

**67** Liz Fein (Brooklyn, NY; [lizamy928@aol.com](mailto:lizamy928@aol.com)) informed us that her play, *Double I*, was being performed in October at the Manhattan Repertory Theatre. She reports, "I have worked on this piece for over 13 years, first as a screenplay. It had producers and options, but the movie never got made, so I finally decided to adapt it to a play. And I couldn't be happier that it was chosen by MRT's Fall Play Development Program. It's a timely piece about a young woman struggling to come to

Although she says she'd rather be "starting four years at Cornell again," Fran was off to Hong Kong and Myanmar for vacation. She recalls bringing Weejuns, Bonnie Doon knee sox, and stitched-down pleated skirts, with oxford cloth button-down shirts and a typewriter when she first came to Cornell.

By the time you read this, football season (which is a month away as I write) will have concluded, and the Big Red cage quintet will be heading for a New Year's Eve date with Syracuse at the

makes three grandchildren for the Negrins. **Alan Stoll**, MPA '70, is a principal with TWM & Affiliates, healthcare advisors and investors in Worcester, MA. Alan recently completed the second and final year as executive in residence at Cornell's Sloan Program in Health Administration in the Policy Analysis & Management Division of the School of Human Ecology.

**Barry M. Shaw** keeps busy doing some teaching, singing in a barbershop chorus, and playing pickleball since retiring from his orthodontic practice late last year. Barry and his wife, Annette, still live on the way to Cornell in Vestal, NY, and are thrilled that their daughter **Natalie '00** gave birth to a girl last year, and that daughter Lindsay is getting married in September. **Susan Harrison Berger** has been a real estate agent with Evers & Co. in Washington, DC, since 1985. Sue resides in D.C. with her husband, **Sandy '67**, and, like many of us, singled out her grandchildren as a constant source of joy for them.

**Tom Noble** is finally fully retired after 36 years in his medical practice, which gives him more time for golf, hiking, reading, and playing with his dogs. With the scarcity of quality homes for sale in his hometown of Bluffton, SC, Tom is weighing the options of building or waiting for something he likes to come on the market. **Richard Heck** and his wife, Sandra Price, enjoy their lives on serene Mascoma Lake in Enfield, NH. Richard has been singing in an a cappella group and also performing in the local improv group at Valley Improv. He also writes about his genealogy on Ancestry.com. Richard's daughter **Stacie Heck Fitzgerald '93** and his grandson Jordan are visiting from Atlanta, and Richard is doing a college tour with them—of course beginning with Cornell. The mountains of snow that fell last winter reminded Richard of an essay he wrote during our campus years that expressed his feelings about life's choices. As he made his early morning trek through the narrow paths on the Arts Quad, he thought about creating his own new path, but he purposely walked on the edges widening the narrow path for those who would come after him. Please continue to send your news and e-mails to me: **Chuck Levitan**, [clevitan22@comcast.net](mailto:clevitan22@comcast.net). Online news form, <http://www.alumni.cornell.edu/participate/class-notes.cfm>.

## 'Bill Besgen and his wife, Catherine, have 13 grandchildren, all living within 15 miles of their home.'

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terms with the two opposing sides of her identity against the background of the turmoil in the Middle East." Liz adds that her son, Josh, graduated last May from Fordham Law School and started work in September for the general counsel in the New York State Legal Dept.

**Karen Kaufman Polansky** (Carmichael, CA; [kkpolansky@gmail.com](mailto:kkpolansky@gmail.com)) does Cornell's Continuous Reunion Club—those folks who manage to attend reunion on the Hill every year—one better, as this is her second "mini-reunion report" this year: "Four DPhiE sisters got together at the end of June for a mini-reunion at the Oxford, MD, waterfront home of **Jim and Marian Flinker Brodsky**. Present were myself, **Sally Shoolman** Mechur, and **Marsha Beirach Eisen**, joined by **Paula Blumenthal** Bell, who lives in Oxford. We had a ball reminiscing about our Cornell antics." **Terence McGlashan** (Orlando, FL; [canadian1@bellsouth.net](mailto:canadian1@bellsouth.net)) says he's working longer hours as each year passes. His company, Cap Inc./DBA Universal Crematory Co., manufactures human and pet cremation equipment, and also provides service and parts worldwide.

**Claudia Sack Adams** (Silver Spring, MD; [claudia.adams@hhs.gov](mailto:claudia.adams@hhs.gov)) is senior equal opportunity specialist in the US Dept. of Health and Human Services' Office for Civil Rights. "I supervise a team to conduct civil rights reviews of healthcare providers and design and implement outreach programs to spread the word about federal laws and regulations that prohibit discrimination," she writes. "The work is still very engaging, interesting, and tiring," she adds. Claudia has managed to fit in some trips ("the last big one was to China"), photography, and family outings ("sometimes with our two grandsons"). She'd like to hear from **Pamela Mattice** Thompson.

