

March 2010

Dear **FOOT Leader Alums** (about 750 of you)!

As you can see, my annual newsletter is getting out a bit late this year. So sorry about that—life just keeps getting in the way, which I guess is a good thing. I feel as though I have bumped into a lot of you over this past year at various events, and it is always wonderful to see you all. I am up in Vermont at the moment at our little camp in Washington, a part of Vermont that is still off the beaten path. It has been an unusually warm March week and spring is bursting out all over. I can't say I've heard those million cries of the spring beepers quite yet, but the birds are singing away. We have even spotted the little blue bird couple that returns every year to our log cabin bird house to nest.

FOOT is doing well. We have a great crop of current leaders as always. They continue to inspire me and certainly make my life interesting and fun. We survived the economic downturn with a strong enrollment, and we are anticipating a large group again this year. FOOT is now by far the largest orientation program at Yale. All those years of living leanly on a shoestring may have paid off. While the rest of the University is doing major cutbacks, we are still chugging along in good shape. (Of course, contributions are always welcome!) We recently had our name game night in Davenport Common Room with the new leaders and, as you can imagine, it was lots of laughs.

I first have to report some sad news. We lost two leaders over the course of the year, and what follows is some information about them and their passing.

Paul Sabin '92 and Jody Esselstyn '93 informed me of the passing of **Alan Rimm-Kaufman** '90. I can remember Alan well as he bounded into the interview room when he was applying to be a FOOT Leader many years ago. His energy was contagious. As a leader he had to deal with one of our unfortunate accidents to a Footie when a pot of boiling water fell on her lap. He and his co-leader acted quickly and responsibly. The following is from an obituary in the Charlottesville, Virginia newspaper.



**Alan Philip Rimm-Kaufman**, 41, of Charlottesville, died from Leukemia on Saturday, July 18, 2009. Alan was born in 1968 in Boston, Massachusetts, to Essie and Norman Kaufman. After growing up in Newton, Massachusetts, Alan graduated with a degree in Applied Mathematics from Yale University in 1991 and a Ph.D. in Operations Research from Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Sloan School of Management, in 1996.

Alan moved to Virginia in 1996, beginning with a job at Signet Bank in Richmond and then working as Vice President of Marketing at Crutchfield Corporation. Alan began his own company, the Rimm-Kaufman Group, in 2003 and served as President and CEO until his death. Alan held a national reputation in web marketing and he wrote and blogged prolifically about paid search and web marketing. Alan's company, the Rimm-Kaufman Group was named to the Inc. 500 Fastest Growing Private Companies in America, in 2008. Alan also held an appointment as Visiting Professor in the Darden Graduate School of Business Administration and as Fellow at the Center for Management of Information Technology at the McIntire School of Commerce at the University of Virginia.

Those who knew Alan well appreciated his wide range of interests and his energy and enthusiasm for life. Alan was a 14 year survivor of lymphoma, and this reality fueled his philosophy to live fast and fully. Alan loved to build. Every day brought new project opportunities and he crafted structures, sculptures and costumes from cardboard, plaster, wood, metal, legos, toothpicks, straws, paint, sticks, and cloth. Alan read constantly and his book choices included classic literature, spy novels, computer code manuals, business books, books about the web, and non-fiction "how-to" guides. When not building or reading, Alan spent hours in the kitchen, cooking for the family, trying new exotic fruits, preparing homemade foods like kim chee or pickles, and generating new hot sauce recipes. Alan held a deep affection for the woods, having spent thousands of hours hiking in the White Mountains of New Hampshire.

Alan loved family life, most likely because it gave him an excuse to play. He, his wife, and two children, called themselves the RK4s and created new family traditions together. Alan was a great dad, always telling stories and doing projects that would land on the border between creative and ridiculous. Alan aspired to give his children a true Jewish upbringing with Jewish ethics and sensibilities, and he left each child with a compass within to guide them in the years ahead. Alan offered his wife complete love and support during their 14 years of marriage. Alan will be remembered as a fantastic uncle, too. He often led packs of nieces and nephews in Thanksgiving plays, potato canon building, art with

coconuts, storytelling, and sand dinosaur building. His family always appreciated his deep thinking mind-Alan was a great problem solver and a walking dictionary. Alan is survived by his loving wife, Sara; his two children, Sam and Davida of Charlottesville; his mother, Essie Kaufman of Del Ray, Florida; as well as his sisters, Nina Weld of Greenwich, Connecticut, and Susan Kaufman-Una of Palmer, Washington. Alan's father, Norman Lewis Kaufman, died in 2001. Alan was a loving son, brother, husband, cousin, uncle, nephew, and friend. His family and friends will miss him dearly. You can read the entire article at:  
<http://www.legacy.com/DAILYPROGRESS/Obituaries.asp?Page=Lifestory&PersonId=130038546>

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Then, Leah Angell Sievers '97 and Melissa Lee '97 wrote with the tragic news about **Brian Ching** '97. Brian was head of our First Aid on the Core Committee and a dedicated leader. He was always eager to help out and was just a constant solid person. Here are some letters from them and part of Brian's obituary.



Dear Friends,

We regret to announce the death of one of FOOT's most fearless leaders,

**Brian Keen Mun Ching** (BR '97), on August 24, 2009 in Portland, Oregon. Brian passed away at age 33 after a long and courageous battle with a chronic illness.

Brian Keen Mun Ching, age 33, died Aug. 24, 2009, after a long and courageous battle with a chronic illness. He was born Oct. 28, 1975, the son of Gerald D.S. Ching, M.D., and Donna Loo Ching of Portland. He was joined two years later by a sister, Katherine H.L. Ching, M.D., now of Los Angeles, and of whom he was especially proud. Brian graduated from Sunset High School, and then went on to Yale University in New Haven, Conn., graduating in 1997, Magna Cum Laude and with Distinction in Biology. As a senior, he was selected for the Aurelian Honor Society. His home and his heart were always in Oregon, although he came to love both Montana and Hawaii as well. He had a special and abiding affection for Hawaii, where his parents were born. There he enjoyed many years of happy Hawaiian vacations, sunny beaches, surf and wonderful island cuisine among a large ohana (family) of relatives, particularly his paternal grandparents and maternal grandmother, who loved him dearly. Brian's great passion was the outdoors. He spent time during and after college at the National Institutes of Health in Hamilton, Mont., where he had an opportunity to do research and publish a scientific paper, while at the same time enjoying fly fishing the rivers of Montana and Yellowstone. He fished local Oregon ponds, Black Butte Ranch, the Metolius River, and had two memorable trips to Alaska with his father. He found special pleasure at Yale as one of the leaders of Freshman Outdoor Orientation Trips (FOOT), leading backpacking trips in the Adirondacks and Blue Mountains, where he introduced incoming freshmen to the fellowship and camaraderie that awaited them in the next four years of their lives. His life took a sudden turn with the recurrence of a chronic illness, which interrupted his anticipated enrollment at Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons. This illness challenged the expertise of physicians in Portland, and in Boston as well. Every struggle was difficult, but Brian never failed to leave each group of physicians and nurses who cared for him impressed with his kindness, resilience, and generosity of spirit. Throughout these last years, Brian continued to live a full and happy life filled with hope, and surrounded by a loving family, loyal friends, mischievous dogs, the Blazers, and, very importantly, trusted physicians who never gave up. His end came unexpectedly, and, for his friends and family, much too soon. Yet he leaves an indelible presence of grace and graciousness in adversity, and a legacy of quiet courage that we all learned from and that will never be forgotten. Brian was a very special young man. This photo is from Brian's journal while at Yellowstone Park with friends from the NIH and is entitled "Nice brown from 'The Hole' on the Firehole River."

Here's the link to Brian's obituary in the Oregonian.

<http://obits.oregonlive.com/obituaries/oregon/obituary.aspx?n=brian-keen-mun-ching&pid=132070784>

From Leah and Melissa: We attended Brian's memorial service in Portland, which was a beautiful and fitting tribute to our dear friend. Please feel free to contact us if you have thoughts or stories to share about Brian or if we can be of any other help. We spoke to his family, and they liked our suggestion of starting a special FOOT fund/scholarship in Brian's name--something that would pay for a Yalie's FOOT trip who could not otherwise go on FOOT. The Chings know that many of you wanted to come, but were unable to...if you have stories or words you'd like us to share, let us know. We will be coming up with some kind of amusing compendium of stories to share at Brian's Celebration. We put some of our pictures together on snapfish - not exactly organized, but you'll get the gist of them. It's been fun re-living some of the past 16 years of friendship. Thanks to those of you who contributed! We'll be ordering a book for the Chings.

[http://www1.snapfish.com/thumbnaillshare/AlbumID=1240434016/a=10069406\\_10069406/otsc=SHR/otsi=SALBlink/CO BRAND\\_NAME=snapfish/](http://www1.snapfish.com/thumbnaillshare/AlbumID=1240434016/a=10069406_10069406/otsc=SHR/otsi=SALBlink/CO BRAND_NAME=snapfish/)

FOOT meant so much to Brian. His parents had a display of items from different, significant parts of his life at his memorial. His boy scout shirt, mountain biking jersey, and FOOT T-shirt/manual/mug were all part of it. There were many pictures shared showing Brian's FOOT adventures...I'm sure his parents would love to see any others that you might happen to find. We spent much time this weekend talking about how we all became friends, and realized how much FOOT had to do with it - Brian was on my roommate's FOOT trip, and I think he steamrolled (or planned to) Leah's...we would not have been such good friends if it had not been for FOOT. Thank you for continuing to make this an amazing experience for Yalies. If you would like to write the parents directly, here is their address:  
Gerry and Donna Ching, 8680 NW Ash St. Portland, OR 97229  
All the best, Leah Angell Sievers (leah.sievers@yahoo.com) and Melissa Lee (molee1976@yahoo.com)

Both losses are so, so sad. Alan and Brian lived life to its fullest. They are a reminder that every day is a blessing.

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FOOT celebrated its **25<sup>th</sup> anniversary** in 2009 and one of its highlights was the return of MOST of the leaders from the class of 1989 who were also celebrating their 20<sup>th</sup> reunion at Yale. It was so much fun contacting everyone in the winter and getting this to happen. Thanks go to **Kristin Mitchell** for planting the seed of the idea of combining the two great events. Of those who returned: **Jamie and Florence Williams, Ann Vileisis, Trex Proffitt, Toby Kovacs, Gillien Todd, Karen Shipley Taylor, Carrie Hatcher-Kay, Frank Levy, Tiff Bingham Cunningham**, and, of course, **Kristin Mitchell**. (**Michael Walsh** was at the reunion but couldn't make the FOOT events...) You have to realize that since FOOT was a bit smaller back in the days, that this is MOST of the leaders from the Class of '89. Yay! We partied on the third floor of Kroon Hall Friday evening and then went for a terrific FOOT hike in East Rock Park on Sunday morning. We missed those few who were absent! **Ben Saylor, Angela Salazar, Greg Felt, & Aaron Scott!**



The following weekend was the 5<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> Yale reunion of the Class of 1999, so again we had some FOOT reunions, and again we hiked all over East Rock. Some of the folks who hiked or came by to wish us hikers a safe passage were **Jeremy Marwell, Debbie Dinner, Brian Kinlan, Eli Kintisch, Jeff Grigg**, (all '99) and **Maddy Fleisher '04**, back for her 5<sup>th</sup>! Everyone is doing something grand—lawyering, studying, researching, getting PhDs....Some folks said hello but couldn't stop by or were sleeping in late!: Catherine Halaby'04, Juliana Bentes'04 (hip surgery!), Matt Fitzgerald'04, Eva Bonime '99.



