

USD MAGAZINE

UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO / FALL 2007

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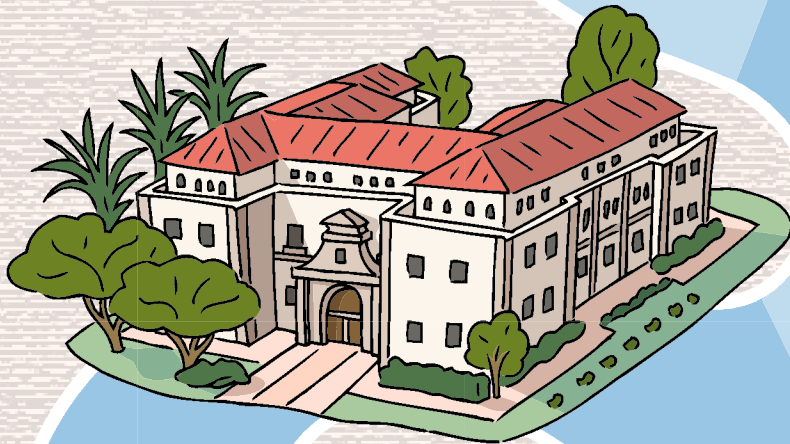
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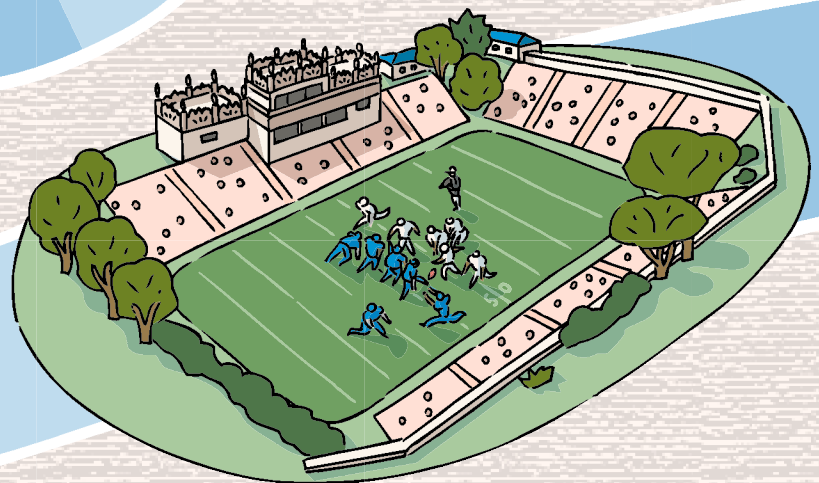
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USD MAGAZINE

UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO / FALL 2007

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CLASS NOTES

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[mission statement]
 The University of San Diego is a Roman Catholic institution committed to advancing academic excellence, expanding liberal and professional knowledge, creating a diverse and inclusive community, and preparing leaders dedicated to ethical conduct and compassionate service.

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[precarious]

UNSAFE PASSAGE

When you think about it, what isn't risky business?



He was right on my bumper, riding me like he had an emergency appendectomy waiting for him at journey's end. When he finally whipped the wheel to the left, punched the gas and zoomed past me, he flashed a certain appendage. I'd had the nerve to not just be in his way, but to not drive 20 miles over the speed limit, and he had by golly shown me once and for all that none of this was even a little bit acceptable. I shook my head and shook it off, but the peanut gallery in the back seat was scandalized.

"Did you see what that man did?" my daughter asked, voice rising. "He looked right at us when he did it!"

"I guess I just wasn't driving fast enough for him," I replied.

"Or maybe he doesn't like Green Day," she conjectured. "You do have that bumper sticker."

"Hmm. Maybe. Or maybe he's against peace. I have that bumper sticker too."

"Oh, come on, Mom. Who could be against peace?"

She had me there.

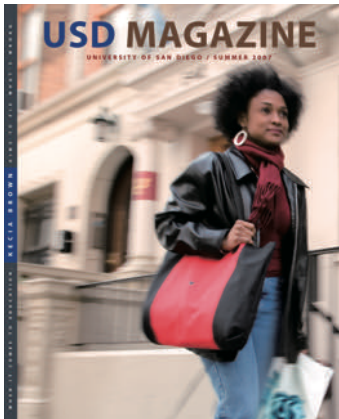
It was just one incident, but it stuck with me all day, maybe because he'd come out of nowhere, popping up in my rear-view mirror so suddenly that I wanted to tap the brake just to urge him to back off. But I knew better. These sorts of chronic tailgaters are easily enraged, and as peeved as I might be, there was no point in infuriating him, especially not with precious cargo in the car. It was too risky even to contemplate.

I suspect that most of us don't give much thought to the perils ahead when we roll out of bed to face the day. Unless we're firefighters or in the military or police force, we tend to assume that all will be well, and that at day's end, we'll be back in our nice, safe beds. And that's a good thing. If we thought about the risky business of getting through the day — really thought about the dangers of driving down the freeway, of running into trouble in a sketchy neighborhood, of tripping in the bathtub and breaking a hip — we'd be too paralyzed with fear to get anything done. So, sensibly enough, most of us don't think about it. We blithely hop in our cars and go over the speed limit. We eat deep-fried food and don't give more than a passing hoot about our cholesterol. We take a deep breath, dive into the dating pool and hope that we'll emerge in love.

And if there are hazards ahead, we'll forge on and keep the faith. As you flip through the pages of this issue — which was built around the concept of risky business — you'll read about people who've taken a chance. Whether they've written a book, started a business, won a championship or taken on a monumental new venture, risk was part of the equation. It's the way great things happen. Nonetheless, when you've got your pedal to the metal, would you mind making sure that your bumper isn't riding up the tailpipe of the pokey car ahead of you? We're going as fast as we can.

— Julene Snyder, Editor

[back and forth]



Listening to Autism

As a parent of a son living with Asperger's Disorder, a developmental disorder along the autism spectrum, I was pleased and proud to read such a comprehensive article ("Feeling, Dealing, Healing," Summer 2007) about the work of the university's Autism Institute under the leadership of professors Anne Donnellan and Jodi Robledo.

I know, first-hand, that some teachers who encounter children like my son are ill-prepared to help him live a life of dignity and respect. The part of the article that talked about Peyton's experience in a school's "shut down" room brought tears to my eyes and threw me back in time about six years ago — yes, these rooms still exist in our 21st century schools. My husband and I were told that the school district decided that my son should be placed in a school with this type of "behavioral" standard, and that such an environment would be the least restrictive learning environment for my son. In a meeting with the principal, I could view on a monitor a child isolated and locked inside of a padded "shut down" room as the principal described to me the educational "advantages" his program could offer my son.

When I left that meeting, I fell to pieces in my husband's arms and begged him to promise me that no matter what the financial or emotional cost, we would not let this be my son's fate.

One lawsuit against our school district and several years later, my son is thriving in an educational environment appropriate for his needs. He is not marginalized and tolerated as a "behavioral" problem, but rather respected and treated like the competent young man that he is.

His dream now is to attend USD to study engineering or math; one day he hopes to become a graphic artist for the computer gaming industry. And with an overall GPA of 3.5 in his freshman year of high school, I would say he is well on his way to achieving that dream.

I must share the credit for his success with educators like professors Donnellan and Robledo. While the work they do is transformational, there is still much more to be done. I am grateful



that these two women are part of our USD community and I am humbled to call them both friends.

— Bernadette Maldonado
Special Assistant to the
Vice President, University Relations

Cap-Worthy

Gary W. Schons '73 (J.D.'76) has it wrong in his letter to the editor ("Going Medieval," Summer 2007), and I think most of us can see it. Outside of a privileged few, most people don't know what "USD" stands for. Whenever I said I went to USD, most people thought I was unable to enunciate "San Diego State."

I identify with the new logo and couldn't care less how it looks on a baseball cap. I think it would "look sharp" on a T-shirt and I am tempted to own my first one from the university.

— James Tighe '85 (B.B.A.)

Moving Tribute

Thank you for the photograph of the makeshift memorial honoring the shooting victims at Virginia Tech ("USD Reflection," Summer 2007). As a graduate of both Virginia Tech and USD, it meant a lot to me. The horrible events of April 16 were followed by days of numbness and grief that are just now beginning to wane. During this time of incredible sadness and loss, the voices of comfort from other schools all over the world have been a very real blessing.

I was proud to watch my fellow Hokies weather this storm with dignity, grace and a quiet reserved determination not to fall into the quagmire that some in the press attempted to desperately create with their usual agenda of stirring up division, finger-pointing and anger. They drew their strength from many sources, but one huge factor was the influx of thought, prayers and condolences from the faculty, students, alumni and friends of hundreds of colleges, universities, community colleges, high schools, middle schools and elementary schools all over the world.



Sitting at my desk, tears welled up in my eyes when I turned the last page of the magazine and was so unexpectedly met with that photograph. As an assistant district attorney and a retired career Air Force officer, it takes a lot for a picture to have that effect on me. This time, though, the emotion was not sadness, but immense pride in both Virginia Tech and in the University of San Diego.

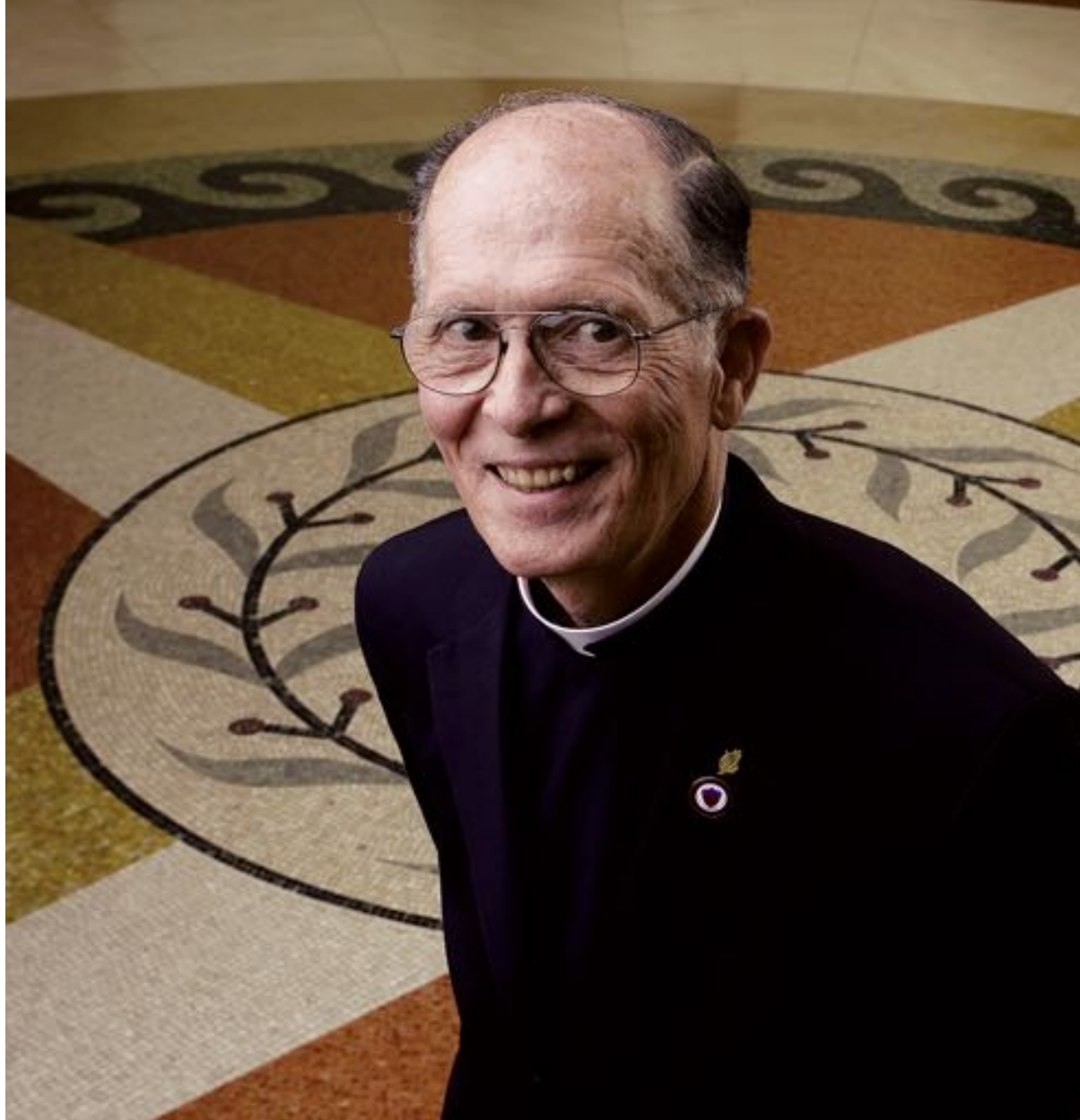
— S. Kevin Barger '00 (J.D.)

Correction

In the article titled "Nighttime is the Right Time" (Summer 2007), the author mistakenly stated that James Brennan '96 is a board member of the "Tucson Academy." This is incorrect; Brennan is a board member of the Toussaint Academy of Arts & Sciences, which was established in 1992 and is a part of Father Joe's Villages. We sincerely regret the error.

Write us ...

We welcome letters to the editor about articles in the magazine. Letters may be edited for length and content, and must include a daytime phone number. Write: Editor, USD Magazine, 5998 Alcalá Park, San Diego, CA 92110. E-mail: letters@sandiego.edu.



[peace work]

ON A GLOBAL SCALE

The epic journey of the university's founding dean of Peace Studies is only just beginning

by *Julene Snyder*

To properly trace the life path of Father Bill Headley, C.S.Sp., Ph.D., it would be best to have a globe at hand. The wide-ranging career of the founding dean of USD's Joan B. Kroc School of Peace Studies has led him to work in more than 80 countries toward peace and justice, always seeking collaboration and practical solutions to complicated

issues. It's been a journey with a decidedly circuitous route.

Born in Philadelphia, Headley felt called to the priesthood as a high school seminarian; after ordination, he hoped to be assigned to Africa. "But I ended up in a parish in Charleston, South Carolina," he recalls. "It was 1964, an important moment in the desegregation era. Charleston is,

of course, in the deep South, and the city had great racial tension. It was early in my priesthood, and the justice work in Charleston was formative."

After earning a number of graduate degrees — including a pair of master's degrees in counseling and sociology and a doctorate from New York University in sociology — Headley again yearned to



TIM MANTOANI

work overseas, and thought that spending a year at Harvard as a visiting scholar studying International Aid might help him achieve that goal. No such luck. "They said I was over-qualified for the kinds of work they had at that time," he says ruefully.

But that setback led him to partner with the Maryknoll missionary group to establish a research and planning office, and ultimately to branch out on a global scale. "My work there set the tone for what I would do later — work intensively in a number of places for relatively short periods of time. Preparing research projects in different parts of the world gave me my first real exposure to overseas work."

As a result of a gathering of his

order in Pittsburgh, he was asked to return to the states from a research project in Hong Kong. He was "somewhat reluctantly" elected as religious leader for the U.S. Eastern Province of the Congregation of the Holy Spirit, a position which kept Headley in Pittsburgh for the next six years. When that obligation was completed, he received the customary privilege of choosing his next assignment.

"I chose Africa, working with refugees in close collaboration with the Jesuit Refugee Services," he recalls. After a year there, he was bound for refugee sites in Cambodia or Zimbabwe. However, when he traveled to Rome to finalize the arrange-

ments, Headley learned that he was, in fact, to be assigned to Rome as founding director of the International Justice and Peace office with his Congregation of the Holy Spirit.

"The issues we were facing were largely in Latin America," Headley recalls. "I realized that new questions related to intra-state conflicts were rising, and I began to see that practical peacebuilding was one of the possible answers." Since he was due for a leave, he chose to steep himself in the new discipline of conflict resolution at George Mason University's Institute for Conflict Analysis and Resolution. "After doing a visiting scholar post for a semester, I wanted to complement that with an Eastern experience. And when one thinks of peacebuilding in an Eastern context, one thinks of Gandhi, so I spent two months in affiliation with the Gandhi Peace Foundation in India looking at the Gandhi tradition of peacebuilding."

He goes on to reason, "I didn't want to just study this theoretically, I wanted to get my hands dirty, so I went to three areas of protracted conflict: Northern Ireland, South Africa and Israel/Palestine. I spent two months in each of those places, looking at what religiously oriented groups were doing to deal with conflict." He hastens to add that while it might sound "like a bit of a grand tour, I lived simply. I wanted to get as close to the ground as I could."

Although Headley longed to return to Africa, he was asked to go to Duquesne University and establish a graduate program in Conflict Resolution and Peace Studies. "My experience in Africa suggested to me that there were a good number of people who were already there working at peacebuilding. So I focused on the bishops, the leaders in the Catholic system, and we invited those with a reputation for doing

this kind of work to come and share their experiences from different countries."

That decision led to serendipitous connections. "We gave them space to talk to one another, and it had a rippling effect through the campus itself. It had such a strong effect on students that on the occasion of the bishops leaving, the university established a scholarship program for African students, which the bishops distributed. This gave it an international flavor almost from the start."

From Haiti to Kosovo to Nigeria, Headley continued to focus his efforts on using religious forces to expedite peacebuilding, ultimately attracting the attention of Catholic Relief Services, which brought him on board for seven years. There, his duties ranged from developing strategic issues to assisting a Latin American bishop whose life had been threatened to mediating disputes in West Africa. He most recently served as counselor to CRS' president.

As founding dean of USD's Joan B. Kroc School of Peace Studies, Headley plans to put his vast experience to the test. "Peacebuilding is not simply the cessation of conflict; it is a fuller life, well-lived," he explains. "While it has theoretical elements, there are also very practical skills and techniques."

His plan is simple. "First, I'm going to listen. I'm going to listen to students, faculty, staff and the administration. I'll look for new constituencies and engage people who are most knowledgeable. So if there are people working on the trans-border question who can be part of our program, I'll talk to those people. I'll do the same with the military." He pauses, thinking. "There will be a lot of talking and listening in the beginning. I need to hear more about the dreams and expectations of the USD community, and I need to let the rich environment of San

Professors Tammy Dwyer (left) and Debbie Tahmassebi are surrounded by their lab-coat clad students who will benefit from this prestigious award.

[covalence]

UPWARD MOTION

The Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry receives prestigious Clare Boothe Luce Professorship

by Carol Cujec

When she was in school, “there wasn’t anybody there I aspired to become,” admits Professor Debbie Tahmassebi of the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry. Likewise, her colleague and department chair, Professor Tammy Dwyer, had no female role models in science as an undergraduate. Together, they are actively working to change that state of affairs for their own students. Toward that end, the department was recently awarded a highly prestigious Clare Boothe Luce Professorship, which will fund a new female professor in Chemistry and Biochemistry for five years, beginning in the fall of 2009.

Dwyer and Tahmassebi share a common goal with their colleagues in the department to increase the national visibility of their strong undergraduate program.

The Clare Boothe Luce Program, which promotes the advancement of American women in the sciences, engineering and mathematics, is the largest source of private support for women in these fields.

Remarkably, the department secured this award upon its first application. What impressed the committee so much was the department’s skyrocketing number of female majors. “Of our current majors, 52 percent are female, and of our 2009 chemistry graduates, 80 percent are



TIM WANTOANI

female,” says Tahmassebi.

The committee was also impressed with the number of female role models in the department and campus-wide. “Across the university we have a female president, a female provost and a female department chair,” says Tahmassebi. “Students see about half of their chemistry and biochemistry professors are women — women who are committed to their families,” adds Dwyer. “So they get a good sense that you can become a professional scientist and be active in your family,”

The award will fund a new tenure-track faculty position in the department, and over five years it will pay for her salary, benefits, research and career development. Funded by a USD match to this grant is a new departmental program called “Bridges to Doctoral Institutions,” which will pay for two female students to do summer work at a major research institution.

