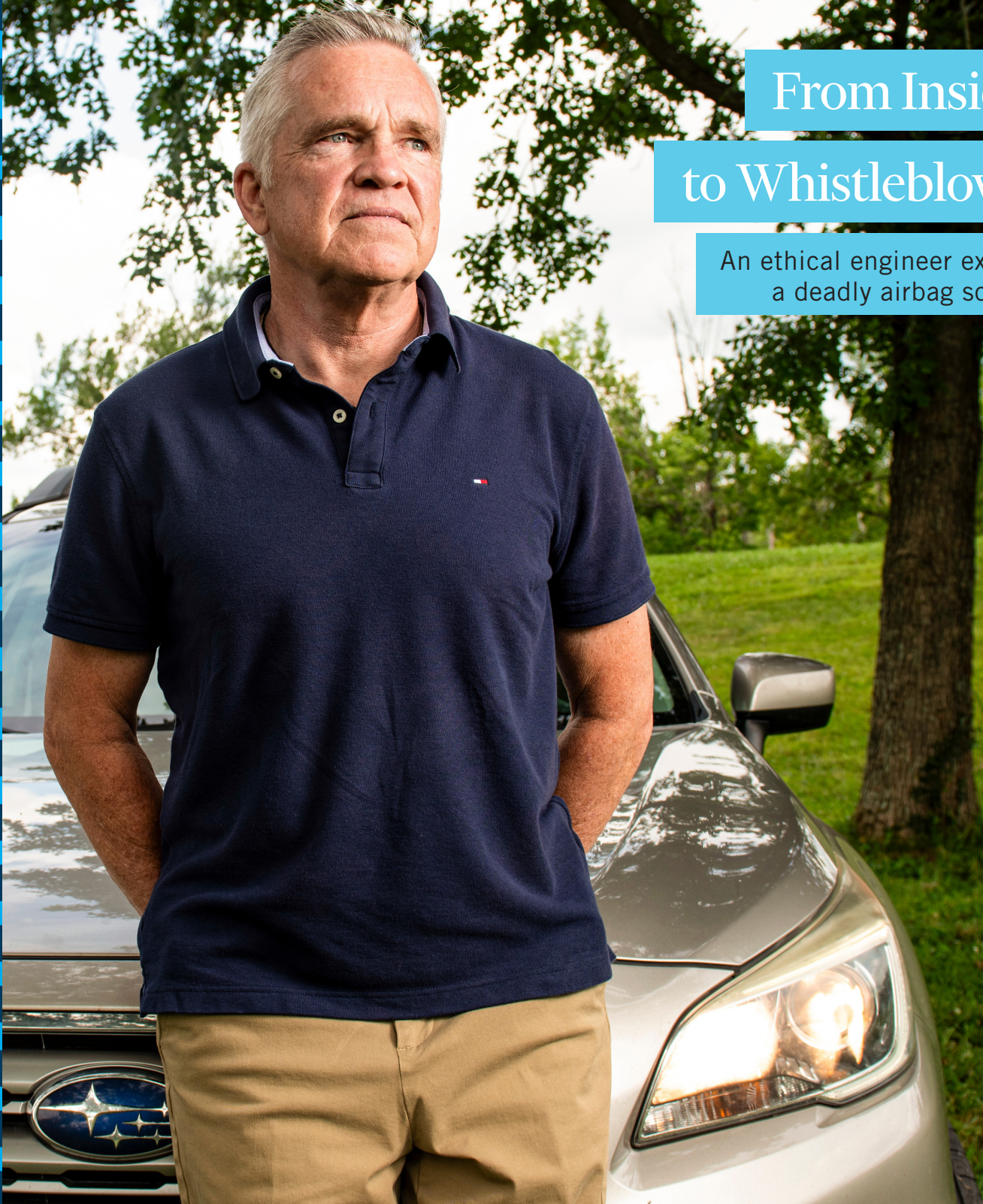


BUCKNELL

FALL 2023

From Insider to Whistleblower

An ethical engineer exposes
a deadly airbag scandal



ENROLLMENT RECORD, P6

ChatGPT at Work, p12

FATEFUL FRIENDS, P18

Blacklisted by the FBI, p43





BY WAY OF BUCKNELL

ACCENT COLORS

Autumn leaves and comfy seats accentuate our favorite color combination.

If you would like a reprint of this photo, please fill out the form at go.bucknell.edu/PhotoOffer. We will send you a complimentary 8x10 print.

photograph by EMILY PAINE

PATHWAYS



FROM PRACTICING LAW

to

SUPPORTING
STUDENT SCHOLARS

After graduating from Yale Law School, Margaret Marr worked as a criminal defense and civil rights lawyer. But after accepting an opportunity to teach a course to paralegals, she realized she enjoyed teaching law more than practicing it.

As a law professor — first at the University of California, Santa Cruz, then at American University — she found fulfillment in helping her students pursue learning beyond the classroom. Her devotion to helping students navigate research projects and apply for scholarships took her career one step further.

Now, as Bucknell's director of undergraduate fellowship research, Marr connects students to valuable research opportunities and assists students and recent alumni in applying for nationally and internationally competitive scholarships. She provides support and mentorship throughout their experiences. The two prongs of her work complement each other as many student researchers make strong candidates for prestigious fellowships.

Under her leadership, Bucknellians are consistently awarded two of the country's most coveted research grants — Goldwater Scholarships and Fulbright Fellowships. "Our students are phenomenal," Marr says. "And a big part of why they have been so successful is that Bucknell invests in them. We encourage them to pursue whatever they are curious about and provide them with the necessary resources to do so. We surpass many of our peer institutions in this way. It's really remarkable what we achieve."

— Katie Neitz

photography by EMILY PAINE





photography by EMILY PAINE



FROM CEO

to

STUDENT

Mikey Brandt '26 toured colleges not just as a prospective student but also as the founder of his own company. In high school, he launched a vintage-inspired streetwear brand — LEFT Clothing (named after his dominant hand) — from his family's garage. In a college, Brandt wanted a strong business program within a tight-knit community. He found both at Bucknell. "I felt an immediate connection here," he says. "I knew it was a place that would help me develop my entrepreneurial and leadership skills."

The CEO arrived on campus ready to be schooled. In his first semester, he took an entrepreneurship course with William Meek, the Campbell Rutledge Jr. and Eleanor Rutledge Professor of Management & Entrepreneurship, which helped spark an idea for a new business line, LEFTover, that aims to reduce waste by upcycling used fashion items. Brandt developed his idea into a proposal, pitched it at Bucknell's BizPitch competition and made it to the semifinals. He's now applying everything he learned in the process to launch the new venture this fall.

Between classes, Brandt has found inspiration and community in Bucknell's makerspaces, where he sketches designs, experiments with screen printing and collaborates with other creative thinkers. He channeled all of those experiences into a summer internship with a screen-printing business near his hometown of North Haven, Conn.

"I think my Bucknell education and my markets, innovation & design major are going to help me take my business to the next level," he says. "I love the small aspects of Bucknell. There is a special community here I wouldn't have at a bigger school."

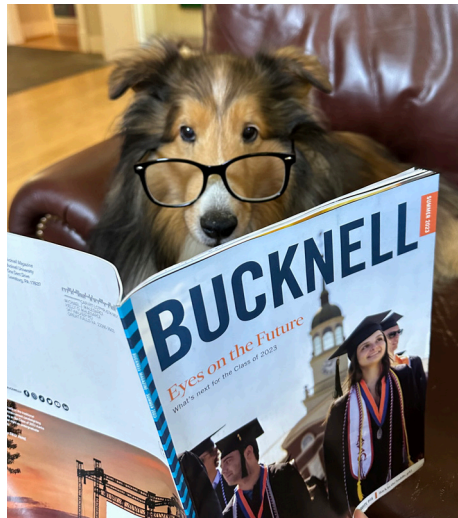
— Katie Neitz

LETTERS

DEVOTED READER

OUR ENTIRE FAMILY loves reading *Bucknell Magazine*, and it's always a fight to see who gets it first. **Harper Malesardi '24** managed to catch Tony with his "eyes on the future," the theme of the Summer 2023 edition. Keep up the good work!

MICHAEL AND KELLY MALESARDI P'24
Great Falls, Va.



▲ Tony Malesardi is a 12-year-old Shetland sheepdog with a discerning eye for alumni publications.

ACCESS AND ADMISSIONS

THIS IS A GREAT MESSAGE to share, and I'm glad to see that Bucknell is taking it seriously ("Creating an Inclusive, Equitable Community," Summer 2023). Diversity is very important and discrimination should not be tolerated, but merit and only merit should determine admission.

RICH COMPTON '93
Sparks Glencoe, Md.

I WAS VERY DISAPPOINTED in President Bravman's reaction to the recent Supreme Court ruling regarding race-based admissions policies in *Bucknell Magazine* ("Our Commitment to Equitable Access and Outcomes," Summer 2023). He defended the status quo by citing the need to advance "critical thinking." I wholeheartedly agree with that part of Bucknell's mission, but isn't it part of critical thinking to take a step back and analyze a situation when one is proven wrong to see what you may have missed and may learn from others with a different point of view? I would hope that losing at the Supreme Court would start a process of self-reflection, not a knee-jerk doubling down.

TOM WALESKI '79, M'80
Lancaster, Pa.

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Two Bucknell families are united by a shared history and an uncertain future.

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First jobs don't need to be dream jobs to provide value.

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COURAGE UNDER FIRE

Kevin Fitzgerald '84 gave up his career to advocate for vehicle safety.

ON THE COVER:

Kevin Fitzgerald '84 became a whistleblower to save lives.

Photo by Tim Webb

FROM THE EDITOR

Accomplished, Patient, Kind

IN ADDITION to having a crush on Professor Douglas Candland (“In Memoriam,” Summer 2023) when I was his student so many years ago, I also came to respect him greatly for all the amazing work he accomplished over the course of his career and for the profound depth of his patience. When his beloved wife, Mary, died a few years ago, I managed to send him a note, telling him I had the same experience with my mother and fully understood the pain he was going through. He sent a very nice note back, thanking me for my message. He signed it “Doug,” which I greatly appreciated.

PAULETTE DUTKUS FORSSEN '63
Kennebunk, Maine

IN THE YEAR since I joined Bucknell, I’ve developed an appreciation for the special connection that unites this community. The Bucknellian bond is certainly strong among those who sat together in classrooms, lived together in residence halls and played together on athletics fields and courts. But what I’ve found truly remarkable is how this bond transcends time and space. It exists between Bucknellians who span generations, whose paths never physically crossed on campus. The shared Bucknell experience creates a connection that inspires generosity, empathy and kindness.

This is on display in this issue. In “Learning from Experience,” P. 14, you’ll read about an alumna who is helping today’s aspiring scientists access hands-on research opportunities. In “Creating a Lasting Legacy,” P. 42, you’ll read about a 101-year-old alumna whose philanthropy has transformed lives, not only by helping students finance their education but by enabling them to feel invested in and valued. On P. 18, in “Stronger Together,” you’ll read about two Bucknell families connected by unfortunate circumstances and extraordinary odds. Together, they are navigating

a challenging journey they wouldn’t want to face alone.

These are stories I love to find — and to tell. I’m grateful to have a vehicle to showcase the special Bucknellian bond.

At the same time, *Bucknell Magazine* also aims to inspire readers by sharing initiatives that are propelling the University forward to meet its strategic goals. To facilitate this, the Winter 2024 issue of *Bucknell Magazine* will be a special “University Report” edition. This particular issue will deviate from our normal format to focus specifically on the people, programming and plans that are shaping the future of Bucknell. You will notice that there will be fewer pages, and the Class Notes section will not appear. *Please be assured: The magazine’s regular format — including Class Notes — will resume in the Spring 2024 issue.*

I value the connection that makes the Bucknellian community so distinctively special, and I look forward to continuing to tell these stories and share updates from our valued Class Reporters in future issues.

Katie Neitz
Editor
k.neitz@bucknell.edu

Not Fond of Fonda

I am really astounded that of all the available speakers you can choose from for your prestigious events that Jane Fonda would be selected (“Critical Conversations,” Summer 2023). Since the days of Vietnam, her perspectives have always been radical. Our current student

population deserves patriotic Americans to be given the stage. Let us hope that all attendees have been educated in her background and are well prepared to be able to discern her individual ideas. That is the purpose of these forums. My hope is that our Bucknell community will

listen and discern truths carefully.

VALERIE RUDIN MIX '62
Yardley, Pa.

Learn more about the Bucknell Forum and its most recent speaker, columnist George F. Will, on P. 8.

BUCKNELL

magazine

Volume 16, Issue 4

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In High Demand



▲ Bucknell has become increasingly selective as interest from prospective students has grown year over year.

by MIKE FERLAZZO

BUCKNELL OPENED its 178th academic year in August with a record enrollment for the third consecutive year. The student body comprises 3,925 students, including 3,867 undergraduates, 44 graduate students and 14 nondegree students. The opening enrollment figure reflects one of the highest sophomore retention rates in University history, with 96.3% of Class of 2026 students remaining enrolled; and the second-largest incoming class in Bucknell history, with 1,033 students in the Class of 2027.

Only last year's record class of 1,039 new students was larger than this year's. The University opened last year with the previous record enrollment at 3,854 students.

"Demand for a Bucknell education remains higher than ever," said President John Bravman in his annual University Address to employees Aug. 14. "We have seen more than 11,000 applications in each of the past three years, with more students than ever accepting our offer of admission. I am

incredibly proud of the work we've all done to reach this level of interest from such talented students."

The incoming class was selected from among 11,010 applicants and hails from 40 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico, as well as 24 countries and administrative regions. The first-year student body includes 22% who are students of color (21.7% last year), 4.5% who are international students (4.1% last year) and 13.5% who are first-generation students. The class had an average high school GPA of 3.65, up slightly from last year (3.63).

There are also 27 transfer students this year, 12 of whom are Bucknell Community College Scholars.

"Bucknell's Class of 2027 is an impressive mix of academic and personal talent," says Assistant Vice President & Dean of Admissions **Kevin Mathes '07**. "Their service to their communities, advocacy work and accomplishments impressed us. We know they will make a positive impact on the Bucknell community."

ACCESS LEADER



Chris Brown joined Bucknell in July as the **Andrew Hartman '71 & Joseph Fama '71** Executive Director of the Center for Access & Success. Brown's team is developing a cohesive system of supportive resources to ensure students in Bucknell's five pathway scholarship programs can thrive on campus — and beyond.

BEFORE BUCKNELL

"At St. Bonaventure University, I helped launch the university's first-year experience programming. As executive director of the Student Success Center, I led initiatives and provided tools to help students achieve their personal and academic goals."

MORE THAN BELONGING

"A sense of belonging is just the first step. What's really important is for students to understand that they matter. We care about who they are, what their dreams are, what their goals are and what they care about."

WHAT'S FIRST?

"My first goal is to build the programming and support system for our inaugural cohort of Gateway Scholars. This will include mentoring from faculty and staff, and I'm also interested in peer-to-peer mentoring programs."

BUILDING TRUST

"The better we know our students, the more they will trust us as leaders and mentors. I am looking forward to having authentic interactions with students."

MY PATHWAY

"I majored in religion with a focus on social ethics. I learned that you can be inspired by religious traditions while also challenging religions to do better in social spaces. That experience made me want to work with groups that are historically denied opportunities. And that's what our center does: It provides opportunity."

'burg and Beyond

In Lewisburg and far afield, Bucknellians make a positive and palpable difference



Lewisburg
→ Launching and owning a small business can be intimidating and stressful. Fortunately, entrepreneurs in central Pennsylvania have a free local resource equipped to help. Bucknell's Small Business Development Center (SBDC) matches business owners with student consultants who share financial management, marketing, capital acquisition and product development guidance.

What They've Done
The SBDC serves six counties, including Union, Montour, Northumberland, Snyder, Perry and Juniata. In the past fiscal year, Bucknell students assisted 416 clients, helping launch 29 startups and enabling businesses to secure over \$7.4 million in capital to grow their markets and operations.

The Impact
Jack Krasulak '25, a business analytics major, was eager

to share what he's learned in the classroom with Albert and Laura Payne, owners of Comics Metropolis in Lewisburg. "One of their objectives was to attract new customers, especially after the pandemic," Krasulak says. "We devised a two-pronged strategy that involved enhancing their social-media marketing and strengthening their ties with the community."

The Reward
Serving as an SBDC consultant gives students a client-facing role in which they encounter real-world questions and obstacles not necessarily covered in textbooks. "It's been valuable to dive into a client's reality and research their business sector to come up with solutions," Krasulak says. "Watching them succeed because of the services we provide has been extremely rewarding."

— *Katelyn Collins '23*

Liberia
→ **Debra Gonkpah '26** was 13 years old when an Ebola outbreak killed thousands of people in her native Liberia. Three years earlier, her cousin died of cholera. The stark consequences of her community's lack of sufficient resources and health education inspired her to take action. "Having those events occur in my life made me passionate about wanting to improve the health system," she says.

Today, Gonkpah is working to improve sanitation facilities in her home country. "In Liberia, open defecation is a major problem that is linked to the spread of disease," she says. "Access to a sanitary toilet shouldn't be a privilege. It should be a basic human right."

What She Did
In 2021, as a high school student, Gonkpah organized the construction of a public latrine, a project she accomplished through her

▲ **Jack Krasulak '25 (center)** provided guidance as a business analytics consultant to Albert and Laura Payne, owners of Comics Metropolis in Lewisburg.

own fundraising. She realized applying for grant money could enable her to expand her efforts. In 2023, she received a \$10,000 Davis Project for Peace grant, which allowed her to spend her summer break in Liberia overseeing the construction of two more toilets. She also organized a public-service campaign about sanitation and hygiene.

What's Next
Gonkpah hasn't yet declared a major, but she is interested in pursuing an area of study that would

prepare her for a career in biological research and diplomacy. Her ultimate goal is to install 100 public toilets in Liberia. "I will keep applying for grants and use every opportunity to fund this project," she says. "Public latrines promote health and well-being and also create social cohesion through towns that share and care for them."

— *Katie Neitz*

→ See additional images of Gonkpah working in Liberia at magazine.bucknell.edu



◀ **Debra Gonkpah '26** received a \$10,000 grant to fund the construction of two public latrines in Liberia.



▲ Conservative political columnist George F. Will kicked off the Bucknell Forum 2023-24 series.

A Forum for Free Speech

by BROOKE THAMES

There's no shortage of quotes from famed figures positing that "everything is political." For conservative *Washington Post* columnist George F. Will, the politicization of everything threatens Americans' right to say anything.

Will shared his thoughts on politics and free speech as the first speaker in the 2023-24 Forum series, centered on "Freedom of Expression." Following a private question-and-answer session with students, the writer gave a keynote address on Sept. 19 at the Weis Center for the Performing Arts.

In addition to producing pieces for *The Washington Post's* opinion section (syndicated in hundreds of newspapers across the country), Will is a regular contributor to MSNBC and NBC News, and previously provided decades of commentary on ABC's *This Week*. He won the Pulitzer Prize for Commentary in 1977.

In his remarks, Will pushed back on what he views as the enveloping nature of today's politics:

Influencing society's consciousness has become a governmental pursuit.

If individuals are believed to be fully formed by their culture, "then controlling the culture becomes imperative, and politics must saturate every nook and cranny of life. This saturation will inevitably mean controlling what people say and hear and read and think and teach," Will said. "Ultimately, this idea is the source of totalitarianism, which is the totalizing of politics."

What follows, Will posed, is an effort not dissimilar to McCarthy's red hysteria or Lenin's Communist project — censorship. "They say that everything said or read or written or thought or taught affects the social system that envelops and shapes everyone's situation. ... Such people will necessarily believe that they are directly harmed by any speech and all ideas that [reverse] progress as they understand progress," he said. "Today, it is said that the existential crisis that justifies censorship

is systemic racism or climate change — there is always some crisis."

Will pinpointed social media as a current battleground, where calls for content moderation encourage the government to decide what is disinformation or misinformation by disfavoring ideas thought to be on the wrong side of history.

He also challenged universities that take stances on political issues and require faculty to affirm diversity, equity and inclusion.

Upcoming Events

The 2023-24 Bucknell Forum features speakers from a range of political and ideological backgrounds whose personal and professional experiences have been shaped by freedom of expression.

Tuesday, Oct. 17

Jon A. Shields

Tuesday, Jan. 23

Jodi Picoult

Tuesday, Feb. 27

George M. Johnson

Tuesday, March 19

Jane Fonda

NEWS TICKER

MOVING UP

Bucknell climbed seven spots from last year to be ranked among the top 30 National Liberal Arts Colleges, according to *U.S. News & World Report*. Additionally, Bucknell ranked fifth among Most Innovative Schools; seventh among Best Undergraduate Engineering (nondoctorate) programs; and 15th in First-year Experiences.

WE'RE GOLDEN

In recognition of its sustainability achievements, Bucknell received another STARS Gold rating from the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education and outperformed its last score from 2019.

PAW PATROL

Bucknell Public Safety has added a new member to its squad: Digger, an affectionate Bernese mountain dog, is enhancing relationships and comforting students as an emotional-support animal. Digger is just one of several community-building initiatives Chief Anthony Morgan has introduced to campus.

Leading the Conversation

by KATIE NEITZ

FOR THE SIXTH YEAR, Bucknell hosted The Presidents Dinner, an annual event that brings together leaders from prestigious, private institutions and members of the national news media for a discussion on issues facing higher education.

Since its inception in 2018, the Presidents Dinner has raised Bucknell's profile and established President John Bravman's reputation as a thought leader in higher education. The event, which is held at the famed National Press Club in Washington, D.C., has led to coverage in *The Wall Street Journal*, *USA Today*, *The Washington Post*, *The Philadelphia Inquirer*, *The Chronicle of Higher Education* and *Inside Higher Ed*.

