

Summer 2005

Dear FOOT Leaders Alums,

Greetings and I hope I find all of you well. This was a long winter and spring in the east—a bitter cold winter followed by a cool and wet spring—the coolest May on record for a very long time. Maybe summer has finally burst upon us—I hope so. I got the FOOT listserv up and running again—please don't be too timid to use it! Remember if you want to be taken off, just let me know and the same goes for if you want to be on it. I mentioned something about retiring soon and all of a sudden people starting sending in retirement notes—I just meant it is down the road in the near future, but not tomorrow! You are still stuck with me for a few years. Welcome to the Class of 2005 who have now joined our ranks—that means about 600 of you! But some news of semi-retirement is that of Betty Trachtenberg who is retiring from the freshman year duties in January 2006. I still do not know who the new dean for the freshman year will be. I'm sure Betty would love to hear from any of you that remember she was the administrator who totally supported FOOT from the beginning: [betty.trachtenberg@yale.edu](mailto:betty.trachtenberg@yale.edu).

The FOOT reunion last summer in Vermont was great fun. We started the event in the rain and yet everyone's spirits was high. In fact, some leaders mentioned that it wouldn't truly be a FOOT experience without some rain! We had a total of 43 people counting all the FOOT kids—and they were wonderful. This really was a family occasion and I was so pleased to get our old Vermont camp up and running again. We went for hikes, swam in our local pond (we imported tons of sand and provided sand toys), ate to the tunes of a local fiddler, made arts and crafts in our arts & crafts building (of course)—including signs to go on our new trail system we are slowly creating, and sang tunes around the campfire while we made s'mores. Those who came (and most with spouse and children): Trex & Beth Proffitt (Trex is a business organization professor—from California but now moving east to Franklin & Marshall), Nina Kallen (a lawyer in the Boston area/just gave birth to second child) & Adam, Moshe Usadi (a doctor in SC with three boys!) & Rebecca, Ben & Betsy Saylor (he's a science education specialist at USD in Spearfish, SD/she's a doctor), Kristin Wolcott Edwards (she's a doctor in PA) & Scott, Paul Jahnige (an urban & community forester now traveling around the world with his family), Kasha Kubzdela (an education specialist living in DC), Baker Mallory (an architect/landscaper recently married!) & Jody, Karen O'Brien (a doctor in RI) & Ian, Jon Griswold (recently back from Afghanistan—wow—now moving to DC for international policy work), Cesca Smith (a recent geology PhDer), and Sara Cohen (working for the state of Mass—resource policy). Eddie Pritchett '05 helped with the food & logistics! I'm taking a break from an organized FOOT reunion this summer, but it turns out there are several leaders in the Vermont area and I might throw together a gathering at some point in August. Stay tuned. Also—I'm up for a reunion trip for the following summer so let me know if there are any fun adventures out there we should try!

OK—the format for this year's news: I will begin each section with the Graduating Year. This will be followed by the name and then news. For the most part, the words are direct quotations. I think you can tell when I am speaking. Please forgive me if I have made any errors or omissions. This is still an imprecise art form!!

**1986 Jamie & Florence Williams** are still in Montana. They sent their holiday greetings with their two beautiful kids!

**Susan Lamar:** 2004 was not so bad in the Land of Enchantment. I spent a lot of time this spring and summer doing home improvement and landscaping projects in the yard. For those of you who have seen my yard, this is quite a daunting task. There were lots of trips to the local nurseries who benefited greatly from my gardening efforts. Tequila, of course, supervised all the yard work. She and I have come to know each other well. She realized after awhile that I was her 'person.' In January, she developed a blood disorder and required immune suppressing drugs for months but is now off medication and her blood count is in the normal range. Despite 2 different courses at dog obedience school, there are times when her great energy and enthusiasm impede her best behavior. She likes lots of action all the time and thinks the need for me to go to work so many days out of the week is absurd (as do I). After 14 years of borrowing river gear, I finally took the plunge and bought my own 14ft. self-bailing raft with all the accessories. "Bertha" made her maiden voyage on a 7 day trip through Desolation and Gray Canyons in northeastern Utah in October. This was a private trip where we all brought our own boats and gear and headed down the river. The river passes through beautiful high desert canyons that are the most unchanged since the time of John Wesley Powell. We saw desert Bighorn sheep, beaver, lots of geese, ducks, herons, and hawks, but no bears and not a single other person for the entire week. "Bertha" is rolled up in the garage now awaiting future adventures. I spent a wonderful 10 days in New England this June visiting my folks and friends. My mother and I took several days and went to Cape Cod (pre-season) which was lovely with very few people and wide open beaches. I got my fix of seafood, green terrain and antique shops, all of which are essentially lacking in New Mexico. Wishing each and every one of you all the best in the coming year. Peace.

**Peter Cooley's** untimely death on Mt. Rainier last year brought out many fond memories that were shared with his wife—from Jamie Williams, James Shifren, Eve Porter, Diana Selig, Ben Saylor, to even our long lost Matt Etter. I am still sad about the loss of this wonderful person.

**1987 Nina Kallen:** My daughter Maia Kallen Frost was born on December 27, 2004. Big sister Morgan is thrilled, especially when Maia smiles at her. Morgan had a wonderful time at the FOOT reunion last summer and is asking when we will go camping again. **Matthew Etter** (we had a sighting!—that's all I'll say.)

**1988: James Shifren** Thanks for all your letters. They are always a highlight of the day for me when I receive them. James has recently joined Buckland Partners, an investment partnership based in Darien, CT. He lives in Edgemont, NY with 3 kids, Emma, Danny & Henry.

**1989 Trex Proffitt:** We had such a great time with you at Sky Acres. Thanks for opening up your home to us. Guess what! We are moving back east...I took a faculty job at Franklin & Marshall College in Lancaster PA, just a short 4 hour drive from you. I hope to be in New Haven more often, and generally more involved in the strange activities of the east coast subspecies. It's a great move for me because F&M is much clearer about what they want to do, and I will have great latitude there to be myself. For example, they like books there. It will be refreshing to try to get that going. Beth will be teaching a class in fall, too. She is trying to finish her dissertation this coming year. Who knows what will happen.. Kids may miss CA a bit, but we'll keep them entertained. Best wishes, Trex. **Frank Levy:** Reflections on 2004...It's been a year full of activity. Family of four and extended family visits, two full-time jobs, lots of exercise, remodeling a home, socializing with friends and travel! When we moved to Iowa in 2002, we came to try it out. Now, needless to say, we're engaged at a level that will keep us here for the foreseeable future. Both of us were somewhat surprised at how much we're enjoying this community and the choice to stay was very simple. Over the past two years, Frank has been refinancing apartment complexes that were originally built under low-income subsidy programs and are now eligible to be rehabbed and converted into conventional housing. He has also been very involved with eight new affordable housing complexes financed under the "tax credit program." Looking ahead, his father's firm plans to expand its for-sale housing operations, and Frank hopes to gain more exposure to this side of the business. After taking time off during 2003, Kerty began working as a consultant for the Downtown Community Alliance (DCA) in January of 2004. Her charge was to recruit developers to transform a 300-acre "brownfield" site in the heart of downtown into a mixed-use urban village with dense housing, retail, green space and many other amenities. She was successful in bringing a consortium of developers into negotiations with the City of Des Moines and at this point it appears the project will move ahead. When the president of DCA was poached by a local real estate developer, Kerty was promoted to his position with responsibilities broadened to include operating events, marketing downtown's assets to local and national audiences, and participating in and managing economic development funds design to spur housing. It's a job she loves but boy does it keep her busy! We did manage to get a bit of travel in this year. We enjoyed a wonderful visit to Europe in June and stopped off first to see Paul and Lorena Ostergaard in Copenhagen. Their daughter, Camilla, is one month older than Kiki and they had all kinds of fun together. Kerty also zipped down to Amsterdam for the day to see her good friends Steven and Joke. It was Holland's first game in the European Cup that night, so we were quite focused. We spent the remaining, nearly two weeks, on the West Coast of Sweden visiting old family friends, the Ling-Vaneruses, Kerty's best friend from boarding school, Cajsa, and her family and Kerty's second cousins, the Perssons. For Kerty it was a nostalgic visit. For Frank it was his first glimpse at Scandinavia (we expect many more) and the kids were great travelers. Before heading to Europe, we visited New Haven for Frank's 15<sup>th</sup> reunion at Yale and Pebble Beach for Kerty's 20<sup>th</sup> reunion at Robert Louis Stevenson High School. Kiki and Mia, now nearly three and eighteen months respectively, are both very talkative and full of energy. They are in "school" at a wonderful daycare in downtown Des Moines. Kiki ran her first kiddy run during the Des Moines Marathon weekend and really enjoyed it. Now Frank times her with a stop-watch as she runs laps around the downstairs and from point to point when outside in the park. She obviously has Frank's energizer bunny genes. Speaking of those, Frank is in the midst of training for an Ironman Triathlon to be held in Arizona in April. A typical Saturday AM workout consists of a three-hour bike ride and a one-hour run. Kerty joined the Des Moines Rowing Club this year and rowed in the women's masters eight category during the Iowa Games and the Head of the Des Moines. On top of it all, we're busy remodeling out new house and expect to move in very shortly. Remodeling has been a delight and a challenge. Anyone who has gone through a remodeling project can, of course, relate. We hope to be in touch with many of you throughout this year and visitors are always welcome. Des Moines is really a great place. Some highlights to think about for 2005: Iowa State Fair, ranked *USA Today's* "best place to visit," held in mid-August. The Des Moines Art Festival, ranked 5<sup>th</sup> in the nation, held during the last week in June. For runners: Dam to Dam, a thirteen-mile run, mostly on bike trails, held in early June. For bikers: RAGBRAI (*Register's* Annual Great Bike Ride Across Iowa) is a hoot. Des Moines would be your only entry and exit – the ride goes from West to East literally across the state, held in mid-July. Most importantly, we miss you all and want to send our love! Love, Kerty, Frank, Kiki, and Mia. **Carrie Hatcher-Kay:** We are thrilled to announce that Elijah Hatcher Kay was born at 3:07 p.m. on September 6 (yep, that's Labor Day) at University of Michigan Hospital. He weighed in at 7 lbs, 1 oz. Mom, baby, big sister Amelia, and Dad are all doing well. –Carrie and Josh. **Kristin Mitchell:** Dear Cilla and FOOT, Kristin spent most of 2004 pregnant, alternately delighted and terrified about the implications of bringing a new child into the family. She took almost four months off, and is looking forward to getting back to the challenges and rewards of medicine, women's crew, and digital photography, though she will miss the extra time with Drake & Phoebe. Drake enjoys being the big man on campus at preschool. He loves trains and spends hours at this easel, illustrating long monologues. Phoebe Katherine was born September third. She has developed a delightful giggle and talks almost as much as her brother. If he has anything to say about it, she will be fluent in airplane terminology before she says 'mama.' Phoebe plans a trip to Barcelona later this year. Kristin, David, Drake, and Phoebe. **Tiff Bingham Cunningham:** Hello from Salem! I spent the past five

years running an ice cream business (really...) and am making the move back to working with animals this year. Love, Tiff. **Toby Kovacs:** Well, each of your emails has prompted me to reconsider the alumni gathering at your estate in Vermont, but unfortunately we just decided we'd have to pass. Especially with Trex and Ben and their crews going (and I recognize other names as well) I was hoping to make it. My news (I'm not sure how much of this is news to you, but here goes) – my wife, Rachel, and I have a 2-year-old, Daniel. We moved back to New York City after living in Hoboken, NJ, for several years, and we're very happy to be jogging in Central Park once again. After being a stay-at-home dad for seven months (an experience I highly recommend!), last year I started working at Thomson Financial in sales. Before Daniel came along Rachel and I did a lot of hiking/camping, on our own, mostly in the Adirondacks, and also with the Sierra Club in the Sierras, Cascades and Olympics. We're going to Campmor this weekend to pick up a larger family tent and hope to pass along the outdoors bug to Daniel. Hope your college reunion was fun. Us '89ers just had our 15th and it was great. The only FOOT alum I recall seeing was Frank Levy (which is why the FOOT alum reunion is extra alluring, but alas). Thanks for keeping us all informed of the entire FOOT alum network. [and then later] A new FOOTster is born - my wife, Rachel, gave birth to our second child, Joshua, on May 15th. We're going to give him a couple of months to get used to city life and then in July we're taking him and his older brother, Daniel (now three years old), up to the Adirondacks. We'll be roughing it at a lodge where they cook all your meals, change your sheets and the lake (Blue Mountain Lake) is steps from our front door. Just like FOOT, right? Or is my memory failing me? Maybe we'll bag Mt. Marcy with the boys next year. Best to you and all fellow FOOT alums - Best, Toby

