Dear FOOT Leaders Alums,

Thank you for your patience in getting this out this year. We had to pull a few teeth, but it was worth it as always. I hope you are all well and thriving. I love all the news and photos and I thank you for keeping in touch. FOOT is well and thriving, and the leaders are always a joy to work with. This has been a crazy year, in terms of politics and weather, so it’s great that FOOT continues to be a source of strength and goodness in this maelstrom we have found ourselves. So here is the good news:

Class of 1986 & 7

Eve Vogel: I am still a Geography professor at UMass Amherst. I have a new(ish) research project looking at the interconnections between electric policies and markets, including requirements and incentives for increased renewables, and the impacts on hydropower, rivers and communities. (Guess where I got that idea, after 17 years living in Oregon? Funny, it’s a novel concept in New England.) In my own town of Amherst I am active in other applications of nuanced ideas of sustainability, advocating for alternative transportation (also influenced by my years in Oregon) while taking seriously things like town budget constraints and Dept of Public Works’ need to spend transportation funds maintaining roads and filling potholes. My son is now 14. The big excitement in the near future is that I expect to see Cilla at the 50th reunion of the Yale Slavic Chorus next weekend. Can you all believe it’s now been over 50 years that women have been at Yale? I expect some 200 women from every year since the start of the chorus, all singing together next Sunday in Battell Chapel. Wow! Hugs, Eve P.S. Have you all heard that Yale investments include ownership of a large portion of the Maine woods - much of which has in the last 25 years become controlled by financial investors - and the Yale-owned lands have particularly aggressive forestry practices? I just heard about this from a colleague.... (Here’s Eve with Cilla at the recent Slavic Chorus Reunion!!)

Nina Kallen: I am living in Boston with my two great kids, still running my solo practice law office specializing in liability insurance issues. Big news is that my divorce is FINALLY done, and I’m looking forward to the next adventures. Visit my blog on insurance coverage issues:
http://insurancecoveragemassachusetts.blogspot.com/
Visit my website: http://www.kallenlawyer.com/

Liz Ablow: Last year was a year of recovery! Dick, my husband, broke his ankle on Christmas Day 2017 and we thought nothing could be worse! Especially, because he owns a restaurant and is involved in all aspects of the place so missing work was difficult. Then a month and a day later I called him from the same mountain that he broke his ankle and let him know I had done something bad to my Knee. Well, I did the trifecta: completely tore my ACL, MCL and meniscus. Luckily Dick broke his left ankle so he could drive. I tore my right knee so couldn’t drive for over six months. Together we were a sight-boot and brace. Well, two surgeries later and over a years worth of PT, massage, acupuncture and a lot of grueling daily exercises I would say I am about 90% there and still on the mends. I definitely learned patience, persistence and being zen with all the buses, crossing lights and elevators I missed in the process. On this end, where I keep getting stronger and mobility keeps getting better is wonderful.
On a different note, we just sent off the last college tuition payment! No more FAFSA’s, CSS’s, etc. My daughter graduates college in June. She has a seasonal job as a back country ranger in the Alpine Lakes Wilderness, this summer. Our son now lives in Colorado working for an organization called the Society for Wilderness Stewardship. We are finding humor in their wilderness connections. Life is good right now. I am thankful for it all. Cheers, Liz Ablow

Class of 1988

Roger Wynne: I attended our 30th reunion last May. Among my fond memories of the gathering was meeting a classmate’s son who seemed impressed when I told him FOOT didn’t exist when I entered as a freshman and I was a leader in the program’s second year. (Yes, impressing young people is a rare enough event that it sticks with me.) I smile at the valued institution FOOT has become.

Patrick Whalen: I am living in Bradenton, Florida teaching world history at a small private high school—the same place that I have been teaching since leaving Yale. My oldest son also teaches physics and math at a private school in Seattle, which is why one of my photograph is from a day hike at Wallace Falls State Park in Washington. I also recently took a backpacking trip to Cumberland Island, Georgia with my other son, who will soon graduate high school. He took the photo of me on the trail. The outdoor tradition is alive and well with Patrick’s family! My wife and I have both recovered very well from cancer surgeries in the past four years.
Kristin Mitchell: I actually have some epic hiking tales this year. I spent a week of intensely blustery hiking near Fitzroy and Viedma glacier in Patagonia this January, on my way home from a month in Antarctica. I was part of year three of ten of Homeward Bound, a leadership program for women in STEMM. I spent 20 days on board ship with 79 other women, learning from Paris Agreement architect Christiana Figueres and other luminaries. It was tremendous to have so much time for self-reflection in a breath-taking setting. Christiana’s motto is ‘stubborn optimism’ which I have found tremendously energizing in my work and personal life.

My oldest, Drake, is a sophomore at U Minnesota, studying math and CS and philosophy and heading to Wall Street for an internship this summer. My proudest mom moment last summer was when he decided the evening before a friend’s wedding that he really wanted to do a 12 hour hike with his friends - so he left at midnight in order to do the hike and still make it to the wedding. Midnight sun in Alaska comes through again.

My youngest, Phoebe, is a 9th grader, with a black belt in karate and a plan to work at Google so she can bring her dog to work. She would rather sail than hike.

Are any of you planning to be in New Haven in May for the reunion? I’d be game to reprise an East Rock ascent.
Beth and Trex Proffitt: continue to enjoy Lancaster PA where Beth saves young F&M souls from themselves as a residential college dean, and I head off each morning to teach the 7th graders and coach squash. We are working to expand our squash program, so I spend a lot of time on that now, living out some hollywood stereotype of the coach who also gets to teach history. Eddie, youngest child at 15, is our star player so we get lots of quality time teaching, stringing rackets, and playing together. In a small FOOT world story, at middle school squash team nationals at Yale last month, I ran into fellow FOOT alum Baker Mallory '91(?) on court as the coach of the opposing team from New Canaan! (And then Cilla and I had a fun catch up time at Blue State Café on York Street.)

This year’s commotion features Nils the German foreign student who
keeps telling us “Everything German is best.” even as we corrupt him with lots of fast food. We can now predict his every comment and the one we like best is his agreeable, “Sure! Why not?” Lauren, middle child at 17, is applying to colleges and made parents proud by including Yale on her list. Not sure how that will shake out yet but everyone's on pins and needles for another month. She led the charge putting in a lot of hours on a Congressional campaign in our local district last summer and fall, and we all did a bit more than usual; it did not produce nominal victory, but did produce the best result for an opposition candidate in a long time. This is Pennsiltucky, after all and our more rural voters have a reputation for pretty much doing the same thing every time no matter what. It was fun getting out and talking to neighbors in the community together and there was a lot of spirit. Not much outdoors stuff this year, but always looking for an excuse to walk the dogs around. Until next time....

**Ben & Betsy Saylor** and the boys

---

**Eve Porter-Zuckerman**: Here in New Hampshire in March, we just started sugaring. In prior years, the weather has made the sap run earlier, but not this year. We still have a couple of feet of (rapidly melting, now) snow on the ground, and are longing to see color around us as we look out at the grays of winter and the browns of the just starting mud season. My children are just 5 and 3, and so our year has been all about Kindergarten and new patterns. Both are rock climbing and our home in the woods keeps us all learning about nature all the time. We get to a city pretty frequently - Boston, Portland, and Montreal mostly (and I work in Boston a few days each week). Friends near and far in the years around this 50 year birthday time for our class have been sharing tales of being in the thick of life, with its great challenges - in health, career, and family (not to mention the world) - as well as triumphs and thrills... some in the same categories. Oh - and a new Great Dane puppy to join our pack of 2 Greater Swiss Mountain Dogs and 2 cats! Silliness is essential.
Michael Kahan: Not too much new to report here! I’m still in Mountain View, CA and teaching Urban Studies at Stanford. One highlight of the past year was a university-sponsored three-week trip to St. Petersburg, Russia with 12 students. I led it together with my wife, Gabriella Safran, who teaches Russian literature at Stanford. It was our first official professional collaboration, and it was a lot of fun! The coming year will be one of significant transitions - our older daughter, Eva, will graduate from Tufts this
Kristin Edwards: Spring is upon us! I have seen crocuses springing up all around when I walk with a friend Wednesday mornings and daffodil shoots are making their way out of the ground around our yard. I am lucky to work only three days a week (as a radiologist) leaving the other days to row on the Schuykill, read to elementary school kids in West Philly and record open source (ie OLD) books for LibriVox audio recording (my latest hobby). I have been able to spend a few days since the new year to visit with Kashka Kubzdela and her daughter Nicola in Baltimore during her chemotherapy sessions for pancreatic cancer. So far her scans are stable and she’s so strong plowing forward with both work and battling her disease.

On our home front we are looking at an empty nest next year! Annika our youngest will take a gap year in Norway in August and will come back as a freshman at Middlebury in 2020. Middle son Erik is a sophomore Math and Statistics major at nearby Arcadia University and our oldest Dylan is finishing a masters in Food Science (plant based protein analogs) in Holland. Scott and I have been hiking around the Wissahickon trails with friends in "preparation" for a trip to Patagonia next March, but that is the extent of our hiking these days. We’re hoping to visit Annika at the end of her gap year and do more roaming and visiting in Norway at that time.

Class of 1991

Eric Steadman: A big change of last fall was that Cuddy joined Sophia at The Haworth Academic Center, which is a small homeschooling resource center in Bangor. They went there daily from 9-12, and there are about 15 students total in the school, ranging in age from 8-18. Cuddy will continue there this fall (for his eighth grade), and Sophia is going to go to John Bapst High School, an independent school in Bangor. There was a big enrichment to Eric’s professional life last fall, when he took on the role of co-chair of the Bangor High School Math Department. It has caused him to look more broadly at high school mathematics and its place within the larger curriculum, and it has made him more familiar with the daily ins-and-outs of school operations. He is still co-coaching the math team and teaching upper level high school mathematics classes. Eric has also been on the board of the Bangor Symphony Orchestra for several years, and he just recently became Treasurer for the organization.

Many things have happened at St. John’s for Rita. The church has been extensively discussing its vision for the future, and has been challenged by some difficulties with the church structure. It started as a visible crack by the church entrance last summer, and upon further professional inspection it has led to a winter with safety scaffolding across the entrance to protect from falling mortar or stone and a large plywood band-aid wrapped around parts of the church tower to stop it from losing pieces. The extent of the necessary repairs is just coming to light, and this fall in a series of parish-wide meetings we will decide how to proceed. Much has also happened with youth at the church. Rita led a trip to Taizé, France, with the Youth Confirmation Group this past April, and had a wonderful, uplifting time with them at that ecumenical monastic community in the Burgundy countryside. Cuddy and Sophia have gone with Rita and Eric on youth Mission trips to Cambridge, Mass., where they serve in different feeding ministries across the city.

Visits and connections with family and friends are so important to us. We are blessed with many visitors to Maine this summer (Thank you!). Please join us.
whenever you can! We are also looking forward to the annual Steadman gathering in Pine Point, Maine, where we will see cousins and celebrate many birthdays. Lots of love to you all! Love, Eric, Rita, Sophia, and Cuddy

**Chris Roberts:** Dear friends near and far: Here is our family update:

Martha (13) spends every waking moment dreaming of Kevin Olusola, a cellist, beat boxer, and member of Pentatonix. She also plays violin in a chamber group, walks neighborhood dogs, and cooks elaborate next-day lunches for herself at 9:30 pm. In September, she’ll attend Martin Saints Classical High School.

Ruth (10) leads a full homeschool life. She is an energetic big sister, an attentive altar server, and likes to whip up a cake in minutes. She has a massage business (5 cents for a five minute shoulder rub) and Twisted and Twine, a craft and gift shop at home, which accepts dried corn kernels as currency. She’s enjoyed having mom read her North & South and getting in touch with her “grim up north” roots. Sarah (almost 8) loves all things horse and is also a happy homeschooler. She continues to ask great questions (“How is St. Nicholas/Santa Claus in heaven and on earth at the same time?”). She has a quick sense for justice and is looking forward to the sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Communion for the first time this spring. Miriam/Button (4) just turned four, to her great delight and glee. She sang Happy Birthday to herself while lying in bed. Button is not wildly interested in academics, but her pictures of landforms or Beowulf’s Grendel remind us that she is just as much a part of homeschooling as Ruth and Sarah. She is also known for her astute comments such as “Mom, you have old hands” or “Dad, I am a person, not a puppy.” Hannah continues as mom and homeschool mistress. She’s really enjoyed digging into Beowulf and the Middle Ages this year, a fresher and less jaded era. She enjoys cantoring at Holy Martyrs and trying to spice up cheap cuts of beef through braising.

Chris continues as the deacon of Holy Martyrs parish and president of the board at Martin Saints Classical High School. Both parish and school are small but growing.

At home, what used to be our family vitamin cabinet is now occupied by his growing collection of arcane cocktail ingredients.

May God bless you and keep you in 2019 Love, the Roberts

Family hike on Thanksgiving, Hills Creek State Park, Pennsylvania.
A blue jay, Cleopatra, Julius Caesar, and a hippy went trick-or-treating at Halloween.

Dara Kovel did check in!