The Sept. 7 event was organized in partnership with the RW Jones Agency, a national firm that provides media relations support to higher ed institutions. This year, 13 presidents and 28 national journalists — the most to ever attend a Presidents Dinner event — discussed such topics as affirmative action in admissions, affordability, free speech and public perceptions of higher education.

This year's attending presidents included Michael A. Elliott, Amherst College; E. LaBrent Chrite, Bentley University; L. Song Richardson, Colorado College; Lori S. White, DePauw University; Tania Tetlow, Fordham University;



▲ In September, President John Bravman moderated a conversation between institutional leaders and members of the media in Washington, D.C.

David Wippman, Hamilton College; Ed Wingenbach, Hampshire College; Joseph J. Helble, Lehigh University; Robin Holmes-Sullivan, Lewis & Clark College; Ed Feasel, Soka University of America; David R. Harris, Union College; and Paula A. Johnson, Wellesley College. Members of the media included journalists from ABC News, Bloomberg News, *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal* and *The Economist*, as well as writers from *The Chronicle of Higher Education* and *Inside Higher Ed*.

Bucknell Welcomes Three Alumni to Board of Trustees

by KATIE NEITZ

THREE DISTINGUISHED MEMBERS of Bucknell's alumni community have joined the University's Board of Trustees. The board, which comprises alumni, parents and friends of the University, provides strategic guidance and direction for Bucknell. The new appointees, **Kecia Thomas '88**, **Daisy Auger-Domínguez '95** and **Scott Uebele '00**, began five-year terms in July. Each new board member brings significant talent, expertise and leadership that will help Bucknell move forward in meeting its strategic goals.

Thomas joins the board with more than 30 years of higher education experience. As dean of the University of Alabama at Birmingham's College of Arts & Sciences, Thomas oversees 19 departments in natural sciences, mathematics, social and behavioral sciences, arts and humanities. She is considered an expert in the psychology of workplace diversity and has authored more than 60 peer-reviewed articles and book chapters. At Bucknell, Thomas double-majored in psychology and Spanish and went on to receive a master's and doctorate in organizational psychology from Pennsylvania State University.

Auger-Domínguez has spent two decades designing and executing diversity, equity and inclusion strategies for companies such as Moody's Investors Service, The Walt Disney Company and Google, and most recently as the chief people officer at Vice Media Group. In 2022, she delivered Bucknell's Commencement keynote address. After graduating from Bucknell as an international relations and women's & gender studies double-major, she received her master's in public policy from New York University.

Uebele has built a career supporting the development of safer, smarter clinical research that ensures patient protection is at the forefront of medicine. He is the chief operating officer of Advarra, the biggest institutional review board in the U.S., which provides regulatory, quality and compliance solutions and clinical trial technologies. Uebele, who was an economics major at Bucknell, received his MBA in finance from Seton Hall University.

At the spring Board of Trustees meeting, President John Bravman thanked outgoing board member **Jane Taylor Elfers '83, P'19** for her 15 years of trustee service.

Mods Make Room for New Campus Housing



by **BROOKE THAMES**

JUNIOR AND SENIOR STUDENTS returning for the 2023-24 academic year have a new set of residence halls to call home, as the first buildings of the University's reimagined West Campus are complete.

Last summer, Bucknell announced that the 50-year-old complex of residential housing units known as the "Mods" would be replaced by four apartment-style residence halls and enhanced outdoor recreation amenities. Phase one of this project razed half of the Mods, clearing space for the first two apartment buildings.

Towering above the University's baseball and softball diamonds, these halls display the red brick iconic to Bucknell's historic architecture. Inside, up-to-date appliances and stylish furnishings usher this side of campus into the 21st century. The buildings are designed for the inclusion of a geothermal heating and cooling system to advance the University's commitment to achieve carbon neutrality by 2030.

Construction on the second pair of apartment buildings and the outdoor quad — which will include a fire pit, amphitheater, pingpong tables, a volleyball court and barbeque grills — will begin in December, with plans to open in fall 2024.



▲ Bucknell's new West Campus Apartments feature modern appliances and furnishings.





Ground Control

by ANDREW FAUGHT

Growing up in Erie, Pa., **Dorian Crosby '24** and his 11 siblings enjoyed mimicking the exploits of WWE heroes in the family's living room. The roughhousing came at a cost: "We hit tables; we broke lamps and couches," Crosby says.

But there was an upside: The antics sparked a passion for a sport that runs in his blood. Crosby's father, who wrestled for Appalachian State University, coached his son when the young athlete began showing interest in the more disciplined version of the sport.

As a high school senior, Crosby posted a 47-1 record and won the 2020 Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association Class 3A State Championship. It laid his path to becoming a Bison. In his junior season at Bucknell, he tallied a 9-1 heavyweight dual record en route to competing in the 2023 NCAA Wrestling Championship. He and teammates **Kurt Phipps '24** and **Dylan Chappell '25** represented Bucknell's largest number of NCAA qualifiers since 2017. Although the trio lost their first-round matches, the experience reminded Crosby

why he competes.

"Win, lose or draw, it's thrilling for me to get out there and know that I'm trying my hardest," he says. "You're going to get complete physicality from me every time. I know I can get my opponent tired. I'm there to dominate as much as I can and wrestle my match — while not letting them get a chance to wrestle theirs."

His approach has worked. During the 2022-23 season, Crosby ranked as high as No. 31 in the heavyweight class in the NCAA coaches poll, a criterion that's used to evaluate and determine NCAA Division I tournament qualifiers. Crosby also celebrated two big wins against highly ranked opponents from powerhouse schools Michigan State University and Navy.

Crosby's red-letter year came on the heels of a challenging one. A neck injury forced him to sit out his entire sophomore campaign. Throughout that year, he cheered on teammates from the sidelines while pining for his return.

Now, with one more season before graduation, Crosby's

▲ **Dorian Crosby '24** finds success on the mat by relying on strength, strategy and confidence.

goals are clear: "I want to go out with a pop," he says. "I want to be an NCAA champion, to get on that podium."

At 285 pounds, Crosby's game plan relies on physical strength over quickness. He always sets out to be the aggressor, insisting on making first contact with his opponent. He uses his lower-body strength to "shoot and tie," incorporating his hips, legs and feet to drop his opponent to the mat.

He says having a strong mental game is just as critical. "If you go out there doubting yourself, you're not going to win," he says. "I take time before each meet to envision myself winning, to see my hand getting raised."

Beyond wrestling, Crosby is nurturing his other passion: teaching. The early childhood education major plans to pursue a master's degree in special education and teach kindergarten.

"I did my practicum in a kindergarten class, and I loved it," he says. "I love having an impact on the youngest learners. They are so innocent, and they're just learning about the world. It's exciting to be able to influence them."



INSTANT REPLAY

PROUDEST MOMENTS

"In high school: winning the state championship. At Bucknell: winning nine straight dual meets my junior year."

REBOUNDING FROM INJURY

"I was hungry. I wanted success. I told myself to start slow and keep a level head. And then after that, I was on a roll."

ADVANCING TO THE NCAA CHAMPIONSHIP

"I just kept taking one match at a time. The team had confidence in me."

KEEPING PERSPECTIVE

"Obviously, no one wants to lose, but I'll always be proud of myself if I leave it all on the mat."

PUTTING CHATGPT TO WORK

by BRYAN WENDELL



“Alphabetize this list of names.” “Write a gluten-free dinner recipe with chicken.” “Plan a dinosaur-themed birthday party.” ChatGPT, the large language model chatbot from OpenAI, has everyday people using artificial intelligence to make their lives easier. But what’s the role of ChatGPT in the workplace? Why have some companies banned the tool? And how can workers use ChatGPT without fearing it may replace them? Freeman College of Management Professor Daniel Street, accounting, has been exploring these questions as companies consider their AI-powered futures.

DO YOU ALLOW
YOUR STUDENTS TO
USE CHATGPT?

I do! My goal is to prepare my students for the society they will interact with over the course of their lives. I like thinking of ChatGPT as just another tool, like a calculator. Could I require students in an accounting class to add a column of numbers by hand? Sure. Will that be more efficient or produce higher-quality output than a calculator? No.

HOW SHOULD
WORKERS FEEL
ABOUT USING
CHATGPT TO HELP
THEM DO
THEIR JOB?

Employees should consider whether their job is simply to complete a given number of tasks or whether their job is to advance an organization’s success. If their task is to complete 50 reports a week and they can complete that task in 40 hours, then completing 50 reports is doing exactly what they were hired to do — with or without the use of ChatGPT. On the other hand, if they were hired to advance their organization’s interests, then they may be able to leverage ChatGPT to achieve better results from their 40-hour workweek.

HOW SHOULD
EMPLOYERS
RESPOND TO
CHATGPT?

Employers should evaluate whether this new and evolving technology can improve their organization’s efficiency and effectiveness. Can ChatGPT enable an organization’s employees to advance from preparing 50 reports on their own each week to preparing 250 AI-assisted reports? Keeping in mind the need for employees to verify the quality of AI-assisted work, employers should collaborate with their employees to revise expectations in light of this powerful new technology.

HOW WOULD
YOU LIKE TO SEE
CHATGPT
INCORPORATED
INTO THE
WORKPLACE?

I hope the advent of large language models like ChatGPT can reduce the amount of time people spend on text-generation drudgery, freeing up their precious time and energy to focus on tasks that serve society and require uniquely human skills like strategy, creativity, empathy, advocacy and compassion.

HOW CAN
EMPLOYEES
ENSURE THEIR
LONG-TERM FUTURE
IN A CHATGPT-
ENHANCED
MARKET?

ChatGPT is just one example of a long history of human invention. Humans harnessed fire, built the wheel, domesticated animals, cultivated crops, constructed buildings, developed the internet and so much more. That is an incredible human history of development and doing! While ChatGPT can produce impressive replies to our prompts, it can’t develop or do anything on its own and can only generate by referencing things that already exist. It still requires us to be the learners, creators, and above all, doers.

DAN BRANNEN '75

Going the Distance

Every November, more than 50,000 runners compete in the New York City Marathon, one of the biggest running races in the world. Orchestrating it – and other large-scale races – is a tremendous logistical feat. Working behind the scenes is **Dan Brannen '75**, a pioneer in race production. Brannen's career sprung from his own experience as a competitive distance runner. In 2022, the Morristown, N.J., native was inducted into the American Ultrarunning Hall of Fame.

1. What is your proudest running achievement?

- A. Racing a 2:31:13 personal best at the 1979 Boston Marathon
- B. Winning the 1980 JFK 50 Mile
- C. Winning a 200-mile race across New Jersey, from High Point to Cape May, in 1982

The JFK 50 Mile, the country's oldest ultramarathon, is considered one of the most prestigious. Brannen's competitive advantage? His ability to negotiate rugged terrain. The first 16 miles of the course cover the Appalachian Trail. "I've always enjoyed cross-country and trail running," Brannen says. "The more rocks and roots, the better. My Bucknell cross-country teammates would say I had ankles of steel — unbreakable."

2. What is your favorite race event?

- A. 48-hour races
- B. 100-mile races
- C. Six-day races

While Brannen has done all of the above, he found his sweet spot in the 48-hour event, where runners log as much distance as possible over two days. In 1985, he set the American record for the event: 223 miles. It was broken shortly after, "but at least I have that notch in my belt," he says. "I was very strategic about it and knew how to time my rest breaks and had a precise nutrition plan. It's really an art and a science."

3. What do you do when you need a mid-race pick-me-up in an ultramarathon?

- A. Power up a high-energy playlist
- B. Guzzle Gatorade
- C. Change into fresh socks

"It's an amazing sensation, especially if you've been out there for many hours," he says. "A fresh pair of socks can turn you into a different person."

4. In race organization, what is your specialty?

- A. Securing permits to close roads
- B. Setting up race infrastructure, including signage, tents and timing clocks
- C. Coordinating staffing, including police and security

"For a race like the New York City Marathon or the J.P. Morgan Corporate Challenge, you take possession of a section of Central Park for about a week," he says. "In order to do that, you go through a permitting process, and then you build a small city, almost overnight, with tents and generators and portable toilets and barricades. Then you have to tear it all down right after the race to return things to normal. That entire production is my specialty."

5. What's the best part of your job?

- A. Working with people who love running as much as I do
- B. Helping people accomplish their goals
- C. Being the ringmaster of a mega-event

"There are so many people who participate in these races because it gives them a real sense of fulfillment," he says. "It feels good to be on a team that makes that possible."



◀ Dan Brannen '75 certifies race course distances using a calibration measuring system that entails biking the course.



EXPLORATIONS

Learning from Experience

An alumna-funded research opportunity allows Bucknellians to make important life-shaping discoveries

by KATE WILLIARD

photography by EMILY PAINE

▲ The generous support of Jacquelyn Awigena-Cook '05 has allowed Brianna Bolorin '24 to conduct chemistry research on campus over the past two summers.



nyone who has ever set foot in a Bucknell lab has seen real-world research in

action, brimming with potential to make important breakthroughs. And for many student researchers, it's a decisive experience that influences their career path.

Jacquelyn Awigena-Cook '05 had one of those defining experiences after spending a summer assisting Professor Marie Pizzorno, biology. "I liked the work," says the cell biology/biochemistry major. "But it made me realize I didn't want to be in a lab every day."

With support from Pizzorno, Awigena-Cook

made an adjustment. She pivoted away from a research-focused path and instead pursued a master's degree in biomedicine, bioscience and society at the London School of Economics and Political Science. She now serves as the director of global regulatory policy & intelligence at Bristol Myers Squibb, where she balances medical innovation with consideration for its social, ethical and economic impact. "My background allows me to understand the high-level concepts of these new medicines," she says.

Despite veering away from research, Awigena-Cook doesn't discount the value of her time in the lab. Quite the contrary: "Without that

experience, I wouldn't have known to take a different direction," she says. That discovery proved so valuable to Awigena-Cook, it inspired her to create a summer research fund so other Bucknellians can gain the same exposure to lab work.

Thanks to Awigena-Cook's support, **Brianna Bolorin '24**, cell biology/biochemistry, has spent two summers in the lab of Professor Sarah Smith, chemistry. She's researching a protein found in the parasite that causes leishmaniasis, a debilitating disease carried by sandflies in tropic and subtropic climates.

Smith and her student researchers are on track to submit their research for publication in 2024. Bolorin

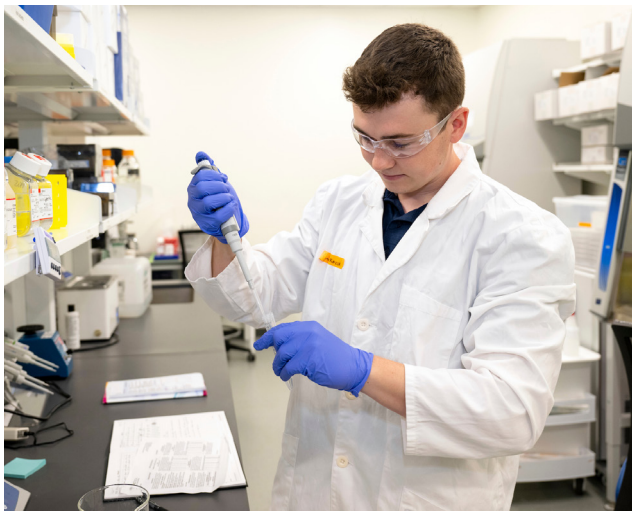
will likely be the lead author. Counter to Awigena-Cook's experience, Bolorin has found her home — and her future — in the lab. "I love being in a research lab," she says. "It solidified my plans of staying in science."

Awigena-Cook visited Smith's lab to see her giving in action in summer 2023. She listened thoughtfully and asked specific questions related to the research and process. "It's small — what I do," she says. "But I feel great joy in being able to help students have this experience. Without it, I know I would have had a much longer journey to find the work that fulfills me."

Summer Scholars

by KATIE NEITZ

Research at Bucknell doesn't take a summer break. More than 250 Bucknell students — including these two problem-solvers — spent their summer compiling data and exploring creative questions to make meaningful discoveries.



▲ Amanda Agambire '26 (with mentor Professor Rajesh Kumar) and Connor Kozick '26 participated in meaningful research experiences after just two semesters on campus.

Amanda Agambire '26, computer science

Can we trust biometrics?

Amanda Agambire '26 knows there are benefits to using biometrics for identification purposes. But as a student researcher working under Professor Rajesh Kumar, computer science, Agambire is also aware of technology's shortcomings. Facial recognition systems, for example, are known to falsely identify Black and Asian faces more than Caucasian faces and women more than men. Inspired by that data, Agambire investigated if a similar bias exists in wearable sensor-based gait recognition systems, which identify a person by the way they walk. While this technology has been reported to be accurate, it's unknown if it's biased — if it misidentifies older people more often than younger people, women more than men, or one race more than another race. Agambire analyzed datasets and developed and trained an algorithm to detect patterns to show if certain populations are consistently misidentified. "As society immerses itself in technology," she says, "it's important that we are using systems that are equal and accurate for everyone."

Connor Kozick '26, biomedical engineering

Why is ultrasound therapy so effective?

As a doctoral student, Professor Olivia Boerman, biomedical engineering, established that a weekly 15-minute ultrasound treatment can significantly reduce the healing time of wounds in diabetic patients — from 12 months to four weeks. But before the novel, alternative therapy can become an approved treatment, the medical community needs to understand exactly how and why ultrasound works on wounds. At Bucknell, Boerman leads a student-research lab focused on answering those questions. **Connor Kozick '26** contributed to the lab's inquiry by studying the potential role of endothelial cells, which line the inside of blood vessels and are known to be particularly sensitive to external stimuli. Kozick exposed endothelial cells to ultrasound waves to examine their reaction — specifically, if they secreted a protein that is connected to blood vessel generation. Blood vessel growth is a critical step in wound healing and could be revealed as the underlying mechanism. "I feel like I'm contributing to something that can help others and benefit society," Kozick says.

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BALANCING ACT THE GALE FAMILY DEMONSTRATES RESILIENCE AND STRENGTH

photograph by APRIL BARTHOLOMEW

STRONGER *Together*



An unlikely diagnosis, a serendipitous meeting and a shared hope for the future create a cherished bond between two Bucknell families

by DAVID WILLEY

photography by
APRIL BARTHOLOMEW



The Gale and Agostini families met in person for the second time in September at the Agostinis' Denville, N.J., home.

PETER GALE '05 says one of his most vivid Bucknell memories is gathering in Rooke Chapel during New Student Orientation in 2001 with more than 900 18- and 19-year-olds. Gale was excited in that nervous way you feel when the rest of your life is about to begin. When your future is a gift that has yet to be opened. An administrator addressed the students and said something that, despite the aura of possibility, seemed outlandish to Peter at the time. “Look around,” he said before pausing for dramatic effect. “Half of you will marry someone in this room.” Peter, who grew up in Bethesda, Md., remembers thinking, *Really? What are the odds?*

But a month or two into that first semester, **Caroline Robbins '05**, also a first-year student, caught Gale's eye in a biology lab. Robbins grew up in Greenwich, Conn., as part of a Bucknell family. Her dad, **David Robbins '74, P'05, P'09**, had graduated from Bucknell, and her younger brother, **Nick Robbins '09**, would eventually attend (and meet his wife, **Cary McDermott Robbins '09**, there).

Caroline's and Peter's relationship progressed their sophomore year, when they both lived in the Mods. Caroline, an elementary education major, and Peter, an economics and political science double-major, began dating, and before long, that odds-defying prediction from Orientation began to feel more like fate. They got married in 2010, and as at so many other Bucknell weddings, their friends and relatives gathered for a group photo with the classic blue-and-orange Bucknell banner held up like a super-sized security blanket.

They settled in Caroline's hometown, and in 2013, their son, Preston, was born. Preston started walking around 15 months, a little late but within the

normal range. “He was a big, strong baby,” Caroline says. But when he was around 18 months, they noticed he listed to one side when he walked. Caroline took him to a doctor and said, “Watch him walk down the hall. He is off balance. Something doesn't look right.” But as is often the case with developmental quirks, clinical certainty eluded them. “They just said, ‘Well, he's a really big kid. It's probably just the weight.’ ”

In many ways, Preston's childhood unfolded in typical fashion — baseball, swimming, Cub Scouts. But other coordination issues emerged. An occupational therapist who visited his preschool when he was 4 thought he might have cerebral palsy. The Gales spent an agonizing year going to

“IT'S LIKE PLUNGING OFF A CLIFF, and there's no safety net. There's no one there to catch you.”

Caroline Robbins Gale '05



To help the Agostini sons build and maintain strength, their parents installed a home gym in the family's basement (right). Preston and Lucy enjoy gym time with their dad, Peter Gale '05 (above).





specialists. Finally, in 2021, when Preston was almost 8, all three of them underwent genetic testing. The results brought devastating clarity. Preston was diagnosed with ataxia with oculomotor apraxia, or AOA1.

Ataxia — derived from the Greek word for “lack of order” — is not a specific disease, but rather a symptom of many diverse conditions that affect the nervous system. It is estimated to afflict one in every 5,000 individuals. Common symptoms include degraded balance, motor skills and muscle coordination. People affected with it often have trouble walking, speaking and using their hands, arms or legs. Inevitably, they need to use mobility aids known as gait trainers to get around. The oculomotor apraxia in AOA1, Preston’s disorder, makes it difficult to move the eyes voluntarily or focus the gaze.

There are four important things to understand about AOA1. First, it is genetic, passed along by a recessive gene carried by both parents. Second, it is progressive, meaning its symptoms get worse over time. Third, it is extraordinarily rare. Because of unequal access to the kind of genetic testing required to identify and diagnose AOA1, it’s impossible to pinpoint its frequency. It’s suspected that there may be only a dozen cases in the United States. Again, Peter thought, *What are the odds?* Fourth, although physical, occupational and speech therapy can help moderate its symptoms, AOA1 has no cure. And given how rare it is, there is little to no funding for finding one.