**So now on to class news: (Most of the news is in the voice of the alum. I try to make it obvious when it is me!) Some of you sent in photos and I will try to figure out how to post these on our alumni website...**

**Jamie** ('86) and **Florence Williams** '89 –Jamie and Florence are still in Boulder, Colorado. Florence is writing and loving the location. Jamie is still with the Nature Conservancy doing great things. Ben and Annabel, their kids, are adorable!!

**Nina Kallen** '86 Hello, Yale friends near and far. This is the second year that I am coordinating a volunteer project for the Yale Day of Service, which is Saturday, May 15, 2010. Like last year, we will be working on the outdoor classroom at the Haley Elementary School in Roslindale, which coincidentally is the school my kids attend. Last year we had a really fun day with everyone from current Yale students to retirees (and no, I don't mean you, Andy), and lots of kids. We worked on the outdoor classroom that surrounds the school and includes vegetable gardens, a small wetlands, etc. If you live in the Boston area I would love to see you there. Whether you live here or not please tell your friends. You do not have to be affiliated with Yale to attend. This is a family friendly project and lunch will be provided. Saturday, May 15, 2010 from 9 AM to 2 PM. You can sign up here: <http://www.yaledayofservice.org/node/219>

**Liz Ablow** '87 <Walablo@aol.com > Liz is still in Seattle. Her life is divided between her work with fish, her hubby and her great kids!

**Eve Vogel** '87 <evevogel@geo.umass.edu>

I just got through reading the portions of the FOOT alum letter - I'm still completely amazed at it! The key news that I've moved back east after 17 yrs to be a prof at UMass? Much love, Eve  
Assistant Professor, Political and Environmental Geography  
Department of Geosciences, University of Massachusetts – Amherst, MA  
I (Cilla) saw Eve briefly at our 40<sup>th</sup> Slavic Chorus Event!

**Gillien Todd** '89: sent her holiday card—with her 3 adorable kids...Gillien is still a professor of law at Harvard Law School. She is still in Cambridge.

**Karen Shipley Taylor**'89 taylorks@aol.com

Karen joined the reunion group at the last moment! She has moved to Philadelphia while her husband attends seminary school!!

**Carrie Hatcher-Kay** '89 <chatcherkay@gmail.com> So, what can we tell you? Amelia and Elijah are continuing their Waldorf education at the Rudolf Steiner School of Ann Arbor, where Amelia is a first grader and Elijah is in his first of two years of kindergarten. They love school and learn cool stuff like knitting, weaving, singing, painting and drawing, beeswax sculpting, and cooking in addition to playing with numbers, letters, words, and ideas. We love it, too. It is an inviting and strong community for the whole family. Josh finally convinced Carrie to start CrossFit at Hyperfit USA, where we pursue fitness with a zeal that borders on lunacy. Basically, the regime involves trainer-led, high-intensity, highly varied workouts that include lots of stuff, like pull-ups, push-ups, sit-ups, squats, box-jumps, kettlebell skills, and olympic weightlifting. It's fun, effective, often excruciating (and we pay money for this!), and never, ever gets boring.

Carrie's practice at the Ann Arbor Center for the Family continues to thrive; she sees kids, teens, and adults, individually and in various combos. She is in practice with a great group of colleagues and really enjoys her work with her clients. Josh graduated from law school at the University of Michigan in May 2008. He then joined Michigan Protection & Advocacy Service, a disability rights organization, working on child abuse and neglect cases with funding from the Skadden Fellowship Foundation. He also supervised student attorneys at the Child Advocacy Law Clinic at U of M last summer. This January he'll start teaching at the clinic full-time as an interim assistant clinical professor while his former professor, now colleague and friend Don Duquette works on a grant. An opportunity to join the faculty comes along very rarely, and we are very hopeful it may open the door to continue as a professor in the Law School. We've been fortunate to have taken a few great trips in the past year. Once again, our family had the distinct pleasure of a summer sojourn to Camp Ossipee in New Hampshire, joining Carrie's brother and sister-in-law, Peter and Hallie, and their dear kiddos, Simon and Charlie, now 9 and 7, for a week on the shores of Lake Winnepesaukee. We fished, swam, canoed, and played. We also hiked Mt. Major and picked wild blueberries at the summit, joined for this adventure by our also-traveling-in-NH Ann Arbor neighbors and dear friends, Tom, Shannan, Ethan, and Sam. The trip to Ossipee is one of the real highlights of our year. The camp is near Wolfeboro and is a wooded, rustic stretch along the lake. Each family stays in a platform tent, and we eat communally on the covered deck of the main hall, overlooking the lake. The camp is the kind of place where kids can run free and explore, and everyone can relax or be active as they wish. The week before Ossipee, Amelia and Elijah had a "peak" experience as actors in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* with 11 friends, adapted and directed by our dear, aforementioned friend, Tom. He led the troupe for a one-week Shakespeare Camp and they LOVED their time with friends and Shakespeare and acting! We also got to visit Bob and Maggie Hatcher in NE Georgia, enjoying a few gorgeous spring days in their bucolic slice of paradise. Their gardens in the red clay defy the odds and have matured in their 15 years there creating paths and many places to pause. The kids love to run across the rolling countryside, and there's nothing quite like relaxing on their wrap-around porch looking at the fields, forests, gardens, ponds, and mountains stretching into the distance. It was also great to have Carrie's Aunt Peggy and Uncle Zeus come from S.C. and Maggie's mother, Katie Hutchison, and family join from Atlanta for a scrumptious Easter feast. Bob had a heart scare this summer and pulled through with flying colors after a valve replacement to correct a heart valve pumping blood the wrong direction. Carrie got to have a special visit with her Dad in July after that major surgery. Bonus: She had a lovely time seeing cousin Amie and family visiting from NC as well as beloved high school friends Deavours and Olive, and came home with loads of fresh GA peaches straight from Dad's neighbor's orchards.

Carrie got to attend her 20<sup>th</sup> Yale reunion in May. It was terrific to catch up with old college friends!

Hobby of the year: we have been increasingly interested in nutrition and growing, picking, or buying as much of our food locally as possible. We've been members of the Community Farm of Ann Arbor for a few years, picking up biodynamically grown produce every week during the growing season at this CSA (community supported agriculture) twenty minutes from home. From June through October, Wednesday afternoons are a highlight of our week when the kids and Carrie hang out at the barn or in the fields, collecting eggs from the hen house, or gathering beans, peas, tomatoes, wild flowers, and more. We are also members of Old Pine Farm, a meat CSA 45 minutes from A2, and get a delicious monthly share of pastured meats and eggs straight from the farm. We invested in a deep freeze to store these meats plus the dozens of pounds of yummy blueberries, raspberries, strawberries, and peaches we picked or bought from the farmer's market this summer. We also grew great goodies in our back yard and the kids were quite proud of their own garden plots, producing prolific herbs, beets, rainbow chard, spinach, edible nasturtium, and other flowers. Consistent with this hobby, we are having a lot of fun learning about the Weston A. Price Foundation that promotes Price's "nutrient-dense" food and healthy fats research. Sally Fallon and Mary Enig's cookbook *Nourishing Traditions* started us on a fermentation journey that has been rich and delicious. Carrie is now making yogurt, kombucha, kefir, and sourdough breads, fermenting to her heart's (and our tastebuds') content. We also started soaking nuts and grains before we eat or cook with them, which starts a little fermentation and increases digestibility. Josh then entered the fermentation game via his love for beer. He first started to maintain a little blog, Great Lakes Great Beer at [blogspot.com](http://blogspot.com) then to write about craft beer for the Ann Arbor edition of [Examiner.com](http://Examiner.com). Writing about craft beer soon led to crafting beer, and he joined the ranks of homebrewers. It is wonderful to go down to the basement to grab a beer brewed here, and crack it open. So, from the House of Fermentation, the microbial, feline, canine inhabitants, as well as the kids and "grow-pups" (as Elijah used to say) of our abode wish you a Happy Hanukkah, Merry Christmas, Happy New Year, Fabulous Festivus, what have you. Please stay in touch: The Hatcher-Kays 308 Arbana Drive; Ann Arbor, MI 48103 And other vital stats: 734-332-0287; [chatcherkay@gmail.com](mailto:chatcherkay@gmail.com), [kay.joshua@gmail.com](mailto:kay.joshua@gmail.com)

**Tiff Bingham Cunningham '89** <[tiff\\_bingham@yahoo.com](mailto:tiff_bingham@yahoo.com)>

Of all the groups I've ever been associated with, I have to say that FOOT tops the charts, and I miss you all! Jim and I are still living in Salem, CT. He is a hay farmer and a home contractor/carpenter, and I am staying home with our 3 y.o.

Cameron. I keep myself busy by trying to relearn Spanish and am learning a tiny bit of Chinese, too. Cameron and I are doing this together, which has been great fun for me. It keeps me mentally challenged.

**Toby Kovacs** '89 <TKovacs@axiomainc.com>

We're all doing well, though a tad sad to see winter go... we had so much fun skiing, snow shoeing, sledding. See attached photo of Josh (4) in his igloo in Riverside Park and the whole family (Rachel, Daniel (7), Josh) skiing. Speaking of skiing, we had a very funny experience -- last month we ran into Paul Jahnige and Sally Loomis and their kids (not so much kids anymore!) at Berkshire East, a small ski mountain in northwestern Mass. Was great fun to see them. Also, after our reunion last year Florence Williams convinced me to try to round up a reunion of our elementary school friends. Florence was only going to be in NYC the weekend after the reunion so we had just a few days to find people we hadn't seen in years. Facebook, LinkedIn and a friend who is a NY Times reporter helped up locate about 10 kindergarten classmates. Two reunions in two weeks! All the best, Toby

**Walsh, Michael F.** '89 <michael.walsh@lexisnexis.com>

Michael was at his 20<sup>th</sup> reunion, but unfortunately missed the FOOT events! ☹ He did send a big hello!