With this award and other recent grants, the department is on an upward trajectory to increase its visibility nationwide. Since January 2003, the depart-

ment has raised over \$3 million and will soon submit a \$1 million grant proposal to Research Corporation that will benefit all of the science departments at USD.

“They’ve been working with us on our five-year plan to consider how we can go from being a well-kept secret, to becoming a nationally renowned Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry,” says Dwyer. “It sounds too pie-in-the-sky to say you can have it all, but we’re finding our way to having it all — for ourselves, for our students, for our institution.”

[theologian]

THE THOUGHTFULNESS FACTOR

Dean Nicholas M. Healy aims to make the College of Arts and Sciences prominent on a national scale

by Kelly Knufken

New dean Nicholas Healy was so excited about the job that he arrived at USD a full week before he was scheduled to take the helm of the College of Arts and Sciences.

"I knew that there was something about the place that's really quite special," he says.

He hasn't been disappointed. "The faculty are really quite good. I'm really impressed by them," he says. He's had a year to settle in and found the surprises he's encountered — like the culture of respect at all levels of the Catholic university — positive ones.

Healy aims to guide the faculty while allowing them to have as much control over their future as possible. "Generally, I've tried to involve the faculty in decision-

making." Toward that end, they have been working together on an academic plan for the college's future. This summer, the department chairs met with him for "fairly intense" conversations about each subject.

"We're very much focusing on the interaction between faculty and students. We want to preserve what we have and enhance it if we can," Healy says. The academic plan for the college won't be complete until spring.

"We should be proud of who we are as a liberal arts college," says Healy, who has experience at more research-intensive universities such as the Toronto School of Theology, where he began studying theology, and the venerable Yale University, where he earned a doc-

torate.

He has already hired 19 faculty members, and the college also hired its first director of development to better keep in touch with alumni, donors and other friends of the College of Arts and Sciences.

"What we want to do is to make the college visible. It's much more vital and alive than some people may think. We also want to achieve national prominence. And there's no reason why we shouldn't."

That last goal won't happen overnight, Healy knows. It may take 10 years, but Healy wants to get to a place where USD's College of Arts and Sciences comes to mind when people in any part of the country are seek-



MARSHALL WILLIAMS

DEAN HEALY'S DOWNTIME from his work as head of the College of Arts and Sciences is taken up by theological research. "An hour a day makes me feel better," he says.

SAVE THE DATE

Oct. 19-21

Family Weekend

Families and students gather for a few days on campus at this annual opportunity to get a glimpse of life at Alcalá Park. The weekend will include informational sessions, compelling mini-classes, and a tailgate party and football game. The weekend concludes with a Family Liturgy that welcomes all, followed by a reception. This year's Family Weekend falls during students' fall holiday, allowing more opportunities for families and students to attend events together. For more information, go to www.sandiego.edu/parents.

Nov. 2-4

Homecoming/Reunions

Highlights of this fun-filled weekend will include a golf tournament at the Riverwalk Golf Club, student-led campus tours, a picnic and tailgate for the whole family, a Toreros vs. Davidson College Wildcats football game, Mass and much more. Special reunion events will be held for these classes: '57, '62, '67, '72, '77, '82, '87, '92, '97 and '02. For details, go to www.sandiego.edu/homecoming/. The USD Alumni Association would like to offer special thanks to Breeza, a Spirit Level sponsor of Homecoming weekend. Breeza North Embarcadero offers sophisticated, modern homes in the most desirable location downtown San Diego has to offer. For more details go to www.breezaliving.com.

Dec. 8

Alumni Mass

Celebrate your faith with family and friends at the annual USD Alumni Christmas Mass, which takes place in Founders Chapel at 5:30 p.m., followed by a reception in Founders Foyer and the French Parlor. All are welcome to join the USD community for this meaningful Christmas celebration. For more information about this or other alumni events, go to <http://alumni.sandiego.edu>.

[mindful living]

PEACE IS THE PATH

Social Issues Conference welcomes renowned Buddhist monk, activist Thich Nhat Hanh

by Carol Cujec

You walk through the brush-covered hills under a vast blue sky. The only sounds are birds singing, insects buzzing and the oak leaves crunching beneath your feet. Warm sun and cool shade alternately embrace your skin as you walk slowly ... slowly ... conscious of each time your foot caresses

the earth. You focus on the breath rising and falling in your chest as you silently follow a brown-cloaked monk along the path in a journey that pulls you completely into the present moment and fills you with peace.

Walking Together in Peace, what the Buddhists call a walking meditation, is the title of the 18th annu-

al Social Issues Conference at USD, which takes place from Oct. 1 to 5. The keynote speaker will be the world-renowned Buddhist monk and social activist Thich Nhat Hanh. The themes of the conference, inspired by Nhat Hanh's work, are peace and reconciliation, contemplation and social action, and environment and climate crisis.

"We're incredibly honored to have him as a speaker in this particular time in history when the world is punctuated by war in so many places," says Sister Barbara Quinn, R.S.C.J., director of the Center for Christian Spirituality and co-chair of the Social Issues Committee. "His whole message is peace and mindfulness and dialogue; it couldn't be more timely." Chris Nayve, associate director of Community Service-Learning, which co-sponsors the conference, anticipates that his appearance will attract crowds of admirers. "In San Diego there is already a buzz. He'll draw folks from L.A., Arizona. People from the entire Southwest region will jump at the chance to hear him."

Nhat Hanh, 81, is a celebrated Zen master, poet, author and human rights activist who has promoted peace through decades of writings, political intervention and outreach to suffering people. In conjunction with the United Nations, he helped establish 2001 to 2010 as the "international decade for a culture of peace and non-violence for the children of the world." His courageous protest of the U.S.-Vietnam war, which led to his exile from Vietnam, compelled Martin Luther King Jr. to nominate Nhat Hanh for a Nobel Peace Prize in 1966, saying, "I know of no one more worthy ... than this gentle monk from Vietnam. His ideas for peace, if applied, would build a monument to ecumenism, to world brotherhood, to humanity."

Among the monasteries he has founded worldwide — which welcome people of all religious backgrounds — Deer Park Monastery in Escondido, California, has drawn a number of USD students and faculty to learn the art of "mindful living." Quinn describes it this way: "If you're praying, pray; if you're eating, eat; if you're walking, walk. Don't try to walk and eat and pray and think about the world's



PETER KRAMER

problems all at the same time. Stay focused and give yourself to whatever you're doing."

Plans for the week-long conference include a walking meditation across campus, a Mass for peace the evening of Oct. 3, and workshops all day Oct. 4, each conducted by a professor, a student and a community partner. "Every workshop has a way of enacting what I think USD, in part, wants to be about — an agent of change, a partner in fostering a better quality of life for all people," explains Quinn. Nhat Hanh's presentation will take place on Tuesday, Oct. 2, in the Jenny Craig Pavilion, and expectations are that no seat will be vacant.

Overall, the hope of the Social Issues Committee is that Nhat Hanh's very presence, along with his message, will inspire peace. Stacy Brake, student co-chair of the committee, says her introduction to mindful living has already made her more peaceful in her relationships with friends, within herself and with God, and she expects her fellow students will have the same reaction: "If they give it a try I have no doubt it will be a powerful experience for them."

"The whole purpose of it," says Quinn, "is to really enter the depths of our own true selves and to be unself-centered enough to pay attention to something greater than we are. In the Christian tradition, it's the triune God. And the Buddhists in their own way are trying to do the same thing. Pay attention to this large, beautiful, powerful universe that is a pure gift to us. Let us relate to it and to each other with all the reverence that it deserves. By doing that every day, the world would be a much more peaceful place." 🌐

For more information about the Social Issues Conference, go to www.sandiego.edu/socialissues or call (619) 260-4798.



[a c a d e m i a]

A LARGER SENSE OF HOME

Fulbright Scholars to spend the next year getting back to their roots

by Barbara Davenport

Mary Kathleen McCann is a history major. Alexander Neuwelt studied chemistry. While the two Fulbright scholars from the 2007 graduating class have pursued different fields of study and have different professional goals, in their decision to seek the prestigious scholarship, they do, in fact, share a common goal. Each was looking for home.

The Fulbright Scholar Program is the U.S. government's flagship academic exchange effort. Candidates must apply to a specific country, and for McCann the choice was obvious. She applied for a position in Slovakia because her great grandparents had emigrated from there almost 100 years ago. "I thought it'd be cool to learn about the culture, and know more than the couple of dishes my grandmother makes."

McCann will spend the year as a teaching assistant for English at the University of Zilina in Slovakia. A self-described "history nerd,"

McCann knew she wanted to study European history up close; she also sees the year as a time to figure out the work she's called to do. As part of that effort, she'll contact Catholic Charities in Slovakia and look for a way to do some service while there.

Alexander Neuwelt, who was also class valedictorian, will be a research assistant in a lab and hospital in Gdansk, Poland. The head of the lab there has collaborated with Neuwelt's mentor, chemistry Professor Peter Iovine, on a drug study at USD for which Neuwelt did research.

He chose Poland because of its stature as the historic center of Europe's rich Jewish culture. Neuwelt is Jewish, and he saw the Fulbright as an opportunity to learn about and experience his heritage at the origin.

For the next year, as Neuwelt and McCann study and teach, they'll not only be learning about their own roots, but will no doubt wind up enlarging their sense of home. 🌐

[etc.]

Darlene Marcos Shiley was elected chair of USD's board of trustees, effective July 1, 2007. Shiley, a community leader and respected philanthropist, has served on the board since 1990. Shiley and her husband have been major contributors to university capital projects and programs. "My husband, Donald, and I believe that when you find something you care about, you should do all you can to strengthen it so that others can benefit," she says. As chair, she will be responsible for guiding 40 fellow board members as they direct the university's long-range strategic planning, among other big-picture duties.

Four new trustees were welcomed to USD's board of trustees this past summer. They are Richard K. Davis, president and chief executive officer of U.S. Bancorp; Margarita Palau Hernandez '82, a higher education advocate; MGM Grand Resorts president and CEO John T. Redmond '80; and business leader David H. Shaffer, the father of a current student as well as three alumni.

The School of Business will have a new dean as of August 2008. David F. Pyke, who's serving as associate dean of the MBA program at Dartmouth's Tuck School of Business, has agreed to step into the position. In the meantime, he plans to visit campus regularly to attend meetings, get acquainted with the USD community, and work with Interim Dean Andy Allen to further develop the school's strategic planning initiatives. Pyke's research interests include manufacturing strategy, supply chain management, production planning and control, reverse logistics, e-commerce and manufacturing in China.

[c o n t e n d e r s]

THE GLORY OF IT ALL

Toreros baseball season results in highest-ever national ranking

by Tom Shanahan

The USD baseball team enjoyed a 2007 season that felt like a million dollars. And if some members aren't sure how to relate to such lofty financial heights, they can always ask Toreros All-American pitcher Brian Matusz how it feels.

The last offer Matusz turned down from the Los Angeles Angels before enrolling as a freshman here was a package that totaled \$1 million. "It was the best, and hardest, decision of my life to come here," Matusz said.

The Toreros won the West Coast Conference regular-season title and captured the WCC tournament title. They set program records for wins with a 43-18 overall record and the team's highest national ranking ever, at No. 4 entering the NCAA tournament.

USD also earned the right to host an NCAA sub-regional at San Diego State University, but even though the Toreros suffered an early exit with two upset losses, they established enough credibility to remain in the national Top 25.

"We had a great year — the best year in school history," USD head coach Rich Hill said. "To be ranked No. 4 at the end of the regular season is exceptional. To be in the final Top 20 poll is extremely special." As icing on the cake, Hill was named the WCC Coach of the Year, eight of his players were first-team All-WCC picks and two more gar-

nered honorable mentions.

Since he arrived in 1999, Hill's goals for the program have been to win conference titles, be a contender for the College World Series and recruit student-athletes that want to play in college while developing skills that turn them into pro prospects.

All of that was accomplished in 2007, including the latter: senior first baseman Shane Buschini was drafted by the San Diego Padres in the 11th round, senior catcher Jordan Abruzzo by the New York Mets in the 13th round and junior second baseman Justin Snyder got tapped by the New York Yankees in the 21st round.

To the rest of the college baseball world, USD seemed to emerge as a national power overnight. But in truth, the Toreros' 2007 NCAA tournament was their second straight trip and fourth in the last six years.

The 2007 team established itself early by winning two out of three games in March at the University of Texas. Pitcher Josh Romanski — who formed a devastating 1-2 punch with Matusz as sophomore left-handers — said the 2007 Texas road wins meant more than the Toreros' 2006 three-game sweep of Texas at USD's Cunningham Stadium.

"That let us know we could travel and win in a yard like that," Romanski said. "It all started there, and it snowballed for the rest of the season." 📺





[h o o p s]

MEET THE NEW BOSS

New men's basketball coach plans to rally the fans and build on success

By Tom Shanahan

On a quiet and warm Sunday afternoon in late March, Bill Grier enjoyed exploring the University of San Diego campus on foot.

It was a pleasant stroll, one that he had never experienced, even though he'd made many previous visits to USD in the past 16 years as an assistant basketball coach at Gonzaga University, one of the Toreros' West Coast Conference rivals.


"We used to drive in on a bus to the Jenny Craig Pavilion, and I never saw the campus," Grier recalls. "But I've been so impressed with the campus and the facilities. The university is a welcoming place, and that's one of the reasons I took the job."

Grier was introduced as USD's new men's basketball coach a day after his Sunday stroll. He came to the attention of USD Executive Director of Athletics Ky Snyder from his time at Gonzaga,

a stint that saw the Bulldogs rise from a middle-of-the-pack WCC team to a program recognized as a perennial national power.

For the last eight years, Grier served as head coach Mark Few's No. 1 assistant. In those eight seasons, Gonzaga won seven WCC regular-season titles, seven WCC tournament titles and advanced to eight NCAA tournaments.

Now, his challenge at USD is to follow Gonzaga's proven model of success and adapt it to Alcalá Park.

"It's a little different in San Diego," Grier says. "But if we have success, I believe people will come out and support us. It's great environment here, but we've got to do a better job of getting the students and the fans to come out. That's on the coaching staff, but it's also a responsibility of the players to meet other students. If we can do that, I've seen first-hand how it makes a big difference with home-court advantage." 



ERIC DROTTER

ERIC DROTTER



[insightful]

TAKE TIME TO KNOW THEM

An epiphany made Debbie Hall realize the depth of her own loss, if she didn't delve deeper and really get to know the people around her

My cousin Jeff lived large, and it killed him. At the age of 55, he dropped dead of a heart attack on the evening of his son's wedding rehearsal dinner.

Jeff definitely lived large in the corporeal sense. As far as I know — I hadn't seen him in at least 15 years — he was overweight much of his adult life. Jeff also lived large in his mind. Every time I'd ask my uncle about what Jeff was doing, he told me he was still chasing gold. I met one woman at Jeff's funeral who said she'd met him through their shared interest in "metallurgy." I suppressed my inner critic as I thought about all of his ventures into mining precious metals, none of which ever yielded the intended results.

When I first got the news of Jeff's sudden death, my sadness was not due to a personal loss, as I hadn't really known Jeff since we were young. Rather, I grieved for his father, who experienced the excruciating pain of his child dying before him. I also felt pangs of sorrow for Jeff's mother, wife, brothers and sons. But after I attended the visitation and the graveside service, I felt the loss more acutely, because it was clear that I hadn't really gotten to know Jeff at all.

There were many who rose up at graveside and spoke of other ways that Jeff lived large, spiritually and in his heart. This was the Jeff I hadn't taken time to know. I heard testimony after testimony of the passion of Jeff's spirituality and the scope of his caring for others. This testimony was balanced, but not dimin-

ished, by references to Jeff being a "dreamer" who was certainly not perfect. However, all spoke of how Jeff had enriched their lives, as a mentor, as one who gave gifts spontaneously, and as one who freely shared his romantic vision of life with them. They lived larger and deeper by knowing him.

On the drive home that day, I thought of others I came to know more about only after they had died. I thought of how much we limit our relationships with others by our definitions of them — circumscribed by time, distance and opportunity — but also by our own doing. In my mind, Jeff was a nice, friendly cousin of the past. In my adult life I saw him as someone with whom I had little in common. My judgmental side viewed him as one who chased dreams at the expense of his family. At the funeral I'd been reminded that I did not share his and his family's religious devotion — one that I perceived as fundamentalist, and thereby limiting. But after hearing family and friends speak, I caught a glimpse of the broader, more complex, and infinitely more interesting human being that I had failed to take time to know.

My experience at Jeff's funeral was the third time I felt such regret at not knowing people in my life more fully — whether they were peripherally in my world or not. The first time was when a close friend's father died. I knew of his interests and involvements superficially, but to me, he was primarily my friend's father. I remembered the

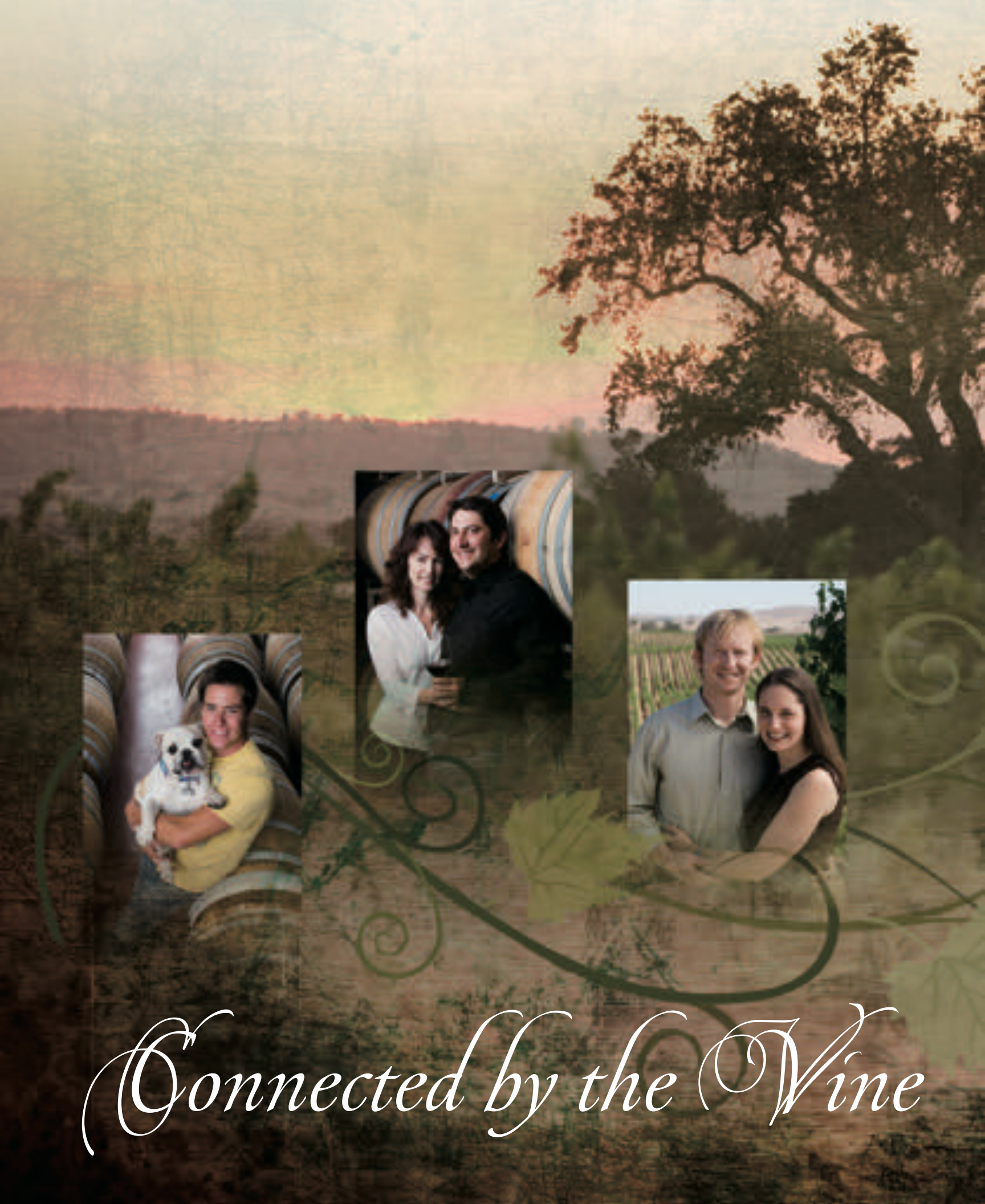
day he had toasted our new doctoral degrees with pale peach-colored champagne poured into clear lead crystal glasses. Speaking in an accent suggestive of Southern aristocracy, he educated us about the difference between champagne and "sparkling wine." When he died, I was struck that I did not know the person introduced to me at his memorial. I mourned the person I could have known.