Peter and Caroline found themselves immersed in a tiny, bewildering world they hadn’t known existed. According to the National Ataxia Foundation,

Matthew and Christian Agostini with Preston Gale.

WHEN THE GALES JOINED THE MEETING, the first thing Peter noticed was that the other father on his screen was wearing a Bucknell shirt – one of the classics, orange with blue block letters. Before anyone had been properly introduced, he said, “Oh my gosh, wait a minute. We both went to Bucknell.”



Matthew and Christian Agostini's parents ensured they had active childhoods participating in sports (below) and visiting their sister, Danielle Agostini Gorospe '16, at Bucknell (left).



“Families who have a child with ataxia are forced to adapt to constant change and uncertainty. There is struggle, helplessness and heartbreak.” They leaned on their families and friends, but even that support had its limits. No one truly understood what the Gales were going through; they barely understood it themselves. “We felt a need to find a connection, because we knew that’s how we’d get through it,” Caroline says.

She spent countless hours scouring Facebook and making phone calls, looking in vain for doctors, researchers or other families who could help them. “When we got the diagnosis, I thought there was going to be this team,” Caroline says. “That all these doctors would get involved. But there was no team. It’s like plunging off a cliff, and there’s no safety net. There’s no one there to catch you.”



IN 2014, right around the time Preston was born, yet another Bucknell romance was underway. During her junior year, **Danielle Agostini ’16**, an art history major, met **King Gorospe ’15**, a mechanical engineering major. The couple married in 2021. Another joyous Bucknell wedding, another group photo with the orange-and-blue banner.

Danielle knew all about the extremely rare disorder called AOA1. Both her brothers had been diagnosed as young boys — first Matthew, who is two years younger than Danielle, followed by Christian, who is eight years younger. Their parents, **Peter and Susan Agostini P’16**, noticed the same early gait imbalances, embarked on the same desperate search for medical expertise, and staggered through the same emotional wilderness the Gales were plunged into. They just had a 15-year head start.

“The biggest challenge is that it’s not understood by many people at all,” Susan says. Doctors attributed the boys’ symptoms to an inner-ear disorder or possibly vertigo or low muscle tone that

would improve with physical therapy. “It was really hard for us, just ... overwhelming.”

The Agostinis resolved to attack every day and get their sons whatever they needed to have the best possible quality of life. “My goal was to get them on their feet, keep them strong,” Peter says. He started them in adaptive soccer and baseball leagues, arranged for horseback-riding lessons, set up multiple workouts every week with physical therapists, and bought a tandem-recumbent bicycle so he can sit in front and, with one son at a time sitting in the back, provide them with a simple but formative experience — riding a bike — that would otherwise be out of reach.

Peter and Susan, who both graduated from Fordham University, fell in love

with Bucknell when Danielle enrolled. They frequently took Matthew and Christian to campus for basketball games, followed by burgers at Bull Run Tap House. “It was really great to be able to show off my school and have my brothers be a part of it,” Danielle says.

When your children live with an incurable, degenerative disease, it can be hard to think about the future. AOA1 attacks the nervous system, but it also erodes your sense of hope. In 2014, however, Peter attended a National Ataxia Foundation conference in Las Vegas. One of the featured speakers was Brent Fogel, a professor of neurology and human genetics at UCLA and the director of UCLA’s Clinical Neurogenomics Research Center. Fogel’s team was working to develop a novel gene therapy for treating AOA1 and



Peter Gale '05 and son Preston with Susan Agostini P'16, Danielle Agostini Gorospe '16 and her husband, King Gorospe '15.

other genetic disorders. In gene therapy, viral “vectors,” or delivery mechanisms, are commonly used to replace disordered genes with functional genes. The problem is that a viral vector also signals the blood-brain barrier to attack the virus, effectively killing the messenger and preventing any therapeutic effects. Fogel believes a different delivery system — one that relies on a polymer instead of a virus — could deliver functional genes directly to the brain. Over time, the therapy has the potential to slow and possibly even halt the degenerative symptoms of AOA1. Even if a cure remained out of reach, the future suddenly carried promise.

The Agostinis put their sons under Fogel’s care and formed a crowdfunding partnership with UCLA Health in 2020 to support the gene-therapy research. The endeavor raised \$250,000 in a year.

Soon after, in 2021, a mother in California whose sons had AOA1 reached out to the Agostinis. She’d been contacted by a family whose young son had just been diagnosed with AOA1 and asked if the Agostinis might be willing to talk to them. “She told me they were in Greenwich, Connecticut, and I immediately thought, *Oh, that’s not far from us*,” Susan says. “What are the odds?”

They agreed to set up a Zoom call.



WHEN THE GALES joined the meeting, the first thing Peter noticed was that the other father on his screen was wearing a Bucknell shirt — one of the classics, orange with blue block letters. Before anyone had been properly introduced, he said, “Oh my gosh, wait a minute. We both went to Bucknell!”

To which Peter Agostini said, “My daughter went to Bucknell!”

Followed by Caroline: “My dad and my brother both went to Bucknell!”

“The minute I saw that shirt, I was like, *Great, we’re in*,” Caroline says. “There was no question in my mind



Peter Gale '05 (far left) and Peter Agostini P'16 are raising funds to support a novel gene therapy that could slow the progression of AOA1.



After her son's diagnosis, Caroline Robbins Gale '05 (right) scoured the internet searching for support and community. She and husband Peter Gale '05 formed an immediate connection with Susan (left) and Peter Agostini P'16.

that a Bucknell family wouldn’t be kind, supportive and helpful.”

Kind, supportive, helpful — check, check, check. “We basically follow their lead with everything,” Peter Gale says.

Take exercise routines. Preston, who is 10, wakes up at 5:30 a.m. to do a cardio workout and planks with Caroline every morning.

But learning about school interventions and adaptive technology has been particularly impactful. “Because I understand this disorder so thoroughly, I’ve spent so much time educating teachers and support staff,” Susan says.

For instance, when Matthew was in third grade, he failed a geometry test. “I looked at the test,” Susan says. “They were supposed to calculate the area and perimeter of all these circles and boxes, but everything was so tiny. It was hard

for me to see, let alone someone with ocular-motor apraxia.” Susan faxed the test to a neurologist. The doctor connected Susan with children’s services at the New Jersey Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired, which advised the school on creating visually appropriate materials with bigger, bolder type.

“You can put extensions on your computer to take out visual clutter if you’re reading something online,” Susan says. “All these visual enhancements have been great educational strategies. They’ve enabled the boys to really succeed because this condition does not affect them cognitively. Visual problems are what trigger the learning disabilities.”

Susan’s experience prompted Caroline to put Preston’s teachers in touch with the person responsible for

THESE FAMILIES HAVE BEEN BROUGHT TOGETHER by two things: one they never asked for and one they cherish. Some fear, uncertainty and urgency remain. But against all odds, their sense of alienation has been replaced by a shared history, a sense of purpose and, yes, newfound hope.

visually impaired students in Greenwich. “Susan and Peter have helped us narrow things down and address issues with specific solutions,” Caroline says. “I hadn’t been able to wrap my head around those things until we started talking.”

The Gales have also followed the Agostinis’ lead with fundraising. In December 2021, they set up their own crowdfunding partnership with UCLA Health, with a goal of also raising \$250,000. So far, they’ve exceeded \$173,000 (learn more at spark.ucla.edu/project/29493/wall). It’s an ambitious goal, but they are motivated. “Dr. Fogel’s research is our only hope,” Peter Gale says. “It’s the only thing we can cling to.” Fogel anticipates it may take years for AOA1 treatment to become possible. But by working together, sharing ideas and coordinating outreach, the Gales and Agostinis no longer feel alone in their journeys.



IT’S THE DAY before Mother’s Day, and Peter, Caroline and Preston have just arrived at the Agostinis’ New Jersey home. Preston’s 5-year-old sister, Lucy, is at home with her grandparents. For this — the first in-person meeting between the two families — it will just be Preston and the older boys. That will be simpler for a meeting that’s anything but simple.

Despite their strong connection and close proximity, the Gales and Agostinis haven’t yet met in person. The Gales wanted to be sure that they — and Preston — would be ready. Spending time with the Agostinis would be like peering into the future, one that will bring further loss of mobility, language and fine motor skills.

The three boys sit together at a table under an umbrella on the back patio.

Although they’re six years apart, Matthew, who’s 26 and in his third year at Rutgers University, where he takes online classes, and Christian, 20, might pass for twins. They both have their father’s curly brown hair, and each is wearing glasses and vividly striped socks with rugged-looking running shoes. Matthew is sporting one of their many Bucknell T-shirts. They look slender and strong and very excited to have company.

Preston has brought along his bright-yellow backpack, which holds a composition notebook for sketching and writing, an illustrated book about engineering and data visualizations, and an iPad. “He loves math and maps and science,” Caroline says. “He’s always thinking, ‘I need entertainment — give me some math problems.’ So he brings that backpack everywhere.”

For the next few hours, the Gales and Agostinis catch up like the not-so-long-lost friends they have become. Danielle and King have driven out from Union City, N.J., for the day. She details their summer travel plans — naturally, there’s a Bucknell wedding coming up — while Susan and Caroline discuss developments at Preston’s school, which recently informed the family that he’ll need to start taking the elevator because going up and down the stairs with his gait imbalance has become a risk. The two Peters compare notes on Fogel’s progress at UCLA, prepping for a Zoom call they have with him next week.

Over lunch, the conversation turns to the boys’ favorite foods — always a popular subject. Kids with movement disorders like AOA1 burn lots of calories, so they eat a lot. Preston ticks off pizza, lasagna and mango, and enthusiastically describes the burger-rating system he and his father have devised. McDonald’s gets an 8, and,

thanks to bacon, Daddy’s Homemade Adult Burger gets a 9. Matthew says he loves steak — ideally sharing a porter-house for two with his mom — and Christian adds that his favorite is short ribs over mashed potatoes. He smiles widely with the mention of it.

After lunch, King helps the brothers get their gait trainers so everyone can sit by the pool, which the Agostinis customized with a 25-yard shallow section for aquatic therapy. Peter Agostini asks the boys if they have any song requests. “Preston loves ‘High Hopes’ by Panic! at the Disco,” Caroline says. “It’s a really good, positive, inspiring song.” On Peter’s command, it plays from speakers in the garden.

*Had to have high, high hopes for a living
Didn’t know how, but I always had
a feeling*

*I was gonna be that one in a million
Always had high, high hopes*

These families have been brought together by two things: one they never asked for and one they cherish. Some fear, uncertainty and urgency remain. But against all odds, their sense of alienation has been replaced by a shared history, a sense of purpose and, yes, newfound hope.

This isn’t a wedding, but at the end of the afternoon, it feels right for the Gales and the Agostinis — parents, children, husbands, wives — to gather and raise the blue-and-orange banner for a photo and the long-honored cheer, which sounds today less like a rallying cry and more like an offering of thanks: “’ray Bucknell!” ■

THE BUMPY ROAD TO SUCCESS

Alumni share memorable lessons from early work experiences

edited by KATIE NEITZ

illustrations by
NIGEL BUCHANAN

Career satisfaction doesn't always come easily or quickly. It's often a reward reaped by those willing to push through humbling roles, periods of uncertainty and experiences that feel more frustrating than fulfilling. First forays in the working world can provide valuable life lessons that build upon those taught in Bucknell's classrooms and help chart a path toward success. Here, five Bucknellians share valuable personal and professional takeaways from their first not-quite-dream jobs.



“Sometimes you need to leave your ego at the door.”

ABBY BORDEN '08

*event producer and project manager,
Table Set Go*

In 2009, I decided to move to Los Angeles shortly after a writers' strike had shut Hollywood down (sound familiar?), so it was hard to find a job. I reconnected with **Chris Bender '93**, a successful Hollywood producer whom I had met on campus my senior year. I shared that I created my own major — arts management — to extinguish the idea of a “starving artist” and instead empower myself as an artist with some business savvy. He offered me an internship at his production company and said, “It’s not glamorous, but it’s a great experience.” He was right. Yes, I got to read movie scripts, but I also answered the phone, picked up lunch, walked dogs and babysat kids — anything anyone asked me to do.

As a senior, you think that by graduating with a degree from a school like Bucknell, you’ll immediately jump into a dynamic career full of upward momentum. In that first job, I learned that sometimes you need to leave your ego at the door. Start from the bottom, pay attention to the details, be thoughtful and listen. Remembering the name of the guy who was “looking for the thing” could get you a promotion!

After that internship, I went on to work at a major agency, then got into events and catering. Chris was right: It’s not all glamorous, but it all led to my clients and the projects I work on now.

Today, I’m an event producer in Los Angeles. I orchestrate major high-profile events with guest lists ranging from 50 to the thousands. My clients include the Elton John AIDS Foundation, Veuve Clicquot, Warner Brothers and the Recording Academy. In my leadership position, it’s important to delegate. But I think it’s just as important to be willing to roll up your sleeves with your team. I’ll bus a table or adjust the display on a bar — not glamorous. But boy, getting to carry out Elton’s 70th birthday cake was! The job does have its perks.

“How you treat others matters.”

ERIK ZAGER '07

*head of critical care, Philadelphia Animal
Specialty & Emergency*

When I went to veterinary school at Cornell University, I quickly realized it was a different beast than undergrad. I adjusted to the challenges, found a community and eventually felt ready for the next step. But nothing could have prepared me for what I encountered during my residency. I had a very difficult chief of service, who was basically my boss. For three years, she was a force against me, making me question myself and rethink my career goals.

At first, I thought it was just a rocky start, but our relationship never improved. I felt like this person should be teaching and guiding me, but it felt more like she was trying to discourage me and hold me back. Every interaction was a battle. There was never an easy moment. I fought to stay my course and learned how to mentally prepare myself to work with her each day.

While I don’t look back on that period with fondness, I’ve come to realize it taught me a valuable lesson: How you treat others matters. I manage a critical-care veterinary ER. The work is very rewarding, but it can also be very stressful. For people to perform their best in this environment, they need to feel valued, supported and respected. When I see myself engaging in a pattern of behavior that may not be helpful to others, I stop myself, step back and take a moment to reflect. The most important thing we can do is consider the well-being of those around us. In my case, that means caring for animals as well as people.



“Don't let a setback discourage you or define you.”

JUANITA JEFFREY '13

*director of institutional marketing,
New York Life Investments*

When I was a student, UBS, a global wealth management firm, came to campus to recruit interns. I didn't know anything about financial services, but as an economics major, it sounded like an opportunity worth pursuing. Things seemed to fall into place from there: I got the internship, which led to a full-time job offer. I graduated thinking I was on the path to success.

For the division I joined, I needed to pass a securities licensing exam called the Series 7 test. I spent the entire summer studying. After four years of academic rigor at Bucknell, I thought I was ready. But I failed it — twice. It crushed me. I was not prepared for that disappointment.

Instead of retreating into a state of self-shaming, I decided to work my network. I reached out to other people at UBS, including Bucknellians who worked there, and I ended up finding a different opportunity at the firm.

I can see now that failing that test was a blessing in disguise. I moved into a junior role with the private bank division. It was really intense. But I jumped in and hustled, and in the process I gained exposure to more aspects of wealth management than I would've in my original role.

As I learned more, I realized I gravitated toward the creative side of the business. I transitioned into a marketing role and developed a whole new skill set. Today, as director of institutional marketing, New York Life Investments, I oversee the integrated marketing programs that elevate our brand and promote our capabilities to institutional investors. I'm currently building our brand in Japan — it's a new market for us, and it's really exciting work.

When I reflect back on my career journey, the key for me has been being open to new opportunities and being comfortable with being uncomfortable. Don't let a setback discourage you or define you.



“Figuring out what you don't want to do can be vital in figuring out what you do want to do.”

RAJKUMAR THANGAVELU '98

*senior financial database specialist,
Federal Housing Finance Agency*

After graduating from Bucknell, I accepted a job at an insurance agency and quickly realized it was not a good fit. For starters, it was very results oriented. I felt like I always needed to be focused on selling somebody something. It also felt competitive; everyone was driven by their individual performance. At Bucknell, I had always enjoyed collaborating with classmates and working on group projects.

I stuck it out for two years. Even though I got better at my job and adapted to the environment, I knew my heart wasn't in it and that I belonged elsewhere. I kept thinking about an internship I had working for a labor union in Washington, D.C., that I really enjoyed. That prompted me to look for positions in the federal government. I landed a job as a bank examiner for the Farm Credit Administration in 2003, and I've been working for federal government agencies ever since.

Currently, I'm a senior financial database specialist within the Federal Housing Finance Agency. Our mission is to ensure the safety and soundness of the American housing market. Results are still important in what I do, of course, but I am so much happier doing work that is personally meaningful to me. I'm part of a team that shares the goal of providing Americans with affordable housing resources.

I've mentored interns in my office and through the Bucknell Public Interest Program who have been embarrassed to admit they didn't like their work experience. I always tell them it's OK — more than OK! Figuring out what you don't want to do can be vital in figuring out what you do want to do. A successful internship doesn't mean you loved the internship; it means you learned more about yourself and what you want to do in the future. Your first job probably won't be your dream job, and that is OK.

I graduated from Bucknell with a math degree and a collection of art history classes, but I wasn't ready to stop learning. I enrolled in the art history graduate program at Temple University and spent a semester in France researching the engineering marvels of Gothic cathedrals. My morning trek to the dusty archives always included a stop at the town's boulangerie. Lured by the aroma of baguettes direct from the oven, I fell in love with food, especially the importance of bread in French culture.

I met a baker who had recently opened his own shop north of Paris. Pierre needed help keeping the mixers and ovens cleaned, and I craved physical activity to balance the sedentary hours digging through manuscripts. Here, I uncovered both the art and science of baking bread.

After I graduated from Temple, I entered the management development program at AT&T. Taking a job with a corporate ladder to climb seemed responsible. I joined a team of decision-makers from ad agencies and TV stations. My job included dining in fancy restaurants, navigating wine lists and utilizing my knowledge of French cuisine.

Eventually, I found myself pulling away from corporate culture. If I was going to be working 14-hour days, I'd rather be somewhere else: in a bakeshop. I reunited with Pierre, and for the next three years, I rotated between six months of training in his boulangerie, then returning to Philly to work in a restaurant long enough to finance my next stint in France. The days were long yet exhilarating.

I continued to grow and learn. When the Restaurant School in Philadelphia invited me to write what became the industry's first degree-granting program in baking and pastry, my path as a culinary instructor became clear. That took me to the California Culinary Academy and the International Culinary School at the Art Institute of San Francisco. My path is all over the map, but I can see now how it all led me to where I am. Each experience added a piece to the puzzle. Today, I operate my own research and development company for the baking industry. It's a competitive space and keeps me at the head of the curve of emerging food trends. National manufacturers and startups seek me out to engineer a product to fit their nutritional standards. But for me, it's more important that the food delivers the highest-quality flavor and texture. It's both an art and a science, and it feels meant to be. ■

“If I was going to be working 14-hour days, I'd rather be somewhere else.”

MICHAEL KALANTY '74

owner, Culinary R&D Services



➔ Michael Kalanty '74 teaches a new online baking course called *Discovering Focaccia!*, which takes participants on a virtual culinary tour across Italy. Visit magazine.bucknell.edu for details.



AN EXPLOSIVE REVELATION



Airbags are meant to be protective.

But what if they could be a deadly threat?
Kevin Fitzgerald '84 is on a mission to keep
you safe behind the wheel.

by TOM WILMES

In June 2000, Kevin Fitzgerald '84, engineering manager of the inflator applications group at Takata, was at his desk at the company's plant in LaGrange, Ga., when the sound of an explosion startled everyone in the office. Jumping to his feet, Fitzgerald immediately knew what had happened. He'd heard a similar explosion just a few months prior when one of the company's new line of airbag inflators catastrophically failed a manufacturing validation test. With mass production of the inflators set to begin in a few weeks, these failures were cause for immediate concern.

"So, I ran down there, and I got in the middle of it," Fitzgerald says.

Little did he know that what came next would mark the beginning of an ordeal that would reshape his life, challenge his principles and ultimately trigger the largest safety recall in automotive history.

Photo: Shutterstock.com



BUILDING A FOUNDATION

Fitzgerald was born in the Bronx, N.Y., and raised north of the city in Rockland County on the Hudson River. The son of Irish immigrants and the middle child of three siblings, he excelled in math and enjoyed building Erector sets and putting together models. After graduating from Don Bosco Prep, a private Catholic boys school in New Jersey, he set his sights on Bucknell University. He knew the school had an outstanding reputation, especially for its engineering program. A partial scholarship to play soccer helped cement his decision.

A few months into his first year, however, Fitzgerald decided to give up soccer — and the scholarship — to focus more fully on his studies. “Bucknell was hard,” he says. “I remember I got a 32 on my first physics test. I thought, *This is serious. I can’t just skate by.*” This is, not to say that he didn’t find time to enjoy campus life. Fitzgerald joined Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity, and at a mixer one evening, struck up a conversation with **Sandy Greenly ’85**, from nearby Milton, Pa. Greenly built her major in marketing communications and was a member of Pi Beta Phi sorority.

They remained friends throughout school but never dated. That is, until Sandy moved to Manhattan after graduation and they reconnected. The couple married in Rooke Chapel in 1988, and today they have three grown sons. Fitzgerald credits his upbringing, Sandy’s unwavering support and his Bucknell education with equipping him with the skills, tenacity and integrity he’d rely on to bring his employer’s wrongdoings to light. “My engineering skills and the ability to recognize and defend what is right came from Bucknell,” he says.

Kevin Fitzgerald ’84 continues to track fatalities and ongoing recall efforts; he publishes a report on LinkedIn every six months.

Photo: Tim Webb

“I just try to keep making noise as much as I can. One person out there, still fighting.”