[toby.kovacs@thomson.com](mailto:toby.kovacs@thomson.com). **Paul Jahnige:** This year's season of tradition and transition seemed to call for Haiku rather than our typical rhyming rabble. As usual, you will forgive the untrained attempt, but at least it's fewer than 17 syllables to get through. The year just passed has been much like those just before it with our evolving life and jobs and play here in Williamsburg. But in the first week of 2005, we embark upon long dreamed sabbatical of sorts. Beginning with seven weeks in Costa Rica, followed by nine weeks on the Big Island of Hawaii and an equal sojourn in Switzerland, we will be chasing summer, seeking the slower side of life, building our family bonds, and learning - always learning - about organic agriculture, diverse culture and varied landscapes and languages. We have five farm communities at which we will be living and volunteering, arranged through friends, internet searches and the Willing Workers on Organic Farms network. We will also home school the kids, play games and have fun. In between our farm stays, we will travel a bit. Our first stop in Costa Rica will be Rancho Mastatal, an environmental learning center and lodge in the central part of the country. Our next stop is Punta Mona on the southeastern coast, a center for permaculture and sustain! able living . Following our experiment in Latin America, we head to Hawaii to live and work with the Bonderas, long-time friends and organic coffee farmers. There, Sage and Sierra will join Spruce and Kaia in their home schooling and imaginary worlds. We will endeavor to help grow the farm's non-coffee agricultural and agro-forestry production. At the end of April we will head to the Swiss Alps where we will live with two different families (we hope), one near the village of Venthone in French speaking southern Switzerland and one near Cimalmotto in Italian speaking Switzerland. From Sage and Sierra, (1-12-05) Dear Family and Friends, We write after two and a half exhilarating weeks in the small community of Mastatal, Costa Rica. It is a town of about 300 people and lacks a phone, internet or mail service, hence the lack of our communication. Mastatal is very rural, about 2 hours from the nearest "town." It has a church (visited every 14 days by the priest), a cantina (which seems to sell little more than beer), a new concrete community center (which we have yet to see used), a one room elementary school (now closed for summer vacation), and a soccer field (in use almost any evening). Also in the booming town center are the houses and property on of "Rancho Mastatal" a sustainable environmental learning center where we are volunteering. Directly north of the village center and the Ranch rise the peaks of "La Cangreja" national park, one of Costa Rica's newest and apparently one of the more biologically diverse in one of the Americas more diverse countries. For the first 11 days we stayed with a wonderful local family at their home about a mile from the Rancho. They have four children 8 to 18 one of whom works at the Rancho as a carpenter. The family seems to make its living primarily by farming. Juan Luis, the father, has a small farm, but also tends his mother's farms. They grow corn, beans, squash, plantains, various fruits, and cacao. They also tend several cows and two horses. Our volunteer work at the Ranch consists mainly of cooking for the 30 or so guests, volunteers, and participants in the Wilderness First Responder course and Natural Building Courses they held there while we were there. We have also been pruning some of the plants at the Ranch, helping with some grant writing, carpentry, and trail mapping. With the girls we have been doing some home schooling, though they have been a little hesitant to engage in that fully. To their pleasure there is a family here with a 3 and 6 year old girls with whom they have been playing a lot. We also have enjoyed swimming a lot at the waterfall and river, getting a chance to ride horse with the family of Juan Luis, spying butterflies and toucans and iguanas, and other colorful things. After several days of being somewhat shy, Sage and Sierra began playing (mostly without actually speaking) with many of the local children. Today we left Mastatal (sadly) and have come to the Pacific coast beach to swim and rest a bit.

We hope you all are well. More soon. We look forward to hearing from you. Cheers, Paul, Sally, Sage and Sierra. Greetings again all, This morning we spent walking with a guide through the cloud forests of Monteverde. In fact, from our hotel we can look out over the slopes to the Pacific, and on our hike in the clouds, we crossed to the divide to the Atlantic watershed. The forests are often thus in cloud as the winds (either eastern or western) push the moisture up over the mountains. In these clouds, the trees are heavy with moss and ferns and bomiliads and other epiphites (plants growing on other trees, not on the ground). According to our guide book, 25% of the forests biomass, is in epiphites. We spotted several hummingbirds, warblers, wrens, and red-starts. Sierra's favorite sighting was a blue dung beetle. Sage liked finding a large leafed plant that smells good and can be used as a natural bug repellent. Sally noted a tree

fern, (a fern that grows as a tree) which was just sending out its leaves as giant fiddleheads or (monkey tails) as the guide called them. Before Monteverde, we spent 3 days on the Pacific coast beach of Esterillos. We played in the big waves (Sierra particularly liked getting bamboozled by them) and swimming in a hotel pool. We have mostly been eating typical means or rice and beans, cabbage salad, plantains (kind of like fried bananas) and chicken or fish. My favorite moment at Esterillos (which is a beach that faces due south) was looking up the beach to the fire lite sand and sky or the bright pink sunset, and then looking down the beach where the fishing boats were just putting out for the night. We work and seeing the fullest moon rise over the abrupt mountains bathing the palms, sea and sand in a silver cascade of softness. On our last day up in Mastatal (the community where we spent 2.5 weeks) we headed out with a local family, the family of Juan Luis, to explore the new "La Cagreja" (crab) National Park. Roy, the 8 year old, pointed out to us a small understory tree called "Pleena Purescalences" which grows a fruit right on its trunk and is endemic to that park (only found there in the world). The park also has another endemic tree, as well as many beautiful blue yellow and red butterflies, toucans, and other birds and mammals. We ended our day hiking through the park, by bathing in a beautiful tropical swimming hole with cascades of water flowing over the volcanic rocks. In a few days we will head to the Caribbean side for three weeks at a permacultural learning and training community center on the very southern point of Costa Rica. If we don't have email there, it may be a long time before you hear again (or we might write again tomorrow). Take care, enjoy the snow. Love, Paul, Sally, Sage and Sierra. Hello all, We're all enjoying ourselves here in Costa Rica. Since leaving the small community of Mastatal at the beginning of our trip, we have visited the Pacific coast (staying three days in the quiet beach town of Esterillos) and four days at the cloud forest of Monteverde. Monteverde is one of the more biologically diverse places in the world. We didn't see much wildlife, but got to know the cloud forest well. We took some interesting hikes, including a hike over 8 suspension bridges hung at equal level to the forest canopy. One of the reasons for the diversity of Monteverde is that the forest sits on the continental divide. From Monteverde, we took a long bus ride to San Jose and another long ride down to the Caribbean coast on the other side of Costa Rica. Fortunately this is a narrow country, but we all wished the roads were a bit less windy and clogged with traffic. Here is Sage's bus ride poem: Bumpy bus ride, sickening turns, All I see is grass and ferns, This boring bus ride makes me sick, How I wish this bus was quick. We have now been on the Caribbean coast for 12 days, most of that time volunteering at Punta Mona, a permaculture and sustainable living center. The center sits on a long stretch of protected coastline -- part of the Manzanillo-Gandoka reserve near the Panama border. This beautiful protected area has miles and miles of pristine coastline with only a scattering of inhabitants. According to the people running Punta Mona, permaculture stands for permanent culture. For example, many plants are perennial crops rather than annuals and there are fruit trees of every kind imaginable. Another key component of permaculture is efficiency such that plants used most often are located closest to the kitchen and seasonal plants are farther away. At Punta Mona, we are learning a lot about permaculture, working in the gardens, helping to build a new trail, cooking, writing some fundraising letters and thinking a lot about how to re-design our gardens and other systems back home. We are also finding time to swim in the ocean each day, take some Spanish classes and practice yoga. Paul and I each work about 5 hours a day on these various projects. The girls sometimes work alongside us, or play or focus on some school work while we are working. They have particularly enjoyed swimming on the beach or playing in the sand while we harvest drift wood, coconut husks, sand, and other trail building materials from the beach. Home schooling is going well. Some days we have sand school to practice handwriting and math on the beach. Sage has read every book we have with us at least twice and is now enjoying the history section of her third grader book. Both kids are writing in their journals daily and are working on writing stories. Paul has conducted soil experiments with the kids, and we are developing ecosystem charts of each place we visit. We are all getting a wonderful exposure to different types of music by listening to and watching the many talented drummers and other musicians here. And last week we had the opportunity to join in on a flute making workshop led by an Argentinian couple that has been traveling around Latin America for two years studying ancient Native American music. Punta Mona is truly a stunning place. We hear and see howler monkeys nearly every day, enjoy the gorgeous beach and nearby river, and have some time to enjoy life. There are a few downsides such as the intense humidity that makes everything mold, somewhat cramped living quarters, and the kids aren't sure they really like eating just three meals a day with no dessert. But really this has been a fantastic opportunity for all of us. We will leave this area in about a week and spend several days traveling to Hawaii via the east coast. Please write as we will have much easier access to email starting February 24. Love, Sally, Paul, Sage and Sierra

Dear Family and Friends; Greetings from the Big Island of Hawaii! After 6 flights, and 2+ days of travel (with a night at Sally's parents and a brief visit from my parents at the airport in between) we have finally landed upright at Kanalani Ohana Farm on the Big Island. This 5 acre farm sits on the toe on Mauna Loa at about 1500 feet above sea level. It is a fantastic example of a diverse agro-forestry farm with an overstory of avocado trees; and mid-story of oranges, guavas, bananas, limes, papaya and many other fruit trees; and the understory of the main crop - organic Kona coffee. Below the coffee is a ground layer of taro, greens, and vegetables. [www.kalanifarm.org](http://www.kalanifarm.org). The farm is home to our college friends, Melanie and Colehour, and their two kids Spruce (7) and Kaia (5). Our jobs here on the farm will be as Apprentices (helping to run the farm in exchange for room and some board), and to help get some additional crops growing. One of our aims is to eat as much "from the farm" as possible. A few nights ago we had a huge feast of guacamole, mashed taro (similar to potatoes), greens and fresh fish. This morning we had eggs (from the chickens that roam the place), toast with freshly made "jabota kaba" jam (a great small tropical fruit also called tree grape), and of course, a few cups of organic Kona coffee that I helped roast the day before. Needless to say, we are all looking

forward to the next two months. On Eating: Some folks have asked what we (and Sage and Sierra) have been eating on our voyage. In Costa Rica, in restaurants and during our home stay, we had rice and beans, or beans and rice, and for breakfast we ate gallo pinto (beans and rice). With the family we stayed with we also had some river fish that the 8 year old boy caught, lots of fruit, and fresh fruit drinks at each meal. Meals also often included eggs, tortillas, salads, and sometime picadillo (cooked veggies) or soup. At the Ranch, we had a mix of Moosewood cookbook style vegetarian food, and some local food like empanadas, and tortillas. We also ate a local forest palm at a couple meals. At Punta Mona, we had plenty of coconut rice and beans, along with fresh fish, fried bread fruit, jackfruit, pineapples and salads. Occasionally there we also got specialties like pizza and cinnamon rolls. The basic meal, which we had at restaurants in CR was a Casada - rice, beans, plantains, cabbage salad and fish or chicken. The kids quite liked this, and dealt with many of the vegetarian meals. Here in Hawaii, (as mentioned) it is our goal to eat as much off the farm as possible. We have had mashed taro (which is wonderful), papaya, oranges, lots and lots and lots of avocado and guacamole, yucca, fresh eggs, roasted banana and pumpkin, and last night we killed, plucked and roasted two chickens. Oh, and of course, fresh organic Kona Coffee. Love to all. Please send us news. More soon, Paul, Sally, Sage and Sierra.

Dear friends and family, We have been passing a fantastic several weeks in Hawaii. We are learning much here on Kanalani Ohana farm. The main crop on the farm is coffee, but because the coffee harvest happens mainly from September through January, we have the opportunity to focus on other farm activities. Paul has been working with Melanie Bondera (farm co-manager) to clear out the weeds and brush in an overgrown section of the farm, prune in coffee trees and make space to plant native koa trees. This will make this section of the farm productive for coffee and hopefully create an overstory of native hardwood trees. Sally has been working with Colehour Bondera (other farm co-manager) to plan for a possible C.S.A (Community Supported Agriculture) system on the farm. In this way, food crops from this 5-acre farm would be provided to other families for some sort of up-front cost. Tree crops such as avocados, bananas, papayas and citrus would be combined with vegetable crops such as cooking greens, eggplants, and sweet potatoes to provide several families with fresh organic produce each week. To prepare for this possible venture, we have all been tending existing gardens and enhancing the plant nursery. There is also much work to be done pruning, weeding and feeding the many trees on the farm. Sage and Sierra have been enjoying home schooling with the Bondera children Spruce and Kaia. Paul has written a bit about our home schooling experiences below. A highlight of our time in Hawaii so far was a 5-day backpacking trip along the NaíPali coast of the island of Kauai. We had a great time hiking the 22-mile Kalalau trail up and down through countless valleys and along steep cliffs. Sage and Sierra proved to be fantastic hikers putting in two separate 9-mile days, fording raging streams, and traversing steep cliffs. We all took extensive turns telling stories and were happy to have the kids join in to entertain us all along the long trail. Our reward for this challenging hike was getting to the Kalalau Valley. perhaps one of the most spectacular places I have ever been. There was an absolutely perfect beach of golden sand with sharp, fluted, green cliffs rising straight above it. On home schooling (by Paul): Here in Hawaii, Sage and Sierra have settled into somewhat of a home-schooling pattern with Spruce (age 7) and Kaia (age 5) who are both home-schooled. Beginning at 7:30 each morning, three adults (of the four of us) go off to do our first three-hour shift on the farm - pruning coffee, spreading compost, planting garden beds, harvesting fruit, or whatever the farm needs. At that time, the forth parent leads three hours of somewhat structured home-school activities. We usually start with daily journal writing, which occasionally includes poems, riddles, or stories. We will then often do some kind of math, writing, social studies or science activities, and depending on the adult teacher, we have also done a variety of projects as well. In the second session (11 a.m. to 2 p.m.) we will do much less structured play or projects, with some home-school activities. These have included building a tree house, writing and practicing a super-heroes play, playing legos, singing songs, helping make ice-cream or dinner, playing soccer or the like. We of course also use everyday encounters to do additional learning and teaching. Here are some examples of some of the more interesting things we have done: In Costa Rica, as a music, art and social studies class, we all made clay flutes with a family from Argentina who has been studying the making and playing of these ancient indigenous flutes around Latin America.- For science, in each place we have been taking soil samples, mixing them in bottles of water and letter them settle to see what proportions of sand, silt and clay each soil has. We have also been drawing ecosystem charts for each place we live.- For writing, the girls have each written and illustrated a couple of different creative stories, and a couple of poems.- We made a map of the farm here in Hawaii one day, pretending it was a pirate island, then the kids had to decipher clues using math and riddles and map grids to find various pieces of hidden treasure.- The four students made candles, earrings, flower arrangements, and lip balm on different days, and then had a road-side crafts sale, making exactly \$114 for home-school supplies.- We then did some data analysis and graphing of what they sold and how much they sold it for to see what worked best.- We have, of course, done both hand-writing and math problems in the sand on the beach.- We visited Volcano National Park and the Honaunau Place of Refuge a national park that shows and describes local ancient Hawaiian cultural sites. The girls also watched Hula here.- Sage, Spruce and Sierra have also done a book club, discussing Harry Potter in their first meeting.- Following the James School activities, we did learn about simple machines by making Leprechaun traps, but we did not catch any.- On our 5-day hiking trip, we did a lot of story telling and creating stories as Sally mentioned.- Sage has enjoyed doing math puzzles and chip math where we figure out how many calories are in each chip or how many calories we have eaten or compare different kinds of food.- Sierra has been practicing reading, books such as *Amelia Bedelia*, *Pinky Dinky Doo* and *Rainbow Fish*. Of course, we have been reading to the girls as well, the *Narnia* series, *Dr. Doolittle*, and now *Eragon*. All in all we have been greatly enjoying our time and experience. Hope you are all well. More soon. Love,