**Trexler Proffitt** '89 <trexler.proffitt@fandm.edu> Trex and family was at the reunion. Always great to see his tribe. He is still a business professor in PA. He sent this in after the event: We can never thank you enough for a great FOOT experience...that lasts at least 25 years! It was so great to see everyone. Best, Trex

**Frank Levy** '89 <franklevy@yahoo.com>

2009 will be remembered as a year full of outdoor activities and fun for the whole family. We enjoyed running 5k races, biking, hiking and skiing. Kiki (7) and Mia (6) are also loving school, guitar, Chinese, soccer, ballet and swimming. We were able to reunite with friends across the US on long weekends and school breaks and we ventured overseas to spend Thanksgiving on the beach with Kerty's brother Keith and his family in Thailand. Kerty's employer, Kemin, had a record year and with it new opportunities continue to arise. She really enjoys the company and work. Frank's business also ended the year on a positive note: a large affordable housing deal, which had been imperiled by the macro-economy, was revived with stimulus bill funding. We wish you well. Love, Kerty and Frank  
mobile: 515-490-9001

**Kristin Mitchell** '89 <kristinmitchell@aya.yale.edu>

Phoebe (5) started Kindergarten this fall; she's delighted to finally be at real school, and although one of her current phrases is 'It's SOOOO easy,' she's learning lots about numbers and reading and most especially, about the giggly social constructs that make up a Kindergarten class. She loves romping in the snow with her brother, scaling the doorways with her sticky feet, cooking up a storm, and playing with her mom's iPhone. Drake (9) is thriving in fifth grade, the middle of three years with a wonderful teacher. He has chosen to do all possible extracurricular activities except band, so he's juggling Lego Robotics, Battle of the Books, spelling bee practice, QUEST, piano lessons, and practice for the Montessori Model UN. He and seven others in his class will represent Turkey; he will be part of the Security Council, grappling with issues of the North Korean nuclear threat and the Israeli Palestinian question. In his free time, he practices memorizing the digits of pi, and he has discovered coin collecting. If you are ever curious about how many 1924 Lincoln Cents were minted in San Francisco, just ask Drake. David is keeping busier than ever as a board member of HEA, the local electric utility cooperative. His engineering and environmental background lends a new depth of expertise to discussions about the future of energy generation on the Kenai Peninsula. He has enjoyed coaching Drake's Robotics group and has gotten serious about cycling indoors this winter, in anticipation of a trip up Half Dome next summer.

Kristin continues to work as a general internist, doing outpatient and hospital work, teaching University of Washington students and residents, and chairing the hospital's Medicine Committee. There is talk of developing a hospitalist program, so change may soon be in the air. She has carved out a day a week to read with Phoebe's class, coach Drake's UN team, and lead the K-2 Battle of the Books group. She also chairs the Montessori Charter School's Academic Policy Committee, so she hasn't had much time for photography recently, but is still rowing avidly. She was invited back to the Head of the Charles this year in a Women's coxed 4, and her boat finished fast enough to be invited back next year.

We continue to enjoy the wonders of Alaska – Mount Redoubt, visible from our living room windows, put on quite a show erupting several times this spring. We have also traveled out of state – perhaps most memorably in summer 2008 to the Grand Canyon, with Kristin's brothers on a self-guided rafting trip. We all joined David for a conference in New Orleans and we still have more beads than we can keep track of, even after recreating Mardi Gras for Phoebe's birthday and throwing garlands at all her friends. May took us back to New Haven, for Kristin's 20<sup>th</sup> (gasp!) Yale College reunion. Drake and Phoebe agree the Ivy League has fabulous courtyard swings, and have David & Kristin researching 529 plans.

Next year, Drake and Kristin will be in New York for the Model UN in March, and we will head south from there for a little sunshine in Maho Bay, St John, USVI. The tent cabins were such a successful way for us to vacation a few years ago, and the warm water full of fish and turtles and tiny little waves was too big a draw to pass up. Kristin's parents plan to meet us there – let us know if you want to join the fun!

We end this year concerned about conflicts within the US and the world, but still hopeful that wise leadership can steer us toward better solutions than what we've settled for in the past. The work with the UN kids has me convinced that we need to keep investing in the leaders of tomorrow – they are so earnest and honest and creative and still full of hope.

Kristin

David

Drake

Phoebe

**Ben and Betsy Sayler '89 & '91** <sayler@spearfish.net>

I (Ben) continue to juggle administrative and faculty duties at Black Hills State with work on a new national lab that's under construction deep underground in an old South Dakota goldmine. My role with the lab is to create an education center to accompany the science facility. Outside of work, I've managed to squeeze in a lot of soccer with the boys, coaching 5 of their teams over the past 4 seasons. I also completed my first marathon, and I read a book.

Ten years out of residency, 2009 was Betsy's year to recertify in her medical specialty. We loaded up the family and went to the Big Island of Hawaii for a couple of weeks so she could study and take the test (it isn't offered in our neck of the woods, so why not Hawaii?!). The boys and I succeeded in having a fantastic time staying out of Betsy's way. Betsy had a pretty good time too, and now she can kick back again until 2019. Betsy continues to enjoy her work, her book club, and exercising. She completed her first half-marathon in June and then a second on her 40<sup>th</sup> birthday in August. She also expanded her gardening enterprise – augmenting her backyard garden of the previous year with an off-site farmstead down in the “Spearfish farming district.” (I'm kind of kidding, but she and some friends really did have a monster garden annex.)

Jay has moved to the upper elementary in Spearfish (grades 3-5), and he's loving it. Notable events included getting eyeglasses and a case of H1N1. Outside of school, he does lots of art, reading, and sports – indoor and outdoor soccer, skiing, basketball, machine pitch baseball, and swimming. Probably his favorite activity right now is pottery - clay ornaments, bowls, and myriad other creations – we're running out of storage!

Will is thriving in first grade and is also an avid reader – especially when the topic is science. He knows more about poisonous creatures than any of his close relatives do. He's involved in a similar assortment of sports, he too contracted H1N1 (as an act of solidarity with Jay), he adores Legos and board games, and he and Jay spend a lot of time playing detectives.

As a family, we enjoy backpacking in Wyoming's Big Horn mountains and skiing at our local hill. All four of us are also pretty hooked on Harry Potter. We adopted a wonderful 8-year-old Rottweiler-Lab mix named Kirby from a dear old friend (Dave Hill) in California. We've been shoveling an astounding amount of snow – last spring and again this week! As of this morning, our driveway's clear and the roads have reopened. Come visit.

**Ann Vileisis '89**

We made the best of 2009. The highlight was a 42-day, 420-mile trip down Idaho's Salmon River. Tim rowed the raft with all our gear, and Ann paddled her kayak. We loved every moment of living on that amazing river. It was a great reminder to seek our WONDER and JOY!...Ann has started work on a new writing project, and her book Kitchen Literacy will be coming out in paperback this spring. Tim has a gorgeous new photo book, Rivers of California, coming out in 2010, too. As you might guess, he's already started work on the next one, too... We've continued to enjoy Port Orford. This year we joined a CSA farm and enjoyed adding extra veggies to our own garden harvest; Ann helped to build a bioswale in one of our town parks, and we've continued to work on local conservation, too. A big accomplishment this year was the designation of the Copper Salmon Wilderness at the headwaters of our Elk River. We've also worked to protect our rivers from gravel mines and gold mines. Each day we are grateful for this wonderful place where we live, for family and friends, and for all our good fortune.

**Paul Jahnige '89** <Paul.Jahnige@state.ma.us>  (and Sally Loomis)

At the end of the year, when the days dawn dark,  
And the quarrels shiver cold as they scabbard through the park,  
And no birds ever sing, not virile, nor lark,  
'Tis the time of the annual missive. And some people say,  
they look forward to that day,  
While others reminisce 'bout the year that we missed,  
But like it or not, you are still on our list,  
So relax and enjoy this nonsense. Way back in the days when the year was a gnu,  
And the snow was still fresh, like a brusque morning due,  
And Skye had barely reached one half, and two. We touted new goals,  
restitutions galore, Shouted "Wait loss, and temperance,  
exercise more!" But the very next day, those got tousled away,  
And Will Power? He didn't show up anymore. Then 'round about March,  
as the winter got weary. The recession dredged on, the job market grew dreary.  
We worried of layoffs, and tarn times ahead, But we still had our cars,  
and that lumpy old bed. We cut down on candy, on gin and on tonic,  
And more, which is why this year's card is 'lectronic. Thence, soccer resumed driving hither and thither,  
To Wilbrawam, Pennsylvmore, and West Wannaweather. Then to the Roundacks in search of Starred Sneaches  
We found

none of them, but Skye, he found the leaches. So now as we sit and reflect on the year, Thankful for family and friends, far and near, In the Lorax's spirit, there can be no doubt, Were we to leave one word, it would be, "Without." Without, people like you, who care a whole lot, Our lives would be grumbly grey, but they're Not. So Cheers, here's to you, our family and friends, God Bless you and we love you, happy two thousand ten. Love, S, S, S, S, and P (Paul and Sally)  
Director of Greenways and Trails Program, Department of Conservation and Recreation  
136 Damon Road, Northampton, MA 01060. (413) 586-8706 ext. 20

**Michael Kahan** '90 <kahan.michael@gmail.com>

Still here and kicking! Living in Mountain View CA and working at Stanford (where I occasionally see Ann Egger). Saw Emel Gokyigit(-Wadhvani) and Tali Zulman(-Ziv) last month at the Bat Mitzvah of Tali's daughter in Berkeley. This summer Gabriella and I are heading out for a big road trip with our daughters Eva, 12 and Frieda, almost 9. We'll drive up to Seattle and Olympic National Park, where we hope to see Tom Beierle; then we'll head to Boulder to see my in-laws and then back to Mountain View. Along the way we'll visit some of the national parks and do some hiking and camping in the old FOOT tradition (well, maybe without the tarps...). Best, Michael

Associate Director, Program on Urban Studies  
Stanford University, Building 120, room 224  
Stanford CA 94305-2048  
650-724-7575

**Baker Mallory** '91 <baker1969@yahoo.com>

We haven't left the house since the twins were born almost a year ago and we are finally getting away for two weeks to Nantucket. All is good. Rose (one of Baker's twins) has some health issues: blind in left eye and developmentally behind, but she has become a little celebrity at the vision center where she gets various types of therapy. We have been telling our story and the Governor of Vermont (where they live) got involved a couple weeks ago. I am getting more and more involved in that area here in Burlington. I hope to start developing some properties both here and in CT to the highest green standards. The catch is I will also be a certified permaculture designer by the end of September so I am trying to introduce those concepts more onto the residential landscape. Love Baker and Jody

**Emel Gokyigit Wadhvani** '91 <egwadhvani@hotmail.com>

We have moved and want to provide you with our new address: 7734 El Douro Drive. Sacramento, CA 95831  
Phone: 916-421-7206 Hope all is well with all of you!

**Christopher Roberts** '91 <christopher.c.roberts@gmail.com>

Have any FOOTies ever explored the Delaware Water Gap? Specifically, I'm trying to find a cabin to rent for a week or so. Remote is good, near water is good. Part of a Poconos gated community is bad. Thanks for any and all advice! (I expect they have already made this trip.--Little did he know that FOOT actually did some hikes there for a couple of years!!) Chris then sent news of two years: The big news of 2008 was the birth of Ruth, who is now 18 months old! She is great—funny, loving, strong-willed. Also in '08, Chris' book appeared in paperback. In January 2009, Martha (age 4) was diagnosed with Aspergers, a mild form of autism. Since then we have been reading and researching to find the best way to help her. We are now doing a full-time home program with her, under the supervision of www.familyhopecenter.org. She is definitely better than she was a year ago, but we still have significant work to do. She remains her cheeky, bright, beautiful self. Chris is not teaching this year in order to help with Martha's program. We are working as hard as we ever have, but are glad to be taking what feels like the right path for Martha and all of us. With lots of love, Chris, Hannah, Martha and Ruth Roberts. 223 East Evergreen Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19118.