KEVIN FITZGERALD '84

A LINE IS CROSSED

In September 1998, a federal law requiring all cars and light trucks sold in the United States to come equipped with driver- and passenger-side airbags went into effect. The design and specifications of those airbags, however, are left up to automakers. Japanese company Takata manufactured airbag inflator systems, small pyrotechnic devices that upon impact ignite a solid propellant and create a large volume of gas, which inflates the airbag within milliseconds.

Due to its use of ammonium nitrate (a highly efficient compound that requires less material to combust and convert to a sufficient volume of gas) as a propellant, Takata's inflators are smaller and less expensive than those made by competitors. However, the material's integrity is also susceptible to changes in temperature and humidity.

As an applications engineering manager at Takata's Georgia plant, Fitzgerald and his team were responsible for verifying that inflators rolling off the assembly line performed to the same standards as the ones developed at Takata's U.S. headquarters in Armada, Mich. “We took parts off the line and subjected them to the same testing we did in our design validation — a series of environmental, sequential tests subjected to heating, thermal shock, humidity and vibration shock,” Fitzgerald says. “And stuff was blowing up.”

Had Takata paused production to address the underlying issue, that would have likely been the end of it. However, a line was crossed in Fitzgerald's mind when he found out that company executives doctored a report to Honda showing that a large batch of inflators performed perfectly — a report Fitzgerald's team had never seen yet had supposedly signed off on. “They had taken tests where inflators exploded and replaced them with data that made the results appear good,” he says. “We

got wind of that, and we wrote the real report ourselves.”

Fitzgerald presented the amended report to the vice president of inflator engineering, who replied that although he hadn't read the original, he was assured it was accurate. Shortly after, Fitzgerald's entire department was relocated to Michigan — without Fitzgerald, who was offered the position of plant engineer. Takata shipped its inflators to automakers. Fitzgerald resigned.

BACK ON THE INSIDE

Fitzgerald moved on to another manufacturer and gained operational experience running a plant in the United Kingdom and opening one in Mexico. When his new employer began experiencing financial distress, it became clear to Fitzgerald that he needed to find another position. So when a recruiter contacted him about an open position in operations at Takata's Michigan headquarters, he didn't dismiss it. “The position was in my wheelhouse, it's what I love to do and it came with significantly more authority,” he says. “They also knew my history with the company, and so I took their offer as a clear sign that they wanted to do things right.”

Fitzgerald and his family relocated to Michigan, and he rejoined Takata as director of operations in 2005. Fitzgerald was placed in charge of applications engineering and of validating inflator designs. He took those duties as an indication that the company valued his oversight — until he uncovered that the pattern of falsifying reports for automakers had continued. “That's when I started documenting everything,” Fitzgerald says.

Takata began adding a moisture-wicking desiccant to its inflators in 2008, which proved to be effective and resulted in far fewer units failing the testing process. But that did nothing to

change the fact that millions of nondesiccant inflators were still on the roads.

In May 2009, 18-year-old Ashley Parham became the first victim of a defective Takata airbag. She was killed in a low-speed crash when her neck was lacerated by shrapnel from a non-desiccated inflator in her Honda Accord. Later that year, on Dec. 24, 33-year-old Gurjit Rathore was killed in a similar manner while her three children were passengers in her Honda Accord. Takata called the incidents isolated anomalies.

Throughout this time, Fitzgerald continued to voice his objections to Takata's management. He continued to be ignored. “Nothing had changed,” Fitzgerald says. “There was the same root problem. No matter how much I screamed and ranted, they weren't going to pull millions of inflators back from the field.”

Says Sandy: “He fought it for a long time within the company, but when they made it clear that they weren't going to do anything, that's when he went to the FBI.”

THE CONSEQUENCES OF TRUTH

By 2014, there were four more fatalities. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) ordered Takata to initiate a nationwide recall of its nondesiccated inflators. Takata declined to comply. By that point, 11 U.S.-based automakers had issued independent recalls of vehicles with Takata-made airbags. Affecting more than 14 million vehicles, it would become the largest and most complicated recall in automotive history. A *New York Times* article detailing injuries and deaths linked to Takata prompted Congress to schedule a hearing and the Department of Justice to open a criminal investigation.

In late 2014, Fitzgerald secured a lawyer, resigned from Takata and



The Insurance Institute for Highway Safety performs crash tests to ensure airbags work without issue. This image shows the proper deployment of a Takata airbag.

contacted the FBI. He spent three months helping agents sort through the documentation he provided, which demonstrated a clear pattern of falsified reports and misleading information. The number of vehicles under recall swelled to more than 70 million.

In January 2017, the U.S. government charged three Takata executives with culpability as a result of the information shared by Fitzgerald. The company agreed to plead guilty and pay \$1 billion to resolve the investigation, including a \$25 million fine, \$125 million for victim compensation and \$850 million to compensate automotive manufacturers. Takata subsequently filed for bankruptcy protection and was acquired by Key Safety Systems (today Joyson Safety Systems).

CONTINUING THE FIGHT

While Takata no longer exists as a company, the risks associated with the inflators it manufactured only increase with age. Finding those vehicles is also increasingly difficult. Cars are bought and sold, many are never registered and some end up overseas where there isn't U.S. oversight. Several manufacturers also filed petitions to exempt their vehicles from the recall, claiming that they aren't impacted. "We fought this; we were relentless in seeing that their petitions were rejected," Fitzgerald says.

Fitzgerald's current focus is on the 36 million Takata desiccated inflators under investigation by the NHTSA. The once-protective desiccant is now likely saturated with moisture, so it's no longer effective, Fitzgerald says. "It's just a matter of time before they become a problem," Fitzgerald says. "We now have a list of vehicles to point to; we had to work hard to have the NHTSA release the list to the public. People should know if they have one."

In the meantime, airbags continue to explode and, most years, several more deaths occur. Thirty deaths and hundreds of injuries have been linked to Takata-manufactured airbag inflators.

"The bulk of my advocacy work is the 11 million inflators that are still on the road and some of the antics that the automakers are up to. There's probably 8 million [vehicle owners] that are shoved into categories like 'nonresponsive' and 'other' that essentially erases them from the ranks," Fitzgerald says. "It's impossible to get people to lock onto the issue because it's five deaths a year. It's injuries we don't even hear about; the fallout is solved behind closed doors."

Fitzgerald tracks the fatalities and ongoing recall efforts and publishes an updated report on LinkedIn every six months. In 2019, he published a book, co-authored by David Schumann, with whom he worked at Takata, titled *In Your Face: An Insider's Explosive Account of the Takata Airbag Scandal*. Eight people died from exploding airbags in

“It’s injuries we don’t even hear about; the fallout is solved behind closed doors.” KEVIN FITZGERALD ’84

the two years it took to finish the book.

“Kevin is the kind of person who is going to do what’s best for everyone and will take the heat if it’s the right thing to do,” Schumann says. “Kevin takes care of people, and he wants to do well by people. Although this fight has probably gone on far longer than anyone would have thought.”

Being a whistleblower comes at a tremendous personal cost. A 2010 study published in *The New England Journal of Medicine* reported that individuals who speak out against their employers face great consequences to their professional and personal lives, often with social ostracism and health complications tied to the stress of the experience, particularly if there is litigation.

“It’s tough,” Fitzgerald says. “I’m a career nomad, basically. You get shoved out of your career. You get blackballed

from the industry that you built your career in. Financially, it’s destroying.”

The Fitzgeralds have moved several times since Kevin separated from Takata. He’s pursued job opportunities in California and at a startup company in Kentucky. Although that company has since been acquired and moved its operations, the couple has found a haven in Kentucky, where Fitzgerald is a freelance technical writer and continues his advocacy work.

“As hard as it’s all been, good has come of it,” he says. “I’m a much more spiritual person. I’ve surrendered my life to a higher power. I quit drinking, and I quit smoking. I’m a happier person than I was when I had that career. I know I did what was right.

“I just try to keep making noise as much as I can,” he says. “One person out there, still fighting.” ■

To check if your vehicle is on a recall list, visit [nhtsa.gov/recalls](https://www.nhtsa.gov/recalls). Follow Fitzgerald and his work on LinkedIn.

ENGINEERING SAFETY

The invention of the airbag is credited to John W. Hetrick, an engineer from Newport, Pa., just 45 miles from Lewisburg. In 1952, he was out for a Sunday drive with his wife and daughter when he swerved to avoid hitting a deer and ended up in a ditch. While driving home, he started formulating the idea for a protective device that could deploy from a vehicle’s dashboard. Hetrick received a patent for his device in 1953, but it would take decades before it would become an automobile industry standard.

When engineered properly and paired with a seatbelt, today’s modern airbags offer tremendous protection to drivers and passengers. Airbags are credited for saving more than 50,000 lives since 1987, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. Here’s how the protective technology is engineered to work.

1. Each vehicle contains a control unit that monitors and processes signals of several sensors — impact sensors, wheel speed sensors, brake pressure sensors, accelerometers — to determine if a crash has occurred. If a collision of a certain severity is detected, it informs the device’s initiator.
2. The initiator ignites a propellant or chemical explosive that converts from a solid to a gas, filling the cushion in a blink of an eye (60 milliseconds).
3. As the airbag absorbs the force of a vehicle’s occupant, the gas dissipates through vents in the airbag, and it deflates.

'ray BUCKNELL

FROM THE
PRESIDENT

A LEGACY OF
GIVING

FBI FACE-OFF



THAT'S THE SPIRIT ORIENTATION ACTIVITIES GET STUDENTS ACCLIMATED TO THEIR CAMPUS HOME

photograph by Emily Paine



The Power of Connection and Purpose

FALL OFFERS a special opportunity for me to reflect upon my role as the leader of this great University. Each crisp September, I look forward to moderating the Presidents Dinner at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C. — Bucknell's annual gathering of about a dozen other leaders of highly selective liberal arts colleges and members of the national media. Now in its sixth year, it's an evening of thought-provoking discussion with my peers on the most pressing issues we face as presidents. I come away invigorated — and even more keenly aware of the magnitude of our shared charge to create impactful, equitable educational opportunities.

This job is a great privilege but daunting even in the best of circumstances. The pandemic presented unimaginable challenges that — quite understandably — accelerated career changes or retirement for even the savviest and most experienced higher ed leaders. It is not surprising that the average term of service for a university president is now just 5.9 years, according to a 2022 survey by the American Council on Education. In my 14th year in office, I suppose I'm a bit of an outlier — a distinction that will only continue, as the Board has asked me to serve as Bucknell's president until at least 2028. Despite the demands of the vocation, I

remain dedicated to doing this work, in this place, for two reasons.

First, I draw great energy from the strength of connections among Bucknellians — on campus, around the world and across generations. In fact, the clear devotion of Bucknell students, alumni, families, faculty, staff and friends to the University was a key reason I left Stanford to take this opportunity. This is a community of people as passionate as I am about a model of undergraduate education that is highly engaged and personalized. They self-select when they choose Bucknell, and they remain committed to the institution — and each other — for a lifetime.

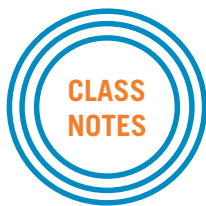
These Bucknell bonds are evidenced on campus in hundreds of student organizations, as well as in the academic connections forged across departments and colleges by faculty in pursuit of ever more interdisciplinary teaching and learning opportunities. Far beyond Lewisburg, Bucknell connections thrive in our alumni, family and career networks and events, as well as in more casual settings — when I travel, I'm frequently recognized by Bucknellians who are eager to tell me how much Bucknell means to them.

The other reason I'm so dedicated to this role is that I have seen how Bucknell makes a lasting and essential difference in an increasingly chaotic world through the distinctive education we provide to our students. My

faculty and staff colleagues take extraordinary care to create the most individualized, high-impact learning experience possible, and to equip students with the skills and knowledge they need to thrive when they leave our tutelage. Every year at Commencement, I remind our graduates just how deeply Bucknell faculty and staff are invested in their holistic education, how proud we are of their accomplishments, and how fervently we wish for their personal and professional success.

We hope our teaching and mentorship prepares students to lead fulfilling and meaningful lives. Many alumni stay in touch, giving us gratifying glimpses of the long-term effectiveness of our work, but as the demands of careers and families take over, most do not — and that's where faith comes in. We must believe that we are transforming society through our students, even if we might never see most of the fruits of our labor. I believe in Bucknell — deeply — and I'm looking forward to all the challenges and joys that the future holds for us. That's why I do what I do.

John C. Bravman
President



Editor's Note: The Winter 2024 issue of *Bucknell Magazine* will be a special "University Report" edition. This issue's content will specifically focus on reporting on key initiatives and programs that are taking place across the University to help Bucknell achieve its strategic goals. The format of the magazine will be adjusted accordingly, and Class Notes will not appear. We value Class Notes and recognize the important role this section plays in keeping our alumni community connected. Class Notes will resume in the magazine's Spring 2024 issue.

EMERITI

**NICOLE CONNOR
TAYLOR '01**

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AMY MEDELL POE '89
amyb.poe@gmail.com

Birthday wishes are in order for **ELISE MILLER SCHNUR '45** who turned 100 June 11. Two days later, she threw out the first pitch at the Vermont Lake Monsters' baseball game. It made the local TV news, and there was a buzz about it on radio stations in her home state of Vermont. **DOTTY SCHNUR '75** sent the news of her mother's spirited celebration and milestone birthday noting that, beginning with her grandparents in 1914 and 1916, her mother was one of 16 Schnur family members who graduated from Bucknell.— A.M.P. and N.C.T.

1950

**HOLLY HINCHMAN
REIGNER '96**
hehreigner1@gmail.com

1951

FAITH BRADLEY KING
faithbking@sbcglobal.net

1952

**CAROLYN KNIES
ERDLE**
liberty384@comcast.net

1953

**CHRISTINE HILL
KILLOUGH**
chkillough@gmail.com

JOHN MANBECK
manbeckj7@yahoo.com

"And though the years steal swiftly o'er us" — the 70th Reunion of the great Class of 1953 took place on campus in June on a sunny Saturday afternoon. **JOHN MANBECK** and wife Ginni; **TRUDY KNUTZEN POWELSON**, and **CHRISTINE HILL KILLOUGH** attended the Emeritus Banquet. Seated with them was the winner of the Alumni Award for Outstanding Achievement in a Chosen Profession, **MICHAEL PASCUCCI '58** and his wife. A student ambassador also joined the table. **ROLAND CREPS** had made reservations and planned to attend, but last-minute family concerns prevented him from coming. President Bravman addressed the gathering.

Returning to campus after some years, we noticed the many new structures behind the Bertrand Library, the building that was the newest 70 years ago. The next structure, the Hildreth-Mirza Hall for academic studies, paid tribute to the president of our tenure. A trolley tour took alumni and guests past the growing

fraternity row, new engineering, technical and finance class buildings as well as dormitories and service structures. This new construction is designed to be environmentally safe. Changes to athletic venues included new construction at the Christy Mathewson-Memorial Stadium, the golf course and the farm across Route 15. Downtown Lewisburg has retained its charm; Market Street still reminds us of our time on campus.

An afternoon highlight was a visit with **FRANK and ANN LEWIS MEREDITH**, whose daughter, **ELEANORE MEREDITH '81**, had driven them to campus from their home in Virginia. With the encouragement and assistance of Trudy's daughter, **SUE POWELSON WULCZYN '78**, along with the help of friends, Trudy and Chris easily made the 2 1/2-hour car trip to campus. It was another attendance record for the Class of 1953.

John picked up a copy of the Reunion *Bucknellian* and commented, "Many of us had spent days and some nights of yore writing, pasting up and proofing copy. Our final issue was the first Reunion edition written and published in 2003, our 50th Reunion, and was edited by the late **BOBBIE ROEMER GIBB**.

She and I questioned whether we would have enough copy to print a four-page quarto; at deadline, the great Class of 1953 filled over 20 pages. Who knew our classmates were so talented?"

We are "The Great Class of 1953" and here are some of the reasons why: Outstanding Achievement in a Chosen Profession — the late **JANE BROWN MAAS**, 1982, the late **PETER DIAMANDIS**, 1988, **BILL WOLFE**, 2004 and **TAKEO SHIINA**, 2008; Loyalty to Bucknell — **WALTER MCCONNELL**, 2008; Service to Humanity — **BILL DURLAND**, 2013, and Athletic Hall of Fame — **BRAD MYERS**, football, 1980, the late **BURTON W. TALMAGE '55**, football, 1981, and the late **DOROTHY HARVEY LLOYD**, field hockey, 2007.

PENN "DOC" SHELLEY shares, "In April I accompanied my son, **DOUGLAS '88**, to Bucknell for the annual varsity soccer golf tournament and socials. Our fivesome included **ROB RYAN '88**, **DREW LEWING '88** and **MEL BLOUNT '88**. Soccer head coach Dave Brandt will begin his second year and expressed optimism for this fall's Patriot League schedule."

Bill Durland and wife Genie attended their granddaughter's graduation from the

American University Washington College of Law in D.C. in May. They extended their trip, visiting friends in Pennsylvania and New Jersey before returning home to Colorado.

Trudy sold her home in Branchburg, N.J., and has moved to a retirement community in nearby Bridgewater, still close to family and familiar places. — C.H.K. and J.M.

1954

**BONNIE MACKIE
ASPINWALL**
bmaspinwall@gmail.com

As another Class Notes' deadline came and went, I had no news to report. At this stage in our long lives, even the "usual routine" is newsworthy. There may be developments we'd rather not report, but it seems to me there is always something in our day we can be grateful for and that we can share with our classmates. Please write. — B.M.A.

1955

**ELEANOR MACKIE
PIGMAN**
empigman@gmail.com

DON ALBEE '56 wrote to me remembering the band Toni Carpe and the laughter he shared living on campus. I recall going to Wednesday chapel for credits and the excitement of cheering for the undefeated football team our freshmen year. During our first weeks at Bucknell, we had to be in the dorms by 8 p.m. Share with me your recollections.

I'm sad to report that **RALPH LEWIS**, Phi Kappa Psi, passed away. He has eight children, 21 grandchildren, 15



Screen Time

by KATE WILLIARD

IN THE EVER-CHANGING digital landscape, the internet has emerged as an omnipresent influence, transforming the way we perceive and interact with the world around us. Rick Rinehart, director of the Samek Art Museum, has witnessed the ways this shift has affected the art world. *Screen Time: Photography and Video Art in the Internet Age* documents his scholarly examination of that effect, which Rinehart says is irreversible. “I wanted to drive home that our consciousness — both individual psychologies and our social consciousness — has been changed by the internet in terms of the way we interact with the physical world.”

The book serves to catalog and document an exhibition of the same name, which Rinehart curated for the Samek and Princeton University in 2022 with Phillip Prodger, executive director of curatorial exhibitions at Curatorial. Using pieces loaned by Renée and **Bob Drake ’73**, the exhibition explored the relationship between art and the internet and how the barrage of digital visuals has altered viewers’ perspectives. “It aims to ask what it means to be a photographer when everyone is an Instagram influencer, where does video art meet TikTok, and how to deliver social commentary in the age of the meme,” says Rinehart, whose background is in new media art creation and examination.

While it’s standard practice for Samek exhibits to have a catalog created for internal archival purposes, *Screen Time* is the first to be professionally printed and distributed. By partnering with Bucknell University Press, the catalog is available to libraries around the world, elevating



the Samek’s visibility. “Ultimately, it provides a more firmly enmeshed historic record and a deeper context for viewers,” says Rinehart.

As is custom for exhibition catalogs, *Screen Time* provides the platform for in-depth scholarly content related to the show. The catalog features depictions of all the artworks, along with concise explanations and scholarly texts written by Rinehart and Prodger. “This is the most extensive and profound exploration of the ideas presented,” says Rinehart. “It gives us, as curators, the opportunity to delve into the concepts and themes that underpin the showcased works.” Through the catalog, the artworks can be examined in the intended context, making it an invaluable resource for academics, art enthusiasts and historians alike.

In Rinehart’s view, the cultural impact of the internet is far-reaching, permanently altering our perspectives and fundamentally changing the way we view reality. *Screen Time: Photography and Video Art in the Internet Age* was part of his ongoing effort to examine the ever-evolving nature of art and technology to help others reflect on the ways our view of art has been impacted by the internet, and how that contributes to the shaping of our realities. Further, “It reminds us of the power of art,” Rinehart says. “To reflect, to challenge and to inspire in this new era of connectivity and shared experiences.”

Screen Time: Photography and Video Art in the Internet Age. Edited by Richard Rinehart with Phillip Prodger. (Bucknell University Press, 2022.)

ALUMNI & FACULTY BOOKS

A.R. Davis ’68

Refuge for the Kymera (self-published, 2023)

During his career as a professor of computer science and mathematics, Davis co-authored many professional scholarly papers. After retiring, Davis craved a creative outlet and began putting his daydreams to paper as a science-fiction writer. In his 11th book, Davis tells “a tale of imagination versus reality” as his main character, a science-fiction writer, returns from a science-fiction convention with an alien hiding in his car. Davis recommends his books to anyone who “enjoys contemplating reality” and is “not afraid of mathematics, physics, philosophy and religion.”

Lin Poyer ’75

War at the Margins: Indigenous Experiences in World War II (University of Hawai’i Press, 2022)

Poyer, a professor emerita at the University of Wyoming, is a cultural anthropologist who has extensively studied how Indigenous societies were affected by World War II. In this book, Poyer uses historical and ethnographic sources to reveal the wide range of wartime impacts on these groups — from combat roles to life on the homefront.

Lois Svard, professor emerita of music

The Musical Brain: What Students, Teachers, and Performers Need to Know (Oxford University Press, 2023)

For nearly three decades, Svard, an accomplished pianist, was a professor of music at Bucknell, where she taught a course on neuroscience and music. The topic fascinated her and became a focus of her scholarly work, evolving into a blog and now this book. Svard shares her research findings as she explores the biological foundations of music, music cognition, the musical abilities of babies, and the cognitive advantages of studying music. She includes the stories and experiences of accomplished musicians whose lives have been shaped by their exposure to music.

great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild. Ralph possibly has the most offspring of anyone in our class.

