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**Keene State Today** 

#### THE MAGAZINE FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS

Melinda Treadwell '90 Keene State's 11th President



## **Keene State Today**

Volume XXXV Number 1 Winter 2018-19

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#### **IN THIS ISSUE**

The Winter 2018-19 issue of *Keene State Today* opens with a celebration of our eleventh president – and the first who is also a graduate of the College. Enjoy a conversation with Melinda Treadwell '90, who was recently named president after a year in the role on an interim basis.

We then turn to the topic of "House," which we look at from a variety of perspectives. We talk with members of the College community who build houses, sell houses, clean houses, and more.

The First-Person Project highlights three Keene State graduates who live and work in New England. Look for them in the back of the magazine and on our website at keene.edu/first-person.

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**On the Cover:** Keene State's new president, Melinda Treadwell '90. Photo by Julio DelSesto '07

**Inside Cover:** Artist Frankie Brackley-Tolman '74 is known for, among other things, her spare and haunting images of houses.

#### **Online Only**

Visit keene.edu/mag for special online-only content, links to more information on the features in this edition, and a downloadable pdf of the issue.

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## Above, Beyond, and into the Future

## Keene State's First Alumna President Laying the Path Forward

elinda Treadwell '90 is a woman in motion. On Move-In Day, she can be found lugging students' suitcases up the stairs of first-year dorms. On Election Day, she's taking a turn behind the wheel of the van transporting students to their polling place. Speaking before a gathering, she eschews the podium and paces about, wireless microphone in hand, gesturing as she talks - usually extemporaneously.

"I'm kind of a yellow Lab," Keene State's new president says. "I bound around this campus with unending energy and hope and positivity." What drives all that energy? A desire to be an active presence, to connect personally with students, to be the College's biggest advocate, certainly. But it goes deeper than that, to a determination to push past expectations that can be traced back to her time as a compliance officer.

An industrial safety major/chemistry minor at Keene State with a PhD in pharmacology and toxicology from Dartmouth Medical School, Treadwell tells the story about working as corporate

"I guess it's part of my indignation about just meeting the bare minimum of things," she adds. "I don't believe in it."

## "She could be a lot of other places, but she chooses to be here."

That experience led Treadwell to shift into positions in public health policy in state government and with a nonprofit, which had her building coalitions with business leaders, nonprofits, and advocacy groups and testifying at the State House in Concord and on Capitol Hill. The goal was to "push us to the best public health proposals that we could and also balance the need for economic growth," she says.

The negotiation skills she gained, the ability to speak in a way that's direct and compelling, the deep listening needed to bring people to agreement – she draws on those in her work as Keene State's president. She also draws on her own experiences as a student at the College.

Being visible on campus is important to Treadwell, who often seeks out students, and who acknowledges the importance of mentors from her own undergraduate days at the College.

### A Longtime Owl

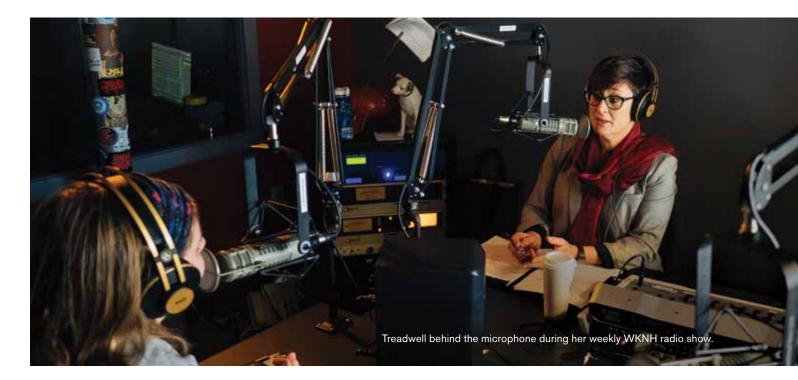
"What Keene State really did for me," Treadwell says, "is open my mind to Janet Grayson's Romantic and Victorian Literature course, where I became passionate about Shakespeare and Chaucer, and through her became a lifelong student of literature. Then I took Music Listening, and a pottery course, and a graphic design course. I wanted to expose myself to things that would make me a better person. I had no idea what college was about, let alone exposure to this whole other side of human experience."

She cites Keene State for the values that she holds, for her integrity and moral compass, for the breadth of her interests and the person she's become.

"This is one place where Melinda found her voice and then found out how to use it," says

toxicologist for Lockheed Martin Marietta. Her job involved Dottie Morris, the College's associate vice president for diversity and inclusion, who has worked with Treadwell for a decade. The new president's ability to discern what will drive the institution toward its best future, Morris says, "is rooted in her being an alum and is rooted in her love for this College, rooted in honoring what she was given as a student here and was enough when it came to caring about people and the acknowledging how critical what she's learned in these halls is, and how that contributed so much to who she is today."

environment.



Treadwell arrived as a first-year at Keene State in 1986, eager to study chemistry and play basketball. She had some rocky moments during her first semester, starting with the five-hour trip from her family home in central Maine. Her mother cried throughout the drive and as they moved her into her residence hall. She talked to her parents weekly in those pre-cell phone days, and they came to visit every other weekend. She thought about dropping out on several occasions.

"I was the first in my family to go to college, and I had no role models," she remembers. But soon she did have role models. Classmates, resident assistants, faculty members, coaches, and teammates all encouraged her to stick it out, and by January, she says, "I never wanted to leave."

## From Industry to Teaching

Returning to Keene State as a faculty member after working in the private and public sectors, Treadwell became a role model herself.

"I was a first generation college student, and I was putting myself through college," says Katie (Jordan) Caron '06, who remembers Treadwell as "hands-down the best professor I have ever had" and Treadwell's Legal Aspects of Safety class as "the most difficult that I ever took. You had to work to get your grades, and you had to study. But you also had that sense of accomplishment."

More than that, says Caron, Treadwell believed in her ability, bringing her on board to work on grant-funded research projects, recommending her for her first job, and later offering advice when she applied for the job she currently holds as Plymouth State University's campus manager of environmental health and safety.

Another safety grad who went on to work in higher education, Chris Rowell '03, emphasizes the kind of real-world experience Treadwell provided for him. He was one of three students who interned with her on EPA-funded research that brought them to farm and construction sites around the Northeast, including the site of the World Trade Center attacks in New York City.

It demonstrated to him Treadwell's "drive to give back, in this case to the nation, the world, for the environment, and her passion to give back to the students," he says. She was terrific as an advisor and classroom lecturer, and "she went above and beyond" in sharing her industry experiences and providing hands-on opportunities.

"She set a foundation for my career and helped me to get where I am," says Rowell, who is associate director of occupational safety at Harvard University.

## "Here for the Students"

With a vision firmly rooted in her own undergraduate experience, Treadwell has a goal of creating new ways to help students find belonging and greater support. "I had mentors who guided me," she says. "I had faculty who taught me how to combine my passions and my style into a professional arena."

It's no surprise, then, that she values her interactions with students – and they with her. "She asks for my take on things,"

## Scientist, Policymaker, Academic, President

tarting with the essay she wrote in her eighth-grade science class that earned her a slot in a two-week marine research program, Melinda Treadwell's path to the presidency of Keene State has been paved with accomplishments.



Treadwell clapping in first-year students with, from left, USNH Chancellor Todd Leach, Dean of Sciences, Sustainability, and Health Karrie Kalich, and Vice President for Student Affairs Kemal Atkins.

As a researcher, Treadwell secured millions of dollars in federal grant money to investigate air pollutants and their effects on public health, to launch a biodiesel collaborative, to equip a regional manufacturing center at the College, to provide professional development to K-12 science educators in New Hampshire, and more.

As an academic, she rose quickly through the ranks at Keene State, beginning in 2000 as an assistant professor and moving into positions as a tenured associate professor, interim director of the College's Center for Excellence in Learning and Teaching, dean of Professional and Graduate Studies, and interim provost/vice president for academic affairs. In 2014 she moved to Antioch University New England as vice president for academic affairs, and was serving there as provost and CEO when she returned to Keene State in 2017 to become interim president.

"Dr. Treadwell has a track record of success," the University System of New Hampshire Board of Trustees Chair John Small said when she took the interim appointment.

And USNH Trustee Jamie Burnett, who led the Hiring Committee for the president's post this fall, noted that "Under Dr. Treadwell's leadership over the past year, we have seen the campus and its programs contribute greatly to the region and state."

Read on for some career highlights that provide an overview of Treadwell's accomplishments.

says Vincent Moore, a junior multimedia journalism major and news editor for the student paper, *The Equinox*. The two meet weekly to keep the lines of communication open between the student journalists and the College administration: Treadwell fills Moore in on news the paper may want to cover, and Moore uses the opportunity to ask Treadwell for comments to be included in upcoming stories.

In addition, he says, he senses her sincerity. When she asks "How are you?," it's not rhetorical, he notes. She really wants to know.

Student Body President Sarah Dugas, an English major/ management minor, has noticed that too. "I think it's awesome that you can walk down Appian Way and she'll just stop and say 'Hi,' and ask how your day is going," she says. Beyond that, Treadwell shows up for the occasional student government meeting to share information and offer her help in, for instance, figuring out how to fund annual events in times of smaller budgets.

"She really is here for the students and wants to support everybody that she can," says Dugas.

### Looking to the Future

"What matters to me is that I strongly believe the world needs to be better for our kids," says Treadwell, who is motivated in part by a desire to have a better world for her own two preschoolers. Passionate about being the best mother she can be, as well as serving as a successful college president – something she accomplishes with the help of a supportive spouse – she wants her kids to grow up in the Monadnock region and to take advantage of New Hampshire's public university system.

## "I try to listen deeply and then push us one step further to a broader vision or to an altruistic goal."

The eleventh president in Keene State's 110 years of existence, Treadwell takes the lead at a critical juncture. Having spent her year as interim president stabilizing the budget, streamlining administrative practices, and putting together a strong leadership team, she is now turning to the future.

#### Education

- PhD, Pharmacology/Toxicology, Dartmouth Medical School, 1995
- BS, Industrial Safety, Keene State College, 1990

#### Featured Accomplishments

As vice president for academic affairs at Antioch New England, Treadwell led the development of a university-wide Environmental Studies Division, launched a new degree program in Applied Behavioral Analyses, launched an online mental health counseling program, and approved seven new certificate offerings. As provost/CEO, she worked as part of leadership team to close an \$8.7 million university-wide budget deficit.

As interim president at Keene State, Treadwell balanced the College's budget for 2018, realigned the administration and hired a new leadership team, and led the College in meeting its enrollment target for 2018.