The second time I felt deprived of having known someone more deeply was at a memorial service for my goddaughter's father. He was 25 years older than her mother, my contemporary. While I found his dual role as physician-farmer intriguing, I saw him as stoic and emotionally distant. This narrow view was put to rest when, at the service, I heard a recording of him singing — in a deep, resonant bass — an aria from *Tristan and Isolde*. I was moved and surprised by the depth of feeling he conveyed in that moment.

I hope my reflections on Jeff's passing are not transitory, and that I don't allow them to fade into distant memory, quickly obscured by the routines of daily life. In an odd way, perhaps, I am grateful for these feelings of loss, for they remind me of the richness of life that is available — and the people yet to know — simply by taking the time to get to know them. 🌐

Debbie Hall '73 (M.Ed., M.S. '75) is a practicing psychologist who has published essays in the San Diego Union-Tribune and NPR's This I Believe.





Connected by the Wine



**FROM GRAPES TO GLASS, WINEMAKERS ARE DRINKING
DEEP OF LA DOLCE VITA — PASO ROBLES STYLE**



by Julene Snyder

photography by Tim Mantoani





The quality of light is extraordinary. Rolling hills glow a burnished gold; venerable oaks spread havens of shade; the clear air smells of equal parts soil and sunlight. Hawks and crows share the sky's dry heat, whirling high above, cawing far below. Behind well-kept fences are llamas and cows, horses and ostriches, chickens and goats. Sleepy cats loll while panting dogs lie nearby, both too relaxed to bother with one another.

Paso Robles would be bucolic enough, but when you factor in the grapes, it's close to a pure slice of paradise. Though months remain until harvest, already, neat rows of vines curl their tendrils and latch on, preparing to support the weight of heavy clusters of fruit when the time is ripe. That time is harvest, when everything jumps into high gear, when summer's sleepy heat yields to fall's purpose, when the days can't quite last long enough, but somehow they do, and plump, sticky, sun-warmed clusters are transformed into wine.

*From the outside, this Central California idyll offers up concrete examples of just what a life worth envying looks like. While it's true that hard work, sacrifice and long hours play a part — even a big part — there's no denying that this particular glimpse of heaven is as sweet as it gets, at least for those willing to do what needs to be done to make it happen. And, perhaps not surprisingly, this is where a disparate group of USD graduates have wound up, in search of their own particular version of *la dolce vita*. Or is that *la dolce vino*?*

Sometimes the stuff that makes your dreams come true starts with something as simple as the lack of a decent place to eat. Cris and JoAnn Cherry knew they didn't want to settle down in a city. The couple — who met as freshmen on their first day of class, dated for a week, went their separate ways, then reconnected nine years later — both grew up in small, rural towns. After they got married in the tiny beach town of Cayucos, the Cherrys set their sights on California's central coast. It wasn't long before they zeroed in on Paso Robles — or "Paso," as the locals refer to it. "This was a sleepy little cowboy town then," recalls JoAnn '88. "We loved the area, and would come up here to check out the few wineries that were here then."

Cris and JoAnn Cherry are living the dream. Their Villa Creek Restaurant is a haven for local winemakers, and their wines have been extremely well-received by those in the know.

Self-described "foodies" — Cris came of age working at his father's well-regarded Vista, Calif., restaurant, La Paloma — the pair quickly realized that there simply wasn't a local place to eat that offered up what they were used to; fresh, flavorful food with a decent wine selection. So when they heard of a downtown property for sale ("an old former dive bar," Cris '89 describes it), the decision of where to land was made: they'd buy it, and transform it.

It was a stellar move; over the last decade, their Villa Creek restaurant has built a loyal clientele, at least partly made up of the area's now-plentiful local vintners, who drop by nearly every night of the week. On a mid-summer weekday evening, floor-to-ceiling doors open to a crowded sidewalk patio overlooking the quaint Paso Robles town square, and the terrace out back is filled with wine-quaffing diners.

"On any given night, there will be five different winemakers in the restaurant," remarks Cris, who's snagged the seat nearest to the kitchen.

A born restaurateur, he's got a perpetually upward-tilted mouth and the demeanor of one who delights in working the front of the house. Joann, who has a background in design, is a calmer presence; her contribution is not just in the distinctive look of the place — flavored with regional touches like Oaxacan wall-weavings — but in working with her husband to manage the kitchen and its attendant details.

Those details have grown exponentially, and now include not just the well-reviewed menu (a recent *Los Angeles Times* article called their food “precocious and explosive”), but a commitment to making the most of locally grown bounty, including not just wines, but goat cheese, heirloom tomatoes and olive oils. Villa Creek's social scene has turned the restaurant into what one aficionado admiringly calls “the epicenter of the Rhône movement in Paso Robles.”

It was their longtime interest in wine that led the couple to try their own hand at winemaking. In 2001, they started Villa Creek Cellars, intending to create a house wine for their restaurant. They worked with local vineyards to come up with the grapes that resulted in their own small family winery that specializes in blends that reflect the “richness and diversity of the area's unique microclimates.” That *raison d'être* has proved to be brilliant: they've had more than one of their vintages singled out by experts as among the best wines of their types.

Right off the bat, *Wine Spectator* awarded Cris' first wine, the 2001 Avenger Paso Robles, 93 points on their 100-point scale, “ranking it with the finest Rhône-style blends coming out of the appellation.” And they've been consistently lauded in the years since: “Another exciting and terrific wine from Villa Creek,” says one critic of their 2005 red blend, dubbed “Mas de Maha,” described as a “deep purple wine (with) an intense and inviting bouquet. On the palate, this wine is smooth as silk.”

To say that times have changed in Paso Robles over the past 10 years is an epic understatement: Though the first commercial vineyards weren't planted until the late 1970s, today the area is home to more than 170 wineries, with over 26,000 vineyard acres devoted to wine production. Where residents were once severely limited in options of where to sip and dine, there are, at last count, two dozen restaurants dotting downtown, along with 12 wine-tasting rooms.

Newcomer Andrew Firestone '98 calls Paso “an undiscovered gem.” His family, of course, are no neophytes to the business; their 500-acre Firestone Vineyard was the first estate winery in Santa Barbara county. Now tapped to be the general manager of the dynasty's newest venture, Firestone Vineyard Paso Robles, the third-generation scion is an enthusiastic advocate of the area.

“This is a very unique region,” he says, flashing a quick grin. He wears a pair of faded, perfectly broken-in jeans, along with a pair of black and white checked Vans. “Paso has all the necessary, important components you need to make good wine, like climate, soil and temperature.” Firestone is at absolute ease behind the bar of his pristine tasting room, which has been open for just a few weeks. Unfailingly polite, he excuses himself for a moment to chat with a pair of older gents who've dropped by to sample the wares, returning to the conversation a few minutes later with an apologetic shrug.

“Here, you don't have to be a member of an exclusive club to enjoy a wine and find something you like,” he continues. “There are wineries up north where you have to be a member to even taste the wines, but that's the antithesis of what Paso is all about. It's about enjoying what it is that you're doing, and hopefully bringing enjoyment to other people as well.”

Firestone is happy to give a mini-lesson on wine tasting, starting with

the basics. “Hold the glass by stem,” he cautions. “That's for aesthetics. You don't want fingerprints on the glass to muck it up, make it not as pretty.” He explains how to examine the wine's color and clarity and how to aerate the wine by swirling it about in the glass: “You want to coat the whole inside of the glass, because you want to smell it.”

He explains the importance of a wine's aroma (the nose), and isn't shy about instructing the best way to go about capturing it. “You want to get your nose right in there.” His voice is a bit muffled, as his entire nose is, in fact, inside of the glass. “There might be other smells — maybe you're at a restaurant and they're cooking with garlic — and that can interfere.

“Then, when you taste the wine, let it go on every part of your mouth, over your teeth, almost like you're gargling. You want the wine to react to the taste buds, which are sweet and sour, salt and bitter. You want to let the wine rest all over your tongue, all the way to the back of your throat. Every wine will react differently, and not only will it taste differently, it will feel differently in your mouth.”

While he clearly enjoys it, in truth, Firestone sees his role in the family business as more of a calling than vocation. While he worked in investment banking in San Francisco for several years after graduation, he doesn't miss that life at all. “I've struggled with the question, ‘What is my contribution to society?’” he says, reflective. “I've decided that mine is to allow the meal to go a few minutes longer. Wine is a catalyst. When I was an investment banker, everything had to get done right away. Time was valuable. But now I'm starting to respect the fact that you don't rush away from the table when there's half a bottle of wine left.”

While some of the winery's traffic may be made up of from celebrity seekers hoping to get an up-close-and-personal look at “The Bachelor” (a role he played on the reality-TV show's third season), Firestone is happy just to be there. His job duties keep him traveling quite a bit, but there's nothing he likes better than opining wine all the livelong day. “My time here at the facility is precious,” he admits. “I enjoy it quite a bit. But when you're out selling wine, it's not like selling spark plugs or widgets. When I'm out around the country doing tastings, I see myself as an ambassador for the industry, for the region.”

While that attitude is all well and good, there's definitely a fun aspect to the job. “It's cool that there's a contingent of young people in Paso,” he says, flashing an infectious grin. “It reinjects enthusiasm for the wine business and is healthy for the industry. Wines aren't old and stuffy and high-priced. Wines are meant to be enjoyed at barbecues. And Paso is more fun than Napa.”

For Firestone, who was born the year of his family's first harvest (“a '75 Cabernet”), he's perhaps happiest when multitasking. “Here, I'm a farmer, a chemist, a marketing person,” he says. “Wine is about craft, and there's no magic formula. The fun part is learning more.”

When Josh and Gibsey (Pence) Beckett met at USD, it was a “bolt from the blue.” At least that's the way Gibsey remembers it. “Josh was a transfer student, and we immediately hit it off,” she recalls. The golden-skinned blonde deftly manages a rambunctious toddler, a sedate dog, and a free-ranging interview with such effortless grace that it's easy to forget that she's eight months pregnant.

Back in the day, the couple — Josh is class of '98, Gibsey, class of '99 — would travel through Paso Robles on their way to a hideaway at nearby

The influx of young winemakers to Paso Robles includes scion Andrew Firestone '98, a relative newcomer to the region, who calls the area an “undiscovered gem.”





Lake Nacimiento, and Gibsey, for one, was not impressed. "I thought it was an armpit," she says flatly, in regards to Paso.

It's relatively cool in the shade under a tree in front of the old schoolhouse. Inside, the Peachy Canyon tasting room is doing a brisk business. Owned by Josh's parents, Peachy Canyon is one of the larger wineries in the area, producing 85,000 cases a year. "Josh stayed in San Diego for about a year after graduating, then his dad asked him to come back to the winery," Gibsey recalls. "He'd sworn he'd never come back to wine, but he started shoveling grapes, and helping with the harvest, and his dad said, 'Just for a year, we need your help,' so he came back."

That year turned into nine years, though somewhere in there, the couple did a stint in Australia when Josh got a job working harvest at the Cape Mentelle Winery, a gig that culminated with a three-week surfing trip across the southern part of the continent, all the way from Sydney to Perth.

When Gibsey turned up in the family way, the couple moved back to California in time to welcome daughter Sydney (get it?) to the family. "Over the years, Josh has done it all for Peachy Canyon; everything from schlepping grapes to sweeping floors to head winemaker," she says with pride. "It wasn't his degree; we both majored in English. He's learned it all through the trade, the college of hard knocks."

While the work itself is hard, the scenery is sure easy on the eyes. The land around the tasting room is dotted with neat farms sporting exotic livestock like ostrich and llamas, along with the more prosaic horses, sheep and cows. Out back, there's a fairy-tale gazebo which was custom-made for Josh and Gibsey's wedding. Clearly a full-on family affair, Peachy Canyon also employs Josh's younger brother, Jake, who, says Gibsey, "went off to school, got a degree in anthropology, and ended up coming back to the winery to work for the past seven years."

She's found herself involved as well. After teaching for a year, she managed the winery's tasting room before the couple took off for Australia. "While we were there, we'd learned the ways of the world during harvest," she recalls. "It's this intense, 24-hour-a-day, three month period, and at the winery where Josh worked, they had a chef who cooked for all the workers. It was a great idea. Before, at Peachy Canyon, the workers would bring their own lunch, but they'd come home at midnight and have to be back 6 am; there was no time to go grocery shopping."

So Gibsey stepped in and convinced her father-in-law that it would be more productive to provide the workers with beer ("essential") and food during harvest. "I cooked two meals a day for 10 to 15 people," she recalls. "Lunch and dinner, and I'd stock the kitchen with snacks on a daily basis. The crew would sometimes go 'til midnight." From enchiladas to tri-tip, Gibsey says she'd "throw the baby on her back" and get cooking. Before long, she began planning and executing events like an annual pumpkin carving day and the winery's involvement with the Paso Robles Zinfandel Festival, which takes place every March.

"Peach Canyon has made their name through their production of Zin," says Gibsey. "We carry seven to nine varieties, and its really coming into its own."

Although she's not entirely enamored by the Paso wine scene — confessing that the busy social life is difficult to keep up with when you've got young children — she does enjoy meeting other young couples in the community.

"It's unlike Napa," she says, keeping an eye on Sydney, who's running through the sprinkler, shrieking with laughter. "Here, there's a lot of shar-

ing of equipment. We try each other's wines, let each other know what we think. There's a group of us who get together quite a bit, barbecue, play Bunco."

Having recently moved to nearby Morro Bay — perhaps to get a little distance from the family business — Gibsey says the family's routine is like "regressing to a San Diego lifestyle. We live on the beach, ride our beach cruisers, then come here to visit. When your family is so involved with the business, it can be challenging. You really have to evaluate your life."

Like any industry, there are terms in winemaking that are unique to the trade. There is "mogging" (sorting out Material Other than Grape). There is the "thief" (a device used to remove enough wine to taste from a barrel). There is the "bung" (the name for the cork on the side of the barrel; clever sorts may be able to divine what the name for the cavity is called). To neophytes, all this jargon may seem mysterious, but for vintners Maureen and Matt Trevisan, the esoteric language of wine has long since become as familiar as those of their three children.

Their family-owned and operated winery, Linne Calodo, is named after the limestone soils that their vines grow in. The couple have built the well-respected facility from the ground up; an accomplishment both are rightly proud of.

"Together, the two of us have done everything," says Maureen, a petite brunette who attended USD from 1984 to 1987. "When I met Matt, I could see right away that he was passionate about wine and winemaking. He always knew he wanted his own winery. I said, 'I'll get a book and see what you need to do to open your own business.'" So the two got to work, and in 2002, they built the air-controlled building that houses huge barrels stacked six-high alongside a bare-bones tasting area.

"When I think about it, it's kind of amazing that I ended up here," she laughs. "When I went to USD, we would drink wine out of a box. I enjoy wine a lot more now. Just within the last few years, I've been tasting and doing it on my own, doing staff tastings, where we pair wines with cheeses." An art history major in college, she also studied business and worked for a financial planner before being introduced to her future husband by her friends, JoAnn and Cris Cherry.

"Matt's seen as sort of a mad scientist of a winemaker," says Maureen. "He was so far ahead of me regarding wine when we met that it was intimidating."

"I originally wanted to build airplanes," says Matt, who speaks in rapid machine-gun bursts, befitting his high-octane personality. "Then I was going to make pharmaceuticals, then I decided to do winemaking." After graduating from University of San Diego High School — then just across the street from USD — he wound up at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, where he majored in biochemistry. "Winemaking puts you in a position where you're taking a naturally growing product and transforming it. I get to be outside, work on the vineyards, be inside, work on wines, talk to distributors and visitors from all over the country and the world, work with graphic designers, do lots of different things that you'd never get to do in a different job. It's a lifestyle choice," he says with satisfaction.

The wines of Linne Calodo are all blends, and the reviews have been seriously off the hook. The winery's classy Web site explains that their wines are "driven by four factors: vineyard location, uncompromising viticultural practices, minimalist winemaking, and the desire to learn from experience. The vineyards are farmed sustainably and the crop loads reflect the natural balance of the vine. We believe in harvesting at the peak of ripeness to produce wines that are rich and concentrated."

"We've evolved a little bit at a time," explains Maureen. "Our vineyards

Peachy Canyon, one of the larger wineries in the area, is all about family. Here, Josh and Gibsey Becket stroll through the vineyards accompanied by daughter Sydney and dog Kiley.

are sustainable. We use minimal irrigation, mostly rainwater. We try to be mindful. Eventually, we could be off the grid entirely.” While of course the life they’ve built is filled with hard work — today is septic tank cleaning day — when you look around, it’s hard not to notice that the word “idyllic” could have been coined for this exact lifestyle.

“In college, I lived in Mission Beach,” Maureen recalls. “Paso has some aspects of an old beach community. You go to the square, you run into people you know. It’s a neighborly place. If you have a problem with your forklift, you call your winery neighbor and they’ll help you out. It’s a real feeling of cooperation, of being part of something new.” Her intense eyes gleam and she flashes a rare, incandescent smile. “There aren’t a lot of places left where you can have this experience. It’s like a new frontier.”

She’s certainly chosen the right partner. “This is the life we’ve chosen,” Matt says. “My kids eat warm tomatoes off the vine, they help with the crunch-down tool, they get their hands all red and juicy. It’s all about camaraderie.”

*I*t’s a story that sounds like an after-school special: Amber and Joe Kidd met when they were in the fifth grade, knew each other all through junior and senior high school, and — finally — started dating as seniors. “I decided it would be silly to leave Chico and go off to college without having kissed Joe Kidd,” says Amber ‘97, who went by the name Shannon Childs at the time. They did the “long distance thing” while Amber was at USD; in spite of the separation, she looks back on her college years with great fondness.

“When I looked at the wetsuits hanging over the Maher balcony, and saw that view, I knew I’d picked the right college,” she recalls. “To this day,

my best friends in the world are from USD. In fact, I met my best friend the day my parents left me at college and I was standing there going, ‘Oh, my God. What do I do now?’”

Meanwhile, Joe was studying viticulture; after graduation, the pair spent a few years in Atlanta before deciding to settle in Paso Robles.