**Ted Feldmeier** (Eliot, ME; [JoanFeldmeier@yahoo.com](mailto:JoanFeldmeier@yahoo.com)) is retired, but, he says, "I spend my time exercising, traveling some, mowing the lawn, raking the leaves, shoveling snow, arguing with neighbors—what else? Life has been good!" He says he's been waiting for **Bob Kurzon**, whom we can't track down either, "to show your face!" **Fran Keller Fabian** (NYC; [fpfabian@aol.com](mailto:fpfabian@aol.com)) says, "My favorite activity is visiting with my wonderful 2-year-old granddaughter, Emma Jane, daughter of son **Daniel '01**." Fran is working for NYU as a supervisor for student teachers taking a master's program in early childhood and special education and is also selling antiques after 40 years of collecting.

Carrier Dome. The company line touts the club as "looking to rebound after injuries decimated the team a year ago." **Richard Hoffman**, 2925 28th St. NW, Washington, DC 20008; e-mail, [rhoffman@erols.com](mailto:rhoffman@erols.com).

**68** If our governmental leaders can aspire to hold higher office well past what most of us would consider normal retirement age, it should come as no surprise that many of our classmates are still at the peak of their careers. **William H. Besgen**, MBA '69, is entering his 25th year with Hitachi and, in addition to his position as president, COO, and director of Hitachi Capital America Corp., he recently was named the president and CEO of Hitachi Capital Canada Corp., tasked with expanding operations in the Americas. Bill and his wife of 46 years, Catherine, say they have been blessed with 13 grandchildren, all living within 15 miles of their home in New Canaan, CT. (I wonder, is that a record for our class for both the number of grandchildren and the average distance per grandchild from our home for any of us with more than just a few grandchildren?) In their free time, the Besgens enjoy traveling, most recently to Halifax, Prince Edward Island, Hong Kong, Thailand, and Japan. They also enjoy fishing with their grandchildren at their vacation home in Key Largo, FL.

**Thomas Silliman**, ME '70, still works full-time as president and CEO of ERI (Electronics Research Inc.), and spends his spare time on horseback, along with his wife, Sally, cutting and branding cattle on their ranch in Chandler, IN. In April, Tom climbed the Freedom Tower in NYC. He has no plans to retire or to stop either climbing towers or following his rigorous exercise routine that keeps him in shape and still enables him to bench press 285 lbs. (Is that another record for our classmates?) Tom still communicates with **Bob Smith**, his captain on the 1968 lacrosse team, where Tom was a midfielder.

**Joel Negrin** is still practicing law, though he's now spending more time traveling and playing tennis. He also enjoys movies, but mostly, along with wife **Linda (Schwartz) '69** (co-chair of the 45th Reunion for the Class of '69), he enjoys time spent with their family and friends. Their daughter, **Meredith Negrin Safer '98**, and her husband, Jonah, recently had their first child, Bram, which

**69** 2015 is a big year for Cornell—the university will be celebrating its Sesquicentennial! There are worldwide celebrations scheduled, and you can check out [www.cornell.edu](http://www.cornell.edu) for the nearest event. Also: log on to our class website, [www.cornell69.org](http://www.cornell69.org), for class and reunion info.

Congratulations to Rabbi **David Nathan Saperstein**, who was recently chosen by President Barack Obama to the post of US ambassador-at-large for international religious freedom at the State Dept., a post that has been held by Christians since it was created in 1998. Rabbi Saperstein leads the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism and teaches First Amendment Church-State Law and Jewish Law at Georgetown U. Following a Senate confirmation, he will monitor religious freedom abuses worldwide for the State Dept.

**Richard Lysle** ([lysllelaw@yahoo.com](mailto:lysllelaw@yahoo.com)) writes, "My daughter, Lily Rae, has been accepted by the Cornell Law School to join the Class of 2017. Lily graduated from San Francisco State U. with a bachelor's in biology/zoology." **Barry Nocks**, professor emeritus of city and regional planning at

Clemson U., has been named to the College of Fellows by the American Inst. for Certified Planners in recognition of his achievements in urban planning, community service, and leadership. He was inducted into the College of Fellows on April 27 in Atlanta during the American Planning Association's 2014 National Planning Conference. Barry has lived in Greenville, SC, since 1974 with his wife, Elaine, who retired from the faculty at Furman U. They have a son and two granddaughters, who also live in Greenville.