#### **Appointments**

- Member, State of NH Higher Education Commission
- Co-chair, University Business Model Taskforce, Antioch University
- Member, NH State House of Representatives Biodiesel Commission
- Representative, NH State Department of Education, Teacher Effectiveness Task Force

#### Honors and Awards

- Keene State Faculty Distinction in Scholarship and Research Award
- Keene State Alumni Inspiration Award
- Meritorious Service Award, State and Territorial Air Pollution
  Prevention Association and Association of Local Air Pollution
  Control Officials

- High Performance Professional Merit Award, Lockheed Martin
- Young Investigator Award, Oxygen Society
- National Research Service Award, National Institute of Environmental Health and Safety

#### **Grant-Funded Research**

- State Aid to Higher Education Grant Project, Rural School Educator Effectiveness Collaborative
- Grant to launch public/private partnership to support advanced manufacturing in the Monadnock Region
- Respiratory Effects of Airborne Particulate Matter in the Northeast, National Institutes of Health
- Three air quality/emissions research projects funded by the US Environmental Protection Agency
- Two grants on community-oriented policing funded by the US Department of Justice

#### Employment

Keene State College, 2017-present Interim President; President Antioch University New England, 2014-2017 VP for Academic Affairs; Provost and CE0

Keene State College, 2000-2015 Professor; Dean; Interim VP for Academic Affairs

Policy Work, 1997-2004 NH Department of Environmental Services; Northeast States for Coordinated Air Use Management

#### Industry Work, 1988-97

MARKEM Corporation; Lockheed-Sanders; Lockheed Martin

Higher education opens doors, social and economic mobility, and awareness of a world beyond one's backyard, she says - and that's something Keene State does well. Treadwell is positioning the College to make those opportunities available to more students in a variety of ways. Partnership programs like a collaboration between the Chemistry Department and a nearby company, Polyonics, offer real-world experience in industry. A new first-in-the-nation bachelor's degree in construction safety sciences targets workforce needs, as does a new online master's program in safety and occupational health and applied sciences. The College is exploring ways to partner with the Community College System of New Hampshire to develop new pathways for students to earn a four-year degree. Treadwell has made clear her commitment to increasing financial assistance for students through personal contributions to scholarship funds.

Treadwell developed a key skill during her days advocating for industrial safety policies on a national scale: communicating in a way that's unscripted, grounded, and compelling. She couples that with her background as a Keene State alumna to advocate for the College as it moves ahead. As Associate VP Morris puts it, "she has that sense of who we are and reiterates it to all of us."



Treadwell sports Keene State red at the September Alumni Reunion.



Treadwell pays tribute to Norma Walker '51 at a 90th birthday party for the active alumni volunteer.

Treadwell puts it this way: "As a president, to have that alumni experience, I can champion the strength of this institution from a personal level in a way that elevates the argument about the value of what Keene State has to offer." That means highlighting new opportunities along with the broad-based curriculum that is the foundation of a Keene State College education – and that ensures that future biologists also have a solid background in the humanities and that future artists delve into the sciences.

## Doing the Right Thing

People who know Treadwell talk about her in terms of following her convictions. Safety alumna Caron remembers her telling a class about being in an uncomfortable situation at a workplace and having to make a moral choice. Student Body President Dugas calls her a "transparency and open relationship type of person."

Treadwell herself talks about having had to do hard things over the past year, but "doing them with heart." She's stubborn, she admits. "I don't walk away from what I think should be right and should happen." And she looks forward to being here at Keene State to follow through on the changes she's set in motion.



A scientist and a president, Treadwell talks with middle school students at GO STEM!, a summer program that encourages girls to explore science, technology, engineering, and math.

"She could be a lot of other places, but she chooses to be here," says Morris.

A primary role for Treadwell is to "make decisions that balance idealism and practicality but always lean toward the idealistic," she says. "I'm not just going to go to the practical edge. I love working with people, asking, What do you want?, and I try to listen deeply and then push us one step further to a broader vision or to an altruistic goal, because I just believe that's what we should be doing. That's just who I am."

## "What matters to me is that I strongly believe the world needs to be better for our kids."

When she talks about the Keene State experience, Treadwell is talking about her personal experience as well. As her former student Chris Rowell puts it, "To think about someone who came in as a student and is now president – what an amazing story that is in itself."

– Jane Eklund

## A GRAND TUNE UP

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## POLICY

## help with housing, and **MOTE**

irtually all of the tenants Laura Scott '89 coaches in her role as a resident service coordinator with Keene Housing have full-time jobs. That makes it somewhat ironic that the public housing authority is part of the federal Moving to Work program.

While many people like the idea of putting those who receive housing assistance on the employment rolls, says Scott, the reality is that they already are – and they still can't afford rent payments. "The big issue is that wages haven't increased with the cost of living," says Scott. "Things have changed, and public perception hasn't."

She cites the example of the husband and wife she worked with who were both fulltime Walmart employees. Even making \$2 to \$3 an hour more than the minimum wage of \$7.25, they couldn't support a family of four.

That's where Keene Housing comes in. The nonprofit agency operates several subsidized housing complexes and distributes private housing subsidies for elderly, disabled, and very low income people in and around Keene, all funded by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

Rather than helping people find jobs, Scott coaches them as they move toward selfsufficiency, which could mean finding a better job, continuing their education, paying off debts, or asking for a raise. The able-bodied people that she works with receive a rent subsidy through a step program that gradually reduces the financial assistance they get.

The great thing about HUD's Moving to Work program is that it encourages participating agencies to tailor their offerings to best serve their tenants. For instance, Keene Housing used to require people receiving subsidies through the Resident Self Reliance Program to attend a series of classes on subjects like budgeting and goal setting. Then, one quarter, Scott decided to meet individually with all of the people in her caseload.

She found that one-on-one coaching sessions were more effective than the classes. People who have a personal relationship with her, who have worked with her to set goals, she says, are more likely to follow through on the goals. Because of that, Keene Housing dropped the required classes, and instead tenants meet four times a year with Scott.

She encourages them to think about their lives – what's going well and what isn't, what they'd like to improve. Then the tenants set goals for themselves that might have to do with improving their job situation but are just as likely to be more personal, like getting financial counseling, quitting smoking, finding childcare, or getting out of a bad relationship.

VILLAGE

Keene Housing

831 Court St.



Laura Scott meets one-on-one with clients

A psychology major and chemical dependency minor at Keene State, Scott started her career working in treatment centers for recovering addicts and alcoholics. She spent a dozen years as a stay-at-home mom, managed a Curves for five years, and began working for Keene Housing in 2009. "It's the best job in the world," she says. "I love my job and the people I work with."

Scott sees the benefits of affordable housing combined with coaching every day. "It's amazing how much setting a goal can do for you if you really want it and you really believe in it," she says, telling the story of a single mom who worked full time while earning a bachelor's degree, which led to a great job. Another got

a human services certificate from a community college,

a community college, landed a job right away, and enrolled in a fouryear college.

"It's incredible to see what people can do," Scott says. "Sometimes they just need a little support and somebody to believe in them. That's what I do."

Laura Scott

egan Stone's degree in history and her penchant for public policy come together nicely in the building where she works, which is also likely New Hampshire's most recognizable "house." As a legislative aide for the largest representative governing body in the United States, she's based in an office on the third floor of the New Hampshire State House – which happens to be the oldest state house in the country where both senators and representatives still meet in their original chambers.

## Hard at Work in the 'People's House'

"I love the history that's here," says Stone, a 2012 Keene State graduate. "I love seeing the portraits in the hallways. I love being in the chamber." Stone is one of three aides who work for the Republican leadership and caucus in the State House of Representatives. (Another three work for the Democratic side.)

She spends a lot of time in the chamber where the 400 state reps meet to debate and vote on bills, as it's part of her job to be on hand to handle requests from legislators who might need information or talking points relating to a particular issue.

Because New Hampshire has what's referred to as a "citizen's legislature" – state representatives are volunteers who are paid \$100 a year for their service – members of the House do not have their own staffs. That means Stone and her coworkers, in addition to their primary function of serving as support staff for the Republican leadership, juggle a variety of requests from rank-and-file Republican members.

"We do a little bit of everything," says Stone. That includes serving as the political arm of the House Speaker's office when Republicans are in the majority, drafting press releases, compiling and sending out a weekly newsletter, helping find answers to constituents'

> questions, and managing social media. They also keep track of the key bills that are making their way through committees

POLICY

– a big job, as some 1,000 are introduced each year, and under New Hampshire law each must get a hearing on the House floor.

Stone particularly enjoys the policy side of politics, though she's sampled the campaign side as well. She got involved in politics during her college years. She co-chaired the Keene State Republicans for three years, and got her first job working on a campaign: she spent the summer after her junior year as a volunteer coordinator for Jim Bender, who lost to Kelly Ayotte in the New Hampshire US Senate primary. Later that year, she signed on as a field representative for Mitt Romney's presidential run.

That led to a position, upon graduation, as communications director for the New Hampshire Republican State Committee. She's been a legislative aide for a little more than five years.

The job brought an unexpected personal bonus: a year ago, she married Aaron Goulette, the senior legislative aide in her office. Last summer, they moved to a new house that's just slightly less awe-inspiring than the one where they work.

But despite the grandeur of the building, she knows the work she does there helps New Hampshire residents in very practical ways. "On the state level, we're

passing bills that affect people locally," she says, "so we actually see the end product and how it affects people."

Megan Stone '12

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## **BUYING AND SELLING**

## House Hunting Abroad Via Television

#### WITH 1.2 MILLION VIEWERS,

the hit HGTV show House Hunters International follows prospective home buyers and their realtors around the world as they embark on buying property in a foreign country – from Australia to Croatia. Chris DeVito '08, a film studies major, is part of the team that helps craft the stories we see on screen. takes five days to film, and the team has only 13 business days to get it edited and network-approved.

"There's a massive amount of footage we sift through to find the story," says DeVito. "The show has a formula, but there is still an art to putting the episodes together. The thing that people like most



Chris DeVito, in sunglasses, with members of the *House Hunters International crew.* Photo courtesy Chris DeVito

"Through my Keene State network, I found an assistant editor role at *House Hunters International*," says DeVito. "It was tough at first, because I was a night assistant editor managing long overnight hours, typically from 7 p.m. to 5 a.m."

Within a few years, DeVito became an editor and is now a post-producer/editor. "I've edited well over 50 episodes," he says. "We're a pretty big company. There are crews going out all the time, all over the world."

House Hunters International has filmed in over 133 countries, shoots over 13 episodes a month, has toured over 3,700 homes, and has as many as four crews filming simultaneously. Each episode about our show is living vicariously through the buyers. We're selling people on dreams. It's leaving the rat race and finding your fantasy vacation home or starting an exciting new job abroad."

DeVito points out that the stakes are higher when moving to another country, but the episodes are also very informative for US audiences – they get to see how far the dollar goes in other countries.

A lot of the buyers are super-fans of the show. "Thousands of people contact us every year hoping to be on the show, from all over the globe. They love the show everywhere, because everyone can relate to chasing that dream," he says. DeVito jokes that he mostly sees the world through high-definition in his New York City office. "I rarely travel, but I was able to go to Norway in 2016, which was pretty awesome," he adds. "The cliché 'we'll fix it in post-production' is pretty true, so it was nice to be on location to collaborate with the crew on what works and what doesn't."

DeVito credits his success to his education. He chose to attend Keene State because he knew there was a good film studies program and attending a public institution meant he would graduate without too much debt.