Now a winemaker for Sterling Vintner’s Collection, Joe waxes rhapsodic over his career choice. “There’s so much involved in winemaking. It’s agricultural, it’s business, it’s science. A perfect day starts in the vineyard in the morning, maybe driving the forklift, doing a tasting in the afternoon, having a winemaking dinner in the evening.” He grins, aware of just how lucky he is to have found his life’s work. “This is the best example I can think of where you’re turning an agricultural commodity into the opposite. You’re connected to the land, solidly rooted to agriculture in all its nuance.”

And, of course, they’re connected to other winemakers. Though none of them knew each other in college, Amber is friends with Josh and Gibsey Beckett and Maureen Trevisan; in fact, their kids are in a playgroup together. “There are 10 to 15 couples that we hang around with, and almost everybody, either one person or the other is in the wine industry,” says Joe.

“We all used to meet on Friday and Saturday nights, have cocktails and dinner, and party like rock stars,” interjects Amber. “Now we all have barbecues in our back yards, because the kids need to get to bed at 8 o’clock.”

“But since everybody’s in the wine industry, we’ll have wine from all over the Central Coast,” adds Joe. “We’ll drink, and everybody talks about

Years ago, Maureen Trevisan was known to drink wine out of a box. Now, she and her husband, Matt — nicknamed “the professor” — make highly rated wines at their Linne Calodo winery.





wine. Wine and food are like the glue. The best way to spend an evening is to have people over, cook dinner and drink wine."

And what better place to do it than in Paso Robles? "It's sure cheaper than Napa," says Joe. "In Napa, grapes cost more, land costs more, so the wines cost from \$20-60 a bottle. I'm into vintages that people can afford; say \$12-14 per bottle. But what's really nice about the Central Coast, is that in Napa, they've already determined what grows where. In Paso Robles, it's much more wide open."

"If you're looking for city life, it's not here," says Amber. "But where else can you find a town of 30,000 with six restaurants you really want to eat at, and six other ones that are really good? Wine tourism, wine festivals, no traffic, and we're 30 minutes from the beach."

Not to mention the occasional winemaker's dinner. "That's where you talk to the chef who pairs wines with various courses," Joe explains.

"When you pair it right, it's like a beautiful marriage," Amber interjects.

The road to the Cherry's estate is utterly devoid of traffic on a weekday morning. Twisty roads are lined with oaks dripping moss; one side is all grape vines, the other creamy rolling hills. Their house is surrounded by a deck, which is flanked by neatly tended vegetable gardens. Out back, a pair of miniature goats may one day be called upon to produce cheese, but for now, their sole responsibility is cuteness.

The Cherrys have already been for a run, despite the 90+ degree weather, and the fact that the evening before, they'd hosted dinner at the restaurant for a group that included Mat and Maureen Trevisan, Andrew Firestone, and Amber Kidd. "Hey, you've got to pay the piper if you're going to do all this eating and drinking," Cris says cheerfully. "That's just the way it is."

When Amber Kidd '97 and her husband, Joe, moved to Paso Robles, they didn't expect to be hanging out with other alums.

It's hot even in the shade, but it's pleasant enough under the overhang of the Cherry's new 3,000 square foot wine production facility, which is just down the road from their house. "I love being out here where there's no people," JoAnn says. "We moved here for the lifestyle, not the money, although I think it's inevitable that it will come."

While the plan is that one day their 70-acre estate will house their own vineyards, until then, Villa Creek Cellars buys its grapes from local growers, and closely supervises the growth of its own particular vines. The couple is fully invested in making this venture at least as successful as their restaurant.

"The cool thing about all these wineries is that they're run by young people," says Cris. "There's a lot of concrete at these places, and you'll see people building skateboard runs. Outside the door there'll be a row of skateboards leaning against the wall and you'll see workers with tattoos skateboarding along with a case of wine in their arms."

"I know I couldn't work a desk job," interjects JoAnn. "I tried it. I used to work in advertising, but this is more the life for me."

"We do enjoy living up here," agrees Cris. "What we're looking to do with this property is to have our goats and our veggies, start making goat cheese, and the long-term plan is to grow grapes, olives, stone fruits, raise pigs and lamb that will be butchered and served at the restaurant. We hope to plant our vines in 2009."

While it all sounds like a lot of work, it also sounds a lot like heaven. "Hey, I've screwed off more than just about anybody, and when our friends come up here, they look around and say, 'You guys are living the dream.'" He sighs, then nods.

"And you know what? They're right." 🍷

"Charming . . . delicious. . . I loved every moment."

—Adriana Trigiani

Summer *at* Tiffany



MARJORIE HART

Life *in the* CITY

*One magical season in New York,
when anything seemed possible and everything was still to come*

[BY KELLY KNUFKEN]

What was the best summer of your life? Although it's a fun question, after you hear about Marjorie Hart's right-place-at-just-the-right-time summer of 1945, your own answer may seem a little less enchanting.

After all, what compares with taking off for New York City and landing a job — not at any run-of-the-mill department store, but at the upscale New York icon, Tiffany & Co.? And it turned out that the adventure was just beginning: When millions of people cheered VJ Day in Times Square, Hart was there. When a B-25 Army bomber crashed into the Empire State Building, Hart felt the jolt in her own apartment. When Judy Garland strolled into Tiffany with brand new husband Vincente Minnelli, a star-struck Hart looked on.

Now, all these years later, Hart lays out that summer's adventures — using an almost impossibly innocent tone — in her newly published memoir, *Summer at Tiffany*. She takes the reader back to her days as an impressed college-aged ingénue living in the heart of the action. (“If I had to do another edition, I’d take out some of the exclamation points,” she says.) But it was her college roommate, Marty Garrett, who had all the “moxie,” as Hart puts it.

When the girls presented a job recommendation from Carl Byoir, an alumnus of their own school, the University of Iowa, Hart describes the Tiffany manager asking if she knew what he did for a living. “Mr. Byoir told us. He works for you.” Later, when she found out he’d been President Franklin D. Roosevelt’s public relations man and when Byoir repeated his jest about working for Tiffany for years, Hart saw his wife’s diamond necklace and was finally in on the joke. “I felt like slinking under the table,” she writes.

With the kind of detail that wholly transports the reader to the New York of 1945, Hart’s book has hit a certain chord, garnering stories on National Public Radio and in *USA Today*, among others. Within four months of its April 2007 publishing date, it was in its sixth printing, with more than 40,000 copies in print.

“It’s been a surprise to me,” Hart says. “I’m hearing from people I haven’t seen or heard from in 60 years. Just today, I got an e-mail from a college friend. I had no idea that people beyond my friends would buy it.”

A longtime member of the University of San Diego’s music faculty, Hart chaired what was then known as the Fine Arts Department for about five years beginning in 1978. She retired from the university in 1993. Three of her four children and one grandchild attended USD.

“I’ve always been very, very proud of the school and what they’ve been able to accomplish,” Hart says. “It’s been very rewarding to see how beautifully it has grown.”

Now, Hart’s sitting in her living room high above La Mesa in San Diego, where she lives with her second husband. Her first husband of some 35 years died in 1981. Hart’s blonde hair is coiffed, and her blue eyes gleam as she relates her memories of that special summer.

Summer at Tiffany helps the reader see what it was like when being a country at war meant everyday sacrifices for everyone. Going to a midshipmen’s dance wasn’t just a fun evening out; it was the patriotic thing to do. There was gas rationing. Nylon stockings had been invented, but now the material was needed for a higher priority — parachutes.

“It was such a sacrifice to see a brother, husband, cousin, boyfriend, father go off to war. There weren’t many guys around. Everybody left (at home) felt they needed to contribute. You gave up doing a lot of pleasure things,” she says.

Her father’s clothing store collected record albums for the USO to have on-hand for events. This was long before the recycling movement, Hart points out, but she and her friends would take their gum wrappers and “make huge balls of tin foil and turn them in because they were needed for ammunition. There were lists of things you would be doing that you would feel like you were contributing.”

As for the lack of nylons, the girls made do with rayon stockings (“The minute you sat down, they were baggy;”) or they painted their legs with a product called Stocking Stick. “If you weren’t tan, it made your legs look tan. If you wanted to go farther, you took an eyebrow pencil and made a seam.” But Stocking Stick wasn’t without its issues. “When we went to the beach, we laughed so hard because we saw this gal go into the water in her bathing suit, but the Stocking Stick only went up to right above the knees.” And the girls learned to avoid Stocking Stick if they would be dancing with a guy dressed in Navy whites, as there was a danger of transfer. “They did not appreciate that,” she remembers.

She’d learned about the wonders of nylons in high school, when her home economics teacher demonstrated them. “They showed us how quickly they would dry. They would dry overnight. You could wash them out, and they’d be ready the next day. And they made your legs look wonderful, especially in the Midwest where you had a hard time getting your legs tan.”

But with nylons unavailable and Stocking Stick only used for more casual settings, the rayon stockings — despite the bagginess that came with them — were *de rigueur* for Hart’s job at Tiffany. “We wouldn’t dare paint our legs there,” she says

The book is informed not just by little details like those, but by her letters home, pictures of ephemera and line drawings of old New York. She kept her W-2 form, which shows she made \$220 that summer at Tiffany. After rent, the girls’ salary left little room in their budget for frills. Hart remembers laughing with Garrett in recent years about the visit of a friend who came to their apartment back then: “She said, ‘I didn’t know you were so poor.’ She just supposed since we were working at Tiffany — she figured we had it made.”

Hart and Garrett were the first women to ever work on the sales floor at





Best wishes, Marjorie

Tiffany, when they served as pages that summer. She figures they made their own impression when they walked into the intimidating store. "It's very quiet, and there are not many people walking around. I'm sure we were noticed."

But for Hart, it was Judy Garland's appearance at Tiffany that made the biggest impression — despite the starlet's unexpectedly diminutive size.

"She was just sort of girlish," Hart remembers. "She wasn't much older than me. She was so recognizable. We heard her laughing first, and boy you knew — from all the movies, you knew that voice."

There's no question that summer changed Hart. And it was her friendship with Garrett that was the greatest influence.

"We were on our own, and we had a lot of things we had to figure out together. I was so struck by her very positive attitude of being able to accomplish things. And nothing seemed to stand in her way. Ever since then, I always think, 'Now, what would Marty do?'"

Hart and Garrett remained friends through the years; Hart credits Garrett with helping her remember many of the details, and they would talk often about the response to the book. But Garrett died in June. "I'm so saddened," Hart says. "After the book came out she would say, 'I saw the book here' or 'My friend said this.' We kept sharing the publicity or news. I really miss that because now when I find out things I think, 'Oh, I'm not going to be able to call her up and share that. I was so used to hearing her voice.'"

Amazing as that summer was, there is oh, so much more to Hart's life. A professional cellist, she has a lifelong passion for music. "Because I've done it all my life I can't remember when I didn't. I think my mother taught me piano as soon as I could reach the piano keys. I can't imagine life without music." The cello is her instrument of choice. She was part of the San Diego Symphony and performed with Sammy Davis Jr., Peggy Lee and Nat King Cole, among others. Since retiring from USD, she has kept busy playing in string quartets.

"She's a very fine cellist," says Henry Kolar, also a former chairman of USD's Fine Arts Department, who has played in string quartets with Hart for years. As for the book, Kolar appreciates how Hart recreated old New York. "It is a wonderful story, and I think the book is terrific. I hope she sells jillions of them. It's a very warm kind of a book."

Hart can't imagine life without her music. "If you were tired before you started playing, when you finished you felt so completely refreshed. It's an unbelievable feeling. I don't know what happens when you play. There's something rejuvenating about playing. I think it keeps you very young."

That, and the memories of a magical summer in New York City. 

Being on their own in New York City in the summer of 1945 was quite a thrill for two girls from Iowa. In this excerpt from *Summer at Tiffany*, Marjorie Hart recalls one particularly memorable day.

Over a murmur of voices, I heard someone laugh — a familiar laugh. Was I dreaming? My heart raced when I looked up as the room turned quiet.

Judy Garland was entering the Fifth Avenue revolving door with an elegant-looking man. Of course — Vincente Minnelli! They were laughing, as if they were sharing the world's best joke.

Mr. Hutchison stepped forward to greet them and whisked the famous couple into the VIP private chamber behind the diamond counter. For a crazy moment I wanted to run up and say, "Hi, Judy! I'm one of your biggest fans!" I could see myself, sitting across from them in that special room, chatting about the old movies, the Andy Hardy comedies with Mickey Rooney, Judge Hardy, and Aunt Milly. What fun that would be.

Instead, I waited patiently at the stationery counter for the salesman to finish writing his order. He had been sorting handcrafted vellum envelopes according to size in neat stacks. I thought he had missed seeing her, when he whispered,

"She looks very young, doesn't she?"

Young? Judy Garland is my age!

"Younger than her husband," I allowed.

He stared at me, surprised. "You mean that's her husband?"

Had he been living on the moon?

"They were married last week — he's Vincente Minnelli, the movie director," I explained. "They're here on their honeymoon — and have a penthouse on Sutton Place."

He made little clucking sounds as he nodded his head. Apparently, he'd missed the news of their glamorous wedding. Not us. Marty and I'd dash to the lobby of the St. Regis Hotel during lunch hour to read the latest. Photoplay had a breathtaking picture of them — Minnelli kissing Judy at their wedding; a pretty, smiling Judy holding a bouquet of huge pink peonies. She looked exquisitely lovely wearing a pale blue-gray jersey gown and an organdy bonnet — La Bohème style — set back on her head to show her long reddish-brown hair. Not since the Duke of Windsor married "that woman" had I been so swept up by a love affair.

"They were just married in Beverly Hills, in Judy's mother's garden," I told the salesman, "and guess who gave her away? The head of MGM — Louis B. Mayer!"

More intriguing to me was that Ira Gershwin had been Vincente Minnelli's best man. With that cast of notables, the wedding music must have been exceptional. I combed through stacks of magazines at the St. Regis to find out what "their song" might have been. For a start, one of her favorites among Gershwin's was "Embraceable You," judging from her recordings. But what about "Love Walked Right In"? Ira Gershwin's lyrics would have been perfect, I thought, humming them to myself.

Love walked right in and drove the shadows away
Love walked right in and brought my sunniest day —
When love walked in with you.

How romantic — that is, if anyone would have the nerve to sing in that crowd. If I had been included in that VIP room, I would have asked. Instead, I was standing in the opposite corner, straining my ears. We heard whoops of laughter — that laugh as she walked along the yellow brick road. What was so funny?



[giving back]

SACRED HEART STILL BEATS

Founders Club provides service opportunities and strong sense of community

by *Barbara Davenport*

When Rebekah Weiss '06 arrived at USD as a freshman from St. Louis, she didn't know anyone. She wanted to connect with people on campus, and she also wanted to get to know San Diego. She ended up in Mecca.

Looking for service opportunities, she joined the Founders Club. Established in 1979, the Founders Club fosters the spirit of community and service embodied by the university's founders, Mother Rosalie Hill and Bishop Charles Buddy. The club provides opportunities for service and outreach

in San Diego as well as Baja California. Oh yes, and the club also goes to Mecca.

Mecca, Calif., in the Imperial Valley, population 5,200, lies 85 miles and a world away from Alcalá Park. Ninety-eight percent of its residents are Hispanic, many of them recent immigrants. They work as farm laborers in the local fields, or travel to Palm Springs to work in hotels and restaurants. For Mecca's youth, college was a remote ideal, an experience that had not touched their families.

The Founders Club changed that. Since 1992, students from

the club travel to Mecca in the fall for a day-long visit with high school students. They talk about their own experiences in high school and at USD, and encourage their young hosts to talk about their aspirations. Their presence is a meaningful event for the students; Founders Club members are living proof that kids not so different from them can go to college.

The club lets the visit sink in for a few months, and then in the spring, they invite the Youth Club to the campus for a weekend. For last spring's visit, Sister Pat Shaffer, the club's advisor, arranged for



MARSHALL WILLIAMS

SISTER PAT SHAFFER advises the Founders Club, which is devoted to keeping the spirit of the university's founders alive.

members of the women's varsity basketball team to give a tour of the Jenny Craig Pavilion. Biology majors showed them the labs at the Donald P. Shiley Science Center for Science and Technology. Admissions counselors briefed them on college admissions: the courses they'd need, SAT scores, GPAs, essays and other essentials.

"You could see them growing through the weekend," Weiss remembers. "At the beginning they were so shy, then they started talking about their hopes and their dreams." The club's aim with the Mecca youth is not to recruit for USD, but simply to enlarge the students' knowledge of what's possible. Since the club started its visits, more than half of the

Youth Club's members have gone to college and six of them have graduated from USD.

Founders Club membership keeps on giving after graduation. Graduates are invited to join the Alumni Association of the Sacred Heart. In 2007 alone, six graduates became AASH members, and 44 have joined in total.

On campus, Shaffer tells prospective members that the Founders Club is a rich source of community while they're students and for the rest of their lives. Rebekah Weiss agrees with her former mentor. The club helped her build her own community at USD, and to give back in ways that enlarged her own understanding. Her experience confirms that the Sacred Heart still beats. 🌐

[school spirit]

HOW TO SPOT A TORERO

Well, the cape should be a dead giveaway ...

Have you ever watched the sun go down from the USD campus and felt a part of something bigger?

It turns out that watching a sunset from somewhere on Alcalá Park is a very Torero experience. Helping newbies to campus find out about such uniquely USD happenings is the aim of a poster given to freshmen and transfer students this fall. They'll learn that "You're a true Torero once you've ... attended Mass in Founders Chapel" or " ... stuffed your face at Finals Feeding Frenzy" or " ... put off studying to go to the beach."

"We have so many great traditions at USD, but we have not been deliberate about acknowledging and promoting them," explains Sarah Evenskaas '97, '03, associate director of Alumni Relations. Seeing the sunset from campus turns out to be one that evokes the fondest of memories over the years. While the spot to see it from may change with the decades, the experience is one that stays.

Even more memorable is making a difference: "Involvement in student organizations and community service has been an important part of the USD student

experience for years," Evenskaas says. "These types of traditions are the core of our university."

Then there's the event that may seem kind of geeky at first blush, but turns out to form lasting bonds: the square dance, which has brought freshmen together during Orientation Week (now called "Torero Days") since the 1980s. "We have a lot of alumni who tell us, 'I met my husband at the square dance' or 'I met my best friend the night of the square dance,'" Evenskaas says.

The project to compile favorite alumni experiences is aimed at ensuring traditions get passed down from one generation of Toreros to the next. Alumni came up with dozens of suggestions, and the list was narrowed for the poster.

New activities are also on the list. Students will be exhorted to learn the new USD Fight Song and to wear "Torero blue" on Fridays. But it's not all about showing school spirit. What self-respecting Torero hasn't made a late-night run for Mexican food? 🌐

For a longer list of USD traditions or to submit your own, go to alumni.sandiego.edu.