Katie Hackett: Heeelllllooo, Amigos! Hope this finds you and your families well and relaxing some after an overly joyous and fun-filled set of holidays!
Life here in Wilmington is chaotic as always and though I don’t stay in good touch, this is my attempt to keep communications open until the time when we can get together! (And, Chris, you would think this would be easier for us!) Be well, friends, and here’s hoping dreams come true in 2019 and we all become more of our true selves. Warmly Kate
Executive Director
Delaware Wild Lands
P.O. Box 505, 315 Main St., Odessa, DE 19730
Office: (302) 378-2736
Cell: (302) 824-6235

Executive Director
Delaware Wild Lands
P.O. Box 505, 315 Main St., Odessa, DE 19730
Office: (302) 378-2736
Cell: (302) 824-6235

HEADLINES FROM THE MESSER-HACKETT HOUSEHOLD: 2018

- Mostly serve as unpaid Uber drivers for our teenage daughters, but continue in our respective jobs and journeyed to the Czech Republic to celebrate our 35th anniversary!
- Wishing you abundant joy, great happiness, and natural beauty in the coming year!
  Love, Kent, Kate, Madeline, Nora
- New high school this year — a desired change but still a challenge. Had a great time at CTY and the Wilmington boathouse rowing crew. (Madie, age 16)
- A first hatching from our monarch garden, planted on Mother's Day in honor of the passing of Kate’s mom in November 2017.
- We “celebrate” Georgia’s gaining permanent residency at 123 Dickinson Lane.
- Great time in Paris and other European destinations with my grandparents! (Nora, age 13)
- Toolin’ around Austin on an electric scooter was a highlight of our TX travels!
Glenn Magid: 2018 was a year of considerable transition for me. After 14 years in brick-and-mortar higher ed academic administration, most recently at Harvard University, I made the leap online. Since May 2018, I've been building (and am now running) the student support services for an online university that has just launched (initially in Nigeria, Egypt, and the Philippines). The work is equal parts challenging, interesting, and frustrating. It's also never-ending (thus making 2018, of necessity as well, the year of the bottomless coffee mug). Hoping to report great things on that front in 2019. A great thing on another front is: the upcoming bat mitzvah of my older daughter (which means she's fast approaching the age of potential Yale freshmanhood [which is, well...can she possibly be that old already?]). Besides work and parenting, I continue to fight the New England elements and to plan the onset of extracurricular learning projects too-long deferred. Wishing you all the very best!

Diana Fisher Gomberg: I’m still here and still married to Richard. And still in Newton Mass. Our biggest change is we are now empty-nesters! Our girls are now at Brandeis and Wesleyan and loving it. Now we have more time for hikes etc. on weekends, and since they are both reasonably nearby we still get to see them. Our last big adventure was a week of rafting and hiking in the Grand Canyon last summer, which was awesome. Now we are saving up for New Zealand or the Galapagos, but it will be a while! If people have tips on either place, please send them (or any other communications!) to me at dfgomberg@gmail.com. Hope everyone is doing well. Diana Fisher Gomberg

Baker Mallory: I hesitate every year as I try to write some notes ... my life isn’t really exciting. But thanks to Cilla’s gentle prodding I decided this morning to look at that colorful flower thing on my computer ... you know the “Photos” icon ... that thing that says you have 10,563 photos. We have the Apple phone, the Apple Mac, the Apple Ipad and amazingly I can take a picture, cherishing that moment in time, and it joins 10,562 other cherished moments ... never to be looked at again ...until this morning! From the highs to the lows... here is a bit of our memorable 2018.
Rose played soccer.

I tried to learn a song.

Sadly, my dad passed.

Rose and Gus sat in a weird tree.

Brad loves lacrosse.

Jody and I visited Nantucket. We caught fish!

Gus won Fortnite?!

Uncle Tom gave us pajamas.
Weekend at Stowe: 

Class of 1992 

Jake Bowers: “We are living in Menlo Park, CA until July 2019 while we enjoy Stanford’s Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences. We will return to Urbana, IL and the University of Illinois next fall. We would love to see folks who are passing through the Bay Area — few who are not into supercomputers find Urbana-Champaign on their list of places to visit. The attached photo shows me proud of my Uruguayan style grilling technique (using wood rather than charcoal) while at the beach there earlier this year.”

Cynthia Boyd: By the time the newsletter goes out, I will have two teenagers. Graham is 14, almost 15, and is a freshman in high school. He continues to love scouts and is fascinated by all things nature and science related. This is serving him well on an It’s Academic team for his school – as long as they pair him with a teammate who knows sports and popular culture. Liam is 12, almost 13, loves scouts as well. He
has taken up cross-country and continues to love drawing and is now learning to make pottery. (It is a small world - he is learning pottery with Marienka Sokol ('92) and her daughter!). Jane is 7, and is as spirited a child as I have ever met. She brings us all great joy. My husband, Greg, is an HIV physician, and does clinical research in Baltimore and India. I work as a geriatrician and do clinical/public health research at Johns Hopkins. I’d hoped that this would prepare me for aging and health issues in our folks, but it has been a tough year of challenges and illnesses. I’ve needed Hermione’s time turner more than ever, and am treasuring the time my kids have with their grandparents.
I’ve continued to stay active in local school issues, mostly advocating for developmentally appropriate and healthy use of technology in schools, with plenty of time for recess, nature, art, music and social interactions with peers and teachers. Anyone who is interested in this topic – please check out Natasha Singer’s fantastic series called Education Disrupted in the New York Times. Here’s one of the articles about our district.

Sumner McCallie: Life is good. A 5 year old and 3 year old keep my wife Katie and me on our toes. Katie loves her work with the Women’s Fund of TN. With a state that ranks 49th for quality of life for women, there is a lot of work to do. To give perspective, a major accomplishment this past year was to pass a law that prevented childhood marriage—formerly girls as young as 12 could be granted “parental consent.” Usually this was to help ‘ease’ internal family matters. So, some great work ahead.
I continue to serve as Dean of Faculty and Curriculum at The McCallie School, and to take students overseas on trips with Habitat for Humanity. Some of the most fun though is watching our sons encounter the joy of walking in the woods.
Ashley West: Here’s a little update about me: I’m Associate Professor of Art History at Temple University in Philly and thankfully am on sabbatical this year. I’ve been using the time between home and Berlin, Germany, to catch up on unfinished projects, including the big one: a book manuscript that’s been in the works for a good decade, on a German painter and printmaker from Augsburg, named Hans Burgkmair (1473-1531) - an exact contemporary of Albrecht Dürer (since I don't expect anyone to have heard of Burgkmair - but I swear he was important!). I’m looking ahead to taking a little break from work with a trip to Peru next month - to travel along a small section of the Amazon River near Iquitos and to make it to the Sacred Valley of the Incas, Cuzco, and of course up to Machu Picchu, which is on my bucket list.

Burch and Rachelle LaPrade: Life in Des Moines is good! Our oldest Abbott is a sophomore at Middlebury. He plays JV hockey, rows, and made us proud by becoming a MiddView leader (their FOOT equivalent). Forrest graduates from high school this spring and will head to one coast or the other in the fall. Beckett is a high school freshmen and runs cross country, plays hockey, and soccer. Kendrick is in 6th grade and enjoys showing her brothers up every chance she gets. Soccer, hockey, and a pony fill her days. Burch continues to Gain Compliance, a start-up providing cloud based software for insurance compliance. Riveting stuff. My equine veterinary practice continues to be fulfilling, fun, and frustrating, depending on the day.

Four years ago our family set out to meet and get a picture with every presidential candidate to visit Iowa. The experience was eye-opening for all of us and inspired the kids to become deeply engaged in politics. It was a great experience all around. This year we are working towards the same goal. We are excited to embrace the process again and hopeful that the end result is very different for the country. If anyone finds themselves gravitating towards this unique Iowa experience, drop us a line. We’d love to host you and hit some local coffee shop meet-and-greets!
Emily Swanson Guimaraes: I have not replied in a while, mostly for lack of much “new” in our news. I am an anesthesiologist in academic practice and lead our wellness education for anesthesia residents. Although we miss New England and the Red Sox (and return for a week every summer) the PNW is an amazing place to raise boys in the great outdoors. The trees really remain the stars of the show.

Jessica Plumb: Our family continues to make a life in the rainshadow of the Olympic mountains. This summer I teamed up with some other parents to take a half dozen middle school girls backpacking, and it was a joy to share an alpine lake our daughter loves with her friends. Some of these girls know the mountains well, but others were on their first overnight trip, reminiscent of FOOT groups long ago. It was a spectacular adventure, full of sunny days & starry nights. Meanwhile, in December I published an article in Mountaineer Magazine about our family’s effort to separate our hiking footprints from our carbon footprint. You can find that story here: https://www.mountaineers.org/mountaineer-magazine, p. 32.

On a more serious note, I’ve been taking time away from the Northwest to be with my brother’s family this year, as his remarkable Chilean wife faces down a recurrence of triple negative breast cancer. I helped move the whole family to Boston this spring so she could pursue trial treatment there, as the BRCA1 gene she carries is rare in Chile. I’m headed back to Santiago with them this winter. If you’ve been on one of these journeys, you know what a roller coaster ride of hope and heartbreak it can be. For the moment my films are circulating without me. DC folks, I have a short in the upcoming DC Environmental Film Fest. Elsewhere, keep an eye out for a short film in the Wild & Scenic tour, a follow-up piece on my Elwha River work called “Renewal”, featuring an emerging young scientist from the Klallam Tribe. If you catch it, let me know. And as always, if your travels bring you to the beautiful Pacific Northwest...we’d be glad to take you hiking!

By the shores of silver lake in the Olympic mountains. Our daughter is the smallest in the line-up, though her pack, she notes, is just as heavy...) Jessica Plumb, Producer / Writer / Director  
www.plumbproductions.com  
www.elwhafilm.com  
360 821-9665
and the view from the pass
Jody Esselstyn: Cilla visited Jody in Charlottesville, Virginia last May. Jody has a wonderful family – hubby and three kids. She is still a nurse practitioner.

Class of 1994

There will be a Y94 25th reunion hike up East Rock in May, which we haven’t pinned down yet, but I figure probably Saturday afternoon.

Meg Wickwire: a glimpse into my family life of late: Bill’s father, who died last year, was a brilliant but crotchety New England dairy farmer, quite gentle despite all his bluster, and very well educated. The other day, Bill was waxing nostalgic and telling us about how despite all of that, for most of his childhood, he was accustomed to his father saying (forgive me) "goddamnit!" regularly. When he came in from the barn, "goddamnit, it's cold out there!" When he couldn't find his coffee cup, "goddamnit where did I leave it?" Even when Bill's Mom did something witty, "goddamnit, that's brilliant!" He said it so often the word utterly lost its meaning. Bill smiled quietly as he remembered how odd but endearing it was.

Penn, meanwhile, was smiling in an entirely different way. Those of you who are parents of 12-year-olds might know where this story is heading. Yup: Penn that afternoon, Penn began his own practice of honoring his quirky grandfather. He has taken to muttering "goddamnit" fifty or sixty times a day. "Goddamnit, look at all these math problems! . . . goddamnit, only one cookie?!? . . . goddamnit, do we have to leave already?!?" His imitation of his crotchety grandfather’s tone is so perfect, Bill and I can’t help laughing, which of course is Penn’s goal, and which of course only encourages the little bugger. And Bill, not to be outdone, has begun to drop his own g-d bombs, more judiciously, but so aptly it always earns gleeful squeals from Penn and me. Ah, families.

And lordy; if someone ever recorded our private home moments, we’d be committed for sure! Here’s hoping the lesson in restraint is of some use, at least; Penn swears he’s "not stupid" (his favorite claim these days) and would never say it at school or around anyone who might be offended (um, everyone outside this house?). We’ll see...

Scott Walsh: We moved back to San Diego this summer after our year in Ethiopia. It was a pretty amazing year in terms of travel, experiencing new cultures, meeting new friends, and adjusting to new circumstances and challenges. It was also tough missing family, friends and the conveniences of the US of A and the beauty of Southern California. We’re all grateful for the experiences and we’re all glad to be back home.

Sasha is back at the US Attorney's Office. Our boys are back at their school with their old friends. I’ve started a new job with the Center for Sustainable Energy. We’re a non-profit based here in SD and expanding our reach across the country. I’m focused on accelerating the adoption of electric vehicles,
especially by expanding the network of charging stations. It's a new field for me and I'm scrambling to get up to speed on things as quickly as I can. I'd appreciate any advice, contacts, ideas, etc, any of you might share.

San Diego continues to be a really lovely place to live. I'd love to see any of you if you get a chance to come out this way. (Jay, I hope I'm not too late in extending that invitation.)

I don't plan on coming to New Haven this spring, so I send my best wishes to you all electronically.

p.s. I just taught my 13-year-old the "This is a (thing). A what? A (thing). A what? A (thing). Oh, a (thing)!" game

**Mark Barnett:** What a great thread. Hard to believe we're coming up on #25!

We will definitely be at the reunion and a FOOT gathering sounds fantastic. I like Carrie's idea of an East Rock hike but would be up for anything. Taking Scott's lead, goddammit, by way of a very quick update Katherine and I live in Brookline (outside Boston) with three kiddos - Gabriel (14), Amira (10) and Hannah (6). It's semi-urban living with lots of our life lived on foot (or bike) and great community in close proximity. I run a clean energy group at a law firm in town (Scott - I will definitely give you a shout) and Katherine is doing great work as a doc in the family medicine department at BMC (the old city hospital).