"The cool thing about Keene State was that you were able try a bunch of different roles within film, from story development to being behind the camera to editing. The professors cover everything, and the program offers a lot of hands-on opportunities. That came full circle when I went out into the world. To make it in this business you need versatility, and to work hard – sometimes even overnight. Keene State left me ready for all of that," he says.

At House Hunters International, DeVito continues to be eager to discover new things. "I like learning about the different quirks and intricacies in different parts of the world. Like in the Singapore episode, the buyer won't have a car because it costs over \$100,000 to have a car there. There are a lot of prohibitive costs because they try to limit the number of cars on the road to ease traffic."

With over 1,200 episodes aired to date, the craze of watching people house hunt around the globe doesn't seem to be going away anytime soon. "Our show dangles out these ideas and risks. Do you want to change your life? Moving abroad and broadening your horizons might be just want you need," says DeVito.

– Laurie O'Hara

Visit keene.edu/mag for a link to a behind-the-scenes look at House Hunter International's NYC headquarters.

## **BUYING AND SELLING**

## REAL ESTATE: Houses in the Marketplace

"Surprises are the worst

thing in real estate, because

usually they're financial."

manda Abramson-Clarke '09 may be a real estate agent, but there are definitely times when she feels more like a therapist. "Buying or selling a house is a very emotional thing," she says.

Emotions can range from the joy of buyers who didn't think they would qualify for a mortgage to the sorrow of children selling their family home after the death of a parent. Sometimes there's even anger, like when the sellers are divorcing. "I've had cases where I could only speak with attorneys," she says.

A real estate agent's job can be a combination of handholding, cheerleading, advising, coordinating, and project managing. When Abramson-Clarke, who lives and works in Greenfield, Massachusetts, meets with first-time homebuyers, she pulls out a binder that lays out everything they should expect. "Surprises are the worst thing in real estate, because usually they're financial," she notes. "Sometimes people are just barely

able to buy a home, so to be hit with another six grand in closing costs a few days before you're supposed to close can be shocking."

She also asks questions – the first is whether the potential homebuyers have talked to

a bank to secure a mortgage and the second is their timeline. Then she asks about price range, square footage, number of bedrooms, acceptable towns and school districts, and distance they are willing to commute.

A key tool of the trade is the Multiple Listing Service. The MLS maintains an online database of property on the market, and emails information about new listings to clients.

Abramson-Clarke, an independent contractor who works through Cohn and Company, is following her father's footsteps. A sociology major, she was working in sales when her Realtor dad approached her about seven years ago, saying, "If you start thinking about becoming a Realtor now, by the time you're in your prime there won't be any competition left." Local real estate agents were aging out and young people weren't getting into the field.

"I worked under my father for the first year and then went out on my own," she says, "and have not looked back. It's not an easy, straightforward job. It is a lot of self-driving, timesacrificing work to get yourself off the ground. And it also helps that I'm a competitive person, because it's a competitive work environment."



Amanda Abramson-Clarke

Pay is entirely commission, so if she doesn't sell houses, she doesn't make money. Business is based on word of mouth, so good customer relations is critical.

> The job's appeal? Flexibility and autonomy, she says. And it suits her outgoing personality. In addition to her job, Abramson-Clarke is active in the Franklin County Rotary, Fair, and United Way. This year, she's co-chairing the United Way's annual campaign. Last spring,

she made the BusinessWest "40 Under 40" list recognizing young professionals in Western Massachusetts.

She's also the new owner, with her husband, Sam Clarke, of a seven-acre former dairy farm, where she plans to stable her horse. The farm, purchased from relatives, is the second home she's owned. When she first sold real estate, she realized that to do her job well, she had to go through the process herself to understand it from a buyer's perspective.

As a Realtor, she navigates the pleasures of helping clients find the right home to the disappointments of a buyer backing out or a seller rethinking plans. "Life happens, and your house is directly correlated with what's going on in your life," she says.

Photo courtesy Amanda Abramson-Clarke

## INSIDE

## BREAKFAST



Jessica Enman '12 Photo courtesy Jessica Enman

## At the Heart of the House Stands the Kitchen

essica Enman '12 found her niche thanks to a downturn in the economy. An architecture major, she graduated at a time when even people experienced in the field couldn't find work. She took what she thought would be a stop-gap job as a kitchen designer at a lumberyard.

"I ended up really liking it," says Enman, who has since moved to another lumberyard – Hancock Lumber in Brunswick, Maine – but is still designing kitchens. "I really find it satisfying to help people figure out what they want and making it into a reality."

Typically, remodeling a kitchen or installing a new one in an addition or new home is a lengthy process, she says, one that begins with a conversation with the customers. "About 75 percent of my job is really to just ask questions and listen to what people say," Enman says.

Sometimes that involves helping couples negotiate differing wants and needs, she adds, joking that kitchen designers also do marriage counseling. She remembers one woman who had a very clear vision of what she wanted in her kitchen, then asked that the refrigerator and microwave be located on the periphery so her husband could grab his frozen meals, heat them up, and get out of her way.

The amount of space and the layout in a kitchen is critical, especially for a family that cooks together. For frequent bakers, Enman may suggest adjusting the height of the counter and adding shelf space for a mixer. For those who want to add the ubiquitous island to a small space, she may rough out the island's footprint on the existing floor with masking tape so they can try moving around it for a week.

"Either they'll do away with that concept once they realize it's not practical, or they will steal space for the new kitchen from another room in the house," she says.

Visiting the site pre-construction or renovation is important for other practical reasons, too: the designer needs to get accurate

#### "About 75 percent of my job is really to just ask questions and listen to what people say."

measurements before coming up with plans for flooring, cabinetry, countertops, and appliances – in addition to wiring, plumbing, and ventilation. "It's actually a very technical job," says Enman, who uses software called 2020 Design that can create a full-color 3-D view to help people visualize their planned new kitchen.

The information age has brought a host of new tools for homeowners as well. Enman finds that most of her clients have collected ideas on apps like Pinterest and Houzz. Houzz allows designers to plug in to customers' wish lists and get a sense of their style and taste. Most clients are also interested in integrating interior accessories into their new cabinets – things like wastebasket pullouts, roll-out shelves, and spice rack pullouts. It helps maximize functionality and efficiency of the space, she says.

What's the latest in kitchens? Trends include wood floors and wood-look tile floors. Quartz countertops are pulling ahead of granite. Shiplap walls are hot, thanks to a leading fixer-upper show. Enman finds that many people are going with a classic look with white as the primary color so their kitchen won't be dated within a few years.

In addition to working with clients, Enman's job includes working with contractors and with appliance, lighting, and flooring retailers. She credits "all those group projects" at Keene State with giving her the people skills she needs to see her kitchen designs become reality.

Her own kitchen, she notes, is neither fancy nor trendy. "I guess living with a mediocre one, I can appreciate what people don't like about their kitchens," she says.

## **NSIDE**

## Cleaning House: Side Job Suits Film Student

DEVIROUX D'ERRICO DESCRIBES HER PERSONAL HOUSEKEEPING STYLE AS "ORGANIZED CHAOS." PROFESSIONALLY, THOUGH, SHE ALWAYS PUTS HER BEST MOP FORWARD.

D'Errico, a Keene State College junior, works as a part-time house cleaner while studying film. She's been tidying and scrubbing for pay since she was in high school. "I was just looking for any work; in high school you'll take anything you can get. I started working at a nursing home as a dietary aide, just filling cups, handing them out, cleaning dishes. Then the Housekeeping Department needed coverage and I decided I liked that a lot more," D'Errico says.

She especially liked being able to interact with the older people living there. "Working in the nursing home is really nice – just to sit down and talk. All the residents want is someone to talk to them – and that's all anyone wants," D'Errico says.

Since leaving the nursing home position, she works freelance, taking on individual clients. They're not always as friendly as the nursing home residents, she notes. One of weird things about her job, she says, is the dynamic between client and housekeeper – some people see her more as "help" than as a human being.

#### If I'm doing something that I really like, which is housekeeping, I don't mind having a side job for the rest of my life.

Despite this, D'Errico says she enjoys housekeeping. "It's really good for people who have the kind of brain that's really relaxed by repetitive, tedious tasks. That's definitely me," she says. The pay, she adds, is also a big bonus considering it's more than the typical New Hampshire minimum wage of \$7.25. Currently, she is cleaning for just one person, a Brattleboro, Vermont, resident she enjoys working with.

Housekeeping fits in well with D'Errico's plans for the future. As a film major, she expects to be hired for project work, and cleaning gigs will help ensure a steady income. "If I'm doing something that I really like, which is housekeeping, I don't mind having a side job for the rest of my life," D'Errico says. "I'm going to be a happy person." Bringing order to other people's homes? It's repetitive, but it's also relaxing, D'Errico says – and there's the immediate gratification of seeing how her hard work can bring a sparkle to a formerly dingy bathroom or kitchen.

"I've already got so many years of experience in this field. Why change it if I like what I'm doing?" she asks. "It's going to take some seriously traumatizing bathrooms to get me to stop."

– Rachel Vitello '20



Making a clean sweep: junior Deviroux D'Errico.

## OUTSIDE

## HOUSE PAINTINGS: Evoking the Feeling of a Landscape

"It has to do with the way you see the world."

## OUTSIDE

hen fine artist Frankie Brackley-Tolman '74 paints houses – for many years a favorite subject of hers – she sometimes thinks about the Tom Waits Song "The House Where Nobody Lives." Indeed, her houses and barns, unpeopled shapes and colors, are studies in stillness. Sometimes they're tucked into a



Self-portrait

distant valley; sometimes they loom large above a bluff or plain.

"I like to distill things down into simple shapes," says Brackley-Tolman, who lives in Nelson, New Hampshire. "I don't want to paint what they look like, but what they feel like. You can get more emotions across without going into the detail."

When the twentieth-century artist Fairfield Porter painted the landscape of Maine's Great Spruce Head Island, where his family had a summer home, he said he was painting his father, she notes. Similarly, she says, "When I'm painting a barn, I'm painting my ancestors."

To Brackley-Tolman, painting buildings is about exploring the place of humans in nature – not a surprising theme for a biology major who worked as a botanist and biology teacher before becoming a full-time artist. With a master's degree from UNH and a focus on taxonomy of vascular plants, she worked for the Nature Conservancy and served as both coordinator and botanist for the New Hampshire Natural Heritage Inventory.

As a child, she'd wanted to be an artist, and she was working as a lecturer at Keene State, teaching a botany course for non-biology majors, when she felt a strong pull to make art. She bought herself a big box of crayons and sketched with them on a visit to Cape Breton, Nova Scotia. She took painting classes at a local arts center along with a couple of watercolor workshops, then began exhibiting her paintings in group shows in the region. "People responded and bought my work," she remembers.

Brackley-Tolman made the leap, gave up her biology-teaching job at Keene State, and offered her services when the nearby Sharon Arts Center (now part of the New Hampshire Institute of

Art) advertised for teachers. "I went in and I said, 'Look, I have no formal art training, but I can paint and I can teach, I know that.' They agreed to let me try, and I taught there for about 15 years. I sort of re-invented myself."