Sally, Paul, Sage and Sierra. Bonjour Friends and Family, The snow-covered alps of the Valais rise above us here like sharks teeth bighting the sky. Down in the valley below, the Rhone snakes its way through the city of Sierre. Venthone, our village, sits on the first tier above the valley on the glacier carved alpine slopes. Its European character, vineyards all around and winding ways make it a pretty place to be. To get here we took a speedy train from Genva (where we had a great acclimatizing stay with our Grad-School friends John and Lee Ann and two boys) to the city of Sierre. From Sierra we took a "funicular"(kind of a two car cable train in which the two cars are attached to a pulley and the down car pulls the up car up each trip and visa versa) two stops up the Valais' mountain wall to the village of Venthone. Here we have been living and working with a family of seven. Kids ages 17 to 7 with two girls at 9 and 7. As a result, Sage and Sierra are funding ways to communicate both with and without French. Each morning, Paul and Sierra (often with Sage too) walk 10 minutes up the mountain to the family's barnyard to feed and water the pigeons, ducks, chicken, geese, rabbits and calves. Paul (and sometimes Sally and the girls) then spends the rest of the morning usually on some pasture project - re-setting electric fence after the winter, making new enclosures, weeding, raking stones, planting fence posts and the like. The family seems to have (or rather tend for other people) pastures all over the increasingly sub-urbanizing town. We have also been planting peas and potatoes in the family's garden. Sally, is learning how to cook for a crowd in a tiny Swiss kitchen and maintaining a meticulously organized household, as she is preparing or helping prepare about half of the meals for 11. This is the place where we are eating most from the farm, in spite of the fact that it is May, and there is still snow in the mountains. We've been eating potatotes, cider, jams, and frozen and cured meats in particular. Some of our highlights here have been:- Two days of hiking in the Valle D'Annivers, a side valley to the Vallais that is dotted with charming alpine villages, summer herd huts, and 4000 meter peaks.- Attending the 105th (that's right) regional music festival in Ventone this year, where all the neighboring towns send there community bands to march through the streets and play fanfares at the school. (The girls also enjoyed doing bumper cars there). Visiting the 700 year old Castle Tourbillon in the city of Sion. Buying Swiss Army Knives for the girls.- Riding the family's horses bareback as we moved then and the new colt to a new pasture, and Attending the girls French speaking school for the day. Attendum 5-23-05. We have now left Ventone and are having a few days travel before going to our next farm in the Tessin Italian speaking region of Switzerland. Today we are enjoying some biking and window shopping (albeit in the rain) in Zermatt, the home of the Matterhorn. Hope you are all enjoying yourselves. We are looking forward to the final leg of our journey and our return home around July 1. Paul, Sally, Sage and Sierra.

**1990 Teri Johnson:** Thanks so much for the updates! I haven't heard from Tiff and others since I (or they, graduating) left Yale in 1990! Hope she and Chris, et al, are doing great. Will you or other FOOTies be in town during reunions last week of May? I am hoping that at least my son Makai (now 13) will be able to make it up there then. Take good care, formerly Teri Johnson TC'90 FOOT support crew leader '87 and '88 (with Michael Cahan and Tom Beierle)

**Kashka Kubzdela:** After 14 years in Chicago, three weeks ago we have moved to the Washington D.C. area, following my new job and literally greener pastures. We are still settling in, as Nicola and I have accumulated (too) many belongings over the years and as we are trying to find all the necessary and unnecessary amenities in our new location. We love the area and our spacious, green, and wildlife-friendly backyard, and my new job with the U.S. Department of Education is interesting and my colleagues seem very talented and nice. Nicola is already enjoying various sport summer camps and growing stronger and more active every day. She misses her great Chicago friends (as do I) a lot, but also thrives on the outdoorsy lifestyle. Our house is big and hopefully cozy enough for visitors, so for those of you out-of-towners, let us know when you might be in the area. We'd love to see you. Best wishes and hugs to everyone. My new info is: Kashka & Nicola Kubzdela, 2502 Rocky Branch Road Vienna, VA 22181 [kubz@aya.yale.edu](mailto:kubz@aya.yale.edu) (703) 319-7786. **Eric Greenwald:** Yes, I am safely back from the wild once more -- no Jon-Krakauer-esque tale has reached out to claim me yet! So I went sailing...and both before and after my adventure, I got a lot of questions from folks as to what kind of sailboats we were using. I discovered that some people were under the impression that my sailing trip was one taken in the lap of luxury. Although the scenery was certainly sumptuous), the accommodations were standard NOLS fare (i.e., sleeping on the ground with the scorpions). The boats we used -- Drascombe Longboats -- were not only too small to sleep on, they were open cockpit. Some might suggest that "Longboat" is a bit of a misnomer, but at 21 feet 9 inches, this is the among the longest of the Drascombes, designed by a formal Royal Navy officer as a training vessel (and inspired by the English working boats of the North Sea -- which are much like Viking boats of old). We really had the opportunity to put our boat through its paces. Among the more challenging was the capsize drill where we deliberately put her over in the water to practice righting her and bailing her out. Actually it's the bailing that's the big challenge -- she fills up with so much water, her rails are only inches from the surface; any good-sized wave can undo ten minutes of furious effort. Most days involved a lot of hard work. We did a lot of expedition sailing -- leaving one beach in the morning and sailing 10 or 20 miles to stay at a different one that night. At the beginning and end of the day, we would load and unload the boats, sometimes rolling the boats all the way up onto shore (if the seas were big enough to cause concern about the anchors giving way during the night). Whenever loading or unloading, there was the ever-present threat of the stingray. An inopportune step can bring a stingray tail lashing across your foot, through your shoes, with venom-laden barbs. I actually did get stung (on the beach in the first picture -- when the person next to me stepped on a ray, of all the luck), but apparently got away very easy with a small, moderately painful wound. These small rays have caused people to pass out or go into convulsions -- just from the pain! (Anyone remember the story of the giant ray from Galapagos? Mother?) So the days were long, but the nights offered extraordinary respite in many forms, not the least of which was the scenery:...and the opportunity for quiet contemplation:(yeah - that's me...the one on the right)We got to see not only a lot of great sunsets and but also sunrises (weather check was at 6:00 am -- before

there was actually enough light to really check the weather). Actually, one of the coolest things I learned on the trip was how to use the constellation Orion as a timepiece. The sky moon were so clear and bright that it was really hard to tell how close the dawn was. Unfortunately, it required getting into a state of wakefulness to find my watch, hit the light, and read the time. So I eventually figured out that since Orion travels across the full arc of the sky (it rises and sets at zero degrees latitude, up at about 7:30 pm and down at about 7:30 am -- changing by 4 minutes every night) I could use it to judge the time. With a quick glance skyward, I knew approximately how much longer there was to go on sleeping. Eventually the adventure had to come to an end, but I did manage to recover from my campaign work alcoholism and learn a great deal about sailing -- though I remain far, far from expert. I can't wait to go sailing again, but I am now back in D.C where most sane people have their boats out of the water for the winter. Hence the scheming has begun....Some of you (mother) will be happy to hear that I am, once again, pulling in a paycheck. The Democratic National Committee has me on retainer as a legal consultant on election law and voting rights issues (specifically in Ohio). I have, however, just realized that I can do this work from anywhere with cell phone reception and Internet connectivity, so I may have to do a little wandering. (Let me know if any of you want a visitor...) (and then later...) So that whole election thing didn't turn out quite the way I hoped. I suppose I should have had a stronger sense of the outcome in Ohio from the outset. I think the first hint might have been the ominous location of the headquarters of the Ohio Democratic Party -- squarely situated in the Columbus funeral district: For those who are wondering, it was, in fact, a hard blow to have this project, on which I expended so much effort, come to woe. It was, however, a possibility for which I had been fully prepared all along. From the time when I first began thinking about working on the campaign (about two years ago), the guiding principle was that the work would have to be worthwhile in and of itself -- without regard to the election's result. I believe that I have achieved in tremendous measure. Although I began my work on the campaign in a much more modest context, I eventually managed to become the deputy director for voter protection, managing an office staff that grew to 45 by election day, and a statewide legal staff of 86. We had more than 3,000 volunteers working on election day to monitor polling locations all over Ohio, and we filed no fewer than four lawsuits against Ohio's Secretary of State. I spent the past three months averaging (averaging) 110 hours of work every week. More than the numbers, the best thing of all was simply feeling smart again. The situation in Ohio was so fluid, and there were so many different things going on at once, I felt wired all the time, and I was right at the center of everything. My boss and others in the campaign came to rely upon me for my judgment in many areas, and that just felt really, really good. It sounds crazy, but I would do it all over again, even knowing the outcome.

**1991 Baker Mallory:** We are cramming lots of "to do" things in before we go on a winter vacation to Jackson in mid February. Hope you are having a great winter and we'll see you soon. [Baker got hitched! To a wonderful woman he met through landscaping—Jody. He brought her to the FOOT reunion last August—she's definitely FOOT material.] I mentioned that Baker Mallory & new bride Jody stopped by for pizza and we ran into Rick Grossmann—both leader alums in FOOT gear—Baker with FOOT hat and Rick with faded T-shirt! **Emel Gokyigit Wadhani** sent in her holiday photo of her 2 boys. She is still living in the Boston area—Medford, Mass. **Kate Hackett:** I am bummed to be missing you this summer, but we're about ready to put an addition on our house and we just spent two weeks in Italy so money and time are both short right now! Have a great time at the Vineyard and enjoy the rest of summer! **Kate Cameron Brooks:** Thanks for the updates. You know, when you set up the list a year or so ago, it prompted me to get in touch after so many years with Chris Roberts and we were able then to have breakfast in London while I was there on business. (That was back in September.) So you should know that your efforts are having tangible results. I also see Paul Sabin from time to time through the ELP program. Sounds like you will be in Vermont this summer a bunch. It seems unconscionable if we let the summer pass without stopping by at some point. If mapquest is correct, then your new place is only 30 minutes or so from Montpelier. Is that right? Hope things are good and thanks again for the updates. **Cameron Danielle Lapidoth:** I wanted to let you know that after an uneventful and blessedly brief labor (my doctor arrived one contraction before Mimi did), our baby daughter Miriam was born on November 17, 2004. She is now two months old and a grinning fool with a head of dark hair. Older brother (by 18 months) Mike has forgotten he was ever so briefly an only child, and wakes up asking for his sister Mimi. We take the fact that he tries to drag her off the sofa by her legs as a sign of his affection. The second kid is less of a life-change than the first since routines are already in place! Any comments about the effect of a third? Amos and I continue to enjoy each other, family life and Zurich. My routine consists of going to the farmers' market twice a week, the local grocery store every day (Swiss refrigerators are practically dorm size!), duck-feeding at the lake, something called Babysong, seeing friends in the Museum of Natural History, the Botanical Gardens and the Zurich Birdie-House, and other kid-friendly locales, and occasional editing work. I've started a one woman company called WebScribe, and do on- and off-line editing, primarily for non-native English speakers. Right now, though, I am working on the self-study of Gann Academy (formerly the New Jewish High School) where I used to work (as did Sara Heitler) so I am open to all kinds of projects. Amos and I hope to get some skiing in this year, even if it is only in a series of day trips. For next summer we are planning some hiking--it worked well this past summer with Mike in an SUV style stroller powered by his dad. Next year, if all goes as we hope, Mimi will be on my back. If any FOOTIES are coming through Switzerland, I would be happy to guide them around Zurich, point them to the right mountains and give tips on how to keep the price down. Switzerland needn't be as expensive as everyone thinks and the mountains are awesome, definitely worth a visit. I can be reached at db.lapidoth@aya.yale.edu or [lapidoth@webscribe.ch](mailto:lapidoth@webscribe.ch) Take care and best (belated) wishes for a happy and healthy 2005. **Danielle (Del) Lapidoth-Berger Karen O'Brien:** Have you been up to VT lately? I'll bet it's beautiful. We truly enjoyed our visit and we will always make an effort to come to the FOOT reunions--what happy events. Love, Karen. **Chris Roberts:** Here's our news from 2004. In May, we went to Hannah's uncle's wedding in

Venice where she was a bridesmaid. In July, we sold Hannah's parents' house (the nuns bought some holiday chalets down the road) and had a party to say goodbye. In August, restoration work started on Shoreditch Tabernacle Hall, which Hannah has been working on for the last 3 years – phew! She is also working freelance for two Anglican churches in Hackney, East London on church building projects. In September, Hannah played in Ariel Dorfman's *Death & the Maiden*. She enjoyed firing a gun and tying up a fellow actor. Alas, Chris was chained to his desk for most of the year. He has more or less finished his PhD thesis – as of this writing, it sits on his supervisor's desk, awaiting approval for submitting to the university. Some rewriting and an oral dissertation defense are on the agenda for the next few months, but the end is near. Chris also taught for a term at an Anglican seminary in London, gave a paper at a conference in Croatia, and did some freelance writing for American theological magazines. In December, we said goodbye to Goodenough College, the residence for overseas graduates where we have lived for the last 4+ years. We will really miss living in a community of such interesting people from all over the world (and the subsidised accommodation!) but we've had out allocated time there and are now living in another flat (please note our new address), still in central London. Lots of love, Chris & Hannah Roberts 24 Ridgmount Street, London WC1E 7AQ England [hannahr@fish.co.uk](mailto:hannahr@fish.co.uk) [christopher.roberts@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:christopher.roberts@blueyonder.co.uk). [and then later] Here's our update: 1. Hannah is pregnant, due July 27th. 2. I've submitted my PhD thesis, and have my dissertation defense on 6th July. 3. In October (more or less), we're moving to Philadelphia. I'll be teaching ethics at Villanova, starting in January.