In the inappropriate parenting category - one of the joys/challenges of having kids across a large age span is that the youngest one listens to a lot more hip hop than Dan Zanes and recently floored us by singing every word of Drake's In My Feelings when it came on in the kitchen. Turns out that's a great party trick for a 14 year old to roll out with his friends but not such a winner in kindergarten playgroups. Oh well. Can't wait to see many of you in May! Mark

ps also, I can't remember what the game was called where we all had to say a syllable around a circle and then remember everybody else's syllable but my freshman FOOT trip word was growinzapbabowinmoozneeiztpopzed. copying Megan O'Neil to see if I can impress her.

**Class of 1995**

**Geoff Tanner:** Geoff Tanner and spouse Tasha Hawthorne live in Kentucky and Connecticut (still married, in case the dual-state indication had you wondering). Tasha is a professor of English at Berea College in Kentucky (where tuition is 100% free to all, for students from underprivileged backgrounds, notably rural Appalachia). Geoff is an assistant professor in residence at the University of Connecticut, running a small *Drosophila* lab and teaching physiology to the next generation of hopeful physicians. (Fear not lest you get one of my former students as your clinician~I am teaching them the right stuff most of the time!) Our two daughters Haviland Signy (8) and Hayden Astrid (7) love hiking, playing music, and making artistic messes. We occasionally see old Yale and FOOT friends in the south, most recently, Blake Esselstyn (wife Cindy, daughter Harriet, who are great hosts!), who live in Asheville, NC, and in the north, where Geoff bumped into Cilla Kellert not so long ago in New Haven!

**Chris Smeenk:** Sarah Gallagher (JE 95) and I are still living in London Ontario, both teaching at Western University (which is not far west at all, as it turns out). The biggest news for our family is that Sarah started a new job as science advisor to the Canadian Space Agency. She had been considering moving into policy work for some time, and then this opportunity came along — officially 50% time for the CSA, 50% at Western (but more like 75/75). She's having a blast so far. She's outpaced me this year with work travel, including regular visits to CSA headquarters in Montreal and a trip to Kazakhstan for a Soyuz launch. We will be in Montreal next year on sabbatical, and please drop us a line if you're coming north.

...our two daughters, Corinne (11) and Caelin (8) are dual citizens but have fully adopted local culture and accents. We have just started the more hectic sports and activities schedule that many of you are also experiencing. We expect Corinne to play on a travel team for soccer for the first time this summer, and she's currently having play practice and other after school activities. They are avid and fearless downhill
Sarah (Heitler) Bamberger: I’m ... still in Berkeley, having returned after two years living in Zichron Ya’akov, a small town on a hill in Northern Israel. My husband is a law professor at UC Berkeley, and we have five children, Max (14), Isaiah (14), Niva (12), Ezra (10), and Talia (6). I have made the un-strategic decision to let kids pursue their own interests, which means at any given afternoon I’m shuttling between play rehearsal, crew practice, martial arts, ultimate frisbee, squash, and youth group, and hoping I don’t forget a kid in the mix. The scheduling is perpetually dizzying but the kids all seem to be happy and healthy so I can’t complain. We have moved from having pre-teens to basically running a teenage dorm...it is not unusual for 10-15 youth of all ages to be spread out in every room of the house on any given Saturday. I confess to retreating into the bedroom with a good book.

I’ve become re-addicted to squash, which I play somewhat obsessively. In my non-parenting time I do some nonprofit consulting, having spent 20+ years launching and running small nonprofits. I’m also an extremely involved board member of SquashBond, an organization that brings together underprivileged Jewish and Arab kids for squash and education in Israel. And here in Berkeley, I’m quite involved in youth sports, serving as a coach for both squash and Ultimate. I fantasize about a number of things--more time to write, more time to read, returning to a full-time job, becoming a ski bum, moving back to Israel--but at this point I’m neck-deep in parenting. That said, I think my Yale education left me ill-equipped to own an identity that is not defined by my professional life, and I always squirm when asked what I do for a living.

So glad that a number of FOOT folks from time to time re-enter my life. If y’all are ever in the Bay Area,
do come join us for dinner.
And just for kicks, I’m attaching a family portrait...it includes all of my siblings, but since two of them (Jacob and Jesse) were FOOT leaders as well this may be of interest. We are clustered by family; all the large children around me are mine.

**Brendan (BC) Connolly:** Wishing everyone the best from the PNW! Rebecca fully inspired me with her last sentence...took me instantly back to a few wonderfully awkward moments on FOOT trips trying to hold in the forthcoming belly laughter. Our little family (I am soon to be the smallest human among us actually) includes my wife Jodi, a therapist at Harborview Medical Center, and two awesome kids (Ryan – 13, Aran – 12) and two new kittens that I had no part in obtaining or naming, but am apparently responsible for keeping warm on my head at night. By day I pretend to be a competent architect working on places of learning and helping lead a fantastic integrated design practice in Seattle, SF and LA, and by weekend we are busy exploring the snow, dirt, and rocks of the northwest on skis, cyclocross and mountain bikes (family addiction), and foot. Have crossed paths with Phil, Sara, Anne (transitive property?) and others over recent years, but wishing that were true of more of you on this cc list.

**Rebecca Whitney:** We’re still happily living in Berkeley, enjoying the madness that is life with three kids. Last spring we were on sabbatical in Granada, Spain, which was a tremendous adventure. Sara Heitler Bamberger and I get together when possible, and Perry & I do our best to convince our kids of the glories of hiking. The oldest has fallen in love with backpacking thanks to a hardcore sleep away camp, so that’s good.

Hope to see some of you at our 25th next June?! I had a great time at the 20th, somewhat to my surprise, and am now converted to the concept. Baby if you love me won’t you please please smile, Rebecca

**Campbell Levy:** We live a quiet yet somehow ridiculously busy life in Eastern Vermont where we will mark our twentieth year next year. My wife Jenny and I live on the Ompompanousac river - more of a creek really - in Norwich, VT with our two kids Mack (14) and Kate (12). Time this year is spent navigating New England’s frost heaves on back roads between ski mountains in Northern New England, as both kids are avid ski racers. Accordingly, I seem to spend most of my time stuck in the basement ski tuning, and, when they let me out, I head over the border to Dartmouth where I teach at the med school and specialize in Inflammatory Bowel Diseases. Jenny helps to run a vibrant industrial company that sells plasma metal cutters. Thankfully, the kids still like to hang out with their parents - at least for now - so we are relishing the fun times still mountain biking with them, hiking, and floating down the river on our kayaks.

Anneegger, I had a good laugh at your description of bunion surgery. Middle aged has smacked me between the eyes as well. My late 30’s and early 40’s seem a blur between two knee reconstructions and a shoulder surgery. I am still kicking - but not very hard. My weekend warrior days seem a distant memory.

**Anne Egger:** I had bunion surgery in October on my right foot, which has been an experience, to say the least. Four weeks non-weight-bearing was challenging for me, and I had some really low lows - like when I went to a professional meeting on crutches and crutched into the poster hall and almost started crying because it was so big (really, going to the meeting was a terrible idea). But I’m back to Nordic skiing now and can trot across the street to make the light so I think I am getting close to running and hiking again. But the word "bunion" does not sound like a problem one should have in this century.

I also liked sabbatical so much last year that I wonder if I still like my job... not that I want to really leave academia, but it sure would be nice to be able to retire and do a lot more of the fun stuff. Not a unique feeling in the mid-40s, I'm pretty sure. On another note, we are dealing with kid college applications now, and WOW what a different world than 28 years ago - the Common App, instantaneous statistics about
acceptance rates based on GPAs and SAT scores. Ack - I’m glad I applied to college in an age when I didn’t know any better.
I’m going back to Yale for the 50th anniversary of the Yale Women’s Slavic Chorus! First weekend of April. And - wow! New Haven is hard to get to from the West Coast.

Class of 1996

Abby Benson: reports she is still living in Boulder, Colorado where she works building research partnerships at the University of Colorado. “Colorado is growing like crazy, but luckily there are plenty of wide opens spaces to enjoy across this beautiful state (like this pic from Rocky Mountain National Park, which is just about an hour from my house). I would love to visit with any FOOT folks that come through this way!”

Blake Esselstyn: (pictured here with legendary FOOT-arian Geoff Tanner) is a geographer and consultant in NC, and is thrilled to be doing more and more work related to redistricting and gerrymandering.

Ivan Kerbel’s family welcomed a baby girl in late 2017. He has been working on an in-house machine learning university at Amazon, and is one of 8 people in Seattle constantly wearing a Phillies cap.
Class of 1997

David Lewicki: I continue to enjoy being the co-pastor (with my wife, Beth) of the North Decatur Presbyterian Church in Decatur, GA. It's a good rhythm of intellectual work (preaching and teaching), people-centered time (crisis care and relationships), and community-building (my focus recently is on housing). We have 3 children (James, 11, Margaret, 9, and William, 2) who are mostly pleasant. While camping has not become a part of our family culture, we are driving west from Georgia this summer to the Grand Canyon. We welcome all advice on what to do (or avoid!) along the way. Peace, David 646.644.6449 (cell)

Debbie Gross: here is our six year old Maya learning to ski, and hanging out in the "igloo" we made. We are raising her in the fine tradition of FOOT adventures! I hope all is well for you and the work life balance thing settles.

Class of 1998

Tatum Nolan: Big news on a few fronts. I got married this summer and we are expecting next June! And I joined a startup called Cairnspring Mills, based just north of Seattle in the Skagit Valley. We're milling traceable, single varietal flour using stone milling technology, and trying to lift flour out of the commodity system. YAWP! Look for us in Tartine if you are in SF.

Leah Kelley: Haven't submitted anything in ages so here you go: Living in Oakland. Great surgical practice. Wonderful partner and two wacko fabulous kiddos ...
**Gretchen Boger:** Cilla & Gretchen ran into each other in a movie theatre in Chapel Hill! Gretchen is from the area and Cilla has been living there this winter.

**Class of 1999**

**Jeffrey Grigg:** Our gang of five continues to enjoy Baltimore, where I teach introductory statistics at the Johns Hopkins School of Education and Department of Sociology and study education. Lael continues to work remotely for the University of Wisconsin synthesizing public health research, and our girls—ages 7, 5, and 20 months—thrive. We have stayed close to home as of late, but we did recently visit Matt Stiebel (FOOT ’98) and his family in Florida. If you are ever in the Baltimore area, please let us know! Wishing you all good health in 2019!

**Micah Jacobs:** All is great in Dallas. It has been an eventful life with our 4 year old Isabela and 20 month old Noah. Paula is still working in the surgical ICU and I am still practicing pediatric urology. Most of our outdoor adventures have been local but we have spent plenty of time traveling with family to Colombia and both coasts of the US over the last year or so (pictures below are from the Olympic Peninsula over the summer... highly recommend visiting the beaches)
Eli Kintisch: Hey Gang! My wife Lauren Weinstein and I have welcomed little Nadav, now nine months, into our family. He's a pip! We're feeling so fortunate. Professionally my career shift from magazine feature writing to video is in full swing as I look for FT work in video. 2018 projects took me to the Arctic Ocean, Fiji and beyond, for partners including Vox Video, Scientific American and PBS Digital Studios. Still telling environmental and science, but now with the richness of imagery and sound. Hope everyone has a special 2019!

Class of 2000

Tara Cronin: We are doing well in CT! I am a Pediatric Ophthalmologist and my husband and I are enjoying watching our boys, Liam (5) and Luke (2), grow and learn. Warmest Regards, Tara

Emilie Hitch: Here's to happy and healthy FOOT alum friendships! I met up with Kate Feather '01 for quality time in NYC last fall, and will be seeing another gem, Sarah Ichioka '01, this May as we hike through the south of Japan to celebrate joining the 40 years young club (keeping our streak
of global adventures alive since the last time we saw each other - in Hong Kong). As for life stuff - my band, Wailing Loons, will be playing at Bonnaroo again this June - if you're in TN that week, stop by and see us at the Solar Stage! (You can also find us on your favorite streaming music service :) )
Argo Caminis: Gilla & Argo found each other at the AYA Conference in New Haven in November. Argo is living in the Boston area, and is a psychiatrist at the McLean Hospital, doing very well. It was great to catch up!

Jacob Heitler: Besides sweeping our 3 kids’ food scraps off the floor multiple times a day (we really need to get a dog), I’m busy helping get the health tech company I helped found off the ground (www.LifeLink.com). Otherwise, Rachel and I are enjoying what the SF Bay Area has to offer parents with young kids -- in-laws! :)

Class of 2003

Laura Koo: I visit my parents’ house in southern Vermont a few times a year -- a bit of a trek from your farm but nice to know you’re nearby. Sending you all my best,

Anthony Anagnostou: better email for me: anthony.anagnostou@gmail.com instead of ant @ electricant.net
updates: currently married and working as a busy general surgeon in the land of enchantment. drop by if you find yourself road tripping across southeast New Mexico.
Louise Langheier: Sending love, louise

Class of 2004

Greg Yolen: After years of embracing a nomadic lifestyle between LA, NYC and London, I’ve circled the wagons in lovely Larchmont, New York, with my wife Natalie and our five-year-old daughter Thea. To call 2018 an eventful year us three doesn’t quite sell it. While we closed on our house last spring and Natalie supervised renovations like a boss, I was stationed on the other side of the pond for four months producing a movie (‘The Good Liar’ with Helen Mirren and Ian McKellen, which will be in theaters this November,) and generally tried to keep my head screwed on before wrapping the show and winging back to our near-complete home at the end of June. By July, we had gotten our dog-obsessed daughter the long-promised puppy (Neko) and were hurtling into Kindergarten. Tempus fugit, FOOTie friends!

