

Alumni

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SHINING SEASON

— — — — —
The Stevens men's lacrosse team gathers on the steps of Walker Gymnasium in 1930. Read about the restoration of this architectural icon on page 4.





Photo: Stevens Archives & Special Collections, S.C. Williams Library; Portrait: Barry Falls



PURPOSEFUL INVOLVEMENT, PROUD ENGAGEMENT



Dear Fellow Alumni,

My first year as Stevens Alumni Association president has been an honor and has inspired me in many ways. Together, guided by our shared purpose and the strength of our network, we continue to grow and enrich our dynamic community.

Each of us has our own reasons for staying connected to Stevens. For me, it all started with the incredible experience

I had as a student. It brought me lots of joy, lifelong friendships and a fulfilling career. I also strongly believe in the value of higher education and want to pay it forward. Your reasons may be different, and they are equally meaningful.

Our alumni community reflects a rich array of experiences — from recent graduates and entrepreneurs to seasoned professionals, stay-at-home parents and everything in between. As we continue to grow and evolve our alumni engagement, we aim to build meaningful connections that meet you where you are today.

Guided by this commitment, we are thrilled to unveil our new Strategic Plan for Alumni Engagement. At its core is our vision: *To be an inspired global alumni community of innovators, proudly engaged with Stevens throughout all stages of life, driving transformative impact in society.*

To ensure all alumni have opportunities to engage, contribute and thrive, we've set four strategic priorities:

1. Personalize the alumni experience
2. Strengthen the alumni base for the future
3. Deepen the sense of pride in Stevens
4. Reduce barriers and open doors to engagement

You can learn more about the plan and how it will help shape the future of our alumni network at stevens.edu/alumni-strategic-plan.

As alumni, you play a vital role in the Stevens community. I encourage you to discover your “why” and engage in ways most meaningful to you. Together, we are building something greater than ourselves. We are inspiring the minds of the future and helping to create a better world for humanity.

Michael Cahill '15 M.Eng. '15
President, Stevens Alumni Association
SAAPresident@alumni.stevens.edu

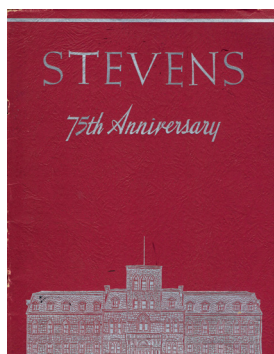
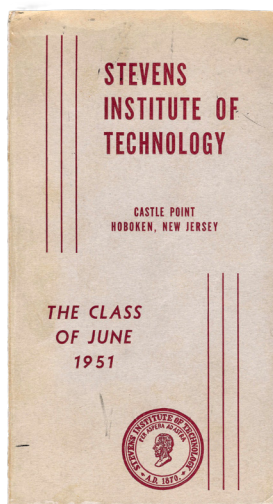


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Editor's Note:

By submitting Class Log information and photos to Stevens Indicator, submitters acknowledge that they may be reproduced wholly or in part in the printed magazine, published in the online version of Stevens Indicator, and/or shared via Stevens Alumni Association and/or institutional social media channels/webpages.



Charles Wetter '51 shared photos of his Stevens memorabilia: the Class of June 1951 Senior Booklet, a guide for employers back then, and a booklet that commemorated the 75th anniversary of Stevens in 1945.

Class Logs

1951

July 3, 2025 — Those of us in the Class of 1951 are now in our mid-90s, upper-90s or perhaps even centenarians. About half of our class, including myself, served in the armed forces during World War II. This accounts for the high average age of our surviving classmates.

This partially explains why responses are few and far between despite requests in our '51 log. Making contacts is difficult because many of our surviving classmates have non-working email addresses or disconnected phone numbers.

One sad note to report: I called **Al Larmann's** home in Canastota, New York, and learned from his wife Mary that Al died on October 28, 2023. He is remembered as an Army Air Corps veteran and a General Electric retiree. At Stevens, Al enjoyed interclass tennis and his Newman Club activities.

During and following our years at Stevens, many of us (including myself) accumulated and saved various items that may be of interest to the Stevens Library (name change, it's now the Samuel C. Williams Library, Lieb in our day). Remember how Mrs. Francis Duck, head librarian, always helped with our research projects?

If downsizing, consider donating your collected Stevens memorabilia to the library's Archives and Special Collections. My items include our Senior Booklet for employers and an impressive booklet commemorating the 75th anniversary of Stevens which occurred in 1945.

The next '51 log will commemorate our 75th anniversary. It should appear in the *Indicator's* Spring 2026 issue.

— **Charles Wetter;**
817-348-0509;
charleswetter@yahoo.com

1952

Summer 2025 —

*Editor's Note: The late **Robert F. Wolf**, the longtime, devoted class secretary for the Class of '52 who passed away in December 2024, wrote to the Indicator last year with memories of his father, **George F. Wolf, Class of 1925**. Bob requested that this write-up appear in 2025, to mark 100 years of his father's graduation from Stevens.*

Next year, 2025, will be the 100th year since my father, George F. Wolf, graduated. I am forwarding a photograph taken in 1925 of my father and **Peter Hanigan, Class of 1925**. They were the pitcher and catcher, respectively, for the Stevens baseball team. They had been the starting battery and had a winning team all four years.

The 2025 log would be a 100-year reunion for those two. The photo was taken on the Stevens Athletic Field. My father also served as class secretary after his graduation. I would like that the photo be included in the 2025 *Indicator*. My father was very proud of his devotion to Stevens.

His father had not believed in a college education. The family lived in Jersey City, New Jersey, and my father was determined to attend. He did pay his way through, with help, and not only pitched for the baseball team his entire four years but also graduated with academic honors. He had also pitched for a semi-pro team, the Jersey City Cardinals. He was a member of the Sigma Nu fraternity. And my mother was his date. They were both very proud of his service to Stevens over the years.

When my father graduated with honors, his father made everyone know that he, George, was his son, and he did later pay his younger brother's college expenses. I think that he attended NYU.

The Class of 1925 was very supportive of Stevens over the years, and I attended almost every alumni event from 1935 until I entered Stevens in 1948.

My father coached the junior varsity basketball team during his junior and senior years and for two years after graduation while working for Public Service. My father and mother would also visit Doc Davis and his wife in Santa Barbara, California. Sincerely, Bob Wolf, Class of 1952.

— **The Stevens Indicator;**
alumni-log@stevens.edu

1954

Summer 2025 — Hi, it's me again asking for any classmate to send me some news of what they're doing, what they've done and how they are.

Harold Mooz sent me a very nice write-up of the interesting career he had and, yes, that he is not only very alive but is also enjoying retirement life just like me. So, please write to me via my e-mail address and let me know how life is treating you. I'm taking the Amtrak auto-train in September to take in a New Jersey federal employees' trip to Niagara Falls. We're staying on the Canadian side and hope to have an enjoyable time as I have had on several similar trips. Have a great holiday season.

— **George Hromnak;**
GHROMNAK@brighthouse.com

1956

August 13, 2025 — **Frank Roberto '76** shared a remembrance and photos of **John Guide '56 M.Eng. '65**, who passed away earlier this year.

"As you may have seen the obituary for John Guide '56, M.Eng. '65 in the last issue of the *Indicator*, I wanted to briefly share more about his influence on me and so many others whose paths he crossed. I was lucky on my first day at Exxon in June 1976 to be ushered into John's office, assigned to him. And there were dozens of U.S. employees as lucky as me, as well as many more worldwide, who benefited from his mentorship, expertise and integrity. Fiercely devoted to his family, he was also dedicated to his craft and to all those he could help.

"I am proud to have worked with John, but even more thrilled that I could consider him a great friend, feeling more like family." See a photo of John and Frank and their families on page 37.

— **The Stevens Indicator;**
alumni-log@stevens.edu

1957

Log by Ken DeGraw

July 24, 2025 — It's 68 years since we graduated from Stevens, and there are only 64 of us with known addresses left. We are scattered around the U.S. and the world, with 12 in Florida, 11 in New Jersey, 8 in New York, 30 elsewhere in the U.S. and one each in Spain, Belgium and Venezuela.

Should you want to reconnect with any '57 classmate or other alumni, go online to: stevensconnects@stevens.edu

— Ken DeGraw;
kjdsr@optonline.net

1958

July 21, 2025 — Hey '58 Class-mates, I am writing this log in late July for the Fall *Indicator*. I do hope things are well with you all.

First, let me start with sad news on **Art Bendelius**, who passed away this year on July 4. Art was a class leader both while at Stevens and as an alum. He played on the varsity lacrosse team and was in several plays staged by the Dramatic Society, among other activities. After receiving his M.M.S. from Stevens in 1962, he had a very successful career at Parsons Brinckerhoff, traveling the world as a construction/ventilation engineering expert, authoring many publications and receiving numerous awards. Art also served on our class reunion committee and as president of the Atlanta Stevens Alumni chapter for 17 years. He retired in 2017 and was a member of the Stevens Legacy Society (more on that later).

I hope you have had a chance to watch the YouTube videos showing the 2025 Stevens Commencement at the PNC Bank Arts Center in Holmdel, New Jersey, and the Spring 2025 end-of-semester address by President Farvardin on the awards and many successes achieved at/ by Stevens this past school year. It is fun watching, listening to the president's address and reminiscing about that graduation day back in 1958. The "Rocky" segment of Attila the Duck running through campus was pretty good, too. If you haven't seen it, it's worth a look.

Other news from Stevens is their report of a banner year in fundraising — almost \$55 million for the past year. I have some information regarding our Class and the Stevens Lifetime Giving Societies, some of which I learned from Michael Governor, who manages Planned Giving for Stevens. First, the Class of 1958 is #1 for members in the Legacy Society, with 13 of us as of February 2024. However, we are only one member ahead of the #2 Class of 1960, so we need a few more members to maintain our lead. It is easy to join — simply pledge any amount in your will/estate plans to Stevens. That's it! One final grand gesture from us in gratitude for the great education that Stevens afforded us in our productive careers and lives. Please consider joining! It can be easily done online on the Stevens website or call Michael or me.

Further on giving, the most recent (FY24) Financial Report for the Class of 1958 shows that our class has an Endowed Scholarship Fund balance of \$508,249 as of 6/30/24, which is fantastic! Two scholarships were awarded in 2024–25 to undergraduate students. We also have two members, **Rich Harries** and **Reno Del Ben**, in the Lieb Society (more than \$5 million in lifetime giving), as well as one member each in the Morton (**Tom Lunghard**) and Carnegie (**Bob Fiocco**) societies. Nine of us are in the Gear Society, along with a number of last-five-year consecutive givers. We are currently the highest giving Stevens Class, 1st of all alumni classes! Very, Very Well-Done Guys!

I'm not hearing much from you all, but I did get an update from **Barry Ficken** on his latest goings-on. He's still enjoying his same "normal" life and is very involved in both his business and volunteer activities. Also, he and wife Gael are still very active. Barry works out regularly at the Y, and Gael enjoys lots of golf (97 times in the past year). And both are taking loving care of Ziggy, their dog. Great going and great to talk with you both!

That's it for now. I do miss hearing from you all. Just an email or quick call would be great for an update. Be well, keep supporting our legacy at Stevens and stay positive! Hope to hear from you!

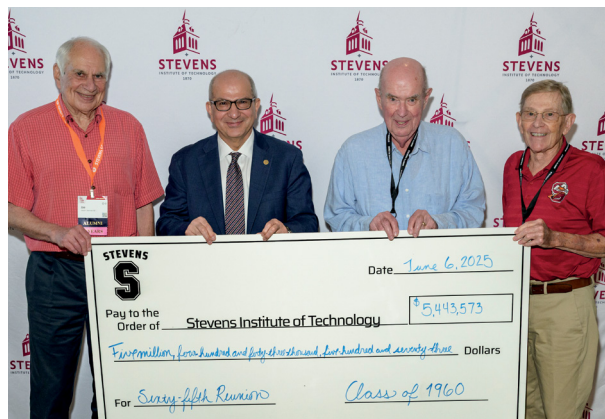
— **Bob Fiocco**;
908-660-9038;
bobfioc83@gmail.com



Top to bottom:

Bob Wolf '52, who passed away in December 2024, shared a photo last year of his father, George Wolf, left, and Pete Hanigan, both Class of 1925. They were pitcher and catcher for Stevens' baseball team and graduated 100 years ago this past spring.

John Guide '56 M.Eng. '65, passed away last January and is fondly remembered by ExxonMobil colleague and friend Frank Roberto '76 in the '56 log. Attending an ExxonMobil dinner in 2016 to celebrate Frank's 40th service anniversary, from left, are John's daughters Beth and Kristen, John, Margaret Rose and Frank Roberto and their son Frank '16.



FRANKLIN PS-2	
Specifications	The Franklin PS-2 was the 1-26 of the 30's and was used to win three of the first four U.S. Championships. A very rugged, safe design, it gave a start in soaring to Richard du Pont, Warren Eaton, Floyd Sweet, Stan Smith and many others. Quite a few exist in parts. Wallace Butlerwell has donated one to an Idaho museum and Bob Sparring donated one to the National Soaring Museum. Chuck Franklin (R.E.'s son) has one under restoration. Several cross-country low experiments were made with the ship. The long-wing prototype, the Texaco Eaglet, was towed from California to Elmira by Frank Hawks in 1931. This ship is now at the Smithsonian. The 1934 Lusky Skytran experiment had Jack O'Meara, R. E. Franklin and Stan Smith towed nose to tail behind a powerplane, starting
Span.....	36 ft.
Area.....	180 sq. ft.
Aspect ratio.....	7.2
Empty weight.....	225 lbs.
Payload.....	180 lbs.
Gross weight.....	400 lbs.
Wing loading.....	2.2 lbs./sq. ft.
Structure.....	wood/fabric wings, steel tube/fabric fuselage.
Performance	
L/D max.....	15
Min. sink.....	2.5 tps
Other	
Designer.....	R. E. Franklin
No. active in U.S.....	approx. 2
References: 7-37, p. 6, photo, 16, 11-41, p. 26, "American Airman," 11-61, p. 17.	



In New York, dropping a glider in Philadelphia, one in Baltimore and ending in Washington. In a more normal application Ralph Barnaby directed a U.S. Navy primary flight training experiment in Pensacola, Florida using PS-2's in 1934. The ship has no spools. The example illustrated is

the first glider to soar over Manhattan island, piloted by Jack O'Meara in 1931; it was operated for years by glider schools and clubs on the East Coast and is now owned by Bill Rosenberg of Brownsville, California, who flew it in 1937 and is now rebuilding the wings to fly it again. EXP.

SU-1	
Specifications	There were plenty of Franklin PS-2 utility gliders around in the early 30's, and in 1933 students at the Stevens Institute of Technology decided to attempt a performance increase by putting a better wing on the ship. They designed a gull wing with 10 feet more span. Like the original constant-chord wing, it had two wood spars and two struts, but on the SU-1 the struts joined to a common fitting at the fuselage lower longeron whereas on the PS-2 the struts joined the lower fuselage ahead of and behind the fixed landing wheel. The new wing significantly raised gross weight and useful load and slightly increased the sink rate, but raised the L/D a full two points. Two SU-1's remain, one in good shape owned by Dave Miller of Honolulu, Hawaii, and one needing much work owned by Fran Balboni in Maine.
Span.....	46 ft.
Area.....	180 sq. ft.
Aspect ratio.....	11.5
Empty weight.....	365 lbs.
Payload.....	225 lbs.
Gross weight.....	590 lbs.
Wing loading.....	3.05 lbs./sq. ft.
Structure.....	wood wings, steel tube fuselage, fabric cover.
Performance	
L/D max.....	17
Min. sink.....	3 tps
Other	
Designer.....	Franklin/Stevens Institute
No. built.....	about 4
No. active in U.S.....	1
References: 7-37, p. 8 and 12; BC, 3-2, p. 15.	