A lover of the spare northern landscape, Brackley-Tolman is noted for her evocative paintings of houses, barns, sheds, and other modest structures in places including Cape Breton and Monhegan Island off the coast of Maine.

"The image is mostly in my head," she says. "I go somewhere and get an impression of something. I seldom work from photographs, and I tell my students not to. Just look at it and turn it over, otherwise you get hung up in details and you forget about the essence. I'm trying to evoke a feeling that the landscape gave me."

Color is a major feature of her work; in fact, she switched from watercolor to acrylic paints to capitalize on their brightness. "I like the vibrancy, the liveliness of color," she says. "It conveys joy to me."

Brackley-Tolman is part of a two-artist household: her husband, Harvey Tolman, is a well-known traditional fiddler and recipient of the New Hampshire Folk Heritage Award. He also helps her set up displays at the arts tours and fairs where she sells her work – the Fall Foliage Art Studio Tour, Art in the Park in Keene, and Open Studios at the Harrisville Mills. "He's very supportive," she says – "and he lugs my paintings around."

These days, Brackley-Tolman is applying her artistic vision to different subject matter. After completing a series of forest paintings, she's now working on paintings of plants. It's all connected to her time as a field biologist, she says: "It has to do with the way you see the world."

Wisit keene.edu/mag for a link to Frankie Brackley-Tolman's website.



An assortment of Frankie Brackley-Tolman's paintings

## HANDS ON: BUILDING A HOUSE AND LIVING IN IT TOO

t's not a metaphor when Fred and Carol (Johnson) Collins talk about their relationship in terms of a house. The 1969 graduates designed and built their own home in South Duxbury, Vermont, two years after their wedding, and since then they've been making adjustments, additions, and changes to it to accommodate their growing and changing needs.

Building and then living long-term in a house, says Carol, "means maintaining. It's meant ripping off and adding on. The house is so much about us, and about our marriage." Over 48 years, they've raised a son and daughter, launched home-based small businesses (wool crafts for Carol and furniture building for Fred), grazed sheep and planted fruit and vegetables on their land, and built a house across the street for Carol's parents, where her mother, 104-year-old Wanda Johnson '64, still lives.

But let's back up to the beginning. The story of the marriage dates to the 1960s, when two Vermonters, the son of a builder and the daughter of farmers, met as students at Keene State. Fred Collins was studying industrial arts education, and Carol Johnson liberal arts and English literature. The year after they graduated, they were married by Fred's grandfather, a justice of the peace.

DUXBURY

VERMONT

Fred and Carol Collins.

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## DESIGN BUILD

The story of the Collins house starts in 1972, when both Fred and Carol were teaching at Harwood Union High School, just down the road from the piece of property they'd purchased. At the end of each school day, on weekends, and during the summer, they hammered and sawed and muscled beams into place, putting together the post-and-beam house they'd sketched out after doing some research and factoring in materials on hand – including timbers from a building Fred's father had dismantled.

They'd hired professionals to excavate and pour the concrete foundation, but otherwise did the work themselves, occasionally pressing into service friends and colleagues who stopped by (including the superintendent of schools and school board chair). are things they've made with their own hands: Fred's fine furniture; Carol's woolen blankets.

The stuff of their lives.

As they lived in the house, they corrected some mistakes. "We put a row of windows on the north side up in the peak, to light the balcony," Fred remembers. "In the winter, the heat would go up there, and the water would condense on those windows and run down the walls. So we cut the top of the house off."

They also made changes and additions. They moved the laundry room into the basement to create an office space for Carol, and later expanded and converted the garage to serve as a shop and studio for her Singing Spindle the children and to teach spinning and other crafts. She sells her work, along with seeds, plants, and herb teas from the garden. A tiny shop at the entrance to their driveway offers wares from Singing Spindle Spinnery.

Their lives are full and busy these days with the work of caring for Carol's mother; they are also looking after Felix, one of their two grandsons, one day a week. What does the future hold for them – and for their house? Carol likes the idea of building a smaller house on their property and using their current house as a common space for a co-housing community. Fred's not so sure.

One thing is certain, though: "When you build the house yourselves, you're never done," says Fred.

## Fred and I are proud of having built our own home, and we love it.

They moved in before the house was finished. Initially, only the upstairs bathroom was plumbed, and they'd lug their dishes up to the bathtub to wash them. That required climbing a ladder propped in a circular hole in the floor below and ceiling above, designed to accommodate a spiral staircase – which now serves as a centerpiece for the house but was still just a drawing early on.

They disagreed on some things, and made some compromises that they've managed to live with, even if neither of them was fully satisfied. Carol wanted open shelves in the kitchen; Fred wanted closed cabinets to keep off the dust.

"They do get dusty," Carol says. "But I really wanted the things of our life to be the decoration of the house."

And so they are. A wall in the living room is a patchwork of family photos. Drying cobs of corn waiting to be ground hang from a ceiling beam. Children's drawings decorate the back of a bathroom door. And everywhere Spinnery business. A replacement garage also houses Fred's woodworking shop. A bump-out in the master bedroom provides a walk-in closet.

"Fred and I are proud of having built our own home, and we love it. Not everyone can do it, and fewer and fewer people are doing it today," says Carol. "Because we built our home ourselves, we remember the hard work and our hard-earned money that went into it. That experience makes us want to respect our home and care for it."

Fred had a long career teaching industrial arts and building trades – he qualified for the latter by documenting his work on the house – and then went on to build custom furniture. Carol left her job teaching English and creative writing to raise For more photos of the Collins house and an email address for the couple, visit keene.edu/mag. You'll also find Carol's story about building her parents' house at keene.edu/ mag.

## House-Making from the Ground Up

## ERIK BLOCK '02 HAD WHAT HE CALLS A **"TRIAL BY FIRE"** IN THE DESIGN-BUILD BUSINESS.

He was a senior at Keene State, preparing for graduation, when a fire destroyed about a third of his family home in Connecticut. An architecture student, he headed for the lab and drew up plans for the rebuild. The builder his parents hired took a look at the plans and asked Block what he was doing over the summer.



"I'm looking for work," said Block, who had no construction experience. The builder added him to the crew for the project, which involved additions, a new kitchen with custom cabinets, new siding, and a new roof. "I got an education very quickly," he says. When the builder he was working for lined up another project that was a long commute, Block decided to go out on his own. He'd been out of college for about 15 months, and was now proprietor of Block Design Build in Hadlyme, Connecticut.

Fifteen years later, the company is going strong. His younger brother, Haldan, joined him as a second designer and builder after working summers for the firm while picking up a degree in design and environmental analysis from Cornell

University. And, in an interesting twist, the two mentored their father in the building trade when he retired from a career as an auto mechanic and joined Block Design Build. They have two

other workers, and sometimes add one or two more, depending on workload. Two years ago, the company picked up a prestigious honor – Block Design Build was named to *Remodeling* magazine's Big 50, an annual list of 50 designers at the top of their field.

As a designer-builder, Block is in on the ground floor, so to speak. "When we work with a client we typically try and make sure our goals and our expectations are aligned at the onset, and then we go through their needs and wants for the project, discuss the expectations of each, and tailor the project around that," he says. Some clients know exactly what they want, right down to the color of the paint on the walls. Others are just looking for a certain feeling. Block remembers one woman who showed him a handmade metal bracelet to express the style she wanted.

In all cases, he notes, the homeowners or future homeowners go to Block Design Build because they like the Block brothers' work – the houses, additions, and remodels they've done in the past, their aesthetic, and the quality of their construction.

Their style? "I think of it mostly as rustic modern, or possibly Scandinavian mixed with a little Japanese," Block says. "Modern. We are attracted to the New England vernacular, simple barns and houses, simple, clean lines."

## "I think the best thing I took from Keene is that it set me up for the ability to continue learning."

Block is currently in the middle of a project in which he's the homeowner as well as the designer and builder. He and his wife, Abigail, are in the process of building their own house. "It's been an incredible journey," he says – and more so because Abigail is also a designer; she is now doing interiors. Block describes the process as "taking a deeper look at who you are now and who you are going to be when you're older" – in addition to the usual questions about the structure of the house, its lifecycle as their two

children (a girl and boy, ages 7 and 6) grow up, the budget, and the timeframe.

While construction is underway, the Blocks have been having a bit

of an adventure. First, they lived off the grid in a 40-foot RV. They moved into a double-walled canvas tent, complete with a wood stove and framed base, for the summer of 2017. Now they're camping out in a completed section of their new house, which is scheduled to be finished in March.

The house will be net zero – a green building that creates enough renewable energy via solar panels to offset the total energy used annually. An appreciation for green building is one of the things Block credits to his Keene State education. He cites now-retired professor Peter Temple and a number of adjunct professors from nearby Bensonwood Homes, a timber framing company with a focus on sustainability, as influences, and notes that he found his passion for architectural design at the College after trying out a couple of other majors.

"I think the best thing I took from Keene," he says, "is that it set me up for the ability to continue learning. I left the College with a big hunger for questions. There are so many questions. You can't scratch the surface in this industry at school. It takes many lifetimes to do it. So Keene State left me with a wonderful base and a wonderful start to get out here in the real world and start asking the right questions, and go in the right direction."

## ALUMNI NEWS

hen Norma Walker '51 climbed the stairs to the stage at the 2018 Reunion Awards Luncheon held in the Student Center, she knew that Keene State President Melinda Treadwell '90 would be saying a few words to thank her for her service to the College Alumni

## For Norma, a

Office. But she wasn't prepared for a video that revealed that Centennial Hall, the meeting room in the Alumni Center, had been renamed in her honor.

"In recognition of a much-appreciated and much-loved member of the Alumni Office team, and in recognition of her decades of service to Keene State College and its alumni, as of September 15, 2018, this room shall be known as Norma Walker Hall," read President Treadwell. On the video screen behind them, two former alumni directors, Mike Maher '72 and Patty Farmer '92, unveiled a photo and plaque that had been installed outside the new Norma Walker Hall.

Walker, who had invited friends and family to the event, was floored. "I looked at the screen and they were taking the banner down to show the plaque," she remembers. "Tears came and I think I ended up crying on Dr. Treadwell's shoulder. It was just overwhelming and it still is."

Walker graduated from Keene Teachers College in 1951; she came back to earn a master's degree in 1959. Over 32 years, she taught elementary school students, specializing in reading. She also taught in Keene State's Education Department for six years. But she didn't discover until after

## Fame

she retired and was elected to the Alumni Association Board that the College had a lot to offer to its graduates.

"I realized there are programs here you could be a part of. Athletic programs, concerts - all sorts of things were happening here on campus that alumni should be involved with," says Walker.

As many older alumni know, Walker has long been the driving force behind the Golden Circle Society, the group for people who graduated 50 or more years ago. For 24 years, she ran the Golden Circle singlehandedly, organizing luncheons and keeping in touch with older alumni via telephone, email, letters, and holiday and birthday cards.