Roy Skeen and Liz Tung, live in the heart of Baltimore City with our two boys River (6) and Caleb (2). We went camping 3 times last year and recently completed a winter hike in Harper’s Ferry. When we are not traveling around the Mid-Atlantic we take long Sunday walks to my parents house. We also ask our neighbors to bring their own cup, bowl, and spoons for potlucks, and they do!

Ming Thompson: Cilla boarded a plane in New Haven and whom did she sit down next to, but Ming! We had a wonderful mini-reunion. Ming is now living in New Haven with her husband. She’s an architect and travels all over the country. Her father-in-law has a Vermont home very close to Cilla’s!! Here is a photo from past days:

Class of 2005

Carrie Coughlin: Hello again to ’05 and the rest of the FOOT community. The ‘05ers are on the move, as always. On my end...I married a guy also from St. Louis a bit over a year ago. To show how deep the FOOT ties run, one of the Yalies in attendance was a fellow FOOTie from my freshman year trip! The time and care put into crafting our hiking trips is/was truly worth the effort.

Aaron Mitchell: My big update is that I’m back in the northeast! I finished my oncology fellowship at UNC and thereafter started my first “real job” at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center in NYC. My focus is health policy research. I did get to hang out with Cilla in Chapel Hill before I left! Anyone who’s in NYC these days should hit me up.

Edward Pritchett: My wife and I and our two kids, Theo (3) and Amara (1 1/2) recently moved to Dorado, Puerto Rico to open up an expansion office and new call center for my business. The kids are loving the island life and picking up Spanish rapidamente. We also recently found out that we are expecting again and this time it is going to be twins!
Liba Rubenstein: After nearly 13 years living in Los Angeles, my husband and I finally decided to commit and bought a house (with plenty of space for guests, hint hint). He’s a screenwriter/producer and I run social impact for a global media company. Our daughter Zelda is nearly 3 and keeps us on our toes.

Lee Stabert: I’m living in Philadelphia, writing, and raising a wacky toddler named husband is on the academic job market, so our base is TBD. Maybe we’ll be coming to your town!?  

Class of 2006

Danny Lovell is “delighted to be holding down the FOOT outpost in Vancouver, BC these days, with pretty frequently jaunts down to San Francisco for work. After a bit of time running my own HR consulting business, I joined a tech startup with offices in both cities and am enjoying the life organizing people and things between the two cities. Speaking of people and things, my husband John and I just welcomed our brand new daughter (JE 2041?) Soma Olivia Warner Lovell into the world last week, on February 11th. We’re all getting the hang of each other, but so far, 6 days in, life is fantastic. (Picture below)

Dawn Lippert: Brody and I are excited to welcome a baby girl in a few weeks. Am funding startups and working on policy to try to keep the planet from burning up. My company Elemental Excelerator has now
funded 82 startups, and last year we opened an HQ2 of our own in the Bay Area in addition to our original HQ in Honolulu. FOOT visits are always welcome here in Hawaii! (Picture below)

Brandon Middaugh: Greetings from Seattle! We are experiencing a winter for the record books, tons of snowfall and lots of opportunities for snowshoeing and XC skiing. My husband Mark and I are expecting a baby boy in May and look forward to teaching him all about camping and backcountry adventures.

Aaron Zelinsky: The big news is 14-month-old Sara Mix-Zelinsky.
Paige Henchen: I can share a short update ... I live in Colorado with my husband Mike and daughter Cassidy (2.5). A couple of years ago, my dad (a lifelong conservative) changed his mind about climate change. He previously believed that climate change was not man-made, not a real threat, etc. Now, he is starting a small foundation to support emerging technologies to reduce emissions. Witnessing his change of heart has been a profound source of hope for me. I'm now leaving my job working for "the Man" to help set up this foundation. I don't know yet if we will make any difference, but it feels good to be working on something that matters. My husband already works for Rocky Mountain Institute, a climate change think tank, so it's kind of the family business now. If you work in a field related to climate change, I'd love to connect with you. I'm trying to learn as much as I can. Please email me at paigehenchen@gmail.com.

Caroline Howe: Caroline moved to DC since her last update, which is fabulous (albeit so swampy) but also tragic because she left Connecticut JUST before Tasha moved there, and somehow still hasn't overlapped with Tasha every time she goes back to visit the Nutmeg state. Plus side, she overlapped in CT with the lovely Angel Hertslet ('08ish) before Angel too set off for sunnier climes than CT, which is California. She also gloriously reconnected with Brent Godfrey thanks to this very same FOOT newsletter, which enabled her to take him up on his couch and tour-guiding of NOLA, which he does so splendidly, and re-make a wonderful friend.

Enough about other glorious FOOT leaders! What's actually new with me? I have moved from the backpacking trails of FOOT to kayaking as it turns out that kayaks put much less pressure on your shoulders than backpacks, and I still have some fabulous scar tissue and nerve damage from mastectomy + radiation (#cancer #realtalk) that backpacks make a bit worse! Turns out I *love* whitewater both for the thrill, the metaphors for life’s everchanging current AND for the ability to flip to cool off anytime I want. I’m teaching and doing a lot of improv in DC, including some musical improv, feminist improv and social justice improv (it is DC after all). I teach entrepreneurship at the wonderful community college & urban land grant of the University of the District of Columbia, where I’m also hilariously an extension agent! On the side-side, I’m still printing cards that don’t suck for the moments that do (beautyandsh*t.com), facilitating conveenings of academic institutions trying to transform the way they teach sustainability, doing cancer standup (yup, read that right) and hosting community gatherings like May Day and anger releasing ceremonies alongside for the wild things unfolding in DC. So, living the dream life, folks. Come visit!

Jane Wilson: I think my life is somewhat stable since my last update, though it was likely pre-Trump, which was a different time. I still live in Maine, am married to Eli, work as a nurse practitioner in primary care. Eli and I live in a somewhat dilapidated but cozy farmhouse close to my parents and where I grew up. We have a big vegetable garden, a few chickens, and a colony of bees, as well as a daughter! Lila Lucile Wilson was born February 5th, 2019. We are getting to know each other, which involves more bodily fluids and less sleep than I realized it would. You think you know, but you don’t know. Finding myself much more impressed by all parents. Would be happy to see any FOOTfolks passing through Maine and would encourage you all to visit Maine anyway. Much love.

Tasha Eccles: In lieu of a full update this year, a study in regional/seasonal contrasts: soaking up some last rays of west coast sunshine on a farewell-to-California trip to Yosemite this summer, and (one nail-biting cross-country move and six months later) sizing up a prize Christmas tree specimen on a muddy afternoon at old stomping grounds in Durham, CT.
Cilla & Tasha saw each other at the Slavic Chorus Reunion in April 2019!

Robin Pearce: Hello FOOT! It’s me, a longtime reader and rare updater. Thanks to all of you who contribute regularly and to all of you who urge us to contribute. I truly enjoy reading this newsletter. I spent a lot of 2018 hiking while pregnant (by “a lot,” I just mean relative to all other years of my life). I never carried the dromedary bag on my FOOT trips, but I imagine it was a little like that with less lungcapacity and a bigger appetite. My husband, Jacob, and I spent a couple nights on the PCT, near Glen Aulin (Yosemite), in late June and two amazing weeks in the Canadian Rockies in mid-July. Shout out to Will Niebling for his excellent recommendations and encouraging me to seek and acquire Brian Patton’s out of print road and hiking guides, both of which I am happy to share and heartily recommend. Our best day hike in Canada was to Hamilton Lake from Emerald Lake in Yoho Nat’l Park, an uphill ~5 mile out and
back, because the hike itself was beautiful and the day included two rewarding lemons-into-lemonade moments. Lemon number one: A sudden hail and thunderstorm overtook us while we lunched at Hamilton Lake, which provided an opportunity to test new rain gear and lead to clear skies and incredible views on our return. Lemon number two: a traffic accident trapped us at the Emerald Lake Lodge and forced to enjoy a delicious afternoon “tea” (cured meat, cheese, soda bread, beer), which led to a peaceful walk around the lake and a late steak dinner at the lodge. I highly recommend visiting the Canadian Rockies before all of the glaciers disappear. Then, in early November, I gave birth to a sweet baby girl — Isadora Simone — and now, we’re busy planning our first trip to Yosemite with her, sometime this summer. (I will gladly take any advice from seasoned backpacking or camping parents! robin.f.pearce@gmail.com).
Class of 2008

Alex Borinsky: Settling in to life in LA -- made a big hop west with my fella. Finishing a YA novel, enjoying the sun, and studying permaculture. No car yet, but looking forward to some hiking adventures in the SoCal surrounds.

Laura Chandhok & Greg Lipstein:

Twas the night before September 18th, and all through the birth center
Laura was most definitely stirring, then we saw her first enter
Our second daughter Sawyer came in 2018
Now our house and our clothes are never quite clean
It was a big year for sisters, more family (and FOOTies!) around
Laura's sister, Greg's sister and folks all moved to town
Come see us in Denver, our mountains are steep
This kid life is great though we could use some sleep

Anna Dechert: This summer, after 10 wonderful years of living in Cairo and Abu Dhabi (with visits to both by Sarah Kabay when she was casually passing through), I returned to my roots and have settled down on a grassy hill in Tunbridge, Vermont (home of The World’s Fair). Our town motto, courtesy of Rodney the Road Foreman, is “Not perfect, but pretty darn close”, the general store boasts 200+ craft brews (they actually have about 20), and I have to cross a covered bridge to get home. Life is good. My partner Josh and I are building a house (he builds... I watch), and I’m re-learning how to drive in ice and mud. Having left my work with NYU Abu Dhabi I am now doing international recruitment and admissions for Bennington College - a wonderful, quirky, liberal arts college in the south of the state. I get to work from home with my cats joining my Skype interviews with prospective students. Someday I will have guest bedrooms, but in the meantime there’s plenty of lawn space for camping visitors when it gets warmer. The Tunbridge fairgrounds host a bluegrass festival, nano-brew festival, and sheep and wool festival, among other wonderful events. If anyone is nearby or coming through let me know!  
{h.a.dechert@gmail.com}

(Photos: Our in-progress house, me being somewhat helpful with insulation, and our neighbors)
Bevan Dowd: Hello, FOOT Friends! I am still working at a law firm and living in San Francisco, which I love, not the least because there are many a FOOT leader in my midst (e.g., Angel Hertslet, Peter Bull, and the like). Highlights of the last year include rafting the American River with DanTE and hiking in Guernville with Angel. I have a room to host—don’t hesitate to reach out!

Brent Godfrey: BEAUTIFUL PEOPLE OF FOOT. Hey! It was such a treat to see so many of you at reunion. You are a stunning, awe-inspiring group of folks, and I am very thankful to know you. After a big year of transitions, I am finally starting to settle back into what feels like a nice rhythm of life here in New Orleans, and I am so, so grateful to be back in this wild and wonderful and often confounding and always soul expanding city. I recently purchased my first home in the Tremé neighborhood, where it is not uncommon to step outside onto my front porch and see a brass band in full swing rolling down the street. Just because. And, in moments when I despair about the lack of outdoor activities in my adopted home, I continue to be grateful for the stunning human terrain. It’s basically the Yosemite/Grand Tetons/Yellowstone of HUMANS...and I want you all to know that there’s always a place for you and your loved ones to crash here. Please come visit. Literally anytime. Like...actually. If you reach out tomorrow and tell me you’re coming this week, I will house you and yours and we will revel into the wee hours and you will be stunned that you can still go that hard on a Tuesday night. Wishing you all joy and health and adventure, and hoping that a few of you make your way down to New Orleans soon. Much love, Brent

Ted Gordon: In 2018 I completed by PhD in Musicology at the University of Chicago, and promptly packed up all of my worldly belongings and drove with Hannah Burnett (the once-“Poobah” of Harvest) to the east coast. I’ll be in NYC until 2020 as a Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow at Columbia University, in the Music Department. Come say hi and play synthesizers with me! & if you’re in New Orleans, say hi to Hannah! She’s doing fieldwork all around the Louisiana gulf coast for her PhD in Anthropology, and is based in NOLA for the year.