**Eric Steadman:** Valentine's Day 2005. Happy Valentine's Day! We celebrate this day with hearts full of gratitude for each of you. With this letter we share some of the news of our lives this past year. It's been a big year—when we wrote a year ago, Sonia had just been born. She has brought overwhelming joy and love to our lives as we have groped through the initial stages of parenthood. Our heartfelt thanks goes out to all of you who helped us so much during this past year. Life of course changed radically upon Sonia's arrival. Fortunately, Christ Church gave Rita three months of maternity leave to get acquainted with Sonia and take care of her with Eric's help as he continued studying math at George Washington University. As the spring went along Sonia grew and we had all the ups and downs of parenthood, from blissful Baby Bjorn walks through the parks to the misery of her first immunizations. Sonia's baptism took place at the Easter Vigil at Christ Church (the parish's very first), where, having just returned to work, Rita both served as deacon (and finally got to sing the Exultet!) and was a loving mother. With the advent of summer, Sonia started to crawl...backwards. In time she figured out how to go forward, and she hasn't stopped since. In the early summer she took her first airplane trip to an Episcopal conference in North Carolina, where she experienced a sandy beach for the first time and was hooked. Who knew sand tasted so good! She then got to enjoy the Atlantic and Pacific beaches in Maine and California. We had the joy of visiting first Eric's extended family in Maine and then Rita's California family. By the end of the summer Sonia had met all of her living great-grandparents, to everyone's delight. When Rita returned to work, we had the great fortune of finding Sonia's babysitter Jessica, who has been a lifesaver this past year. With Jessica's help, Eric was able to study for his Ph.D. general qualifying exams at the end of summer, which he passed. Eric then switched to part-time at GW, stopped teaching, began tutoring, and started full-time Daddy Daycare. Rita continued to oversee the youth and family ministry at Christ Church, but with organizational changes and the help of two new staff persons. All this made for a rich, but busy, fall. In the midst of this full like, Rita learned in September that she would be ordained to the priesthood. This long journey was fulfilled on January 22 of this year, when she was ordained in a beautiful service at the National Cathedral, in the midst of a powerful snowstorm. Much thanks for the good wishes and prayers many of you sent, and to those who were able to be present. At that service, Rita gave her first blessing as a priest to Sonia. And the next day, at the early service at Christ Church, Rita celebrated her first Eucharist, and Sonia received Communion for the first time. It was a very special weekend indeed! Finally, and fortunately, as this busy month of January began, we had the great pleasure of visiting the city of Antigua, Guatemala, for the wedding of a college friend of Rita and for a relaxing and much needed vacation. Sonia was a real trooper, handling the international travel with grace and style. A nickname for an Antiguan is a "panza verde" (green stomach), for all the avocados they eat. Sonia fit right in... All year we have been wondering and guessing what Sonia will be like when she grows up, and occasionally we wish it would hurry up. But now that we have seen how fast a year goes by, and with those memories of early infancy already hazy, we want it to slow down! In any case, we are currently enjoying watching our Baby Taco become Toddler Taco. We wish you all a wonderful, slow year to cherish and enjoy. And we thank all of you who have been so generous with time and gifts for us and Sonia. We send you all lots of love on this Valentine's Day. Love, Eric, Rita, and Sonia

**1992 Louisa Castrodale** sent in a wonderful photo of her and hubby hiking in Alaska where she resides in Anchorage. **Sylke Jackson** : I'm planning a camping trip with another family for the first weekend of November. Altogether we'll have 5 kids from 2 to 8 years old and four adults. We've camped in the summer with the kids but I was thinking that although we'd like to be in a decently remote wilderness area, it might be wise to stay in a cabin or something like it. I remember on one Foot training trip getting to the top of a mountain and there was a fire tower and a little house with beds and even some sort of stove, if I remember correctly. Love, Sylke **Laura Grant:** Happy New Year! 2004 is a year we'll never forget, the year we decided it would be a great idea to build a cabin with a one-year-old in tow, not to mention a 4 (now 5)-year-old whose eager help we spent LOTS of energy directing. We may have done crazier things in life, but this ranks pretty high. But what fun it is now that the roof is on and the wood stove is working! We are looking forward to friends and family from all over coming to enjoy the cabin and the Alaskan woods with us. It really is quite a beautiful spot, looking out onto a peaceful beaver pond and listening to the little brook running by. We also offer opportunities to climb over fallen logs, play scout and build bridges over the creek, or whatever else strikes your fancy. A million thanks to all our friends and family who helped the cabin go up in one season! We could never have



done it without you. The endless energy Kadin displayed for biking this summer prepared him nicely for skiing into the cabin this winter. Our friends have the perhaps better idea of riding dogsleds to the cabin. They travel the distance faster, but I still think it takes longer to feed the dog team than to feed the kids once we arrive! Luckily, they still let us take rides for fun up and down our road. Kadin loves his school, and his teacher tells us that storytelling time is his favorite. She tells them a story using puppets, props and songs. Afterward, the children have time to play and retell the story, and to create their own stories. Rescue is his favorite game to play, whether inside or out. The enthusiasm he brings to play is wonderful to see. Taz is really starting to be able to tell us what he thinks these days. His first sentence was "Boy Running!" That is very telling. Now he's on to "Tazzy drive it, the truck!" "See it, the birds! Feed it the birdseed." He calls pickup trucks "up trucks." His favorite things are jumping, climbing and reading—at least 5 books at once. Playing with his brother, the cat, his cars and his castle keep him happy as well. When he's jumping, he'll ask everyone in the room to watch, one by one. "Watch Mommy" (then he jumps) "Watch Daddy" (jump) "Watch Grammy" (jump) "Watch Kadin" (jump). You get the idea. He has a sparkle in his eye and he knows exactly what he wants. He's a joy to us all. Kevin has been keeping very busy at work, with environmental cases and gun gases taking the majority of his time. He traveled to a conference in LA focusing on vessel pollution, and one case even took him as far as Vladivostok. Most of the time, we are lucky enough to keep him closer to home. Laura recently joined the board of Alaska Center for the Environment. She is looking forward to helping them with their work protecting Alaska's wild places this year. We wish you all a happy and healthy 2005, and we're looking forward to visiting with many of you this year. Any and all FOOTies are welcome here, as always. We really hope to make it to your camp sometime – the next reunion will be a goal. I see Louisa Castrodale quite a bit, and it's always fun. Be in touch and let us know if we can do anything in Alaska for you or for FOOT. Love and best wishes, Laura, Kevin, Kadin, and Taz

**Jael Kampfe:** I'm doing wonderfully. I'm back in Montana and now the general manager for our family's ranch. PO Box 90 Roscoe MT 59071 406 328 6858 [jkampfe@montana.net](mailto:jkampfe@montana.net) As for a better update, I was married in 2001, on the ranch, to Gerald Sherman. In 2002 I resigned as Executive Director of Four Times Foundation, a non-profit which I founded which provided seed capital to Indians to start businesses on reservations, to come run the ranch. Gerald and I have a niece, age 16, and his 10 year old living with us. So between kids, horses, cattle, dogs, family, and tractors, we find ourselves quite busy but extremely blessed. The ranch's website is about to be updated: [www.lazyel.com](http://www.lazyel.com) but check it out. It would be a great place to host FOOT reunions or some type of retreats. Before kids and marriages Matt Eddy, Perry deValpine, Mark Barnett, Ben Madley, Jason Soll, Heidi Ellis, Jessica Plumb, Katherine Gergen, and Marty Hale would gather annually for a four day weekend of camping along the west rosebud river and playing with horses. Big love to you and I hope that FOOT continues to flourish. It was one of the best parts of my Yale experience and continues to be the source of what has become my core lifetime friendships. Thank you for all the hours.

**Jake Bowers:** I just finished my second year as an assistant prof in the political science department at the University of Michigan. If you are interested in what I'm up to as a fledgling academic, you can see my rather boring website at <http://www.umich.edu/~jwbowers>. For the next two years I am going to be in Boston as a post-doc. Thanks to Robert Wood Johnson, I get to hang out in the Institute for Quantitative Social Science at Harvard, learn something from the statisticians and public health folks in Cambridge, do yoga, play the bass, and perhaps even complete a little research. My partner, Cara Wong (also a political science prof at university of Michigan) is coming with me. We also hope to spend some of our time over the next couple of years hosting dinner parties for those friends who have only rarely, if ever, made it through Ann Arbor but who are in easy striking distance of Boston. Thanks again for keeping us all informed and connected! Best, Jake.

**1993 Katie Michel** sent in her annual holiday card—this time with her daughter Sadie demonstrating her oft-imitated, trademark fingersuck/nosepick combo maneuver. **Burch and Rachele Laprade** reported that they have not only moved from sea to shining sea, but now to amber waves of grain to Des Moines, Iowa! In fact: 2834 Forest Drive.

**Seth Dunn:** Just finished SOM/FES. It's wonderful to hear from other alums that FOOT is thriving. I am now headed up north to Schenectady, NY with GE's Renewable Energy Leadership Program, focusing on wind power project development. Am looking forward to being close to the Adirondacks! All the best, Seth.

**Perry de Valpine:** Another FOOT wedding: we got married July 2004 under the redwoods near Santa Cruz! Another FOOT baby: Luke Abbott Whitney de Valpine, born May 12, 2005! FOOT leaders at wedding: Jael Kampfe '92, Matt Eddy '92/'93, Jason Soll '94, Ben Madley '94, Sara Heitler '95, Blake Esselstyn '96, and Kate Davidson '98. FOOT leaders at Luke's birth: only us. Best outdoor adventure of the past year: SCUBA diving in Fiji on honeymoon! It has been an amazingly wonderful year, and we keep counting our blessings. Rebecca still teaches English at San Francisco University High School. Perry works at a biotech startup company and will start a faculty job at UC Berkeley in the Department of Environmental Science Policy and Management next year. We'd love to see any FOOT leaders passing through the Bay Area ([devalpine@aya.yale.edu](mailto:devalpine@aya.yale.edu), [rwhitney@mac.com](mailto:rwhitney@mac.com)). -Perry de Valpine and Rebecca Whitney '95.

**Sara Cohen:** Thanks so much for your ever-present welcoming warmth! (I'm finalizing paperwork for a \$1 million dollar grant that I successfully wrote for our agency to implement and monitor a series of low-impact development demonstration projects!) The bureaucrats are getting me down, what with their "well, you have to specify whether that's a performance measure or a benchmark or a result, and don't confuse 'tasks' with 'approaches', and make sure the matrix repeats exactly what the narrative states, and forheavensake don't mix up 'goals' and 'objectives' (not to be confused with milestones)!" I can't very well turn up my nose at a million dollars, but I do wish they'd understand about reuniting with old friends and readjust their own bloody "time table"! How totally lovely to see you!! It was too short by about 3 days, though. Dinner was great, and seeing the totally FOOT-characteristic laid-back, kid-friendly, down-to-earth, grounded and

excited group was like a dose of good priorities right in the arm. Thank you for creating such wonderful spaces and times for that. You really have a gift with such matters. My hiking and kayaking trip was great. We, too, got our share of rain, a few blisters, and some sore muscles, but we saw loons, eagles, osprey, grand vistas, a lot of bear and moose feces (we'll take what we can get - and by "take" I mean appreciate, of course; we did leave the shit on the trail - perhaps next time we'll see the beasts, themselves). I look forward to seeing you again, soon! Next time I'll allow time for a camp fire, longer story-telling, and star-gazing with FOOT types. I spent last week in Ohio. Took a vacation from my job and went with a friend out there to see if we could put in our two cents to tip the balance toward Kerry. As you might imagine, my two cents is rarely ever just two cents, and lo and behold on our drive back we heard that the balance had tipped toward Kerry during our time there. Some like to credit the debates, but between you and me... I think we know what's up. Anyway, it was quite fun and a good reminder that people who don't live in the northeast might actually talk to you - a perfect stranger - when you knock on their door. And to top that, they don't even act like they're in a huge hurry. Now we'll just wait to see what shakes out between divisive passions, massive mobilization efforts on all fronts, election fraud, debates, and truly bizarre news spin. I may head to New Hampshire on election day itself. It was so nice to see you all in August. Much love, Sara **Seth Hawkins** was on his way to the Vermont reunion when his plans were averted. He wrote: I was really looking forward to being up there with everyone! We will be sure to make it work on our end next time. I'm glad the weekend went off well, and I'm sorry we weren't able to join you. Good luck during the planning for the newest batch of FOOTies! Seth Collings Hawkins 507 Lenoir St Morganton, NC 28655-3133 [hawk@aya.yale.edu](mailto:hawk@aya.yale.edu). **Stephen Kahn** [stephenkahn@sbcglobal.net](mailto:stephenkahn@sbcglobal.net) We are thrilled that Zoe, our little sweetpea, is at home, vigorous, and changing with every passing day. Learning all the magic and challenges of new parenthood has been profound for Liz and I. And now as we're hitting her three week birthday, she's grown beyond her birth weight, and the dust is settling. We know that in so many marvelous ways our lives will never be the same.