A regular presence in the Alumni Center, she volunteers on the Reunion Committee and helps out with special events in addition to the considerable job of coordinating seven luncheons around New Hampshire and

New England each summer and fall. She's also actively involved with the Alzheimer's Association, which raises funds for research and offers support groups.

For all these reasons and more, Acting Alumni Director Steve Fortier, with the help of his wife, Sue, a former Alumni Association Board president, thought to rename Centennial Hall in Norma Walker's honor. Many staff members and alumni had been lobbying for the College to come up with a lasting way to recognize her service and dedication.

"It just occurred to us that we had a great opportunity to recognize Norma today and always for all of her volunteer work at Keene State College by naming the main hall in the Alumni Center in her honor," says Fortier. "It seemed like a natural thing to do. I'm thankful for the support we got from President Treadwell and her cabinet for our proposal and this lasting tribute to the most active of our 35,000 alumni."

For Walker, it's all about helping people, and not about getting awards. "It's an honor I never anticipated, my whole life," says Walker. "I don't do things for that. I do it because I enjoy it and people seem to enjoy what I do for them."

At 89, Walker has no plans to stop working for her alma mater - but now, she'll likely

> be doing some of that work in Norma Walker Hall.

> > - Rachel Vitello '20



## <u>REUNION 2018</u>



wls were everywhere during Reunion 2018, with more than 325 alums joining students on campus for the weekend. Alumni represented classes from 1947 (Ruth Washburn) to 2017 (Claire Lemek and Jenny Dalrymple).

Winners of the annual Alumni Awards were recognized at Saturday's luncheon: Dorothy Jobin '62 and Ray Jobin '63 M'70 received the Sprague Drenan Award for Outstanding Service to the Alumni Association and College. Mary Powell '80 received the Alumni Achievement Award for her global leadership in energy transformation. Stephanie Gleeson '05 was recognized with the Alumni Inspiration Award for her nationally recognized approach to teaching mathematics to elementaryaged children. Longtime head Athletic Trainer Bob Merrow received the Outstanding Service Award.

Thanks to everyone who volunteered and everyone who came – and stay tuned for details about Reunion 2019, scheduled for next fall on the Keene State campus.



The Reunion 2018 team: Front from left, Brian Burford '72, Norma Walker '51, Dot Jobin '62, Kristin Mehalick-Brooks '11, Reunion Coordinator Andrea Vickers-Sivret '01, Leslie Burger Ringuette '86, Scott Kuhnly '88; back, Kitty McClure Maher '73, Ray Jobin '63 M'70, Sue Fortier '86, Interim Director of Alumni Relations Steve Fortier '86, Advancement Assistant Pat Shaughnessy.







#### **1942**

Peggy Smith Campbell 1101 Plantation Island Dr. St. Augustin, FL 32080 flyingnonnie@bellsouth.net

#### 1943

A wonderful letter and photo arrived from **Dr. Christine Sweeney**, who enjoyed a lunch with friends at Stuart and John's Sugar House in Westmoreland, NH.

Helen Crocker Burnett sent a letter from Nashville, TN. She is 97 years old and lives independently most of the time. She enclosed a picture of a group of young girls and Dr. Young.

#### **1947**

Ruth Washburn 75 Pleasant St. A207 East Longmeadow, MA 01028 w.f.b.r.@charter.net

#### 1948

Ellie Smith Butler 9 Muster Ct. Lexington, MA 02420-2001 ellierb@aol.com

#### 1949

Ellie Hughgill Muldoon 3D Melville Ct. Lily Pond Overlook Pocasset, MA 02559 emuldoon49@comcast.net

#### 1950

The class sends its sympathy out to the family of **Marjorie Partington Soucy**, who died in August. Marge and husband **AI '48** were outstanding alumni.

#### 1951

Norma Wright Walker 19 Eaton Rd. Swanzey, NH 03446 walker.norma@gmail.com

From Class Secretary **Norma Walker**: "Each year I am fortunate to receive the scholarship report for my Norma Walker '51 Scholarship Endowment, but also for the Teacher Education Scholarship Endowment list. The latter was established by the Class of 1941

#### Class Notes

and later adopted by other classes such as ours. It is for students majoring in education, as most of us did at Keene Teachers College. In 2017, 13 students received help because of us. Enclosed with the report were letters of appreciation from some of the students. As I read these letters it gives me a great feeling to know MY class had a part in helping someone as many of us were helped.

"At the Golden Circle Luncheon in Enfield, CT, I had the opportunity to spend some time with my classmate and 'roomy' **Rita Hayes Evans**. She was wearing a beautiful white hand-knit cabled cardigan that she had made. It took me back to our days at Huntress when she would be sitting on her bed knitting. Even then she made beautiful sweaters and I was so envious. Rita lost her husband last summer and is trying to adjust as we all do after the loss of a spouse.

"At Hart's Turkey Farm I had three classmates on hand: Pauline Bullard Brown with her husband, Clayton, Barbara Sullivan Brooks with her delightful son Bobby, and Elaine Schmidt Chesley and her friend Warren. Once again, Elaine was a hostess for the luncheon. The scary part is we were the oldest class there. But an interesting thing happened during the luncheon. Helen Mc-Gettingan Koehler '63 recognized Polly Brown as her fourthgrade teacher. It's a small world after all! You never know whom you will meet at one of the Golden Circle Luncheons.

"For the second year I was a member of the Swanzey Old Home Day Committee. They start planning in January to be ready for the third Saturday in July. It has been a way for me to get acquainted with some of the townspeople.

"A newsy letter arrived from Ann Kingston Loebl. She now lives in Michigan year-round and has family nearby and in Saratoga Springs, NY. Ann was delighted to receive birthday cards from the Alumni Office and one from me. It seems she and her husband have only one day that separates their birthdays.

"Pat Parent O'Donnell keeps me posted on life in her new home. She said she has met some very interesting people who are friendly and that there are loads of activities every day - far too many for her. She is pleased there is a mail shoot so she doesn't have to go down five floors to the mailbox. Also, she is delighted because there is a garbage shoot. Pat enclosed some photos of classmates when we were students at KTC. They really brought back many great memories of being a student."

#### 1952

Winifred Woodbury Langtry 50 Evergreen Lane Contoocook, NH 03229 langtry@mcttelecom.com

Irene DiMeco Parent 27 Lashua Rd. Ashburnham, MA 01430 bep27iap@comcast.net

From Class Secretary Winnie Langtry: "I have been sick this spring and cannot drive at present. My sister took me to the Hart's Turkey Farm Golden Circle and the place was packed. Harold Pickwick and his partner Louise Spears came from our class. It was good to see them, but with four people with hearing aids, it was a bit difficult to hear except when President Melinda Treadwell '90 spoke to us after the meal. She was so encouraging about the College and everything that is happening there. I called Anita Nestor and told her how pleased I was to hear all the good things happening at the College. More students attending, pledges are up, and the pumpkin festival is going to be held this year even though in a smaller way. She was most encouraging about getting the College back on track and getting the community involved with the College in a good way.

"There are more opportunities for new scholarship possibilities. You will be hearing about a license plate sticker advertising Keene State College. For a fee of \$55, you will be able to support the new scholarship. I am sure there will be much more news in the next *Keene State Today*. It was so good to see **Sean Gillery '89** there today. He was so active and helpful in previous years. I cannot get places without a ride so will be hoping for offers of rides for future gatherings."

From Class Secretary Irene Parent: "As I start thinking about Reunion, I always have a smile on my face as I know we will all be together and will have fun reminiscing. Winnie is always energetic and excited. Don Carle comes on his scooter. We will miss Claire Simensen, who passed away last year. Joan Nielson and I recently compared notes about our walkers, and talked about riding in golf carts at Reunion.

"I look forward to seeing everyone. We usually start the day with coffee, goodies, and visiting. Good food and ice cream social – yum!

"My husband **Bruce Parent** and I have been married for 63 years. We have four sons, four grandsons, and two great-grandchildren. So much fun!

"I would like to thank **Norma Walker '51** for all the work she does for alumni. We get so many birthday cards, etc. She is great with her time. Fondly, Irene."

The Golden Circle organizers send their thanks to **Winnie Langtry** for being a hostess at the Golden Circle Luncheon at the Common Man, Concord, NH. She can always be counted on to be there to help. Her sister drove her to Hart's Turkey Farm to enjoy "Thanksgiving in August" with other alumni and their guests.

#### **1953**

Donald J. Johnson 695 Clement Hill Rd. Deering, NH 03244 djj1@nyu.edu

### **1954**

June Haymon 3247 Lucerne St. Bronx, NY 10465 juneio@aol.com



Four members of the Keene Teachers College Class of 1959 held a mini-reunion. They are, from left, **Kay Beligianis Springer, Margaret Kulikowski Woitkowski, Phyllis Lankalis Cook**, and **Betty Guyotte Cross**. Each is wearing her Golden Circle medallion. They are all happy to be living in the beautiful state of New Hampshire.

Class Secretary June Haymon writes: "I would first like to thank Dean '53 and Jane Kingsbury Corrigan for giving me information re what's happening with their lives included in the last issue. Also, thanks to Bill Parker for a very interesting background of what he is up to. I hope more of you will either email or drop me a line so I can share your story with our classmates.

"I received a letter from Mary Mc-Guirk Clark. She included her phone number and I called her and we had a long conversation. We reminisced about a lot of things, especially about the gym classes we were required to take each term. Mary was never athletic but such a good sport. I would opt for field hockey, volleyball, basketball, and softball, and Mary would stick to badminton, bowling, etc. She was such a funloving person and still sounds that way. She went on to be an English major and taught for many years. She lives in Sarasota, FL, and keeps herself quite busy. She hopes to make it to our 65th Reunion next year. She brought up a very important point - our 1954 Endowment Fund. Our class

awards a scholarship to a KSC student and it is necessary to keep this fund active. There is an envelope in each *Keene State Today* that could be used for your donation if you so choose; just fill in where it says 'other' with 'Class of 1954.'

"My life has been complicated with too much rain this summer, meaning no boating, no kayaking. I do, however, crochet lap robes for the troops, bake constantly for my church, and walk my black Lab. I again thank **Norma Walker '51** for being there for us and the College. I look forward to having a meeting with our class at the reunion. Let me hear from you, please."

#### 1956

Minot Parker PO Box 370540 Montara, CA 94037-0540 Tgpubinc@att.net

#### 1957

Cynthia Randall Faust 77 Sand Hill Road Peterborough, NH 03458 cynjon@comcast.net 1958

Jacqueline A. Abbott 7 Keeney Dr. Bolton, CT 06043 jabbott814@aol.com

#### 1960

Gail Spevack Sheldon 241 Blucher Street Manchester, NH 03102 sheldon-sheldon@comcast.net

Class Secretary Gail Spevack Sheldon writes: "Hope you have seen the beautiful photos of Jo Ann Dailey Demars's family on Facebook. She and Ray '58 have four children, eight grandchildren, and four great-grandkids. Lots of birthdays and happy times! They enjoy their home in Florida from January to April. The rest of the year finds them at home in Manchester, NH, enjoying family time. She and I lamented this BIG birthday year – many of you understand!