Anna Grotberg: London life continues on - now as a permanent resident! Still consulting in the education sector with travels from Paris to Morocco to Dubai. Two FOOT-worthy hikes of 2018: (1) Table Mountain in Cape Town, South Africa (photo attached) and (2) near Lake Bohinj in Slovenia. Both come highly recommended! Foot love, Anna
Angel Hertslet: Last summer, I did a backpacking trip with fellow FOOTie Sarah Kabay into the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness to Stanley hot springs. Yes, we may have risked our lives wading across a raging river overflowing with snowmelt, but ahhh those springs felt so good. In September, I started a new job with The Nature Conservancy to advance forest restoration in the Sierra Nevada. I even get to go into the woods for work from time to time! I’ve been calling Berkeley home for a few years now, and it’s finally starting to feel like home, too. I’ve got room to host, so don’t be a stranger if you find yourself in the Bay Area.

Annie Hirschhorn: 2018 was an eventful year—Evan and I bought a house in Silver Spring Maryland in April and our daughter was born in December! Lena Elizabeth Hirschhorn has not been on any hikes yet, but they are definitely in her future!

Andrew Karlin: The quick update from me is that I am still living in New York and I’m focused on healthcare investment banking. I just joined a boutique bank called Edgemont Partners based in midtown Manhattan. We are growing quickly, and has been a fun experience thus far helping to scale and build out the platform. Have also had a chance to take some great trips out West to go hiking, mountaineering, biking, and skiing!

Olga Berlinsky LaBelle: 2018 was a big and exciting year for me. I got married, changed my name, and started a new job! On August 25, I married my wonderful husband Jake in Manchester, Connecticut. It was an incredibly joyful and magical day, and we were very lucky to have two FOOT leaders (Mackenzie and Willy) and lots of Yale classmates to help us celebrate. My husband Jake is a marine biologist who studies sharks - so for our honeymoon we went scuba diving and hiking around Mauritius (no shark sightings - thankfully for me, sadly for him!) Also, after a decade at BCG, I moved over to Mastercard - I work in the Humanitarian & Development team, creating new products and services to improve access to healthcare, education, and humanitarian aid. It's been really interesting and rewarding. Please give a shout if you find yourself in NYC anytime soon!
Ross Pinkerton: Baby Nathan hiked in Denver and got to sleep over at Greg and Laura’s house while we attended my brother Alan’s wedding, and he hiked his first section of the AT in October. We’re still waiting to see if his first words will be "Go Moose!"

Priya Prasad: Just a couple quick updates from me. I got married last April, my husband James moved to LA for an awesome job opportunity last fall, and I am interviewing for jobs in finance in LA as well and hoping to move out there in the next few months. Thus ends an allegedly too long residency in NYC. Most importantly James mysteriously lost his distaste for hiking sometime last year so we are now adding it to our repertoire of fun outdoor activities (see also: surfing, skiing, mountain biking). Really looking forward to being outside more and also living in the same city as my spouse ;)

Also, my sister in law is going to be a freshman at Colby in the fall and is doing their FOOT equivalent ("COOT"). She is so excited and got me totally nostalgic for all the great people and experiences we had in FOOT!
Also attaching a pic of the view from an incredible hike we did off of Vancouver Island in BC this summer (everyone should go to Tofino!)

**Dan Turner-Evans:** Hello from Lisbon! Since September, I’ve been to Japan, Aspen, and now Portugal to talk about my science, and in April I head to Berlin. I’ve enjoyed getting to see the world, but still believe that nothing compares to the natural wonders of the good old U.S. of A. I’m finishing up the last year of my post doc and will be applying for academic jobs in the fall (hoping to end up in New England or out west). Let me know if you’re in DC, and I’ll take you out to Shenandoah!

**Mackenzie Wehner:** still in Philly (but might be making a big move this summer when training is done!) and still smitten with our now one-year-old.

**Class of 2009**

**Anna Parks:** Moses and I are still living in San Francisco near Lands End National Park. I’m in my first of a three-year Heme/Onc fellowship at UCSF. This September, our son Zeke joined our hiking pack. Would love to see any FOOTies out on the West coast!

**Ali Seitz:** I got married in January, and I’ll start residency in Neurology at Cornell Weill in NYC this June.
**Adedana Ashebir:** Hey folks!
Still in Nairobi 4.5 years on. Joined a hiking group late last year so I’m seeing more of Magical Kenya which is great. I’m also keeping busy with a variety of activities, tango, salsa, writing, podcasting, etc. It’s been quite the journey in Nairobi thus far. If life brings you this way, let me know! Looking forward to catching up at reunion. -A"

**Mara Harwel**

![Baby Asa](image1.jpg)

Jasper Frank (also FOOT, 2010) and I are officially settled in Providence, RI and getting to know our son Asa, who was born in December (picture below). We would love to host anyone coming through town! Our dog, Delta, is always eager for some extra love now that she’s no longer the star of the show.

**Rachel Kanter:**
Our son Isaac is 10 months old and so much fun!
Hope to see lots of people at reunion!
xo, Rachel
Laura Zatz
I’m in my 4th year of a 5-year doctoral program at the Harvard School of Public Health (almost done!). I’m “dissertating” on behaviorally-informed policies to promote healthy eating (e.g., soda taxes). My husband Ben is working across the state border in Rhode Island with Jasper Frank and has had the pleasure of meeting his and Mara’s adorable new baby. Our favorite hikes this past year were in Norway and Acadia National Park. We’re always happy to have hiking buddies if you’re in the area. Looking forward to reconnecting with FOOT09 at reunion—Oomgala/Ride That Pony, anyone?

Edwina Clarke
Tom and I are expecting a child in July — other than that no news!

Kim Lau
My update: I finished up my postdoc at UC Riverside and started a faculty position at the University of Wyoming in Laramie in January. I’ve missed winter and I’ve started cross country skiing which is especially humbling at >7000 feet elevation. Will have to miss reunion, but would be super into a Front Range or Wyoming get-together...Also, is there any way we can order some FOOT gear? :) Kim
Class of 2010

Eli Bildner: Hello FOOT nation! 2018 was a wilder year in the life of Eli Bildner. In January, I started working full-time building a startup nonprofit called Concourse Education — we help low-income working adults earn a job-relevant BA in 2 years and for less than $10K cost. In May, I had the good fortune of marrying an incredible person and partner. Highlight of the wedding was a daylong "color war" competition in which only one person tore her ACL. In July, we moved to the lovely East Bay (Oakland, to be precise), and are loving it out here. We managed to squeeze in some fun outdoor adventures along the way, too. I’ve had lots of good FOOT sightings in 2018/19, including a recent brush with Chelsea Willett in Berkeley’s finest climbing gym. Hope to see lots of you in 2019/2020 — sending lots of good vibes across this wonderful community.

Elizabeth Breit: Elizabeth started rabbinical school at JTS in the fall of 2018 and is set to be a full-fledged rabbi by spring 2022. She’s living in Brooklyn with her partner David and a backyard full of tchotchke-treasures, teaching yoga, studying torah, going on ridiculous hiking adventures, and dreaming of fostering a puppy against David’s wishes. Sometimes she really misses her old life leading trips for Backroads; if anyone is interested on a cross-country bike adventure anywhere in the world she is READY TO GO. Next year she’ll be living in Israel for the school year and also welcomes any FOOT-adventures to that land with love.

Libbey Davis Hunt: Hello dear FOOT friends! I’m coming up on three years out in Denver and continuing to love it. 2018 was a wonderful year--a few highlights include: finally hiking Mt. Katahdin, exploring Rocky Mountain National Park and other Colorado adventures, running into FOOT folks in Colorado and beyond, and an incredible family reunion in Maine with 150+ folks from my McDougal side that included kilts, bagpipes, lobster, karaoke, and some epic Highland games. As always, would love to see more of you--let me know if you’re ever in Colorado!

Leslie Golden: Greetings FOOT alums! I am finishing my penultimate year of Orthopedic Surgery residency in June and currently interviewing for sports medicine fellowship positions. The interview trail has taken me from Salt Lake City to LA to New Orleans to Greenville SC and I’m very eager to find out where I’ll be spending year 6 of my training. The match is in April, so stay tuned! Otherwise, I’ve been enjoying the quiet picturesque Chapel Hill life, which Cilla can vouch for. As always, hit me up if you’re going to be in the Triangle!

Craig Minoff: 2018 was filled with lots of fun experiences and learning.
A first highlight was a weekend double date with Tom Schnitzer and his now wife to Carmel. Learning: Elephant seals are aggressive lovers.

Another highlight came in April with a Settlers retreat to Kansas City featuring Jasper, Zack, Brian and Tom. Learning: KC Sporting soccer fans are awesome, even in 34 degree wintry mix.

Next, I spent the 4th of July week on an epic mountaineering skill building adventure with Peter Wilczynski. Learning: starting your first technical alpine at sunset is a great/terrible idea.

The late summer featured a few FOOT leader weddings and bachelor parties (e.g. Eli, Tom Schnitzer), which made for impromptu mini-reunions. Learning: FOOT leader's dancing abilities didn’t peak at Shakedown.

Finally, I celebrated my 30th birthday with an epic hike in Lake Tahoe featuring a number of FOOT leaders (Eli, Peter, Thomas S.). Learnings: boxed wine makes for great trail sustenance.

Work wise, after 4.5 years at Airbnb I am taking on a new challenge at a tiny startup. It's still in the Bay Area and in the same industry, Kasa. Hit me up if you’re interested in the future of short-term accommodations!

Life-wise: things are still going well with my girlfriend, Sophie. Our life features lots of outdoor adventures in the Bay Area, especially with a new furry addition to the mix who has more stamina than either of us.
Molly Rubenstein: Still in Cambridge MA, still working at MIT D-Lab, but everything's shinier and better than last year. I've revised my job description to do more in-person experience design and fewer deadening international conference calls. Managing to get more fun out of my work travel too -- had a great trip to Morocco last November and am planning trips to Kenya, Uganda, Ghana, and Greece for this year (though that last one's just for fun). And I've been getting out and hiking more this year! Managed to fortuitously cross paths with FOOT leader Eric Fishman '14 and FOOTie Olga Olbraztsova '08 on an AMC hike in the White Mountains in October. And then started off the year right with an even funnier and much more awkward chance encounter with Caity Richards '10 in the sauna at BKB Somerville. Here's hoping for more wonderful chance and planned FOOT encounters in the year to come!

Dan Schechner: Biggest (and most recent) update is that I’m married now. Pretty fresh as it happened last week, so no new big photos other than the ones from a few great aunts (see attached), but if you looked hard enough between the confetti blizzard you would've seen Jasper, Tom, Craig, Brian, and Zack all jumping around in black tie. Otherwise, still at AeroFarms (the vertical farming start-up) and still living in NYC in Union Square (now with a cool state-of-the-Amazon-bargain air mattress if anyone wants to visit)!

Tom Schnitzer: Kristina and I got married in September and threw a big party for friends and family in our neighborhood of Boston to celebrate. Although Wagon Wheel wasn’t on the set list (the bride’s dad played a trumpet solo for "brick house" which had a similar effect), we had a solid FOOT representation. Brian Boyle, who gets all the credit for introducing me and Kristina in 2016, was our officiant. Jasper Frank, Dan Schechner, Zack Abrahamson, and Craig Minoff were groomsmen. Mara Harwel and Steph Marton crushed it on the dance floor. If I forgot anyone, blame the pitcher of gin mules I consumed during the event.

We followed the wedding with a two week trip through South Africa which blew us away for the food, culture, and natural beauty. Other memorable 2018 travels were camping in Acadia national park and skiing in Colorado. Not sure if it counts (since it was in 2019), but we also had a raging good time at Dan Schechner’s wedding in Miami in January 2019! Confetti on the dance floor brought the party to a whole 'nother level.

I took a new job in April and now lead Wayfair.com’s flooring division. Hit me up if you're starting a home renovation!

And as always, if you’re visiting Boston I’d love to catch up!
Rana Searfoss: Hey all! Graduated from business school in April and moved from lovely Ann Arbor Michigan to Minneapolis for work (strategy job at United Healthcare)! Loving life in Minneapolis so far, especially since I have gotten to see my favorite bad ass lady Becca a few times now that Madison and Minneapolis aren’t too far away. Please come visit!

Class of 2011

Chris Magoon: Hey gang. Still in med school after a year break back in China. I'll be finishing in May and then starting psychiatry residency (enshala), which I’m really excited for. We’ll find out in May where that training will actually be, so stay tuned. Otherwise, life is good. Alison is busy with a new job in consulting and we’re having fun being back in Philly with our dog, Willow.

Hilary Faxon: I’m writing from rural Myanmar where I’m finishing up dissertation research, riding motorcycles and mountain bikes, and eating delicious things wrapped in banana leaves. I got engaged last year to a wonderful guy and we are gearing up for the lifelong Oomgalla (Adam Stack?) that is marriage. Other highlights include backpacking trips in the White Mountains, Cascades, and Kyrgyzstan; river rafting in Eastern Oregon; and a hiking/biking/wine-drinking road trip in Portugal. Cheers!

Chris Lash: What up, FOOT! I returned (for good) from Jordan over the summer after three years in Amman, and I’m now about halfway through my first year in the MBA program at Yale SOM. Being back in New Haven has been a real treat: I get to relive my Shakedown memories of East Rock park as often as I like; I bump into Cilla at events and around the neighborhood; I’m in class on occasion with fellow SOM first-year (and official Cool Kid) Noah Gray; and one time I met Emma Sokoloff-Rubin’s baby. New Haven is much closer to most of you than Jordan, so next time you’re passing through, please come say hi.