Donny Johnson

Top:
The Class of 1960 marked its 65th reunion this past June. Presenting a check for \$5.4 million to Stevens President Nariman Farvardin, second from left, are from left, Joe Kaminski, Tom Muldowney and John Dalton.

Above:
Pilot Wayne Knapp '61, seen inside his sailplane in the second photo from top, provides a fascinating history of sailplanes, including Stevens' work with the SU-1, in the '61 log.

1961

July 24, 2024 — Greetings '61'ers.

A class log to get out, and I have no lack of input this time, thanks to **Wayne Knapp** and **Richard Eppel**. Because of space limitations, **Richard Eppel's** story will be told in the next *Indicator*. This is Wayne's second contribution thanks to my friendly persuasion. We discovered that our careers had an interesting intersection. Wayne was an optical engineer with ITEK Corporation from 1964 to 1994. He designed the lens assembly for an early spy satellite, called Corona. I was an analyst from 1970 to 1975 at an Eastman Kodak department doing "government work," in this case R&D on providing high-resolution film for aerial reconnaissance and optimizing the film processing to provide the maximum detail. In addition, our department processed the Corona film magazines delivered to us after each mission. I can finally relate that now, when the program was declassified around ten years ago.

From Wayne: "It was nice talking with you, and I hope all our health issues get resolved. I cannot really say anything new about my life experiences, however. I started at Stevens in the Class of 1959 but had to drop out. After a marriage, job stint at Public Service, and night school at the Newark College of Engineering, I returned to Stevens but in the Class of 1961. Airplanes have been my interest since the age of six and at the age of 30, I got into soaring and ended up as a certified flight instructor and flew some competition events in sailplanes. Yes, we do races sort of like sailboats, but up in the air.

"The Franklin company was one of the first to sell sailplanes in the '30s. I found out that Stevens had a role in this field. I thought some Stevens Tech history related to gliders might be interesting. This relates to a glider designated as a 'SU-1.' There were plenty of Franklin PS-2 utility gliders around in the early 1930s and in 1933, some Stevens students decided to increase its performance by putting a better wing on the ship. They designed a gull wing with 10 feet more wingspan. The new wing improved the Lift to Drag ratio (L/D) from 15 to 17, so in smooth air it would sink 1 foot for every 17 feet of forward motion.

An interesting fact is that four gliders were made at Stevens. That is unusual for a student project. Also note that our buddies at MIT did something similar but only built one. As a point of reference, modern fiberglass sailplanes have L/D ratios of 50/1 and higher!

"In looking at some older *Soaring* magazines, I found additional related information. In 1937, the New York Metropolitan Soaring Association had a Memorial Day Weekend Soaring Meet at Ellenville, New York. The soaring activities took place at Wurtsboro Airport and a few miles away at Mount Meenahga near Ellenville. The Placek brothers of Little Ferry, New Jersey, brought a SU-1 and Willy Placek made a bungee shock cord launch in the SU-1 off a clearing on top of Mt. Meenahga. He didn't find any rising air (lift) and had a short 10-minute flight. Further, another well-known glider pilot, Lewin Barringer, flying a Wolf glider, found some lift and made a 43-minute flight.

"From what I can determine, the Placek brothers did not go to Stevens and looking into the 1933 edition of the *Link* yearbook I could find no reference to the SU-1. As of 1983, two of the SU-1 gliders were still active.

"To put this in perspective, in 1983 I completed five days of competition out of Sugarbush, Vermont, with distances up to 145 miles at average speeds of up to 52 mph in a 40/1 LS-4A Standard Class fiberglass sailplane. The current sailplane distance record is 1,898 miles, which was made in 2023 flying an Arcus J model, in 'Wave Lift' out of Minden, Nevada. That flight included night flying using special goggles.

"Earlier this year, the USA team of Karl Striedeck and Sarah Arnold took first place in 2025 at the 38th World Gliding Championships at Uvalde, Texas, in the 20-meter multi-seat division. Karl is 87, right in our age group. I will continue to search for additional information on the Stevens SU-1, however, given the age of the information, I don't expect to find much. I was hoping to find some mention of the glider in the 1933 *Link* but so far, that has been a dead end."

— **Jay Wartell;**
letraw@yahoo.com

1962

July 2025 — Sadly, **Robert Felderman**, age 92, of Sunrise, Florida, passed away on March 8, 2025. He was born in Boston and raised in the Bronx, New York, where he met and married his first wife, Barbara. He joined the Air Force, rising to the rank of captain while serving in the Strategic Air Command. The couple settled in Ridgefield, New Jersey, with their two sons until he retired in 1995. In 1984, he divorced and met his second wife, Jeanette, in 1992. Later, they retired to Sunrise, Florida, where they enjoyed their time together along with a community of friends. In retirement, he enjoyed fishing, golf and teaching computer classes.

Tony Mirabella wrote, “All is well, and I am currently on a sailing vacation in the British Virgin Islands with my son, grandson, and son-in-law. They are loving it as much I am, and it’s wonderful to experience the fruits of retirement. Phil, I still regret that I never joined you as a member of the Stevens Sailing Club.”

And this from **Dick Orth**, “We are still living in Cary, North Carolina, near our son and his family. Our grandson is now in college, and our granddaughter starts high school this fall. We are looking forward to taking our family to Italy in August.”

Vicente Citarella added, “We are back in New Jersey after our usual winter escapade to Puerto Rico. Everything is good at this end, and we’re preparing for a family get-together to celebrate our 60th wedding anniversary, plus some milestone birthdays and engagements.”

Alex McKenzie updated us with the following: “My wife and I just returned from a three-week trip to the desert states. We first flew to Vegas, and it was a disappointment compared to previous trips. Probably it’s our age, but everything seemed more expensive and more crowded than in the past. The hotels charge more money per night for Wi-Fi and access to the gym than they do for the room, and these charges are mandatory!”

“Following Vegas, we picked up our daughter’s family in a rented van and drove to the Grand Canyon, Zion, and Bryce national parks for short hikes in spectacular surroundings. At the high altitudes of the parks, I realized that I was

OLD; I was gasping for breath after walking across the parking lot, never mind the 6-to-700-foot climbs!

“We then visited friends from our years in Rockport, Maine. They now live in the southeastern corner of Arizona, where one is a clay artist, and the other is a former jeweler who has transitioned to creating art with a welder. Her work is much nicer than the objects we made in welding class at Stevens!

“Our last stop was Kansas City. I had heard of a World War I French painting called the ‘Pantheon de la Guerre,’ which was the largest in the world. It was exhibited in Paris and then sold to Americans who exhibited it in Madison Square Garden, and then at the 1929 World’s Fair. Only the painting’s restored portion was on display.”

Recipients of the Class of 1962’s Endowed Scholarship for 2024–2025 are Loren Sorin, a sophomore from Fair Lawn, New Jersey, and Nicholas Horen, a junior from Oceanside, New York.

Loren has been interested in finance since high school, where she became fascinated by how financial markets work and their impact on the global economy. She is majoring in quantitative finance and expects to graduate in 2027.

Nicholas has learned significant skills by assisting friends and family with their construction projects, thereby accumulating a wide range of labor/trade-based experience to apply to the professional world of design and construction. His major and minor are mechanical engineering and aerospace engineering, and he expects to graduate in 2026.

To meet the class log’s requirement in the *Indicator* magazine of a maximum of 600 words, this, and all future logs, will appear in the magazine in edited form. For the full, unedited version, please visit our Virtual Class Page.

— **Phil Kimball;**
Pbkim25@gmail.com

1963

August 2025 — Hi guys, as I write this we’ve already had 16 90-degree days this year and, as you’re reading this, the days have grown shorter and I’ll ABSOLUTELY GUARANTEE that it’s not 88 degrees in the Syracuse, New York, area (like it is today). It’s been a hot and extremely dry spell but the garden likes it — as long as we keep watering it regularly.

I apologize for my “Emergcy (sic)” request for entries to the class log but somehow, I didn’t get an earlier notice. I have to say “Thank you” to Beth Kissinger for her reminder, and several of you did get back to me with notes that could be passed on.

But first, some bad news. **Tom Bentley** has passed away. I don’t have any details and couldn’t find an obituary on the web, so there’s nothing else that can be added at this time. If any of you have more information, please let me know, and I’ll forward this in a group email. *Editor’s Note: A tribute to Tom will appear in the Spring ’26 Stevens Indicator.*

With better news, **Rich Fremgen** wrote, “So sad to hear about the loss of Tom Bentley. He was such a likable fraternity brother. In 1968, I joined Tom and his sister in Germany and traveled to Austria and Northern Italy and enjoyed some unforgettable skiing.

“Since that time, I’ve applied my welding and metallurgical knowledge at General Electric for the manufacture of Navy nuclear power systems and at Westinghouse Electric Co. for the manufacture of nuclear replacement steam generators. I finished, at the end of last year, my last welding consulting job at Oak Ridge, Tennessee, for the manufacture of a new lithium processing facility (LPF) for the government.

“Now living in a continuing care retirement community in Clearwater, Florida, Nancy and I have reluctantly gone to peddle assist e-bikes to enjoy all the bike trails in Florida. We both have all of our original equipment, i.e., no hip or knee replacements. Hope all is well with the rest of the Class of ’63.”

Art Dresner wrote, “Sorry to hear about Tom. While I am still practicing law, it is at a much-reduced schedule. I work mostly remote (when I work), so we sold

our apartment in Manhattan a couple of years ago and purchased a home in Boca Raton, Florida. We didn’t sell our weekend place in Westhampton Beach, New York, so we can spend summers there. Not a bad way to retire (or semi-retire). Feel free to call and say hi; 917-593-3676.”

Chris Coccio said, “I am also sorry about Tom — he was a strong part of our class. As for me, I continue working in a part-time remote and on-site capacity at Sono-Tek (SOTK Nasdaq) after 20-plus years as CEO and chairman. It is not easy to disengage after taking it from near bankruptcy in 2001 to a successful high-tech small cap business today. Laurie and I get to travel to Italy where we have friends and Oxford UK where we now have a 1-year-old grandson. We also spend some of the winter in Florida but sold our property there two years ago. We are well aware of the passage of time, and we do our best to stay on top of potential health issues. As I tell the other grandkids, being older allows you to enjoy others, without being responsible for their actions! Stay well.”

Then **Carl Benson** wrote, “I worked for Becton Dickinson from 1963 to 1996. Am calling it quits after this September as a commercial hook and line summer flounder (fluke) fisherman. There were only seven permits issued, and I am the only original permit holder still fishing. I am an advisor to Mid-Atlantic Fisheries Management Council and the NJ Marine Fisheries Council. Would love to hear from the old ’63 gang. flukeman@aol.com”

Like Rich, and others of you, we’ve moved to a senior living community, The Nottingham, just outside Syracuse. We’ve swapped a house and 1/3-acre yard for a condo with a lawn and flowers out in front and a couple of raised beds in the backyard. It has an attached garage, but we’ve rented another garage and a studio, i.e., a concrete block garage, where Carol can continue doing her welded sculptures. We both have physical challenges but appreciate the gifts we’ve been given and still get out on the tandem bike on a regular basis. I’m still doing some engineering. The ski lift work has pretty much dried up, but the occasional failure analysis or corrosion problem has kept me occupied, and I enjoy that.

— **Nev Sachs;**
newsachseng@gmail.com

**Above:**

Ray Korn, in tie-dyed shirt, finds his groove during a "Music on Main" concert this past summer in Hendersonville, North Carolina.

Left:

Rich Cundari '64, at left, defeated golf legend Sam Snead, right, in a round of golf back in the 1980s; read more in the '64 log.



"How the heck did you know I played golf with Sam Snead long ago, in about 1985 or so? Your teaser says I beat him but that should be qualified as he gave me two strokes a side, and I needed them to win."

Rich Cundari '64

1964

July 2025 — Dear Classmates:

I start off with some sad news I received: Some kind words from

Karl Auerbach '65 regarding the passing of **Mike Kessler**.

"I had visited him just days before. Physically he was in great distress due to the complications of a prior COVID infection but his intellect and character still shone through."

And from **Joe Weber** regarding the passing of **Gordon Spoelstra**: "I just came to learn that Gordy passed away in January. Not sure if the word has made it to the Alumni Office, so I will pass it along." However, I just went back to see the draft for the next class log to be sure Gordy was not being mentioned in any obsolete way, and we are OK. The interesting thing I found was that when going on a web search with just "**C. Gordon Spoelstra**," shortly after a matching obit, is a mention of Stevens alumni, then *Indicator* and class log and our last published log where I mentioned Gordy. You might try it. A memorial service was scheduled for him in his hometown church in Wyckoff, New Jersey, in June.

Correspondence received from **Bob Cavalleri**: "Hello Harley, The task you have undertaken is that of an unsung hero. I give you a lot of praise and respect. I am still alive contrary to my doctor's opinion. Have not reached room temperature. Am living in Orlando, Florida, where the Mouse House is located. Imagine an empire built on a fictional rodent. I am retired. Initially I worked for General Dynamics Convair in San Diego. Horrible job.

Mike Costuro also worked there. **Carlos Cistke** also worked there, he seemed to like what he was doing. I think he worked on Little Joe; I think this was an escape capsule for manned Atlas flights.

"I went on to get a master's from UCSD and then a doctorate from NYU. My philosophy was that at least I would get paid more even if I disliked the job. Companies I worked for are Science Applications, Atlantic Research in Alexandria, Virginia, which was bought out by another company. Also worked for Rocketdyne then Rovac in Rockledge, Florida. This is next to Cocoa Beach. Never got the opportunity to meet Barbara Eden

(the genie in 'I Dream of Jeannie.'). She said I was not spaced out enough and refused all my calls."

"Worked at Martin Marietta for five years. I then had my own company for twenty years where I worked on getting contracts in the SBIR government program. I built and tested ground-based solid propellant rocket motors in one of the contracts I had. Last job I had was at Raytheon in Tucson. Got fired because they didn't like independent thinking. It was a good company though. **Dick Unger** sent me an email last summer, so he may still be with us. How many were in our class, how many are still above room temperature? Hope this text gives some fluff for your class log. Was great to hear from you. Have to get back to the home now before my parole officer sends out an APB. **Bob Cavalleri**"

A note from **Rich Green**: "Hi, I am alive and have been living in Hope Sound, Florida, since 2019. My youngest daughter will have her wedding on the beach down here in March of next year. Enjoy reading your class log. No exciting news, just retired and enjoying the area and some new friends from the community."

And **Niles Gant**: "Hi, I am alive and living in Livingston, New Jersey. I do read all class communication but have little time for anything else. Thanks, Niles."

And **Ralph Heres**: "Hi Harley, I am living in Seaville, New Jersey. Had a stroke three years ago and because of it, I spend my time reading, walking and going to the gym."

To return to an item we had asked in the last *Indicator* article: Who in our class had played golf with a world-famous professional golfer? Only the person that did got it correct. From **Rich Cundari**: "How the heck did you know I played golf with Sam Snead long ago, in about 1985 or so? Your teaser says I beat him but that should be qualified as he gave me two strokes a side, and I needed them to win. Also, he was in his mid-70s, and I was 45 or so. Best part of the story: I beat him for \$20, and he says, 'Do you want cash or a check?' Super stupid I say, 'Just give me a twenty.' I see my buddies later and tell them about it. They jumped all over me and undiplomatically inform me of how stupid I was. Could've had a frameable check from Sam the Man.