**Josh Barkan** '91

I've been in Mexico City since last August, living with a painter and writing the next book. Blind Speed, my last novel, ended up a finalist for the Paterson Fiction Prize 2009--for the best book of fiction published that year. I keep eyeing the high volcanoes around here, and I plan to climb one of them--Orizaba--as soon as this chapter gets done. Josh

**Karen O'Brien** '91

I ran into Karen at a recent Celebration of Women at Yale for 40 Years Event. We had a great mini reunion. She is still doctoring in the Boston area, with hubby and three kids!

**Francesca (Smith) McInerney** '91

My news is that I got married last year to Dave McInerney, an Australian that I met while we were both postdocs at Penn State. We live in Chicago now a block from Lake Michigan. I am on the faculty at Northwestern in Earth and Planetary

Sciences and Dave is a researcher at the University of Chicago. All is well with us. Cesca p.s. I lost the Smith and am now McInerney.

Francesca A. McInerney, Assistant Professor, Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences  
Northwestern University, 1850 Campus Drive, Evanston, IL 60208  
Office: Locy Hall Rm 200A/B, Phone: 847-491-3459

### **Mark Malaspina '91**

I am living in Montclair NJ with my wife Aman and kids Sofia (age 6) and Deven (age 3). We love the town and the public schools here. After time in the Peace Corps, law school, grad school, and a legal non-profit, I spent 9 years with a K-12 education company that I co-founded and that we then sold to McGraw-Hill. I am now back in the non-profit world -- helping to run a great organization called Computers for Youth ([www.cfy.org](http://www.cfy.org)) that focuses on improving the home learning environment of low-income families. We're always looking for talented people who are interested in volunteering with our families (in NYC, LA, Philadelphia, Atlanta, and San Francisco) and also anyone who can connect us with creative, engaging learning software for kids and parents. Please contact me at [markmalaspina@yahoo.com](mailto:markmalaspina@yahoo.com)!

### **Eric Steadman '91**

Dear friends, It has been a great year for us here in Bangor and we hope this letter finds you well. As we write, we are thoroughly enjoying our mild winter—less snow than the past two years and fewer arctic cold snaps (knock on wood). So no comments on the outside temperature or our heating system on our Valentine's card this year. No, just music, food, and love, a few of our favorite things. The kids are indeed into music. Sonia continues to play the violin. Her wonderful teacher of two years left Bangor in September, but, thankfully, she was able to begin lessons with another excellent teacher at the studio, a member of the Bangor Symphony and a native of Moscow. Sonia is now using a Russian violin primer scattered with Slavic folk melodies—you can imagine how pleased Rita is. Cuthbert, too, started violin this year, studying at their Montessori school with a talented teacher from Mexico. He is doing well and had his first group concert in December, but his greater love is his child's guitar and percussion. He likes to play, in his words, "crazy music." He also loves singing and dancing, and has his own style that includes jumping, kicking, and getting on the floor and wriggling about. Perhaps it should be no surprise that when he and Sonia were performing for some friends of ours, Cuthbert stage-whispered to Eric, "Daddy, can I play 'I Wanna Be Sedated'?" Music has been a theme this year for Eric, too. He began playing guitar again to accompany the kids on violin, but has since made it a priority to carve out time for his own playing as well. Now, while by day he continues to run the home and care for the kids, by night he plays Spanish guitar pieces. Rita, although not making music, has revived her interest in painting during the year. Rita's mother Polly kindly gave her a gift of urban landscape painting lessons from a local artist, and the final project was Rita's first painting since Sonia was born. Our family trips last year included our annual trip to California, where we celebrated Valentine's Day with Polly and Rita's California grandparents and cousins. We made our second Disneyland visit, this time avoiding Mr. Toad's Wild Ride, which scared the daylights out of Sonia when she was three. Over the summer we trekked by car from Maine to North Carolina for a terrific week with Rita's Virginia grandparents and many members of the extended Henninger family. On the way down we stopped at Polly's Cambridge apartment to celebrate Cuthbert's birthday with Nathan and Rita's cousin Mufriidah. (Strangely enough, when we picked random churches for Sunday services on our trip, they all were led by friends of Rita's from seminary.) After arriving back in Maine, we began our annual vacation on the Maine coast with Eric's family. Both kids are now fanatics for the rides at Old Orchard Beach! Back here in Bangor, we continue to build our community. Eric keeps up with his book group and organizes "guys' nights out" and home-made pizza nights at home for assorted friends. Sonia and Cuthbert are both still at Bangor Montessori and enjoying it tremendously. And at home, the friendship between them continues to blossom and deepen, giving delight to mom and dad. Rita is in her third year as rector of St. John's, and is really enjoying it. The church celebrated its 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a worshipping community last year, a festive occasion that included a community-wide "high tea," the unfurling of an enormous banner from the tower, and a city proclamation read by the mayor. During the year the church raised money for youth mission trips with two wonderful community events: a gospel music concert and a production of "Amahl & the Night Visitors." The church also helped organize a Martin Luther King service a few weeks ago, where Senator Susan Collins, a Bangor resident, was the keynote speaker. During the reception Eric was searching and searching for Sonia, finally finding her in the corner hobnobbing with Senator Collins herself! One of the big events of the year was Rita's 40<sup>th</sup> birthday. We had a luncheon down in Acadia National Park with Auk, Polly, and several of our new Bangor friends and their children. Having such a friendly community was a real sign of the times—we are settling in and celebrating life's events with wonderful people. It definitely is starting to feel like home up here. On that note, we wish you and your family a happy community in 2010, and please keep us a part of it. Stay in touch, by phone, mail, e-mail, Facebook, or what have you. Passionate music, delicious food, and lots of love be yours. Play on!

### **Laura Grant '92**

Our family is still in Alaska, and we are lucky enough to see Louisa Castrodale '92 & family quite often -- most recently

at the Iditarod! The kids cheer and pick up dog booties as the sleds run by. Then of course we play Iditarod for weeks afterwards ;) Anytime anyone is headed to Alaska, let us know! We have lots of room for people to stay and info on all kinds of trips. All the best from Alaska, Laura Grant (92) & Kevin Feldis (90), Kadin, Taz and Kiana  
laura.grant.wg97@wharton.upenn.edu 907-336-3437 (home) and 907-529-2050 (mobile)

**Sumner McCallie '92**

I'm still in Chattanooga working at McCallie School serving as the Dean of Residential Life. Most exciting has been the continued work with our local Habitat for Humanity Chapter where I serve as Board Chairman. The McCallie students just dedicated their 13th home in Chattanooga and are taking two trips: one to Appalachia over Spring Break and one to Costa Rica this summer. I'll be leading an open adult trip to work with Habitat-Mongolia this summer, and then heading to trek in the far western Mongolian mountains for 3 weeks afterwards. I'd encourage fellow FOOTers to get involved with the Habitat affiliate in their neighborhood. It is a tremendous way to transform lives, including our own. Life is good! Take care, Sumner

**Jake Bowers '92** <jwbowers@illinois.edu>:

We are thrilled to announced the arrival of Cosmo Alojzy Bowers-Wong into our family. He arrived at 6:28 am on Feb 6, and at that time, weighed 8 lbs 13 oz. and was 21 inches long. After waiting 6 days past his due date, Cosmo rushed to make an appearance about half an hour after his parents arrived at the hospital. In case you're wondering, "why Alojzy?": Alojzy is a Polish form of Aloysius, and Aloysius is a Latin form of Luigi. Cara's dad's Chinese name is spelled Lui, Jake's great-grandfather was named Luigi, and Jake's step-grandfather was named Alois (another Polish form of the same name). Cosmo's Chinese name is 合一. One translation of this name is "United". The first character means "together" or "join" and the second character is the number one. Older sister Mari is anxious to paint her baby brother purple. Uncle Eric and Aunt Luella were here encouraging more Mari mischief when Cosmo was born. Nona Vicki is here now. Cara and Cosmo are both doing very well. Love, Jake and Cara and Big Sister Mari

**Paul Sabin '92**

Paul is still teaching environmental history at Yale. He graciously saved the day when I (Cilla) had an all day field trip planned for my Environmental Science class at Hopkins and one of the site hosts pulled out at the last minute. I quickly sent out a plea to all the folks I know in the New Haven area that have any connection to energy issues, and Paul stepped in with an informative lecture on energy history to 30 high schoolers! No mean task! Yay, FOOT connections!

**Katie Michel '93**

All is well with the Michel/Schlesinger Family. Just an update -- we moved to the Bronx a couple of years ago to a house and a yard -- more space for my seven year old Sadie and my three year old Claire to run around... Last week, as the daffodils were just blooming, they suggested camping out and set-up their sleeping bags outside. I am not sure about camping in the city, but their enthusiasm made me think back fondly to my FOOT days.  
All Best, Katie 4690 Dodgewood Road. Bronx NY 10471

**Burch and Rachelle LaPrade '93**

Sent their holiday card from America's Most Famous Ag-Extravaganza—the Iowa State Fair!! (one of the 1,000 places to see before you die) with lots of pictures of their 4 beautiful kids.

**Jody Esselstyn, '93** <jesselstyn@gmail.com>

Our family is doing well. our daughters, edie and sarah are enjoying swim team and summer travels to the beach. they are also learning to be wonderful big sisters to new little brother, george canfield aten, born march 19, 2009. life is full and busy! we are moving later this summer to a slightly larger house across town, where kiddos can walk to elementary school - hoorah! jeff continues to work as a landscape architect and i work very sporadically as a nurse, when i am not staying home with new babies. :) And then more: Still living in Charlottesville, VA after ten years here and raising three kids (Edie - 8 yrs, Sarah - almost 6 yrs, George - 1 yr) with husband Jeff, a landscape architect. Just moved to a new house across town to accommodate our expanded brood. Enjoyed lots of outdoor snow play this winter (almost 60 inches total!)... Take care, Jody  
new address -2503 Hillwood Place, Charlottesville, VA 22901  
h - 434-979-2665; c - 434-409-2661

**Anne Parker Weil '94**

The Weils had a spectacular year in Boulder—lots of hiking, biking, swimming and skiing. The highlight was an epic summer road trip across the country to visit friends and family. Sandy (Anne's hubby) started a new job at a software company consulting utility companies. Anne still works for a real estate investment company out of New York. Charlie's

in the first grade. Baillie's in Kindergarten and Allie's in PreK. Allie's favorite things are swimming, dogs and anything pink. Baillie loves writing stories and playing soccer. Charlie loves building things and thinks every sport is the best. We are looking forward to a fabulous 2010.