"Sad to report: Mary 'Betty' Staniels died June 13, 2018. Betty spent many years teaching English at Winnacunnet High in Hampton, NH, and enjoyed her summer home in North Hampton, where several of her former students aided her in repairs to her property there. She earned her master's at Bread Loaf School of English at Middlebury College in Vermont and often said she was well-prepared by the Keene State English Department. She was a member of our Manchester Central High '56 monthly luncheon group.

"Janis Ramsay Brackett died July 15, 2018, in Hudson, NH. Jan and her husband, Ed, attended many class reunions and we looked forward to seeing them. Jan dedicated 26 years to teaching second-graders, served her community in many caring ways, and will be greatly missed by all who knew her. She and Ed have three children, 11 grandchildren, and seven great-grandkids. She often sent photos of her family, enjoyed a three-week Alaska trip, and liked exploring Mounts McKinley and Ranier. Maxine 'Duddie' Weld Andrews called to inform me of

her passing and also attended her services."

#### 1961

Dorothy Bean Simpson PO Box 1373 Center Harbor, NH 03226 drsimpson2@yahoo.com

Class Secretary Dotty Simpson writes: "George 'Butch' Joseph of Manchester, NH, died April 21, 2018. Butch was well known for his work as a coach, athlete, referee, athletic director, teacher, counselor, administrator, and mentor. He was instrumental in bringing the Babe Ruth World Series to Manchester. He gave of himself freely whether through his time coaching or in quietly purchasing equipment for youth who would otherwise not be able to participate. He was a kind, friendly, and generous man. We will miss Butch. Our thoughts are with his wife, Jane, and family."

#### **1962**

Stephanie Heselton Baute 515 E. Surry Rd. Surry, NH 03431 Sbaute515@gmail.com

Martha Crowley Morse 131 Case St. North Canton, CT 06019 morsesports@comcast.net

#### IN THE NEWS

John Regan '62, who sadly died in October 2017, was memorialized in a lengthy feature in the Hartford Courant, which tells about his work as an industrial arts teacher, his consulting work for Old Sturbridge Village, and his interest in history. S Link to the newspaper story at keene.edu/

#### 1963

Elizabeth Butterfly Gilman 277 Coolidge Dr. Portsmouth, NH 03801-5740 betty277@comcast.net

From Class Secretary Elizabeth Butterfly Gilman: "Phyllis Woodward Pratt reports: 'We were blessed this past week (beginning **Class Notes** 



The Class of 1963 had a good turnout at the Golden Circle luncheon at Hart's Turkey Farm.

of May) with a relaxed, fun-filled Carnival Cruise out of Long Beach, CA. We stopped at Catalina Island and played nine holes of golf. Then we cruised on to Ensenada, Mexico, for a ride around town on a horse and buggy! We are celebrating our birthdays in May and are ever grateful for this blessing.'

"Marion Whittier Lake writes: 'We enjoy traveling and volunteering for the Phillip's Pond Association, Caregivers of Greater Derry, and the Hampstead Congregational Church, among other organizations. Last summer we traveled in and out of Canada and the US, from Atlantic to Pacific oceans, pulling a "Casita." Traveling allows us to treasure each part of our country and how people there are dealing with life!'

"This August a group of 13 classmates gathered for the Golden Circle Luncheon in Meredith. When asked for news for this column, I got these responses.

"Helen McGettigan Koehler writes that she will be on her first cruise going to Alaska. In addition, Helen is enjoying four granddaughters and family get-togethers.

"Marlene Childs Witham writes that she has added to her arts

#### IN THE NEWS

Stan Spirou '64 retired as the Southern New Hampshire University basketball coach in May, and was lauded with a celebration at the school's fieldhouse. Spirou spent 33 years as SNHU's men's basketball coach. His tenure with the Penmen featured a 640-341 record, eight conference championships, five Elite Eight berths, and two Final Fourappearances. Link to the New Hampshire Union Leader story at keene.edu/

activities with spinning, tapestry weaving, and helping to run an art gallery at the Tanger Outlet in Tilton, NH. After 20 years running a steamboat inherited from his dad, David Witham sold the boat. They are keeping busy with 11 grandchildren!

"Brenda Peterson Flint and Dennis Flint have been retired for a couple of years and are living on Lake Winnipesaukee. They enjoy ice fishing, snowmobiling, and boating.

"Jane Scott Turner writes that it is nice to gather with classmates and great friends!

"Finally, **Paul Bonneville** writes, 'I am at the Golden Circle event and we have an entire table for the Class of '63. Margie and I spend three to four months in Fort Myers, FL; it is great! Please remember our class scholarship!'"

#### 1964

Helen I. Jette 37100 Neukom Ave. Zephyrhills, FL 33541 helenjette@aol.com

Bill Doolan 9189 William Cody Dr. Evergreen, CO 80439 billdoolan@q.com



Keene State Today stopped in last summer to say hello to **Wanda Johnson '64**, age 104, who lives in South Duxbury, VT, across the street from her daughter and son-in-law, **Carol and Frederick Collins '69**, who are featured in this issue.

#### **1965**

We send condolences to the family of class secretary Richard Doyle, who died October 27, 2018.

#### 1966

Nancy Coutts 175 South Main St. Brattleboro, VT 05301

#### 1968

Jan Temple Metoxen 330 Maple Rd. Longmeadow, MA 01106 jantemplemetoxen68@yahoo. com

#### 1969

Barbara Hamilton 27 Kingswood Dr. Manchester, CT 06040-6744 barbara.hamilton@att.net

#### 1970

Susan Campbell 15 New Acres Rd. Keene, NH 03431

#### 1971

Maureen Sheehan Hall 69 Crescent St. Hooksett, NH 03106 hallsofivy2@msn.com

#### **1972**

Debra Davis Butterworth 21 McAuley Rd. Cape Elizabeth, ME 04107 dbutterw@maine.rr.com

Roger Hartwell 198 Palermo Pl. The Villages, FL 32159 rgrhrtwl@yahoo.com

#### 1973

Kathleen Pickford Stacy 190 Old Hancock Rd. Antrim, NH 03440 gstacy@conknet.com

#### 1974

Jane Cappuccio Stauffer 1 Washington St. Salem, MA 01970-3239 jcsrks@verizon.net

From Class Secretary Jane Cappuccio Stauffer: "I have been the class secretary for 10 years and I am looking to pass it on to another member of our class. It has been a pleasure to gather and share all the doings of our classmates. It does not take up too much time, and the Alumni Office provides lots of support. Thanks to all of you who have shared."

Rich Hamilton writes: "I smiled when I saw the photos in the last issue of *Keene State Today* of my 'old' fraternity brothers at TKE's 50th anniversary celebration. Wow, does time fly! And what a great turnout they had for the celebration. Wish I could have been there. My wife, Marie, and I are finally relocating from the Chicago



This group of Keene State friends, who call themselves "The Sistahs," has been gathering every summer since 2005. This year they got together at Moosehead Lake in Rockwood, ME, for the big event, which they termed "Mayhem at Moosehead." "We can thank KSC for our lifelong friendships," they wrote. On hand were, front row from left, Laurie Meyer Daily '74, Cindy Godin '74, Jan Chamberlain Ernest '75, and Tina Cahill Swett, '74; back row, Sherry Briscoe Strickland '74, Nancy Frost Conant '74, Ann Robitaille '74, Jean Stone Noble '74, Wendy Lehman Paterson '75, and Karin Stenberg Layton '74.

suburbs to Southport, NC, and the beach in the next few weeks. She's retiring and I'm cutting back. We've been very blessed in life and it's time to smell the roses. Haven't been back to KSC in many years but I have the fondest memories of our time there and hope to get there in the coming years and catch up with 'old' former classmates and fraternity brothers. To all of you, please reach out – it would be great to reconnect."

#### **1975**

Eileen (Oechsli) Bohigian emoquilt@aol.com

Dianne (Reidy) Janson diannej@maine.rr.com

Deb Santy Downes reported on what she's been up to recently: "My husband and I retired three years ago to Groton Long Point, CT. Since that time we have been busier than ever. As a retired registered dietitian, I've been offering counseling services for the local senior center one day a week at The Lord's Pantry, a feeding program at church. Music still is an important part of my life and I sing with The Anglican Singers in New London, CT, who sing traditional **Episcopal Evensong services** once a month. We travel to England every three years for 'the real deal' at various cathedrals. We are looking forward to our next trip to Worcester, UK, in 2020. We did manage a trip to Phoenix, AZ, where I connected with Cindy Mertz Linklater and had a good catch-up. In my down time I have taken up watercolor and hope to travel to France next year for a return to my roots and to paint. I would love to hear from Melanie Shutts Everard '76!"

#### **1976**

Philip Bellingham 20 Transit Ln. East Hartford, CT 06118

Class Secretary **Philip Bellingham** writes: "Hello, '76ers! Thanks to **Carol Hancock** for sending in her notes for the summer issue of *Keene State Today*. We've got a change coming with the reunion time: It's going to be September 14 through 16. Hope to see a few '76ers in person. It should be a good time. A lot of new and good activities are planned for us. Have fun, and keep the good time rolling (just like '76)."

#### 1977

Sabrina Brown Maltby 13 Main St. Raymond, NH 03077

#### 1978

Dianne Glaser-Gilrein P.O. Box 1391 East Dennis, MA 02461 tgilrein@aol.com

Cynthia Glover Ouellette writes: "I earned my MEd from Notre Dame College in Manchester in the late '80s and spent several years teaching as well as in geriatric social work. I have one daughter who is married, and I have lived in the Concord, NH, area since I graduated KSC. I was widowed in March of 2015, after over 29 years of marriage to the love of my life and soulmate. Needless to say, it was a very difficult period in my life, but I'm starting to make a new life for myself and am feeling much less sad.

"I have published two collections of poetry, A Piece of My Heart and The Other Side of Yesterday, and I'm almost ready to submit another book. I am also starting a screenplay based on a book from the '70s. I see a few classmates from time to time and it's nice to be in touch. I'm working only parttime now, substitute teaching at a Catholic high school, and I love it. Despite being widowed, I think I have a pretty good life and I'm looking forward to what lies ahead for me."

#### 1979

Bill Reed 3 Mayfair Ln., Apt. 206 Nashua, NH 03063-7645 williamreed3@comcast.net

#### 1<mark>98</mark>0

Allison Ashley-Bergstrom 8 Dockham Shore Road Gilford, NH 03249 abergstrom@sbcglobal.net

Cathy Stuart Zurek 78 Morse Ln. Boxborough, MA 01719 zurek@comcast.net

#### **1981**

Nancy Colciaghi Pallas 6153 W. Fallen Leaf Ln. Glendale, AZ 85310 nanpallas@gmail.com

### 1<mark>982</mark>

Janet Carsten Shaffer janetshaffer@verizon.net

#### 1983

Patricia K. Hodgeman Bush Berkshire School 245 N. Undermountain Rd. Sheffield, MA 01257 pbush@berkshireschool.org

Jacqueline Haight DeFreze 502 Portsmouth Ave. Greenland, NH 03840 jdefreze@yahoo.com

Valerie Belanger McKenney 46 France Rd. Barrington, NH 03825 mckenney.val@gmail.com

Our sympathies go out to the family of **Elizabeth Stackpole Burwell**, who died June 5. Elizabeth taught for 25 years at the Village Pre-School in Bethel, CT, and was an avid Yankees fan.