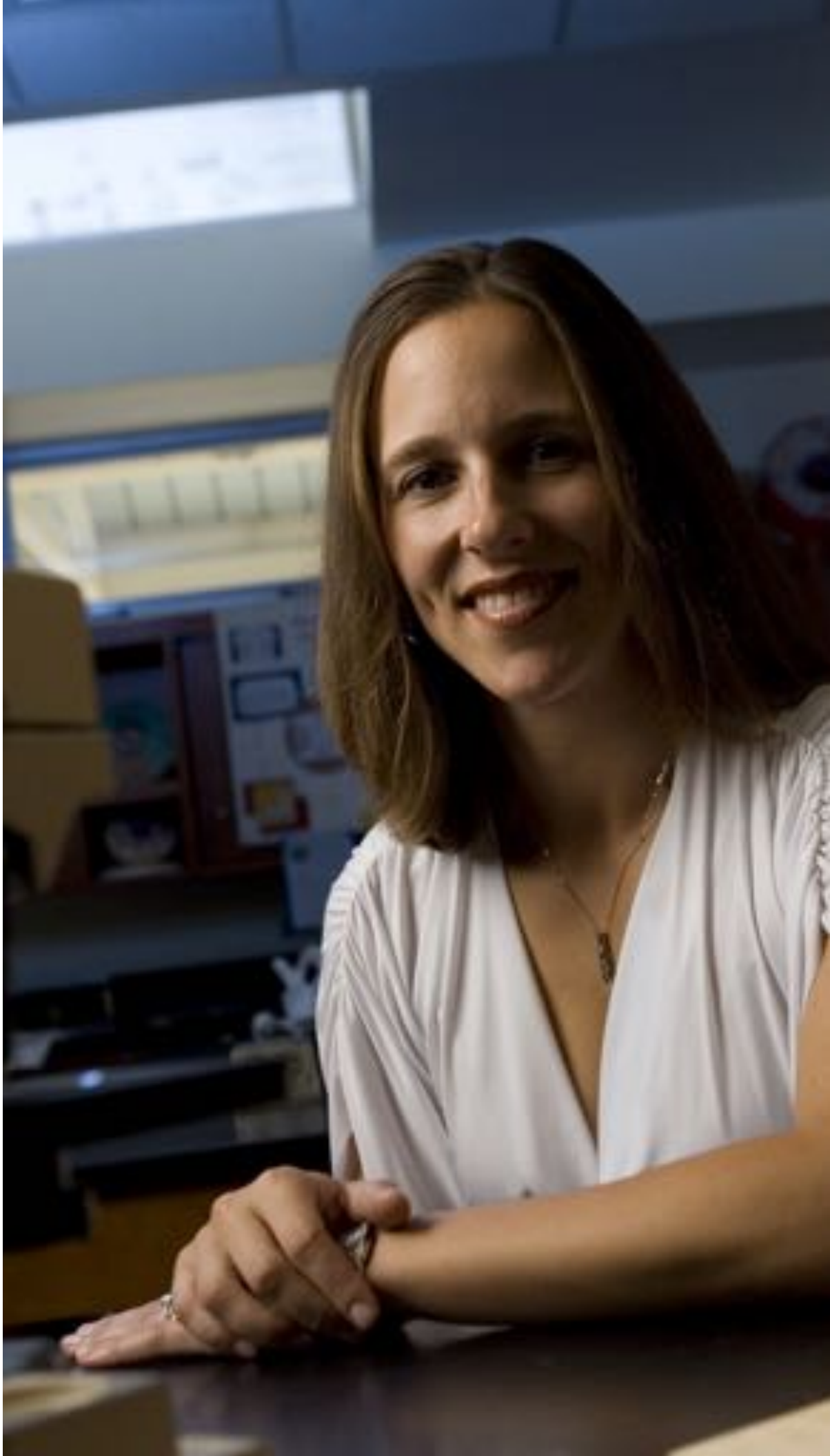


DAN BEIGEL

CLASS NOTES



CLASS NOTES CLASS NOTES CLASS NOTES CLASS NOTES CLASS NOTES CLASS NOTES CLASS NOTES CLASS NOTES CLASS NOTES CLASS NOTES



[scene of the crime]

FINGERPRINTS AND BLOOD SPATTER AND LARVAE, OH MY!

Getting approval for high school Forensic Biology class was an exercise in sheer determination for Amanda Stroberg

by Kelly Knufken

While forensics may look glamorous on TV, it isn't all analyzing maggots and post-mortem bruising.

There's, like, math involved. And science, natch.

But just as difficult as all the rigorous lessons was the process of getting the state's first high school forensics class approved by the demanding University of California system.

The UC system met its match in Amanda Stroberg '97, who had help planning the curriculum from other teachers in her district. She was determined not to give up until she got her class approved. It took multiple rejections. And reapplications. In fact, getting Forensic Biology approved took two years, start to finish.

"It was a real challenge and a really difficult process," says Stroberg, who is entering her third year teaching the course. "They almost seemed not to want it."

But that just made Stroberg work harder. "When they denied me, it really lit a fire under me."

She honed the course description for Forensic Biology over and over again, until the University of California system agreed to accept it as an elective college-prep course. Some other schools count it as a third-year science course — a goal Stroberg still has for UC. At the same time she was lobbying for the course to be accepted, she was writing letters to scientific companies throughout San Diego, subsequently raising \$6,000 to buy

the necessary equipment to teach the class.

"It's a very unique course," she says. "I really think if you get a course that students are interested in, they are going to take it. The ultimate goal is to get the students better prepared for college."

She's found the forensics community very supportive of her endeavor. In a given semester, her students may hear from a latent fingerprint examiner from the local police department, a Medical Examiner's Office official and a forensic odontologist. Student lab exercises include getting a report of their own DNA, looking at various hairs under a microscope, and studying bite marks, fingerprinting and entomology.

For the latter exercise, the students actually grow maggots to learn about growth stages and how that may relate to time of death in a corpse.

Stroberg herself has undertaken extensive preparation to teach this subject. She spent a few days studying the DNA work at the San Diego County Sheriff's Department crime lab. There, in addition to the ins-and-outs of DNA sleuthing, she learned about the challenges her students may face if they enter the forensics field. A pair of openings recently drew 600 applicants.

"It's so competitive because of these TV shows," she says of the "CSI" franchise. But she's aiming to give her students an edge. Two students from the first year she taught the class


are pursuing a career in forensics; one of them attends the University of New Haven and will study under famed forensics specialist Henry Lee.

"She (told me), 'I feel like I have a lot of background knowledge, and these courses weren't as hard as they were for other students.'"

On a spring day in Stroberg's Eastlake High School lab in southern San Diego, students work on a blood spatter exercise, determining whether a suspect's story in a given scenario would ring true. Among the to-dos on the whiteboard this period: "Finish stringing spatter" and "Put ears on — finish skulls!" No, this definitely is not your typical high school science class.

The blood spatter lab turns out to involve not just fake blood, but much calculating of angles and even — gasp! — sines and tangents. And the students work on their facial reconstruction models, attaching ears and sculpting just the right features for the bone structure parameters they've been given.

Stroberg, pencil tucked behind an ear, peeking out from her stylishly straight light-brown hair, circulates among groups of students huddled over red-spattered poster paper and scientific calculators.

"They're doing work, but they don't realize they're doing work," Stroberg says. "Part of it is they want to be in class. Science just has this stigma associated with it. They may say, 'I don't like science,' but they all watch 'CSI!'" 

1950s

[1958]

MICHELE (GENNETTE) LITTON (B.A.) retired in June 2006 from the Fairfax County Public Schools in Virginia, where she was a reading specialist for 20 years. Michele has four children and four grandchildren.

1960s

[1960]

JOHN BOWMAN (B.A., M.A.T. '73) is a member of the alumni board and the fundraising committee for the Bishop Charles Frances Buddy memorial inside the new School of Leadership and Education Sciences building. "I am proud to be a rabid Toreros football fan!" he adds.

[1961]

JOSEPHINE BREEN (B.A.) celebrated her 80th birthday on March 31, 2006. She writes, "USD of today comes across to me as a global village where diversity is so welcomed and where every aspect of human living has its space and recognition."

[1963]

DIANE (SIEGFRIED) PERKINS (B.A.) lives in Tulsa, Okla., and has nine grandchildren. She is writing a book on the cause of and solution to social impasses.

[1964]

BETTY (JENSEN) GILL (B.A.) retired in 1998 after 19 years of teaching at Parish Catholic Elementary School. Now she and her husband, Tom, travel and spend time with their four granddaughters, volunteer at their church, drive for Meals on Wheels once a week and play tennis.

MARITA (ANGLETON) SHEEHAN (B.A.) is still on the medical school faculty at Texas Tech University in Amarillo. She is the assistant academic dean and was recently promoted to professor of pediatrics. Her son, Christopher, expected to graduate from high school in 2007 and planned to enter Texas Tech as a freshman in August.

[1965]

ALCY (BOSS) NEIDLINGER (B.A.) lives 30 miles south of Sarasota on the west coast of Florida.

She is a beauty consultant at Walgreens and enjoys photography as a hobby. She hopes to travel to San Diego and Hawaii this year.

[1966]

VERN SCHOOLEY (J.D.) was elected counselor for the Joseph A. Ball/Clarence S. Hunt Inn of Court. He also is program chairman for the Long Beach Bar Association and continues on the nominations committee for the American Inns of Court. Vern continues his patent and trademark practice as manager of the Long Beach office of Fulwider Patton.

[1968]

MARY ANNE ARESTAD (B.A.) has traveled extensively in Europe, the Holy Land and the United States since graduating from the San Diego College for Women. One of her hobbies is genealogy, and she has met family members in Norway, taken a crash course in Norwegian and visited important family history sites in Scandinavia and the United States. "I love hearing from and seeing fellow graduates of USD," she writes.

SANDRA CHEW (B.A.) married Paul Phillips at the Desert Botanical Garden in Phoenix. They honeymooned on the island of Kauai, where Sandy's brother, John Kiszla, also a USD alumnus, is director of marketing and sales for the Kauai Beach Resort. Sandy and Paul met at Qualcomm, where they've both been technical writers for 10 years.

THOMAS RAGAN (B.A.) retired on Dec. 31, 2006, from Ragan Transport Services, an extensive transportation operation in Pennsylvania that includes courier, messenger, air freight and limousine services. Thomas was president and owner of the company. He continues to serve on the advisory board of the Regional Public Transportation Authority and is vice chairman of the local zoning hearing board. His wife, Margo, writes for four regional magazines and they have three grandchildren: two in Chester County, Penn., and one in Los Angeles.

[1969]

WILLIAM LINDHEIM (J.D.) is chairman of the Workers' Compensation Law Advisory Commission for the State Bar of California. The commission is a part of the Board of Legal Specialization.

1970s

[1970]

THOMAS BELLEPERCHE (B.A.) resigned from his law practice and is now semiretired and involved with volunteer work.

IDA (DEGIORGIO) SCANLON (B.S.N.) is retired and living in Carlsbad.

[1971]

CHARLES GIBB (B.A.) published a novel, "The Gold Buckle," in 2007. "This was inspired by a true story of a lad who went to Germany in 1938 with his father and was inducted into the Nazi army," he writes. The book is available on Amazon.com. Charles also wrote a screenplay based on the story, which is being shown to producers in New York City.

CAROLE STERN-CHILDS (B.A.)

retired from teaching elementary school and is now an adjunct faculty member at Mesa Community College in Mesa, Ariz., where she teaches English as a Second Language.

[1972]

FATHER THOMAS SIMONS (B.A.) has been pastor of St. Francis de Sales Parish in Norton Shore, Mich., for the past 13 years. He recently celebrated the 30th anniversary of his priestly ordination.

[1975]

DONALD ERNST (J.D.) has been practicing law with Ernst and Mattison in San Luis Obispo since 1980. The firm specializes in personal injury, insurance bad faith and class actions involving annuities abusively sold to elders. He is a member of the American Board of Trial Advocates and president-elect of the Consumer Attorneys of California. Don and his wife, Teri, have been married for 24 years and they have two children who both attend the University of California at Santa Barbara.

ANN KOZA (J.D.) has been practicing law for 30 years in Los Angeles. Her specialty is personal injury, where she has had much experience in legal research and writing, discovery, law and motion, appeals and a number of jury trials.

KATHLEEN (BATTLE) SWANKE (M.S.) spends most of her time taking care of her husband, John, who turned 80 in May 2007. They planned to celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary in 2007. Their oldest son, John, an alumnus, is a director of operations for the U.S. Army. Son Thomas, also an alumnus, teaches economics at Chadron State College in Nebraska. Kathleen and John have 18 grandchildren.

[1976]

ERNEST ADLER (J.D.) received the Access to Justice Award from the State Bar of Nevada for providing pro bono legal services to low-income people over the last several years.

WARREN PATCH (B.A.) is a chiropractor in San Diego and recently added a nonsurgical spinal decompression machine to his practice so he can help people with herniated lumbar discs or sciatica.

[1977]

FRANK GONTARSKI (B.A.) and his wife, Susie, participate as actors in a drama ministry at their church. They also facilitate marriage preparation classes for engaged couples. Frank and Susie have been married for 22 years and have two children.

SKIP LeBLANG (J.D.) would love to see any of the 1977 law graduates who come through the Big Apple. To encourage impromptu reunions, he says lunch is on him at New York icon the Carnegie Deli. "Just give me some advance notice, and we can swap San Diego stories at the best deli in the U.S.A.," he says.

[1978]

YARA BALL (M.A.) retired in 1990 and is living in Miami.

KATHY (KINDER) KEARNEY (B.A., M.Ed. '81) and her husband, Tom, have four children, ages 21, 18, 12 and 10. Kathy is a parent education teacher, helping pre-schoolers and their families.

[1979]

KATHLEEN O'GRADY-WINSTON (M.S.N.) is dean of the Health Sciences, Human Services and Emeritus Institute division at Saddleback College in Mission Viejo, Calif. She recently returned to USD to complete her long-delayed Ph.D. dis-

sertation, and she looks forward to reconnecting with USD friends and colleagues. Kathleen's husband is the director of the Orange County Constitutional Rights Foundation, and her daughter lives in San Diego.

ROBERT TRENTACOSTA (J.D.) is supervising judge of the San Diego Superior Court, South County Division, in Chula Vista.

1980s

[1980]

DIANE (BARRY) BRANKS (B.A.) earned certification in vascular technology and is a vascular surgical podiatrist at Kaiser Baldwin Park. She reports that this extra training has helped lower the amputation rate at Kaiser Baldwin Park and is going to become a model program for all the Kaiser organizations in California.

ARTHUR BUCK (J.D.) withdrew from Andersen, Buck & Mann, a San Diego law firm, in 2003. He then worked for two years as attorney general for Kosrae State in the Federated States of Micronesia, and since 2005 has been an appeals counsel for the Office of the Prosecutor at the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia in The Hague, Netherlands.

JOHN FINNERAN (B.B.A.) is senior manager of finance and business operations at Lockheed Martin Space Systems in Sunnyvale, Calif. His wife, Helen (Kasperick) '81, is a human resources manager at Lockheed Martin. Their oldest son, John, is majoring in biology at USD.

WILLIAM NEWSOME (J.D.) is a deputy city prosecutor with the San Diego City Attorney's Office. He also writes a weekly column for "the best Grateful Dead cover/tribute band in town," the Electric Waste Band.

MARY PIERSON (B.S.) is in her 28th year in the field of forensics. She is a grandma to two girls: Resse, 4, and Tatum, 2. Her dog, Moses, is doing well at 11 years old, and Mary reports that she got to see the Northern Lights (Aurora Borealis) this year. "All is well under God's eye," she says.

[1981]

JOHN ANDREWS (B.A.) earned a master's degree in science physiology and an M.D. from Georgetown University. He had an internal medicine practice until 2001. John is now the medical director for infectious diseases at Pfizer Pharmaceuticals. He is married and has two children, and the family lives in La Jolla. John reports that he is still surfing, and that he traded skiing for snowboarding six years ago.

CATENA (BERGEVIN) BAHNE-MAN (B.A.) was promoted to assistant director of The Mattress Factory, a contemporary installation art museum in Pittsburgh.

DONNA GERACI (B.A.) expected to receive a master's degree in human resources development from Xavier University in May 2007. Donna and her husband, Michael '81, live in Cincinnati. Their son, Joseph, graduated from Washington University in St. Louis in May 2006 and works for Epic Systems in Madison, Wis. Their daughter, Cathryn, plans to graduate from the College of Mount St. Joseph in December 2007. Their youngest daughter is in high school and beginning her college search.

MARK PROTHERO (J.D.) co-authored "Defending Gary" with writer Carlton Smith. The book is about his experiences as co-lead counsel for the Green River Killer. It chronicles Mark's role in getting his client a life sentence in exchange for guilty pleas to 48 murders in the Seattle area from 1982 to 1998. The case was the most voluminous and expensive death penalty case in the history of the state of Washington, Mark says.

[1982]

JEANNE CANTON-LUNA (B.A.) is in her fifth year of teaching at Sacred Heart Parish School in Coronado, and in her second year of teaching first grade, which she loves. Her oldest daughter, Jacqueline, graduated from USD and is in Dublin, Ireland, working on a master's degree. Of her other daughters, Rhiannon is a student at St. Mary's, Arrielle plays basketball at Coronado High, and Delancy is an eighth-grade honor student at Sacred Heart.

SHIRL CREIGHTON GERLACH

(B.A.) lives in Rhode Island and says she loves New England. Her children are now 16, 18, 20 and 22: one is in high school and three are in college.

MARLA ROBINSON (B.A.) is celebrating the 10-year anniversary of her law firm, Merhab, Robinson & Jackson. Marla's daughter currently attends USD.

[1983]

BRENDA BUZBY (B.A.) reports that her daughter, Brittani Buzby-Rynders, is a freshman at USD in the Class of 2011. "We are so excited about having another future USD alumna in the family!" she says. Last Christmas, her family worked with neighbors to raise \$23,000 over eight days for a local homeless shelter. Each year, they sell homemade cookies and hot chocolate to people who come see the Christmas holiday lights. "This is our family philanthropy and it gets our children involved with helping others," she says. "Over the past 14 years, we have raised more than \$125,000 for the Bakersfield Homeless Shelter."

SCOTT DOUGLAS (J.D.) mediated his 1,000th case in 2006, and in 2007 is celebrating his 10th year as a full-time mediator. He also was appointed chair of the Mediation Subcommittee of the National Arbitration and Mediation Committee, an advisory committee to the National Association of Securities Dealers. Scott and his wife, Adair, live in Manhattan Beach, Calif., with their two children. Scott also helps coach his kids' soccer teams.

KATHERINE (SHYU) KEELING (M.B.A.) is an artist in La Jolla. She had three solo exhibits in 2006 and looks forward to another creative year.

JAMES MORLINO (B.A.) and his wife, Fran, homeschool their six children, ages 1 to 11. They recently took the whole family on a cross-country road trip from Connecticut to San Diego and back. "It was an unforgettable experience!" he says.

[1984]

JACQUELINE AKERBLOM (B.B.A.) was recognized as an honoree for the Silicon Valley/San Jose Business Journal's Women of Distinction Award in the business services category. The program honors professional women in the region for

their accomplishments and leadership in the business and nonprofit sectors. At Grant Thornton, a global accounting firm, Jacqueline is an assurance partner and international business center director for Northern California. She is a founding member of a committee at Grant Thornton focused on the retention and advancement of women professionals. Jacqueline is also a member of the national board of the Forum for Women Entrepreneurs and Executives.

JOSEPH BURGER (M.A.) retired from his position as president of Space Analysis & Research in Colorado Springs, Colo.

WILLIAM HALEY (B.B.A.) moved to the state of Washington in 1993 and has been teaching business, and coaching football and wrestling. William also has six horses and has set a goal of learning how to pack horses into the backcountry.

ROBIN (GIAMELA) HELLEN (B.A.) has been married to her husband, John, for 13 years, and they have three children: Jake, 11; Dominick, 9; and Summer, 7. Robin is a consultant to the medical industry, working directly with the FDA on product approvals. She also is involved with her family's realty management business, which specializes in art deco apartment restoration.

[1985]

TODD CLANCY (B.A.) is an assistant professor in the applied English department at Kun Shan University in Tainan, Taiwan. Todd completed a one-year intensive Chinese Mandarin course at the Defense Language Institute in Monterey, Calif., and has taught in Istanbul, Turkey, and Phnom Penh, Cambodia, in addition to Taiwan.