**Joan Finkelstein** Hyde is a senior fellow and adjunct professor at UMass, Boston, and gerontology CEO at Ivy Hall Senior Living. She is proud to announce that their assisted-living unit in Saugerties, NY, is now licensed for memory care and enhanced services. **Phil Callahan** (Pasadena, CA) writes, "I'm still working at the Jet Propulsion Lab measuring the oceans from space with radar. My new mission is Surface Water Ocean Topography (SWOT) to measure lakes and rivers as well." When not spending his free time with his two grandsons, he finds time to run marathons at a pace of 4:20 or better. In March, he was 15th out of 192 in his age group.

**Jim Miller** (jamesm@cornell.edu) is the supervisor of student teaching in the history department at SUNY Cortland. He says he has been "working with **Duane Davis**, BA '73, seeking al-Qaeda submarines on Cayuga Lake as part of Homeland Security." For more info, send him an e-mail. **Tom DeBrock** is still employed at PepsiCo and loves contributing to the productivity of the company. As part of his responsibilities, he mentors young engineers to help them accomplish their goals. He says, "I have absolutely no regrets of anything I did while at Cornell." **Mike Natan** (Wynnewood, PA) is enjoying retirement, doing volunteer work, playing tennis and bridge, and grandparenting. He divides his time among Philadelphia, Boston, and New Hampshire, and follows Cornell wrestling and ice hockey.

Retired UAL pilot **John Laut** is in Florida and looking for someone from "This Old House" to add a second floor roof—"Know anybody?" **Gordon Kent**, ME '70, is working for Lloyds Banking Group in London and plans to move back to NYC in a year or two, where son **Mitchell '98**, who graduated from the ILR school, lives. He vacations with wife Maria in her native Greece. **Roger Moak** arbitrates insurance and reinsurance disputes in New York City. He writes, "I take friends on Moak-guided art tours at the Metropolitan Museum, Frick Collection, and New York Historical Society." E-mail him at rm@rogermoak.com to set up your personal tour. Class co-president **Charlotte Bruska** Gardner works full-time in real estate in Colchester, VT, and takes advantage of the great outdoors gardening, kayaking, and snowshoeing. **Stephen Goldberger** is still an ENT in Farmville, VA. His retirement was postponed in order to work on a new government coding regime for electronic health records.

The Grandparents' Club seems to be the most popular among our classmates, as grandchildren are almost always mentioned first in submissions for Class Notes. **Peter Harvey** is still practicing law at his firm in San Francisco and is an adjunct teacher at USF School of Law. He and wife Susan love to visit their grandchildren, who live in nearby Alameda, CA. **Harvey Leibin** and wife Flo visit their grandchildren, Addie and Cora, who live near them in Avon, CT. Harvey is now an associate principal at Tecton Architects in Hartford. **Leslie DeGroff**, DVM '69, and wife Betsey live in Pery, NY, where Leslie still practices large animal

medicine, and loves spending time with his eight grandkids. The oldest is a freshman in college and the youngest is 4 years old. They must keep you on your toes, Les!

**George Silverman** still works as a flight test captain with United Airlines out of Foster City, CA, and hopes to continue for another three to four years. He has seven grandchildren, with one more on the way. **Ildiko Czmor Mitchell** retired in May to, she says, "take on the important job of babysitting a lovely grandchild three days a week." Her grandkids are 4 and 1-1/2, with another on the way. **Andra Weidenhamer Benson** is a busy lady in Lansing, NY. She and **Chuck** say they are almost retired from their organic dairy farm, caring for baby calves and 16 grandchildren—bet the calves are the easy ones. Andra volunteers with teens at church and, for the tenth year, went to San Lucas Tiliman, Guatemala, with the Cornell Catholic Community to work with students during their spring break.

My husband, **Jeff Riedl '70**, and I joined the club when daughter **Alexis Riedl Twomey '00** and her husband, Brian, blessed us with Liam Oliver in August. Of course, he's perfect. Happy Holidays to all! ☒ **Tina Economaki** Riedl, triedl048@gmail.com.

**70** As another year will soon draw to a close, I send my best wishes to all of you for a happy holiday season and a wonderful and healthy New Year. At the beginning of 2015, we will start the five-month countdown to our 45th Reunion back on the Hill. The dates for our upcoming reunion weekend celebration are June 4-7, 2015, starting at noon on Thursday. The reunion committee, under the leadership of reunion chairs extraordinaire **Bill**, ME '71, and **Gail Post Wallis**, continues to be busy planning the many and varied aspects of our June party weekend. Our 45th Reunion is also in the midst of the university's super year-and-a-half-long celebration of Cornell's Sesquicentennial. Combining both events will result in quite an exciting, fun, and full weekend. It will be a once in a lifetime experience!