**Meg Wickwire** '94 <mwick118@yahoo.com>

It's been a wild ride this year! I was diagnosed with breast cancer in May, and completed lots of medical gymnastics (lumpectomy, chemo, etc.) a few weeks ago. I had great doctors, and all went according to plan as far as treatments, so I was really lucky in many ways. I am feeling progressively better; I can tell because I'm getting the itch to backpack again! Bill, Penn (3 1/2), and I went on a weekend trip to an AMC lodge recently, and it was the first time in far too long that I got in some great hiking. Penn is about 35 pounds, so I figure he's still a little lighter than the backpack I carried when I led with Tom Perriello and our group left much of the group gear to us the first few days. If we're lucky, the many reassurances we've had will prove true and this will be a rough memory and nothing more. When's the next FOOT reunion trip? Cheers, Meg (978) 371-0543

**Charlie Hale** '94 <charles@haleglobal.com>

I saw the following in the YAM about Seth Hawkins:

**Seth Hawkins '93** did not actually have to leap tall buildings or jump off cliffs in order to be officially declared a hero. But he does help oversee the EMS team whose territory includes the "deepest gorge east of the Rockies." He also founded the Appalachian Center for Wilderness Medicine. Hawkins, who practices in Morganton, North Carolina, the foothills of the Smokies was honored this week as a Hero of Emergency Medicine by the American College of Emergency Physicians. The college called him a "true pioneer" of the medical specialty of caring for the sick and injured in places no ambulance can reach. Hawkins says it was Yale's Freshman Outdoor Orientation Trips (FOOT) that helped set him on his career trail. I also read an article on Tom Perriello Y'96 in the New Yorker. He is a congressman for Virginia's 5th district. He was definitely in FOOT, and I think as a FOOT leader at least in 1994? I remember him as a FOOT classic - a 100% spot-on cultural fit, like the leaders I esteemed so much when I joined in 1991 - Jael, Perry, and Rachel Huff. A silly sense of humor, adventure, and outdoor skills, but with a free and generous spirit, and an ability to march to one's own drummer. All of which, of course, seems totally incongruous with politics! So, good for Tom! Speaking of incongruous with FOOT, my wife Ann and I are still in New York. I am still doing turnaround buyouts in technology, often with working with Marty. We recently won Divestiture of the Year at a 2010 turnaround awards event. I haven't touched a backback except to carry Julia and Charles (photos below), each 20 months old. Marty and I may go up to New Haven next weekend (the week after Easter) for various events. My blue "FOO t" T-shirt is always in my dresser in and close to my heart for what it represents. Fondly, Charlie

**Peter Braasch** '94 PBraasch@aya.yale.edu

I find myself in an awkward position with my FOOT-leader training failing me... or perhaps I am failing it? Please take a moment to look at my dilemma below. I would greatly appreciate any suggestions.

ICE BREAKER NEEDED! I have a meeting with 4 people on Monday. Some of us sorta know each other. Others not at all. But we are trying to launch a (very) small non profit that encourages people to give of their money and think more about the way they do so. I have been asked to come up with some sortofa ice breaker.... Any ideas? Would be happy to consider something outrageous... but would be good to have something less outrageous as well. But can not remember all the great games that I played/learned/saw while hanging out with Footies.... Thanks so much! Take care and be well, Love, Peter (I hope Peter found some good ones!! But perhaps keep sending any to him for future use!)

*Board Certified Acupuncturist.* Braasch Acupuncture  
(412) 400-8135

**Ben Strauss** '94 <bstrauss@climatecentral.org>

Ben Strauss is still sending out all those Climate Central emails. They even had a Climate Central wildfires piece on NewsHour...about the links between greenhouse warming, snowmelt, beetles, and wildfire rates in the West--which have shot way up in the last couple of decades. He noted We'll have the 9-minute video on our website, <http://www.climatecentral.org>.

Associate Director, Strategic Initiatives, Climate Central

Web: [climatecentral.org](http://climatecentral.org)

Email: bstrauss [at] climatecentral.org

Phone: 609-986-1984 ; Mobile: 609-613-0832

Mail: 1 Palmer Square, Suite 330 \* Princeton, NJ 08542

I (Ben)apologize for the blast, but I have a timely story I want to share in this late summer heat. At Climate Central we have just finished and published an unsettling but I think important analysis, suggesting that across major cities

nationwide, the average number of August days over 95 could nearly triple by 2050--at least without sharp reductions in greenhouse gas emissions. We've got more details, graphics, animations and a cities list on our website, <http://www.climatecentral.org/other/august-heat/>. I thought some of you might be interested in the latest from Climate Central, two big efforts we launched today and that I've been heavily involved in: \* An [interactive movie-map](#) of projected March temps by decade\* A [3-minute video tour](#) of changes in a warming Arctic (and my voiceover debut!)\* A [post](#) where I give some context to both. All best, Ben ps. Subscribe to Climate Central occasional announcements (of items like these) at [climatecentral.org](http://climatecentral.org) (click and scroll down to see subs. box in blue on the right hand side of the page).

**Jen Weyburn** '94 Here's my news: The spring is finally here in ATL and our wilderness is our treasured backyard -- my kids live outside. Will is 4 and Louise is 1 1/2. I continue my work at the Atlanta International School. As a curriculum coordinator, I frequently employ FOOT-type group-building activities -- my colleagues groan but the students love them... Thanks to FOOT!

**Elizabeth Murdock** '94

Please note that I have changed my email address. I am now using [murdock@aya.yale.edu](mailto:murdock@aya.yale.edu) for all personal email. Please delete [e\\_murdock@hotmail.com](mailto:e_murdock@hotmail.com) from your records, as I almost never check this. I look forward to talking with you soon! Thanks so much! Elizabeth

**Sara Bamberger** '95 <[sara.bamberger@gmail.com](mailto:sara.bamberger@gmail.com)>

Just a shout out from Berkeley. I live in Berkeley with my husband Ken Bamberger and four children, Max (6), Isaiah (5), Niva (3) and Ezra (1). I'm continuing to run the Religion, Politics and Globalization Program at UC Berkeley. I frequently see **Perry DeValpine** and **Rebecca Whitney**, two old FOOT friends of mine. Their two children, Luke (3) and Eloise (1) and our four children, are fast friends, as we have often have Sunday morning play dates. With four kids six & under I feel like we've shattered the sound barrier of American families, but we're enjoying it. And I must say, the best practice I've had for the constant leadership, predictable unpredictability, and the happy chaos of running a family was leading FOOT trips. If any FOOT leaders are in the Bay Area are looking for a baby burping, costume-wearing, piano playing, ball kicking good time, feel free to stop by or email me at [sara.bamberger@gmail.com](mailto:sara.bamberger@gmail.com) Best, Sara

**Anne Egger** '95 My big news is that I just (finally) finished my PhD in geology at Stanford. I'm still working here, too, as the Undergraduate Program Coordinator for Earth Sciences, which means I do a whole bunch of things focused on undergraduate teaching and research. Finishing the PhD while having a full-time job has curtailed my non-fieldwork-related outdoor expeditions the last few years, but I'm hoping to get back into more hiking and boating soon. Take care, Anne

**Josh Cott** '96 <[joshcott@yahoo.com](mailto:joshcott@yahoo.com)>

All is well out here on the west coast. We're running after two kids now, Noah (4) and Fiona (1).

**Pennan Barry** '96 <[pennan@aya.yale.edu](mailto:pennan@aya.yale.edu)>

I am an Infectious Diseases physician in San Francisco doing mostly public health epidemiology work with the San Francisco Department of Public Health and UCSF. I will be starting a new job in a few weeks with the California State Department of Public Health in their TB Control Branch. I am married to Winnie Kao who was my girlfriend at Yale. We now have a 1 yr old son, Malcolm. Though we hike with him pretty regularly, we are about to embark on our first camping trip with him in a couple weeks in Yosemite. Hopefully he'll be carrying his own pack and putting up tarps in no time!

**Tom Perriello** '96

I (Cilla) am on Tom's political newsletter mailing list! Here's one memo: Congressman Perriello Receives High Marks On His First Months In Office. Reviews have been coming in from newspapers around the district for Tom's first months in office and they're pretty unanimous: the 5th District likes what it sees. Tom's been working a double shift for us and local editorial boards are taking note of Tom's leadership and strong independent voice for transparency in Washington. *The Roanoke Times* wrote: "Tom Perriello isn't behaving like a freshly minted member of Congress. New back-benchers generally hope that one day, they, too, might rise to prominence. But first they need to demonstrate they are reliable, loyal party stewards so that they can gain the right assignments and, eventually, when they've put in the time, rise to chair an important subcommittee. Perriello's independent streak has no time for rank-and-file allegiance. He has made haste to challenge entrenched House practices. He's already pushed for transparency that requires members to post on their Web sites requests for earmarks. And now, he has signed on as an original cosponsor of a bill that would prohibit members

from taking campaign contributions and awarding earmarks to the same people." Thank you for all your support, Perriello for Congress!

**Abby Benson '96**

Happy spring!!! 2009 was a busy year for me, so here is an update. Last summer, after almost 10 years (!) in the Coast Guard and facing another move to a different duty station, I decided that I wanted to stay in the Washington DC area and try something new. I left the Coast Guard in June and started a new job in July in MIT's Washington, DC Office. In between jobs, my now husband Andrew and I got married in the Adirondacks. We had decided we wanted to get married somewhere in the mountains in the northeast, and the Adirondacks seemed like the perfect fit. I have always thought fondly of that area as the place where I first discovered my enduring love for the outdoors during my freshman FOOT trip and then leading a FOOT trip there a few years later. We had a great ceremony on a small lake with just the two of us, and then followed it up with family celebrations in Maryland and Rhode Island. I am really enjoying my new job as Assistant Director of MIT's Washington DC office. I spend my time advocating for all things science and technology policy related, and anything else that might affect MIT or its students. I went to MIT for graduate school, so I find these efforts especially fulfilling. Much of my time is focused on energy technology and policy, and I continue to be amazed by all the exciting work happening at MIT in this area. It's also nice to get back to Cambridge from time to time after having lived there for several years. I'd love to see any FOOTies who find themselves in the DC area! Here is my email: asb811@yahoo.com. Take care, Abby

**Ivan Kerbel '96** <ivan.kerbel@gmail.com>

My news is that I am back in New Haven, managing the Career Development Office for the Yale School of Management and eating more than my fair share of Wooster Square pizza. I'm looking forward to hearing more FOOTie news, and might even try to come do the hustle on campus when things get rolling once again in August! ...Best, Ivan m. 215-219-2212

**Julie Myers '96** <myersj75@hotmail.com>

So glad to hear that FOOT is still happening! It was a really fantastic experience for me. I play soccer with Gwyn Wells whom I'm not sure if you remember. I think she was Yale '98 or '99 and also a FOOT leader. I'm sorry I've been super-negligent with any kind of updates for a long time; I'm not married, don't have kids and haven't done any majorly thrilling FOOT-style travel so I felt like I didn't have anything exciting to write about! But well everything is fine. I'm in NYC and am training to be an Infectious Disease physician. I'm also taking public health classes this year which I'm enjoying. This summer a friend got married in Slovenia and I got to hike and bike a little in the Julian Alps (NW Slovenia) which was really beautiful.