One of my major judgment errors in life. Sam's play was that recipients would not cash his checks."

"I have become good friends with **Len Miller**. Reconnected with him about a thousand years ago at our 50th reunion after we had not seen each other since graduation. He is doing some remarkable work on climate change and shares his efforts with Tech. I am beginning to work with the sustainability team at Stevens.

"I still remember you flashing around second base. Good times, S*** team. WFT. You were frat bros with Gupko, right? I think I remember him hitting some long blasts to deep left center. My cell is 908-337-4697. Rich."

From **Ray Korn**: "Every Friday during summer we have a dance band concert called Music-on-Main. Hendersonville is a swinging and dancing little town in the mountains, and naturally everyone wants to come here. I am also lucky enough to be continuing my martial arts training with Grand Master Brian Adams in Escrima (stick fighting); he is our age and has lineage to Bruce Lee and Ed Parker. For the cognoscenti, this is a big name drop. Go Ducks!!!! It's dawn and time for my longtime daily workout. Namaste Harley."

I have more to relate from our classmates, until the next article.

Joe Weber and I hope all is well with you. To quote Joe: These days, I see more doctors than golf courses, ugh. But still vertical and above room temperature.

Everyone stay safe and best to all.

— **Harley Graime;**
hgraime@att.net

1965

July 2025 — Here in Texas, the tragic Kerrville flooding has been the main news item. Unfortunately, meteorologists say that, with climate change, this may be the new normal and with recent cuts to NOAA staff, weather prediction and coordination with emergency services will suffer. **Dieter Walter**, **Joe Scott** and **Joe McDowell** live in central Texas, but fortunately, all were clear of the flood impacts. In a troubling parallel note, I never dreamed that U.S. politics would become so dystopian.

Emails and phone numbers have gone silent: If you have information

[NEWS BYTES]



MACY'S AND STEVENS: A BELOVED HOLIDAY TRADITION

The beloved tradition of the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade — which celebrates its 99th year this fall — is also a Stevens tradition, with 2025 marking 40 years of Stevens' participation in an event seen by more than 30 million people.

Some 75 Stevens alumni, students, faculty and staff will be on balloon duty, inflating the giant helium balloons, driving vehicles and helping Spider-Man, SpongeBob and others take flight above the streets of Manhattan.

Stevens' involvement with the parade started in 1985, as Macy's Parade Studio, then located in the Mile Square City, asked to use the university's athletic field for balloon testing and sought out its tech-savvy engineers to lead the inflation, says longtime volunteer and Dean of Students Ken Nilsen. The studio has since moved to Moonachie, New Jersey, but these Stevens roles have remained.

Some volunteers have devoted a quarter century or more to the parade. Longtime Stevens women's fencing coach Linda Vollkommer-Lynch, the longest-serving volunteer, will mark her 39th parade.

"Being part of the inflation team has always been a highlight of my Thanksgiving and an honor for Stevens," she says.

Stevens volunteers — with Elf on a Shelf,® Spider-Man and Goku — at the 2024 Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade.



Nilsen, marching in his 32nd parade, recalls November 2001, raw from the 9/11 terrorist attacks, when Macy's Parade Studio Vice President John Piper assured them of the joy they would bring a grief-stricken nation. "We were all concerned about our safety, but we felt like it was our responsibility to create a memorable parade and show the world that we are stronger and more resilient," Nilsen says.

"There's a great camaraderie among all of us who do it. People have great pride."
— Beth Kissinger



Laura Dorival Paglione '90 recently launched two new startups.

“There’s something about creating and building something that doesn’t exist yet that I like.”

Paglione has just launched two new startups: Sans Regrets, which curates and sells non-alcoholic beverages, and VeriMe, which provides secure and privacy-preserving researcher identification verification to enhance trust in academic research.

She has a successful track record to inform her work with VeriMe. Paglione was the founding technical director of ORCID, a not-for-profit that provides researchers a unique identifier that is persistently attached to all of their scholarly activity. The global organization had more than 5 million users in its first six years.

Sans Regrets was inspired during a period when she abstained from alcohol and discovered tasty, not-too-sweet, non-alcoholic drinks. Paglione has connected with distributors and opened pop-up stores. She hopes to open her own shop and supply bars and restaurants.

“I feel the importance of this work is in changing the norms of socialization from the ritual of drinking alcohol to community-building,” she says.

An ardent supporter of fellow entrepreneurs, Paglione is a longtime judge with the Ansary Entrepreneurship Competition at Stevens, with students competing for funding for their startup ideas.

“It’s so great to hear their take on what the future of the world will be,” Paglione says. She volunteers with the Stevens Alumni Association and women’s programs at the university’s Lore-El Center.

Her deep involvement echoes back to her student days, when she performed with the Stevens Dramatic Society, where she met her husband, Tim Paglione '90, competed with the women’s fencing team and sang with the Glee Club. She’s continuously inspired to give back to the Stevens community that embraced her, she says, and gave her lifelong friends. ♦

Launching Startups and Fellow Entrepreneurs

Laura Dorival Paglione '90

BY BETH KISSINGER

She was an arts kid who excelled at math and thought she would be an engineer. But Laura Dorival Paglione’s creativity — and “super scrappiness” nurtured at Stevens — inspired a career path that wasn’t a straight line.

Paglione '90 has worked for Fortune 100 companies, nonprofits and, most notably, startups. A common thread: She was always working on something new, whether building an app for a health insights program at Ford Motor Company or building and launching an online platform for the Kauffman Foundation to create a marketplace for universities to advance their research.

Paglione has landed on startups, her love of them absolute.

“There’s something about creating and building something that doesn’t exist yet that I like,” says Paglione, who studied engineering management at Stevens and holds an MBA from MIT and a master’s in computer science from Brown.

on these classmates, please contact me: **Wes McCullough, John Mardo, Roger Stanton, Paul Pinkasavage, Cosmo Avellis, Jim Petke, Jim Gallo, Robert Fillinich**, *Editor's Note: Sadly, classmates **Wes McCullough** passed away on July 1, 2025, and **John Mardo** on November 5, 2021.*

Ken Madonia: "Spending this summer visiting many of our children who live more than 400 miles away from Pittsburgh. Seven daughters and two sons with 32 grandchildren will keep us busy."

There's always something of interest from **Bob Braine:** "I won the U.S. 4-wall Handball Nationals during Memorial Day Weekend, and we are heading to a family yacht cruise along the Croatia coast in July, ending up near the city of Split, Croatia. My cochlear implant still sucks, I was fired by my first implant audiologist, now I'm working on my second, hopefully we will have more success."

Harvey Gould: "For all those who wonder what I do with my time, here's my website, which I built to recruit postdocs and other collaborators who might be interested in working with our group (there are no age restrictions). <https://harveygould.github.io/>

"The website, which lacks introductory material, was intended for someone with some background in particle physics, a subject not taught (at least to undergraduates) at Stevens in 1965. Interestingly, the neutrino, mentioned multiple times on the website, was co-discovered by **Frederick Reines**, who graduated from Stevens in 1939 with a B.S. in M.E. but stayed on to get a M.S. in Mathematical Physics before joining the Manhattan Project at Los Alamos." *Editor's Note: Reines received the Nobel Prize in Physics in 1995 for his co-discovery of the neutrino.*

Jim Kiel: "I continue to track climate changes because my career led me into environmental engineering in the late '60s. Believe me, it's very real, even though the current administration doesn't think so. The news of the tragic record flooding in Texas reinforces the need to engineer better awareness, preventative measures and communication."

I recently watched some YouTube documentaries about ancient engineering, which make a compelling case that some

Egyptian statues and artifacts were made using powerful and precise machine tools, not hammers and chisels. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3hfJ9z222k0&t=170s>

As we close in on our use-by date, it's becoming increasingly difficult to determine everyone's status. Please leave a note to a spouse or relative to contact me when you pass. If you have moved, have a new phone number or email addresses, please let me know, so I can update the database.

— **Steve Cochran;**
214-310-2773;
cochransm@aol.com

1966

July 14, 2025 — Phil Brower reported that after his left kidney cancer battle of the last two years, those test results indicate that the initial affected areas are now free of cancer. Now it's back to a more normal life with lost weight regained and building back strength and stamina. Ready for an upper Mississippi River cruise in October and planning some future bucket list trips. "Visited with **Stan Purwin** on June 26 in Columbia, Maryland, and we went out for a great Maryland crabcake lunch. Hope to see a bunch of classmates at next year's 60th reunion." I can second Phil and Stan's comments on Maryland crab cakes and enjoying softshell crab on the waterfront on the Chesapeake Bay!

From **Bob Dent:** "Since our induction into the Old Guard in 2016, I have been busy. In 2016, I had a book published documenting the development of the electric power industry from 1882 to 2007. It was titled, *Foundations of Electricity, 125 Years of Electricity*.

"It was published as an IEEE book with a copyright in 2016 and has an ISBN. I also was inducted into IEEE Eta Kappa Nu Honor Society, as a professional member into the Eta Chapter in November of 2018, and was elected to the presidency of the IEEE Society on Social Implications of Technology to serve in 2019–20. I am still involved with the SSIT, as well as the IEEE Power & Energy Society, and I continue to volunteer on the OPTV (Oradell NJ Public Access Television) Committee since 2010."



Top to bottom:

The Class of '65 celebrated its 60th reunion this past June during Alumni Weekend. From left are Donald Baxter, John Abom, Karl Auerbach, Phil Jenkins and Jim Kiel.

Art Lifshy '66 shares a brief update in the '66 class log; Gerry Osborne '66 organized a classic car show in his hometown in North Carolina.

Gerry Osborne's "Scandia" sailboat, which he recently donated to a local Boy Scout troop; Phil Brower '66, seen with his family, sends an update.

Theta Xi and Class of '66 friends gathered back in 2004, including Gary DeBoer, Doug Brookbank, Mike Kochamba and their wives. Catch up with Gary, Doug and Mike in the '66 log.



Jeff Seeman '67 recalls his extraordinary time as a visiting academic in Japan in the '67 log.

"I spent March 2025 on a fellowship from the JSPS (Japan Society for the Promotion of Science) ... The welcome, warmth, kindness, and generosity showered upon me for those 33 days was deeply touching, uplifting, even poignant."

Jeff Seeman '67

Bob also shared "that the greatest grief of my life occurred, when my wife of 52 years passed away unexpectedly, on May 9, 2025." A condolence card has been sent to Bob from the Class of '66. He further left this advice "to cherish every day with your loved ones."

Andrea Graham (Stevens Alumni Office) got a call the other day from **George Thompson** and passed the following information to me. I contacted George that afternoon and had a very good conversation. George mentioned that he married 16 days after graduation and, subsequently, received a note from the U.S. Army that encouraged him to switch to the U.S. Air Force, which kept him occupied for the next four years, during the Vietnam era.

Subsequently, he became reacquainted with Melissa (a former friend) from his high school days. That chance meeting led to his second marriage, plus several children; many of those are now OSU graduates. George also spoke about his continued friendship with **Pete Sapala** from Sigma Epsilon, his time at J&J (after he left the EPA in Durham, North Carolina), and his varied international travels.

How is your summer going? Mine has been a little hectic but could be worse. So far, I've organized another classic car show to enhance concert attendance for the Community Singers of Lake Norman performance of ... *Driving in the USA*. Most recently my Cabarrus Rotary Club combined with other local charities to recruit 400 volunteers and raise the funds to assemble and pack 100,000 meals for distribution in the mountains of western North Carolina and Tennessee, where food insecurity remains a huge problem after Hurricane Helene. This fall, our goal is to provide an additional 500,000 to 1 million meals.

I've also been to Katy, Texas, to explore possible retirement communities, and Dallas, to see my oldest granddaughter graduate with a B.A. in English. In early June, we drove to northern West Virginia for a wedding, but the most activity has involved the disposition of my sailboat. After an active 5-plus decades of sailing. I hated to see her go and discontinue my years on the water. However, physical capabilities and impending surgery told me it was time to transfer "Scandia" to a new generation ... she is now introducing the joy of sailing through

a donation to a local Boy Scout troop (Friends Of Gaston Scouting) on Lake Norman, North Carolina.

Art Lifshy may be another '66 alum who is considering sacrificing his 37-foot Irwin center cockpit. However, he mentioned that his wife is perhaps not yet onboard with those plans?

Currently, I have another round of hip surgery planned for July 16; perhaps I'll then be able to go back to tennis and golf?

Doug Brookbank recently sent me the following, after their return from Europe. "My family and I spent some vacation time in Central Europe, and were joined by my son Doug, his wife Bridgett, and my granddaughter Blythe. We toured Munich, Vienna and Budapest, which were very interesting, and the beer was refreshing, particularly as it was very hot for this time of the year, while the historical sites were very interesting!"

I also heard from **Will Kanaley**, which was great! Will and I fenced together (he fenced epee, while I fenced foil). As I recall that our '66 team did a fine job, and we enjoyed working with Coach Kirmss. (Stevens was undefeated in '66 league competition but lost the Middle Atlantic Championship to Temple). Will was co-captain and had three wins against Temple, in our final senior meet. Will and his wife Judith are empty nesters now — aren't we all, for the most part? His principal employer was the Dana Corp., which caused them to live in Brazil for a year and then headed west for six months to Melbourne, Australia. More recently, Will has been keeping active through involvement with SCORE (Service Corps of Retired Executives, part of the SBA).

Just before my final editing of this column, I caught up with **Mike** and Diane **Kochamba** and their son, Mark. Mike retired from Bosch Corp. They had been living in Connecticut, but re-located to Spring Hill, TN, before retirement. Mike is still recovering from a stroke he suffered before this past New Year. They have been keeping in touch with **Gary DeBoer**, and **David St. Amand**. As a matter of interest, Gary was in my wedding party, when I married my first wife, Ronni, in April 1967. Unfortunately, Ronni died in April 1977. Carolyn and I celebrated our 45th wedding anniversary this past November. It's been quite a ride, with few regrets. I've been in

98% of all the states, and 1/3 of countries in the world, and lived in 34 different homes. Ronni was an RN, who graduated from St. Mary's School of Nursing in Passaic.

John Millard also wrote that he was promoted to captain in the USAF and then spent 32 years teaching math and AP calculus, as well as computer science at Park Ridge High School. **Richard Seeley** and I have been communicating on Facebook. Richard just came back from an extensive voyage through Europe. He'll report on that for next year's Spring *Indicator*.

Before I go, I need to ask all of the '66 alumni whether they might be interested in meeting somewhere (not Hoboken) for a '66-only reunion? Please respond with an e-mail. I look forward to hearing from you!

— **Gerry Osborne;**
gerryo44@yahoo.com

1967

July 21, 2024 — Bob Naidel wrote from Osprey, Florida, just south of Sarasota, that he and Pat designed and built their house to earthquake standards, as they were moving from California. (I hope earthquake standards cover hurricanes and tornados, too!) Indeed, he says, "It has since been through numerous hurricanes and over the years, the only damage was a window shutter that disappeared during Ian. I was sitting at my office desk around noon on October 7 [2024] and they were saying that Milton could be coming in slightly south of Sarasota. I turned to Patricia, called our son and daughter and decided to get out of here. Twelve hours later, we turned off of I-75 toward Tallahassee, Florida (normally about a four-hour drive), but it was all bumper to bumper, with our two dogs in tow. Checked into a hotel but were kicked out in the morning due to the dogs. Headed further west and relaxed for two days before facing the same traffic going home. The house was fine (Milton supposedly passed right over), but the trees took a lot of damage. Can just imagine the hell that was going on during the storm. The dogs are kind of ticked off as they lost their favorite oak for sitting under. Two weeks later, we went to Austin, Texas, for the F1 race."