Steph Marton: Steph Marton is very happily settled in Boston with her new husband, Collin. After a stint in Tokyo and Chicago for work, they settled last fall in the Seaport. She has loved being closer to her family and Yale friends again. Steph works at BCG in the biotech/biopharma sector, but enjoys plenty of free time to explore Northeast hiking trails.

Elliott Brennan: Elliott is still living in Washington, DC, working on agricultural policy. He went to East Africa twice last year and met a sweet giraffe named Ed and some sweet baby elephants. He’s been mourning the loss of his good friend Thomas "Tommy 2 Tone" Meyers to business school, but James McGinty and Reuben Fischer-Baum are still in DC. Reuben invited Elliott over to his house to play Xbox a couple weeks ago, which was cool.
Dounia Bredes: Living and teaching in New Delhi, India. Might have adopted a dog. (Pic attached.) The samosas are great. Come visit!
Blair Lanier: Changes are afoot! We had a baby in February 2019, and he’s already been on a few (very, very short) hikes... not on his own feet quite yet. I’m working for IBM as a product manager on jargon-y software in risk and compliance (AI, ML, NLP - so many acronyms...). We’re moving soon to a small farm outside our hometown of Cincinnati, Ohio, and we’re looking forward to founding some kind of OH-IN-KY pea shoot mini-empire, re-acquainting ourselves with the Ohio River Valley, and welcoming guests!

Chelsea Willett: Hi FOOT – I’m still studying those rocks in Berkeley, CA, looking to move to my next chapter at the end of 2019. My brother had a baby and she is all I talk about, wanna see 300 pictures?! Miss you all and hope you’re well. Xo.

Kelvin Vu: I’m going on six years in Tel Aviv, still dancing but also adding other hats. I recently wrapped up a few freelance projects that had successful runs in Tel Aviv and a couple international tours. I’m also working on the management side of Batsheva Dance Company, where I used to be a dancer. Facing some big questions: why dance, why art, why Tel Aviv? But enjoying the uncertainty and the open space it brings for insight and wonder.

Class of 2012

Alejandro Torres: Living in the ATL, popping bottles with local rappers by night and taking care of babies by day. The southern Appalachian Trail is an hour north — open invite to crash on our couch.

Ari Berkowitz: Ari is living in Los Angeles, but this weekend she’s going to Portland to see her 17-year-old nephew perform as a chorus member in “Newsies.” When she’s not watching high school theater, she’s writing on a new Netflix comedy that will come out in 2020. Ari also has a frickin’ great idea for a version of cornhole, if anyone’s looking to invest money/cornhole expertise.

Kevin Hoffman: I’m still loving the Bay - and maybe looking for a change? The winds of change may be blowing, so if you know of some cities with great opportunities in education, let me know. Otherwise, my three main goals for 2019 are: 1) Visit a baseball stadium that’s new for me; 2) Visit a national park that’s new for me; 3) Run the Lake Tahoe marathon in October. If you want to join me for any of them, let me know! In between, I’m hoping for a year full of books and lawn games, not necessarily at the same time.

Thomas Smyth: A California FOOT contingent of Peter Wilczynski, Craig Minoff (’10), Nick Roth and I went to Tamarindo, Costa Rica for Presidents’ Day weekend to shred some major gnar. Some of us caught double-overheads; others felt fortunate to stand up on an inside set; muchas cervezas were consumed by all. Pura Vida!

Brendan Ternus: I’m still in Melbourne, Australia, where it is currently a balmy 35 degrees Celsius while the northeast US is getting polar-vortexed. Sweet life! I’m working for a few different arts and education orgs doing freelance videography and curriculum design, and spending a lotttt of time dreaming and scheming new projects: a short film set in Beijing, a children’s book about Mars colonists, and an immersive escape-room-meets-pub-quiz business are all currently getting a good simmer in my brainspace. Hopefully putting those out there here means I’m more likely to actually DO any of that!! I live with my partner in an apartment two blocks from a beautiful river and 20 minutes from a great beach. I’ve gone camping a bunch through Australia’s amazing landscapes, and I legitimately put those handy WFA skills to good use (!!!) in Tasmania last October when a buddy sprained his ankle on the trail 6 hours from the nearest road. Here’s a photo from that trip, featuring an adorable kangaroo cousin called a pademelon. Come visit and we can adventure together!
Joe Berkman-Breen: Hello FOOT! This year I finished up policy and law school and moved back to New York City where I’m working as a civil legal aid attorney. In the fall I got married to Winston Berkman (pictured with his favorite pack!). We had a blast at our wedding, made all the more memorable by a gaggle of oomgala-ers including Kate Lund (’12), Adi Kamdar (’12), Thomas Smyth (’12) and Peter Ackerman (’92)! In a life fit for a sitcom, Winston and I work together in the same office, so please come find us in NYC commuting together on the subway. Much love to all.

Kaylee Mulligan: Lots of awesome life changes this year! Within the first month of 2019, I accepted a new job, packed up our life in the Bay Area, and moved to Denver, so now we’re starting to put down roots in a really awesome state. My husband got a new job about a month before I did, still with The Nature Conservancy, doing impact investing for water conservation (reach out if you ever want to talk to
someone about this—his new job is awesome!). My job is giving me the chance to explore very new waters as a project manager at Ibotta, a tech company in downtown Denver. It's been a crazy first few weeks on the job and I’m really enjoying this new challenge. We’re loving life in Colorado, snow shoveling and all (who thought it was a good idea to move from CA to CO in the dead of winter?!). It seems like there’s a great contingency of FOOT folks in this beautiful outdoorsy state and I’m excited to reunite with you all! Spring is just around the corner, which means trading in my cross-country skis for my trusty hiking boots; I can't wait to explore my new state through every season!

**Jack Bisceglia**

Jack is living in Brooklyn and practicing law in NYC. But he and his wonderful fiancée Dibya still make it out of the city for a little adventure. This past May, they hiked some fantastic trails in Kauai, marveled at the cliffs of the Napali Coast, and wandered the forests where they filmed Jurassic Park! This May, they are starting their next great adventure – getting married! Come visit them in DUMBO - they have a spare room and love having guests!
Ric Caraballo: Hi friends! Lots of updates from this guy. In January of 2017 I moved from DC to San Francisco to start a new job with Tesla’s Business Operations team. I love the work, the team, and the company so can definitely see myself sticking around for a long while. The only thing that’s not awesome is the commute - the factory is about hour away from SF, but luckily we have direct shuttles from the city, and I’m very good at napping in moving vehicles.

Speaking of the city, SF has really grown on me over the past two years. I’ve made a great group of friends, taken lots of advantage of all the amazing nature nearby (Tahoe, Yosemite, Muir Woods, etc.), and mostly adjusted to the really cheap avocados and really expensive rent (you win some, you lose some). Highlights of 2018 included the five year reunion (where FOOT leaders got together for some oomgala action), my sister’s college graduation, and six (!!!) weddings - including my Social Corps Co-Chair Julia Osterman's as well as fellow Cats4 FOOTie Stephanie Rivkin's to Joel Sircus (another Social Corps Chair). FOOT love is real folks.

Anywho, that’s all for me. Excited for more adventures in 2019 - give a shout if you’re in SF and maybe we can have one of our own!

Jacob Evelyn + Steph Wagner: Jacob Evelyn and Steph Wagner continue to live the good life down in Atlanta, GA. We recently discovered a small mountain outside of the city that’s on protected land, so there are some truly badass lichens and mosses reclaiming the rock structure of the monadnock. We love it down here! It’s warm! Come visit!
(Here’s a photo from an amazing hike in the foothills of the Atlas Mountains in Morocco.)

**Megan Leslie:** Megan Leslie is still living in Charlottesville, VA and is now half way done with her MD. In her rare free time off she enjoys hiking the AT in Shenandoah National Park. Her biggest contribution to the UVA School of Medicine community so far was hosting a lecture on deadly animal attacks, and she now sleeps soundly at night knowing that black bears are timid and Charlottesville doesn’t have any deadly snakes. If you like those things too, come visit!

**Cody McCoy:** 2018 was so lovely! I celebrated fellow foot leader Julia Osterman’s wedding, hiked through the forests of New Caledonia and Northern Australia, and -- huge highlight-- SAW A PLATYPUS IN THE WILD. Finally, thanks to our 5-year reunion, I got to see my EQ-corps-mate Devin Race (photo attached). Obviously, we discussed tarps. Sending out tons of virtual hugs! - Cody
Helen McCreary: I'm still working on my PhD in Yorkshire, but in April I'm moving to Louisville, KY! I'll be doing archaeological geophysics at Fort Knox to pay the bills, and flying drones over archaeological sites in Ohio for my PhD fieldwork. If anyone is in KY or Ohio, drop me a line, I'd love to hang out! In other news, I have adopted possibly the cutest cat in the entire world! (picture included, because who doesn't want to see a cute cat)

Charlotte Parker: I'm living in San Francisco, working at Acumen, an impact investing fund, and surfing as much as I can without becoming a California cliche (sometimes with Abby West ’11, who has a sweet new company called nat that you should use for planning outdoor adventures in the Bay). Let me know if you're ever in this funny city at the end of the continent. This past November, I got to visit some of our investments in East Africa - mostly off-grid solar in Kenya, Uganda, and Rwanda - and took the opportunity in Rwanda to hike a volcano (and see gorillas!! by accident!!) with Ali Friedman ('14) and David Mandelbaum ('15), as well as some other friends. So magical.
**Steph Rivkin:** After moving back from Stockholm to Brooklyn Heights in 2017 and starting a new job with Google NYC, in 2018, I relocated once again - this time back to sweet home Chicago. Within a 10-day span, I changed my home address, changed my job title, and changed my marital status. The highlight of 2018 was definitely marrying fellow FOOT leader Joel Sircus ’14 alongside fellow FOOT leaders Ric Caraballo ’13, Bobby Dresseer ’14, Ric Best ’14, and Alex Rivkin ’20. Professionally, continue to work for Google as an Account Manager partnering with MillerCoors and Nestlé brands on their YouTube marketing strategy. At the end of February, we are heading to South Africa and Mozambique on our honeymoon where we hope to experience some great hikes, wine, and animal sightings. Send any FOOT-friendly recommendations our way, and let us know if you find yourself in the Windy City!

---

**Amanda Hall:** I’m still living in Scotland, and now in the 3rd year of a PhD in International Relations. After spending the last year giving all our money to the train between St. Andrews and London, my boyfriend James moved up at the end of July. We spend most weekends on some sort of outdoor adventure (I’m on the Isle of Skye as of this writing!) but I promise my dissertation will be done sometime this year. Until then, our couch is comfy and FOOT friends are always welcome!

**Amelia Earnest:** Hi FOOT! Still calling New York home and am well into my second year working in global health advocacy/communications — a field that has confirmed my long-standing suspicion that nobody famous writes their own material. I’m primarily consulting for Gates Foundation projects on polio eradication and R&D against neglected diseases and really enjoying the chance to dig back into writing.
I also got the chance to do some wandering last year, including a freezing (and wildly under-planned) camping trip around Iceland and a motorbike trek in Vietnam. Looking forward to seeing some of you at the five-year (!) reunion later this year, or on your next trip through New York!

**Amy Napleton:** I finally started medical school at Rush in Chicago (where Katie Fruin is an M3!) this year and I am very happy about it! Last summer, Kat Lau and I backpacked and rainy canoed (Type I and Type II fun, respectively) around the Grand Tetons and Yellowstone. My Aunt Amy count is up to 8 nephews and soon-to-be 3 nieces, all in the Chicago area. Come visit!

**Caroline Lester:** Nothing has changed! She is still freelancing and still explaining to adults that it’s a real job. She loves New Haven. Everybody visit!!

**Courtney Halgren:** In 2018, I bid farewell to my windowless cubicle and now live a sunny, Vitamin D-enriched life as a Project Manager for Global Business Development at Sotheby’s! Those words don’t mean all that much, so suffice it to say I ghostwrite for people who are far more important than I am. I’m still in New York but on the lookout for new adventures in 2019, with a long weekend in Aspen and a camping trip with dear old dad (who hasn’t camped since his Boy Scout days...) already on the books. Hoping to see many of you in 2019!

**David Cruz:** I am staring down year five in the same apartment in Somerville, MA and loving it. This year, I’ve been able to share that space with a new roommate: my younger sister! I also started a new job at the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and began volunteering at an income tax clinic (which has been addicting). Unfortunately, I won’t be able to attend the five year reunion, so I hope all my FOOT ’14 folks have the best time and take lots of photos. My apartment has a spare room and mattress, so please let me know if you’re in Boston and need a place to stay. I’m still off of social media, so shoot me a text or e-mail (dcruz112 at gmail).