**Oliver Pierson '96** <oliverpierson@yahoo.com>

Hi from Windhoek, Namibia. My wife Julie and I have been living out here for about 18 months. I work for a US Government Agency called the Millennium Challenge Corporation that does development work in the ecotourism, education and agriculture sectors, and my wife works on HIV/AIDS prevention projects at the Ministry of Health. We love this country - amazing outdoor recreation opportunities, beautiful landscapes, tons of wildlife, a rich history, and lots of interesting people. It is also a mountain biking mecca, with hundreds of kilometers of single track out the back door. Cheers, Oliver (First NH Trips)

**Aneurin Wright '96**

Long time, no update from me. The short news: I moved to the UK from Los Angeles three and a half years ago to work for Apple. I lived in London for two and a half years and then moved down to Brighton (lovely seaside resort on the south coast) with my soon to be wife. She's a yank herself and a graphic designer and we're getting married in Florida where her parents live in May. When I'm not working for Apple, I'm burning the midnight oil doing graphic novels; I recently finished a 310 page one called "Things to do in a Retirement Home... When You're 29 and Unemployed." I'm looking around with a literary agent in the States to see if we can get it published by a proper publisher. Not a lot of camping, but I can see the Sea from our living room, and these rolling, lush green hills that the Brits call the South Downs are a short bike ride away!

And that's all the news to report from over here. Aneurin

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**Kayla Tabela '97** <ktabela@gmail.com>

It's a cold, rainy day in DC, and lately my mind's been on hiking and on FOOT. Maybe the recent snap in the air reminded me of those late August hikes? A little bit of Googling turned up the FOOT leader alum newsletters. I can't believe I've missed them all these years!?! And a reunion in VT?!? It's been years since I played "To All My Neighbors." I blame Boston's annual apartment shlep -- my address changed more times than you can shake a stick at. I'm now in DC, working as a healthcare attorney, and would love to get back in the FOOT newsletter groove. I'm a fan of Facebook, but I like there's something more appealing about getting the newsletter (Does that mean I'm getting old? Don't answer that...). I can be reached here (if you've given up on snail mail) or at 4970 Battery Lane, Apt. 504, Bethesda, MD, 20814. Hope all's well, and I look forward to being back in touch. Best, Kayla

**David Lewicki '97**

I so love to get the FOOT newsletter! Here's a bit on me: Still living and working in the big (New York) city. My daughter, Margaret Grace, was born on December 31st at 29 weeks; she's a tough cookie and has tackled some serious health challenges in her short life; we hope to have her home from the NICU soon. Our boy, James Love, turns 3 in July; he loves roaring at people and being tickled. I'm content working in the God business and welcome New York FOOTies to drop in and see me at the Marble Collegiate Church at 29th St. and Fifth Ave. Much love, David  
646.644.6449 (cell) 212.686.2770 (work)  
ministerslife.blogspot.com

**Cat Balco '97** balco <balco@hartford.edu> I (Cilla) got a quick glimpse of Cat who is teaching art at the University of Hartford. She is due to get married on Martha's Vineyard this June!

**Melissa Lee '97** <molee1976@yahoo.com> Melissa sent her beautiful holiday card with her hubby and three little boys. She is a doctor in Chinte, Arizona!

**Elizabeth Averill '98** <ejaverill@yahoo.com>

It's always such fun to read the FOOT newsletter and see what everyone is up to. I can't remember whether I've written earlier with any updates so I'll just start with the latest. My husband Ben and I welcomed a healthy baby boy, Caleb, in April 2008. I'm still working at a law firm in DC, but thinking it's soon time for a change. We will be moving to Charlottesville, VA in July 2009 and will be there for about a year so if anyone is in the area I hope they'll get in touch. Email is still ejaverill@yahoo.com. I'll see if I can locate Jody Esselstyn. I don't know anyone in the area and will be looking for new friends. I think this part of VA is really pretty and am looking forward to the move. I'll be able to hike on a regular basis in the Shenandoah! Just wish we were going to be staying there for more than a year. (My husband is in the JAG Corps, so we will be on the move again before too long.) All the best, Liz

**Sarah Fayen Scarlett '98**

I have been a terrible FOOT alum and have hardly sent you updates at all over the years. But I have LOVED receiving the newsletters. I always read them and thought, "Wow, everyone is doing such cool stuff -- even the people I never even met!" But I do think about FOOT a lot and I wave hello at you whenever I am home visiting my parents and I drive by your house. Sorry for never actually reaching out until now. I hope you can still squeeze me in... Here's my story: I spent seven years working for a foundation in Milwaukee that has a partnership with the Milwaukee Art Museum. I was a curator working on exhibitions and research related to early American decorative arts -- furniture, ceramics, silver and other domestic items from the colonial era through the 20th century. I loved my job and I loved living in Milwaukee. If you ever get the chance to visit the city (and its museum!) you will be amazed at how beautiful Milwaukee is! Lots of great neighborhoods and super friendly people. But I left my position in July 2009 to take a slightly different turn. I have gone back to school to get a PhD so that I can teach. I loved curating exhibitions but a lot of my evolving interests were taking me out of the gallery space. I found the idea of the classroom more and more appealing. Plus, in July 2008 I married an archaeologist who has a university position and I figured that if I was going to be around Universities the rest of my life, I might as well try to teach. Also, I didn't want to let my husband Tim go off to wonderful archaeological digs every summer and leave me behind in a 9 to 5 job! So I bought a new backpack (for carrying books, not backpacking, sadly...) and headed back to school at the University of Wisconsin--Madison. The transition back to being a student in my 30s has been much easier than I thought, and I am loving this program, which lets me study architectural history and cultural landscapes. My goal is to fly through as quickly as possible so I can spend more time with my husband in our new home in Michigan's upper peninsula (where he teaches). If anyone is planning a trip to Isle Royale National Park, the ferry leaves 3 blocks from our house in Houghton, MI. Please use our guest room! This summer we are planning some backpacking in the Porcupine Mountains of northern Wisconsin, though it will never rival our epic climb up Mt. Katahdin in 2006. That was my best backpacking trip since FOOT for sure (see photo). I also attached a picture of me and Tim on the banks of Lake Superior near our home. Best wishes to all you FOOT leaders!

**Lizzie Jacobs '99** I gave birth to a beautiful baby girl, June Jacobs Walsh, on December 30, 2009. June, my husband Sam Walsh (TC '99), and I are doing great, enjoying life in DC. I'm enjoying full-time motherhood for another month (until May), when I'll go back to my job as a Senior Policy Advisor to Congress's Joint Economic Committee. I work on family economic security, labor market issues, and health care -- so it's been a busy year! I have yet to take June out for her first hike, but I'm really looking forward to it.

**Andrew Bonney '99** [awbonney@hotmail.com](mailto:awbonney@hotmail.com)

I am in Plymouth, Mass. working for the commuter airline Cape Air, overseeing the route strategy, scheduling and marketing. My wife, Christina, and I are expecting our second child on April 10. We have been back in Massachusetts for three years, and love living here. Andrew

**Jonathan Griswold '99** [jonathangriswold@yahoo.com](mailto:jonathangriswold@yahoo.com).

I'm still working for Amex in NY but may well transfer to their Delhi office this summer to get back to my interest in emerging markets. Hopefully I'd be able to find some mountains in the north to get my hiking fix, and I've discovered the Delhi Argentine Tango scene which is very fun. Might also meet up with FOOT leader Karen Weise '03 on her planned travels around India in May/June. If any other FOOT folk are heading to Delhi, drop a line to [jonathangriswold@yahoo.com](mailto:jonathangriswold@yahoo.com). Best wishes, Jonathan

**Emilie Hitch '00**

I'm still living in Minneapolis and have started my own consulting agency. I'm very busy applying anthropology to advertising and branding. You can read my blog at <http://anemilie.com/blog/> and my new business website is launching this spring- look for us at <http://thinkersandmakers.com> Other than that, I am hoping to see a LOT of FOOT leader alumni at the 10th reunion for the Class of 2000 this June! xoxo, Em

**Jacob Heitler '00** <[jacobheitler@gmail.com](mailto:jacobheitler@gmail.com)>

Footies do such amazing things! I am in Berkeley, CA finishing up my MBA at Haas at UC Berkeley. I'm planning on staying out here for a while after graduating, and am most likely going to be joining a start-up my brother and sister (Abby, not Sara) have been working on. The company builds interactive digital training systems for everything from companies like GAP Inc (our first large corporate client) to teaching conflict resolution skills for couples (funded by government grant). Basically, we help people with a curriculum and money turn their training program into interactive games and deliver them either over the Internet or on mobile kiosk computers. Of course, we're always interested in talking to anyone interested in learning more... (that's my shameless plug, in case this ends up in next year's newsletter). Besides that, I've been getting into road biking a bit and generally enjoying my flexible student schedule.

Since I suspect my sibs haven't been in touch, here's 2 cents on them. Jesse is living with his wife and new son, Noah Emmet, in London. Sara is here in Berkeley with me. She's busy running the Religion, Politics, and Globalization Program at Cal (<http://rpgp.berkeley.edu/>) and running after her three kids (all under 5). Please do send me a list of Bay Area Footies.

More from Jacob: Friends old & new, Some of you I haven't seen in years. Some of you I see almost daily. Some of you care deeply about the environment. Some of you care about fashion...and frankly, some of you could use some fashion assistance. But you all have one thing in common: **you all wear underwear**. I share an office with some amazingly talented guys from my business school class at Berkeley who have just launched an incredible socially & environmentally responsible, premium underwear company called PACT. Please do me a personal favor and **buy yourself a new pair of eco-chic skivvies**. Here's a discount code you can use for **25% off** at [www.wearPACT.com](http://www.wearPACT.com): *heitler25*.

And here's a clip about the company: <http://www.ktvu.com/video/21168071/index.html>

Jacob B. Heitler, 720.635.7376

And still more news from Jacob: Since you asked... great news: My girlfriend, Rachel Finkelstein, and I recently got engaged to be married. And in good FOOT fashion, we sealed the deal during a hike on top of the hills behind Berkeley, CA on a spectacular sunny day with a tremendous view of the entire Bay.

Besides that, the online marriage improvement program I've been working on with Jesse (my brother/former Poobah) and my other sister, Abigail, has been getting some good traction. Please send anyone who could use a little help smoothing out their relationship to the Power of Two ([www.po2.com](http://www.po2.com))!

**Adam Rosenblatt '00**

I'm so happy to see that FOOT is still going strong. I thought I'd let you know that my second son, Sal Jacob Rose-Levin, was born on January 1, 2010--the first baby of the year for San Mateo County, CA, where my wife Amanda and I

live, so he got his picture in the newspaper. His brother, Leo, who will be 3 years old in May, is already showing him the ropes. Thanks, and all the best, Adam

**Laura Haverland '00** <laura\_haverland@hotmail.com>

I am coming up on almost 8 years living in Brooklyn and almost 4 years working in marketing at FreshDirect, an online grocer in New York where I get to think about food all day long (just like when I planned the meals for FOOT in 1998!). I'm hoping my New York chapter will come to an end in the next year or so, as my fiance and I are planning to make a big life change and start a cheese-making dairy farm somewhere in the northeast with either cows or goats, depending on the land we find. If any FOOTies out there know of farmland within a few hours of a big city, between 40 and 100 acres between Virginia and Vermont, that someone might be interested in leasing to us, please let me know! (lhaverland06@gsb.columbia.edu) We would appreciate any tips!