Gary Stein wrote that he and Jeanne visited Alaska last July with their daughter and her family. "It was very special to complete a 'bucket list' item with our 11-year-old granddaughter. Our cruise started in Vancouver [Canada; there's actually a Vancouver, WA, just across the Columbia River from Portland, OR], with a variety of family tours along the way. During the past year, I contacted **George Cornelius**. George and I were roommates all four years at Stevens. During our exchange of emails, I found out that George lost a son about 25 years ago. He was able to provide solace and understanding about the loss of our daughter in 2023. The loss of a child stops time...."

I am excited to report about a highlight of my own life. I spent March 2025 on a fellowship from the JSPS (Japan Society for the Promotion of Science, the Japanese equivalent of our National Science Foundation). I was centered at the Research Center for Materials Science at Nagoya University where I gave two 1.5-hour lectures, interviewed Ryōji Noyori (2001 Nobel laureate), and became a visiting academic! I also travelled to and lectured at Tohoku University (Sendai), Kyoto University, and Tokyo University, and at the Chemical Society of Japan's national meeting in Osaka. Eight lectures on five different topics — all dealing with the history of chemistry. Except for a day and a half, the entire month was an insertion into Japanese chemistry. This intellectual and cultural adventure has led to several research projects. One involves the history of the commercial synthesis of nature-identical menthol from b-pinene, the latter obtained from pine chips and turpentine. I visited the manufacturing site of menthol at Takasago International Corporation's Iwata factory, just an hour by Shinkansen, the Japanese bullet train. For a second project dealing with the culture of Japanese chemistry, I interviewed 36 chemistry academics. I also spent several days in the Kenichi Fukui archives in Kyoto (Fukui received the 1981 Nobel Prize in Chemistry) and at the Tetsuo Nozoe archives at Tohoku University — another possible research project! My Kyoto host and I visited the Hōnen-in Buddhist Temple in Kyoto. We were the guests of the head monk Shinsho

Kajita, a man with the warmest smile I have ever experienced. We prayed in the Temple and at the burial site of Professor Fukui. The morning was cold and dark with a light, fluffy snow falling. It was all quite a spiritual experience. The welcome, warmth, kindness, and generosity showered upon me for those 33 days was deeply touching, uplifting, even poignant. Throughout the visit, I felt each moment fully, knowing that I would always want to remember the rich textures of all of those experiences.

— **Jeff Seeman**;
jiseeman@yahoo.com

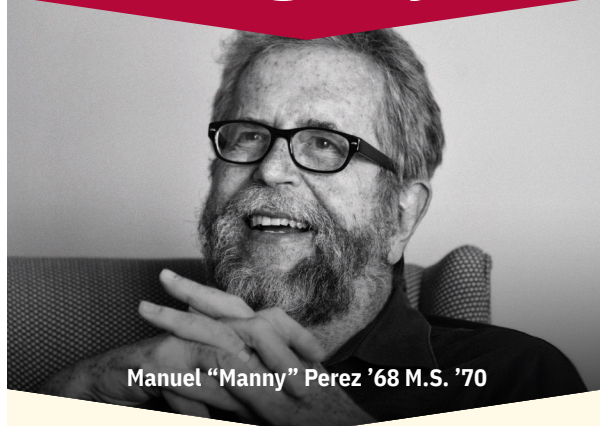
1968

August 15, 2025 — Sadly, I'm reporting the passing of another of our classmates, **Jon D. Swenson**. Jon passed away in September of 2022 at the age of 75 after a courageous but brief battle with pancreatic cancer, and I only recently was able to receive a copy of his obituary. This log contains only a portion of his obituary. If anyone wishes to read it in its entirety, please email me at the email address at the end of this log.

Jon was born in Newark, New Jersey, and grew up in North Caldwell, New Jersey. After graduating in the first class of West Essex High School, he earned his BSME at Stevens and then went on to earn an MSME at NJIT (formerly Newark College of Engineering) in 1972. Jon also held a Professional Engineer license with the State of New Jersey. He was also a brother in the Beta Theta Pi fraternity house at Stevens.

Upon graduation from Stevens, Jon began his employment at Becton Dickinson & Company, first in Rutherford, New Jersey, and later in Franklin Lakes, New Jersey, where he spent 37 years. Jon worked in various divisions, starting in machine design and advancing to product development and management. Ultimately Jon became the director of Needle and Blade Technology and was a global leading expert on needle sharpness, reducing the pain felt by millions of patients who receive a needle stick each year. Jon was led by guiding principles of exactness, precision, excellence, perseverance and ingenuity in everything he pursued. It was his desire to improve the patient

CREATE YOUR Legacy



Manuel "Manny" Perez '68 M.S. '70

Manuel Perez was born in Cuba and left his homeland after the island's communist revolution. He arrived in the U.S. alone at age 13. He was later accepted at Stevens Institute of Technology and graduated with a B.S. in mathematics in 1968 and an M.S. in mathematics in 1970.

"Manny came to this country as part of the Peter Pan initiative that moved some 14,000 children from Cuba to the U.S. His mother came soon after. Manny went to high school at night so he could work to help support the family. Kudos to Stevens for what they did for Manny. He had talent but no money. Stevens accepted him, supported him, and gave him an opportunity. This scholarship honors Manny's legacy and gives back to Stevens by opening the door to higher education for future students."

— **Maria Perez, Member, Stevens Legacy Society**

In 2022, along with the support of family and friends, Maria Perez established the Manuel Perez '68 Memorial Scholarship, which pays tribute to Manny as it assists Stevens students who are studying mathematics and computer science. This year, Maria planned a gift to further endow the scholarship through her estate.

To learn more about how the Manuel Perez '68 Memorial Scholarship is transforming a uniquely American life story into a Stevens legacy, please visit: stevens.edu/perez-legacy

Join the Stevens Legacy Society:

Have you included Stevens in your estate plan? If so, please visit: stevens.edu/gift-intention or contact: **Michael Governor**, Senior Director of Planned Giving, at **201.216.8967** or michael.governor@stevens.edu.



Gerry Crispin went camping with his cousins in July, again. It was their 48th annual outing. An off-year. There were only 70 of them.



Top to bottom:
Gerry Crispin '69, with his Airstream camper.

Mike Stegura '72 walks daughter Mary down the aisle at her recent wedding in Orlando, Florida. See p. 48 for more from Mike.

experience, especially for young children, so that through its design, each needle would be as painless as possible. Jon was awarded numerous patents, and in 2001 received Becton Dickinson's Wesley J. Howe Award for Technological Innovation for a Lifetime Achievement in Needle Technology. Many of the manufacturing machines designed by Jon almost 50 years ago are still running and operational in multiple Becton Dickinson facilities.

Jon is survived by his wife of 49 years, Joyce Swenson (nee Halloran) of Wayne, New Jersey, along with two sons, a daughter and six grandchildren.

Jon is the last classmate known by me to have passed. I'm sure there are others I have not been told about. If there are any classmates you wish to report on, please contact me with relevant information and I'll be happy to include it in my log. Till next time, stay safe and healthy.

— **Al Foytlin;**
foytlin01@gmail.com

1969

August 14, 2025 — We hope that you are alive, feeling well and enjoying whatever work, hobbies, charities or pasttimes that fill your day ... tell us about them.

We want to thank **Russ Eitel** for writing and editing our class column over the last five or six years. He has set a high bar and, as we fill in, Russ and his wife Pat are touring around Scotland. We hope they are having a great time that they can share with us in future class logs.

We also wanted to share that we nominated our classmate **George Weeks** to be a member of the Stevens Athletic Hall of Fame for his outstanding career in lacrosse and his time as captain of our basketball team when we were seniors. This is the second time we have nominated George for this very competitive honor, and we hope that the second time does the trick. In the past we have asked his classmates who were his teammates to send us e-mails in support of his eligibility for this honor, and we have included them again this year in our write-up for George. If there is someone whom you would like to nominate for membership in the Athletic Hall of Fame, please e-mail Ed (eichhorn@medilinkgroup.com).

We also have formed a committee of Old Guard members to research the exploits of older alums who should be considered for this honor.

Gerry Crispin went camping with his cousins in July, again. It was their 48th annual outing. An off-year. There were only 70 of them. He has periodically invited Paula and me but I'm always busy that week washing my car. The older cousins now require cabins, and Gerry drags a 25-foot Airstream; seems to be a bit of an exaggeration to call it camping.

Lastly, you should be receiving the Old Guard e-mail newsletter that we launched this year. As a part of this new publication, we have formed the 50-50 club for alumni who are more than 50 years out of school and have been married for more than 50 years. Gerry and Diane Crispin, **Ed** and Paula **Eichhorn** and Russ and Pat Eitel are all charter members. Please join us by emailing Ed at the email address listed below or joining us at the StevensConnects Old Guard site. Thanks for reading this, and please share with us what you are up to these days. Pictures are certainly welcome.

— **Ed Eichhorn;**
eeichhorn@medilinkgroup.com

— **Gerry Crispin;**
gerry@cxr.works

— **Russ Eitel;**
russ@eitelgroup.com

1970

July 22, 2025 — Our 55th has come and gone. We include a picture of our classmates presenting our check to Nariman Farvardin, at far right, see page 48. Our classmates in this picture are **Jeff Katz, Don Soldiviero, Pete Bourdelle, Frank Malvezzi, John Phillips, Tony Barrese, Charlie Roswell** and **Howie Brecher**. This is not the order in which they appear. If you cannot correctly identify them, drop me an email, preferably with some information for the next log, and I'll let you know.

We also had Christopher **Wisniewski**, son of **Bob**, attend with Bob's mate, Jill Savitt. Bob left us five years ago and Christopher was able to see where his father went to college, including a tour of the Sigma Nu fraternity house. **Bob Reed** also registered, but we were not able to find a picture of him in the ones taken by the Stevens photographer.

Father Gabe Costa was not able to attend this year but plans to attend as often as possible in the future as he is retiring from teaching at West Point at the end of 2025, after 25 years. Gabe received an unexpected honor of now being recognized as Costa, Gabriel Dr., and Professor Emeritus at West Point. Through the end of this year, he can be reached at gabriel.costa@westpoint.edu

Stay safe and healthy and start planning to attend our 60th in 2030! I plan on being there as I was not able to attend our 55th.

— **E. A. Golebiowski;**
eagolebiowski@att.net

1971

July 22, 2025 — **Bruce McNair** celebrated his 76th birthday in May and realized it might a good time to send some news to the *Indicator*. He is still "working," but doesn't call it work, since he is having so much fun doing it. After six years at Fort Monmouth, a year at ITT Defense Communications Division, and 24 years at AT&T/Bell Labs, he "retired" in 2002 at age 52 — and went from having one job to having three jobs. He started a consulting company, joined Stevens with the newly started online WebCampus program, and started online teaching. After 15 years of teaching at Stevens, his wife convinced him to stop commuting, so he ended fulltime work in 2017.

He is still consulting and teaching a few online graduate courses, just wrapping up his 23rd academic year. As long as his brain doesn't turn to guacamole, he plans to stick to the consulting and teaching. Patent lawyers still need someone to address technical issues and pay handsomely for it.

Bruce married a year after graduation, moved to Holmdel, New Jersey, in 1979 and was together with his wife for 50 years until she passed away in 2022. Due to his wife's health in her final years, he worked from home, avoiding the NJ Transit commute from Hazlet to Hoboken. He only plans on moving one more time to an 18-square-foot piece of "property" he pre-purchased.

Bob Pellek has been married to Diane for 38 years (five kids, 11 grandkids and three great-grandkids). They originally lived in Plainfield, New Jersey, then Allentown, Pennsylvania,

A Family Legacy Fulfilled

Javier Artola '03

BY BETH KISSINGER



To escape the Great Depression, Joseph Artola, Class of 1928, moved 4,000 miles from Castle Point back to Mexico, the land of his birth. He never forgot Stevens.

His death in 1966 prevented his son, Luis, from attending the school his father loved. But for his grandsons, it was a different story.

Javier Artola '03, with older brother Luis '03, came from Puebla, Mexico, to attend Stevens — and fulfilled a lifelong dream of their father.

“It was transformative for me. The best things I have — my career, my family, my life — all started at Stevens,” says Javier, who earned his B.S. degree in civil engineering at Stevens and master’s in civil engineering at MIT. At Castle Point, he met people from all over the world, including his roommate from Turkey who introduced him to his future wife. He and Luis won scholarships, given by the Stevens Alumni Association in honor of their grandfather.

Artola recently founded Artola Capital Partners LLC, an investment banking advisory firm. But he spent the first part of his career tackling complex infrastructure projects such as the

World Trade Center reconstruction. In doing so, he continued a family legacy of engineers dating back three generations. (Brother Luis is an engineer in Puebla.)

After several years he found that engineering was not his calling. He had friends in finance, and the field’s technical aspects and human connections appealed to him.

Artola’s engineering background gave him an edge on the analytical side of business, he says. “I think that it [engineering] really trains you to do anything.”

Armed with an MBA from Wharton, Artola focused on energy investment banking, working with prestigious banks like Deutsche Bank and Citigroup.

“It was transformative for me. The best things I have — my career, my family, my life — all started at Stevens.”

And last fall, following another family tradition — entrepreneurship — Artola started his own company, to provide investment banking services in the energy and power industries.

“You’re creating something, you’re building something,” Artola explains.

His first big transaction was a \$30 million debt deal for Redeux, a new solar power company. “It’s transformational for a company that is just starting out,” he says.

While Artola hopes to expand his business, “I’ve tried not to let money be the only driving factor in my decisions,” he says. “As I’m getting older, that’s become less important.”

Today Artola and his family live in the Houston area; he has a young daughter. His mother and his father — who went on to study engineering in Mexico and owns a construction company — live close by. The family circle is complete. ♦



From left: Javier Artola’s uncle, Jose Manuel Artola; his grandfather, Joseph Artola, Class of 1928; and his father, Luis Felipe Artola, at Luis’ high school graduation, Puebla, Mexico, 1963.



Top:
The Class of 1970 marked its 55th reunion at Alumni Weekend this June and presented a \$738,736 scholarship gift to Stevens.

Middle left:
Paula and Steve Bistak '70 recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. Here, they visit Lake George, New York.

Middle right:
Class of '73ers Frank Vastano, left, and Charlie Bambara attend a STEM Like a Girl workshop in Freehold, New Jersey. Read more in the '73 log.

Bottom:
Members of the Classes of '73 and '74 reunite during Alumni Weekend '25. Among them is Lenore Schupak '74, the first woman to graduate as an undergraduate from Stevens.

then northeast of Tampa, Florida, and finally in Virginia Beach, Virginia. Their travelling is mostly to visit their daughter outside Tampa, and granddaughter and great-grandkids outside of Allentown. The rest of the clan is based nearby in the Hampton Roads area of Virginia.

Bob's last fulltime teaching gig was in 2016–2018 teaching aviation-related stuff at Zephyrhills High School in Florida. He switched to online math tutoring when the pandemic hit and is still doing some online algebra and geometry tutoring. He is also keeping the local medical profession in the black.

