I hope all is well. Everyone in the Heitler fam sends their best."

Now for some musings about FOOT from some of this year's graduates. **Sarah Ichioka** '01 ... "I think that I was a bit put off by your request that I jot down one experience that defines FOOT for me. Because it's meant such a multitude of things, encompassed such a wide span of experiences over these past 4 years. A simple snapshot won't do; it would take a highly interactive CD rom to begin to do it justice. Here, I'll settle for a verbal slideshow..."

-Arriving early (as one of those West-Coasters) for my FOOT trip and being totally bowled over by the ease and graciousness with which the leaders incorporated me into their circle (literally- stayed up 'til 2 a.m. playing a cutthroat game of Mafia) -Realizing that it is physically possible to hike uphill, in the rain, while laughing hysterically, for 2 hours straight -Having my anxieties about leading a 6-day as "only-a-sophomore" quelled by Jeff (The ultimate old man of the mountain!) over our co-leader dinner at Mamoun's Falafel-Appreciating utterly the Yale mental hygiene training we receive when one of my FOOTies revealed to me that she had a serious eating disorder. Monitoring her nutritional intake, hour-by-hour for the remainder of the trip.

All of these experiences illustrate the support system/network that is FOOT; the interreliance of the FOOT "generations." I have been nurtured as a FOOT "child," bonded as a FOOT "sibling," collaborated with my co-leader as a FOOT "spouse," and can now enjoy my small legacy as a FOOT "grandma" with two former FOOTies new leaders themselves [not to mention the good fortune of having a FOOT Godmother whom I can rely upon for post-grad recommendations!]. It is the collaborative efforts of strong individuals which produces both the pleasantly quirky identity of each separate trip and the standardized, premium quality of the FOOT program as a whole...

And from **Catherine Price** '01: "What has FOOT meant to me? Perhaps I should explain why I do FOOT (besides meeting all the other leaders). I really like helping people and making them excited about activities and institutions that I feel passionately about. I enjoy FOOT because it gives me a chance to have an impact on eight people's lives in a way that no one else ever will. Those four days in the woods represent a moment in their lives that is unrepeatable--they will never be the same again. Once school starts, everyone will find their own groups of friends, their own classes, their own activities--but FOOT represents the moment before all this happens, the moment where they are all similarly anxious, excited, and scared. I love being the first example of a Yalie that they encounter. I love listening to their hopes and fears, encouraging them, making them excited about the world that they're about to become a part of. I really feel like my positive attitude can have an impact on the way they make the transition from high school to Yale. I think it's a very special moment in their lives, and I love being a part of it. A moment when it all came together? It was my FOOT trip my junior year, when I was leading with **Pete Bendix**. We'd just finished a 9-mile hike and were settling down to make dinner and set up our tarps. One of my FOOTies had been rather distant for the whole trip--he'd spent a lot of time sitting off by himself reading Spanish poetry (particularly when there were group chores to be done!). However, this night he came over to where we all were sitting (waiting for the water to boil) and began to read poetry to us. His accent was beautiful; I have no idea what he was talking about, but I closed my eyes and just listened to the way he read the words. We sat in silence for a moment after he had finished, and then one of my other FOOTies reached into his bag and pulled out a journal that his friends from high school had given him before he left for college, in which he had copied 'The Love Song of Alfred J. Prufrock.' He read that aloud to us, and then another of my FOOTies reached into his bag and pulled out a copy of 'The Prophet' and read us a section on friendship. We all listened, talked about the poetry, and several of the FOOTies talked about how happy they were to have done the trip. Then, after dinner, as it got dark, Pete pulled out the hopes and fears that they had written before leaving campus for the trip. He read them aloud, one by one, by the light of the fire. After he was finished, we sat quietly--and then the FOOTies started to talk about how different they felt than they had just four days before. As a group, they decided that their fears no longer seemed so terrifying. Instead, they were excited, and felt like they had made a group of friends. Listening to them talk, I really felt like I had helped to make them feel more comfortable, that I had achieved all of the hopes that I wrote about in the previous question.