**Amelia Shaw '01**

I am back in NY after a tumultuous couple of months, but all's well that ends well. I had been working in Haiti with the UN Peacekeeping Mission for nearly four years. And I was in my office in Port-au-Prince on January 12, sitting blithely at my computer working when the earthquake struck. It was like getting hit by a bomb, so out of nowhere. My six storey office building fell down - but not before I got out of it. I was very lucky, and so is my soon-to-be-baby, as I was about four months pregnant at the time. But sadly, many of my co-workers did not make it, and we grieve their loss. I ended up staying on in Haiti for another month to help with the relief efforts. It was an incredibly sad and intense time, as many of the people who were running relief were also quake victims struggling to cope with the loss of family, friends, colleagues, homes and offices. I got back up to New York in mid-February, where I have been shamelessly sponging off my parents because I have literally become an "IDB" - an internally displaced person! But they are more than happy to have me, it feels good to be home. My husband is still in Haiti, working with the UN mission. And me, for the moment I am working part-time in the UN in NY city to support the Haiti efforts, and spending the weekends in the Catskills waiting for my first child. We don't know what we are having, other than a Haiti quake survivor! We are all doing well, and happy to be alive, to enjoy the beautiful spring in the Hudson Valley in upstate New York. I hope that you are well! All the best, Amelia

**Sarah Ichioka '01**

I'm heading towards my 8th year in London, can you believe it, and weighing up applying for UK (dual) citizenship. Running The Architecture Foundation here. Please encourage any Blighty-bound (and/or architecturally-minded) FOOTies to get in touch. Warm best wishes, Sarah

**Colin Reingold '02** <colinreingold@gmail.com>

I'm now in New Orleans working for a federal judge, and I'll start a job as a public defender / special litigation staff attorney here in the fall. It's the greatest city in the world, apart from the lack of mountains. Any FOOT leaders coming through for one of our many festivals should look me up....

**Maggie Whelan '02** <maggiwhelan@gmail.com>

It's been quite some time since I've been in touch, but I thought you might be amused to hear about a FOOT-related trip I took last spring. Well, not FOOT-related exactly, except that there were several of us FOOT leaders involved. Jonathan Griswold ('99), Karen Weise ('03), Aly Kellman ('02) and I flew down to Argentina last April to check out Buenos Aires and go see the glaciers in Patagonia. Jonathan was my FOOT leader back in the day and he spearheaded the trip - I think his wanderlust was kicking in after being at Wharton and then working a desk job in New York. He and Karen are regular travel companions after they met in Azerbaijan some years back. Aly was my addition to the group as she has her own travel bug and is great fun. So, we explored Buenos Aires a bit then flew down to Patagonia. We spent a day hiking on the actual glacier and then traveled to the tiny town of El Chalten, where we did some fabulous hiking amidst glacier capped peaks. The group worked out wonderfully! (I would expect nothing less from a bunch of FOOT types.) Quite a trip. We all have pictures on facebook if anyone is interested.

In more recent news, I am in South India through the spring doing field research for my dissertation in Epidemiology at the University of Pittsburgh. Once I finish that I head back to medical school to complete my MD/PhD. So, only a couple more decades until I have an actual job. :) Karen is in Panama for the winter break working on stories until she returns to journalism school at Berkeley in January. Jonathan is in New York, working for American Express. And, Aly is an attorney in Washington, DC. She's actually heading to India for a wedding and a conference over the new year and plans to head south and meet up with me in Hyderabad for a few days. We tend to only hang out in exotic locales, it seems. All the best, Maggie

**Julie Marchesi '02**

Happy spring, almost. I'm writing on behalf of Ian Cheney -- he and I are making films together these days. As you may or may not know, Ian planted a vegetable garden in the back of his pickup truck and is taking it on tour in April to promote Earth Day. Ian and Curt are taking the truck to a bunch of schools in CT

### **Ian Cheney '02 & Curt Ellis '02**

Ian Cheney and Curt Ellis, the filmmakers behind *King Corn* and the *Greening of Southie*, are currently working on a fun new food and film project called Truck Farm: a mobile garden in the bed of a vintage pickup truck. In celebration of Earth Week, Ian and Curt will be taking the farm on the road, visiting schools across the Northeastern US from April 19-23. At each school, they will pull up with the truck and give a multi-format presentation on film, food, and farming and judge entries for a contest to see which school can grow food in the craziest place! If you're not familiar with Ian and Curt, they are dynamic speakers, Peabody-winning filmmakers, and celebrated young advocates for sustainability.

### **Georgina Cullman '02**

I'm writing from Madagascar, where I'm undertaking the pilot phase of my research for my Ph.D. I'm looking at multiple values relating to land use in a protected area in the northeast of the country. The terrain there is steep! There are few roads in this area, so I'll be walking or taking boats to many field sites -- some are several days' walk from the nearest road. I'm excited by what I'll learn but hoping that the leeches stay away! much love to the FOOT community, Georgina

### **Sasha Waring '03 <sashawaring@gmail.com>**

I've made it West to San Francisco as of a year ago, and am finishing my first year of psychiatry residency at UC San Francisco. I'm enjoying being back in the city where I grew up, and my wife Avantika, born and raised in New Jersey, is adapting. We got married in 2008 outside of Philadelphia, where I was in medical school and she was doing residency in internal medicine, both at U of Pennsylvania. The most exciting news I think is that we're expecting our first baby in mid-May. We don't know yet if it's a boy or girl (decided to be surprised) but are getting the baby room ready as we speak. We manage to get outdoors for hikes, runs, and bikes on a regular basis, though I'm on my own with exercise more these days as Avantika has gotten seriously pregnant. I miss New Haven and the East at times but life is good here. I draw on my FOOT experiences on a regular basis-- navigating and knot-tying but more importantly in working on a team and acting as a leader. I hope that the FOOT crew, new and old, is strong. Can't wait to read others' updates! Sasha FOOT Poobah 2002-03 (with Rachel Berger, who I ran into here in SF at my favorite Taqueria El Farolito just a couple months ago!)

### **Alexandra Milsom '03**

How is little Footie the cat?(Footie was that kitten you all fed in Bingham and then left as a present for me when the trips began!) I'm living out at Venice Beach doing a PhD in English Lit at UCLA and teaching undergraduate English. I hang out with Mike Zimmer '01 from time to time - most recently at his Oscar party at which he correctly predicted 90% of the wins and won a bunch of money - like \$5 and a Starbucks card. I also volunteer for a Pitbull rescue organization and walk and hike with homeless dogs every weekend. It's quite rewarding. I also often see Josh Berezin '01 who is up in San Fran in med school. He came down and we went to a death-yoga class together (it was so hard we almost died and then drowned in Josh's pool of sweat) and then ate a \$300 sushi dinner with Zimmer. Hope all is well! I miss Foot...

### **Anthony Anagnostou '03**

The last seven years went pretty quick. I graduated, worked for four months, lived in a ford escort and traveled north america (mostly climbing) for five and a half years, and now I'm in med school in nyc. Local folks I've lost touch with should drop me a line- I'll make pizza for anyone who can make it up to washington heights. best, ant

### **Tara O'Donnell '04**

Hello! I hiked a section of the Massachusetts AT a couple of weeks ago, and remembered FOOT fondly!

### **Matt Wilson '05**

I (Cilla) had a nice chat with Matt at a party not too long ago. He is living in New York and works for one of the big consulting firms, McKinsey (I believe). He looked great and seemed happy with life in the big apple.

### **Jordan Barr '06 <jordan.l.barr@gmail.com>**

A brief hello!

### **Danielle Lovell '06 <danielle.lovell@gmail.com>**

It is just a short note to tell you that while my time in Calgary has been brief (22 months, coincidentally the gestation time

of an Indian elephant) the time has come to move again! Some day, I might live in one building for more than 24 months. I did live in the same zip code in New Haven for 4 years, but nothing close to continuity as far as my building. And, I shall be moving to Vancouver! The Wet Coast! It's unclear to me whether anyone besides me calls it that. But, I think it's funny. And I definitely want you to remind me next winter when I'm complaining about the grey, cloudy skies (and rain!) how thrilled I am to be moving. I will be staying with my current company, spud! (the organic grocery delivery deal) and I'll be moving to do just marketing (instead of the marketing/customer service hybrid I do right now). And then, this fall I'll start furiously applying and researching (not in that order) graduate schools to start back into the academic realm. I plan on doing something psychology or social work related, leading to a specialty in counseling especially for eating disorders. And, I'm somewhat vague about the program because I'm not sure yet what would be the best fit. But, I'm sure I'll find out as soon as I start researching. I plan on biking around Vancouver like a maniac (a safe, bicycle helmet wearing one) kayaking on the Georgia Strait oodles, and perhaps zipping down to Seattle and Chelan to see old friends a few times! And of course spending much time with the wonderful gentleman in my life, Philip. We're actually nearing 10 months together, which given the fact that we've been a 'commuter relationship' as my friends in Calgary call it for that whole time, I think is pretty impressive. So that's it! My current number (403.671.7438) will work until I head west on June 11th, and then I'll be switching to a Vancouver number soon after. I hope all is well in your end of the world. Wishing you wonderful days and exciting nights through your summer! Cheers, Danni

And then later: Hello! I moved to Vancouver, moved in with Phil, I'm still vegan, and I'm thinking about going to business school...I'm overdue to an update (and probably phone calls, facebook messages, perhaps real letters and emails too!) to you and most people around me in my life. My excuse is that life has been busy, but that's not a great excuse. I have also moved twice in the last 6 months! I started 2009 working for spud! (that organic delivery company I've been at for over 2 years now) and living in Calgary. I found Calgary fun (filled with friends and long lost family friends), cold (and difficult to get around when it's -40 and full of snow) and much too far away from a certain gentleman friend of mine (Philip!). So, I gathered my things, asked for a transfer at work from the customer service/marketing role I was in to a fully marketing role in Vancouver and travelled my way West. Phil is definitely not the only reason I moved to Vancouver, a city full of tasty vegan food, bicyclists, dependable transit, gorgeous mountain views and no bitterly cold temperatures; however, it is lovely to be able to see him daily rather than 3-4 days a month. I moved in with two friends from Calgary. One I knew quite well from our adventures at the Alberta Ballet and one I knew less well, but shared a group of hilarious and ridiculous friends with in Calgary. The three of us caused trouble, enjoyed ourselves, were almost never in the apartment at the same time (we had our house warming party in November, after moving in mid-June).