BYRON and **PEGGY WALLACE LECATES** share the same birthday and invited the entire family of 25 to celebrate their 90ths. They all came, including some from a great distance. — E.M.P.

1956

JOSEPH EBERHART
jdocyardley@aol.com

I received a text from **LIZ KROECK ZIMMERMAN** who left her beloved Cranford, N.J., home to transition into a continuing care facility. Her new address is Lantern Hill, 539 Mountain Ave., Apt. 505, New Providence, NJ 07974, and her new phone number is 908-795-5531. She would love to hear from all of her Bucknell friends.

Ironically, she is just across the street from her employer of 22 years, Lucent Technologies Bell Labs. Liz has run into **JANE WHERLY CURTIS '57** and **BETTY KRABER KOPF '55** and is quite involved in tournament bridge.

Also, I received a nice note from Nelson Ohl, son of the late **JOYCE WHITE OHL**. He recalled how his mother saved so much memorabilia from her Bucknell days, especially the playbills from her many vocal performances. Following Bucknell, Joyce taught music at a grade school in Windham, N.Y. Though she wanted to move to NYC to further her musical career, her parents objected, so she moved to Baltimore, her hometown, where she became an accom-

plished vocalist and was active in local theatre. She later moved to Annapolis, Md., and earned a master's degree in human development. Joyce was a grants manager for Jhpiego, an affiliate of Johns Hopkins University that offers reproductive health training in developing countries.

On a personal note, Joyce roomed with my late wife, **CLAIRE HAMMOND EBERHART M'57**, during her freshman year. Claire used to tell me of the wonderful times they had together. — J.E.

1957

CAROLYN "CALLIE" MEYER
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Who would have dreamed, 65 or so years ago, as we struggled to finish a paper for Professor Oliphant's European history class, or to meet a looming deadline in Willard Smith's course in world lit, that in 2023 artificial intelligence (AI) would be a topic of conversation? I posed this question to a random handful of our classmates: AI — blessing or curse?

JAY SACKS, who with wife Lynn, lives in Sarasota, Fla., and has been in the Sunshine State for about 40 years, replies, "I know a little bit about a lot of things, but I don't know anything about AI." He probably speaks for a lot of us.

NANCY FISHER RITTENHOUSE, however, does know a lot about AI — or at least husband John, does. He's been

researching and lecturing on AI for the last five years. "The impact on humanity will be to change the thinking capabilities of the human brain so much that it will change our nature and culture," John says. "What we need is a national and international definition of a code of conduct for artificial intelligence. AI is merely a collection of circuitry able to mimic the thinking capabilities of the human brain. Like the human brain, AI must be taught, and its inventory of lessons and data must be very large for it to produce good decisions. Instead of a carefully tested verifiable data set, most chat-type AI's have been trained with significant amounts of internet data which is filled with faults, opinions and bias.

"The ChatGPT availability that exploded within the past year is creating more social and mental problems. The fact that it is fun and demonstrates huge promise in many areas masks its dangers to the general public."

John's answer to my blessing or curse question is: "A possibly overwhelming amount of each."

With John's warning in mind, but in the spirit of experimentation, I [**CAROLYN**] signed up for Rytr, an AI writing assistant that promised to help me create better content in mere seconds. So, I gave Rytr the plot of a story (An actual incident: my 70-year-old mother's ex-fiancé shows up at her funeral with his homely new wife), chose humorous as the style and hit "send." Rytr replied in seconds, as promised with: "Once upon a time," followed by a string of clichés such as jaws drop, tension

that's thick enough to cut with a butter knife and an atmosphere tinged with an air of unpredictability.

Rytr helpfully provided several variations of the plot, all pretty awful. It was impossible to pick the worst.

BARNEY SNYDER writes, "My good friend, **DON SHAVER**, passed away in June. A dedicated teacher in Marin County, Calif., he was a world traveler with many student groups over summer vacations, accompanied by wife Bobbi. A year seldom passed, especially after retirement, that he didn't take a couple of trips to a foreign country that always included a great deal of hiking. Don was a consummate exerciser who could not pass a day without a hike, a bike ride or game of tennis. He was dedicated to whatever he did. The irony is that Don, who 'never smoked a day in my life,' died of lung cancer." — C.M. and C.W.L.

Elaine and **KEN LANGONE** made a landmark \$200 million gift to the NYU Long Island School of Medicine to ensure generations of medical students will receive a tuition-free, top-quality education focused on primary care. The school's new name, NYU Grossman Long Island School of Medicine, honors Robert I. Grossman, CEO of NYU Langone Health and dean of the NYU Grossman School of Medicine in Manhattan.

In a press release, Langone, chair of the NYU Langone Board of Trustees, said, "By providing our future doctors with an affordable education, we are investing in a brighter and healthier future for

all, particularly here on Long Island, where Elaine and I grew up."

1958

ROBERTA BAYER SCHLACKS
schlacksr@aol.com

1959

If you are interested in being the Class of 1959 Reporter or have news to share, please email Heidi Hormel, Class Notes editor, at hjh006@bucknell.edu.

1960

PETE FRITTS
petefrittsr@att.net

Due to a few health issues, our class president and Class Notes reporter **JACK EACHUS** agreed to me being his successor. Since none of you knew of this transition, I had to depend on my closest sources for my initial column. Naturally, the first classmate I contacted was longtime friend and none other than **TONY "BUFF" RINALDO**, who goes by the alias of "Mr. Buffalo." He has provided me with a plethora of information on classmates with whom he stays in regular contact. Believe me, that is not a small number.

Let me start with the fact that Tony and wife Lee purchased a new home in Delray Beach, Fla. Lee is originally from the state, so this was a natural move for them. For the foreseeable future, they will maintain their abode in Union, N.J., and split time between the two locations. Since Tony is still active in his law practice, the majority of their time will be spent in their Union condo.

CREATING A LASTING LEGACY

Jane Griffith '43 has supported the education of nearly 100 Bucknellians — and counting

by KATE WILLIARD



Jane Griffith '43 on Bucknell's campus as a student.

As Jane Griffith '43 approaches her 102nd birthday, she can reflect on how many lives she made richer thanks to her philanthropy. After obtaining her degree in English, Griffith's love of language led to a journalism career at *Time* magazine. Upon her retirement, she turned her focus toward helping others, which led her to endow three scholarships and a faculty fellowship at Bucknell. Each fund is named to honor the memory of her family — her parents, and a niece and a nephew, both Bucknell grads.

Her most recent gift — the **Virginia Reed Demoreuille '73** Memorial Scholarship — will support students in the College of Arts & Sciences and is named for Griffith's niece, who received her degree in

art & art history. "It means a lot to be able to make this difference for students," she says. Indeed, Griffith's gifts have been a catalyst for success for many Bucknellians. Here, three recipients of the Roy & Ariel Griffith Memorial Scholarship (Griffith's first scholarship, created in memory of her parents to support pre-med students) reflect on the impact of her generosity.

"Jane's scholarship made it possible for me to attend Bucknell. Because of that support, I've been able to bring life-saving and potentially curative cell therapies to patients suffering from debilitating and deadly diseases around the world. With an interest in paying it forward, I recently established scholarships for students attending my high school alma mater to continue their education at Bucknell or in a STEM field."

— **John Tomtishen '11**, vice president of operations, Cellares Corporation

"Since I was 4 years old, I knew I wanted to be a doctor, but growing up in a small, blue-collar town, I wasn't always sure it would be possible. I am confident that my path to medicine would have been significantly more difficult without Jane's generous support. Receiving a financial aid package that included her scholarship is the reason I am able to live out my childhood dream."

— **Elizabeth Barrall Werley '02, M.D.**, associate professor, department of emergency medicine at Penn State College of Medicine; residency program director, Penn State Health Milton S. Hershey Medical Center

"My first year at Bucknell was a bit of a rough transition. I remember when I got Jane's scholarship, I felt as though I was really seen as a whole person with a future. That has made a huge difference in my life. Today, I'm committed to improving women's health and reducing maternal mortality, especially in minority populations."

— **Nayo S. Matthews Williams '08, M.D.**, maternal-fetal medicine specialist, Valley Perinatal Services

Tony stays in touch with a wide-range of Bucknellians, including **DENNY COX, BOB PATZWALL, JOHN BERGFELD, NEIL MURPHY M'61** and **CLINT GILKEY**, to name but a few. Tony planned to play in his 24th consecutive Bud Ranck-Tom Gadd Memorial Kickoff Classic Golf Outing, along with **KEN TWIFORD '62** and **RAY COSGROVE '62**.

Tony also mentioned that in May he had lunch with several other alums at a restaurant owned by Ray and wife **DOTTIE BAHRS COSGROVE '62** in Highlands, N.J. The occasion was to meet and talk with the new varsity basketball coach, **JOHN GRIFFIN III '08**.

Tony was quite impressed and predicted future success for our Bison basketball team.

Two of Tony and my closest alumni friends are Denny and Bob, who both reside in senior living facilities in different locations within the suburbs of their childhood homes in Baltimore. Denny is confined to a power-operated wheelchair, and Bob is recovering from a serious fall that caused paralysis of his neck and upper body. Fortunately, his paralysis has improved and he appears to be in good spirits.

In August 2022, I lost my beloved wife of 61 years, Page, following a long illness with congestive heart failure and kidney issues. We held a three-day celebration of life for her in late September 2022. Tony and Lee flew down to Georgia to attend this ceremony and pay their respects to Page and my family. In fact, Tony, who was the head groomsman in our wedding, participated in this ceremony and remi-

nised about how he was with me during spring break of 1960 in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., when I met Page. What were the odds of meeting someone on the beach during spring break and remaining married for 61 years?

This is my first shot as your class notes reporter. Now that you have my email address, please send me any information that you may have about you, your family and/or our other classmates. Stay healthy and be safe. — P.F.

1961
JAN POWERS
jpowers0135@earthlink.net

RICHARD ZANETTI M'64 retired from his publishing job at McGraw Hill, began to write fiction and is working on his fourth thriller. Author Pat Dunn read his first book, *Sunday Edition*, and highly recommended it. Richard was looking for a literary agent.

PAT STARK WILCOX, one of the old Edwards House crew, writes, "I'm doing very well for 84, living in Montague, N.J., which is the very highest part of the state. I'm fortunate to have both my son and daughter within a half-hour of me, while granddaughter Laura, her husband, Kyle, and their daughter (my great-granddaughter), Emily (3-1/2), live five minutes away. I keep busy with my garden, church, reading and sweet Emily. I am in touch with **JANE LIGHTER STOSS** at Christmas and try to keep up with Bucknell. It was a fantastic four years."

KENNETH "SKIP" LACKIE wrote about his career as a civilian

JACK LEVINE '55 VS. J. EDGAR HOOVER

by JACK LEVINE '55

After graduating from Bucknell, I attended the New York University School of Law. The FBI had posted recruitment notices on the bulletin boards there. Thinking it could lead to an exciting career, I decided to file an application. After a 14-week program at the FBI academy, I went to work for J. Edgar Hoover in the FBI's Detroit field office, where agents were investigating Jimmy Hoffa.

I loved the bureau, the agents and the work. But I resigned after only 11 months because I couldn't tolerate Hoover's policies. He made us spend time making him look good politically at the expense of fighting crime.

I pursued a job with the organized crime section of the U.S. Department of Justice, which was under the leadership of Attorney General Robert Kennedy. During my interview, I was asked about the FBI's investigative work. I hesitated. *Should I be talking about this confidential information?* I concluded that I should. The FBI falls under the justice department; Kennedy is Hoover's boss.

As I started to reveal the FBI's secrets, including its informant program and wiretapping activities, the interviewers' eyes widened. "Wiretapping? What wiretapping?" They requested I prepare a detailed report for Kennedy.

Before I even finished my report, Hoover found out about it. I received calls from agent friends telling me my life was in danger.

To protect myself, I went public. I wrote an article for *The Nation* magazine about how Hoover exaggerated the threat of the American Communist Party for his own political purposes. It was a national sensation. It now resides in the JFK Library in Boston.

Hoover responded by putting me under 24-hour surveillance. I could not obtain a job anywhere. Hoover continually roadblocked me.

Not too long after this, I met Corinne, my future wife. We decided to begin a new life together in Phoenix, Ariz., and I applied for admission to the Arizona bar. Hoover found out and



In 1967, Jack Levine '55 was escorted from a meeting of the House Subcommittee on Un-American Activities in Washington, D.C., a committee created to investigate alleged disloyalty and subversive activities. Levine disrupted a hearing in defense of the Women Strike for Peace organization. This photograph appeared on the front page of major newspapers across the country.

wrote a letter to the admissions committee saying I shouldn't be allowed to practice law because I couldn't be trusted with confidential information. The members of the committee voted 9-0 to reject my application.

The only recourse I had was to appeal to the Arizona Supreme Court. Ultimately, the court overruled the admissions committee, holding that my criticism of Hoover was speech protected by the U.S. Constitution.

Hoover's retaliation against me was extremely unpleasant and had an adverse effect on my life. Despite this, I am very proud of my efforts to expose the detrimental consequences Hoover's policies had on the FBI and its agents, with whom I was otherwise proud to be associated with.

This story is an edited excerpt from Jack Levine '55's book, A Chapter in the History of the FBI — S.A. Jack Levine vs. J. Edgar Hoover, which he self-published.

scientist for the Navy. As a sea-going oceanographer, he visited Karachi, Pakistan; the Canary Islands; the Aleutian Islands, Alaska; and the Arctic. Later, he transitioned to management of several research and development programs focused on the use of oceanography to counter the Soviet

submarine threat. Once that threat was dispatched, he served in several positions in the front offices of the Office of Naval Research and Naval Research Laboratory.

After retirement from federal service, Skip continued to work for the Navy in an advisory capacity while employed

by the University of Washington—Seattle and several commercial firms. He has been happily married to second wife Peggy for around 20 years, having inherited three (now adult) stepsons and a growing number of grandkids. Skip and his wife have lived in D.C. while he was employed

by various academic and business organizations and where they now enjoy museums, baseball and concerts. They also have a second house in a more rural area of northern Maryland where Skip's eight antique cars sleep and Peggy has an extensive garden. His hobby has always been working on

old cars, but he finds that the increasing complexity of automotive technology is making that impossible these days.

It was great to have news from Bucknell classmates. Let's hear from more of you. — J.P.

1962

BOB JONES writes this remembrance: "**STEVE SKINNER** passed away in October 2022 after an esteemed and decorated career in television production, including as field producer for ABC News, where he covered assignments such as the Iran hostage crisis, Falklands War and the 1980 presidential campaign of Ronald Reagan.

"Steve's work was so well received that he was handpicked by ABC Evening News anchor Frank Reynolds to become executive producer of *World News Tonight*, the flagship evening news program. Steve earned seven Emmy Awards and the prestigious George Foster Peabody Award for a story he produced on nursing home neglect in New York.

"In 1988 Steve was

recruited and moved back to Los Angeles to become the senior producer for *Entertainment Tonight*, where he spent a decade producing content for Mary Hart and John Tesh as well as interviewing many celebrities.

"His final days were spent at the side of his bride of 58 years, Babs, in Miami Beach, Fla. He died one day shy of his 82nd birthday. Steve was a member of the Phi Kappa Psi fraternity and the Bucknell basketball team.

"In addition to being a fellow fraternity brother, he was my roommate and best man at my wedding."

If you are interested in being the Class of 1962 Reporter or have news to share, please email Heidi Hormel, Class Notes editor, at hjh006@bucknell.edu.

1963

PENNY WEST SURITZ
pennysuritz@gmail.com

After 52 years in Montclair, N.J., Alice and **CHARLIE JOHNSON** moved to a condo in Cedar Grove, N.J., and were adjusting to communal life. He retired from the investment business three years ago, and they divide their time between Cedar Grove and their camp in the Adirondacks.

Charlie has kept in touch with **DOUG WILLIAMS** and **NORM GARRITY '64** as well as **BOB WILLIAMS '62**, **RAY COSGROVE '62**, **MICKEY MELBERGER '61**, **M'62** and his Army Airborne roommate **ANTHONY "BUFFALO" RINALDO '60**. **ERIC** and wife **NORMA SMITH PEPPER** are doing just great, enjoying their three kids, nine grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

They have been happily ensconced in Austin, Texas, for the past 23 years, and sold their cabin near Yellowstone after 17 years, as the multi-day drive got a bit much for them. They have found visiting their family occupies a good deal of time. Anne, their oldest, is in Austin; Susan, the next in line, is in Boise, Idaho, and their son Christopher is in Charlottesville, Va.

BOB TERIO is a member of the Fairfax Wind Symphony, which performed at the National Community Band Festival on our Reunion weekend, so he had to miss that.

BARB POTTS KELSHAW attended Reunion with her good friend **DON COLLINS**, who was attending for the first time. **DARRYL NOVAK** was also in attendance. Barb said that Bucknell did a wonderful job of hosting them.

She adds, "I'm still adjusting to my new reality, and I suppose I always will be. Most days are good, though. I love my house and neighbors who are generous and kind and look out for me." She also serves as custodian of the community library, maintainer of the community reference list (need a plumber? gardener?) and community directory, and is the social contact for the home owners association board (but not on the board), sending out community announcements, births and deaths, and the monthly ladies gathering. Barb's children are as close as they were when she was in Virginia, "so that part is a wash and who doesn't like to visit their mom at the beach?"

Don and **JUDY LEECH COLLINS '64**, longtime neighbors of Barb's in Lake Monticello, Va., moved to a home on the

THE ELLEN CLARKE BERTRAND SOCIETY

Bucknell appreciates the many alumni, parents, friends and staff who have included the University in their estate, tax or financial planning.

The gifts of Bertrand Society members strengthen every facet of the University.

We welcome the following new members this year:

Frank Brown '78 and Susan Stoner Brown '78
Jeffrey Brown '79
Cynthia Lude Crose '72 and Gary Crose
Jane Taylor Elfers '83, P'19 and
Peter Elfers '83, P'19
Neal Fagin '61
Dorothy Filbert
Bob Gilligan '81 and Ainslye Gilligan
Jason S. Gray '65

Mary Lynn Hedison '78 and Anthony Flynn
Helmar Nielsen '59
Evan Siegel '69
Greg J. Smith '86, M'95 and Dawn Smith

We celebrate the legacy gifts made by members no longer with us:

Dorothy E. Bresel
Claire Wynkoop Carlson '49
Bonnie Ramer Casebeer '64
Stuart L. Coyne '48

Florence Kreidler Davis '48
Nora Giavelli Elze '48, M'62, P'71,
P'77, G'03
Robert Femovich '72
Richard H. Fidler '63, M'65
Page T. Fritts
Ted Gronlund '60
Jim Hammerlee
E. Howard Hill
Joyce Hauck Martin '47
Dorothy Seesholtz Mullestein '48
Elizabeth Koch Summer '50
Herbert S. Wilcox '50
Mary Jane Rhodes Wilson '54
Four anonymous gifts

If you have a plan that qualifies you for membership or you would like additional information about the Bertrand Society, please contact the Office of Gift Planning at 570-577-3271 or giftplanning@bucknell.edu.

Potomac River in Tall Timbers, Md.

ELLE MARKUNAS

HEFFNER and husband Reid sailed on the Queen Victoria around Scotland to Iceland. Whenever a ship leaves a port there is lots of music and festivity and as they left the Orkney Islands, a band played "Pomp and Circumstance," which made her think of Moving Up Day. Do Bucknell girls still "move up?"

CAROL WILLIAMS

MARX reported that she was happy to have moved from her house, with all of its maintenance problems, to a condo from which she can walk to town — Burlingame, Calif. — and there is no yard, pool or older house upkeep. She keeps in touch with **JUDY PINKERTON**. — P.W.S.

1964

BETH WEHRLE SMITH
bethdonsm@gmail.com

Carole Heffley-Hicks, second wife of **JIM HICKS**, updates us on his life after graduating from Bucknell and serving in the Army. He earned his MBA in 1967 and was mayor of Oldwick, N.J. And while living there began a 40-year passion for growing Wins All heirloom tomatoes. Jim worked on Wall Street and later published an arts newspaper in Easton, Pa.

Jim has dementia and is in a nursing home, so Carole has been cleaning out their home and found tomato seeds he'd saved over the years, which she donated to the seed library at the Glenwood Branch Library in Greensboro, N.C. For classmates who would like seeds, write to Jim at

118 Honey Road, Stokesdale, NC 27357.

Also, while going through items in their home, Carole found a 1984 letter from the University of Maryland — where Jim got his MBA — congratulating him for an honor he and two University of Florida scientists received from the Florida State Horticultural Society for contributions to the fresh tomato industry.

ANITA SPIELBERGER

KNIGHT writes, "The late **DON '63** and I loved to travel, so I am continuing with the tradition, having gone to Japan last fall with my 15-year-old grandson and Africa last winter. I'll be in Chicago in mid-August for Parliament of the World's Religions with a stop to see a granddaughter and friends in Wheaton, Ill. At the end of September, I will do a week-long yoga retreat on the Greek island of Paxos and go to Dubrovnik, Croatia, for a Friendship Force conference. Lastly, I'm stopping in Germany to see some cousins. The Bucknell Alumni Association trip to Canada by rail next July looks nice. Anyone planning on that? I always wanted to take the train across Canada."