KATIE (O'ROURKE) DELANO (B.A., M.A.T. '90) directed "The King and I" for West Hills Community College in April 2007. For the past two years, she has been teaching two online history courses and one in-class course for West Hills in Coalinga, Calif. She also home schools her four sons, volunteers for the local high school and community college theater classes, works on the Coalinga High School theater restoration project, and manages her husband's book and motivational speaking tours. Gregory Delano '86 teaches humanities and economics at



TAKING ART TO HEART

Celebrating not just objects, but the artisans behind them is store's mission

by Trisha J. Ratledge

Pick up a burnished clay pot in Judy (Perez) Compton's store. You are holding a family's heritage and an artisan's future in your hands. Every item in Aesthetix, a tiny tienda on the 101 in Encinitas, is handcrafted by those whose skills are often generations deep. It's Judy Compton's mission to ensure that these art forms — and the artisans themselves — not only endure, but thrive.

"If an art form is not passed on to the next generation, then it's lost," says Compton '90, whose store features pieces from central Mexico and will expand to include work from around the world. "There are so many amazing art forms, not just pottery, but woodworking, textiles, tinsmiths."

Her journey began in 2002 with a visit to a friend's home in San Miguel de Allende, Mexico. She and her husband, Charles, were captivated by the Spanish colonial town, brimming with stunning art and beautifully handcrafted pottery, mirrors and starlights.

At the same time, Compton, who had built a successful corporate career in the apparel industry, was searching for a higher purpose in her 9-to-5 life.

After several return trips to Mexico, she realized that if she could import the art she so admired and create a profitable business, she could then give back to those artisans. She and her husband, a retail consultant, tested her idea by selling the handcrafted goods at street fairs in Southern California. At the end of 2005, they found the

perfect storefront: a vintage courtyard motel that had been converted into boutiques that feature handcrafted products. Aesthetix was home.

The couple travels twice a year — soon to be quarterly — to towns throughout central Mexico to buy their goods. That's why, when Compton picks up a piece of pottery or points to a mirror, she talks not only about how the piece was made, but the artisan who crafted it as well. She's been to that workshop, and often to the artisan's home, since they're usually one and the same.

The store itself reflects this same personal touch, from the guestbook for customers to the fiestas celebrating art and culture.

"We're trying to create a community," the store owner explains. "We're not just trying to be a store that sells a product when someone walks in the door and you never see them again. We're trying to build a relationship with the customer that extends beyond that."

With the store just over a year old, Compton is already giving back to her artisan community, first with orders that help sustain their work, and then with proceeds from store events and larger fundraisers she is planning for the future. She also works closely with Barro Sin Plomo ("Clay Without Lead") and Aid to Artisans, both nonprofit organizations that preserve and promote artistic traditions.

"I have a much bigger vision than this little tienda," she says, "but I always want my business to feel like the art that's in here, which is handcrafted. I always

Coalinga High School and philosophy at West Hills Community College.

DOUGLAS KROLL (M.A.) and his wife, Lana, live in Palm Desert, Calif., where he is an assistant professor of history at the College of the Desert. His second book, "Friends in Peace and War: The Russian Navy's Landmark Visit to Civil War San Francisco," was recently published by Potomac Books of Washington, D.C. His first book, *Commodore Ellsworth P. Bertholf, First Commandant of the Coast Guard*, was published in 2002.

ROSALIE LOPEZ (M.Ed.) has been the director of the Upward Bound program at Imperial Valley College in Imperial, Calif., since 1983. She works with at-risk students to prepare them for success beyond high school. Rosalie has established fundraising events and organized educational and study tours that have enabled more than 600 Valley students to travel to such places as the state capitol in Sacramento, the White House, New York City, Los Angeles and Hawaii. Among her many efforts to help youth, she co-founded the Imperial Valley Consortium of Higher Education, which has provided educational and career opportunities for more than 1,000 Valley youth.

JOEL SELIK (LL.M.) was elected vice president of the North County Bar Association, based in Vista, Calif., and is chairman of the association's education committee. He also continues to be a director of the Consumer Attorneys of San Diego.

[1986]

MARCIA (RUBISH) CARRUTHERS (M.B.A.) was named president and chief executive officer of the Disability Management Employer Coalition in San Diego. She has been chief operating officer since she co-founded DMEC in 1992. Among her accomplishments with DMEC, Marcia has developed industry best practice programs now in use by thousands of professionals in the insurance, healthcare and other industries, and created the strategic plan for the development and growth of 20 DMEC chapters in 14 states. Marcia's articles have appeared in such publications as "The Journal of Workers' Compensation" and "Risk & Benefits

Journal".

PAUL DAVIS (B.A.) is a student in USD's master's program in executive leadership with the Ken Blanchard Companies. Paul is a marketing and sales director for a local e-learning company, a member of the board of directors for both Home Start and YMCA Youth Family Services, and active with Lead San Diego.

STEPHANIE BROWN GARCIA (M.B.A.) has been with Hamilton Sunstrand in San Diego for 21 years. She is currently senior contract manager of aftermarket programs with a staff of eight people. Stephanie and her husband, Markcos '82, have three boys, and the oldest is at St. John's University in New York.

RONALD KREMPASKY (B.B.A.) is the vice president of sales and marketing for At Home Science Inc., a manufacturer of academically demanding science lab kits designed for high school and college distance learning courses. Ron lives in Denver with his wife, Sandra, and three children. He especially enjoys his friendship with fellow USD alumnus Michael O'Connell, as their children attend the same Catholic school.

ROBERT PASCUAL (B.A.) is a financial planner for Blankinship & Foster, a family wealth management firm. He was recently promoted to director of marketing.

MARY GALE ROGERS (B.S.N.) expected to complete her master's degree in nursing in June 2007.

GENEVIEVE (KNYCH) ROHAN (B.A.) and her husband, Tim, were married at Founders Chapel in 2007. Their wedding was attended by USD alumni Nora (Hermesen) Middleton, Noelle Cartier, Rita (Daly) Barkett, Martha (Manriquez) Bahadorzian, Vesna (Mitrovski) Petrovic, Gregg Grubba and Elizabeth Nallin. Genevieve is a senior recruiter with Invitrogen in Carlsbad, and Tim represents AxyGen in California, Hawaii and Arizona. They have homes in Coronado and Cardiff by the Sea. Genevieve is a court-appointed special advocate for four siblings in foster care, and she is now a stepmom to Tim's two sons.

LEONARD SHULMAN (J.D.) was

elected to a second term as president of the Pediatric Cancer Research Foundation. Leonard is the managing partner of the law firm Shulman Hodges & Bastian in Foothill Ranch, Calif.

WILLIAM VIPOND (J.D.) launched a full-service real estate firm in Issaquah, Wash., called Cross-Dock Development Corp. Through this new company, William is leading several new development projects as well as providing clients with marketing, sales and auction services for real estate properties. His experience includes a 28-month project in which William oversaw the bankruptcy liquidation of a trucking company, selling 228 parcels of commercial property through live auction and generating \$61 million more than the total appraised value.

[1987]

TRIPP HOWLER (B.B.A.) and his wife, Paige, are raising their 2½-year-old son, working, and traveling when possible.

[1988]

LESLEY ANN CLEMENT (J.D.) married Doron Dreksler, an architect, in May 2005. She has been practicing elder abuse law in Sacramento for 13 years.

GLENN OCLASSEN (B.A.) joined Salesforce.com as the director of the education partner programs. Glenn reports that he and his wife, Amy, have two amazing children: Maya, 5, and Nicholas, 2.

SEAN PICKETT (B.A.) was promoted to director of development services at Indus International in San Francisco. He divides his time between Tokyo; Paris; Bangalore, India; and the Bay Area. When he's not traveling, Sean relaxes with his wife, Julie, and their 3-year-old son, Sam.

WILLIAM SPARKS (M.B.A., J.D. '98) is taking care his two daughters, ages 6 and 8, working hard, traveling internationally and playing racquetball.

[1989]

GINA (LABOVITZ) CAPARELL (B.A., M.Ed. '91) writes, "I'm enjoying my two children: Andrew, 11, and Michaela, 7; teaching first-graders; playing soccer; and watching an occasional USD football, soccer or basketball game."

MARK GIANGIORGI (B.B.A.) and his wife, Jeannie, live in Pebble Beach, Calif., and are raising three boys: Marco, 9; Antonio, 7; and Angelo, 4. Mark worked for Cantor Fitzgerald from 1990 to 2000 as an institutional equity sales trader. He retired from the securities industry in early 2000 and is now self-employed.

RICHARD HIRASUNA (B.B.A.) left naval aviation in 1998 to attend Creighton University Medical School, and he completed his M.D. degree in 2002. Richard finished his residency in anesthesiology in 2006 and is now assigned to the 3rd Marine Logistics Group, Detachment San Diego. During his residency, Richard and his wife were blessed with twins, Aidan and Sophie, who turned 4 in April 2007.

JAMIE (SELWAY) KEPP (B.A.) lives in Livermore, Calif., with her husband and children. She volunteers at the Catholic school her children attend, teaching art to first-, second- and third-graders.

OZZIE MONGE (B.A.) is the new vice president of business development for a boutique research firm based in San Diego that focuses solely on the interactive entertainment and video games market.

JAMES O'BRIEN (B.A.) and his wife, Maureen (Miller) '89, recently moved to Reno, Nev., with their two sons: Brendan, 4, and Colin, 3.

GREGORY TIBBITTS (B.B.A.) and his wife, Jonell (Galik) '95, live in Carlsbad with their three children: Cassidy, 6; Caroline, 4; and Jack, 2. Both worked as certified public accountants for Ernst & Young for
1990s
much of her time with the children. Greg is chief financial officer of CryoCor Inc. in San Diego.

[1990]

TIFFANY (BREWKA) BUFTON (B.A.) is an executive national vice president with Arbonne International, a European skin care company. She and her husband, Scott, live in Littleton, Colo., with their two children.

LT. CMDR. THOMAS DAVIS

(B.A.) writes, "I am moving back to San Diego where I never plan to leave again and I will finally attend a homecoming!" Thomas is with the Navy's Tactical Control Squadron 11 in Coronado.

KEVIN GONZALEZ (B.A.) is the executive officer for the 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines, which deployed to Iraq in the spring of 2007 for the second combat tour in two years.

PARRIS SORIANELLO (B.A.) is a manager with Wal-Mart, running a 216,000-square-foot supercenter in Santa Clarita, Calif.

ROSA (PINEDO) SOTO (B.B.A.) and her husband, Rick, live in Chula Vista with their two children: Annalis, 5; and Diego, 17 months.

MICHAEL SPATA (LL.M.) was appointed city attorney and interim city manager for Visalia, Calif., in 2006.

JOHN SPERRAZZO (B.A.) and his wife, Cathy, celebrated the 10-year anniversary of Eye-To-Eye Communications, their public relations firm. Both John and Cathy serve as managing partners. John received his M.B.A. from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, in 1996. He and Cathy were married 12 years ago at Founders Chapel and they live in San Diego with their five children: Jessica, John Paul, Luke, James and Madeline.

MARC THOMPSON (B.B.A.) and his wife, Jodie, celebrated the birth of their fourth child, Carter Hamilton, on Dec. 12, 2006. Carter has three siblings: Taylor, 9; Cooper, 7; and Teagan, 5.

[1991]

SUSIE BARRETT (M.A.) is in her 10th year of home schooling her four children, and she teaches other home-schoolers online through BraveWriter.com. "I have also spoken at retreats on the subject of encouraging evangelicals in embracing Catholic traditions of devotion and worship," she says.

JENNIFER (BOURGUIGNON) BLOUNT (B.A.) reports that she is still happily married to Lance '91 and that their daughter is in kindergarten. Jennifer is teaching both English language development and English to seventh- and eighth-grade students in the Saddleback Valley Unified School District in Mission Viejo, Calif.

She recently received the Teacher of the Year award.

CARLOS BOSDET (B.B.A.) is busy with his interior design business and raising three daughters, ages 18, 12 and 7 months, with his wife, Gabina.

JOHN BUCKLEY (M.I.B.) operates John Buckley Advisors, a financial services and insurance business. He also has been improving his Spanish-speaking and classical guitar skills.

KATHERINE McKEON CASSIDY (B.Acc.) and her husband, Paul, have been living in Oceanside for almost three years with their children, Kiara and Connor. Katherine is a senior manager with Qualcomm.

CAPT. SOREN CHRISTENSEN (M.S.N.) retired on Jan. 1, 2007, from Naval Hospital, Bremerton, Wash., after a 26-year Navy career. She and her husband, Jim, live in Silverdale, Wash.

ADAM FOXX (B.A.) and his wife, Jodi, welcomed their first child, Mia Dani, on July 25, 2006. "Her first football game was USD vs. Monmouth, and she loved it," Adam reports.

MICHAEL MERITT-POWELL (M.B.A.) writes, "Our Christmas present was delivered on Oct. 21, 2006: a beautiful baby boy. My wife was incredible." Michael is president of MMP Industries in Oceanside.

HELEN (MARTIN) MOORE (M.B.A.) and her husband, Tom, are building a new house and loving life in San Diego's North County. They have a 4-year-old son who is the light of their life.

JASON MORRIS (B.A.) is enjoying his law practice and spending time with his wife, Paulina, and their two sons, Diego and Mateo. He recently represented Toll Brothers Inc. and obtained the approvals to build the tallest building in the state of Arizona.

JACQUELYN (CWIKLA) PARSONS (B.S.N., M.S.N. '92) retired from the U.S. Navy Nurse Corps in 2002 with 26 years of service. She is now director of quality improvement, physician services, regulatory affairs, cardiac program and patient safety, for Sharp Grossmont Hospital.

SARAH (WILDE) SWANK (B.A.)

and her husband, Mark, welcomed their second child, Weston, on Nov. 10, 2006. He joins big sister Hannah, 2. The family lives in Long Beach, Calif. Sarah recently joined Nike's vision and timing team, focusing on sales west of the Mississippi.

LISA (CHEUNG) WANG (B.Acc.)

and her husband, David, welcomed their third son, Jared Colby Wang, on Feb. 9, 2007. He joins older brothers Jaxon, 5, and Jacob, 3. Lisa is still senior manager with Deloitte Tax. The family lives in Monterey Park, Calif.

STEPHANIE (NELSON) WHITLOCK (B.B.S.)

writes, "This year, I decided to follow my dreams and get more creative, so I exited the wireless telecommunications business and opened my own women's shoe boutique!" Her store, Stephanie's, is in La Jolla.

[1992]

CHRISTINE BRUCE (B.A.) married Joseph Pasak, a gunnery sergeant in the Marines, on Jan. 1, 2005. They are stationed in Okinawa, Japan, until May 2009, when he plans to retire from the military. Christine is working toward her master's degree in counseling psychology through the University of Maryland University College in Asia/Bowie State University.

DAVID FAHLGREN (B.B.A.)

and his wife, Cynthia, have a 3-year-old daughter, Paige. The family lives in Vancouver, Wash. David writes, "Enjoying living in the Pacific Northwest."

ANNE (SPERRAZZO) FISHBURNE (B.A.)

and her husband, Ben, have been married for 14 years, and they have four children, ages 12, 9, 6 and 5. Anne is a teacher in the Cajon Valley Union School District. "Love my family and the Lord!" she writes.

MARY PEIRCE GRIFFITH (B.A.)

works for a custom architect/home-builder in Park City, Utah. She and her husband, Robert, love to ski, hike and mountain bike.

JOHN HERRMANN (B.A., M.A.) '99

still enjoys being in touch with USD, his father reports. He remains on a ventilator due to muscular dystrophy.

CARRIE (KRUEGER) MAROVICH (B.A.)

and her husband, Chris, welcomed their second son, Owen Christopher, in July 2006. "His 2-year-

old brother, Michael, simply adores him," writes Carrie.

BRUCE MAXON (B.A.)

and his wife, Jennifer, celebrated the birth of their first child, Tate Virginia, on March 3, 2007. Bruce is director of marketing for Optelecom-NKF.

HEATHER MEYER (B.B.A.)

and her husband, Scott, celebrated the arrival of their third child, Katrina Reese, on Aug. 4, 2006. She joins brother Reynolds, 2, and sister Kennedy, 7. "Life is busy!" reports Heather. Scott has a CPA office in Long Beach and recently bought a practice in Orange County.

JACQUELINE (KAHN) PARIS (B.A.)

and her husband, Joel, celebrated the birth of their daughter, Katarina Helene, on Feb. 16, 2007, in Pasadena, Calif.

LORI ARBOGAST ROY (B.A.)

and her husband, Bradley, have two children: Colin, born in December 2003, and Lucie, born in September 2006. The family lives in Carlsbad, where Lori is a stay-at-home mom.

HARRY RYAN (B.A.)

is a roaster and owner of Ryan Brothers Coffee in San Diego. "We have a great building at 1894 Main Street, and were featured on Larry Himmel, Channel 8, 'Brothers in Beans,'" Harry says.

ALAIN TRUONG (M.B.A.)

is principal financial analyst for Medtronic in Minneapolis. Prior to that, he worked for Johnson & Johnson. "My M.B.A. degree has enabled a fulfilling career, which contributes to a happy life with few limits," Alain says.

CHRISTI (GRANT) TUCKER (B.B.A.)

and her husband, Joseph, celebrated the birth of their third child, Gavin Michael, on Jan. 15, 2007. He is welcomed by big brothers Grant, 3, and Garrett, 2. Christi continues to work for IGT, overseeing gaming system installation in casinos nationwide. She is also the chairwoman for the Las Vegas Race for the Cure.

LIZ (SCHOR) WILLIAMS (B.A.)

and her husband, Ryan, welcomed a son, Cayden Ryan, in June 2006. Cayden joins big sister Allyson, 2. Fellow alumna Colleen (Cassity) Gallagher is Cayden's godmother. Liz is senior district sales manager for the Sacramento office of Paychex.

[1993]

CATHERINE (DUFORT) KUIPER (B.A., M.Ed. '94)

is still teaching at Julian High School and enjoying her husband, Jason, and their two kids, Tierra, 4, and Christian, 1. "All is well, and life is good!" she reports.

SUSAN (COLLINS) MOSBY (B.A.)

and her husband, Peter, added a new member to their family: Harry, born on Feb. 22, 2007. Big brother Chas, 2, is proud of his new status, Susan says. She continues to teach Spanish at Cherry Creek High School in Greenwood Village, Colo., and Peter is a principal at Hinkley High.

HEATHER (GALLAGHER) TROY (B.A.)

and her husband, Bob, welcomed a baby boy, Jack Joseph, on Nov. 3, 2006. He joins big brother Ryan, 6, and big sister Kate, 4.

NANCY URNER (B.A.)

ran the 2006 New York City marathon. She continues to compete in triathlons and coaches a triathlon team. Nancy lives in Seattle.

[1994]

TRACEY (VANDEWEGHE) BALSDON (B.A.)

and her husband, Ed, were married in June 2005. Ed is a professor of economics at San Diego State University, and Tracey is a stay-at-home mom to their daughter, Anna, born in April 2006.

LT. CMDR. WILLIAM BOGGS (B.B.A.)

retired from the Navy after 21 years as a helicopter pilot. He and his wife, Kathy Otto '83, are busy chasing after their three children. The family is active in youth sports in Scripps Ranch, and William is building a financial planning practice.

SCOTT CURTNER (B.B.A.)

and his wife, Jill, welcomed a baby girl on Nov. 15, 2006. Scott is vice president of mobility devices for Bank of America and also buys rental homes in California, Arizona and Colorado.