And, I was sad to leave them! But leave I did for a lovely, warm, centrally located apartment in the West End (downtown near Stanley Park for those not as familiar with Vancouver) with Phil! We've been living together for nearly a month now, organizing the kitchen, mouse-proofing our garbage, buying and decorating Christmas trees and so on. But moving, apartment hunting switching addresses and everything along with that does throw life into a tizzy! But, I'm almost done organizing and unpacking everything from my two moves (I have a whole box of newly discovered stationary. Email me your address if you want to get on my spontaneous letter writing list!). And, I'm also starting to organize my plans for what I want to do next. And, after conversations, career testing, more conversations, and lots of thinking, the current plan of action is BUSINESS SCHOOL! A little surprising perhaps, but perhaps not. The plan for now is to study like wild for the GMAT, get all the bits I need together for applications and apply next fall (2010) for entry in 2011. That way, I also have more time to save up and distill down to where I want to go and what I want to do with an MBA. It feels like the best mix of structure (I've gained a new love for statistics since doing all sorts of analytics for spud!) and flexibility for my future. And perhaps this will change in a month, but perhaps not. So, that's the main big bundle of updates for now. I won some snoeshoes at the spud! christmas party, so I'm looking to go make use of them in the mountains several times before Vancouver gets invaded by the world in February for the Olympics. I'm both excited and apprehensive about how that's going to go. Depending on transit delays, I may just work from home for two weeks. And now, I'll go back to sitting with our dogs by the fire in my parents' house (and yes, we do have a fire going in Houston... it's a windy 51F/6C outside! Bitterly cold friends!) and feeding my family vegan treats. Lots of love! Danni  
p.s. my new address, if you are of the letter sending type is: 211-1830 Alberni St., Vancouver, BC V6G 2z2.

\*\*\*(And then just recently from Danni)

It's April! How did that happen? I feel like I ducked, and most of February and March flitted by in Vancouver. February was wild and raucous with Olympics (which you may have watched) and March wandered by faster than I expected. Most notably, I had my first vernal equinox in ages that actually had birds chirping outside and gorgeous blossoms blooming in ages. I'm really enjoying life in Vancouver more all the time. Phil and I have a bird feeder up on our porch, which we've nicknamed 'Bird TV', and we've been watching the changing species of birds fighting each other for all the seed we feed them. And, I've started the seeds for my first garden ever! It brings me back to being on the Sunshine Farm and watching all the hardworking farming women starting seeds, watching them sprout and so on. I have a batch of kale, lettuce, chard,

tomatoes (three types), parsley, cilantro and basil just started. And, I have a newly adopted bin of red wiggler worms who are going to be chomping through our kitchen waste and creating great compost for us. I'm just coming to the end of the entrepreneurship course that I wandered into in January. It's been a really interesting and challenging course with all sorts of crazy homework (talk to Howard Schultz - CEO of Starbucks), and it's culminating in a business plan submission in 3 weeks and then possibly presentation to a panel of venture capitalists, who may or may not fund my idea! And, my idea (which still needs a bit more fleshing out) is a relocation service for families moving overseas and back from overseas to North America. Providing both the structures and actions of moving (visa, moving service connection, school finding help) and the more overarching support through culture shock, homesickness, and preserving the knowledge of expats who have moved before, but don't have a strong, centralized and easily searchable source of information about the places they've moved. Any ideas or insights you have would be much appreciated! If you moved overseas, what would you have liked to make the transition go smoothly? What did you have that you liked? So, that's the goal! In just over a month, to be contemplating a contract with an angel investor to get my own business off the ground. I have been consulting, doing social media training for small businesses (mostly ones I have contact with through Spud!) in the last little while, and I do enjoy that, but I like this idea much more. I know this is a short note, but I did want to get any feedback and ideas now, so that I can use them as I get cracking on fleshing out my biz plan. Oh yeah, and what's in the cards for now is my applying to business school this summer and fall for entry in 2011. I've been looking to Canadian and US schools, but I haven't completely ruled out England (it'd be nice to be around the extended family), and perhaps Australia? Send me thoughts on business schools as you have them too! And last but not least! I hope to take a week's vacation this summer (early summer, May/June) with Phil to NYC. We're looking for affordable places to stay, and we're happy to house-sit for people who might be headed out of town (do people do that in New York? Go out of town for a week and get a house-sitter?), or any inside scoop you have on affordable hotels, motels, hostels and the like. So if you are in NYC, let me know, and I'll be sure to give you all the set dates when we pick them... So as to say hello! Much love from above, Danni

**Laura Warren '06 and William Nebling '06** sent a card from Kootenay National Park in the Canadian Rockies: We are doing a five day backpacking trip along the Rockwall Trail and are spending much of our time reminiscing about the good old FOOT days. Good luck with this year's trips!

**Aaron Zelinsky '06:** I (Cilla) actually went tailgating at the Yale-Harvard Game this past November. I made my way to the tailgating party of Aaron's. Aaron said we are already planning Boston in 2010 and New Haven in 2011! Put it on your calendar...

Aaron sent me a list of the leaders who were there: Olga Berlinsky '08, Laura Chandhok '08, Bevan Dowd '08, Ian Dull '09, Jason Fischer '06, Claire Gagne '06, Claire Hirschmann '05, Sam Landenwitsch '06, Greg Lipstein '08, Ned Mitchell '07, Will Niebling '06, Jeff Warren '06, Laura Warren '06, Mackenzie Wehner '08, Aaron Zelinsky '06, Lynn McGregor '08, David Lyons '08

Everyone is doing such interesting things! My poor brain can't recall everything—but we had doctors, politicians, lawyers, educators, non-profiters, and so on...and a few still in school! ☺ We called Brandon Berkeley on the phone. She is still working for Madeline Albright in DC...

(Aaron's little brother Nathaniel is now a FOOT Leader!!)

**Gillian Gillers '07:** I spotted her at an engagement party for Gayley Woolston this winter. I believe she is living in NYC.

**Caroline Howe '07** was featured in the 2/15/09 Friedman NY Times editorial:

<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/02/15/opinion/15friedman.html>. She and a friend were having a grand adventure riding a "green" car around India meeting all sorts of important people. Are we surprised??!!

**Ned Mitchell '07** <ned.t.mitchell@gmail.com> Ned is about to commit to studying for med school. I wrote a recommendation and will share some of his notes to me about FOOT:

FOOT was both essential to my arrival at Yale in making my first friends, which then made me feel proud that I could give back to such a program that provided me with a great experience. Beyond just the trips, it was a community of outgoing people who were willing to help. Even now, Will Garneau '05 is helping me to apply to these post-bac premed programs. It was a connection in between grades and therefore a legacy that must be carried on. I loved how it valued the 'soft' over 'hard skills' knowledge because it was always the soft skills of the leaders that made a trip succeed, in my opinion.

FOOT was also a tie between each of my years at Yale, bookends in May training where I found what would be my closest friends and then the teamwork and training in the fall that gave us purpose for our camaraderie. FOOT not only made me feel welcome, but gave me the chance to be a welcomer, a provider and a person of responsibility in introducing Freshmen to Yale.

Some FOOT highpoints: Dinners at your house, May training shenanigans, the beginning group games for each class of freshmen were always my favorites. If I had to choose two it would be these: First, for the May training after my junior year there were inclement weather forecasts and so May training trips were delayed a day and the poobah's assigned Bill Deitch, Ben Beinecke and myself to come up with an afternoon's worth of inside activities because it was raining the whole time. That improvisation always stuck with me as we saw skits, competition and even very creative women's hygiene bags from every group. Second, on my trip leading I remember saying falsely that "pizzas were my specialty" even though cooking was one of my biggest fears as a leader. Having the satisfaction of providing for those freshmen while flying by the seat of my pants was hugely rewarding for me. FOOT gave me confidence to be a provider and a healer if only in small ways.

**Sharon Madanes '07 and Ben Beinecke '07**

Sharon and Ben were living in Vermont last summer so we had a great visit at my place in Washington, Vermont. Here's from Sharon: My FOOT leader days are long from forgotten! I am currently living in Vermont with Ben Beinecke (FOOT leader '07). We're living in Jeffersonville, but Ben actually works in Barre (for Northern Power, the wind energy company) and we are enjoying hiking the Long Trail! We just hiked Mt. Mansfield last weekend with Anna Dechert (FOOT leader '08), and also visited Edwina Clarke (FOOT leader '09 in her native home, the Adirondacks. There are so many ex-FOOT leaders in this neck of the woods, its fabulous! I am hoping to volunteer in Ghana this fall with Unite for Sight, an organization that supplies eye care to people in developing countries. Ben will finish up at SOM.

**Tasha Eccles '07** <anastasia.eccles@gmail.com>

Glad to hear foot is alive and kicking. I just moved into an apt near Columbia University with two foot leaders - Angel Hertslet and Alex Borinsky - and we are having a ball already!...Tasha and I (Cilla) met up at the December Slavic Chorus Concert. A great singing event!

**John Mittermeier '08**

I just wanted to send you an update about my graduate school situation--As it turned out, I ended up submitting applications for PhD programs in evolutionary biology at University of Kansas, LSU, Berkeley and Cornell and for a masters program in conservation biology at University of Oxford, UK. After turning in the final applications at the very end of December, I spent most of January and February in Southeast Asia first visiting my mother (who now lives in Hanoi, Vietnam) and then conducting some ornithological fieldwork in Malaysian Borneo. Now I'm back in the US while I wait to hear from schools and then figure out a plan for next year. Wherever I end up, hopefully I will get a chance to come visit New Haven sometime in the near future!

**Mila Dunbar-Irwin '08**

As all of us seem to have to do, I wanted to let you know that my old e-mail will no longer work as of sometime in the very near future and you can now find me at: mila.dunbarirwin@gmail.com and forever and always (so they tell me) mila.dunbar-irwin@aya.yale.edu will work. Hope this e-mail finds you all well! Love, Mila

**Erin Johnson '08**

I recently saw Erin at a conference at Yale. She has had a wonderful 2 year fellowship, the Woodbridge Fellowship, from Yale where she gets to work for various Yale administrators. At the moment she is working for Linda Lorimer.

**Andrew Karlin '08**

Please send all future email to my gmail account at andrew.r.karlin@gmail.com. 703-819-0891

**Nick Abreau '08**

It's Nick Abreu here - I was Yale '08 and a proud FOOT leader. I'm now a first-year at Harvard Med and have taken over the reins of Harvard Med's version of FOOT - FEAT.

And finally news of the **Kellert** family. We are still enjoying our homes—New Haven, Martha's Vineyard and Vermont. I'm not sure how we lucked into this—mostly good timing with the real estate market. We were commenting on how all three have incredible views—New Haven of East Rock, the Vineyard of the water and Vermont of the mountains. Who could ask for anything more? Despite this we still travel. Last year was to the Galapagos and this January was to southern Chile to Torres del Paine National Park. I have to say that this place was one of the gems in all my travels. I was so saddened when Chile then had their devastating earthquake and aftershocks. The part of Chile we were in is fine, but I am saddened by all the destruction in the middle of the country. The Chileans are the nicest people!!! We also have three

beautiful grandchildren—all girls and all delights. Steve is finishing up at Yale; this is his last term of teaching. He is writing a book, a chapter a week, as part of the class! He will still keep his office at the forestry school and have a Yale connection. Meanwhile, he is still pursuing green initiatives in the business world and traveling all over for that. I am still teaching history and environmental science at Hopkins (you know, that feeder school for some excellent FOOT Leaders). I am heading the school's Sustainability Committee which has been invigorating, yet demanding. I still love to hike, bike, occasionally swim, and play tennis! We keep talking about retirement, but...

Lots of love, xoxoxo, Cilla

Stay in touch! [priscilla.kellert@yale.edu](mailto:priscilla.kellert@yale.edu)



In the Galapagos January 2009



In Torres del Paine, Chile January 2010