**1994 Theodore Deinard:** There's a new member of the Deinard clan: Theo was born Nov 8, 2004. Jen, Gigi, and I are thrilled and happily going about life in Greenwich, CT. I'm still at Citigroup doing banking. Ted. **Esther Sullivan**

**Parish:** Things are going well here in Kingston, Tennessee. I had a healthy baby girl on May 1. Her name is Avery Elizabeth, and she's a sweetie. She was 7 pounds 2 ounces and 20 inches long. Levi (nearly 2) is proving to be a good big brother. I have the summer off from teaching geology at the local community college. My husband, Brad, continues to manage Kelly Scientific Resources in Oak Ridge, TN. Life is good! Thanks, Esther. **Meg Wickwire:** I have been spending a fair amount of time this spring on a trip to Alaska this summer. Bill & I are heading up there in July. Elizabeth Murdock and her husband, Paul, will meet us for four days of kayaking in the Prince William Sound. After that, we'll explore for a couple of weeks on our own, visiting my old haunts and hiking and soaking up the midnight sun. A friend in Anchorage may also have found a camper for us to borrow--I've always dreamed of going the turtle route, carrying my home on my back! Er--well, I guess I've done that before, technically. But I've always dreamed of doing that WITHOUT having the load balanced on my hips. Anyway, it's a great distraction from the exhaustion of Spring at school. Please give my best to Steve and the pooches. Keep in touch! Love, Meg

**Elizabeth Murdock:** Huge hugs and thanks for doing all of this for the group. I always look forward to your letter each summer. - Elizabeth. **Martin Hale:** Greetings from Darby, MT! My girlfriend Erika and I have put some FOOT skills to the test in Glacier Park, hiking, and trying not to surprise the many bears, moose, and tour bus operators. We saw one of Willie's extended family (similar coloring, but not as handsome) as well--Thankfully he was friendlier than the grizzlies--Although we didn't stick around long enough for a true comparison. Fondly, Martin. **Anne Weil** Though many of you might already use it, I am officially switching my email to [anneweil@comcast.net](mailto:anneweil@comcast.net). My [anneweil@atbi.com](mailto:anneweil@atbi.com) mail WILL NOT forward to me any more. **Anne Jay Readey:** I've moved to Chicago and started my new job at Jenner & Block, LLP, a downtown law firm. Pending the results of the Illinois bar exam, I will hope to become a full-fledged attorney sometime in November. I am working in the corporate department on mergers & acquisitions, securities registrations, and capital financing. During the summer, a hectic time of moving and settling into a new home, I worked at Business and Professional People for the Public Interest (BPI, [www.bpichicago.org](http://www.bpichicago.org)). BPI promotes affordable housing, public housing improvement, and urban public school innovations. Lisa, Chad, and I are now happily settled into Olympia Fields, and unpacking our lives is nearing completion. Chicagoland's multiple millions of people feels much different from the comfort of 14 years in New Haven. Our two-year old son Chad has asthma, and we spend as much as an hour a day giving him medicine and breathing treatments to strengthen his lungs. Note -- the asthma isn't that bad, he'll grow out of it, but this is time that we would love to spend having more fun with our wonderful boy. I am mindful how much worse it could be if we weren't surrounded by so much parkland and fresh air where we live, and if we didn't have such good access to health care. On Sunday, February 27, 2005, I will join thousands of others throughout the area to raise funds for the American Lung Association as we aim to reduce the pain and suffering caused by lung diseases, the third leading cause of death and disability in the United States. I will climb 94 floors in the John Hancock Center in the 8th annual Office Max Hustle up the Hancock event to help raise money for lung disease research and education. Jay. **Heidi Ellis** got married last August. She's living in Somerville, Mass and works as a child psychologist and as the director of the child refugee program at Boston University Medical Center.

**1995 Anne Egger:** An old FOOTie who is also working at Stanford, Michael Kzhan got in touch and we had a nice lunch. Hope the holidays find you and Steve healthy and happy. Perhaps I'll see you in April at the Slav reunion! **Anne Peter Braasch:** It has been a very long while... and I apologize for being so out of touch. No doubt, you have experienced a nagging feeling of something missing in your lives... the absence of 8-10 page bi-monthly updates on the

events of my life (or maybe not). As you might imagine, life back in the States and strange new obligations like a day job (really quite over-rated)...have been keeping me very busy and away from more important priorities like...keeping up with you all. REQUEST: If you do not have time to read this- please check out the question highlighted below... I would greatly appreciate any assistance here.) So, when last we caught up, I was job hunting- settling into life back in the States, living in sin with Jill, and getting to know Pittsburgh. JOB After 10 weeks of constant networking in a strange new town, I started a new job on November 18. The job hunt actually proved to be quite good, even fun. It was a great way to get to know the town/community and meet some very interesting and even nice people. As you can tell, Pittsburgh is not a normal place... especially when your baseline is 3 job hunts and the "fine" art of networking in DC. It was almost disconcerting how helpful and welcoming people were throughout my job hunt. I have since come to learn that people here really see it as part of their community duty to welcome newcomers and help them find a niche where they will be most happy (and thus decide to stay) in the community. So, where am I working. Funny story. I did not really come to town with any professional aspiration that I could pursue right now, right here (see more below)... other than living with Jill... and I hope that that counts as something more important than a professional aspiration. I was particularly interested in nonprofit work in 3 areas- health care, community development and the Jewish community. With great luck, I wandered myself into a job at the United Jewish Federation in Pittsburgh. Over the past 5 years, the local Jewish community has determined that its long term vitality is absolutely dependent on doing a better job of designing and delivering Jewish learning opportunities across the community. After 4 years of lengthy discussion and planning, they had a plan for the first steps, \$800,000 in start-up funding and an ambitious timeframe for breaking apart one unsuccessful agency into two high performing nonprofits that could vigorously advocate for and deliver outstanding Jewish learning opportunities across the community. Naively, I said- yeah, sounds fun. Thus, the past 8 months have been a very intensive introduction to Jewish communal politics. Actually, it has been a lot of fun... especially on those days where I have not heard too many stories that have made me want to cry. I have been very lucky- in that the needs for the job have really matched my past work in politics, project management, and for-profit work. I do not think that I have ever had a job where I felt like I was so able to have a positive impact on the organization/community I was serving. On the other hand, it has been exhausting and has taken tons of time away from other priorities like- Jill, swimming, Yoga, building community in Pittsburgh, reading... writing updates. So, it MUST become a lot smaller over the coming months. Which brings me to an interesting question- what do I want to do with my life? FUTURE I actually think I have an answer to this question (which many of you already know). For a long time, I have wanted to study traditional Chinese medicine. When/ if I grow up, I want to build a small practice helping people heal themselves. Although Pittsburgh has no local opportunities for this, there is a school near Fort Lauderdale (Hallandale) whose program will allow me to begin studies over the next 17 months while I continue to live and work here in Pittsburgh. This is something that I have thought/talked about for a long time. I find it exciting and interesting on many different levels. At the same time, I hope that it will allow me to create the balanced sort of work life that I crave. This is, however, a huge leap into the unknown. I really hope that I find the reality as appealing as the theories in my head... or even more important, that I am actually any good at this. Who knows, but I will keep you posted. Over the next 12 months, I will continue to work for the Jewish Federation, facilitating along the Jewish Learning Initiative 30-40 hours each week. But 2 weeks of every quarter I will head down to Florida for intensive sessions and, in between, I will be working independently. Future is much more than all of this work stuff. Life with Jill continues to be great. Thus far we have survived our fair share of interesting stresses- two semesters of law school, one trans-continental move, one job hunt, a very stressful first 8 months on the job, moving in together...and lots of other little things. We appear to have passed these tests with flying colors. I have not been able to drive her off just yet and we are looking towards what new challenges we might be able to find in order to keep life interesting. Before September, Jill and I had known each other for 8 years, dated for the previous 17 months, never spent more than 10 weeks in the same town, and had never spent time together in the mundane experiences of real life- our life together had always been during vacations. Despite certain mundane realities (like day jobs and rent checks)- 10 months later- our life still seems to be more a vacation than anything else. We continue to savor the luxuries of cooking dinner, going to work together, collapsing on the couch after some stressful days. Although it was difficult to leave Jerusalem for Pittsburgh. It was clearly the right choice that I have never regretted. PITTSBURGH Wow, Pittsburgh has turned out to be a great town that continues to surprise me. In a short time, I have really come to feel at home in this strange little place. There are definitely oddities- like the local dialect that says "yinz" rather than the more grammatically correct and urbane "ya'll." There is the most confusing streets- and even more confusing street signs. The dubious claim that Pittsburgh has more bridges than any city other than Venice. There is the Hebrew that I always here in the neighborhood grocery store. Always running into people I know when running errands in the neighborhood. The fact that everyone seems to have families and memories that stretch back for at least 3 generations. The fact that, here, in the rusty, former steel capital of the world a family of wild turkeys live in a park 10 minutes from my house. I do not like that Pittsburgh is so far from so many of my friends and that it is much more than 20 minutes from the nearest "critical estuary habitat." Despite these drawbacks, I have recently brought my kayak up from North Carolina and suspect that I may be calling this place home for a long time to come. So, please come visit! We are eager to show off Pittsburgh. Whether you want rock climbing, hiking, to check out some really cool old industrial brown fields, historic wooden roller coasters or a kick ass baseball stadium (with a team that is mediocre, at best)- Jill and I would love to show ya'll a good time in the Iron City. Even more seriously, we would love to lure some more friends to the area- low cost of living, great place to raise a family????? OK, I have said too much. Hope you all are doing well. I really look forward to being in better

touch. Take care and be well, Peter Braasch P (412) 422-2891 C (412) 400-8135. 5700 Munhall Road Apartment #14 Pittsburgh, PA 15217 **Sara Heitler Bamberger** : We are proud to announce the name of our new son, Isaiah Heitler Bamberger (Hebrew Name: Yeshayahu Hallel) His first name is inspired by the Biblical figure Isaiah, whose eloquence, moral and religious commitment, and universal vision we hope he'll emulate. Isaiah's Hebrew middle name, Hallel, means praise. We chose this name in commemoration of the fact that Sara's labor began during the hallel service on the holiday of Sukkot. We hope the joy of Sukkot will stay with him throughout his life. At 10 days old, Isaiah has already begun graduate school. His first academic experience was a class on security issues in Saudi Arabia. His class participation was poor; in fact, he slept the whole time. His mother couldn't have been more pleased. And back on the home front, Max seems to be slowly adjusting to the new arrival. He's a bit bewildered by the baby's continued presence in our home, but we hope that within a few weeks life with Isaiah will seem entirely normal. [written by Sara's hubby-then from Sara:] I'm finishing a master's degree in international relations at Georgetown, and in July we're moving to Berkeley. My husband Kenny will be teaching at Boalt Hall, Berkeley's law school, and I'll be running a program on international issues of religion and governance, and spending time at the playground with our sons Max (2) and Isaiah (7 months). I recently spoke with Brendan Connolly (aka BC), who is married, working in a Seattle architecture firm, and expecting a baby in July. Rebecca Whitney is now 39 weeks pregnant, so if you wait a few weeks you may have news to report on her and Perry as well. Best, Sara. **Geoff Tanner**: I got wind that Geoff is engaged!

**1996 Ivan Kerbel**: I have just finished up the two master's programs I have been doing - one in international relations, one in business, and am looking forward to moving to New York in September. Before then, I am going to try to go bike touring in Europe (a much needed break after three years of slogging away at school and in internships). Wishing you all the best, Ivan Kerbel MBA/MA Candidate, 2005 The Wharton School/The Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies. **John Lozier**: here's my latest...Last spring, Nicole and I finally experienced Utah's National Parks, camping and hiking Bryce Canyon and Zion. Then, after finishing my general pediatrics training in Salt Lake City, we moved to Ann Arbor, Mich, where I've begun my pediatric cardiology training at the U of M. In January, Charles Oscar Lozier (Charlie O) joined our family - he is pure joy. His latest is giggling, stuffing his toes in his mouth, and taking advantage of a recent vacation to go hiking and learn to swim. Charlie's due date was the same date as Josh Cott's wedding in Cancun, so we had to miss what was, by all photographic evidence, an incredible party. Looking forward to exploring northern Michigan this summer. Hope all are well. Keep in touch at [john.lozier@gmail.com](mailto:john.lozier@gmail.com). - John. **Rebekah (Heiser) Hanley**: I have a new address for you, as I am about to move to Eugene, Oregon, where I'll be teaching legal writing at the University of Oregon School of Law starting this fall. Other news: (I've been slow to report this because I've found that it produces lots of teasing . . .) In August 2002 I married Jared Hanley. We met in 1995 when he was my footie! The latest is that we are expecting a baby this coming December. Hope you are doing well. Have fun at the upcoming reunion trip! [and then later] We just returned from the hospital and wanted to announce the arrival of our son, Boden. He was born on December 26th at 1:47 a.m. He weighed 8 pounds 6 ounces and was 20.5 inches long at birth. Both baby and mother are doing great. Rebekah and Jared Hanley 84625 Laughlin Rd. Eugene, OR 97405. **Abby Benson**: I'm enjoying a beautiful spring morning in Boston, especially wonderful because yesterday I finished my last requirement for my Masters program at MIT. I've been in the program for two years and have really enjoyed it, but I'm looking forward to the next step. I'm moving to Washington DC in July to work on Waterways Management policy for the U.S. Coast Guard. I hope to run into some FOOT-types down there! But first, I'm headed to Alaska for a few weeks of vacation, which I'm truly excited about! I don't know my DC address yet, but [asb811@yahoo.com](mailto:asb811@yahoo.com) will still find me. Have a great summer! Take care, Abby. **Kristen McDonald**: I'm a little past half way done with my doctoral program at UC Berkeley's Environmental Science, Policy and Management Department. I passed my quals in February (phew!) and I'm actually writing from a dingy internet bar in the Nu River Valley in western Yunnan Province, China, where I am headquartered doing research on indigenous and state water management. This place is a backpacker's paradise, at least for now. The Nu River gorge is almost as deep as the Colorado and is flanked by the Gaoligongshan and Meilixueshan ranges, which are foothills of the Himalayas. It is wonderful to hike from village to village, where you can encounter up to 8 different Chinese ethnic groups and witness spectacular mountain scenery. There are plans to but 12 massive hydropower dams on this free-flowing river so get here soon... Love, Kristen McDonald (aka Mai Ke Ting) I'll be back here Sept 2005-May 2006 and if anyone's serious about wanting to check out the adventure of western Yunnan, email me at [kristen@aya.yale.edu](mailto:kristen@aya.yale.edu) **Jeff Possick**: I had a random FOOT Leader sighting of Jeff—at a local sushi restaurant. He's at the forestry school.