Bob searched for information on the SS Stevens ship based on a trivia question from his sister. The *Indicator* gave that it was there from 1967 to 1975, berthed in the Spring of 1968 and occupied in September 1969 (my sophomore-year dorm). His search determined that it was commissioned in 1943 as the *USS Dauphin* and served in the Pacific as a troop/supply transport. It was in Tokyo Harbor at the time of the surrender, went into mothballs until it was sold and resurrected as a passenger/cargo ship under the name *Exochorda*, making runs between New York and the Mediterranean, until it ended up at Stevens. Apparently, there was a campus contest in 1967 to rename it, and the winning name was Castle Queen, but obviously it never stuck.

Al Messano also realized that it's been almost 55 years since we graduated. It has been many years since he's been on campus, although he was at Tech quite a bit in the early 2000s while teaching in the Biomedical Engineering Department for Dr. **Art Ritter**. He was there for the 9/11 tragedy and remembers it all.

He still keeps in touch with Dr. Ritter, his old boss and a director in Al's small tech company but hasn't kept in touch with most of his '71 classmates or Beta Theta Pi brothers. About five years ago, Al moved from New Jersey to Middletown, New York, with his fiancé Kathy. His kids and grandkids are still in Bergen County, New Jersey, so he is back in Jersey regularly. He still teaches in New Jersey at the Community College of Morris in Randolph and still works at his small tech company while nursemaiding his patents and consulting.

Hope to see you in June 2026 — 55 years since we graduated from Castle Point.

— **William Stengle;**
wfs20hlm@aol.com

1972

(Written collaboratively
by Enrique and George)

July 2025 — Dear Fellow Classmates, I just returned from our family cruise to Alaska. What a beautiful state, and what a wonderful experience to be able to share it with my grandchildren. We saw whales, eagles and bears; Oh my! Took a helicopter tour to a glacier where we hitched a ride on a dog sled. Saw Mt. McKinley on a rare sunny day; magnificent! Put Alaska on your bucket list!

My plea for class log input was answered by two Alpha Sig classmates. Thank you, guys! **Mike Stegura** (msteg@aol.com) visited Stevens in June and then proceeded to have lunch at Benny Tudino's. He sent me a very appetizing picture of a huge pepperoni slice. I'm salivating as I write this log! More recently, Mike celebrated the wedding of his youngest daughter, Mary, at a Disney resort in Orlando.

In his note, **Steve Bistak** (bistak@verizon.net) described his river cruise from Paris to the Swiss Alps. More importantly, he and his wife, Paula, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary by recreating their honeymoon trip to Niagara Falls, Montreal and Quebec. Congratulations to both of you. May God grant you many more years together. Now, before I hand this over to George, let me leave you with a "deep and interesting" quote from Steve. "You all stay well and keep having birthdays! People who keep having birthdays live longer than people who don't!"

Thanks Enrique! We also heard from our ever-traveling classmate, **Christ Haritos** (haritos@ptd.net). This year, Christ, spouse Joanna, and their teenage twins Peter and Helen journeyed across our country through the Rocky Mountain states. The Haritos family particularly enjoyed visiting Yellowstone National Park in Wyoming and Dinosaur National Monument in Utah. Christ provided a fun fact about Dinosaur Monument. "An archeologist found fossils there and started

selling the bones to museums. At some point, he realized that if he stripped the area clean, generations to come would miss what he had experienced. Fortunately, Conservationist President Theodore Roosevelt agreed to help preserve the area. Over 100 years later, we were amazed to see a huge rock face dotted with so many dinosaur bones.”

Christ also mentioned, “I’m in the process of selling the log cabin we designed and built in Bushkill, Pennsylvania, 36 years ago. This will make us fulltime residents of Denville, New Jersey. With the drive to Pennsylvania ending, I should have more free time and be more relaxed. So, hopefully this is the year to get together.” Sounds Great, Christ! Give us some dates.

He continues: “Twins Helen and Peter entered their senior year of high school, and college-related issues became our focus. Last fall, we learned Helen had been accepted at County College of Morris. In early December, Peter was accepted under the early admissions plan at the Culinary Institute of America.” Christ, thanks for the updates, and congratulations on the twins’ college acceptances!

We are delighted to report that as of early July 2025, the ending balance of our Class Endowment Scholarship Fund climbed to over \$700,000, nearly an increase of \$80,000 from the prior year. Thanks to you, we were able to sponsor over \$20,000 in scholarship support! As a result of your gifts and those of other alumni, Stevens is growing into a formidable student-focused technology-driven powerhouse.

Our latest Class Endowed Scholarship recipient, Matthew Knutelsky, is a junior from Sussex County, New Jersey. He is an impressive fellow, majoring in physics. After he pursues a master’s degree, he intends to explore a possible career in the field of forensic science and become an FBI special agent. Matthew’s grandfather, **Bruce Knutelsky ’67**, also attended Stevens. No relative from our class applied for the scholarship. Guys, keep sending us updates on your lives.

— **Enrique Blanco;**
elbmc@optonline.net;

George W. Johnston;
gwjohnstonjr@msn.com

1973

July 23, 2025 — Greetings all fellow classmates. Your class officers have been meeting regularly to continue to plan ways to encourage communication and contact between our alumni. While the *Indicator* is published only twice a year, Frank sends out a monthly class bulletin that contains more up-to-date information regarding our class and pertinent activities at Stevens. If you aren’t getting Frank’s bulletin and want to, be sure to send your email address to me and Frank so you can get on the distribution list. Frank is including some new features such as bucket list adventures, second act projects and paying it forward activities. Please send Frank or me anything you’d like to share. Here is a recent contribution from **Frank Vastano**.

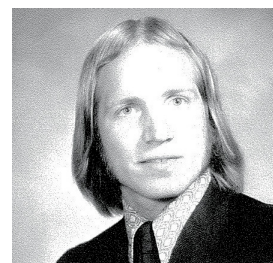
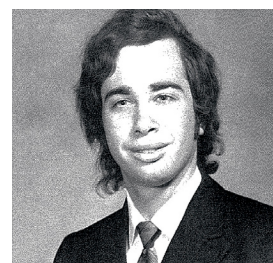
On March 2, 2025, **Charlie Bambara** and **Frank Vastano** attended the STEM Like A Girl Workshop in Freehold, New Jersey, led by Jaimee Diogo. Jaimee graduated from Montclair State University in the Class of ’25 majoring in psychology/pre-medical. Charlie likes to get involved in helping younger students and entrepreneurs to encourage them to explore careers in technology and to consider Stevens for their education. From Frank: “Charlie noticed a post on a local township Facebook page, and it piqued his curiosity and desire to help, so he reached out. As a result, he contacted, and got to know, Jaimee quite well. Jaimee started the NJ chapter of ‘STEM Like a Girl’ and has been very active in that program for young girls. She recently started with a new program, ‘STEM Goes RED.’ in the New York City schools, to introduce and support middle-school-age girls into medical applications for STEM.

“Last year, Charlie reached out to Stevens and connected Jaimee with staff and alumni who coordinate STEM outreach. Together, Frank and Charlie attended one of Jaimee’s STEM Like a Girl educational workshops on a Sunday in late February and assisted elementary and middle school students in their STEM challenges and roundtable discussions.” Jaimee plans to attend a graduate program in biology, to obtain a master of science degree in biomedical science before applying to medical school, with hopes of

becoming a cardiologist one day. She knew about Stevens and our highly esteemed reputation but never thought it would one day be possible for her to be accepted and be part of the Stevens community. Since she has been extremely excited and optimistic regarding that possibility, Charlie and Frank decided to attend one of her events to see for themselves how special she is. It was an inspiring event. Both are trying to assist Jaimee in applying to Stevens.

We heard recently from **Eric Turk**, who writes, “I live outside a small town of 2,200 in southwest Montana (moved/escaped from LA in March 2021). There’s a short impossible story of why I ‘chose’ here for some other time. I’m in a modest house (no mortgage) with a basement, on 1.5 acres with a detached garage and ‘hundreds of gophers!’ Richardson ground squirrels, actually. A story in itself, sigh. At 3,850 feet elevation, between two very nearby mountain ranges within close sight. The Elkhorn Mountains start four miles to the west, the Big Belt Mountains start eight miles to the east, just across the lake. Lake shore is just one mile east, and Canyon Ferry Lake is actually a dammed section (for hydroelectric, in the 1950s) of the newborn Missouri River flowing north. The Missouri River begins at the confluence of three rivers at Three Forks, 30 miles south. Lewis and Clark came right through here in 1805. The richest deposit of placer gold ever found was just on the other side of the lake in Confederate Gulch in the Big Belts in 1865. I was amazed to learn that there is an exposure of the mysterious ‘black mat’ sedimentary layer somewhere along Indian Creek Road, within 10 miles of me, that coincides with the extinction of most North American megafauna about 12,900 years ago (mastodons, mammoths, giant sloths, camelids, equines, even the Clovis culture). Hope to inspect someday, if I can find where.

“I maybe see why they call Montana ‘Big Sky country.’ First, without buildings everywhere obstructing the view, you can see the full sky 360 degrees, but mostly because the sky/cloud ‘environments’ are often different in each direction you look. White cumulus here, high cirrus there, gray rain curtains



Sadly, several Class of ’73 members recently passed away. From top: Harold Heydt passed away on June 29, 2025; Steven Pearlman on June 5, 2025, and Steve Stalgaitis on April 26, 2025.

Co-captain Stalgaitis is shown with his fellow Stevens lacrosse players. Classmates can read more about Harold, Steven and Steve in the Class of ’73 e-newsletters.



VIEW PHOTOS
Stevens.edu/AW25Photos



A WEEKEND OF STEVENS PRIDE AND FRIENDSHIP

From the history-making Class of 1975 to recent graduates, Alumni Weekend 2025 gathered alumni from near and far to celebrate their shared pride in Stevens and their special bonds with each other.

More than 1,100 alumni and friends came together on June 6–7 for class reunions, club/affinity group gatherings, Greek open houses, family activities and more. New additions this year included alumni celebrations in Houston; Washington, DC; and Orlando, Florida; and virtual programming by alumni professional groups.

This year marked the 50th reunion for the Class of '75, which was the first class to graduate multiple women, 12 in all. (Lenore Schupak '74 was an original member of this first group of undergraduate women but graduated a year earlier.)

Martha J. Connolly '75 M.S. '75 called it a special moment. She and her fellow women graduates have gathered together over these past 50 years. “We talk about everything from workplace issues and work-life balance to raising kids. It’s fun to get together with them.”

Edward C. Eichhorn, Jr. '69 received the Stevens Alumni Award for his decades-long service.

Clockwise from top: Ed Eichhorn '69, seen with his family, received the Stevens Alumni Award during Alumni Weekend last June.

Martha Connolly '75 M.S. '75, who entered Stevens in 1971 with the first class of undergraduate women, marked her 50th reunion. She’s seen with President Nariman Farvardin.

Young alumni gather during the weekend for lunch.



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Stevens.edu/AW25

under gray clouds over there.
P.S: Our good Montana Governor **Greg Gianforte '83** is a Stevens alumnus and generous donor.”

Finally, several of our classmates attended Alumni Weekend in June: **Bruce Blondina, Harvey Millman, Bill Moore, Frank Vastano** and **Charlie Vitale**.

Editor’s Note: See more about Charlie in this issue on page 64.

— **Anthony Callendrello;**
acallendrello@gmail.com

1974

July 22, 2025 — Here’s an update from **Bob Pedevillano**.

“Hi classmates, it was fun to be at Stevens again, a year after working on and celebrating our 50th anniversary of graduation. As you can see from the picture near this log, we had a smaller number of us there; however, we had fun. For me it is so impressive to stay on campus in one of the towers, and it feels like a luxury hotel, with a kitchenette and slate bathroom floor. **Greg Gemgnani, Phil Vitale** and I shared a suite and had fun shooting the breeze. In addition, it was cool to see **Norbert Teufel**, who did not attend the 50th. Finally, it’s nice to meet the families of our classmates, like **Bill Rooney '75**’s wife, Kathleen, who was lovely and also a graduate of Caldwell College. A few of our classmates married Caldwell women.

“So, we are looking forward to planning for the Alumni Day of 2026, which is near our country’s 250th birthday. Our committee is coordinating with two of our classmates, **Tom Nathanson** and **Scott Swensen**, who are on the Stevens Board of Trustees, to see if our alma mater is planning anything special. In 2026, there are just a huge number of celebrations around the country, and we are thinking about how impressive the tall ships coming down the Hudson River were in 1976, our country’s 200th anniversary. We will keep our class of 1974 updated with any plans that we put together, and feel free to contact any of us on the committee with your thoughts. Have a great rest of the summer!!

— **Bob Pedevillano;**
bobped696@gmail.com

1975

July 25, 2025 — Dear Classmates, Reunion weekend at Stevens was very special for our Class of 1975, as we celebrated our 50th year since graduation. First and foremost, we would like to thank all of you who joined the festivities on Castle Point Terrace. With so many of our classmates living at great distances from Hoboken and with much of our attention turned to retirement, grandchildren, travels, etc., we were so happy to see those who returned. Your presence and participation helped make it a most extraordinary event!

The weekend began with the Old Guard Luncheon in recognition of our 50-year milestone. We were inducted into the Old Guard and were presented a commemorative pin with personal congratulations from Stevens President Dr. Nariman Farvardin in the stunning new University Center Complex. In addition to the beautiful physical improvements on campus, we learned about advances in education, namely the iSTEM program that empowers exceptionally talented thinkers to become exceptional leaders, many of whom have gone on to start up numerous companies. Later that evening, we attended the 50th Anniversary Dinner and were entertained with a slideshow of more than 600 pictures from our time at Stevens, accompanied by musical hits from the '70s. The sights and sounds were a moving experience, enjoyed by groups of classmates gathered around, watching the images, pointing to a memory, smiling, laughing and reliving our shared experiences during our time at Stevens. Here are all the pictures: <https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1aRyg3WaBDSrGugQS6qFnZSXGqLunduQQkQUMZMac6Q/edit?usp=sharing>

Afterwards, **Karl Young**, class president, kicked off the evening with a warm welcome followed by **Harry MacArthur** who paid tribute to the 15 classmates who have passed. Then, **Martha Connolly**, graduate of the history-making first female class to be admitted to Stevens, took the podium and relived memories shared by all of us — The World Trade Center, The Horse, the advent of the HP-35 — as if they were yesterday. Finally, classmate

Bill Rooney had us laughing as he described his experience living on The Ship! Little did we know that Bill was the mastermind who organized the ship parties and made a profitable business out of it!

The highlight of the evening was hearing from **Jessica Guerrero '25** and **Christopher Rodriguez '24**, the first scholarship recipients from our class. They delivered heartfelt appreciation for the financial assistance provided and how the aid was key to the Stevens experience. It was gratifying for all of us to see how the caliber of Stevens graduates has progressed in 50 years.

The celebration continued Saturday with numerous events including inflation of a Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade balloon on the athletic field, the annual Alumni Association Meeting and with "Lunch on the Lawn." What a great opportunity to meet up with friends from other classes and enjoy lunch from a local food truck, fresh brick oven-baked pizza and an ice cream truck featuring soft serve! Our class then met up later in the afternoon for a group picture around the anchor followed by the Flock Party.

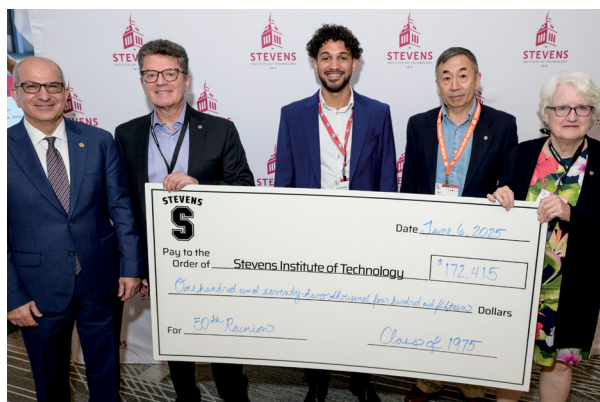
Departing on Sunday, we realized our friendships did not wither but only strengthened after 50 years. We talked about our time together at Stevens and how it provided unique experiences and opportunities, and how it influenced our lives. Still, it was those formative experiences we shared in common back in the '70s that made it so easy to reconnect, as if it were yesterday.