I'm sure I'm not the only one who is reminded of Bucknell on a routine basis by touchstones. Much to my disappointment, I didn't get invited to Military Ball my freshman year, however my roommate did and she gifted me her "party favor" — a silver sword-in-a-sheath mail opener. I tied a blue ribbon on it and the festive implement has lived on my desk ever since. It is used almost every day, and it makes me smile. For our next issue, please share your



BUCKNELL UNIVERSITY 2024 CALENDAR

Your support benefits Bucknell students each day. As our way of saying thanks, those who give \$25 or more in 2023 will receive a complimentary calendar featuring beautiful images of campus. Calendars will arrive in mailboxes of current Bucknell donors* beginning late November through mid-January.

Make a gift and reserve your calendar by using the envelope included in this issue of *Bucknell Magazine* or visit give.bucknell.edu/bmag.

*Cornerstone Society members, as well as donors of \$25 or more since Jan. 1, 2023, will receive a calendar.

Image may not represent final calendar.



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touchstone memories with me at bethwsmith@gmail.com. — B.W.S.

1965

JACKIE HORNOR PLUMEZ
plumez.dr@gmail.com

Isn't it strange to be the same age as old people? But there's at least one benefit. As emeritus alumni, we're invited every year to the Reunion. This year while only **FORREST** and **VALERIE SILBERNAGEL CHILTON, BOB GATSKI** and I [**JACKIE**] were there from the Class of '65, we chatted with plenty of interesting people and attended stimulating talks. The staff made everyone feel welcome and somehow prevented long lines, even at the free beer and wine bars.

Here are two interesting changes: Greek life is active but de-emphasized, and rush is in sophomore year. This second change is so students can connect with clubs and activities that widen friendships beyond Greek life. About 50% of students participate in rush. Live bands play outside fraternities on Saturdays with everyone invited, but parties are still invitation only.

There is still a huge emphasis on preparing for career success. A new minor, entrepreneurship, is connected to the Small Business Development Center that offers space, technical and other kinds of consulting support to students and small businesses all over Pennsylvania. It is one reason why Lewisburg's Main Street remains so vibrant with small service and retail businesses thriving there.

Valerie and Forrest live

in Arlington, Va., and nearly every month, they attend a funeral at Arlington National Cemetery for people they knew through their long career in military service. Forrest writes, "Especially poignant are the full honors funerals that include a band and escort platoon. For equal rank of colonel and above, a caisson bears the flag-draped coffin, followed by a riderless horse bearing an empty saddle with boots backward in the stirrups, indicating the warrior will never ride again. It is a noble, moving patriotic event."

I am still a practicing psychologist and author. After writing four nonfiction books, including one I presented at our 50th Reunion, *The Bitch in Your Head: How to Finally Squash Your Inner Critic*, I've switched to fiction. **JIM ROWBOTHAM** is acting as my literary agent. I live in the NYC suburbs but enjoy time at an apartment in the middle of Manhattan and frequent trips to Singapore, where my only child and grandchildren live. World travel was a great joy, but after losing my husband, I'm trying to figure out how to travel as a single woman. Does anyone have suggestions?

When Bob Gatski retired from IBM seven years ago, he moved back to his hometown of Danville, Pa. "It's very nice being close to Lewisburg. I take advantage of the Weis Center for the Performing Arts and the Bucknell Institute for Lifelong Learning. And there is a very active local alumni club."

FRANK PANCZYSZYN, who retired from the military and then Kodak, lives on Lake Ontario and

writes, "There is a small group of '65ers who met on 4th Kress as freshman in September 1961 and have remained friends: **JEFF BOLTON, BILL NEWCOMB, ANDY SCHNUR** and **MIKE SOLON M'66**, all Kappa Sigma brothers, and me. Jeff and Andy live in California and Bill in Wyoming, so gatherings are rare. Mike, who's in Pennsylvania, and I in New York have seen a lot of each other over the years. Bill, an avid senior skier at Jackson Hole, Wyo., skied every ski day during the 2022–23 season. Jeff with wife Wendy and I enjoyed seeing Mike in Hazleton, Pa."

JOHN RINDLAUB worked for 50 years as a banker in NYC, LA, Tokyo, Hong Kong and Seattle. Now he seems to live life in triplicate: three daughters, three grandkids and three homes (Florida, California and a beach house in Washington state).

Thanks to John, we have three suggestions for favorite songs: "'Til Summer Comes Around" by Keith Urban; "Miracles" by Jefferson Starship, and "I'm Your Captain (Closer to Home)" by Grand Funk Railroad. His favorite movies are *Kingdom of Heaven*, a spiritual tour de force set in the Middle Ages; *Midway*, the incredible turning point in WWII, and *Harold and Maude* with its great dark humor.

Please send me your favorites that can include travel destinations and Bucknell faculty. Also, please send news about you and your Bucknell friends. — J.H.P.

1966

JACKIE PEARSON WEIDENFELLER
theweids@verizon.net

As we continue to "mature" (to put it gently), we tend to crave and to find opportunities to get together with our "old" friends. At least it seems so, as there have been a number of reunion events among us. In retrospect, although I thought our 50th Bucknell Reunion was fabulous, I wished I'd made even more of it, not realizing that it could be my last opportunity to do so. Having missed out on our 55th Reunion because of COVID, we can look to our 60th, but that's not for another two years. Still, plan now to be on hand for that.

One rather unsought way of remaining in touch with others is through the celebrations of lives lost. **STEVEN WHITESIDE '65's** memorial service in Gettysburg, Pa., allowed **WILLIAM "OLLIE" RAYNOR '64** to join **JIM LITTS '65** and wife Lennie for a visit and then a trip with them across Pennsylvania for the service. They reminisced about a trip to China and Thailand that the three of them plus Ollie's late wife, **BONNI VASILAWSKY RAYNOR '64**, shared years earlier. Ollie also recalled a canal boat cruise with Steve and wife Martha through England and Wales. Ah, the memories — it's great that we can still recall them.

Thirteen actual or honorary FIJs from three classes attended the annual golf outing in Lewisburg this spring. They included **JOE ELLIOTT '64, JAMES "MATT" MCCLOSKEY '64, PHIL MORGAN '64, TOM**

RICHARDS '64, JIM BROWN '65, PETE CHEYNEY '65, DICK GARWOOD '65, LORRY HATHAWAY '65, BRYAN KENNY '65, ED MANIGAN '65, MARK YAUKEY '65, JIM MARCILLE and DICK PACE. Not everyone played golf, but all were on hand for the camaraderie and the old stories retold and embellished. The Davis Gym that we knew has been demolished, and Sid Jamieson, former Bucknell lacrosse coach who joined in the dinner festivities, presented Lorry with a photo of his election into the sports Hall of Fame as basketball team captain.

At dinner, a letter written to the Class of '66 pledges concerning grades was brought out. Dick Pace reports, "It encouraged us to improve our grades and work hard to get off social probation. Apparently, we were last among the fraternities with a 2.35 GPA, but the good news was that we had improved from our original 2.25 — not exactly a Mensa meeting — but we all somehow turned out fine." Dick also reported that he had been on hand for **JACK DORR's** celebration of life service in the Adirondacks. Dick, as Jack's roommate both at Bucknell and afterward in New York, spoke of Jack's wonderful children and grandchildren and his having been decorated as a Vietnam veteran. Jack was married to classmate **JUDY BERK DORR**.

The Bub Strong Foundation held its third annual pig roast, including golf and lacrosse tournaments, in memory of **EDWARD "BUB" MORGAN. JIM CULLEN '65** attended the event in New Hampshire, along with about 150 of

Bub's friends, family, military associates and neighbors, many of whom had traveled extensively to participate. Proceeds benefited the local outing club, Disabled American Veterans and Pancreatic Cancer Action Network. A third commemorative beer was created especially for the occasion with a caricature of Bub on the can.

BEN ELLIOTT and wife Troy have retired to South Carolina, partly to be nearer to their children. "We like Charleston, and it seems to be a good landing spot after a lifetime in Pennsylvania and Connecticut. Where we live is set apart with lots of walking spaces, greenery and water views. While I'll always be a Northeasterner, these people are so darn nice. If you don't see the light has turned green, you don't ever hear a horn. They just wait for you to go. There is definitely something to be said for leaving those hurried, stressful days behind and taking some time to 'stop to smell the roses.'"

My two fine sons, **JEFF '94** and Scott, touched my heart by inviting me on a VBT bicycle trip in Cape Cod, Mass. We biked on sunny, warm days through and over gorgeous territory, stayed in the splendid Chatham Bars Inn and ate fabulous lobster — a great trip on several levels. It's important to keep your glass half full. To this end, try doing a good deed for someone every now and then; it will make both you and the recipient feel good. — J.P.W.

1967
CHUCK GILLILAND
cdgilliland45@gmail.com

I have again picked up the torch to write Class of '67 notes from **PRESTON HADLEY '68**, who was kind enough to give me a three-to-four-year break. When I saw that there were no '67 notes in the magazine, I decided to resume my "old" job. My technique is to ask for notes or reports from anyone who will send them to me, but in the absence of that, I will cold call people chosen randomly from a list of classmates. So be aware that I could very well surprise you, but also be aware that, if you see my phone number pop up on your screen, I will not be selling anything or otherwise scamming you. I'm at 540-915-2902 and cdgilliland45@gmail.com. Please send info to me!

I have kept contact with **JERRY WARD** and **JIM GANSINGER**, and mid-May, we convened at our house in Roanoke, Va., with our wives — Cheryl, Robin and Paula, respectively. We spent four days reminiscing, eating good food, drinking good wine and enjoying the sights of the Blue Ridge Mountains of southwest Virginia.

Jim and Paula still live in Lake Tahoe, Nev., and Sherman Oaks, Calif. He does some arbitration after retiring from his law practice. He owns Subway shops in Russia, but was wise enough not to tempt fate by traveling there since the war started. Jerry and Robin live in a gorgeous New Mexican home in Santa Fe, and travel to see family and to Cabo San Lucas, Mexico, which is

somewhat less daring than trips to Russia.

JOYCE WILLIAMS attended the 50th Reunion of our class. She is a retired trainer for welfare case workers in New Jersey and is a part-time mental health therapist. She was a member of Alpha Sigma Alpha at Bucknell. She has not heard from some of her freshman hall friends and would especially love to hear from **DALE EHLY BLAIR**.

DAN WILMARTH spent 25 years in the Air Force after Bucknell and has lived in Georgia for the past 40 years, where he owned a printing company. He retired from that in '94 and does volunteer work. He has a daughter and two grandchildren who keep him busy. He would like

to hear from **JIM RAFFERTY** and **BILL DESCHEEMAER**. **ROSALIE TORBIT WAREING** was a computer programmer after Bucknell (I didn't know that there were computer programmers back then), working for Prudential in Boston. She retired to Melbourne, Fla., several years ago and has enjoyed extensive traveling. She was an Alpha Phi and would like to hear from any of her friends at rosalie408@aol.com.

FRED WELLS used his civil engineering degree, working for Newport News Shipbuilding in Tidewater, Va. He lives there in the Kingsmill area of Williamsburg, Va., plays tennis several times per week and spent many years

officiating tennis matches — enjoying the kids but not so much the parents. He also golfs on the numerous courses in his area.

BARBARA "BOO" MCGUIRE STURGES was the only class member who returned for the 2023 Reunion. She has lived in the same house in Mt Lebanon, Pa., since 1971 and worked for Bucknell for several years, which required considerable travel. Since husband **TOM'S** death five years ago, maintaining her beloved home has become her avocation, plus helping the local library obtain books. Her daughter, **MELISSA STURGES SCALES '93**, graduated from Bucknell. — C.G.

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1968

GEORGE VINCE

gvince@madriver.com

Even though our 55th Reunion didn't draw the crowd that our 50th did, it was well attended and a lively bunch we were. Among the attendees were several "Cinderella couples" (folks that met at Bucknell, married and are still married), including **BOB '66, M'73** and **MARILYN OLSON PARKS, ROGER** and **MARILEE SHEPLER COLE, WARD** and **KATHY MCCONNELL ANDERSON '70, DAVE** and **KATHY WOOD MCCORKLE '69, MARK** and **SUE CASSIDY LANKFORD**, and **FORREST '65** and **VALERIE SILBERNAGEL CHILTON '65**.

Late Saturday afternoon at Reunion, I happened by one of the lounges to witness four football players reminiscing. Their focus was the infamous Temple game in the fall of '67, which was a week after the game with the Maine Black Bears. The Maine game was played there in rainy, cold conditions, and as a result, many of our players caught colds and worse. Needless to say, we weren't at our best against Temple and took a pretty good beating. Participating in the discussion were **CRAIG BUTLER, PAT LONG** and **GENE SABO** with **PAUL MACZUZAK** and **NOLAN BELLISARIO** on the phone and **DICK WEAVER** on his way. Gene's wife, Janet, was the assistant coach, historian, bartender and cheerleader. It wound up being a lot like the final episode of *Ted Lasso* with the boys bonding and celebrating each other — 55 years later — and it was also reminiscent of Bruce

Springsteen's "Glory Days."

I received a nice email from **SUSAN MITCHELL SCOTT** who didn't attend Reunion, but who celebrated a birthday on that weekend. "I wanted to let you know that your last column led to a totally unexpected contact from **PAUL TOMLIN**. After graduating from Bucknell, he went into the Peace Corps and was sent to Togo in West Africa — by my calculation, he was there about a year and a half after I was, but his was a longer assignment. Imagine getting an email with a greeting in Ewe (one of the major tribal languages spoken in Togo). Long story short, because my husband, Ray, and I were already hosting a regional gathering for Peace Corps volunteers at our home, we invited Paul and his wife, Terry, to attend, which they did. Paul and I ran in very different circles at Bucknell so didn't know one another. Nevertheless, we thought it quite amazing that we both had an opportunity to live and work in that far-off place. He shared with the group how his time in the Peace Corps led to working abroad and employment by international companies."

It was great to see the folks who did attend Reunion — too numerous to mention. Please stay in touch. — G.V.

1969

PETER E. D'ORSI

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On a brief vacation to Vermont, Joyce and I ran into **GEORGE VINCE '68** and had a nice luncheon with him and Louise. Also, the Vinces escaped

any serious damage from the flooding in the Green Mountain State. — P.E.D.

1970

LYDIA HALLER DODD

lydiadodd@yahoo.com

AL CHESEN attended our belated 50th Reunion and was kind enough to send this report: "I was able to take advantage of the hospitality of my ex-roommate, **CHARLIE DINSMORE**, who lives in Lewisburg. Also staying with the Dinsmores were **PETER VAN BRUNT** and **JIM** and **DIANE ELLIS COLE '71**. It was really good to see **JIM**

WHERRY, VIC CEGLES and **RONN JENKINS M'71**, as well. Most of those with whom I was friendly and still am friendly with were from our freshman hall group on 3rd Kress. It was also good to see various members of the classes of '71 and '72. I do get back to visit Lewisburg a few times a year on my way to visit my mom in New Jersey. We live about a seven-hour drive from Bucknell, so Lewisburg is a good place to stop for a night on the way. It's great to go back, even though the town and the area look vastly different from the four years we spent there."

MIKE CUTLER writes, "I began my association with the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws (NORML) and its national legal committee in 1986. I worked with NORML and Massachusetts advocates to develop lobbying and other educational programs for state legislators supporting the legalization of medical and non-medical cannabis commerce. On

behalf of NORML, I filed amicus briefs in the U.S. Supreme Court and several states. I volunteered with the successful Massachusetts ballot-question campaigns for cannabis decriminalization in 2008, medical access in 2012 and adult use in 2016. I have been honored by NORML for my national and state work with the Al Horn and Distinguished Counsel Circle awards." — L.H.D.

1971

LOU KISSLING

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DAVID LOGAN retired as a member of the Roger Williams University School of Law faculty teaching torts and seminars on free speech and Civil Rights. He was also the Rhode Island university's dean for 11 years (2003–14), which at the time made him one of the longest-serving deans in the country. Previously, he was a tenured professor at Wake Forest University School of Law, where he won awards for his teaching and published in leading law reviews. He has held visiting positions at nine other law schools and taught more than 4,000 students in his four-plus decades in legal education.

David won the Deborah L. Rhode Award for Public Service and Pro Bono Leadership from the Association of American Law Schools as well as awards from the Providence NAACP, Rhode Island Legal Services and Rhode Island for Community & Justice for his efforts to diversify the state's bench and bar.

A nationally recog-

nized expert in defamation, his scholarship was cited multiple times by the U.S. Supreme Court, and he regularly provides commentary for national media outlets, most recently in *U.S. Dominion, Inc. v. Fox News Network, LLC*.

In addition to his Bucknell degree, David earned his master's at the University of Wisconsin and his law degree at the University of Virginia School of Law.

And from class reporter **LOU KISSLING** comes the oft-repeated request for more class news. I need input from class members or else all I will be reporting is ... obituaries, or I could bore you with news about me. Speaking of me, I went on two summer trips to Lake Tahoe, Calif. — one for five days with Bucknell lacrosse friends **ED FARVER '69, JIM MORRIS '70** and legendary lacrosse coach Sid Jamieson that included golf and a stay at Ed's in Napa, Calif. I'm not a red wine fan but Ed has some very, very good stuff. As Sid and I said: wine with great muscular structure. My other Tahoe trip was a week of fishing, biking and golf with Phoenix friends. The biggest fish we caught was a lake trout at 23 inches.

My golf game is taking a hit with my handicap up to 18 plus/minus with my distance down and accuracy off. At least I walk most of the time and the fun meter is still there.

I was to be back in Connecticut in August for my brother-in-law's 80th birthday, then a several-day September hike with him and friends in Bryce Canyon National Park (Utah). Between all that is time in the high country (7,000-foot

elevation) of Pinetop, Ariz., for fishing, golf and mountain biking while living in my girlfriend's home. I'm planning our next big trip, but nothing has been set yet. — L.K.

1972

ANNE SMITH BENBOW
anne@benbow.net

VEDA WARD writes, "DAVID HENNINGER and I attended our 50th Reunion in June 2022 and saw **LARRY GREENWOOD** and **SUE KERN COTTINE**, our Bucknell roommates. **TOM DUFFY**, **DAVID COLLANDER** and wife Zuma, and **BRIAN** and **KATHY TAYLOR WALTERS M'72** also attended.

"COVID led to a monthly Zoom meeting for 2nd Harris Torres' Terrors: **JUNE CONGER CARRELL**, **TRISH DOUGHERTY LEWIS**, **JENNY HANLON DE LA TORRE**, **SUE TEAR M'72**, **LORI VOUGHT-NICKLIN**, **KATHY TAYLOR WALTERS M'72**, **KATE WORCESTER KOUTSAVALIS** and me. Tom Duffy put together a March Madness trip to Newport Beach, Calif., where he, David and I caught up with **TOM MCKENNA** and **JACK SCHMIDT**.

"And in other news, I was selected from 300 applicants to serve on a research and review committee for Pi Beta Phi, which is exposing me to sisters from all over the U.S. — amazing after all these years."

CHUCK RESNICK writes, "For many years the brothers of Sigma Phi Epsilon held a golf outing at Bucknell on Reunion Weekend coordinated by **DON LABOWSKY '74**. Over time this has been named the SPE Fossil Golf Outing (SPEFGO).

We've added a second outing in the fall in Maryland coordinated by **TOM HANNAN '73**. Participants this year during Reunion were **BRYAN SNAPP**; **RICK FRAZIER '74**; **Chuck**; **PAM STEPHANI '74**, a former SPE sweetheart, and her husband, Dick Morelli; **ALAN GROCHAL '74**; **Don**; **BOB SCHOWALTER '74**; **BARB GASPER '76**, another sweetheart; **RON MANDEL '76**, and **CRAIG SLOAT '76**. Members of the Class of 1973 who often play but sat out this year were Tom Hannan, **KEN PHELPS '73** and **JOE TAMBURINI '73**. **BEN BYRNSIDE '73**, **LARRY KIRSCHNER '73** and **BOB "FLASH" PALLADINO** were also on hand. All went well until the horn sounded around hole 16 warning of an impending storm. The first group, the 1972s, being the oldest and having the greatest hearing loss, did not hear the horn and completed the round anyway. The brothers then reconvened at Bull Run for dinner as per usual protocol. SPEFGO XXXI will likely take place in Maryland this fall."

RICH LEVINE writes, "My freshman roommate, **ALAN AXELROD**, died unexpectedly May 16 at the age of 72. After graduating magna cum laude from Bucknell, he graduated from Stanford Law School where he was on the board of editors of the *Stanford Law Review*.

"Alan started his law career in New York City and moved to south Florida, where he became a nationally recognized corporate and securities lawyer, representing public and private companies in all aspects of corporate transactions. He was ranked in the top tier among all corporate

lawyers in the state.

"Alan and I were fraternity brothers at Sigma Alpha Mu, where he served as president. We remained close friends. He and several of our fraternity brothers **GARY GROSS**, **MITCH KAGAN**, **REID KAHN**, **MARC POSNER**, **RICH STECHEL**, **PETER STEIN** and **PAUL WEIN** along with **BOB VAN VOORHIS '73**, Larry Greenwood and Tom McKenna had a weekly Zoom call since 2020.

"Alan was a devoted husband for 48 years to wife Jane as well as father to Julie, Andrew and Chris and grandfather to seven. He will be remembered for his boundless energy, whether at work or playing and vacationing with the kids and grandkids."

Reid writes, "**BOB NACHSHIN** passed away Oct. 14, 2022 in Los Angeles from complications of Huntington's disease. I met Bob when we were freshmen at Bucknell and we remained close friends. He was kind, generous, adventurous and a loyal friend. He loved politics and became the student body president our senior year after campaigning with the slogan: 'Action with Nachshin.' He was also remembered for canceling the Homecoming Parade in protest of the Vietnam War.

"Bob spent his career in family law, where he was esteemed by his clients, comprised of professional athletes, business people and many from the entertainment industry. He grew up in Oceanside, N.Y., graduated cum laude from Bucknell and earned a master's and law degree at Columbia, where he met his future wife, Monica Lipkin.