#### 1984

Mary Beth Lucas Connors 295 Megan Dr. Manchester, NH 03109-5924 blarney7@comcast.net

Louise Perron Tetreault 61 Manville Hill Road, Apt. 16 Cumberland, RI 02864 lee4t@yahoo.com



**Class Notes** 



Michael Trabucco '86 and Rob Mannke were married last summer. On hand were, from left, Nancy Druke, Paula Mercier '86, Tom Daly, Michele Kimball Gauss '87, Holly Hansen '86, Scott Farnsworth '87 (at rear), Michael Trabucco, Kerry Marcella Sevigny '87, Rob Mannke, Mike Arietta '87. Read more in the 1986 Class Notes!

#### 1985

Alison Ahmed alisonjahmed12@gmail.com

Lisa A. Gagnon 1510 Old Cape Saint Claire Rd. Annapolis, MD 21409 sankyu21037@yahoo.com

#### 1986

Tori Berube toriberube@aol.com

Michael Trabucco mptrabucco@hotmail.com

George F. Roberson is founder, publisher, and director of Collaborative Media International, a nongovernmental organization dedicated to "furthering intercultural dialogue and understanding between the USA, the North Africa / Middle East Regions, and worldwide through multinational collaboration, research, and education." He reports that the organization's new feature film, It's JOSE, had its world premiere at the Venice Film Festival in September. George produced and co-wrote the screenplay of the love story that takes place in Guatemala. He writes: "We use the unique, urgent, graphic, tragic

frame of Guatemala to shine light on essential themes (and it helps to explain why people are fleeing for the USA), including: ephemerality of life and love; inseparability of passion and pain; place-love/ attachment-to-place; human struggle to survive; hopes and dreams and new norms of today's youth."

From Class Secretary **Michael Trabucco**: "Hi, everyone! Michael Trabucco, at it again.

"I hope you all had a great summer. I've been pretty lucky, able to connect with friends from KSC, some whom I haven't seen in YEARS. Back in June, on a rainy Saturday, I had the fantastic pleasure of having brunch with Kate Burke and Michelle Lawless. What a wonderful time we all had, reminiscing and catching up. A little over a month later, I got to see even more Keene State folks - and this time, it was at my wedding! Yup - I got married. My husband, Rob, and I had a wonderful day, and I was thrilled to have some of my closest KSC friends there to help celebrate: Holly Hansen (and her husband, Tom), Paula Mercier (and her wife, Nancy), Scott Farnsworth (and his

wife, Barbara), **Mike Arietta, Ker**ry Marcella Sevigny, and Michele Kimball Gauss. To say that I LOVED having all of them there is truly an understatement.

"Once again, **Tori Berube, Carole Falkenham Arnold, Lisa Panzo Smith**, and **Diane Delisio** made it up to Ogunquit, ME, for their annual celebration of fun and friendship. None of them actually wrote in, but I didn't think they'd mind me sharing their adventures. Way to go, ladies!

"So how about it, everyone? Have you spent any time with other Keene Staters? Wouldn't you like to share the connection you've made? Or if you've lost touch with someone, wouldn't you like to try reconnecting? Send me a message on Facebook, or send me an email to the address above. Help me make sure that our class is represented in these Class Notes in every issue of *Keene State Today*!"

#### 1**987**

Lisa Corrette Livingstone I.livingstone@verizon.net 54 Regan Circle Raynham, MA 02767

Samantha Barrett McKinlay 2400 County Line Rd. Ardmore, PA 19003 mckinlay3@ymail.com

Michelle Morris Ayer 41 Hemlock Rd. Hingham, MA 02043 michelleayer@me.com

#### 1988

Jeffrey LaValley 187 County St., #1 Attleboro, MA 02703 jeff\_lavalley1966@yahoo.com

Susan Lundgren Regan 79 Winthrop Rd. Guilford, CT 06437

Christine DePalma Chaia has been named head of retirement marketing at Ascensus, a Dresher, PA-based firm.

#### **1989**

Maribeth Marsico Gesler mbmars@cox.net

#### 1990

Lauren Aborjaily Griffin 17 Monhege Path Marlborough, CT 06447

Shelly Brodeur Masson shelly\_m627@comcast.net

Maureen Cicchese Musseau 75 Pinehaven Dr. Whitman, MA 02382 mmusseau@comcast.net

#### 1991

Karen Dicey kldicey@yahoo.com

Amy Eshelman 102 Newberry Rd. East Haddam, CT 06423 aleshelman@hotmail.com

Kathleen Kerr St. Germaine 19 Great Woods Rd. Plymouth, MA 02360-1826

#### 1992

Kate Shepard Dugan 42 Middlefield Dr. West Hartford, CT 06107 patedugan@snet.net

#### 1993

Shelli Bienvenue Cook 18 Heathrow Ave. Manchester, NH 03204 shellicook@yahoo.com

Seth M. Klaiman 2 Sweet Fern Trail Saunderstown, RI 02874 smkri@aol.com

#### 1994

Melissa Sawyer Bowler 158 Shaker Rd. Canterbury, NH 03224 melissa@slgl.com

Dawn Deurell 17 Chestnut Cir. Merrimack, NH 03054-6611 deurell@aol.com

Penny Rioux Joyal 106 N. Adams St. Manchester, NH 03104 Penny.Joyal@gmail.com

#### 1995

Cara H. Staus arac95@yahoo.com Erin Delude George 9 Bigelow Hill Rd. Troy, NH 03465-2106 egeorge@antioch.edu

#### 1996

Karen Holmes Reinhold dccxi@comcast.net

Aaron Kay Sales Parker 5832 Wooded Acres Dr. Knoxville, TN 37921 rparker924@comcast.net

Miriam Cullis creates stained glass art depicting animal, spiritual, seasonal, and patriotic scenes, and more. Her business is called The Spanish Fiddler. A former high school Spanish teacher, she lives in South Carolina and sells her work online at www.thespanishfiddler.net.

#### **1997**

Danielle Dearborn Gagne 1587 Waterwells Rd. Alfred Station, NY 14803 gagne@alfred.edu

#### 1998

Deb Clogher Burleigh 44 Clinton Ave. Budd Lake, NJ 07828 deborahclogher@yahoo.com

Lisa Demers Harvey Iharvey2010@comcast.net

Kristen Cranson Nelson P.O. Box 208 Greenvale, NY 11548 kanelson02@hotmail.com

#### 1999

Jason Hindle 8 Spruce St. Somersworth, NH 03878 jsnhindle@yahoo.com

#### 2000

Danielle LePage Zimmerman danni@thezims.net

#### 2001

Christine Leland Williams mrsquattro@gmail.com

#### 2002

Jessie Gannett Heath 59 King Road Chichester, NH 03258 jheath@wrsdsau59.org



Ned Cremin '02 and Aaron Varela '01 met in Steamboat Springs, CO, during the past ski season. Looks like they met up with a lot of snow, too!

#### 2003

Angela Watson 55 Davidson Hill Rd. Westminster, VT 05158 angela\_watson7579@yahoo. com

Danielle Popyk danielle.popyk@gmail.com

#### 2004

Alison (Thompson) Cizowski 7 Chisholm Way Wilmington, MA 01887 alit8@aol.com

#### 2005

Valerie Nettleton 14420 Kittridge St., Apt. 12 Van Nuys, CA 91405 Valerie.nettleton@gmail.com



On June 15, 2018, **Meghan McGovern Hall '07** married Derek Hall at OceanCliff in Newport, RI. Meg's roommate of two years, **Amber Bergeron Soutra '07**, was a bridesmaid. Also in attendance was Amber's husband, **Marcus Soutra '06**. Meg is a fifth-grade teacher in West Warwick, RI. The couple currently live in Massachusetts and plan to honeymoon this December in the Caribbean.

Sara Lefsyk's first full-length collection of poetry, *We Are Hopelessly Small and Modern Birds*, was released by Black Lawrence Press last spring. A resident of Colorado, Sara is an editor at Trio House Press and a visual artist in addition to being a poet. Read more at keene.edu/mag.

#### 2006

Adam Wefers 154 Sagamore St., Apt. 2 Manchester, NH 03104 awefers84@hotmail.com

#### 2007

Joshua Midgett is the new managing director at Perseverance Theatre in Juneau, AK. A theatre and economics double-major at Keene State, Joshua was most recently general manager of the Contemporary American Theater Festival in Shepherdstown, WV.

### 2008

Kelly A. Mullane 532 King Street Chappaqua, NY 10514 kelly.a.mullane@gmail.com



Rugby Club students and alumni competed in the inaugural **Samuel A. Martin '09** Memorial Rugby Tournament in June. Teams from all over New England participated, as did the student team and the alumni team – which is shown above. The rugby players raised \$2,081.58 for the scholarship fund, which honors Martin, a safety studies major and captain of the Rugby Club who died in 2017. Thanks to **Dan** *Kurowski '07* for the photo.



Class Notes



Allie Franklin Buschmann '10 and Cole Buschmann '11 were married June 30 at Alyson's Orchard in Walpole, NH. The couple met in 2009 when she was a physical education major and field hockey player and he was an athletic training major. Allie works as an eighth grade PE teacher and athletic director at Hollis Brookline Middle School, and Cole is an athletic trainer at New England College. In attendance at their wedding were, from left,

Mike Abromitis '11, John Cahill '11, Mary-Beth Tuite '10, Eli Mishkit '12, Dave Schreiber '11, Steph Clark '11, Noah Houck '11, Nate Nadeau '12, Cole and Allie, Carleen Leibinger '09, Steph Berghorn '10, Katie Newell '15, Robby Bouchey '13, Pete Sancoff '11, Erin Sancoff '11. Photographer Lauren Sawyer '11 and wedding planner Lauren Dragon-Cook '09 are also alumni.



Arianne Beaudoin-Helik '11 and Kyle Charbonneau '11 were married May 5, 2018, in Key West, FL. Keene State friends on hand were, from left, Robert Lyons '11, Riley Cohen '13, Kyle, Arianne, Carly Cohen '11, Bryan Sowa '11, and Derek DeVenne '11.



Kaitlyn Tordonato Hayes '15 and Michael Hayes '09, '14, were married June 30. Keene Staters in attendance were, front from left, Kaitlyn, Michael's grandmother, Irmgard Randall, who has worked at the Dining Commons for 37 years and counting, and Michael; back from left, Julia Gomberg '15, Molly Helmes '15, Erin Keefe, Mackenzie Correll '17, Ben Smith '15, Aaron Willard '09, Jules Reinoehl '15, Danielle Hoadley '15, Lauren Heiser '13, Zach St. Pierre '15.