I often hear how much you enjoy reading the class log, and I appreciate the news I receive from you. Your news is vital to delivering an interesting class log. So, please take a moment to email me directly at harrymac@comcast.net with your updates, and thanks!

— **Harry MacArthur;**
harrymac@comcast.net

1976

July 22, 2025 — Since the last issue, we've held Quarterly Zooms 11 and 12. Thanks to all who could attend, as we build momentum and enthusiasm for our in-person 50th anniversary reunion on June 5–6, 2026. Please plan to attend — details to follow.



Top to bottom:

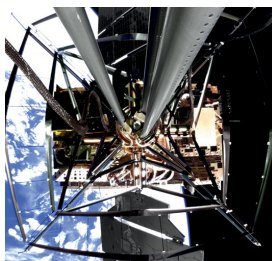
The Class of '75 celebrated its 50th anniversary in June.

Celebrating the Class of '75 scholarship gift during their reunion in June, from left, are President

Nariman Farvardin, Harry MacArthur '75, scholarship recipient Christopher Rodriguez, '24, Karl Young '75 and Martha Connolly '75.

Class of '75ers gather around the SS Stevens' ship anchor on Castle Point during their golden anniversary.

Attending the Hackensack Meridian Health Urgent Care Plus opening in Hoboken, from left, are Stevens professor Patricia Muisener; Dr. David Schreck '75 M.Eng. '75; Sarah Oldham, director of pre-health advising at Stevens; and Rekha Manohar, associate director of external relations, Stevens' Schaefer School of Engineering and Science.



Rich Madonna '76 Ph.D. '82, a project manager and system engineer with Caltech, shared this photo of the Space Solar Power Demonstrator. The testbed, launched in 2023, demonstrated the ability to beam power wirelessly in space and included three experiments, including the Microwave Array for Power-transfer Low-orbit Experiment, which Madonna worked on.



Rich Madonna '76 Ph.D. '82, left, and his son Jeff '12 volunteer to refurbish bikes for children in need; read more in the '76 log.

John Zaccaria weighed in relating a March get-together with **Alan Galinsky, Vince Massa, Jim Di Mauro** and **John Mazurana** for dinner at a brew pub in East Hanover, New Jersey. All five of them share the common bond of being commuter EE's. As we hope they are not alone, they are looking forward to our 50th reunion in person in June 2026.

Allen Schruppf, now retired from fulltime work at DRMP, Inc. as of December, provided an update. As his submission is lengthy, this is the first of a two-part story.

He writes, "I still have some role finishing the projects already underway. My primary role has been one of quality control reviewer for the firm, taking plans that are prepared by groups within the firm or by our sub-consultants. My special talent (or curse?) is that I can see how all varieties of engineering disciplines must be blended together and see construction difficulties on paper before they are found in the field. My Stevens education has proven invaluable for my entire career, as I can see better than most the way that electrical, chemical, mechanical and civil engineering must interface. I have also had the good fortune of having been involved with several contractors as the jobs designed on paper were built. Our two daughters are grown, happily married with one granddaughter each. Each daughter has a master's degree, a fulltime job and no student loans.

"My wife and I have found time to take many Viking River and ocean cruises. In 2024, we flew to Madrid in March to begin a Viking Mediterranean cruise, with stops in Barcelona, Marseille, Monaco, Florence, Rome, Naples, Corfu, Dubrovnik, Split and Venice. With an extension to the Northern Italian lakes' region, this was a bucket list vacation allowing us to check off four additional countries we had not yet visited.

"In May, we flew to New Jersey for a wedding. New Jersey has some classic diners (e.g., the Summit), and we found our way to the famous Tops Diner (East Newark), just across the Passaic River from the old Erie Lackawanna Station. With a full bar and resident DJ, reservations are a must (Saturday lunch). Beignets are a staple; everything looked/tasted great.

Florida has fine restaurants, but New Jersey leads Florida in diners!"

Look for Allen's October adventure in the next issue.

Having to abbreviate the submission by **Rich Madonna Ph.D. '82** in the last issue, his "second act" recap continues here as it "led to being on the Caltech campus every other week until the pandemic hit; a bunch of research papers and conferences; a trip to India; and the development, integration and testing, launch and operation of an on-orbit, proof-of-principle experiment called SSPD-1 where I spent a lot of time. My role was to ensure we got to flight on a fairly aggressive schedule.

"Hardware consisted of a microwave-based wireless power transfer experiment, a foldable, coiled deployable structure experiment, and 32 research-grade photovoltaic devices. Launched in January 2023 on Space X's Transporter 6 mission, it was operational in March and concluded November 2023.

"The project is in the last year of funding from the donors, and things have slowed down quite a bit so I'm not on campus as frequently as in the past and back to more cycling, increasing time doing volunteer work and taking up pickleball. I also volunteer refurbishing donated, discarded bicycles for less fortunate children (Free Bikes 4 Kidz). We started refurbishing in October on 3,200 bikes to give away by December. My son **Jeff Madonna '12** helped as well.

— **Frank Roberto;**
frankroberto76@gmail.com

1977

August 11, 2025 — Hello, Class of '77!! Hope you're all doing well and survived this steamer of a summer. (At least that's the way it seemed to me, but I'm afraid I'm at the point where the only summer I'm going to enjoy is one in Reykjavik, Iceland!)

It looks like we've gotten into a good run on having quarterly Zoom Meetings. We had a good turnout for our June 3, 2025, Zoom call which was attended by **Carmine Cacciavillani, Peter Attas, Sarah Genn, Sigmund Grudzinski, Steven Harmelin, Jeffrey Iapicco, Creid Johnson, Jack Lowenstein, Camille McQueen, Eric Olsen, Dawn**

Ortell, Robert Sheahan, James York, Paul Antieri, and myself.

Our next Zoom meeting is scheduled for September 9, 2025. This meeting is going to put the business at hand up front, by starting with a discussion on who is really thinking about attending the 50th anniversary reunion in June 2027. I'm predicting that you should expect to see a "Survey Monkey" email sooner rather than later, on this point. Additionally, we will be discussing what we really want to do for a class dinner, or what we would do in lieu of a class dinner, given the way the Alumni Weekend has changed. For our 50th it looks like all events will circle around the Old Guard Luncheon, where our class will be welcomed into the Old Guard. There are a number of other topics we'll get into regarding the reunion, including setting up some committees to help with the planning and execution of the weekend. Hope you can join us on that. We need your input!

If you don't get a chance to join us on the September 9 Zoom meeting, I think I can predict the next Zoom meeting will be around December 2. Reach out to me for more information on our upcoming Zoom meetings!

Otherwise, I have seen some Facebook posts from **John Bieger**, who has been on an extended tour of Alaska!! I can only say that the photos of the mountains, lakes and other sites are fantastic!! I've also received some posts from **Sigmund Grudzinski** who has been touring more car shows than I can keep up with, with his classic Corvette, as well as getting to a number of air shows!! Also, it looks like **Paul Antieri** hit the World Series of Poker in Vegas again. Sounds like a great summer for all. (And if you have to ask, even if you didn't, I'm still doing my radio show "Eclectic Hours" on Radio Fairfax.)

With that, we're going to have to wrap this up, but please note, there are a number of you we don't have emails for and a number of you who asked Stevens not to send emails, so there's no way to contact you. If you are interested in joining us on the Zoom call meetings, please email me at eclectichours@cox.net or stop by the "Stevens Institute of Technology: Class of '77" Facebook page and ask to join (it's a private page.), and I'll

be sure you get the info and links for upcoming Zoom meetings.

Whatever happens, stay well, and Happy Holidays!! Looking forward to seeing you on a Zoom call!!! All the best to you and yours!

— Paul Porzio;
eclectichours@cox.net

1978

July 22, 2025 — I have a couple of submissions this issue. The first is from **Ron Hosie** and is actually a continuation of the last issue's, which had to be cut due to space constraints. Ron wrote: "Like many of us, my 50th high school reunion was last year (2024). I hadn't seen most of my high school friends since graduation in 1974. For that reason, and to see my remaining family in the area, I went back to my reunion, too. To be honest, I had some concerns. Would I recognize my classmates after years of aging (and gaining weight)? Was I setting myself up for a dismal evening?"

"As it turned out, I had a delightful time and am very glad that I went. I didn't recognize most of my friends, but using our senior pictures as nametags helped a lot. And we all seemed to be in the same boat, wanting to catch up with old friends after years and decades of silence. Our lives didn't turn out as we thought. One entrepreneur type now runs a salvage yard in Tennessee and loves it. Another married into a dairy farm family. Others moved far away while a few stayed close to home. But we all seemed to enjoy catching up with folks that were once an active part of our lives. It was an event that is unlikely to be repeated with such success in the future.

"I don't write this to thrill you with my high school reunion report, but to look forward a few years to our own 50th reunion. Many of us spent years in close proximity to people from diverse backgrounds and locations who became our college classmates and friends. And like my high school class, most of us haven't seen each other since graduation. We could have a very good time if we all make the effort to get together. I'm sure our lives have been nothing like we anticipated back in 1978, but interesting nevertheless. It will be fun! So, start planning now to come on back to Hoboken in early

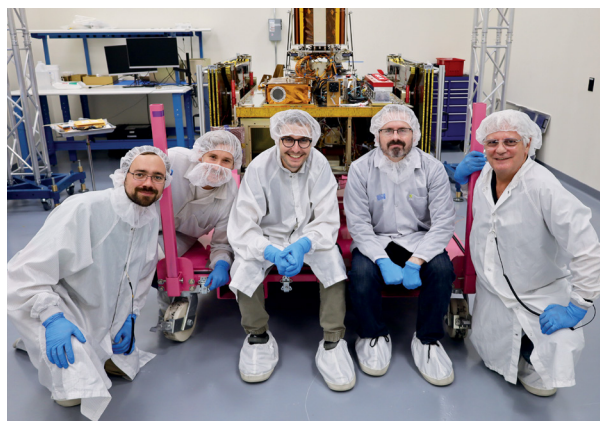
June 2028. Block a week or so to travel if you need to and want to see more sights in the New York Metro. I, for one, look forward to seeing you and hearing how your journey since graduation has zigged and zagged!"

The second note is a nice update from **Bob DeGray**: "My first job after graduation was with Exxon Chemical Company. As a mechanical engineer I did pressure vessel design and analysis, focusing on ASME Code calculations and finite element stress and failure analysis. Gail and I got married one year after graduation, and a year after that Exxon moved us to Texas, where we've been (more or less) ever since. In 1983 we had our first baby, a daughter, followed by three more in '85, '88 and '89. Some years later we adopted two more children (brother and sister) and some years after that we added two brothers whose mother had suddenly died from cancer. Still later, after COVID, we added an adult daughter we met through our Crisis Response ministry. If you've lost count, that total is nine, and we also have 19 grandchildren. They keep us very busy in our half-retired life!

"In 1985 I left Exxon to start my own company doing mechanical engineering software and consulting. My software, CodeCalc, did spreadsheet-based calculations for the ASME Code, Section VIII. It sold pretty well, coming at the same time that desktop computers were penetrating the industry.

"When we moved to Texas, we got involved in a good church, and my desire to teach the Bible, which had been cultivated in the Stevens Christian Fellowship, grew stronger. In 1989 I sold CodeCalc to a competitor and our family moved to the Chicago area so that I could attend Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, graduating in 1992. We then returned to Texas and started a church, ultimately located in Friendswood, about halfway between Houston and Galveston. I was the pastor at that church for over 31 years.

"Houston has a lot of hurricanes. The most notable came in 2017 when Harvey dumped 58 inches of water on our area. More than half our church members and tens of thousands of others were flooded out. Our church is part of a larger association, the Evangelical Free



Top to bottom:

Allen Schrumpp '76, seated at far right, and his wife Linda, seated across from him, met up with high school friends for dinner in Paris.

Meeting up for dinner and brews in East Hanover, New Jersey, from left, are Class of '76 fellow commuters and electrical engineering majors Alan Galinsky, Vince Massa, John Zaccaria, Jim DiMauro and John Mazurana.

Rich Madonna '76, far right, and his Space Solar Power Demonstrator (SSPD-1) integration team at Caltech. Read more from Rich in the '76 log.



Houston-area alumni gathered for mini golf, snacks and fellowship at Puttery Houston, part of several Alumni Weekend '25 celebrations across the country in May.



ShaQuill (ShaQ) Thomas '15
M.S. '21 visited the Stevens
campus in August.

“The co-op program opened my eyes to the range of opportunities available in engineering.”

At Verizon, he worked on mobile app analytics; at Citi, on information security and incident response. He then spent six years at iCIMS, rising to principal security engineer and leading initiatives to strengthen the company's defenses.

The foundation for that path traces back to his teenage years. Always curious about how technology worked, he spent hours tinkering with phones and video games. In high school, the only computing coursework was part of the business track — an experience that introduced him to leadership and management.

At Stevens, Thomas chose computer engineering, where his technical skills and business curiosity came together. He also served as president of the campus chapter of the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE), organizing study groups and networking events. Through those roles and the co-op program, he built the technical foundation and real-world experience that shaped his career. “The co-op program opened my eyes to the range of opportunities available in engineering,” he recalls.

Looking ahead, Thomas plans to keep building at the intersection of business and technology. He is considering either an MBA, to grow companies and lead at the executive level, or a Ph.D., which would enable him to shape education and expand access to STEM. He expects to move into executive cybersecurity roles and use that platform to mentor the next generation of professionals.

Thomas takes pride in his accomplishments but stays focused on what's ahead. “At 16, I knew I wanted to build a career in technology,” he says. “Now I'm living that vision — and I still feel like I'm only getting started. There's still so much more I can contribute, and my voice is needed in many spaces.” ♦

‘Only Getting Started’

ShaQuill (ShaQ) Thomas '15 M.S. '21

BY CHARLES O'BRIEN

ShaQuill (ShaQ) Thomas '15 M.S. '21 leads from the front lines of cybersecurity. As senior manager of Global Security Operations for Appfire, a global software supplier, he oversees teams handling more than 20 projects annually. Highlights include building a Threat and Vulnerability Management team and expanding a 24/7 security operations center protecting the company's cloud infrastructure.

In 2025, Stevens honored him with the Harold R. Fee 1920 Alumni Achievement Award, recognizing his leadership and service to the alumni community. For

Thomas, whether volunteering through Stevens or leading in cybersecurity, the goal is the same: helping people succeed.

Leadership, for Thomas, is as much about people as it is about process. Successfully completing Appfire's nine-month FUEL Leadership Program refined his skills in guiding with empathy and vision. “The program helped me connect the dots between my technical expertise and my ability to inspire people,” he says. “That alignment is how I want my career to continue.”

Before Appfire, Thomas built his expertise at Verizon, Citi and iCIMS.