"He was passionate about traveling, hiking and the great outdoors and devoted his time to many charitable causes. Friends will long remember his larger-than-life sense of humor, conviviality and verve. Bob is survived by wife of 46 years Monica, daughter Elana and son Remington." Donations in his name may be made to the Eleanor Nachshin Scholarship fund at Bucknell, which supports students with special medical needs. (give.bucknell.edu/adf) — A.S.B.

1973

SUSAN LATIMER CURLETT
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John and **SALLIE STEWART RAEZER** published the book, *The Celebrating Family: Your Spiritual Roadmap to Family Healing and Happiness*, which explores family bonding. Sallie can be reached at TheCelebrationFamily@gmail.com. — S.L.C.



REUNION

1974

NORBERT W. CHURCH JR.
churchandchurch@yahoo.com

TOM and **CAROL VITZ WELLS**, a Class of 1974 couple, who married in 1973, will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary Aug. 18 in Nairobi, Kenya, with more than 300 participants of the third Dream Big Conference of their Wells Mountain Initiative charity. (www.wells

mountaininitiative.org)

Tom, Carol and daughter Jordyn, who has served as the charity's executive director for the last five years, all received honorary doctorate degrees in humane letters from Middlebury College at its May 28 commencement, recognizing the positive impact of Wells Mountain Initiative and their work in spearheading this growing organization.

Tom is retired from his New Jersey law practice but is still very active, along with Carol, in their family real estate and hospitality businesses based in Vermont. These days they divide their time between Vermont and St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands.

The couple also had a visit in July from another class couple **MIKE** and **STACEY SINES ABERNETHY** and a third Pi Phi, **KATHY SCHLECKSER WILLNER**, and her husband, Carl, at Wells' Lake Champlain, Vermont, family compound, Camp Carol. Tom and Mike were also fraternity brothers at Kappa Sig. The three couples travel and get together often, last year on a Viking Rhine River cruise. All three couples are planning to attend their Bucknell Reunion next June. — N.W.C.

1975

NANCY QUAY BRADLEY
nancy.bradley6@gmail.com

KEN SNYDER shared that he and his former Kress Underground hallmates **CLYDE SCHLEIN** and **TIM WILLIAMSON** got together for a sailing trip in the British Virgin Islands aboard the 50-foot catamaran *Voila*.

It was the 20th anniversary of the first sailing trip Tim and Ken took there. Ken included a photo of the three of them standing on a tiny island known as Sandy Spit, located between Tortola and Jost Van Dyke. It was a week of sailing, snorkeling and enjoying the company of old friends. (You can check out the online Alumni Galleries for a photo of this handsome trio.) — N.Q.B.

1976

GAIL WATERBURY FERRI
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MARY LOU KUPFER
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BARNEY HELLER writes that a friend of his ran into Bruce Carter, who swimmers may remember reigned as champion of distance swimming in our league from 1972–76. He ruined Barney's 1650 race and several others. It turns out Carter lives near Barney and decided to swim his first meet in 20-plus years in March. Barney decided to swim it also. **TOM CAHILL '77** and **RANDY ROACH '77** provided moral support. Randy sent a great video of his Bucknell cheer.

Alas, there was no 1650 in this masters meet, and Carter did not swim the 500 (likely, said Barney, "because I would have beat him"). They did get to meet though. Carter had a DVD of his swims at the March 1973 MAC championships. The video showed Carter catching Barney and winning the 1650. Barney suggested **JOHN LYONS '75, M'79**, retired associate athletic director, could arrange a

rematch. Although, writes Barney, "I may not win that one either."

KAREN DYKSTRA HELLER and Barney are doing fine. She is watching grandchildren, and he's trying to wind down his business.

JIM POTDEVIN, who is fully retired after 23 years in the U.S. Coast Guard (1977–2000) and 20 years with the Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities (2000–20), has a lot of time to travel.

In April, he and wife Tamira met up with **PETER "SCRATCH" HARRIS '77** and his wife, Connie, in Phoenix. Then they drove to Antelope Canyon in Page, Ariz., then on to Moab, Utah, visiting Arches and Canyonlands national parks. On the way home, they drove through Monument Valley.

In May, Jim and Tamira took a boat to Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve. One of the highlights was getting ice from McBride Glacier and filling the cooler — which certainly made the gin and tonics colder. They went up to Muir Glacier, but sadly the glacier is receding and no longer reaches the tidewater.

After a 35-plus year career as an emergency physician, **KEVIN M. COOKE** retired from Howard County General Hospital, in Columbia, Md. He has a pair of books available on Amazon. *A Primer for the Adult Years (the Gap Year Companion)* is a collection of "examinations designed to broaden individuals' knowledge base" in less traditional ways. *Essential Knowledge (abridged)* is an anthology of writings from his personal perspective.

The 20th century saw an explosion of knowl-

edge and now, thanks to the internet, Kevin said we are all living in the Information Age.

Accepting the premise that it is good to be knowledgeable, these books are a preliminary attempt to develop an inexpensive self-study course that could provide a shortcut to acquiring essential knowledge — especially for the baby boomer cohort as they leave the work force and begin the next chapter of their lives — but really it is for the student of any age.

We received the sad news of the passing of **ROBERTA "ROBBIE" CULBERSON BUNTAINE**, from her fellow Delta Zeta sister **NANCY WILLIAMS**. Our information is limited, but Robbie's date of death was in January 2019. She worked as a school psychologist for the Pittsford, N.Y., schools. She co-published a study about anger in elementary school-aged children in suburban vs. rural settings. Robbie leaves three grown children, Mark, Adam and Kevin, as well as her wife, Cheryl Rhodes.

PATRICE INGRASSIA shared the news of the passing Nov. 1 of **SCOTT TEMPLE**. He was only at Bucknell his freshman year, and then transferred to the University of Valley Forge, where he majored in political science, followed by a ministry degree. Scott started a church in Lewisburg with his wife, Susan, and traveled across the world on behalf of that ministry. He and Susan had five children. Patrice shared memories of his warmth, concern for others and love of life. — G.W.F. and M.L.K.

1977

SUSAN HUNSICKER
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BRIAN KNAPP
cbknapp@charter.net

On their travels from Chapel Hill, N.C., to Philadelphia to participate in the University of Pennsylvania's Orphan Disease Center Million Dollar Bike Ride event (MDBR), Jeanette and **NEAL BENCH** stopped to see **MAUREEN CARLEY KAVJIAN '78** in northern Virginia. Mary Jo and **ED KAVJIAN '75** joined them for dinner. Maureen's husband, **DAVE '78**, missed the get-together as he was providing orthopedic surgical care. The MDBR fundraising event is for rare diseases. Neal is affected by choroideremia, a degenerative retinal disease leading to blindness. Riding on the back of a tandem bike, he leads a team that raises funds for the Choroideremia Research Foundation.

PEGGY MATHIESON CONVER reports, "I have rejoined the Gilbert and Sullivan group that I enjoyed so much when I arrived in Philly after Bucknell. I've flipped to working backstage, which is much more flexible. I'm getting ready for my high school 50th reunion which means ours is not too far in the future. I hope lots and lots of the '77ers decide to head back to Lewisburg."

Keep those cards and letters coming. We'd love to hear what you've been doing lately, and we know our classmates are eager to hear all about it, too. — S.H. and B.K.

1978

KATHY MCDONALD ADELBERGER
tedkathy@comcast.net

I was extremely disappointed that I didn't make our Reunion. I had reservations and was looking forward to seeing everyone — but as fate would have it, I fell May 18 and fractured my right shoulder. I am eight weeks out as I write this and I am much improved. I'm spending more time than I like in PT, but I'm determined to get my shoulder movement back to 100%. I had some quick text updates from **KEVIN FALCO** who enjoyed seeing **GERRY KOWALSKI M'80**, **NANCY COSS MILAM**, **ELLEN BOECKER RUNDA**, **MICHELE BEACH HARRINGTON**, **SUE RILEY**, **SUE POWELSON WULCZYN**, **BOB** and **REGINA CIATTO BRYSON**, **RAY MILLER** and **BOB MCGRATH M'78**. Speaking of Bob McGrath, I received a wonderful report of Reunion weekend from him that I have included below. I took time to look at all of the video and other social media posts Bucknell put out regarding the weekend and enjoyed seeing the emeritus class procession. They had a great turnout. I hope we can be as successful in gathering our class in 2028.

Bob McGrath writes, "The weekend started out with a picnic in front of Davis Gym, followed by our class at the Bucknell Golf Club to which **MARVIN PRITTS** led a small delegation on foot. On Saturday morning, I took a trolley tour of campus with **SCOTT THURBER** and **DAVE SAMPSELL**. We saw several new additions, notably

Academic West and Holmes Hall, the home of the Freeman College of Management.

"After the tour, the three of us walked by [Christy] Mathewson Memorial Gateway and across Route 15 to the Mods area. I'm happy to report that about half the Mods (including my former home, Mod 10) are still standing and occupied. There are two massive dormitories under construction close to the Animal Behavior Lab. We had a large table at lunch in the Sojka Pavilion. Hopefully, those who have pictures can share them. The afternoon featured a torrential downpour, and I was happy to be inside Holmes Hall. Our Saturday dinner was in the Walls Lounge in the U.C. **CYNTHIA MASON-POSEY** was honored with a 2023 Alumni Association Award for Loyalty to Bucknell.

"The tent party on Sojka lawn provided another chance to socialize, capped by a fireworks display over Rooke Chapel. Our class had our final sessions (live, not a Zoom meeting) at several tables for Sunday breakfast before we left campus. I uploaded pictures to the photos area of Bucknell Connect (1978 45th Reunion-June 2023) and hope others will add to the collection. Let's all look forward to our 50th Reunion in 2028."

In addition to the update from Bob, I also heard from **GENE PISASALE** that he had unfortunately (like many of us) lost touch with a lot of his Bucknell friends, with the exceptions of **GEORGE CARTER** and **JOHN CORDES**. George retired a few years ago from the *Philadelphia Inquirer*, where he'd worked for well over 30

years. John worked as a CPA in West Chester, Pa., outside Philadelphia, for many years with his own accounting firm. Gene published his 11th book, *Heritage of the Brandywine Valley*, which covers the sweeping 300-plus year history of the region outside Philadelphia, which has lovely rolling hills, equestrian ranches, dairy farms and amber-leafed maples in the fall. It is a very well illustrated, hardcover oversized book with more than 250 images of artifacts, maps, paintings and historical sites. Gene lives in southern Kennett Square, Pa. (Chester County), so he has become quite familiar with its history. With the publication of this new book, Gene will also start a historical lecture series to complement it. He added that anyone touring through the Chester County area should stop in and say hello.

Please keep in touch and send in updates — the more the merrier. — K.M.A.



1979
ALAN SCHRIGER
altam@netvision.net.il

It was summer when I wrote this for those of us living in the Northern Hemisphere; regardless that I live thousands of miles from the U.S., we share the seasons. Let me begin with personal good news. My daughter, Levona, is getting married Sept. 1. This is our third and last daughter to marry and like her sisters, Levona too will marry an Israeli. I

guess the odds were great for that one, considering we live in Israel. As a history buff, I reminded my daughter that Sept. 1 is also the anniversary of the beginning of World War II, but the wedding will certainly be more upbeat.

STEVE BASS sent a nice newsy email. He's been the CEO of Oregon Public Broadcasting (OPB) for 18 years and will be stepping down in 2024. Steve has enjoyed his time at OPB and proudly cited the many achievements made during his tenure. He called this transition his upcoming "reirement" (a term coined by a member of the OPB Board of Directors) as he has future plans. Steve performs with two orchestras as a clarinetist, as well as performing in an annual festival devoted to the music of Gustav Mahler in Boulder, Colo. Also, in June 2024, he will finally complete his full Beethoven cycle with the Ninth Symphony. Steve hoped to continue working in public media in the U.S. and beyond, particularly in Ukraine, where he has been advising their public media for the last seven years. Like me, Steve has a daughter, who lives in Cleveland, getting married this September.

I hope all of our classmates had a wonderful summer; please, please send me news about what you did and any news you want to share. — A.S.

1980
DEBORAH L. HENNEL
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It's the year of the big 6-5! How did we get from freshman check-in to retirement, Medicare and grandparenthood? No doubt some of us are still employed in some way but hopefully life continues to have new opportunities for fun and inspiration. With more free time, there could be more mini-reunions.

ANN BISCHOFF writes, "I retired from a long and wonderful career in high tech, after working for several companies that gave me the opportunity to travel the world, work with excellent, intelligent people and keep learning. I have lived in the Boston area since 1984 (gulp, that was a long time ago). My husband and I raised amazing twins who live in the area. My son is a software engineer, and my daughter is an environmental policy analyst. We all celebrated my retirement last month, including **BETH THOMAS NILSSON**, my roommate and running partner at Bucknell, who also lives in the area. It has been an exciting journey; I remember the first BASIC computer science class at Bucknell led by a visiting Penn State professor as we didn't have a computer science program. I'm glad to see all that has changed for the better. Although I stopped running many years ago, you can still find me cycling or Nordic skiing in the nearby woods or swimming at Walden Pond. I look forward to having more time to play outside, travel and try my hand at beekeeping. For anyone who wants to reconnect, you can find me on social media."

Thanks, Ann, for the news and the perspective on the evolution of computer science.

Keep me informed about your comings, goings, discoveries and keeping up with Bucknell pals — and happy 65 to all of us! — D.L.H.

1981
CAROL CHRISTIE ROSNER
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As I write this, summer has finally arrived on the Cape, and I hope that you all have been or will be surrounded by family and friends and making new memories. If our Bucknell Class of '81 Facebook page is any indication, many of you have found opportunities in the last few months to reconnect with classmates and friends. You've also been busy with kids' weddings, new grandchildren and fantastic travel. Please send me some news of these fun events so that I can share it in future columns.

MARGIT BESENSEY WILLIAMS responded to my request for an update: "I moved to the D.C. area from Florida four-plus years ago and never looked back. With its museums and culture, and everything to do in Maryland, D.C. is just fabulous. I no longer teach political science. I have moved on to theological studies and am the mentor and administrator for a theological studies program. I am very active in my church choir and love having people visit. I also volunteer in various capacities — reading to the blind and helping out at the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation and through church ministry. I have stayed in touch with

JOHN DIFFENDERFER, CHRISTINA GREER DAWSON and LISA DAY, in particular." Margit, thanks for sending news and I hope we can convince you to make it to our 45th Reunion. — C.C.R.

1982
BECKY GOODWIN KANGOS
rgkang@aol.com

ERIC ALLGAIER once again did the Ride to End Alzheimer's bike ride with his two daughters and partner Laurence. **BOB GILLIGAN '81** also rode on Team Bucknell, the team Eric put together. Eric raised \$11,450, and the team of 15 people together raised \$33,260. Team Bucknell came in first for fundraising. All of the money raised goes toward Alzheimer's research. Eric shared that he needed some more training but did decently well with a new hip and bad knees. — B.G.K.

1983
TRACEY TRUSK EICK
teick@bellsouth.net

JIM '82 and I are delighted to announce that we have two more grandchildren. James Russell Eick arrived on Easter Sunday and Caroline James Baker came in late May. Despite the joyful excuse, I was so disappointed to miss our 40th Reunion — the first one I didn't attend. **STACEY BERNHARD SMOLLEN** volunteered to take over as Class of '83 reporter in my place and sent the following update.

"I tried to step into Tracey's shoes as

reporter at Reunion and thought of writing a really juicy, made-up account of salacious goings on, mainly to avoid being asked to be class reporter on a more permanent basis. Instead, I decided to submit a more philosophical overview. As **JANICE MUELLER CRAMPTON** eloquently put it in her epic talk at our Saturday night class dinner, this Reunion was weird — Bucknell suggested our class go to the jazz reception instead of the live band dance party and we received their large-type-text emails. It was surreal that we were celebrating 40 years since we walked the campus as students and still can remember that the mailboxes were there before the package pick-up lockers and that there was a bulletin board to check — instead of an app — if you wanted to get a ride home.

"On campus, our minds played strange tricks. Walking up the steps to the library quad, we still see the fountain although it's long gone; we still see the bookstore in the lower level of the U.C., although it's moved into town; we still remember meeting friends uphill or downhill for our meals. These memories of the Bucknell of 1979–83 are uniquely ours. I think **WENDY PLUMP**, gifted author and science writer for Princeton University, put it best when she wrote this to me: 'It's hard to believe how much I adore people I hardly knew 40 years ago. But we shared such a formative part of our lives, so we're all hardwired into each other.'

"Conversations flowed easily and got real

quickly. People mused about their careers. **KEITH DOWNING** told how he'd been browsing the Bertrand Library stacks his senior year for an independent study topic and happened upon the only book about artificial intelligence [AI] (computers playing chess), which turned into his project, which turned into his Ph.D. where he met his Norwegian wife and which turned into his professorship at a prestigious Norwegian university where he teaches AI today.

"People talked about their new paths. Many were newly or about-to-be-retired and mused about their next moves.

DAVE O'CONNOR left behind his legal career and is studying for his master's in theology.

JUDY CHESNUTT MCDONOUGH was named CEO at SCARC Guardianship Services, a nonprofit that advocates for the rights of those with intellectual and developmental disabilities that was so helpful to her beloved son, Collin. **BOBBI BERNSTEIN** is now a pediatrician to her first patients' children and feels the pull to stay to watch them grow up, too. People talked about the struggles of having their 'kids' at home during COVID, about mental health and about their fun and interesting travels.

"Of course, there was a fair share of back-in-our-day stories. It was a weekend of connections and laughter. The highlight for me was Janice's walking-around-the-room speech to just us — microphone be damned. She told funny stories. She called out the Pi Phis for their outstanding attendance and group joy. She

recognized classmates who have given back in big ways to Bucknell, sometimes in the names of dear classmates we've lost. She tapped into that 'how has it been 40 years?' zeitgeist that I think we all had, and showed a love of life that was infectious. Afterwards, we went to the big tent and heard some good music from a live band. Jazz is nice and all, but come on.

"Thanks to **CHUCK ZALESKI** for providing the truly magical Fero Vineyard & Winery location that feels like home to the Class of '83. Thanks to all of you who made the trip. To those who didn't, in five years' time grab a group of your friends and make the effort. You'll feel hardwired. Lastly, a special thanks to **TRACEY TRUSK EICK**, grandma to no. 4 and no. 5, who has done the work of keeping us up to date with each other for over 35 years. Send her some news, people. Signing off as guest reporter Stacey." — T.T.E.

↓
REUNION

1984
ALLISON ABOUCHAR CROSS
14380th@gmail.com

Another school year kicks off and with it, the 40th anniversary of the beginning of our senior year in Lewisburg. Forty years! Whether you've come to every Reunion, or never come back at all, I encourage you to make plans to attend Reunion Weekend 2024 (May 31 to June 2), and drop a line before then

with any news you wish to share. — A.A.C.

1985
CAROL RHEAM TEVIS
rheamtev@ptd.net

1986
JOAN DAUGHEN CADIGAN
jcadigan@mac.com

I hope all the news in this issue prompts more friends to reach out with an update.

NANCY FLORENT BEARD writes, "I'm thrilled to report that my twin sons, **ROBBIE '26** and **CHRIS '26**, are wrapping up their freshman year at Bucknell and love it. The coolest thing is that Robbie has my favorite theatre professor, Elaine Williams, for design, and it really takes me back to some of my best days. He's learned so much and is so fortunate to have her as a professor. Chris has really done well and made Dean's List first semester."

Nancy was looking forward to a mini-reunion with **JULIE ELIASON CARTIER, CLARE SCHUSTER HARTIGAN, JENNIFER "NIFER" CLARKE, SUZANNE PERRI KRACKE, MARY FLETCHER CASE** and **THERESE MCKEEGAN MCELWEE** over the summer. Nancy is in real estate in Westchester, N.Y.

DEBBIE HULL SULLIVAN also had a reunion with some Bucknell friends. She met up with **LISA MCKEE MCCAULEY, LEIGH ACHESON NAUGHTON** and **LINDA HICKS CANNILLA** this past April to celebrate being friends for 40 years after landing on the same freshman hall. Debbie says, "We met up at

PROFILE

HELPING A COUNTRY IN CRISIS

Matthew Karanian '82 provides infrastructure and information to keep Bangladeshi citizens safe from contaminated water

by **NICOLE GULL MCELROY '00**

Matthew Karanian '82 says his 35-year law career is rooted in the art of storytelling. Early in his career as a litigation attorney, he learned to take command of a courtroom with a compelling story to convince a judge or jury to deliver a particular verdict.

Today, as the legal counsel to an environmental nonprofit, he's using his storytelling skills to minimize health risks for vulnerable people in remote communities.

Karanian is an attorney and policy adviser for Environmental Strategies International (ESI), a nonprofit that partners with governments, international agencies, academics and community leaders to design and implement solutions to environmental problems. Karanian, who runs a private law practice in Pasadena, Calif., joined ESI on a volunteer basis in 2015. He traveled to Bangladesh earlier this year and will return this fall to support ESI's efforts to provide clean, safe water to local communities.

In 2018, ESI and Chemists Without Borders (CWB) tested water wells in Bangladesh and discovered the water contained dangerously high levels of arsenic. "The World Health Organization called the situation in Bangladesh 'the largest mass poisoning of a population in history,'" Karanian says.

Because arsenic is naturally occurring in the groundwater of Bangladesh, many shallow wells are contaminated. ESI and CWB work together to drill deep wells near public spaces, such as schools, mosques and temples, and town centers, to provide accessible clean water. Because arsenic is a tasteless, colorless and odorless contaminant that produces adverse health effects after prolonged ingestion (you don't immediately



Matthew Karanian '82 credits his experience as a student journalist at Bucknell as having influenced his humanitarian work.

get sick), some citizens don't recognize that there's an issue with their existing water source. A big part of Karanian's work is convincing locals to use the new wells — an instance in which storytelling can help make the case.