So now a bit about me. I had an amazing fall teaching. I taught two sections of AP Environmental Science (yes, the College Board now offers this) and for our labs we went out in the field. I organized the field labs around the New Haven watershed and the Long Island Sound. So every week the two classes and I were out at various sites around the city--the three rivers, the beaches, wetlands, East Rock, Long Wharf, the harbor, even an organic farm. It was great--the students loved exploring New Haven--in fact, found it much more interesting than they ever thought possible. At Christmastime Steve and I went to the Vineyard for some quiet time, but it was sooo cold, the next thing I knew I was on a plane for warm & sunny Jamaica! Who says old folks can't be spontaneous? But the much more interesting trip was over March break to Death Valley, the

Mohave Desert and Joshua Tree National Park. I love the southwest. We had some wonderful hikes; I'm always amazed at all the colors and shadows. I am still playing lots of tennis in my free time and riding my bike almost daily up East Rock. I will be going to the Vineyard soon, after we send out all the acceptance letters for FOOT. I have been trying to update the FOOT leader listserv so if you would like to be added to the list, please send me your email address. Mine is priscilla.kellert@yale.edu. Please also call me if you are in town: 203-865-9126. Or write: 57 Edgehill Rd. New Haven, CT 06511. Check out our beautiful webpage: www.yale.edu/foot. The cat population in the Kellert home continues to grow this time as a result of an abandoned kitty that was hanging around Bingham last August during the last leader training and at the start of the trips. I had a feeling that when everyone was off on their hike, the kitty and I would be left behind together, and guess what? FOOTie (as she is appropriately called) is now quite happy and has settled in comfortably. Please don't forget to contribute to the **Jason Karpf** Fund if you can—the money goes to our scholarships. It is in memory of our dear friend Jason, a FOOT Leader of the very best qualities. Checks may be made payable to FOOT and are tax deductible.

Don't forget that I am still thinking about putting together a book about FOOT someday—I sent you all sorts of questions in the last newsletter. Maybe I should try this approach to get more responses—just write whatever you want! Bring back those good times and memories! Speaking of good times—we are plotting another **FOOT Leader Alum Reunion Trip**—the last one rafting the San Juan River in Utah was a blast. June of 2002 we are hoping to run the Arkansas River in Colorado. I sent out feelers and you probably sensed something was cooking by some of previous leader remarks. **Greg Felt** '88 owns his own rafting company and has generously offered to host us. The time would be June 20-23, 2002. Here is some information from Greg: "I think a three day would be great. We can do a continuous three day, or, to maximize the whitewater, do a Browns Canyon Overnight and then pull out and shuttle downstream for day 3 in the Royal Gorge. Should be good whitewater either way, but its the choice of continuity or maximize rapids. This trip normally sells for \$339/person. We can do it for FOOT for \$240/person and that would include all meals (three lunches two dinners and breakfasts). We would need to know if people are vegetarians, etc...We aren't licensed to provide liquor but we can certainly have it with us. We can do a group beer fund or people can bring their own. Folks should fly to Colorado Springs and we will run a late-in-the-day shuttle - bus or van depending on numbers. It would be great to get everyone with one trip as it's two hours from Salida to the Springs. They can then get a room or camp in our pasture for the night. People can get by with a toothbrush and their clothes but if they can bring a tent, pad, and sleeping bag that would be great. We will have drybags for anyone who needs them and wetsuits, booties, and spray jackets. And life jackets, of course. To run Browns Canyon in June, kids should be 10-12 or more. I doubt there are many FOOT kids that old as I didn't wait all that long and my oldest will be 7 then." Sooo—let me (Cilla now speaking) know if you are interested! This should be a lot of fun. Just send me a note or email and I will start a list. I know there was a request to have a trip with little kids, but maybe this is the time for that short visit to grandma & grandpa!

Have a great year—stay healthy. Hey—I can't close without reminding you about the FOOT store. And now we have lovely FOOT Nalgene water bottles!

Xoxoxoxox, Cilla