**1997 Catharine Balco**: My big news is that I am going to Yale next year to get my MFA! I'm so excited to be back in the neighborhood. My best and see you soon. [Cat has received residency fellowships from the Weir Farm Trust and the Vermont Studio Center. She has participated in solo and group shows in NY, VT, and MA. She is currently represented by the Craven Gallery on Martha's Vineyard, MA. She recently had a show in NYC at the Atlantic Gallery in Soho.] **Melissa Lee**: I recently returned from visiting Leah Angell Sievers, her husband, Mike, and their beautiful family. Vivian Angell Sievers was born on January 12, 2005 and is the most beautiful baby girl ever...and I've gotten to see quite a few as a pediatrician! Leah will be leaving the west coast and returning back east this summer. She'll be a Jefferson Graduate Fellow, starting her first year as a PhD student in Religious Studies at UVA. I will be crisscrossing Leah's path (it always works out this way!) and heading from Boston to the Southwest, where my husband and I will be working as docs for the Indian Health Service in Arizona. We'll be living on Navajo land, in Chinle, right next to the breathtaking Canyon de Chelly. If you're ever up for some adventuring on red rock, let us know! We hope to spend some time with Brian Ching out in Portland this summer. A random encounter occurred on a small island in Puerto

Rico, where Matt Kronman was catching a few rays on a short hiatus from pediatric residency in Seattle. I swam with Ben Linus and his beautiful daughter at a conference in New Orleans this weekend...small world... Miss ya Melissa  
**Oliver Ely Pierson:** I live in Washington DC with my wife Julie and work for the International Programs Office of the US Forest Service, where I am the Africa Program Coordinator. We provide technical assistance for forest management to African governments and the US Agency for International Development – a fun job with lots of travel. Julie and I got married in May '04; she is French Canadian, we met in Madagascar, and she works in DC as a social worker providing services to HIV+ youth. No kids yet, but we have a wonderful African mutt named Zuby and we've adopted a two-mile stretch of the Appalachian Trail in Shenandoah National Park that we take care of on the weekends. We also just bought some land in northern Vermont (in Hyde park, near Stowe), and plan to start building a cabin this summer. Oliver Ely Pierson

**1998 Gretchen Boger:** We find it hard to address a mass missive to scattered loved ones this year, aware of the triviality of our own news in light of the national and international events that have consumed so many of us as of late. We are also conscious of addressing friends who view these events in starkly different lights. Admittedly we were among those for whom the highlight of the fall's national news was the Red Sox's vanquishing of their ghosts, and who gladly would have foregone that historic event for a different Boston win a week later. We spent Election Day on the streets of a jubilant Philadelphia getting out the vote and drove home on a wave of enthusiasm that would sputter out later that night. Despite living amidst many of the pundits now churning out analyses of the state of the nation and working to process events ourselves in long discussions with friends, we remain at a loss to express either our muddled thoughts or full hearts here. Nevertheless, writing to everyone we care about at once reminds us that despite hysterical assertions to the contrary, good people are found all along the political spectrum and that the divides in this country are not unbridgeable if we start at home. Blessed to know you all, and inspired by how many of you made significant sacrifices to work on this election, we hope over the coming months to gain insight from your own wise reflections. In the meantime, Garrison Keillor reminds those of us not naturally inclined to such intense political involvement that restoration after the struggle is to be found, for winners and losers alike, in renewed appreciation of the smell of apples, the taste of oatmeal, and the companionship of neighbors. As it has been a year of many changes for us on the personal front, we hope you'll forgive our using this annual card to once again pass along some neighborly updates. The first half of the year dealt Gretchen the hardest academic hand she's yet tackled, in the way of general exams (a.k.a. orals, comps, qualifiers). The task was to spend twelve weeks absorbing the gist of 300 books and articles in the fields of modern U.S. history, modern Latin American history, and urban history. The unrelieved stint in the library basement culminated in a week's written exam and an oral drill before her committee, as well as a significantly stronger contact lens prescription. The payoff was five handshakes and a simple "You passed." The experience proved a test not only of Gretchen's historical knowledge but of her faith in the pedagogical purposes of academics as she came to grudging acknowledgment that even mild-mannered, ivy-covered types are not averse to a ritualistic hazing now and then. Over the summer Gretchen perfected the art of doing nothing, while we both enjoyed a second summer on the history department's softball team and more time outdoors. We were able to take two trips—the first a special week in Sunset Beach, North Carolina, with Gretchen's family and both her grandmothers. A month later the two of us explored Belize, a country that had been repeatedly recommended to us. We enjoyed a week hiking forests and swimming waterfalls in the interior, followed by several more mellow days out on the cayes. Belize impressed us as a country where commitment to natural preservation is universal and the varieties of ecotourism abundant. This summer also brought several more friends' weddings, none of which was less joyous for being outdoors in temperamental weather, evidently the theme of the season. Despite the siren song of Manhattan, we thought we would stay put in the land of cheaper New Jersey rents this fall. And so we have, except that we have moved across town. In November, Gretchen was offered the unexpected chance to take a position as a graduate resident fellow in one of Princeton's undergraduate colleges, overseeing RAs and helping with social programming. Since she had been struggling to adjust from the unrelenting rigor of the previous spring to the utterly unscheduled life of a doctoral candidate fishing for a dissertation topic, she accepted the job as a chance to add some structure and sociability to life. The position came with a new apartment on the college grounds, a large place in an old colonial house with more reliable heating than our former converted army barracks. We are now steps from the commuter train and only several more steps from Bismarck's favorite trails through the woods, providing benefits all around. And Gretchen has indeed enjoyed work with the undergraduates, balancing it with preliminary forays into a dissertation on the effect of the Great Depression and World War II on American's religious practices and beliefs. The larger apartment has been especially welcome as we prepare for the arrival of an addition to the family in late April. We thought Bismarck needed a playmate, but two dogs would have meant twice as much hair clogging the air purifier, so we looked into other options. We are thrilled at the prospect of welcoming a son or daughter into our home and hope you will come make your introduction to the new baby. Admit it: we went a long way to entice visitors this year, so we hope you will consider making the trip. In the meantime, we look forward as always to hearing from you. We wish you and yours courage, faith and joy in the year ahead. Always, Gretchen and Tom. [and then later:] I am still working on a PhD in American history at Princeton. But much more importantly, we welcomed our first child into the world last Thursday. Edith May Eleanor Lank was born on the coolest of birthdays, 05/05/05, weighing in at 7 lb. 14 oz. She gave her mama a quick and easy time of it in labor, and all three of us are now enjoying blissful time off at home together for the first few months of the summer. We can easily lose an hour just watching her funny faces and marveling at her full head of blond hair. Best to all, Gretchen

99 Alexander Street Princeton, NJ 08540. (609) 986-9534 [gretchenboger@gmail.com](mailto:gretchenboger@gmail.com). **Brian Lavery**: always good to hear FOOT news, keep it coming. -Brian in Ireland. **Saskia Cornes**: I just got back from a week on the Colorado Plateau (Zion, Grand Canyon and a little bit of Grand Staircase) - a little bit of snow and a lot of wildflowers! Otherwise, I'm just finishing up my first year in the PhD program in Comparative Literature at CUNY Graduate Center, and gearing up to start teaching at Queens College next year. Guess I've been out of the loop, but I'd love to hear more about the Harvest Program (when did that start?), since I've been continuing to do a lot of organic farm work over the summers and this summer I'm hoping get some kind of rural/urban interface job in San Francisco while I study for my Latin exam. Any advice in this arena would be very welcome. And since the FOOT store is always open, are there any FOOT crazy creek chairs left? Hoping this finds you well, Saskia.

**1999 Brian Kinlan**: Great to hear from you, as always! This is just a short note to let you know I'm well and still enjoying life in Santa Barbara. I'm heading to South Africa again this summer to continue the intertidal ecology research project I started there last year. I'm hoping to wrap up my dissertation in the early spring, and after that...who knows? Maybe a post-doc up in Santa Cruz or Seattle. After a wonderful time catching up with old Yale/FOOT friends last June, I am sorry to say that I have been woefully out of touch! I would love to hear from any and all, and of course, if you're ever near lovely Santa Barbara, you're always welcome. [kinlan@lifesci.ucsb.edu](mailto:kinlan@lifesci.ucsb.edu) Brian. **Kate Koplan**:

Finishing up internship year in Boston; going to lead the FOOT equivalent for the Brigham Medicine Residents in a couple weeks (I went on it myself and it's like the good old days of FOOT!); enjoying the (very late) coming of spring. I'd love to see any of you if you swing through Beantown, so drop a line at [kkoplan@aya.yale.edu](mailto:kkoplan@aya.yale.edu)! Go Sox! Best, Kate.

**Lincoln Else**: Great to see you last month in New Haven, and hopefully those photos were useful. If you're looking for "news" of FOOT folks, you can let the crew know I'm still working as Yosemite's lead climbing ranger (just got back to the park a few weeks ago after a wonderful adventure in Manhattan's urban jungle). Keep an eye out in Outside Magazine later this summer for a piece about dream jobs, just found they'll be featuring my Yosemite gig... guess I can't complain :) Hope all is well! [I went to a master's tea starring none other than our very own Lincoln who is the lead climbing instructor/rescuer in Yosemite. He had amazing stories with slides as you can imagine. What especially impressed me was his eloquent take on the role of Yosemite and wilderness places in people's lives. He graciously hosted our current Poohba—Aaron Zelinsky—who just made a quick trip out there.]

**2000 Argo Caminis**: great to see the foot list-serve revived! i do see a few foot folk now and then (ben doolittle is a professor of mine, i see katie scharf around campus, caught up with matt kerner a while back, and saw j. heitler in colorado over new year's last year.) all's well; just finished year two at the med school and my final year of eligibility to lead anything ending in -OOT (because, thanks to some old FOOT leaders, the med school has it's own version called MOOT). i'll probably have more news to report after the fifth year reunion this weekend. hope all's well-cheers, argo.

**Jacob B. Heitler**: How's everything? Well, I hope. I'm living out in Denver, working with my father doing affordable housing development. Life here is terrific. Good snow shoeing. Good skiing. Good ol' Colorado. Thanks, Jacob.

**Adam Rosenblatt**: I hope you had a great summer, and that the new school year kicked off with the usual level of fun, wonder, and smelliness thanks to FOOT. I just wanted to let you know that on August 28, I married my sweetheart Amanda Levinson in front of the ocean at Cape Ann, Massachusetts. It wasn't a very large wedding, but a dear FOOT leader friend played a special role: following the filling out of much paperwork, Gwyn Welles was granted the authority by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to officiate the ceremony. FOOT leader Maren Oberman was also with us, shockingly without bringing along any Tang. Amanda and I just moved back to the States from Chile, where we lived for almost a year and did some great camping trips. We're still not sure where in the States we'll settle, and if Bush wins the election we might just have to pack up and leave again. I also want Gates Hurand to know that I always look for him at airports and other random places and he always disappoints me by not being there. [and then later:] It looks like we're going to be settling in the Boston area for now. Glad to hear the FOOT trips went smoothly... All the best, Adam.

**Holly Martin**: So, I've been keeping myself pretty busy, after I graduated in 2000 I moved to New York to start life in the big city and work for the literary agency of ICM. I was assistant to a fantastic literary agent/co-president there for two years. I loved living in New York but after being in an office for two years I decided publishing just wasn't for me. Instead, I decided I wanted to be a doctor. Now, I was totally liberal arts at Yale, history major, etc, so this was a pretty huge leap (though as a kid it was always my plan). I left New York in the fall of 2002 and moved to Cambridge to do all the post-bacc classes at Harvard Extension school. After being there and working at Dana Farber Cancer Institute for a jam-packed year, I moved down to Charlottesville, VA (hometown) for a year to apply to med schools and work in the Epilepsy Unit of the Neurology Dept at UVA hospital. It was nice to be back in the country, but I realized ! how much I had come to love the Northeast in the 7 years I'd been up here. So I ended up back in New York, at Columbia for med school. I'm just coming to the end of my first year and have absolutely loved it so far. This summer, I'll be tooling around South America, first working on an organic farm in Central Chile for a few weeks. Then teaching English to Peruvian rescue police in a village in the Andes at the base of Huascarán (the biggest mt in Peru, I think). I'm really looking forward to getting out in nature again and I'm hoping for some amazing hikes, including, of course, the Inca Trail to Machu Picchu. As I bought a new pair of hiking boots the other day, I thought of FOOT about a million times. :)

Please pass on my email address ([hbm2105@columbia.edu](mailto:hbm2105@columbia.edu)) to any FOOT leaders in New York who would like to hang out, I'll be back in the city in late August and would love to get back in touch with people. Take care, Holly  
**2001 Another FOOT Leader marriage is imminent! Shana Crystal and Eli Segal** are engaged. They are both at UPenn—she's at med school and he's at law. Congratulations! **Eliza Halsey** is working for the Public Allies Project here in New Haven. I have seen her of late: first at the leader dinner at my house in May and then at a Memorial