BRIAN DRELICHARZ (B.B.A.)

and wife Cristina (Fernandez) '95 welcomed daughter Marina Claire on Jan. 7, 2007. She joins big sisters Anna and Sofia. Linda (Brown) Norton '94 is Marina's godmother.

MARY JANEL HAWBLITZEL (B.A.)

started a wedding photogra-

phy company, Mary Hawblitzel Photography. Her website is www.maryhawblitzel.com.

MICHELLE (COCKAYNE) KERR (B.A.)

and her husband, Lemuel '93, have two daughters: Ellie, 4, and Ginny, 8 months.

JOHN LAMBERT (B.B.A.)

and his wife, Maynil (Ramos) '94, continue to enjoy living in Virginia with their two Labradors. Maynil joined a private equity/hedge fund in 2006 and travels extensively as she optimizes the accounting and finance functions of the portfolio companies. John maintains a home-based investment partnership and recently began working with a private home equity lender. "No kids yet," he writes, "but we're thrilled to be aunt and uncle five times over!"

MICHELLE (KINZIE) LENTZ (J.D.)

received the 2007 Attorney of the Year award from the Orange County Women Lawyers Association.

ELIZABETH CARMELA PINDER MARTIN (B.B.A.)

and her husband, Dé Laun, were married on Oct. 21, 2006, and they have custody of Dé Laun's son, Chase, who is in the fifth grade. In March 2007, Elizabeth dislocated her right ankle and broke it in three places, requiring nine screws, a plate, and several months of recovery. "The pain is unreal," she says.

SARA (RENTZ) MCKENNA (B.B.A.)

and her husband, Chris, have been living in Garden City, Kan., since 2000. They have two daughters: Madison, 5 and Lane, 4. "We would love to come back to San Diego and visit everyone," she writes. Sara is a reimbursement specialist at St. Catherine Hospital.

LINDA (BROWN) NORTON (B.A.)

has spent the last two years caring for her 91-year-old grandma, who moved in with her in July 2005. "She came from New York, and we are all adjusting to the addition to our family!" Linda reports. Linda is an at-home mom in Temecula, Calif.

CALEB PALMER (B.A.)

and his wife, Tara, were married in Italy in 2004. They have two children: Ethan, born in 2005, and Leta, born in 2006. Caleb is in real estate sales and investments on the island of Maui.

DENISE (MARRIOTT) TAYCO

(B.A.) and her husband, Freddie, announce the birth of their daughter, Grace Maureen, on Feb. 2, 2007. Denise is a science teacher for the San Diego Unified School District, and Freddie works for Porter Novelli, a public relations firm.

REBECCA (MILLER) VAN CLEAVE (B.A.) and her husband, Todd, welcomed twins Sarah Ruth and Leah Marie on Aug. 29, 2006. Sarah and Leah join big sister Rachel, who attends St. John of the Cross Catholic School in Lemon Grove. "I'm enjoying my time taking care of the girls, who are keeping me very, very busy," reports Rebecca.

[1995]

ALISON (MAAS) BRAY (B.A.) and her husband, Timothy '95, celebrated the arrival of a daughter, Kenna, in January 2007. She joins big brother Connor, who is a very busy 2-year-old.

WILLAM CARNESE (B.A.) has been a freelance Web designer for four years and is a guitarist for a rock/funk/jam band, Zindu. William reports that Zindu is touring the Western United States and performed in Peru in November 2006.

BRONWEN DELANEY (B.A.) and her husband, Brendan, welcomed a daughter, Hansen Dehlia, in July 2006. Bronwen is a veterinarian with four other doctors at South Mesa Veterinary Hospital in Fort Collins, Colo.

DOMINIQUE DUDINE DeWINTER (B.A.) and her husband, Edward, celebrated the birth of their first child, Maxwell Taylor, on Oct. 20, 2006. Dominique is a territory manager for Wyeth Pharmaceuticals on Oahu and Maui. Edward is a lieutenant commander and officer-in-charge of Detachment 1 aboard the USS Chaffee.

BRENDA GODFREY GEIGER (B.A., J.D. '04) moved her law practice to Carlsbad. She recently hired an attorney in the USD LL.M. tax program who she reports has been a great help and hopefully will help the practice expand. Brenda and her husband, Leonard, live in Vista with their son, who is 18 months old.

ELENA HARTWELL (B.A.) is a playwright, director and educator living in Seattle. Recent highlights

include her latest play, "The Last Train to Hicksville," selected for new play festivals in both Seattle and Eugene, Ore. She planned to direct "The Blackmailer" in July 2007 in Seattle.

DEBI HUYSSOON (B.A.) is an associate dentist in Salem, Ore., and is in the process of buying a dental practice in Sherwood, Ore. Debi and her husband, Scott, have a son, Braydon, 19 months, who keeps them entertained and busy. They live in Portland, but plan to build a home in Sherwood within the next few years.

JENNIFER LARSON (B.A.) married Matthew Montag on Feb. 24, 2007. Jennifer graduated from Gonzaga University School of Law in 1999 and practices with the Johnson Law Group, a civil litigation firm. Matthew, also a graduate of Gonzaga University, is a civil engineer and surveyor. They live in Spokane, Wash.

KRYSLYNN (BRUMBAUGH) LAW (B.A.) and her husband, Matt, welcomed their second child, a boy named Kai Matthew, on May 29, 2006. He joins big sister Maya Vianne. The family lives in Carlsbad.

GINA (VERGILIO) MOCK (B.A.) and her husband, David, celebrated the birth of their fourth child, Erica. She joins Joshua, 7; Rebecca, 5; and Nicole, 3. Gina is an at-home mom who also helps run her husband's business.

ERIK ROSS (M.A.) assumed command of the USS Whidbey Island (LSD 41) in February 2006 and deployed to the Mediterranean, Red and Arabian seas, and the Arabian Gulf with the Iwo Jima Expeditionary Strike Group from June to December 2006. While deployed, they helped evacuate Americans from Beirut, Lebanon.

JENNIFER (STAUFENBEIL) RUBEL (B.A.) is curriculum coordinator for Kauai High School in Lihue, Hawaii. She and her husband, Thomas, have two daughters: Vanessa, 7, and Emeli, 2. The family lives in Kanai, Hawaii, and enjoy the sand, surf and sea.

MICHELLE WEHRLI (B.A.) reports that she started working on her master's degree in philosophy at California State University, Long Beach, in 2005.

[1996]

NICOLE ALEXANDER (B.A.) married Jay Mascolo at Founders Chapel on Feb. 14, 2004. Father O'Leary presided over the service and alumnae Mischa (Garner) Dunton and Tracey Eizonas were bridesmaids. Nicole and Jay are both attorneys, practicing in New Jersey and metropolitan New York. They have been busy the past several years, traveling to Rome, Venice, Paris and throughout the United States.

TERENCE BANICH (B.A.) has been practicing law at Jenner & Block in Chicago since 1999, and was elected to partnership status in December 2006. Terence specializes in commercial litigation and litigation arising out of bankruptcy, workout and corporate reorganizations.

MARK BARRETT (M.B.A.) is still with Wells Fargo in New York City, and he recently launched a new career consulting business at ExecutiveElevator.com.

DOMINIC CHENELIA (B.B.A.) married Kristen Kinnaird '01 in 2002. They bought a home in San Diego's Old Town/Mission Hills area. Dominic works for Ski-Tops, a manufacturer of Chaos brand hats and hats for other companies, including DC Shoes, Da Kine and Patagonia. "No kids yet," Dominic says, "but we have two dogs, Smokey and Hal."

MATTHEW GERLACH (B.A.) planned to relocate to Stillwater, Minn., in July 2007 to join the Midwest Spine Institute after he completed his fellowship training in orthopedic spine surgery. Matt and his wife, Amy, have three children: Trey, Simon and Swan.

KRISTIN HEYL (B.A.) is president and owner of Pure Pharmaceutical Consulting, a pharmaceutical marketing/advertising agency. She is moving from Chicago back home to Scottsdale, Ariz., with her boyfriend, Jake Cox, who works for Tyco Healthcare.

BRODY HOFMANN (B.B.A.) earned an M.B.A. from the Marshall School of Business at the University of Southern California in December 2006. He and his wife, Amy '96, live in Costa Mesa, Calif.

DENA JOHNSON (B.A., M.Ed. '00) married Patrick Glynn in May 2007. Dena is an assistant principal at an elementary school in the Poway Unified School District.

DEBORAH (SULLIVAN) KANE (J.D.) and her husband, Larry, welcomed William Joseph to the family. William joins big sister Emily. Deb is still in Pittsburgh, where she was recently made partner at Weber Gallagher Simpson Stapleton Fines & Newby.

ANN KELLY (M.A.) is a public services librarian and university professor at Arkansas Tech University in Russellville. Ann teaches classes on how to research.

KRISTIAN PANGILINAN (B.A.) earned an M.B.A. from Hawaii Pacific University. He and his wife, Tara, are enjoying their 1-year-old son, Elijah. Kristian writes, "We plan to travel to Venice for a vacation getaway from our four kids!"

ROBERT PRATI (M.B.A.) is a proud and happy father to two boys, Robbie, 5, and Raymond, 2. He finished his Ph.D. in finance in 2004, and was recently published in a leading finance journal.

GARY SHARP (J.D.) is a commander with the Judge Advocate General's Corps in the U.S. Navy. He is a fleet judge advocate in the U.S. Second Fleet.

[1997]

CAILA (COUGHLIN) ANDERSON (B.B.A.) married Corey Anderson at the Admiral Baker Golf Club in San Diego in July 2006. Alumnae Alicia (Atwood) Potes, Lisa (Beresford) Bridgman and Aly (Rutherford) Romero were bridesmaids. Caila and Corey have two dogs and two cats, and they live in Tempe, Ariz., where Caila is a public relations and events manager for Cricket Communications.

JOHN BARFIELD (M.S.N.) is director of nursing in Chicago for Columbus Manor, a 185-bed facility that administers intermediate mental health nursing services.

CIARA (MURPHY) BYARS (B.B.A.) and her husband, Alan, were married on Oct. 14, 2006, in Manhattan Beach, Calif. Bridesmaids included Class of 1997 alumnae Tara (Panek) Bringle, Jennifer Major, Jennifer Ragazzo, Mary Ann (Olson) Russello and Kelly (Devine) Roark. Guests from the Class of 1997 included Anna Coloroso, Katie (Gerhardt) Duford, Ashley (Adolph) Farrell, Travis Farrell, Tracy (Fitzner) Lyons, Christie

(Lauritzen) Messina, Kara (Viera) Ross, Mike Russello, Nicole (Reinke) Snyder, Roxana (Nunez) Story, Mike Story and Lorraine (Camp) Wilson. Ciara recently finished her M.B.A. at the University of Washington. She and Alan live in Seattle, where Ciara is a product manager for Medtronic.

SETH DeLONG (B.A.) completed his Ph.D. from the University of Virginia in 2004. He is a senior research fellow at the Council on Hemispheric Affairs in Washington, D.C. In June, Seth began three months of training in Paraguay to prepare for a two-year assignment with the Peace Corps.

CHARLES HEINZ (B.B.A.) is in a full-time M.B.A. program at the University of Phoenix while working full time as a district sales manager for Automatic Data Processing in San Diego. He expected to graduate in July 2007.

ASHRAF KASTO (B.A.) planned to move from Michigan to central California in June 2007.

LT. CMDR. THOMAS MACK (B.S./B.A.) earned his master's degree in electrical engineering from Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey. Tom and his family are transferring to Charleston, S.C.

DON MORTON (B.B.A.) was promoted to paralegal supervisor in the San Diego County District Attorney's Office.

CHAMBRIELLE PHAM (B.A.) provides psychotherapy services in a private practice in Orange County, Calif.

LAURIE (EASTWOOD) RAHER (B.S.N., M.S.N. '98), her husband, Michael, and their two sons — Noah, 3, and Jacob, 1 — enjoyed a month in Australia visiting her husband's family.

SHANNON REIDY-DILTZ (B.A., M.Ed. '01) and her husband, Jeff, celebrated the birth of their third child, Michael Robert, on Oct. 19, 2006. Fellow alumna Jen Major is Michael's godmother. The happy family of five lives in San Diego. Shannon says she misses teaching in the elementary classroom, but loves being an at-home mom.

ANDREA (MALCHIODI) TATRO (B.A.) and her husband,

Christopher, have a daughter, Alexis, 17 months. Andrea is finishing her four-year residency in physical medicine and rehabilitation. She plans to join a spine medicine practice in Reno, Nev., in the fall of 2007.

SCOTT WINROW (J.D.) was a special assistant U.S. attorney in San Diego from 1999 to 2000, and a San Diego police officer from 2000 to 2004. He is now a special agent with the FBI.

[1998]
CARLOS CASTELLANOS (B.Acc.) and his wife, Erica (Crook) '98, were blessed with their first son, Gabriel Juan, on Feb. 28, 2006. They live in San Marcos, Calif., where Erica is a stay-at-home mom and Carlos is project manager for Ashbrook Communities.

ELIZABETH WINSHIP COATS (B.A.) graduated with a master's of arts degree in teaching from Columbia College in Chicago. Her area of concentration was art education. Elizabeth is an art teacher in the Lyons Elementary School District in Chicago.

CHERYL GETZ (Ed.D.) is the program director for the Leadership Studies program in USD's School of Leadership and Education Sciences.

ERNEST GOVEA (B.A.) began a six-month deployment in April 2007. "Please keep me and my family in your thoughts and prayers," he writes.

KATRINA (PETERS) HELMAN (B.A.) and her husband, David, celebrated the birth of their first child, Kayla Devyn, in March 2006. The family lives in Seattle, where Katrina is an at-home mom and David is a financial adviser at Bank of America.

JOHN LAMEY (B.A.) and his wife, Kathleen, were married on Aug. 12, 2006, in St. Paul, Minn. Fellow USD alumni in the wedding party were: Tom Lamey, Thomas Palecek and Kevin Rodgers. John is chief executive officer of the law firm Lamey & Pacyga.

TOMAS LUCERO (B.A.) is translating from English to Spanish a volume of selected works by renowned Chicano poet Jimmy Santiago Baca. The book is expected to be published in 2008 by New Direction, a publisher in New York.

STEPHANIE (RAYMER) MOOR-

MAN (B.A.) reports that after a year of hard work, she has become nationally board certified as a teacher. "This is one of the highest honors one can achieve as a teacher," she says.

JAMIE (FATHEREE) PRO (B.A.) and her husband, John '98, welcomed their first child, Gabriella, on June 26, 2006. The family lives in San Diego, where Jamie is a fourth-grade teacher and John is a deputy district attorney.

MARISA RITTS (B.A.) is senior director of public relations at HL LA Media and is managing accounts such as Harry Winston and Vera Wang.

JULIE SHEPHERD (B.A.) teaches English as a Second Language to sixth- and seventh-grade students at Mann Middle School of Expedition. She is completing her ESL certificate at San Diego State University. Julie also attends Rock Church and is involved in the sailing ministry.

LISA (DAHLQUIST) STEPHENS (M.S.N.) retired from the U.S. Navy Nurse Corps in July 2005 after more than 24 years of service. She enjoys working part time at a nearby Army clinic in Virginia. Husband Doug '97 is an active duty lieutenant commander in the Medical Service Corps stationed in Maryland. "My daughter, Hannah, is 11 years old and nearly taller than I am!" she writes. "Greetings to all my fellow USD graduates! Have enjoyed participating in the alumnae association events in the Washington, D.C., area."

STEPHANIE (SIRVENT) WALLACE (B.A., M.A. '01) and her husband, Eric, were married in July 2005. Stephanie is an assistant principal at San Marcos Elementary School in San Marcos.

[1999]
CARISA (WARD) AZZI (B.B.A., M.B.A. '02) is the treasurer for Welk Resorts in San Marcos.

DAVID BYE (M.B.A.) and his wife, Kelly Barnes, announce the birth of their first son, Simon, on Oct. 25, 2006. "We are truly blessed," says David.

KAYCEE FORTANASCE (B.A.) is working on a master's degree in clinical psychology at Pepperdine University.

ALAN HAMRICK (LL.M.) is a real estate agent with Coldwell Banker

Residential, helping buyers and sellers throughout San Diego County.

JAIME KIM (B.A.) is a graduate student at the Claremont School of Theology. She is completing a master's degree in divinity and hopes to be ordained as an elder in the United Methodist Church. She recently married Caleb Webster, who is completing a Ph.D. in religion at Claremont Graduate University.

SHERI ANN FORBES MURRAY (J.D.) and her husband, Bryan, welcomed their second child, Evan, on Aug. 29, 2006.

KELLY (KEAHEY) PATTERSON (B.A.) and her husband, Brian '99, welcomed their second child, Braden, on June 5, 2006. "Braden is doing his best to keep up with older sister Karlie, who turned 3 in June," Kelly says. The family lives in Fresno, Calif., where Kelly is an at-home mom and Brian is a financial consultant with Smith Barney.

2000s
DI (B.A.) and her husband, Matt, were blessed with a beautiful, healthy son, Joseph, on Aug. 3, 2006. Joey was baptized in January 2007 and Cristina's brother, Joseph, also a USD alumnus, is the godfather. Cristina enjoys being an at-home mom.

RUBY (ACEVES) SERRATO (B.A., B.B.A.) was promoted from claims representative to operations supervisor at the Social Services Administration. Ruby and her husband, Saul, live in Indio, Calif.

[2000]
LISA COMER (B.A.) is a student teacher in K-12 Spanish and English as a Second Language. She graduated in May from the University of Kansas with a master's degree in curriculum and instruction. She also earned a provisional license to teach K-12 Spanish and an add-on endorsement in English as a Second Language. In the fall, Lisa plans to begin teaching English as a Second Language at William Allen White Elementary School in Emporia, Kan. "I do miss San Diego," she writes. "God bless."

ALLISON GODDARD (J.D.) and her husband, Patrick, proudly wel-



[hopeful romantic]

THE LOOK OF LOVE

Living happily ever after doesn't just happen

by *Julene Snyder*

For a bachelor, Mathew Boggs sure thinks about marriage a lot. Of course, he's been imagining his wife-to-be since he was a kid.

It's a quirk that best friend Jason Miller finds endearing. "Since the third grade, I'd witnessed at least a hundred of Mat's 'I think I've found the one' events," he writes in the pair's new book, *Project Everlasting: Two Bachelors Discover the Secrets of America's Greatest Marriages*. "Problem is,

Boggs is not exactly the easy-to-please type. "Mat needs more than a wife; he needs a bona fide love story."

His parents' split when he was 14 may have been the initial impetus for the 29-year-old Boggs — who graduated with a B.A. in biology from USD in 2000 — to spend a big chunk of his twenties exploring what it means to build a happy marriage.

"Their divorce was devastating for me," he recalls. "It was the loss

of a dream of one day being able to have my wife and my kids go to grandma and grandpa's house for Christmas." Thirteen years later, he was finishing up his master's degree in education and enduring a nasty breakup. When the phone call came that his grandfather was terminally ill, Boggs decided to do the right thing, the dutiful thing, and spend time with his grandparents while time remained.

"To my great surprise, I had a blast on these visits," he writes in

his book. But it was a single moment, when he noticed that after 63 years the couple was still holding hands, that changed his life. He decided to seek out "marriage masters," couples who've been happily married for more than 40 years, and ask them how to make love stay. But it wasn't until he enlisted Miller, his childhood friend, as a partner in the project that things started to take shape.