Congratulations to Chelsea Bachand Loomis '13 and Nathan Loomis '12, who were married July 6 in Vermont. In attendance were members of Nathan's fraternity, Tau Kappa Epsilon, and Chelsea's sorority, Delta Phi Epsilon, along with other Keene State alumni. From the Class of 1969: John Towne. Class of 2010: Alyssa Day, Brian Finer, Janell Lauria, Michael Barry. Class of 2012: Brad Agastino, Ian McCallion, John Erickson, Matthew Foster, Melanie Kenney, Sean Powers, Paul Cosgro. Class of 2013: Brieana Aumand, Chelsea Tyler, Edward Bell, Emma McHugh, Nicole Birmingham, Phylicia Bischof. Class of 2014: Andrew Corey, Jackson Sharkey, Kelley Meyer, Doug Piroso. Class of 2015: Chelsea Day, Juliann Abraham, Sean Ballard. Class of 2016: Kaitlin Richotte, Olivia Conner. Class of 2017: Stephanie Giang.

#### 2010

Matt Gill 69 Conleys Grove Road Derry, NH 03038 mgillnh@gmail.com

#### 2011

Kelly Payeur 766 Ocean Ave Portland, ME 04101 kellypayeur@gmail.com

#### 2013

Stefanie Diskin stefdiskin@comcast.net

#### 2014

Emily Reed emilyreed2014@gmail.com

#### 2015

Chelsea Harris chelseajharris10@gmail.com



Kyle Precourt '14 and Brianna Knapp Precourt '14 were married on July 14 in Andover, MA. Behind the happy couple are, from left, Brian Fitter '18, Alyssa Precourt '18, Joe Maturo '14, Kevin Conte '14, Matt Ashnault '14, Shelagh Daly '14, Kelsey Osborn '14, Andrew Wallace '14, Gui Paim '15.

#### NEXT CLASS NOTES DEADLINE: MAY6, 2019

Contact your class secretary or classnotes@keene.edu

#### JOIN THE REC CENTER

NEW! Year-round memberships are now available at Keene State's Rec Center for alumni (spouses/partners of alumni with memberships may also join).

In Memoriam

For information, visit www.keene.edu/recsports

IN MEMORIAM

Velma Peirce Smith '36 April 5, 2018

Grace Vickery Philbrick '38 December 19, 2017

Thelma M. Shallow Hause '40 November 28, 2016

Barbara Hammond Kimball '42 January 26, 2018

Louise F. Morse '42 September 29, 2015

Barbara L. Marshall '46 December 24, 2013

Jean Hurley Burke '50 February 23, 2016

Marjorie Partington Soucy '50 August 1, 2018

Nancy C. Anderson '51 June 10, 2018

Robert R. Chauvette '51 September 28, 2015

Faith Sargent Collins '53 February 20, 2018

Lloyd F. Draper '55 July 7, 2018 Richard Feeney '55 July 23, 2018

Raymond L. Thurston '57 January 14, 2018

**Cynthia Shepard McAlpine '58** January 1, 2018

William DiGiulio '59 January 23, 2017

Joseph P. Lessard '59 May 28, 2018

Alvah W. Adams '60 March 28, 2018

Janis Ramsay Brackett '60 July 15, 2018

Sandra Greenleaf Champion '60 May 13, 2018

Lawrence R. Cross '60 June 1, 2018

Gordon J. Oatman '60 April 9, 2018

Paul J. St. Pierre '60 August 17, 2018

Mary "Betty" Staniels, '60 June 13, 2018

George B. Joseph '61 April 21, 2018

Donald MacDougall '61 August 13, 2018 Claire Waterhouse

Simensen '62 December 29, 2017 Joseph Despres '65 June 2, 2018

Sheldon L. Barker Jr. '66 March 10, 2009

> Barbara C. Hayward '66 June 17, 2015

Lynn Debenedictis Brosseau '68 May 18, 2017

Ronn J. Cabaniol '68 April 11, 2018

James E. Harris '69 December 8, 2017

Lois K. Stabler '69 November 16, 2007

Dennis Bosse '70 March 9, 2013

Mary L. Letourneau '72 April 3, 2018

David B. Washburn '72 April 10, 2018

Benjamin W. Hartley '73 March 14, 2015

Karen A. McDonough '74 July 4, 2018

Bruce Stephenson '74 August 12, 2018

Jean Goudie Walter '74 May 18, 2018 Michael J. Buckley '78 April 1, 2018 Edwin J. Zitta '78

Philip K. Martin '76

August 14, 2018

May 2, 2018 Jane O'Connell Momeyer '80

August 17, 2015 Veronica Lucille Watts '81

April 22, 2018

Mary Beth McCloskey Blom '83 February 23, 2016

Elizabeth Stackpole Burwell '83 June 5, 2018

Patricia B. Anthony '84 June 12, 2017

Peter J. Messier '84 September 23, 2017

Barbara J. Ripley '85 August 12, 2018

Gail E. Bys '97 May 1, 2018

Morgan T. Pickering '04 July 26, 2018

Christopher Joseph Kennedy '13 September 5, 2017

Derek R. Scadova '13 August 11, 2018

\* Deaths reported as of August 23, 2018

# **Update from Alumni Relations**

For alumni, Melinda's appointment represents a strong commitment to

shared governance and decision-

early November, your KSC Alumni

Association Board of Directors and

making. This includes you! In

several of its most-recent past

presidents spent a Saturday with

President Treadwell and the vicepresidents on her cabinet. The

purpose was to provide an alumni

new five-year Strategic Plan and to

perspective on a draft of the College's

HECK, WHY STOP AT A DAY? With the appointment of Dr. Melinda Treadwell '90, I say, "It's a great day, week, month, year, decade, and beyond to be an Owl!" Melinda recently became the first alum to serve as Keene State's president.



Steve Fortier '86 Interim Director of Alumni Relations/Director of **External Relations** 

plan where the energy, expertise, and passion of the 35,000 Keene State alumni can help advance the mission of the College. Look for more concrete details soon on the Keene State College Alumni Facebook page.

So let's take a look in the rearview mirror to see where we've been and then out the windshield to see where we're going.

New Alumni Association Board members: At the Reunion luncheon we thanked outgoing Alumni Association Board members Josh Terrell, Lindsay Ware, and Christine Williams and welcomed new board members Trina Baumgartner '13, Mary D'Orvilliers '18, Langdon Plumer '60, Rob Wollner '96, and Erin Zoellick '13. We also welcomed Ray Jobin '63 M'70 back for a second three-year term.

identify areas

within the

Alums Supporting Student Success: A number of our fellow alums are helping educate and prepare current students for life in the workforce. In just the first six weeks of the fall semester, dozens of alums were guest speakers in classrooms (in person and virtually) and in Career Speaker Series events. Those who have shared their expertise and experiences with current Owls in the first semester include Brian McMahon '84, Seth Harris '84,

Abbygail Vasas '18, Jillian D'Abbraccio '18, Collin Snide '10, Terence MacCorvin '10, Stephen Zale '18, Katelynn Lee '07, Nicholas Hadges '17, Brendan Callery '17, and Melinda Comstock '18. In mid-October, David Westover '72 led his Resumania project for the eighth year. Over a two-day period, more than a dozen alums helped students fine-tune their resumes.

Keene State College license plates: Thanks to State Senator Jay Kahn, who sponsored a bill for Keene State College to issue license plate decals, alums living in New Hampshire can now show their Owl Pride on their license plates. The Alumni Office sells two different decals (look for the ad in this issue) for special decal-only license plates. All \$55 of the cost of a decal goes to a scholarship fund for in-state students with financial need.

#### LOOKING AHEAD:

For alumni, Melinda's

appointment represents

a strong commitment to

shared governance and

decision-making.

Alumni in Support of the College Strategic Plan: Watch for updates on our Alumni Facebook page and via email about

> how you can help advance the College's mission through some of the strategic partnership opportunities identified at our November retreat.

#### Annual Presidential Trip to Florida:

If you are living or vacationing in Florida, please join President Treadwell, some alumni volunteers, and me on our visit to the state March 9 to 16. If you winter or live permanently in Florida (and we have your correct address on file!), you'll receive

an email early in the new year with a detailed itinerary of our events. If you will be vacationing in Florida that week, keep an eye on our Alumni Facebook page for more details.

Director of Alumni Engagement: By the next edition of Keene State Today, we will have hired a new Director of Alumni Engagement who will support our Alumni Association Board of Directors and the many Keene State grads who keep our alumni community vibrant and strong.

It's always a great day to be an Alumni Owl!



Steve Fortier '86 has been an active and engaged alum for three decades, as has his wife, Sue '86. Their children Sean and Laryssa hail from the classes of '14 and '15, respectively.

## FIRST-PERSON PROJECT

#### Seth Alie '02 Northwood, NH

Sergeant, New Hampshire Marine Patrol

Major: Communication

"I was an elementary education student, and was actually in a local classroom, reading a book to the kids as part of my Methods class at Keene State, when the 9/11 terror attacks happened. Because I'd worked summers as a Marine Patrol officer, I was called over to Portsmouth to help secure the infrastructure there. Soon after, the Department of Safety decided to add yearround patrols on the Seacoast. I put in for the job, and was hired full time."

Read Seth's oral history at keene.edu/first-person

## FIRST-PERSON PROJECT

#### Itati Moguilner '02 Framingham, MA

Information Technology Program Manager, Massachusetts Port Authority

#### Majors: Communication and Journalism

"Because I'm from Latin America and because I like to travel, I've been told I'm a bridge of cultures. In the IT profession, I'm able to understand what the customer needs and how the technology works, so I can talk to the programmer and I can talk to the customer and make that connection. So, yes, that's sort of what I've been doing my whole life – bridging cultures."

Read Itati's oral history at keene.edu/first-person

#### Bobby Rodrigue '00 Keene, NH

Hockey Director and Manager of Operations, Keene Ice

Head Coach, Men's Club Hockey, Keene State Associate Coach-in-Chief, New England, USA Hockey

#### Major: Management

Political involvement has been a constant in my life; I served as a state representative while I was studying at Keene State but hockey has always been my passion and in recent years has become my primary focus. I was asked to help coach a youth team while I was at Keene State. From there, my ascension in coaching has been the result of a series of fortunate breaks."

Read Bobby's oral history at keene.edu/first-person.ad



229 Main Street Keene NH 03435

#### LIVE FREE AND DRIVE -

and help Keene State students.

Show your OWL PRIDE with a Keene State license plate decal: purchase a special decal-designed license plate at your local town hall or DMV, then purchase a Keene



State decal, for a \$55 fee, from the College.



The fee goes toward a scholarship fund for deserving Keene State College students from New Hampshire. The plate with decal goes on your vehicle!

For information and to order a

decal, visit www.keene.edu/KSCplate.

(Available only for vehicles registered in New Hampshire.)

# <u>Reunion</u>

2019

## September 20-22

The Alumni Office will be in touch in coming weeks with more information. Questions? Call 603-358-2369 or email alumni@keene.edu.