Weekend cook-out at her house here in New Haven. She continues to do good community building work and is happily married to Suvadine. I have seen **Gwyn Welles** a bit around town. She's was working on Kerry's campaign and is now considering graduate school. **Lydia Pace** is still a medical student at UCSF and loving it. She started clinical rotations in April. **Kate Feather:** I am currently pursuing (could fighting for be more appropriate?) a master's in architecture at Harvard's graduate School of Design. I have been pleased to find some kindred Yalies there and occasionally spotted FOOT's own Melissa Garcia last fall (she was doing a joint degree with the Kennedy School). One of my classmates and friends with whom I spend about 100% of my time is Irwin Sentilles whose younger sister Della is currently among the FOOT ranks. I do get to see Corey Zehngehof in Boston, Rick Grossmann in New Haven and Emilie Hitch wherever we can cross paths. Much love to you, FOOT, and New Haven! Kate. **Erik German:** I just graduated from the Columbia Journalism School and I'll be starting as a reporter at Newsday, on the Long Island desk, on June 6th. I won't be able to make it up to the party so please give my best to everyone. Erik. **Catherine Price:** I'm writing to tell you all about an online magazine I started called Salt (<http://www.saltmag.net>) and to encourage you to spread the word and submit material to us. Basically, Salt's goal is to encourage and share people's creative work--we publish non-fiction, fiction, photography, comics, art, music, satire, dispatches from all around the world, interviews and reviews--basically, if we think it's interesting, we'll consider putting it up. Each contributor gets a bio page, on which you can have an email link and a link to any websites you're affiliated with (to encourage interaction between readers and contributors, and to make connections between them). A bunch of FOOT leaders are actually already up on the site (like Lincoln Else, Heidi Vogt, Alex Tilney, Nick Frankfurt, Marc Ruben, Carl Shephard, Ben Herbstman, Boomie Aglietti, Chuck Sturtevant and Alex Boxer, to name a few) and I'd LOVE to have more. So if you're interested, please check out the site, spread the word, and send us submissions (at [submissions@saltmag.net](mailto:submissions@saltmag.net)). It'd be great to have you all participate! Hope you're all well (and that no-one accidentally replies to the entire list), Catherine. **Joseph Montgomery:** Check out the exhibition: <http://www.montgomeryportfolio.com>. **Lindsey Tucker:** I love hearing from you -- and about all the FOOT folks. I spent the better part of the year in Ecuador, learning Spanish and working with teens and women on health education issues (mostly sexual health topics). I'm back in Kentucky this summer, and I'll be in Boston this fall, starting a masters in public health. I expect to see lots of familiar faces walking through Cambridge. I'm excited, though not sure how I feel about getting back in the classroom. Hope all is grand. Best -- Lindsey. **Laura Kolar:** After teaching for two years in Louisiana after Yale I did an internship with the US Forest Service at the home of Gifford Pinchot (founder of Yale School of Forestry, as I am certain you of all people know!). It was fabulous--in Milford, PA. Then I came to DC and have been working at the US Dept. of Education since Nov. 2003. In August of this year I will be moving to Charlottesville to start a PhD program in American History at UVA, with an emphasis in environmental history (at least that's my program there). So then I can come back and join you, Ali and Nathan to teach at Hopkins after I receive my degree, haha. Anyway, DC has been awesome and I'm excited about Cville as well. It's all been just great...so that's what I've been up to in general! I blame FOOT for my interest in the outdoors and my doing environmental history, well, at least in part anyway. :) Seriously, FOOT remains one of the best things I've ever done--I even led trips of 8th graders to western NC with my school in LA. Indeed, 5 days in the woods with 8th graders. Freshmen at Yale were easier. :) Thanks again for heading up such a fabulous group at Yale. Take care, Laura

**2002 Amanda Farris:** I had a fabulous summer working out in western Maine, and I managed to get out hiking almost every weekend (plus on the job for forestry!). The weekend of the FOOT reunion I was thinking of you all, but I was moving between jobs. Currently I'm employed by a non-profit in forest science conservation located in Brunswick, Maine. Happy Autumn! Amanda **Ian Cheney and Curt Ellis:** This duo should almost be finished with their film about genetically modified corn. They have traveled all over North America to do this. **Georgina Cullman:** I'm going to graduate school in August, to University of Florida in Gainesville, for a Ph.D. in Interdisciplinary Ecology. I'm hoping to do my research in Brazil or Madagascar. I miss FOOT. I hope you're doing well (sounds like it). And I hope to see you soon. xo, g. **Isabelle Kinsolving:** Dear Friends of Katie and Isabelle, The Olympics ended today for both the Men's and Women's 470s and the Americans finished strong. The 11th, and final race, for Katie and Isabelle began in a 8 knot southerly breeze. They were able to start second from the pin end of the line and hold their lane almost all of the way up the beat. When Katie and Isabelle tacked, the Swedes were the only team who they could not cross. As a result, Katie and Isabelle rounded the first windward mark in 3rd place. The top six boats were all extremely close throughout the race and rounded each mark in a different order. At one point Katie and Isabelle had moved up to 2nd, but by the end of the race they had lost two boats and finished 4th. With such a high finish for their last race Katie and Isabelle were able to finish 5th overall! It goes without saying that fifth place in the Olympics is an amazing achievement and we are all very proud of what Katie and Isabelle have accomplished.

Regards, The YCYC Team [and later from Isabelle:] Thanks so much for the pre-view of the newsletter. It's great to hear from you, and to hear that everything is going well in New Haven. I keep tabs on Yale through the sailing team, and they all generally seem like happy undergrads! Tidbits on myself for the newsletter: After finishing 5th at the Olympics this summer, I have returned to NYC, home sweet home. I am embarking on two years as a paralegal at the NY District Attorney's Office -- hopefully will get something juicy! hugs, Isabelle. **Colin Reingold:** After graduating in '02, I spent a year traveling in India and New Zealand before joining Teach for America. I've now spent the last two years in the wonderful city of New Orleans as a high school English teacher. I think about FOOT often, usually in light of the skills I learned in FOOT that have served me well in the classroom.

**2003 Ben Smith** was working out west on a public health Americorps project and is off to San Francisco to start medical school at UCSF. He should look up Lydia. **Talley Lambert** is living in Seattle working on a Neurobiology and

Behavior PhD at the University of Washington. He's been working with a lot of monkeys! **Peter Shanley:** To My Friends, 'Ello 'Ello all, hope and trust this finds you well. Things here in San Francisco continue along, life moves and shakes and I'm enjoying riding the wave. Kind of a random time to send out an update, but I'm a pretty random fella, so I guess you'll have to bear with me. One momentous occasion for this week is that I celebrated the end of my "trial" period of employment with the Tenderloin Neighborhood Development Corporation. Ironically, this was more-so a trial by fire and less the "at-will employment phase" as designated by the Property Management Operations Manual. I can now officially remove the 'Acting' from my title of General Manager; a position I somewhat unwittingly assumed towards the end of February when an under-qualified Assistant Manager became a "who in their right mind gives 22 year old fresh from college sole responsibility over 140 residents, 14 staff with an average age of 39, 10 stories, a 2.1 million dollar annual budget and a 25 million dollar asset," Acting General Manager. I might have gotten a little ahead of myself, so I'll back up a bit. A year and two weeks ago, I graduated college...seems like an eternity and just yesterday at the same time. At that point I really didn't have any idea what I would be doing, except that I knew I had to hit the ground running financially and I knew I would be entering a life of service. For a long time I thought my calling was to a non-profit policy think tank working on urban socio-economic issues. As the working world drew inexorably closer, I became sensitive to the fact that I was seeking entrance into the policy side of a field that I had only studied theoretically (or through some volunteer work in inner-city schools, soup kitchens and the like). At some point during this, I decided that I needed to come down to the battlefield of urban America; to fight in the trenches before I could proscribe from the sky. I applied for positions as a mentor to street kids, a job coach for adults looking to enter the workforce for the first time, activities director for two inner-city schools/community centers, and as an assistant manager for some non-profit housing companies in the Tenderloin of San Francisco. The Tenderloin got its name on account of the cut of steak police officers could afford if they bravely chose to patrol there. It's been cleaned up a lot in recent years, but remains representative of the culture of poverty, violence, and drug abuse that plagues so many of our urban centers. At the start of my job search, I attended the Non-Profit Housing Assoc. of Northern California conference, which just happened to be held the first week I was in San Fran. There, I heard a man named Hilmon Sorey speak on what led him to his current position as Director of Property Management for the Tenderloin Neighborhood Development Association (T.N.D.C.). He spoke of going from university to ground-level property management, returning to graduate school, working in the for-profit world, and then his excitement of bringing those skills back into the non-profit arena. I approached him after the panel, as his path seemed much like the one I was venturing down, and told him that I would like to work for him. I don't think he took me as serious as intended, but he humored me by taking my resume and agreeing to speak with me regardless of whether his company had any positions open. Three months later I began as Assistant Manager at the Antonia Manor, which you can check out on our website ([www.tndc.org](http://www.tndc.org)). Click on *properties*, then on *virtual tour*, then find which building says *Antonia Manor* and click on that. Ten weeks after my start, I took over my boss' position, as she was a caring and compassionate woman, but was grossly unprepared to deal with the complexities required in this line of work. She started about a month prior to me, and fibbed on her resume to seem qualified...and no one caught it, hence the need to bring for-profit skills into the non-profit world. To give you a sense of my job, I will say that I wear about seven different hats on any given day, that I have never had the same day twice, and that I am presented with unique and ridiculous challenges just about every time I step foot in the office. My building just completed a gut-rehab/siesmic upgrade, so I have been a construction foreman; I have helped residents through relationship, abuse, and family issues, so I'm a bit of a social worker; I am a rent collector and a physical plant manager, coordinating the actions of two maintenance and two custodial workers; I have bailed two residents out of jail who had no one else to help them, so I am a guardian of sorts; I hire and fire, so I have a little H.R. department in me; I interact with the Department of Housing and Urban Development and the State Government, so I am a government agent when called upon; I manage a 2.5 million dollar annual budget and coordinate the preventative measures protecting a 20 million dollar asset, so I am a financial consultant as well...the list goes on. A lot of my position, unfortunately, involves being the punching bag for a population who has never had the reason to trust a damn person their entire lives. It is difficult at times to put in the hours I do, for the non-profit salary I make, when my effort is appreciated so little. Well, to clarify, the majority of my residents appreciate what I do, and are wonderful and even inspiring people, but about once a week, unfortunately usually on my busiest days, I get seriously verbally assaulted by residents on issues seemingly related to my job or completely asinine. They swear at me, call myself and family awful names, and test my faith and restraint more than anything else has in my life. I've even received death threats, one from a resident in my building and one from a gentleman that walks the streets in the neighborhood. I've been chased, had to physically throw people out of the lobby of the attached restaurant, and have only had five days since December where I haven't seen someone smoke crack...always on the street with non-residents, although I don't kid myself that my residents are all clean. That said, I love what I do. Well, time for me to say good bye. It's the end of the week over here, and now that I'm a part of the working world, Friday has a significance I haven't felt since high-school. I had the two most important inspections of the year the past two weeks, from HUD and the State Government, and we passed both with a score never achieved by past managers of my building. Needless to say I am thrilled. To celebrate, I'm going to the Red Sox/Giants game, have a nice hike in the Headlands planned, have a softball team banquet on Sunday, and am meeting friends for cocktails on the water in about 45 minutes. See, I'm still finding time to have fun...heh heh heh...not that anyone really doubted that, knowing myself. It's been more than a bit daunting to have been handed so much responsibility one year out of school, but it has been nice to be trusted, and even nicer to perform. I will keep you posted on the next stages of my journey, but you can



expect to find me in San Francisco for the next two years or so, before heading back to school. Please get in touch if you're ever in the bay, or just want to chat. My number out here is (415) 509-1832. Thank you for putting up with such a lengthy letter; I hope to have given you a glimpse of where I am these days. Pretty crazy growing older, but I retain the faith that has carried me thus far, and it is faith that will lead me home. Where that home is, however, has yet to be seen. Much love, Peter T. Shanley "If a man has not found something that he will die for, he is not fit to live." Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. **Lindsey Firestone**: So great to hear some FOOT news, I miss FOOT so much!!

I hope all is well with the new class of FOOT leaders. I've spotted a few FOOT leaders out here, including Pete Jamison, Pete Shanley, Chris Weber, John Treem and Will McLellan and I'm sure there are many more wandering around this great city. My sister has also recently moved, from Manhattan to Toronto. **Lindsey Drew Baldwin**: Have fun on the vineyard. I was there a few weeks ago. I am still trying to make it to Vermont. Hope all is well with you. Best, Drew **Chris Heany**: So good to hear from you, and that the FOOT network is still thriving. I will actually be up in New Haven next week and would love to RSVP for dinner! Sounds like fun, and I look forward to catching up (quick version: I'm living in Brooklyn working for an oral history project named StoryCorps, and am very happy). **Chris Peter Shattuck**: I hope you had another good batch of FOOT trips and that you are enjoying a dazzling New England autumn. After spending this last year nestled in the mountains of New Zealand's South Island, the return to Boston was a bit of a step down on the scenery front, but the fall colors provided a welcome change and reminder of what this corner of the world has to offer.-Peter. **Sasha Waring**: Great to hear from you. I'm sorry I haven't been able to make it up to Vermont (or even New Haven) yet, but I just wanted to drop a note to say hi and share my most recent developments: After doing a year of intensive pre-med work at Bryn Mawr College in '03-'04, I'm now finishing a year of running a clinical research study on newborn jaundice in the nursery at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania. The job has been great for a number of reasons, not the least of which is the familiarity it has given me with Philadelphia and the hospital, where I'll be spending many hours over the next four years since I have officially completed the med school application process and I'll be starting at Penn Med in the fall. I can't wait to start-- I'm looking forward to going back to school almost as much as I am to going to Ecuador this summer as a post-work, pre-school mind clearing. FOOT has played several important roles already in my life, sparking new friendships and cementing existing ones, providing a break from Yale along with a stronger connection to it, piquing my interest in wilderness medicine as well as in just plain wilderness. I'm curious to see what other long term effects my FOOT experience will have on me. And I can't believe Penn Med School doesn't have a MOOT equivalent! Perhaps we'll have to start one...Glad to hear all is well in the FOOT world. Please send my best to everyone up there, and enjoy the big dinner-- I have such great memories of big dinners at your house! Sasha, Poohbah of '02, and already feeling old!