**Patricia Nyren** Marchetti and her husband, John, live in Gaithersburg, MD, a distant suburb of Washington, DC. She is retired and enjoys taking adult education classes at Montgomery College, as well as reading, gardening, sewing, and walking the dog. Patricia likes that she can pretty much do what she wants to do when she wants, but the downside is that she feels there are not enough hours in the day. Recently, she went to Santiago, Chile, for the birth of her new granddaughter, her eighth grandchild. Her activities this past summer included family reunions, her mother's 90th birthday, and traveling to Costa Rica. **Connie Fern** Miller continues to practice law. She also partakes in biking, hiking, swimming, cross-country skiing, downhill skiing at Greek Peak, and traveling. Connie is doing exactly what she wants to be doing. She and her husband, Ted Carleton, reside in Watkins Glen, NY.

**Brian O'Connor** (bmoc@tntech.edu) writes, "I am in my 37th year as a mathematics professor at Tennessee Technological U. All during that time I have sung in student groups here, continuing in the path of my four years in the Cornell Glee Club. In addition, I am finishing my second year as Faculty Senate president, following in the footsteps of my immediate predecessor, **Jeff Roberts '81**." Brian adds, "For the past seven years I have been

the moderator for the High School Academic Bowl at our local PBS station, WCTE, in Cookeville, TN. You can check out the matches at WCTE.org by searching 'Academic Bowl.' " **Narcissa Vanderlip** is the producing executive director of the ETC Theatre Co. in Los Angeles. She writes, "Complete Works, a comic Web series about a collegiate Shakespeare competition, co-produced by ETC Theatre Co., released on Hulu on the Bard's 450th birthday, April 23."

**Jeff Altamari** (jeff.altamari@c-a-m.com) and his wife, Janet, live in the Houston, TX, area. In 2011, Jeff was made an executive officer at Cameron Int'l, and is now the investor relations officer, handling their global investor community. Previously, he served as VP of finance for two of Cameron's product groups. At the end of this year (soon!), after 15 years with Cameron, Jeff will be retiring, and he and Janet will move to Saratoga Springs, NY. Jeff tells us that he has stayed in touch with **John Matteson '69** and **Larry Ward**. In fact, earlier in the year, he saw Larry, who lives in Ithaca, at their high school reunion. Also living in Ithaca are **Steven** (sjalso1@twrcny.rr.com) and **Shirley Beckwith Jalso, MS '64**. Steven says he is enjoying "playing grandparent," investing, and helping their children, but is not so fond of the high maintenance of aging bodies. He plans to try to stay healthy.

**Allan Ropper**, MD '74, lives with his wife, Sandra, in Newton, MA. He is working avidly as a neurologist at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston, where he is the Raymond D. Adams master clinician and executive vice chair of the Dept. of Neurology. This past September, he was very pleased that his book, *Reaching Down the Rabbit Hole*, was published by St. Martin's Press. Allan's book is the recounting of 35 years of seeing patients with brain disease. He is also a professor of neurology at Harvard Medical School. **Ellen Saltonstall** (New York, NY; ellen.saltonstall@gmail.com) writes, "I teach yoga and bodywork and write books relating to those topics." She adds that she plans to travel the world to teach. "I like practicing and teaching yoga, but I don't like the cost of living in New York." Ellen's youngest of three sons graduated from Cornell this May.

We are sorry to report the death of classmate **Linda Jackson**, MAT '73 (Mason, MI) on July 29. Linda had been a professor of psychology at Michigan State U., with a joint appointment in the computer science and engineering department, for the past 33 years. When she sent an update earlier this year, she had been writing a grant proposal to the National Science Foundation to use video games to teach science to high-risk middle school girls. Linda is survived by her husband, Mike, son Chris, VP in charge of risk management at Goldman Sachs, daughter Lindsay, who is in her fourth year at Harvard Medical School, and the thousands of students who studied under her. We send our sincere condolences to all of Linda's family.

**Sally Margolick** Winston (Timonium, MD; sallywins@aol.com) also published a book in 2014, with Martin Seif, entitled *What Every Therapist Needs to Know About Anxiety Disorders* (Routledge). Sally is in the planning stage for the next annual vacation together of the Cornell '70 "Quad." She will be vacationing with **Phyllis Rabineau**, **Sharon Sauerbrunn Doyle**, MFA '72, and **Laura Dingle** Avery. I certainly hope that part of their 2015 gathering will include a long weekend at Cornell for our 45th Reunion. ☒ **Connie Ferris** Meyer, cfm7@cornell.edu; tel., (610) 256-3088.