Church of America, which has a crisis response organization. They came to Friendswood and for three years helped us rebuild our church, helped our members rebuild homes and helped hundreds of other homeowners as well. Gail and I fell in love with this ministry. Gail joined crisis response during COVID, and I joined after retiring from the church in 2023. We now live in a camper van for half the year and help rebuild homes after hurricanes like Ian in Fort Myers and Helene in North Carolina. We not only get to offer hands-on help (often using engineering skills), but we get to come alongside those who are suffering tremendous losses and point them to God to give them hope. We even wrote a book called *Finding Hope*. Check it out on Amazon. We plan to continue this work until our bodies give out! Bob”

— John Jarboe;
jjarboe1@comcast.net

1980

July 28, 2025 — Our 45th Reunion is behind us and by all accounts, was a success! Festivities began on Friday evening with a small gathering at Hoboken’s Mad Hatter. It was wonderful to visit with Diane and **Pat Caramante, Sharon (Baker) and John Zetterstrom, Mary Dobby** and her brother **John Dobby ’86, Henry Carnevale and Katy (O’Malley) Coumans**. Saturday was spent in large part at the Alumni Barbecue, and our own class reception. Joining the barbecue was **Jules Osinski** (who gets the award for travelling the farthest from California) and wife Yvette, **Joe ’78 and Sue (Gerald) Francomano and Phil Cobb**. We also had a quick, but delightful visit from **Dolores (LaMarca) Wagoner ’79 and Joel Wagoner**. The ’80 Reception also included **Ian Howe, Sin-Kie Tjho, Bob Henderson, and Mike Nugent**. Dave and I had to make an early exit, though, as our oldest daughter Megan had left for the hospital to deliver grandson #3. (Thank you, Aidan, for holding out so that I could enjoy most of my reunion!).

In all, attendance was greater than it has been in recent years, and there already is enthusiasm building for our 50th. Katy welcomes any ideas or suggestions you may have at ktnjx@aol.com.

Since retiring, Sharon (Baker) and John Zetterstrom have relocated from Lincoln Park to Cape May County, New Jersey. They also have a condo in Basking Ridge, New Jersey, so that they can be close to and help babysit their grandchildren (something many of us do!). Sharon and John still enjoy competitive dance and were, in fact, on their way to a competition in Jersey City when they stopped by the reunion.

I’m grateful to have the following to share from Henry Carnevale:

“I’ve been back in the Toms River, New Jersey, area for a few years now — just ten minutes from the ocean, where I grew up. With most of my family still nearby, it’s been grounding in the best way.

“I’m semi-retired now, continuing to consult while staying sharp and engaged in my field. It’s a fortunate position — work has become less about necessity and more about staying active and purposeful. After a rewarding 30-year career at Princeton’s Plasma Physics Laboratory, I’m grateful for the transition and the space it’s opened up.

“Over the past five years, I’ve had the privilege of consulting with Toyota North America and recently began working with Corning International across several of their sites. I also remain deeply connected to Stevens and Chi Phi fraternity — a bond nearly five decades strong that continues to enrich my life.

“Truth be told, I’m ‘half the man I used to be’ — in the best possible sense. A series of intentional lifestyle changes have made all the difference. These days, I carve out time for beach walks, hit the gym consistently and maintain a routine that reflects not just where I’ve been, but where I’m going...” Thanks, Henry!

It was wonderful to visit with Ian Howe at the reunion and receive an email afterwards. I never realized the extent of Ian’s involvement as an undergraduate and how it helped shape the Stevens community. Ian shared, “Part of my motivation to attend the reunion was due to the invitation by the Stevens Track and Field and Cross-Country teams, which I founded as a club sport at Stevens in my sophomore year in 1977. Athletic Director Buzz Seymour served as my faculty advisor, and having served as class representative on student



Above:

The Class of ’80 celebrated its 45th reunion this past June. Read more in the ’80 log.

Left:

Ian Howe ’80 — appropriately outside Stevens’ Wesley J. Howe Center — attended the reunion and shares an update.

“Truth be told, I’m ‘half the man I used to be’ — in the best possible sense. A series of intentional lifestyle changes have made all the difference. These days, I carve out time for beach walks, hit the gym consistently and maintain a routine that reflects not just where I’ve been, but where I’m going...”

Henry Carnevale ’80

**Top left:**

The work of Sal LoSapio '82, who is a woodworker and finish carpenter.

Top right:

Showing off their AARP cards at their 40th reunion this June, from left, are Class of '85ers Arnold Lee, Annette (Williams) Gustin, Amanda (Bustos) Dippolito, Michelle Blanchfield and Phyllis Doig.

Middle:

The Class of '85 gathered for lunch on Palmer Lawn during their 40th reunion in June. Front row, from left, are Phyllis Doig, Michelle Blanchfield, Camille (Rocanova) Kluge, Amanda (Bustos) Dippolito, Marisa (Almonte) Russotto, John Russotto.

Back row, from left: Rich Kluge, Emil Stefannaci, Trish (Mulvanerton) McLaughlin, Tom Monaco, Carmine Lizza, Robert Garbowsky.

Bottom:

Enjoying Alumni Weekend '25 are Class of '86ers Debi Motler, left, John Dobby and Leslie Brunell M.Eng. '90 Ph.D. '96.

government, I was able to establish the club officially with a small budget." What started as a club with six athletes 43 years ago has now evolved into a Division 3 NCAA sport. Also, "Last year, I was invited to Stevens to speak to members of the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE), which I started on campus in 1978. NSBE is the largest student-run organization in the nation, and NSBE Stevens chapter is one of the oldest. They wanted to hear the story of why and how I started the group. I was floored by the joy, enthusiasm, brilliance and humility of the students. ..." Thank you, Ian — your role in founding both of these campus organizations has certainly left an indelible impact on the Stevens community!

Until next time — Take care!

— **Kathy McCarthy;**
mccarthykathy93@gmail.com

1982

July 2, 2025 — Sal LoSapio

answered my recent plea for info, and here is an update from Sal: "I've been semi-retired for over 10 years now, having chosen to leave engineering and run a one-man operation as a woodworker and finish carpenter (and I love it!). I'm currently focused on more creative woodworking and have entered my work at several art shows. I also spend a lot of time as an assistant with the fine woodworking program at Bucks County Community College in Pennsylvania, where I have the privilege of helping to educate woodworkers from 18 to 80. They share their creativity with me, and I share how my engineering senses apply to woodworking. I've maintained close contact with several classmates through the years:

Bob Scillitoe, Vince Laraia, Hank Bonnell and Jim Tallia. Bob and

Vince (both retired now) were roommates of mine. I see Bob and his wife Regina often, and their son Christian is my godson. Vince visited me last spring with his wife Andrea, and they've been seriously considering moving to Doylestown, Pennsylvania, where I've lived for the past 38 years. Jim also lives nearby, and he and I do some cycling together now and then. I have also done a lot of cycling with Hank. Hank is restoring the Bonnell Tavern (bonnelltaavern.com), which has been in his family

since 1767 — it's quite the undertaking, and he's doing a great job! I will say we all look much younger than 65, especially Jim and Hank."

See a picture of Sal's wood-working near this log and at <https://sjlfinewoodworking.com/>

I attended Alumni Weekend in June and, as usual, I ran into **Richard Larsen** at the beer-tasting event! According to the Alumni Office, **Theodore Dobias** was there, too, but I didn't run into him.

Separately, I was recently cleaning out a bookcase and found some old notebooks from my Stevens classes, including Super Circuits EE-62. I suppose I saved them thinking they might be useful someday (they weren't). So much calculus! I have never used that much math in any part of my career. I also found my Superlab final reports.

Vera (Isgro) Tice was my partner, and we worked on an upgrade to the Automated Library Interactive System (ALIS) that was used for book check-in and check-out at the S.C. Williams Library. It was originally a 1980–1981 Superlab project, and Dick Widdicombe was our advisor. It utilized Apple II computers to interface with the DEC 10 mainframe, and our task was to add student ID functionality. Superlab felt much more practical and aligned with the engineering jobs and projects I've encountered throughout my career. Does anyone do calculus derivations by hand any longer in engineering, or just utilize computer software?

You can send updates to me via email or via the alumni portal at <https://www.stevens.edu/directory/development-and-alumni-engagement/stay-informed/stevens-indicator#form>

— **Dan Roman;**
n2mfc@alumni.stevens.edu

1983

June 12, 2025 — Here's an update from **Bill McGrath**.

"I retired as an environmental engineer from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection on January 1, 2023. (With the DEP for more than 23 years.) I had been working in a program focused on air pollution, specifically emissions from motor vehicles. I spent a considerable amount of time

at motor vehicle inspection stations throughout the state. In New Jersey, the inspection process is focused on emissions. Safety checks are only performed on commercial vehicles.

"I also worked at night and on weekends in the winter plowing and salting roads for the New Jersey Department of Transportation. The DOT doesn't have the personnel to handle operations around the clock. The personnel are limited by law as to how many continuous hours they can work. The state supplements the DOT personnel with employees from other state agencies. I had to get a commercial driver's license, but the state provided the training.

"I attend as many alumni events from Stevens and Hudson Catholic High School in Jersey City — my other alma mater — as I can. I'm a regular attendee at the Stevens Alumni Weekend. This year, I was only able to attend events on Friday, but I enjoy crossing paths with fellow alums, even for one day."

— **Linda G. Smith;**
lindagildasmith@gmail.com

1985

Guest log by **Amanda C. Dippolito**

July 22, 2025 — Hello classmates! Hope this email finds everyone doing well. We had our class reunion, and can you believe about 30 members of the class of '85 came to the reunion? It was wonderful to catch up with so many of our classmates. Many are now retired or working their way (no pun intended) toward retirement!

Although the weather did not cooperate much, with downpours during lunch, it turned out to be a really nice weekend! On Saturday morning, we met for bagels after receiving our Stevens "swag bag." I did try to catch up with some classmates there in the morning. If I get anything wrong or forget to mention you, please email me with corrections. Hey, I am getting old, and the memory is not what it used to be!

Jacob Barth, Gary Blohm and other Sigma Nu brothers were there — many who are retired already (jealous!). As I went to get more coffee, I ran into **Manny Costa** as well as **Steve Strapko**. I then made my way down to Babbio to

meet up with **Annette Williams** who had flown in from Florida the night before! **Michelle Blanchfield** joined us soon after as did **Phyllis Doig**. As we all (well, really just me) complained about how hard it was to get up to campus via 8th street (I don't remember that hill ever being a challenge!) we decided to take some pictures with our AARP cards (see photo near this log).

We then went to various Stevens events. Michelle, Manny and I hitched a ride on a "transport" down to Babbio and heard talks from each of the deans. As many of you know, there is now both a business school and a humanities, arts and social sciences school. It was nice to hear from these deans.

During lunch, we met with many more classmates, including many of my "commuter friends": **Marissa (Almonte)** and **John Rusotto, Carmine Lizza, Tom Monaco** and **Bob Garbowsky**. We were also delighted by **Camille (Rocanova)** and **Rich Kluge** who brought a cute four-legged friend in training! The Kluge family has one of the best jobs — acclimating pups who will one day work as service dogs! As you can see from the photo near our log, he was quickly "adopted" by our class.

Also present at the reunion luncheon were **Trish (Mulvanerton) McLaughlin, Charlie Buscarino** and **Emil Stefanacci**. **Steve Heck** was also there, as he had travelled down from Vermont the night before to visit family. He is now retired and having way too much fun enjoying life in Vermont! I was also given a crash course in what it means to be a Scrum manager by **Dave Stevens** — thank you for the education, Dave! (See, you never stop learning!)

During lunch, a typhoon went by, but we emerged ready to explore some more of the new campus! Those of us who used to commute decided to go search for the commuter lounge! We were distracted by the Schaefer Athletic Center; we wandered to the recently renovated gym, gazed down at the pool and headed outside to where we got a terrific view of the sports field and the nice bleachers (no grass stains while cheering on our Ducks!).

We continued our travels and found ourselves in Kidde but kept getting turned around! Luckily, we had a current student (my son

Upstarts



Yuxiang Wang M.S. '23, a senior data scientist at American International Group (AIG), is using his

expertise in artificial intelligence and large language models to replace AIG's older and less efficient processes with more efficient and automated ones. Previously, Wang assisted with the automation of AIG's data pipelines.



Adam Kalbermatten '05 M.Eng. '05 was named chief commercial officer at KORU Medical

Systems, a medical technology company specializing in home and specialty infusion solutions.

Kalbermatten has over two decades of leadership experience in the medical device and pharmaceutical industries, with previous stints at Becton Dickinson, ZebraSci and Terumo Medical Corporation.

[QUICK BYTE]

Stevens' DASShing Ducks won a first-place award and \$10,000 prize at the Department of Homeland Security Designing Actionable Solutions for a Secure Homeland student design challenge. Students developed LiDAR LASSO, an AI-powered system to neutralize autonomous vehicle threats.



Top:
Sigma Phi Epsilon brothers from the classes of 1985 to 1989 gathered in July at Fiddlers Elbow Country Club, Bedminster, New Jersey.

Middle:
More Sigma Phi Epsilon brothers — spanning the classes of '88 to '96 — reunited in May at Conclave Brewing in Flemington, New Jersey, which is owned by brother Carl Alfaro '96.



Bottom left:
Enjoying 67 Pall Mall Singapore, from front left, are Dawn Madak '89, her husband Wes, Rajul and Sachin Shah '89 and Dawn's and Wes' daughter, Grace.

Bottom right:
Dawn Madak '89 and family visited Sachin Shah '89 in Singapore in May. Outside the Singapore Raffles Hotel after lunch at Yi By Jereme Leung, from left: Sachin's wife Rajul, Sachin, Dawn, Dawn's husband Wes and their daughter Grace.

Michael) with us who laughed at us as he kept trying to point us in the right direction. Alas, we realized that what was once our “lounge” is now the campus police station! We were all amazed at the “beauty of the stairs” leading from Babbio down to Sinatra Drive — no more rickety half-wooden steps!

Later in the evening, we all met to take some group shots and have some more time to chat with classmates over food. Luckily, Stevens hired a professional photographer, and we were able to get them to take pictures of our class. We took pictures of the “girls,” the “boys” and a group shot. You can see those pictures here: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/135388374@N08/albums/72177720326811081/>

As the reunion was ending, we had to evacuate for a fire drill — but there to greet us was a beautiful rainbow. Thanks to **Rich Kluge** for the great shot!

Sorry for anyone whom I missed speaking with, but please email me at amanda@deltasoftinc.com any pictures/updates from the reunion, and I will include them in the next issue. For those of you who did not attend, please try to attend next time, especially since many of us will now have some “extra time” as we retire or send an update to let your classmates know how you are doing. Would love to hear from many more classmates! Til next time — Cheers! Amanda

— **Amanda Dippolito;**
amanda@deltasoftinc.com

1989

July 22, 2025 — At our 35th reunion in June 2024, I reconnected with **Sachin Shah**. We had kept in touch on and off since graduation; he told me he was living in Singapore with his family and loving it. I told him that's a place I have wanted to visit, and he kindly said, “You should come!” I looked straight at him, “People say that to me and don't believe I will actually show up.” When he didn't flinch, I started planning and landed in Singapore with my family in May 2025. We saw Sachin, his beautiful wife Rajul, and visited a few of their favorite places together, including an art show that Rajul was displaying her work in. What an incredible place! We then went onto Cambodia and Vietnam (based on advice from Sachin) and had the trip of a lifetime!!

I asked Sachin to provide an update since much has changed since I last wrote about him. “I don't know exactly where to begin! It's been an exciting few years and continues to be,” he writes. *Work Life*: after 30-plus years working across North America and Asia for multi-national companies in banking and insurance — the last 15 of those as CEO in various capacities across Asia (Japan, Asia Pacific, Southeast and South Asia) — I decided it was time to step down, step back, take some time to determine what's next. This was one of the most difficult decisions I've ever made and had been in the works for some time (on reflection!).

