

**88** Greetings, classmates! First things first. It is now officially less than one year till our class gathers in Ithaca for our 25th Reunion! Now, for those of you who are wondering how in the world nearly 25 years has passed so quickly, I say forget about the passage of time (and the gray hairs it brings) and make plans to come to the Hill and celebrate 25 years of life as Cornell alumni and alumnae. I've heard and seen wonderful reports of the Class of 1987's 25th last June, and I believe we can have an even more outstanding reunion—and break the 25th Reunion attendance record, which the '87ers did not break. So save the dates—June 6-9, 2013—for what is sure to be a fantastic Big Red party weekend!

Over the course of the past two-and-a-half decades since our commencement, it has been my great pleasure to have maintained close friendships with a number of people I met so long ago on the campus in Ithaca. **Steve and Anna Barnsley Werblow '90** joined my family for a little Memorial Day party back in May to enjoy some good food and drink and a little bocce playing on a court my wife and I had built in our backyard. It was great to see Steve and Anna and their kids Shoshana and Ilan, as we do a few times each year. The Werblows still make their home in Ashland, OR, home of the famous Shakespeare Festival. In 2011, Steve was named the Writer of the Year by the American Agricultural Editors Association. Steve does quite a bit of traveling for work and over the years has covered stories on six continents.

One of the fun things about being a class correspondent is receiving news from a classmate I knew as an undergrad but have not heard anything about for a long time. So it was a great pleasure to get a note from **Carla Liberatore**, who grew up in my hometown of Yonkers, NY. Carla manages a private ob/gyn practice in Fayetteville, NY, where she lives with her husband, Sargon, and their three children, ages 14, 12, and 8. She wrote that she loves her profession and traveling with her family to Italy and Costa Rica. She'd love to hear from **Heidi Heinzerling**, DVM '92, with whom she has lost touch and in whose hometown Carla has been living for more than a decade. I do have a suggestion for Carla and anyone else looking to reconnect with lost Cornell friends: use the alumni directory at CornellConnect, available online at [www.cornellconnect.cornell.edu](http://www.cornellconnect.cornell.edu).

Another '88er from whom I had not heard in some time is **Lesley Topiol** Kowalski. Lesley and her family live in Fairfax, VA, where she serves as the elementary school PTA president at her son Walter's school (how apropos for a former class president). In January of this year, Lesley reconnected with a large number of alumni at the Cornell Alumni Leadership Conference held in Washington, DC. Lesley described having lunch with more than 1,000 other Cornellians as "awe inspiring." She hopes to get to reunion next year and see lots of her SDT sisters come back as well. In the

"I knew you, but had to be reminded" category, I received a very nice note from **Gus Faucher**, with whom I was in Italian classes at Cornell. Gus and his wife, **Amy Crawford-Faucher**, are moving across the Keystone State to Pittsburgh, after 11 years in Philadelphia. Gus has a new job with PNC Financial Services as a senior economist. He will work on economic forecasts, talking with the media and presenting to client groups. Amy is resuming her career as a family physician with the U. of Pittsburgh Medical Center. She will see patients and teach medical school students. Earlier in the year, Amy won the Exemplary Teacher of the Year Award from the Pennsylvania Academy of Family Physicians.

**Eric and Jodie Yeaple Gunther** enjoy life in Farmington, ME, with their three children, two llamas, and five sheep. They have been in Maine for the last 11 years, since Eric completed his residency in general surgery. They have not been back to Ithaca for some time, but hope to make Homecoming this fall (don't forget about reunion next year!). **Erik Ross** has enjoyed a successful (and somewhat unusual) career with a single employer, namely the US Navy, since leaving Cornell in 1988. Captain Ross reported for duty as an executive officer on the USS *Bataan* in May 2010 and then "fleeted-up" to take command on the *Bataan* while deployed in August 2011. When Erik is not deployed, he makes his home in Virginia Beach, VA, with his wife, Cindy, and their children Matthew, 14, Angela, 12, and Danielle, 9. Together they enjoy camping, hiking, and playing volleyball. Erik would like to reconnect with **Bill Hawkins**, with whom he was stationed in Hawaii back in 1989-90.

Out here on the West Coast, **Ky-Van Lee** lives in Sunnyvale, CA, with husband **Scott Benson '91** and their twin sons Samuel and Julian. Ky-Van has been salsa dancing for five years and competed with her dance partner at the World Latin Dance Cup in December 2011, where they won 5th place in the amateur couples division. Also in sunny California, **Karen Kao** lives in Palo Alto and is an environmental health specialist for the County of Santa Clara. Karen has also served as an alumna volunteer as events director for the Cornell Alumni Association of Northern California. Karen would most like to hear from someone I also knew back in the old days: **Ilinca Popescu** Creveling.

**Jill Miller** Katz is an adjunct professor of law at Fordham Law School and holds a leadership role with the tax section of the American Bar Association. Jill, husband Michael, and their family enjoyed a vacation to Costa Rica earlier in the year. The Cornellian Jill would most like to hear from is **Timothy Bauer**. **Jayne Gilbert** Peister lives in New Rochelle, NY, and received a promotion to the highest ranking sales position at Eli Lilly and Co. in February 2012. Daughter Sophia had her bat mitzvah in June while older daughter Emma is "just beginning to think about colleges—perhaps Cornell?" And lastly, **John Jones** is managing di-

rector, deputy general counsel at investment banking firm Cantor Fitzgerald, living in Manhattan, and raising twins with his wife, Marie-Claude.

I hope you all enjoy hearing about your classmates' doings from coast-to-coast. If you are looking for an online outlet to reunite with other '88ers, in addition to CornellConnect mentioned earlier, the class does have a Facebook group ("Cornell '88 Alumni"). If you are a Facebook user, the group can be a way to reconnect with fellow Cornellians, perhaps arranging some mini-reunions before the main event in June of next year. As always, please write or e-mail with updates on your lives, work, and families. Until next time, I wish you peace. ☒ **Steven Tomaselli**, [st89@cornell.edu](mailto:st89@cornell.edu); **Brad Mehl**, [bam62@cornell.edu](mailto:bam62@cornell.edu); and **Sharon Nunan Stemme**, [sen28@cornell.edu](mailto:sen28@cornell.edu)