**Debby Abramov:** Greetings foot-lings! Sending this from the depths of a (mild) New York City winter and hoping all is well with everyone. I’m currently in Year 4 of my MD/PhD at Weill Cornell and at the point where I question my decision to do this in the first place. I like my lab and my life well enough though, so I am hopeful this existential crisis dissipates at some point. I’m still running and going for hikes when I can—I finally made my way out west to the Grand Canyon and Zion in the midst of the government shutdown and enjoyed them greatly, despite the incompetence of the buffoon running this nation. On a more pleasant note, please let me know if you’re ever in the NYC area—I’ve got a couch and two super nice roomies, and we really love visitors. The freezer is stocked with ice cream! Fluv2all4ever

**Eric Fishman:** Dearest FOOT friends, I’ve always thought jealously “who are these people who are in coffee shops at 8:30 am on a Tuesday??” as I drive to get my classroom ready for the school day... but this year I have become one of them. I took the year off from teaching, and have been cobbling together various gigs for myself (writing, translating, tutoring, cello-ing, etc). It’s been spacious and lovely and also super challenging. On the outdoors front, I’ve been doing some winter hiking, which has been great! Much love to everyone

**Evan Mullen:** Evan is still careening his way through medical school, and hopefully by the time you next see him he’ll have figured out what kind of doctor he wants to be. He has yet to pitch a tent in Central Park, but weather be damned he still tries to clamber to the top of some mountain — any mountain —
whenever he makes it home to Vermont. He misses the routine of two backpacking trips a year, and may factor such jaunts into the aforementioned medical-specialty-choosing-tangle he currently finds himself in.

**Ira Slomski-Pritz**: I’m still living the good ol’ Alaska life here in Anchorage. Hard to pass up the quality of life. I live with a wonderful group of people who feel like family. It’s easy to stay active: Nordic skiing, skating on week nights, longer hikes and trail runs on the weekend. After the election ousted me from State government, I just started working in the Mayor’s office. Alaska is so big it’s hard to wrap your mind around, so I’m looking forward to being driving distance to all the constituents I’m working for. Big downside is being far away from lots of you all. If any of you pass through Anchorage, and you should, you have a place to crash!

**Isaiah Lyons-Galante**: I’m in my third year now in energy in Nairobi, Kenya where I work for a solar company called PowerGen. This year I’m responsible for launching operations in Sierra Leone, which has been really exciting! I realize how much I had put down roots in until I started traveling a ton. My roommates here have become like my family, and I’m in love with a badass babe I met from Belgium. I’m still scratching my outdoors itch by camping all around Kenya and Sierra Leone, including a 5-day trek of Mt. Kenya last week! I’m pinching pennies to fly home May for our fifth year reunion, so I really hope to see a lot of you there! Please please hit me on up on Facebook at Isaiah LG or WhatsApp at +254723004343 if you’re around East or West Africa, I’ll show you an adventure! All my love, Isaiah

**Jake Keaney**: Still in med school, still in New Haven!

**Jesse Schreck**: In a nutshell, my update is that (plot twist!) I’ve decided to become a rabbi. Out of the nutshell, it’s a much longer story, but basically over the last three years in LA I’ve been getting increasingly involved in Jewish spiritual practice, and in yoga (starting my 200-hour teacher training this week!), and it seems like the rabbinate is a place to braid the two together, and to learn how to build a community around embodied spirituality. If all goes well, I’ll be moving to Boston to start school in the fall. (Because how many ideal sunny days can you really take?) If you’re also in Boston, let’s hang! Sending lots of love.
Joel Sircus: Joel is still living in Chicago with his co-leader for life Stephanie Rivkin ('13). The two got hitched this past September with the help of fellow FOOT folks Bobby Dresser ('14), Ric Caraballo ('13) and Ric Best ('14). Other than continuing to work for a family investment office, Joel spends his time ogling at the puppies of Chicago, volunteering with Big Brothers/Big Sisters, and perpetually trying to break into the bear bag where Stephanie hides the sweets. Joel longs for his next adventure in the woods, but in the meantime, he is looking forward to reading updates from the entire FOOT family. For those keeping score at home, Joel beat Ric in fantasy football for the 3rd time in seven years.

Maren Hopkins: I’m finishing my MBA at Harvard this May and starting a new role in investing (tech growth equity) in August. Although I’m excited to be done with school I’ll miss all of the vacation time so I’m planning to make the most of it before heading back to the workforce. I’ll be heli-skiing in Canada this spring break and hiking Norwegian Fjords this summer :) But also looking forward to heading back to New Haven and seeing lots of FOOT 14ers at the 5 year reunion!

Margaret Van Cleve: Hey FOOT family! I am still living in Washington, DC and teaching PK4 at KIPP DC Grow Academy! If you have been paying attention, that might sound familiar to you lol. Some great changes have happened this year — my boyfriend Greg and I got an amazing dog in July. His name is Jef and someone abandoned him in a forest in Alabama — their loss!!! As a result of his traumatic past, Jef has some deep separation anxiety and has escaped from his crate and also from our locked apartment. Luckily, I am living my childhood dream of living on the same floor as 2 of my cousins and Jef just escapes to their apartment. He is doing much better now and brings me so much joy every day. Other things that bring me joy include my Girl Scout troop (hit me up for cookies!), lots of great books, and the hilarious antics of my students. Please reach out if you are ever in DC and need a couch to sleep on or a big hug.

Sarah Maslin: Nine months after arriving to Brazil to report for The Economist, I have taken countless flights (I’m writing this from a plane about to take off for the Amazon), gotten back into rock climbing, and finally acquired the semblances of adulthood: a full-sized refrigerator, a bed that’s actually a foot off the floor, and a wooden dining room table. The most recent acquisition: four plastic lawn chairs so guests can sit down. São Paulo’s a massive, fascinating, infuriating and inspiring city (though Brazil journalist veteran Catherine Osborn would try to convince you that Rio takes the prize). Come visit both! Trump’s buddy, the far-right president Jair Bolsonaro, is sure to be the star (aka spoof) of this year’s carnaval.
Sophie Nethercut: Hello beautiful FOOT humans! 2018 was a delicious year filled with walking + wandering + listening to this world. I took a very long 3,000+ mile walk from Mexico to Canada along the Continental Divide Trail. If you're ever looking to spend 5+ months walking 26 miles a day + eating an INSANE amount of Oreos + running with wild horses + getting to hang with gorgeous humans like Abby Eurich, I can't recommend the CDT enough. What I can't recommend at all: getting giardia. Here's a pic of me and my giardia meds (thank goodness for modern medicine). I’m now back in Sitka, Alaska working at the local university, living at the Sitka Hostel, and floating with seals whenever possible. Come visit!

Tao Tao Holmes: Tao Tao is currently directing trip design and operations at Atlas Obscura, an eccentric travel and media company based in — you guessed it — Brooklyn. As part of her ever-changing job she’s gotten to work with phenomenal folks with backgrounds in things like entomology, astronomy, and mycology in places like Romania, Newfoundland, and Transnistria. She is grateful for the many FOOT friends she still sees on the reg, and excited for Class of 2014 reunion this spring!

Wesley DeVoll: After spending the past year working at an education non-profit, I’m now halfway through my first year of law school at Stanford. I love being back in school but definitely miss living in San Francisco. Palo Alto is kind of boring! I live on campus with my boyfriend Jackson who is finishing his Masters in education this year and will be working as a high school history teacher next year. Hoping to be either in LA or SF this summer!
Class of 2015

**Abigail Carney** - Hi FOOT! I am now living in Iowa City where I am in my first year at the Iowa Writers' Workshop. Getting my MFA in fiction writing. This summer, I did some backpacking in Glacier and around Mt. Hood. Many bear sightings!

**Alex Dobner** - Hi FOOT! I’m still living in Los Angeles and am in the midst of my fourth year of grad school life, which I’m enjoying a lot. I see several FOOT leaders on a regular basis including David Kellner ’14 who lives a couple miles from me and Megan Opatrny who lives a couple thousand miles from me. This past summer I got to go to a conference in England for a week and then spent another two weeks traveling around the UK and Ireland with some Yale friends (including Andrew Winter FOOT ’14). Here’s a photo of me blending into the scenery at the Cliffs of Moher:

![Val Eisenson photo](image)

**Val Eisenson** - After 3 years teaching ESL & Math at Chelsea High School, I moved to Excel Academy Charter School, still in Chelsea, MA, where I am teaching ESL to grades 5-8. I miss my high schoolers, but am loving working with middle schoolers, 5th graders especially, who are quirky little nuggets of joy. Aroop and I went back to Montana last June to explore Glacier National Park and Flathead Forest and Flathead Lake. We took some unexpected turns one day and ended up hiking in some pretty intense snow for a few hours, but we remained surprisingly happy the whole way. Hoping to see many of you in 2019! Lots of love <3

*Val Eisenson photo:*
Kevin Kirk - In January of 2018, I started a new job as a software engineer in New York City. I live in Harlem and commute to Chelsea almost every day on my 1970s peugeot road bike, which might be my most prized possession. My preferred route is to bike through central park and then through Times Square / midtown -- the dichotomy is awesome to me.

My job is flexible enough that I can easily work remote / from other offices around the country, which is a necessity for me because NYC makes me feel claustrophobic if I’m here for too long. My roommate Ezra is going to leave the city to go to law school in 2020, and I imagine that I’ll plan my exit from NY (and possibly software development) to coincide with his move. Until that time comes, I’m going to continue to enjoy my time here by playing lots of basketball, seeing friends, and getting outside a lot. I also decided not to get a haircut in 2018 for no particular reason, which explains the length of my hair in this picture from a trip I took to Colorado in November. I miss FOOT!!! Lots of Fluv, Kevin

Kevin Kirk photo:

---

Grace Lindsey - Grace is SO LUCKY to teach 6th graders with a fellow former Poobah in Brooklyn. We are excitedly teaching the ways of Contact and the best Ric Best riddles to middle schoolers (along with some Science and History..) Let me know if you are in New York and looking to be outside more this spring!

Grace Lindsey and Jerelyn Luther photo
David Mandelbaum: Hi FOOT! Last year, I moved out of San Francisco and left roommates / fellow FOOT leaders Denzil and Andrew behind :( to move to Kigali, Rwanda. It unfortunately seems like there are no other FOOT leaders here, at least for the time being. Nevertheless, I’ve loved it and feel very grateful to have the chance to live in another corner of the world. I’m here because of my new (well, now 1 year old) job working in Operations at Zipline, a company that delivers vital medical supplies via drone. The new job is very different than my last one, and I’m learning a lot and being stretched in all sorts of new ways. Though there’s fewer overnight backpacking opportunities here than in California, the country and region are both beautiful and I’ve been able to do some exploring. Many of these adventures have come when FOOT leaders have passed through, including Kevin Kirk (‘15), Talya Lockman-Fine (‘15), Ali Friedman (‘14) and Charlotte Parker (‘13). Let me know if you’re anywhere in East Africa so we can hang out!

David Mandelbaum photos (3):
**Gordon McCambridge** - Hi everyone. Still living here in Shenzhen. Will be four years over here this fall. Have transitioned from solo work to a small organization focused on Asian manufacturing – working with Erik Tharp (’16). Also, roommates with Tony Chen (’15). Spending time down in Vietnam as well – maybe a lot more, depending on how the Trump Tariffs shake out. Let me know if you’re in the neighborhood!

**Megan Opatrny** – Hey FOOT! I’m in my second year of med school at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland where I’m working on a dual MD/MA in Bioethics. I’m looking forward to starting clinical rotations this summer. Some other recent highlights: drawing classes at a nearby art school, escaping the cold and visiting Alex Dobner ’15 in Los Angeles, and catching up with Lily Vanderbloemen ’16 over brunch in Cleveland! I miss FOOT and hope to get outside more this year!

**Paul Parel** - Hi FOOT! I am still living with my brother in the San Francisco Bay Area. He and I love to get out and hike when we can, so give me a shout if you’re ever passing through. Last year, my team at Khan Academy released the Khan Academy Kids app! It’s a fun, free way for little kids to learn early academic and social emotional skills. Pass it along to any munchkins in your life if you want them to hear yours truly read books about things like sea otters, red pandas, and earthworms.

**Evi Steyer** - Evi is entering her fourth year of living in London, an endeavor which mostly involves not talking to people on public transportation and making elaborate efforts to survive the British winter. When not visiting her family/dogs/same thing at home in San Francisco (which she does embarrassingly frequently), she works for a tech company trying to build the Matrix. Please tell her if you are ever in the UK and want to hang out / take a wander in the English countryside. She misses FOOT massively and recently played Bunny-Bunny with a group, but it wasn't the same.

**Rodrigo Cerda**: Deniz and I have been in London for the past 2.5 years with our almost 4 year old son Rui (who has an English accent now!). I moved there through McKinsey and have been working in a new population health management venture for the past year. I’ve been keeping up medical practice at MGH by flying over there for a month or two a year, but needless to say it is not very sustainable. We’re
looking to move back to the US soon, likely to NY or Boston. Sorry I’ve been so MIA but hope to see you guys around more soon.

Class of 2016

Adam Beckman, Jacob Osborne, Katie Rich and Jake Wolf-Sorokin
Jacob, Jake, Katie, Adam and Onagh (Class of 2015) went on a winter beach trip. Most of this crew is living in Boston/Cambridge and Providence so hit them up if you’re ever in their area.