Home Life: Rajul and I are blessed with wonderful children and family. Our eldest daughter, Avika, has a successful career at E&Y in banking and payments advisory. She's soon to be engaged; we are both excited and can't believe we will have a married child (and grandchildren) soon! Our middle son, **Jaisal** (Stevens Class of '22), just bought his first home in Manhattan and is building his career at Nomura. Our youngest son, Rowan, 16, keeps us young and moving. He, like his siblings, is an avid and talented soccer player, keen to play at a D3 school. Stevens is on his shortlist! We are contemplating what being empty nesters will really feel like and equally looking forward to this next phase of our life together.

“Now: I recently launched *Pentara Capital*, a private equity

1986

August 13, 2025 — It was so great seeing some of you at Alumni Weekend this past spring! See a photo of our class on page 56.

Just a reminder — Our 40th Reunion will be next year, Friday, June 5, 2026, to Sunday, June 7, 2026. We will be sending more information soon about the events for the weekend.

Go Ducks!

— **Debi Motler;**
dmdot419@gmail.com

company bringing global capital, operating expertise and innovation while accelerating financial security and wellness to emerging markets across the world. Both daunting and exciting, we help businesses accelerate a positive impact on society with a platform that, over time, will provide multi-generational wealth. We are in the middle of raising capital for our first fund and have several deals in various stages in play. Stevens continues to play a foundational role in this new chapter in my career, just as it did in the prior chapters (first as an engineer and then as financial services executive). The Business School, thanks to partnership with Professor Hatzakis, has been generous in providing access to interns and ideas. I welcome outreach from alumni who want to learn more, share or contribute!

"Since we have been living in Asia for 15 years, it's been harder to stay in touch with the Class of '89. I attended our 35th Reunion in 2024 and am a regular at Delta Tau Delta's annual LAD Memorial golf outing. A highlight was recently hosting **Dawn** and family in Singapore, as they made their way across parts of Southeast Asia in their first-ever Asia trip! It was wonderful to spend quality time together; we were able to slip back into our Stevens comfort zone within minutes."

I couldn't agree more, Sachin! Thanks to you and Rajul (www.rajulshahart.com) for sharing your love of Singapore.

John Griffin thoughtfully shared photos from his recent gathering(s) with fellow Sigma Phi Epsilon brothers. **Carl Alfaro '96** owns Conclave Brewery in Flemington, New Jersey; it's been a perfect spot to meet up. The most recent photo from May 2025 pictures alums ranging from '88 to '96. It's so wonderful to see these pics and hear that alumni get together regularly. Stop by the brewery and say hello to Carl, then be sure to send me your alumni story and photos!!

— **Dawn Madak**;
dawnmadak@gmail.com

2000

July 22, 2025 — The Class of 2000 had their 25th Reunion on Friday, June 6, at a local bar in Hoboken to kick off Alumni Weekend! The party was 53 strong, and we're grateful Dean Ken Nilsen joined us as our special guest. A shout-out to our friends in the Classes of '99 and '01 that were also invited and joined in the fun! Also, a shout-out to **Craig Polk** for being an amazing teammate with me to pull this off, and to Jennifer LeFebvre in the Alumni Office who helped bring this vision to life. It was truly a memorable event filled with laughter, nostalgia and meaningful reconnections. It was simply incredible to see all those familiar faces and share funny stories from our Stevens days and reflect on how far we've come.

To continue the momentum, we've created a LinkedIn group for our class whether or not you were able to join us at the reunion. I hear there are already plans being made to do it again next year. Perhaps it will be at the "same Bat time, same Bat place" (an '80s reference). Stay tuned for details.

— **Marybeth Lynch**;
marybeth.lynn1@gmail.com

2021

June 6, 2025 — Here's an update from **Victoria Czochanski**. "I graduated in December 2024 with an MBA and a graduate certificate in Marketing from the Lindner College of Business, University of Cincinnati. Thanks, Victoria Czochanski"

— **The Stevens Indicator**;
alumni-log@stevens.edu

2024

Let's Give Being An Alum A Shot

July 24, 2025 — Howdy, Class of '24! Welcome to the first official alumni log from your one and only (and, dare I say, beautiful) Class Secretary, **Jared Donnelly**.

It's now mid-summer, marking about a year since many of us started full-time roles. For those of you who took the scenic route through AMP and just now wrapped up your Stevens journey, congratulations and welcome to the working world. Whether you've been



Top:
The Class of 2000 celebrated its 25th reunion out on the town in Hoboken, along with the classes of '80, '99 and '01.

Middle left:
Claire Van VoNajem, daughter of Anthony Najem '08, was born on Feb. 18, 2025.

Middle right:
Keith Cassidy '09 has moved from New York City to Miami, where he's enjoying his new balcony.

Bottom:
Honored with the Harold R. Fee Alumni Achievement Award during Alumni Weekend in June, from left, were ShaQuill (ShaQ) Thomas '15 M.S. '21, Jorge Alberto Smith '15 and Luke Langner '20. Also honored were Aimee Fries Alonso '00 and Moushmi Patel Culver '00.



Above:
Moushmi Patel Culver '00 received the Harold R. Fee Alumni Achievement Award during Alumni Weekend.



Top:
Student leaders of the Class of 2025 celebrate at their Commencement in May.

Above:
Robby Dahill '25, a finance major, was the undergraduate student speaker at Commencement in May at PNC Bank Arts Center. He is chairman of the Dean's Student Advisory Board in the Stevens School of Business, among many other activities, and is pursuing a master's degree in finance at Stevens.



grinding away since last July or are just clocking in for your first day, I'm proud of all of you. For those of you continuing on in an academic journey of one form or another, you have my pride and my intimidation of the dedication it takes to keep going.

I was thrilled to see such a strong showing from our class at Alumni Weekend this past June. Over 40 of you officially registered, and even more of you stopped by throughout the day. Whether you came for the wine tasting, helped with the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade balloon inflations or simply wanted to reconnect with old friends and organizations, it was great to see so many familiar faces back on campus.

Since I haven't received any wedding invites or baby shower announcements just yet, I'll assume we're all easing into adulthood at our own pace — or simply keeping secrets.

President **Kevin Castner Jr.** graduated once again, this time with an M.Eng. in Mechanical Engineering, and during his final year, he was also initiated as a brother of Chi Psi fraternity. Since graduation, he has traveled to Japan, before then moving to California to begin a new role at Johnson & Johnson Medtech. Vice President **Paulina Georgoutsos** also completed another Stevens degree, earning her M.S. in chemical biology. She is now an incoming medical student at the New York College of Podiatric Medicine, and she visited family in Greece this summer. Fund Captain **Zoe Hack** spent the past year at Everest working as a catastrophe modeling analyst and received her first promotion nine months into the role, an exciting start to her post-grad career.

As for me, I moved a little further south in New Jersey and am now living with two fellow '24 grads, **Claire Hannan** and **Ethan Kleschinsky**. I'm currently halfway through a rotational program in the Tech Division at Merck & Co., having completed two rotations and just beginning my third and final year-long placement. Life has been a rewarding experience so far, and I've especially enjoyed serving as one of the Young Alumni Trustees on the Stevens Board of Trustees, and I'm looking forward to taking on a larger role within the Alumni Association in the coming year, as work allows.

If you haven't yet logged onto *StevensConnects*, there is quite an engaged group of alumni there and many opportunities to connect with alums and current students. I will be looking into getting a group set up for our class year specifically. In the meantime, feel free to write me or the association about your life updates and what you'd like to see from the Old Stone Mill as an alumnus.

— **Jared Donnelly;**
donnellyjared01@gmail.com

2025

August 4, 2025 — Hi, Class of 2025, long time no see! Welcome to our first alumni log!

This space is just for us — a way to stay connected and keep in touch as we move into the next chapters of our lives. With all 1,102 of us having just graduated in May, I know big changes are happening fast. So, for this first log, I'll take the lead to kick things off with a quick introduction.

This log serves the purpose of giving us a space to share updates about each other, whether it's a new job, grad school, travel plans, weddings or even future families. You will always be a part of the Stevens Class of 2025, no matter where life takes you, and this is one way we can celebrate our milestones and stay connected beyond graduation.

Reading alumni logs from past classes in the *Indicator* magazine has been a great way to see how classmates stay in touch across time and distance. While we have platforms like Instagram and LinkedIn to keep up with each other, the *Indicator* offers something different. It provides a shared, lasting space where our stories are part of the broader Stevens legacy. I encourage you to check them out, and I'm excited to carry that tradition forward with our class.

I will be working closely with Class President **Nick Smith**, Vice President **Olof Persson**, and Fund Captain **Martin da Silva** to encourage everyone to stay engaged and involved.

Wishing you all the best as you start this new chapter. I'm looking forward to building this space together, so stay tuned for updates!

— **Isabella Ziv;**
isabellaziv101@gmail.com

Graduate Log

Ye Ouyang Ph.D. '12 is chief technology officer and senior vice president with AsiaInfo Technologies, a telecom software and services corporation. He is responsible for setting the direction of technology and product leadership and overseeing the corporation's global research, development and innovation activities. Additionally, he chairs the corporate Technology Committee and directs more than 2,000 R&D Center engineers. Ye is also a distinguished professor at Tsinghua University, a visiting professor at Tongji University and co-director of the Tsinghua-AsiaInfo Joint Institute of 6G Network & Intelligent Computing. Prior to joining AsiaInfo, Ye served as a Verizon Fellow and senior manager at Verizon. He has extensive work experience across telecom operators, equipment providers and software providers in various technical, managerial and executive roles. His recent work focuses on cross-domain innovation and the commercialization of cutting-edge technologies in cellular networks, AI and data science. He holds a bachelor of engineering degree from Southeast University in China, a master of science from Tufts University, a master of science from Columbia University and a Ph.D. in interdisciplinary research in electrical engineering and telecommunications management from Stevens. He sits on Stevens' President's Leadership Council.

Brinda Banerjee MBA '16 has been appointed chief information officer of the biopharmaceutical company Tris Pharma. Brinda leads the Information Technology department, overseeing IT infrastructure and business applications. She has more than two decades of experience in the pharmaceutical and biotechnology sectors. Before joining Tris, she held executive positions at Genmab, most recently as vice president of Global Digital Products, and also served as Genmab's global head of Digital Solutions & Analytics.

Aditya Shah M.Eng. '16, a project executive at Vikrant Contracting & Builders in New York, has been named one of *Crain's New York Business* '40 Under 40 2025. Aditya, who earned a master's degree in construction

management from Stevens, has focused on helping to build affordable housing in New York City.

Nikhil S. Shahani M.S. '17 is a technology leader for AI and data engineering at the consulting services firm Deloitte, where he oversees multimillion-dollar projects in artificial intelligence, machine learning and analytics. His work spans data governance, technology implementations and improvements to state benefit systems, and his project portfolio has included state and federal governments and Fortune 100 companies. Nikhil is active with professional societies, volunteers for various charitable organizations and regularly returns to Stevens as a mentor and panelist. He earned a bachelor of engineering degree from the University of Mumbai and a master's degree in information systems, with a focus on business intelligence and analytics, from Stevens.

Diksha Kishore Shandil MBA '24 works with JPMorgan Chase, as part of a two-year rotational program where she's gaining exposure to various parts of the consumer and community banking operation, including product execution strategy, credit cards and innovation. She also interned at the company during her time at Stevens. After earning her bachelor of engineering degree in information technology from SJBI Institute of Technology in India, Diksha began her professional career as a project engineer at Wipro, an IT services and consulting company.

Pranay Saha M.Eng. '25 has joined Tesla as a battery firmware validation engineer in Palo Alto, California. His responsibilities involve validating battery firmware, ensuring compliance with safety and performance standards and contributing to Tesla's battery management and energy storage systems. Before Stevens, Pranay worked as a senior embedded systems engineer at Vecmocon Technologies, where he worked extensively on battery-management systems for electric vehicles. He earned a master's degree in computer engineering from Stevens.

Vitals

Notices received from 3/11/25 to 8/24/25.

BIRTHS

To Anthony Najem '08 and Jimmy Khoa Vo, a daughter, Claire, on February 18, 2025.

OBITUARIES

1940s

The Rev. J.F. Salmon, SJ '47
L.L. Shook, Jr. '48

1950s

W.D. Cacho, Jr. '50
J.G. Gill '51
A.F. Larmann, Jr. '51
A.L. Stock '51
R.C. Baubles '52
E.E. Muller '52
R.F. Wolf '52 M.S. '58
W. Kataryniak '53
H.W. Morrow M.S. '53
H.T. Bossung '54 M.S. '61
P.T. Funke M.S. '56 Ph.D. '62
M.S. Nutkis '56 M.S. '59
A.G. Bendelius '58 MMS '66
J.M. Boyle '58
H.W. Fielitz '58
S. Dardarian M.S. '59
F.J. Scerbo '59

1960s

N.E. Boglivi '60
R.J. Fritz M.S. '60
L. MacDermid '60
G.W. Rucki '60
G.L. Mina '61 Ph.D. '66
E.C. Ramm '61
D. Salsberg M.S. '61
R.A. Felderman '62
T.P. Bentley '63 MMS '69
P.J. Linko, III '63 M.S. '66
R. Hranek '64
M.J. Kessler '64 M.S. '66
D.N. Malone '64 M.S. '68
C.G. Spoelstra '64 M.Eng. '71
L.L. Bee '65
L.A. Freese '65
D.R. Gipp M.Eng. '65
J.R. Harpootlian '65
J.G. Mardo '65
W.A. McCullough '65 M.S. '67
J.J. Moleta '65 MMS '71
A.D. Montecucullo '65
W.E. Dunn M.S. '66
J.J. Golmanavich '66

R.M. Gruber '66
J. Harris '66 MMS '71
R.L. Hollmann '66
E.B. Berman MMS '67
E.R. Clark M.Eng. '67
W. Kistulnec MMS '67
A.Z. Schwartz '67
R.J. McCauley MMS '68
J.D. Swenson '68
M.K. Breslin '69 M.Eng. '75
J.R. Gibbons M.S. '69
L.P. Ostaszewski '69
J.F. Rocky, Jr. '69

1970s

R.W. Moody '70
M.W. Pechiro '70
G.D. Roessler MMS '70
R.L. Calafiore M.S. '71
P.M. Graham MMS '71
D.B. Raymond M.S. '71
G.D. Swanson M.Eng. '71
W.S. Reid Ph.D. '72
A.W. Cleaver, Jr. '73
H.J. Heydt '73
P.J. Jesson M.Eng. '73
S.M. Stalgaitis '73
J. Bernstein Hon. M.Eng. '74
K.P. Zurawski '76
B.G. Joarder M.Eng. '79
B.M. Sullivan '79

1980s

N.E. Romain MMS '80
J.C. Emanuele '81
P.J. Haug M.Eng. '81
B. Zalan '81
H.J. Lasser '82
M.R. Leeper M.S. '82
C. Seidel Ph.D. '82
R.K. Hepperle '84
J.Y. Leung '87
J.F. Ciurczak M.S. '88
F.J. Mertz Hon. D.Eng. '88

1990s

W.W. Arden, Jr. M.S. '94
A.R. Antala '95

2000s

R.E. Sabat M.S. '00
E. Demonte '04
R.J. Scheer M.Eng. '05
L.A. Parsons M.S. '08
J.P. Puciloski '19
D.D. Tore '25

FACULTY

J.P. Elwood
E. Fischl
F.T. Jones Hon. M.Eng. '75