**Adam Nyborg**: Our very own Adam made it to an article in *Vanity Fair* on Deep Springs. Evidently, he is a cowboy legend out there, who could run to the druid, an oddly shaped rock formation a mile and a half up in the mountains and be back in 15 minutes. We are not surprised! **Chris Rovzar** acted as a commentator on VH1's *The Fabulous Life of Celebrity Super Spenders 2004*. He's also filmed *The Fabulous Life of Hot couples* and has been asked to do more. He's enjoying his new status as a talking head. (from YAM) **Marc Silverman** has gotten engaged to Laurel Grodman. Marc is in his second year at Yale Law School. (also from YAM) I ran into **Michael Steffen** on the street who is also returning to New Haven to go to the Yale Law School.

**2004 Zev Balsen**: Since May, I've been working in a wildland fire position at the Klamath National Forest in northern CA. The season's been pretty slow and it'll probably peter out in a few more weeks. Then I'll be moving up to Seattle to do research at UW, and I'll be living with another former FOOT leader, Talley Lambert. I hope both FOOT and the reunion went well last month. [and then later] For the foreseeable future, I'll be working with the USFS in Lassen NF, a couple hours north of Tahoe. If any FOOT leaders are passing through, feel free to give a shout. Hope all's well, Zev.

**Amy Kohout** I've accepted a job working as an environmental organizer with Green Corps. I'm really excited about it. I'm going to spend my summer as an instructor/cook with the Cottonwood Gulch Foundation in New Mexico. I'll be working with 13-15 year old girls on a 30-day expedition. Thanks for everything Cilla. FOOT is a huge part of why I love Yale. [and then later] I just got a job with IUCN, the World Conservation Union, in Laos(!) through Princeton in Asia. I'm heading there next week to spend some time with the person I am replacing, and I can't wait. I'm going to spend one more summer working as a trail cook for an all girls expedition of 13-15 year olds at the Cottonwood Gulch Foundation in Thoreau, NM. After that, it will be time to exchange my Land of Enchantment (NM's state motto) for a brand new one. Perhaps the sun setting over the Mekong will rival the sunsets of New Mexico... Glad to hear all is well.

**Amy Ming Thompson**: I'm reaching the end of my first year in China teaching at Yali Middle School. The kids are amazing and brilliant, and I think I am learning more here than I did in college. If any of you find yourselves in southern China, let me know! **Ming Paige Erin Laird Atkinson**: I'm writing from beautiful Napa, CA (the somewhat dodgy and uber-conservative wine-country that's just over the hill from Sonoma, CA) where I've been working as a photo teacher (OK, 'classroom-based intern') at the fabulous Oxbow School (artsy semester program w/ a setup similar to the Mountain School). I've been extremely happy out here -- the kids are great, I get fed lots of organic strawberries and free-range bacon, and I also teach gym class - it's called 'Fun With Paige' :) Sadly, I have to leave paradise in a few weeks b/c my internship is finished. So - it's on to Vermont! I'll be teaching photo at the Putney School summer programs and also pretending to know how to coach volleyball. Somewhere in there I will lead a hiking trip, too. I hear Putney also has delicious food (and good kids), so I'm smiling... hope to make a jaunt up to Washington to say hello and see this legendary place of yours. Post-Putney...? You tell me and then we'll both know! Off into the great blue yonder, probably. Take care of yourself and keep doing those wonderful FOOTy things that you do! I've applied for a

job at the Yale galleries so possibly I'll pass through old New Haven sometime soon? If so, I'll stop and say hi. All the best- Paige. **Mer Dearborn:** it is i, captain vegetable -- and soon to be yes! magazine intern. wahoo! i am launched in what will probably be the first of several "careers!" you may make fun of the name of the magazine, but please limit your puns to one per reply email. i will be living on bainbridge island, near seattle. my address will be: 6200 NE Williams Lane Bainbridge Island, WA 98110 and my phone number will be my cell, primarily, at (650) 208 2788. if that doesn't work, however, you can call my landlords, the kindly yoga / third grade teachers in the main house (i'm in a little cabin out back): they're at (206) 842 4453. come and visit my lakeside log cabin. bring me dinner. i don't have a kitchen. with much missing of my good friends, and a fly-by request for updates thoughts and dreams from your separate corners of the world, mer. **Brandon Wall:** I just received your FOOT care package (alumni newsletter) in the mail. How awesome! I don't know if I mentioned this the last time we talked (I might have, seeing as that you have my new PO Box), but I continue to really enjoy my job at the Public Policy Institute of California. I hope May training went well. While briefly scanned the leader pairs I realized that being a graduate is about not knowing half the names on it. I don't know if you've heard, but there is going to be a screening in NYC of the Mountain School Barn Raising documentary in August—seeing as that I am marooned in San Francisco (not a bad place to be stranded) I won't make it, but I thought you might be interested. Best regards, Brandon p.s. We ARE going to get a FOOT reunion together out here at some point! **Matthew Fitzgerald:** My hip-hop group, The Sky Beneath, just released a new project called "The Winter EP". It's available on itunes and at our website: [www.theskybeneath.com](http://www.theskybeneath.com) **Madeline Fleisher:** I'm in my first year at Harvard Law School, and I'll be working in DC this summer for a non-profit called the Center for International Environmental Law. **Megan Forney:** I am currently living right outside of Philadelphia and am working as an intern architect for Venturi Scott Brown + Associates, an architecture firm in Philadelphia, PA. **Moira Heiges:** I'm living in a refugee camp in Baan Nam Kem, Thailand; it's a small fishing village that was totally wiped out by the tsunami. Before this, I was teaching and editing in Beijing. I'll be back to visit in the States in June/July. Best wishes to you and everyone. **Jon Kerner:** I'm working as a mechanical engineer at GE Aircraft Engines, and that I speak to Brandon Wall on the phone at least once a month. **Tara O'Donnell:** If the foot newsletter comes out before June, could you put in that if anyone finds themselves in Beijing they should drop me an email. **Jihan Quail:** I am sending this email from Brazil where I have been living for the last seven months. My time here has been absolutely perfect! After the end of the first semester I decided to stay and travel instead of coming home for the holidays. Eight weeks later I returned to my job teaching English in the south of Brazil. I love my job, students, friends, travels- everything:) Give my best to EVERYONE in FOOT- I'm actually going camping in some canyons here in two weeks. I will be thinking of all of you. **Roy Skeen:** I am living down in St. John, VI where I lead eco-hikes and spend my days on the beautiful beaches. My email is [roy.skeen@gmail.com](mailto:roy.skeen@gmail.com) - if anyone is coming down to the islands tell them to send me an email. **Nick Zamiska:** After graduation last spring, I went to work a stint for *The Wall Street Journal* in the paper's Washington bureau, writing stories mostly about the food industry. But as I've been itching to go abroad for some time, I asked for a foreign posting, so the paper is giving me a shot at its bureau in Hong Kong, where I'm living now. **Greg Yolen** hailed from Los Angeles where –guess what—he is trying to break into the film industry: Yes, it's me, the one and only, except for the other guy named Greg Yolen who lives in Michigan. It's true, I googled him - he's a third cousin or something, and actually a filmmaker himself, from what I understand. But enough of this OTHER Greg Yolen. I myself have just made the move to Los Angeles, CA, where I'm beginning proper my adventure in the film industry. So far, so good - I've got a car, and a place, as well as work (temp, not perm - but money is money) and I'm working on a tan, though at this point we're still in freckling mode. Needless to say, I look like a 13 year-old when shaven, which is disconcerting.

In April, **Chris Roberts** and **Eric Steadman** came to New Haven for a marriage of a former Yale roommate which caused the occasion of a mini-FOOT reunion. We had brunch with **Paul Sabin** (who teaches environmental history at Yale and runs a non-profit organization for environmental leadership—is moving to DC), **Ben Doolittle** (the original FOOD Dude!—a doctor, medical professor, minister extraordinaire), **Tif Bingham** (who has been running a very popular ice cream business in Salem, CT but who is getting back into the vet business), Chris (see news) and Eric (see news).

The 35<sup>th</sup> reunion of the Yale Slavic Chorus was also the cause for several FOOT Leaders to meet up again! I sang for three years with the chorus and although I cannot claim being part of the original group, I was very close to it! It was a wonderful weekend of rehearsals, eating together, sharing stories and then performing. The Slavic Chorus yahoo chat box has been so active, it motivated me to get the FOOT listserv going again. In any case, those Slavs AND FOOT Leaders in attendance: **Anne Egger** (now working for Stanford in their geology department), **Sylke Jackson** (raising two kids in nearby CT), **Sophie Oberman** (teaching environmental science in NYC), and **Sarah Hipkens** (at medical school in CA). In the audience we had Sarah Kelley (an organic food coordinator in MA), and **Maren Oberman** (gearing up to get a library science degree).

I recently hosted a small gathering of FOOT Leaders at my house. Those who came at last moment's notice: **Mark Barnett** (recently graduated from Yale Law—married to **Katherine Gergin**, has a new baby, and is moving to Boston. Katherine has a residency there and Mark is interested in energy projects), **Alex Boxer** (at MIT in Physics—need I say more!), **Chris Heany** (researching the Bingham story and about to go to Machu Pichu), **Rick Grossmann** (still working on his PhD in art history from Yale and about to go on an archeological dig on the Acropolis in Greece), **Eliza Halsey** (Miss Community Builder extraordinaire—works here in New Haven for Public Allies) and **Matt Fitzgerald** (also working for Public Allies and making music). Some folks had to bail out at the last moment—Ben

Madley who is getting his PhD in history from Yale; some read their emails late—**Argo Caminis** who is at Yale med school, and some sent their regrets—**Milena Novy-Marx**—all the way from Chicago!

I always like to close with a personal statement of what FOOT means to some folks. This year the honor goes to **Edwin Dietrich '04**: [He was down in St. Kitt's, helping my old freshman advisor, Gene Redmond, with some of his research work, and will be entering Harvard Law this fall.] What FOOT meant to me: First and foremost, it was an amazing time. That's how I saw FOOT - it should always be fun for me, for the other FOOT leaders, and of course, for the FOOTies. That said, I also see tremendous value in FOOT for other reasons. One is allowing freshmen to connect with each other - there's a unique power to bring people together in sticking them in the woods with each other for a week. Another is gaining a feeling of camaraderie and collaboration among FOOT leaders - I'll always remember working with other leaders during May Training, Equipment days, September training, etc. for giving me an amazing feeling of teamwork and cooperation that I didn't get anywhere else at Yale. The last is more of a selfish one - my role in FOOT taught me a level of organization and circumspection that I couldn't have learned anywhere else. It started on the Food committee, where we worked together to try to make Food far better than it had ever been. But I really learned the most as Poobah. The leader selection process was amazing for me - deliberating over what kinds of leaders we were looking for, maintaining focus through weeks of interviews, and finally being fantastically proud of the new class of leaders that Emma and I had picked. And after that, coordinating May Training and the Fall trips was an amazing experience in planning and helping each leader pair to lead the best trips they could. Looking at all of that, I suppose FOOT meant an awful lot to me. A brief description of an event on FOOT that was one of the most significant: There have been an awful lot - showing up on support crew in ridiculous outfits with strawberry shortcake, finally having distributed food to all the FOOT trips, seeing all the new leaders that Emma and I had picked meeting together for the first time. But one that I'll always remember is a small moment during my trip with Sarah Indyk on the Blue Trail. It was the first full day in the woods, and the group was finally easing together after the initial shyness/aloofness. But one of our Footies was still staying completely quiet, and seemed to be gradually falling away as the rest of the group became closer. But then, during a water break, he finally broke through. I had offered up a brainteaser to the group as a whole, and everyone had been struggling with it for a while leading up to the break. All of a sudden, the quiet Footie lit up and burst out with the answer to the brain teaser. He was right - but he was also far more energetic and enthusiastic than he had been all trip. That turned out to be the spark he needed - after that, he opened up with an amazing sense of humor and warmth that he'd been hiding away up to that point. From then on, he was right in the middle of everything on the trip. For me, that's what FOOT is about - creating just the right conditions for every FOOTie to have that one spark that opens them up to each other. There's an unplannable magic to it, but it seems like it almost always happens on each trip. I think that spark is the most amazing thing about FOOT, and it's what I'll always remember.

And so my friends I will sign off. It has been another good year in general for the Kellert clan. I have a second grandchild, Simone. I still have my two dogs Willy (grandson to my Clumber Spaniel Beecher) and Sammy. I still have many cats (though tragically lost one) and I still have my wonderful hubby Steve. Steve has a new book coming out in August—look for it: *Building for Life*—about nature and the built environment. He is very involved in the forestry school's new green building that is about to be built. I am still chugging away at Hopkins, still teaching history and environmental science. I am also managing a lot of our real estate—please come visit us in either New Haven, Vermont (802-883-5585) and don't forget Martha's Vineyard (508-693-8338)! Don't forget you can always support FOOT by contributing to the Jason Karpf Memorial Scholarship Fund. Jason will always be remembered as one of our best. And I can always be reached at: [priscilla.kellert@yale.edu](mailto:priscilla.kellert@yale.edu). If you are not part of the listserv and want to be, send me your email address! Also, if you want a spreadsheet of FOOT Leader addresses, I can email this to you!! It's great for locating other FOOT Leader Alums in your area! Just email me and let me know you want this. As for the pictures—I have just included the name of the FOOT Leader—obviously, it might be the baby of..., or with spouse..., I didn't have room for all names!! Enjoy!

Xoxoxox, Cilla