Martha Cosgrove
I went on a solo backpacking trip to Big Bend National Park and Guadeloupe National Park during my entire Christmas vacation (sorry family!). Temperature ranged from 20 to 70 degrees. I was happy

Rafi Bildner
After two seasons of guiding adventure travel trips for a company called Backroads, I’m looking forward to the next journey, which is very much still TBD. Leading Backroads trips (basically luxury FOOT trips for adults) was a wonderful blessing
and led me all over the globe leading cycling and hiking trips in Europe, the Middle East and here in the US. It was a grand adventure, and now I’m doing the millennial thing of figuring out what the heck to do with my life going forward. Hopefully something combing pizza, farming, bread baking and politics, or all three! My love to everyone around the world.

Brooke Eastman
Hi all! I recently returned to the States after two years living in London. Currently based in New York, where I both work for an arts PR agency and continue to maintain a thriving rivalry with the pigeons of the world. To all the FOOT leaders in NY, let’s go get dumplings!

Peter Wyckoff
Peter’s life is relatively the same as the last update, except when he was in Lisbon with Juliet Ryan (also 2016) and they tried to spell FOOT with their hands.

Truett Davis
After I graduated I moved back to Dallas and spent a year as an AmeriCorps member serving at a refugee resettlement agency called the International Rescue Committee. When my service term ended I started working as a legal assistant at RAICES, an immigration non-profit legal aid, where I’ve been for the past two months or so. I also moved out of my parents’ house! Finally! Life is good, though I do miss fall in New Haven and those beautiful FOOT trips that were bookends to my years at Yale. Sending out lots of love!

Astrid Pacini
Hi, miss you all dearly! I am still happily in grad school, studying high latitude oceanography. This year, my research question was: how long can I spend in the Arctic before I become an icicle? The verdict was
100 days for 2018. Apart from being harnessed to a very wet, very small boat, I spend as much time as possible in the Whites, hiking and skiing. Highlights of the year were backpacking in the very beautiful Fundy national park and surviving an ill-fated gator-filled canoe trip in the Everglades. If you are ever in Boston, please let me know and we can go hiking or eat chocolate chips together (not mutually exclusive).

**Greg Meyer and Sara Kahanamoku**

Sara Kahanamoku and I are still both grad students at Berkeley. But this year we got a DOG! He is very cute and loving and wakes us up by licking (or stepping on) our faces every morning.

Oh, also we got engaged! On top of a mountain at sunrise:

We also are extremely lucky to still have Scott Casleton and Shalila de Bourmont in the east bay with us! Scott has kept up his trend of dislocating his shoulder (see last year's FOOT newsletter) and Shalila got into UCSF for med school! And she ALSO just got engaged (I'm updating for Scott and Shalila too because they maybe will forget to do this :)P). Scott, Carlin Zia and I had a Whites 5 2013 reunion at Shalila's engagement party:
Hey guys! Greetings from the sandbox! I graduated Boston University with my masters back in May of 17 and then went into active duty air force at Shaw Afb, SC. Just got married in September, Jack and Ian were able come! I've been deployed since October to an "undisclosed location in the middle east". I've been working as a project manager here and have been in charge of about $20M of construction projects. About 3/4 of the way through my time here and definitely ready to go home. It's been a great experience and I've gotten to explore UAE in the little bit free time I've had here.
Lily Vanderbloeman
Lily finds herself writing her third alumni FOOT update in Cleveland still at that same job. Starting to itch for a different opportunity and experience, so she is actively looking to move to a smaller, socially-minded company. Lily ran her first marathon this year, and she became vegetarian. Last spring, she became certified as an indoor cycling (spin) instructor. She continues to contemplate her bigger purpose and how to best use her degree but also finds herself enjoying the little moments of adulthood (spring bike rides, local coffee shops, craft beer, Lake Erie spike ball games).

Shalila de Bourmont
Since getting back from Thailand in 2017, I've made Oakland my new home. I live next to a beautiful lake and run it every morning :)

Charlotte Weiner (FOOT leader ’17) was living in California until around May of 2018 and she taught me how to bike the hills of Berkeley without dying (both emotionally and physically) :}
Darby and I are getting engaged! (And also going to grad school in the bay!)

I’ve also become a doggy aunty for Greg’s dog!
Skylar Shibayama

Hello friends! I am still in Seattle and am finally rounding out my first year having a "real" job. I will be traveling with the Seattle Mariners this season, creating analytical scouting reports for players and coaches and also heading the video challenge system. (If you've ever watched a sports game on TV and asked, "what bozo just wasted their team's only challenge on that obvious play?", the answer now just might be me!) This will bounce me all over the country from April through September - if you live near an MLB team and would like to catch up, let me know! I'll probably be in your city at some point.

Recreationally, I've gotten pretty into playing competitive spikeball, traveling across the country playing in tournaments and occasionally cracking the national top-25 rankings (I swear I'm not making this up.) My parents recently bought an old RV and have lent it to me for a couple of national parks hiking excursions; the highlights thus far have been hiking Angel's Point at Zion and the Grand Canyon - I highly recommend each.

I miss you all and hope to stop by to say hi soon!
Isaac Hudis
This year, I quit my job, went on two NOLS trips in Alaska and Wyoming, started law school, and baked a loaf of banana bread. Sadly, I don't have any pictures of the banana bread, but I do have a photo of me and fellow FOOT leader Ira Slomski-Pritz ('14), who was leading a different NOLS trip in Alaska while I was there! Just goes to show FOOT friends are never far.

If you're ever in New York, come say hi! Gilla & Isaac had a sighting of each other in April 2019 on College St.

---

Jerelyn Luther
This year, I left my teaching job in New Orleans and drove a U-Haul solo from there all the way to my mom's house full of all my belongings in CT. On the way I was lucky enough to get to see fellow FOOT leaders Lily Sawyer-Kaplan (2017) in Montgomery and Rob LaRose (2017) in Atlanta.

I moved into NYC in August and started a new job teaching 6th grade science at a Brooklyn school with none other than fellow FOOT leader and poobah Grace Lindsey! It's about as hilarious as you imagine.
Otherwise, I spend a lot of time with my brothers and sister who live in the city, am a regular at yoga, and enjoy adult things like the farmer’s market. If you’re ever in New York, or you live here and want to hang out, let me know!

Maddy Landon
Maddy’s best decision of 2018 was to move to the same city as her sisters and brother! After finishing up a job in San Francisco, Maddy moved back to the east coast to Boston to work for Trip Advisor, and more importantly moved in with her sister Carey and started savory and sweet. If you live in Boston and want to join it, let her know! Brunch Tapas aka Bapas--a pop up brunch for those who never want to choose between

Curtis Broberg
Hey FOOT Friends! I still have no idea what I’m doing, but now I’m doing that from med school in St. Louis! Currently a first year at WashU, I am missing the mountains of the Northeast, but am having fun exploring the Midwest! If you are ever in the Lou, lets grab a beer!
Liza Lebedev

I spent 2 years in New York after graduation. Last year, I was lucky enough to get shipped off to New Zealand for work; after 3 months of work, I then spent a month doing back-to-back hikes on the South Island, which made me miss the FOOT community so much (see photos for me repping FOOT on the trail!). I’ve now quit McKinsey, and am working for another company, Alter, doing a 6 month work stint between Vietnam and the Philippines. TBD on where I’ll be after that!
Class of 2017

Emma Poole: Emma is stoked to be running the 2019 Boston Marathon with Team MR8, raising money for The Martin Richard Foundation and its work on inclusion, kindness, and peace. She would be incredibly grateful for your support! Donations can be made here: https://www.crowdrise.com/o/en/campaign/martin-richard-foundation-boston-2019/emmapoole1

Brandon Hudik: A good year, indeed! Fingers crossed that in the coming year some med school somewhere will be foolish enough to let me in. Until then, I’ll be in NJ so let me know if you're nearby! Missing everyone -- esp my other half @DribblingLaRose

Zoe Dobuler: Hi FOOT! I’m still living in Cambridge, MA and working at HUBweek, an ideas festival/civic initiative focused on innovation in art, science, and tech. I’m hoping that I'll be in grad school by this time next year getting my Master’s in art history, but in the meantime let me know if you're in the Boston area!

Here’s Zoe at Cilla’s wedding in Vermont in September!
Here’s Zoe & Meg Pritchard at the wedding too!

Abby Dutton: Hi FOOT! After a year trying to navigate the Big Boston City (eek!), I am back in my home-state, Vermont beginning an MD/PhD program at Dartmouth (technically New Hampshire, but my loyalties lie on the VT side...). When I’m not busy in the anatomy lab or medical library, my apartment is right on the AT and I’ve loved spending time hiking and exploring the trails nearby. If you’re ever in the area, come visit! I have torts and carrots and hummus to share and would love to hike with you. Sending FLUV!

(Pics: White Coat Ceremony with wonderful new friends; Snake Mountain with my sister, Sadie)
Justin Abbasi: Update: Hey, FEET! I've been working away in DC at Children’s Law Center, where I help attorneys investigate cases related to poor health outcomes for children living in low-income households in the District. I'm also studying for the MCAT, which I decided to take after visiting my primary care physician and remembering that medicine is cool. I promise to provide a more eloquent explanation for my interested in medicine to admissions committees once I (hopefully!) start interviewing this application cycle. I hope you all are doing well, and please let me know if you wind up in my area! Here's a picture with my fellow FOOT friend, the legendary Diksha Brahmbhatt, during my last visit to New Haven: Best, Justin

Kelsi Caywood: Hiya FOOT! Sending bundles of FLUV from Beijing where I am finishing up my Master’s. Please reach out if you find yourself in China! I’m happy to show you my favorite places or grab a meal (and avoid writing my thesis). This summer I will be returning to the Northeast before more graduate school. My post-grad life needs more hiking so please drop a line if you’re looking for a bud to get outdoors with.
Romy Carpenter: My non-yale email is romy.dale@gmail.com (thank you for the reminder in sending that!!).

And here is my update w/ attached pictures:
"Hi hi! I spent most of the summer in New Haven, and left just as the next generation of FOOT leaders were starting their pre-FOOT activities. :') I was also lucky enough to spend some time at home in Maine sitting in sunny fields with alpacas next to me and fishing in cold streams with Julia and Jacob next to me. Then, in the logical next move, I’m currently working at a sushi restaurant in New York where I’m learning about the anatomy of sea creatures like this geoduck (pronounced goo-wee-duck but unrelated to the waterfowl). If you’re ever in the NoHo area, please come visit me at the restaurant! It’s called BONDST."
I can’t wait to read this year’s edition of the newsletter! Hope all is well, Romy
Julia Char Gilbert: Sending love from northern Spain, where I’ve been teaching English at a vocational school and drinking lots of very small coffees. Highlights of the year have included crossing paths with Jacob Taswell ’17, Romy Carpenter ’18, Peter O’Neill ’19, Ben Wong ’19, and Alissa Ji ’20! Feeling continually grateful for the humans FOOT has brought into my life.

Nina Campbell: Hello FOOT! After graduating in December I headed out West to adventure a bit while I figure out my life. Visited friends in Colorado and California (including our very own Holden Leslie-Bole!!), visited my second ever national park (Arches) as a non-tiny child, road tripped across the Southwest, and started to re-learn how to ski in Telluride, CO. I also did a two-week guest stay at a Zen Buddhist center called Green Gulch in Marin County, CA ... and will be returning there in April for a 6-month apprenticeship! I’ll be working in their gardens continuing to learn how to grow things and talk to plants, as well as living all the zen goings-on, (hopefully) practicing how to be a better and wiser person in the world, and of course plenty of sitting and doing absolutely nothing staring at the floor. Hope to get some good outdoor exploration in while I’m there - it’s only a 3-mile walk from Muir Woods National Monument! Whee! Wishing all of FOOT plenty of Type 1 and Type 2 fun on these exciting new grown-up trails.
Meg Pritchard: Hiya FOOT! After spending my summer leading trips in Alaska for Overland (with FOOT legends Charlotte Weiner '17, Scott Casleton '17, Holden Leslie-Bole '18, and my lovely co Frank Eccher '19), I moved up here full-time for the Alaska Fellows Program in Anchorage (now led by Ira Slomski-Pritz '14)! Outside of work, I spend most of my time running, skiing, climbing, hiking, and looking for moose- and most of that I get to do with my favorite (and only, but still favorite) co-Poob Taylor! I’m loving Alaska and hate to leave, but this summer I’m going back to lead at Overland with several more amazing FOOT leaders. Sending all my fluv to you all, and please always get in touch if you want to hang out or just say hi :)
Taylor and Meg from the SeaLife Center in Seward, AK! Taylor really channeled the "bear" look!

So that’s all the news for 2018!! Sorry this took a while to give birth, but it was worth the wait.

There’s one more FOOT newsworthy event – At the Yale Slavic Chorus 50th Anniversary, there were several FOOT Leaders present!

Cilla, Anne Egger ’95, Catherine Kastleman ’10, Sophie Oberfield ’01, Sara Hipkens ’01, Sylke Jackson ’92, & Tasha Eccles ’07. Eve Vogel ’87 was at the rehearsals, but had to leave before the concert.
Here we are in all our glory!

My news is that I’m still doing FOOT! Wow – this might be year 35! Yes, I did get remarried last September at Sky Acres in Washington, Vermont -- at my farm. Please stay in touch! It means so much to me and all your FOOT family!

xoxoxox,

Cilla

priscilla.kellert@yale.edu