"In 2005 we went up and down the West Coast for five weeks and interviewed 100 couples in an effort to start writing the book," Boggs recounts in a free-ranging conversation. "Then we realized that we really needed to travel around the country and get people from different regions." When 10



TIM MANTOANI

laid down," Boggs laughs. That bridge was built of stuff like a new agent, subsequent publishing deal (complete with bidding war), corporate sponsorships and, in the end, a deeper understanding of what true love looks like.


"I went into this project

LIFELONG FRIENDS,
Mat Boggs (left) and Jason Miller went on a quest to interview "marriage masters," who'd been happily hitched for over 40 years.

anticipating what I thought I might hear, but by and large, every couple talked about respect being the cornerstone of their relationship. These couples are on each other's side. They don't throw each other under the bus, they don't criticize each other in front of other people, and that creates an environment of trust, deepens the relationship, and allows them to get vulnerable with each other, which then bolsters the connection."

When the book launched in early June of this year, Boggs and Miller were, once again, on the stage of the "Today Show." And again, they were teased, just a little, about being bachelors. Boggs makes no secret of still being on the lookout for "the one."

"I'm so happy for this book to be done and out," he says with a sigh. "This project has killed my love life. It's really hard to meet eligible young women in nursing homes."

He pauses, perhaps wondering if he's over-sharing, then decides to go for it. "If I get really honest with myself, this project is probably my way of reaching out and trying to find my wife.  imagine that she'd be just as much a romantic as me."

To learn more about Project Everlasting, go to www.projecteverlasting.com.

comed another son, Lincoln, on Aug. 8, 2006. Older brother Murray was born on Oct. 8, 2003. Allison is a partner at Jaczko Goddard in San Diego.

ASHLEY VODRA PATRICIO (B.A.) and her husband, Stephen '00, welcomed their first baby, Taylor Lynne, on May 4, 2007. She weighed 7 lbs., 11 oz., and was 22 inches at birth.

DARCY (BELFIGLIO) RAMEKER (B.B.A., M.A. '04) and her husband, Mark, were married at Founders Chapel on Oct. 16, 2004. She works in the Center for Student Activities and Programming at Penn State University.

MELISSA (MERIWETHER) SIPOWICZ (B.A.) earned a master's degree in educational technology from Pepperdine University in July 2004. She and her husband, Tim, were married on Aug. 12, 2006, and they honeymooned in Bora Bora. They live in Long Beach, where Melissa has her dream job teaching kindergarten and Tim is a portfolio manager for an investment banking company.

PETER STRICKLER (B.B.A.) married Allison Buck in May 2006. They live in Dallas, where Peter has owned and operated an international software company for three years. They are looking forward to initiating another small business together.

LISA JI-HAE YANG (J.D.) married David Lee in Los Angeles on Sept. 23, 2006. They live in the Hollywood area.

[2 0 0 1]
ERIN (FLEMING) BLOCK (B.B.A.) and her husband, Steven, have been married for five years. Erin is a research analyst for NAMM, an international music products association.

TIMOTHY CLARK (B.A.) married wife Nicole on June 9, 2001. Their daughter, Hannah, was born on Aug. 4, 2005. Timothy completed his Ph.D. in chemistry in 2006, and the family lives in Madison, Wis., where he is working on a postdoctoral fellowship.

EMMANUEL DULAY (B.S./B.A.) is a captain in the U.S. Air Force. He is a flight test engineer for the 59th Test and Evaluation Squadron. Emmanuel supports the pilots by implementing modifications to the F-15C aircraft. "My job is to make sure the F-15 is around for 20 more years," he says.

"In return, the pilots let me ride back-seat with them, sometimes to support a mission, and sometimes it's the pilot's way of saying 'thank you.'" He is stationed at Nellis Air Force Base in Nevada and he says the fighters are flying all day. "Best job ever!"

MARK HEFFERNAN (B.A.) has been at Northrop Grumman on the Global Hawk program for nearly five years. Heff Productions had a record year in 2006 and has grown to six staff members, with a goal of 10 employees by the end of 2007.

KATHRYN (MUELLER) KOLONIC (B.A.) finished a master's degree in public health at Portland State University in 2005, and began working on a degree in osteopathic medicine, which she expects to complete in 2009. Kathryn and her husband, Andrijano, were married on Oct. 6, 2006, in Portland, Ore. Both attend Touro University in Nevada.

JAVIER MARIN (B.A.) earned a social studies teaching credential from California State University, Sacramento. From 2001 to 2006, he taught at Yolo County Juvenile Hall. Javier is now a teacher and football coach at Woodland Senior High School. He married his college sweetheart, Celena Rodriguez, and they have two children: Lourdes, 7, and Javier, 2.

COLLEEN (MARTIN) McGUINNESS (B.B.A.) and her husband, Liam, welcomed a baby girl, Katherine Emma, on Feb. 13, 2007. They are enjoying being new parents. The family lives in Pasadena, Calif.

SUZIN (KESLING) MEYERS (B.A.) has two beautiful sons, ages 3 years and 9 months. She is a literacy teacher for the Cajon Valley Union School District.

MEREDITH (ELWELL) MILLER (B.A.) and her husband, Michael '00, were married on Aug. 5, 2005. Michael and Noah Garner, also an alumnus, are business partners and owners of a software development company. Michael and Meredith live in Redondo Beach, Calif.

KORIE (NORRIS) NORTON (B.A.) and her husband, Leo, moved into their first home in Carlsbad in 2005 and have two dogs,

Toby and Troy.

DORON OHEL (J.D.) is in his third year of private practice in Cupertino, Calif., focusing on estate planning and business litigation.

BRANDON RIGGS (B.B.A.) and his wife, Kiley '01, are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Madilyn, on Dec. 21, 2006.

MONTSERRAT ROMERO (B.B.A.) and Fernando Carrillo welcomed a baby girl, Montserrat Carrillo Romero, on April 1, 2007. "Everyone is fine and adjusting to the new life," Montserrat says.

JENNIFER (SOARES) SKEEN (B.A.) and her husband, Tim, welcomed their first child, a daughter, on Oct. 22, 2006. "Erin Margaret Skeen weighed 5 lbs., 14 oz., and is a wonderful baby!" Jennifer says.

MICHELLE (RICHMAN) SU (B.A.) married her husband, Kevin, on July 8, 2006. Michelle completed a master's degree in international relations at the University of California, San Diego, in 2006. She works for the U.S. Government Accountability Office in Washington, D.C.

SANDRA (HARRISON) TORRE (B.A., M.Ed. '03) and her husband, Jon, were married recently, and they bought a home in San Diego.

[2002]

KEITH BRUNO (J.D.) joined the office of the Orange County Public Defender in June 2005. He received the Don Simms Attorney of the Year Award for 2006.

PENELOPE USALLA GREGORIUS (B.A.) is a child protective services worker/child abuse investigator with the County of San Diego. She is working toward a master's degree in educational counseling.

KATHLEEN (MORRISON) LOPEZ (B.B.A.) and her husband, Herman, were married on May 6, 2006. They live in Tustin, Calif.

MARY McDONALD (B.A., B.B.A.) and Nicholas Kindelt were married on March 10, 2007, at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament in Sacramento, Calif. USD alumni guests included Jeremy Carrine, Amy McGee, Kristin Hlubik and Bethany Fischer. Mary planned to

complete her law degree at the University of California, Hastings, before the summer of 2007, and she and Nick planned to move to Tulsa, Okla., in August, where Mary has a position as associate attorney with Eldridge, Cooper, Steichen and Leach.

ANGELA MITCHELL (B.A.) has been living in New Orleans since right before Hurricane Katrina hit. "It's been a challenge, but fun," she says. She completed her master's degree in tropical medicine and parasitology from the Tulane School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine. In April, she began observing and working with the research team developing the malaria p. vivax vaccine at the Malaria Vaccine and Drug Development Center in Cali, Colombia.

BRENDAN MULVANEY (M.S.G.L.) completed his Ph.D. in international relations in October 2006 from Fudan University in Shanghai, People's Republic of China.

ERIK NAGEL (B.A.) is a surgery resident in the Navy, stationed at Naval Medical Center, Portsmouth, Va. He will be doing a tour of duty with the Marines out of Twentynine Palms, Calif., for the next two years.

KHRISTI POIDMORE (B.A.) is a resident specializing in periodontics at the University of Nebraska Medical Center.

ANNE SKIDMORE (B.A.) is enjoying life in San Diego's North County. She is ministering to college students with the InterVarsity Christian Fellowship. "I'm giving them a part of what made USD an amazing and life-changing experience for me: a real relationship with Jesus and a solid community," Anne says.

[2003]

DONNA ALPNER (M.A.) worked for three years at Mental Health Systems in Oceanside and left in June 2006 to open a private practice. She works with Marines returning from Iraq and also with children and adolescents, among other clients.

JESSICA BECK (B.A.) is in the Ph.D. program in performance practice at the University of Exeter in England. During the past two years, she has directed four plays at the Edinburgh Festival. She is education

director at Theatre503, a London theater that presents new works by contemporary playwrights.

JASON BLAIR (B.B.A.) is playing pro basketball in Spain.

BONNIE DOWD (Ed.D.) was a professor of business for 15 years at Palomar College and in January 2006 was promoted to Palomar College District's assistant superintendent and vice president of finance and administrative services. In October 2006, she was appointed to represent San Diego County community colleges on a board for a statewide association of chief business officers.

DERRICK EELS (B.A.) returned to Nebraska and founded an incentive company focusing on travel and meeting planning for large companies and nonprofit organizations. TenDot Corporate Travel has seen a minimum of 300 percent growth each year. "All Toreros are invited to Lincoln for a private tour," Derrick says.

JESSE FARRIS (B.B.A.) graduated from California Western School of Law, took the California Bar exam and is awaiting results. In the meantime, she planned to work as a camp counselor/lifeguard/surf instructor with high school kids in Costa Rica over the summer through Rustic Pathways.

JENNY FERRONE (Ed.D.) is an adjunct faculty member at Southwestern College in Chula Vista.

ANDREW FLETCHER (M.A.) is a school counselor at Balboa City School in San Diego.

BROOKE (OAR) GERGURICH (M.Ed.) and her husband, John, were married on June 24, 2006, at The Immaculata. "It was a big, beautiful Catholic Mass attended by many former USD students," says Brooke. They honeymooned in Europe and made their home in San Diego.

COURTNEY HOFFMANN (B.A., M.A. '06) married James Tracy '04 in May 2006. Courtney finished her master's degree in international relations and is working at USD. James is a software engineer at Kyocera Wireless and plans to start working on his Ph.D. at the University of California, San Diego, in the fall. Courtney and James live in La Jolla

with their two dogs, Roxie and Penny.

WILLIAM KALENIUS (B.A.) is in his fifth year as a crew rowing coach at Vancouver Lake. He is also a paramedic and volunteer firefighter with the Vancouver Fire Department in Washington state.

ERIN FOLEY KOZAK (J.D.) and her husband, Thomas '86, welcomed their first child, Joshua Thomas, on Oct. 6, 2006.

SAMUEL LEMON (B.Acc.) is a certified public accountant in San Diego, and he plans to attend law school in the fall.

ANTONIO LOPEZ (B.A.) has lived in Manhattan and Santa Fe, N.M. He is now in Albuquerque, where he is a financial adviser for Morgan Stanley. In 2004-05, he studied playwriting and acting at the Actors Studio Drama School under Robert De Niro, Al Pacino and Ellen Burstyn. In 2006, he managed the largest running specialty store in the country and was also a mortgage broker on Wall Street. He ran 2:36 in the 2005 Philadelphia marathon and planned to beat that time in the 2007 San Diego Rock 'n' Roll Marathon.

NATALIA LUGLIANI (B.B.A.) completed a master's degree in Italian from Middlebury College while living abroad in Italy for two and a half years. She plans to teach Italian at the university level.

SHELLEY LYFORD (M.A.) is a program director at the Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace & Justice from May 2003 to July 2006. She moved to The San Diego Foundation as manager of research and development and is now acting director for a private family foundation in Carlsbad.

SUSANA MARTIN DEL CAMPO (B.A.) and her husband, Patrick Yrigoyen '01, recently moved back to San Diego after living in Lima, Peru, for four years. They have two sons, Lucas, 2, and Sebastian, born in January 2007.

VICTOR RAMOS (B.B.A.) left the Boys & Girls Clubs of Chicago as mentoring program coordinator to join Kellogg Brown & Root as a field buyer in the Middle East. He'll be working in Kuwait, Iraq, Afghanistan and the Republic of Georgia.

BRENDA SANTELLANES (B.B.A.) is working toward an M.B.A. at Azusa Pacific University.

NICOLE SCHWARZ (B.A., J.D. '06) is an associate attorney with Lincoln, Gustafson & Cercos in San Diego, and is a member of the California State Bar and the San Diego County Bar Association. Nicole celebrated completing the bar exam with a trip to Costa Rica.

ANTHONY SOLINA (M.Ed.) and his wife, DeAnna, bought a home in Stockton, Calif. Anthony is a math teacher at Langston Hughes Middle School.

SAMUEL STEWART (B.S./B.A.) and his wife, Mary (Zangari) '03, welcomed their first child, Gabriel Joseph, on Jan. 26, 2007. "He was born healthy and happy at 6 lbs., 10 oz., and surprised Mary and me by coming three weeks early (and two days before Mary's baby shower)!" says Samuel.

MICHELLE (GARDNER) TOMALONIS (B.S.) is a case investigator for Lerach Coughlin. She and her husband, Brian, were married on Aug. 27, 2006. Many USD alumni attended, and Kimberly Welters and Ashley Guggia were in the wedding party.

AARON TUBBS (B.B.A.) recently returned from traveling in Colombia, Ecuador and Brazil, and is now on a job hunt.

GREGORY URUBURU (B.A.) worked for a few years as an emergency medical technician in pursuit of a career as a firefighter and paramedic, but ultimately decided it was not the right career for him. "I am now lifeguard sergeant for the city of Solana Beach, working as a full-time lifeguard," he says. "I live in Encinitas and spend my free time surfing, going on surf trips and enjoying this great area known as San Diego."

SEAN VALENTINE (M.A.) completed his active duty service in the Navy in 2003 and began working as a developer for Pulte Homes in the San Francisco Bay Area. He is now the development manager at Atherton-Newport Real Estate Investments in Irvine, Calif.

[2004]
AMANDA BAIADA (B.B.A.)

worked since graduation at a book distributing company that supplied wholesale warehouse clubs. She was recently accepted into the 2009 class of M.B.A. students at Boston College and planned to relocate to Boston in July 2007.

RODRIC BROGAN (M.F.A.) was on the national tour with Cherry Jones in the Pulitzer- and Tony-winning play, "Doubt," by John Patrick Shanley.

CHARLENE CHIU (J.D.) earned an M.B.A. in 2006 and has traveled internationally to European and Asian destinations.

GAIRD HELDT (B.A.) graduated from the University of New Haven with a master's degree in industrial and organizational psychology, concentrating in consultation and organizational development.

BENNETT MACINTYRE (M.A.) was named head golf coach for the men's and women's teams at Carroll College in Montana. He is also the director of community living at the college.

CHRISTIAN MALCOLM (B.B.A.) writes, "Let it be known that I found my wife, Heather Johnson '04, through Outdoor Adventures! We were married on Nov. 4, 2006, at Founders Chapel." Christian is a paramedic, and Heather is a nurse.

SEAN McCLINTON (B.B.A.) married Yuri Misawa on March 3, 2007, which is Japan's Girls' Day. Yuri has a master's degree in educational communication and technology from New York University. Sean recently went on a tour to Hong Kong with USD students, led by Alan Gin.

SARAH MOGA (B.A.) is a writer for Fox News in Chicago. "I love it!" she says.

THAO NGUYEN (B.B.A.) married Jeff Hughes, her high school sweetheart of 10 years, on May 13, 2006, in a garden wedding at the Handlery Hotel and Resort in San Diego. The wedding party included older sister and maid of honor Tiffany Nguyen and best friend Jenny Hendrickson, both USD alumnae, and younger sister Tien Nguyen. The wedding was coordinated by alumna Georgina Miranda. Cousin and alumna Annie

Tran played piano at the ceremony. Alumni guests included Jennifer Glaser, Lisa Meyer, Judy Perry, Aya Ibarra, Tim Kosen, Suzanne Merlo, Jessica Grudovich, Vinnie de Nino and Helenna Lopez. Thao and Jeff honeymooned in Mexico, and they live in San Diego. Thao is a buyer for Goodrich Aerostructures in Chula Vista, and Jeff is an accountant at Lavine, Lofgren, Morris and Engelberg in La Jolla.

OLIVIA OUTHAVONG (B.A.) is a coordinator and executive assistant for Earth Council Alliance, an international environmental organization. ECA implements international programs to advance sustainable community development, produces conferences worldwide to increase awareness, and engages leaders and experts to discuss and produce solutions for global challenges.

JILL PASQUALETTO (B.A.) moved to Washington, D.C., to work with a GOP fundraiser in support of House of Representatives candidates around the country.

LEANDRA SALLES-CUNHA (B.A.) is a studio photographer at Portrait Innovations in Marietta, Ga.

ALLISON WILLIAMS (B.A.) earned her single-subject teaching credential in social science from California State University, Long Beach. She teaches and coaches softball in the Long Beach Unified School District.

[2005]
AMY BRANDT (B.A.) is the office supervisor for her family's business, Brandt Beef, The True Natural. "Thanks to my USD family, I've become more patient and grateful for the blessings in my life," she writes.

ANTONIO CUGINI (M.B.A.) and his wife, Michelle, were married in July 2005. Antonio works for FoxFury Personal Lighting Solutions, a family business.

TANIA GINSBERG (B.A.) worked at a bilingual Montessori school in Paris last year and is now in Dublin, Ireland, as a student in a master's program in Montessori education.

VINCENT GIULIANO (B.B.A.) works for his family's Italian restaurant, Gaetano's, in Torrance, Calif.

JENELLE HAWKINS (B.A.) works

for the Consulate of Canada in downtown San Diego.

ALEXANDRIA JARVIS (B.A.) moved to Los Angeles to pursue a more creative path, including freelance writing, singing in a band and working for an artist management company. She planned travels to Italy, England and New Zealand in 2007 and expects to attend graduate school in the United Kingdom in 2007 or 2008.

JEFF MENCKE (M.B.A.) is an executive recruiter in finance and accounting through Ajilon Finance in San Diego.

JONATHAN NOWLING (B.B.A.) earned an M.B.A. and several insurance licenses. He also became a notary public. Two years ago, Jonathan and his brother founded Aspen Water Systems in Roseville, Calif. The company sells reverse osmosis water systems and bottleless water coolers to homes and businesses.

KRISTIN (SEVERNS) OWENS (B.A.) and her husband, Keith, welcomed their first child, Arden

In Memoriam

JESSICA PERNICE (B.A.) married Kalon Morris on Aug. 5, 2006. Her husband is a Harvard graduate and a tenured oceanography professor. Jessica and Kalon enjoy sharing their time between their homes in California, Colorado and their tropical beach paradise in Mexico.

WILLARD SHEPHERD (B.B.A.)
Send Class Notes
ed a position at Productive Finance, a family business in Los Angeles.

LORETTA FANNING (M.A. '65) passed away on Jan. 16, 2004.

CYRIL GUINEY (B.A. '73) passed away in October 2006.

KEVIN IGASAKI (Ed.D. '05) died unexpectedly on Aug. 10, 2005. He is dearly missed.

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SUPREMEY SUMMER In late August, retired U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor was on campus to provide the keynote address to the National Association of Women Judges. She also spent time with USD's President Mary E. Lyons, School of Law Dean Kevin Cole and the association's key leaders. Just a few days after her visit, Justice Antonin Scalia was at the School of Law, team-teaching a course on separation of powers.



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