Karanian says his efforts in Bangladesh are linked to an early influential life experience — working as a student journalist for *The Bucknellian*.

"My time as an editor for *The Bucknellian* really impacted my life, my career and my approach to social issues," says Karanian, who majored in political science. "When you're 19 or 20, your brain is still forming, and during that influential time in my life, *The Bucknellian* helped me form a brain that understood the importance of communication, collaboration and speaking out about issues of importance. We used stories to help the community understand the day's issues and influence outcomes. That's what I'm doing today."

Lisa's picturesque West Virginia farm house for some rest and relaxation and a good old fashioned sleepover. We reminisced and laughed over crazy Bucknell memories and pictures, shared news about our families, hiked in the woods and even ended up at a bar for '80s night. Many of my college memories include one or all of these 4th Harris girls, all of whom were in my wedding to **JOHN SULLIVAN** 35 years ago. Cheers to 40 years of friendship and beyond."

The older we get, the more many of us will face

difficult situations.

DEVON LINK BAKUM shares, "I've become a full-time caregiver after my husband had a series of strokes last August. It's hard but rewarding. He's making slow but steady progress. I've learned a lot about the brain, our health care system and advocacy. I'm grateful to a strong support system, including **LYNN EUSTIS '87**. My advice to all my friends out there is to get their legal affairs in order. We were so lucky that our lawyer had drawn up health care proxy paperwork (necessary

even for a spouse) and durable power of attorney (also needed for a spouse). Life would have been infinitely more difficult without these documents. Hopefully, I'll have better news next issue."

DEB LONZER was diagnosed with breast cancer in May and was undergoing treatment for a year (a combination of surgery, chemo, monoclonal antibody and radiation). Deb says, "That has slowed the family down a bit, but our eldest, Avery, heads to college in August. I'm very excited that Avery

chose a small Pennsylvania liberal arts school — Dickinson. I hope this gives me the impetus to see some of my Pennsylvania friends a little more as we visit Carlisle." Deb is at lonzerd@me.com. I'm sure I speak for all our class when I wish Devon and Deb all the best as they navigate these challenges. Please send in an update on your life as we approach a milestone birthday next year. — J.D.C.

**1987
LAUREN SLAVIN
WROBEL**

laurenwr@optimum.net

**1988
STACIE VELISARIS DE
LA PARRA**
svdelaparra@yahoo.com

Reunion Weekend, June 2–4, was exceptional. If you went, I'm sure you had a fabulous time. If you weren't there, I hope your ears were burning — because we were talking about you.
Friday night cocktails

were a great warmup to a fun Saturday night Class Dinner in the Bison. Kudos to **JON** and **HEATHER MCBRIDE LEEF** for organizing an incredible weekend. One of the dinner's highlights was a 35-question Trivia Quiz. Here is some news from guest trivia announcers.

DARREN RHYM (4th Trax) writes, "It's been a long time since my Lewisburg Merchant days, but this is what happened: 1. Everyone is old; 2. **GEORGE "G-MAN" ANDRUSH, SCOTT LILLIS, "LUSCIOUS" DREW LEWING** and I were the only guys with hair and not exceeding our old playing weights (but pretty boys Scott and Drew are close). Jon did an amazing job as Reunion committee co-chair. **STACIE [VELISARIS DE LA PARRA]**'s Reunion quiz was Jeopardy!-quality and the highlight of the weekend."

Darren is in Columbia, N.C., teaching high school, almost on the beach. What more could a Jersey boy ask for? Kids Chad and Jordan are doing great. They aren't Bucknellians but went to Morehouse and Iowa for undergrad and Iowa and Michigan for grad school, which are good schools — I guess.

Trivia included the freebie question (who is the Bucknell mascot?) followed by a shout out to **JAYNE WIEBOLDT** (1st West, Roberts), **GARY SORIN** and **TODD NEWCOMB** for having been our favorite, lovable bison, Bucky. Jayne works in banking in NYC and lives in North Haledon, N.J.

H.J. WILLCOX (2nd

Trax) finally came to a Reunion and shared answers to the most popular name for women in the class (Sue/Susan/Susie/Suzanne with 27 classmates) and most popular name for men (a tie between Jon/John/Jonathan/Jan and Mike/Michael with 24 each). H.J. is the chief legal officer at AQR Capital Management in Greenwich, Conn. He and wife Kathy live in nearby Darien and are parents to an amazing son, a high school senior.

MARK DUNGAN (2nd Kress) is a senior director with WTW in Philadelphia. "I'm looking forward to retirement in the next few years as we are nearly done with undergraduate, graduate and law school tuition payments. If anyone is in the Philly area and wants to meet up for drinks or to play some pickleball let me know."

Our final guest announcers were **ELIZABETH "EBET" HARPER ALLEN** and **KATHLEEN HEALEY HOGAN**. Together they shared the over/under class stats such as: over 50 members of the Class of 1988 are parents to current or former Bucknell students (answer: 61); over 50 members of the Class of 1988 are married to other members of the class (answer: 64), and finally, over 50 members of the Class of 1988 are married to Bucknellians in other classes (answer: 79).

Ebet (2nd Cottage) is a business manager with Allen and Kilcoyne Architects in Manhattan. She and husband Dan live in Rye, N.Y., and are parents of two boys,

Brody and Wyatt, who are in college. Kathleen (2nd Larison) lives in Castle Pines, Colo., and is the advancement program manager at St. Mary's Academy. She was a natural on stage at Reunion. Kathleen and husband Dan have three children, Daniel, Ryan and Emily.

A most sincere thank you to **MARIA GIAL-LONARDO HONIGMANN** who came through on my request for a guest columnist. She writes, "I promised Stacie I would write in at Reunion. I spoke with **SUSAN WALLACE M'93; LAURA ROSENBERG SHMERLER; HEIDI KAUFMAN ROBINSON** (whose daughter, **ANNABELLE '18**, was celebrating her fifth Reunion with us); **NOEL BOWEN BITTNER**, and **LORI GORDON SHAFER. SUE HOLBACK EVANS** and I reminisced about our semester abroad in Vienna.

"We very much missed **ANNE SEIBOLD DRAPEAU** and **LAURIE SCOTT SCHETLICK** whose kids were graduating from high school (that weekend) and **KAREN LEONARD MARDEN**. I'm sorry if I didn't mention everyone, I spoke with. I enjoyed seeing all of you, sharing funny stories and heartfelt hugs. My friends are and have been the most treasured gift from my time at Bucknell. I am eternally grateful. Let's all try to go to our 40th."

Finally, I am beyond thrilled to announce that I've accepted the position of associate director, Alumni Admissions and Parent Engagement at Bucknell. In so many ways, this is

truly a dream job. I look forward to developing the role and proudly representing the University. 'ray Bucknell! — S.V.P.



REUNION

1989
RENEE LEAVITT BARLOW
reneebarlow999@gmail.com

MIKE MAIOLO sold his company, Rizing, to public company Wipro last year and has stayed on to run Rizing inside Wipro as chief executive officer. He lives in Old Greenwich, Conn., and son **GABE '26** is a member of the Bucknell Class of 2026. Mike went to a Rangers game with **JOSH '90** and **SUE DEAN TRAGER '90**. He also stays in touch with **JEFF STRITE '90**, **Jes** and **CHRIS BAILEY, TIM HEARNE '88, SHAWN HOGAN** and **BOB WILLOUGHBY**. — R.L.B.

1990
LAURA MICHALEC OLSZEWSKI
laura.michalec@gmail.com

TROY M'98 and **KAREN CATANESE WERLEY** checked in with some exciting news. Their daughter, Bryn, graduated as valedictorian from Gettysburg College with a bachelor's in chemistry and music. She will attend the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill pursuing a Ph.D. in

chemistry with the long-term goal of becoming a college chemistry professor. In June, Troy celebrated his 30-year anniversary with Arrow International/Teleflex where his work is focused on enhancing antimicrobial treatments for intravascular devices. They also spent an afternoon with **SHAWN SOBELMAN** and his wife, Donesa, when their river cruise stopped in Würzburg, Germany. It was wonderful catching up.

ETHAN O'SHEA was selected to the 2023 Pennsylvania Super Lawyers List in the areas of employment and labor and employment litigation.

Stay safe and be well. — L.M.O.

JOHN MCMEEKIN, chairman of Rawle & Henderson, joined the board of Public Health Management Corp., one of the nation's largest and most comprehensive public health organizations.

1991
JENNIFER COCK-CROFT ROTH
jroth2007@gmail.com

KELLEY NICHOLSON-FLYNN became the Princeton Day School's 12th head of school on July 1. Prior to this appointment, she was assistant head of school for operations at Riverdale Country School in the Bronx, starting in 2020 after serving for eight years as head of the Upper School at Riverdale.

Kelley began her teaching career at the

PROFILE

GUARDIAN OF THE CYBER GALAXY

Bonnie Bethea Limmer '02 keeps our interconnected systems safe from threats lurking in cyberspace

by ANNA THORNGATE

In May 2021, a Russian ransomware attack on Colonial Pipeline brought the major gas supplier to a standstill. It led to a massive fuel shortage, delayed flights and caused 17 states and Washington, D.C., to declare states of emergency. The incident illustrated the vulnerability of our highly connected society and drove home the importance of cyber defense.

Bonnie Bethea Limmer '02 played a key role in the response to that breach — and uncovered important lessons that could prevent a future attack. As the chief of production for the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA), Limmer works to identify and share information about cyber threats and vulnerabilities so organizations can safeguard themselves. In the aftermath of the Colonial Pipeline attack, Limmer's team produced an advisory that outlined the attacker's tactics and shared steps the cyber community, as well as organizations and corporations, could implement to prevent similar attacks in the future.

"In a U.S. cyber mission, the FBI is like the police and CISA is like the fire department," Limmer says. "We see the problem, rush to aid the victim and then gather information so we can educate the wider community. During that type of incident response, especially when there's public pressure and media attention, the operational tempo is high. You're trying to quickly weave pieces of information from various sources into a clear understanding of what happened and what to do about it — it requires strong communication, trust and teamwork."

Limmer credits her Bucknell education for helping her develop those collaboration skills. Limmer was a classics and



Bonnie Bethea Limmer '02 helps government officials address vulnerabilities in their systems to prevent cyber attacks.

English — literary studies double-major who wouldn't have predicted her career path. After graduating, she took a technical writing job with a contracting company in support of the Office of Naval Intelligence. Her interest in learning new skills and willingness to lean into uncertainty eventually led to a position as a cybersecurity analyst for a contractor that worked with the FBI and the U.S. Department of Energy.

"While there are technical aspects to cybersecurity, at its core, it's really about connecting with people — the people behind the machines. I wake up every day surrounded by people who are trying to do good things for our society and help each other."

Lawrenceville School in 1998. She earned her bachelor's in biology at Bucknell, her master's from Johns Hopkins and a Ph.D. in a joint program in cell and developmental biology at Rutgers University and the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey. Kelley has led multiple programs through the Columbia University's Teachers College. — J.C.R.

1992
LISA BLOCKUS BROWN
lisa.blockus.brown@gmail.com

LINDA MASSA SAFFLE
lindaoncapecod@gmail.com

KENT LINDEMAN captured his third straight gold medal at the U.S. Open Pickleball Championships this past April in Naples, Fla. He teamed with Brian Cooke of Indianapolis to win the Men's Doubles Age 50-plus division. He won

the U.S. Open Men's Doubles Age 45-plus division in 2021 and 2022. A record 3,043 players from all 50 states and 29 countries competed in this year's event with over 35,000 fans in attendance, making it the largest pickleball tournament in the world.

ADAM RESNICK became a partner with manufacturer Foresight Technologies about two-and-a-half years ago. Now, he is director of managed services at Sela USA after Foresight partnered with Sela, an

Israeli company, in the same field. It's a huge opportunity for Adam and his colleagues to grow the company to the next level. — L.B.B. and L.M.S.

1993
CHRIS ZACHARDA
chris.zacharda@gmail.com

WILLIAM and DEVON LEFEBVRE SMITH write, "Given that we are approaching a reunion year, I thought I'd pass along a couple of fun bits

of '93 news. I [William] was selected as New Jersey's 2023 Superintendent of the Year by the New Jersey Association of School Administrators and am a candidate for the National Superintendent of the Year Award by the American Association of School Administrators. I've been in my role as superintendent of Point Pleasant Beach School District for seven years, and I'm also an adjunct at Monmouth University. Devon started Devon's Kitchen, which focuses on wellness and healing

through cooking and nutrition instruction for kids and adults. Her kids group classes definitely draw on her years of teaching experience. Devon and I can be seen riding the Jersey Shore on our tandem bike wearing our Bison cycling kits. Honk (gently) if you see us." Congrats to both of you! — C.Z.

↓
REUNION

1994
SARAH A. SMITH
ssmith4321@yahoo.com

1995
JENNIFER BLOB BONER
jenboner@gmail.com

1996
BRIAN TIMMS
bibliomane74@gmail.com

ADAM C. and PATRICIA KAEGI WEISS traveled to Pittsburgh to celebrate the 50th birthday of his former Bucknell swimming teammate **JOHN DILLON '95**. Also in attendance were **JON "RICK" STEENSON '95**, **SCOTT DIETRICH '93**, **KATE DILLON STANKA-VAGE '98**, **DREW SAUNDERS '98** and **R. STU FAUX '95**. Adam

wrote that a good time was had by all "old school style." — B.T.

1997
SARA BLOOM BRUCE
sarabloombruce@gmail.com

1998
HEATHER MURPHY LOUDON
heather_loudon@yahoo.com

↓
REUNION

1999
STACEY MACKES
stacey.mackes@gmail.com

2000
BRIAN BAXTER
btxbaxter@gmail.com

Greetings from your new class reporter in Chicago. I can only hope I'll be half as good as my

PROFILE

RAISING THE BAR

Jaylen Amaker '15 broadens his horizons by always seeking to learn from those around him

by **NICOLE GULL MCELROY '00**

JAYLEN AMAKER '15 was a fresh Bucknell graduate only a few hours into his first full-time job with the finance team at Ralph Lauren when his new boss put him on the spot in a meeting. "She asked me what the current exchange rate was from U.S. dollars to pesos," he says. "I had to admit that I had no idea. She said, 'If you're going to be my finance guy, you need to know these things.'"

Amaker could've felt embarrassed or deflated. Instead, he felt inspired and energized. "I realized I was going to learn a lot from her," he says. His ability to recognize the value of people who push him — and his willingness to rise to the challenge in response — has helped him forge a successful career path in which he's always eager to learn and grow.

The political science major had planned to go straight to law school after graduation. But an externship with **Don Shacknai '83**, then-general counsel for the New York City Fire Department, in 2013 made him consider an alternative path. Shacknai and his colleagues suggested Amaker accumulate more work experience first. While not initially keen on delaying his legal aspirations, Amaker appreciated and accepted their collective wisdom. He ended up spending four years working in corporate finance for Ralph Lauren and Condé Nast before applying to law school.

In 2019, when he arrived at Notre Dame Law School, he saw the payoff of his delay. Not only did he understand how legal teams fit into the business world, but his time in a corporate



After his judicial clerkship ends in August 2024, Jaylen Amaker '15 will pursue a position with a private law firm in New York City.

environment helped him develop a more disciplined and mature work ethic that benefited him as a law student.

Taking the long road provided Amaker with another major benefit: the opportunity to curate his network. "That's a huge part of this experience: Building a network of brilliant, interesting and accomplished people I can learn from."

Following his 2022 graduation, Amaker secured two federal clerkships, spending a year with the U.S. District Court in Louisville, Ky., before moving to New York City to clerk at the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit.

In his role, Amaker works closely with the judges and discusses their judicial philosophies, drafts judicial opinions and legal memoranda, engages in statutory interpretation and digs deep into the nitty-gritty of the legal process. "The work has been phenomenal, challenging, enriching — everything I could hope for," he says.

Photo: Dabian Canales

predecessors, but I'm going to try. I look forward to hearing from you, future Nobel laureates. — B.B.

2001
HEATHER POLLARD
ADRIAN
hdpollard@aol.com

2002
KATY ZACHRY
VANDEGRIFT
kzvande-grift@gmail.com

JANELLE WEAVER
FOSTER M'04
janelleweaver02@gmail.com

2003
PAIGE NICOLE
WIEDERSPIEL BASK-
WILL
pnjacobson@gmail.com

Thanks to **LIZ HULETTE DAUGHERTY** for sending in an update on Reunion 2023, which "was delightful, and you all should have been there. The campus looks beautiful as always; the dining staff outdid themselves, and the town is darn near cosmopolitan compared to ages past. (Seriously, one place has 50-plus self-pour taps. The students today must be so spoiled.)

"It was absolutely lovely to catch up with **GRACE ANNIS CLIFFORD**, **LAUREN ANDERSON STOLL**, **JENNIFER JENCHURA PETERSON**, **JENNIFER BOWER DAWSON**, **TIM** and, **KRISTEN MOLZON HENRY '05** and so many more. You Bucknellians are the best people. Get psyched for 25 in 2028

and book a dorm room — you know you want to sleep in Swartz." — P.W.B.

BILL ROARK of Hamburg, Rubin, Mullin, Maxwell & Lupin was selected to the 2023 Pennsylvania Super Lawyers List for the areas of administrative law, environmental litigation and medical malpractice.


REUNION

2004
JENNIFER BUNCH
WEBLER
jen.webler@gmail.com

2005
NIKKI HOLLISTER
OLSZYK
nikkiolszyk@gmail.com

2006
JULIA SARGEAUNT
julia.sargeaunt@gmail.com

2007
JENNA CAMANN
jenna.camann@gmail.com
jcamann@alum.bucknell.edu

2008

If you are interested in being the Class of 2008 Reporter or have news to share, please email Heidi Hormel, Class Notes editor, at hjh006@bucknell.edu.


REUNION

2009
NIKKI SEAMAN ISELIN
Nseaman006@gmail.com

SHANNON RUTTER KARA and husband Ivan had their second son, Milo Alexander, April 14. Mom, Dad and brother Leo were doing great.

ALEX MAYER and wife **RACHEL AXELROD '10** had their third baby in June. **CAITLIN HIRNEISEN COLSON** and her partner, Art, had daughter Betty in December.

It's hard to believe that our 15-year reunion will be in the summer of 2024. This past June, husband **DAVID '10**, our son, Jacob, and I made a pit stop at Bucknell on the way home from a vacation. We needed to get Jacob some Bison gear as he heads to kindergarten, but we also enjoyed strolling around the beautiful campus. Be well, Bucknellians. — N.S.I.

2010
JENNIFER HIRSCH MANN
jenniferlhirsch@gmail.com

DAVID ISELIN
dtiselin@gmail.com

We hope everyone in the class is doing well. The **ISELIN** family got to spend time with **ELIZA MASSIE DOOLEY** and **BECKY BERSANI KASER** and their families when

they visited Cleveland over the summer. Other classmates wrote in to share professional accomplishments and exciting personal news.

OLIVIA KNOTT lives in Berlin, Germany and works for a Nordic consultancy called Rud Pedersen Public Affairs, after a year of maternity leave. She is a senior consultant focusing on tech and digital policy issues. Olivia has been based in Berlin for almost a decade, where she previously worked at the German Marshall Fund and the Aspen Institute Germany, both of which are transatlantic think tanks.

LUKE TRAFTON and wife Katy closed on a new-construction home in West Virginia and moved in over the summer. They were excited for the hectic-ness of filling the house with furniture.

KARL and **KELLY BOYLE BAUMLE** had daughter Emmy in March, joining 3-year-old brother, Charlie.

DANIELLE COOPER was to be married in September to fiancé, Matthew Hedberg. Many Bucknellians planned to be in attendance, including **BRUCE COOPER '72**, **EILEEN BELFIELD CONBOY**, **ELIZABETH MAE WALTON '09**, **AMY GOTTESMAN MANDELL** and **REBECCA CHANG FLEMING '11**. Danielle is an assistant professor of clinical psychiatry at University of Pennsylvania. She and Matthew live in Philadelphia with their golden retriever, Jessie.

CHRIS PETERSEN married Kim Trubey in July in Lancaster, Pa. The wedding party included

Sig Ep brothers **PETE KASPER**, **SCOTT RITROVATO** and **MIKE MAGILL**. Also in attendance were **BRETT ROSS**, **JON KEFER '09**, **KATSIE CALHOUN '09**, **TOMMY LYONS**, **JACK SWAIN**, **KEVIN MCALISTER** and **RYAN SHOVLIN**. Chris, Kim and their dog, Griff, moved back to the Philly suburbs after five years in Atlanta. — J.H.M. and D.I.

2011
LINDSAY MACHEN
lindsay.machen@gmail.com

2012
SONALI BASAK
sb051@bucknell.edu

GREG MAXSON and **MEGAN DEGENNARO** had daughter Grayson "Gracie" Paige Maxson April 17, 2022.

2013
MASHA ZHDANOVA
mz008@bucknell.edu

I am thrilled to be reporting on updates from our 10-year Reunion. We had about 80 classmates enjoying the festivities — including yours truly, of course — and the campus was really buzzing with alumni rushing from one event to the next, running into familiar faces and taking photos from every corner of campus like it was First-Year Orientation. It was fantastic to see all the new buildings, watch the new "Mods" being built alongside the original and reminisce about how things were during our own years at Bucknell.

Myself along with **GREG EPREMIAN '12**, **KIRSTIN CLOUSER**, and **FARIA SANJANA** and Rakean Zakir stayed in a lovely farmhouse right outside of Lewisburg. It was a nice upgrade from Reunion five years ago when Greg and I decided to stay on campus (at McDonnell "Hotel Bucknell"). For those of you already making plans for Reunion 2028, I definitely recommend booking as a group. Nothing can replicate the joy of sharing a space with your closest friends.

On a personal note, Greg and I are getting ready for an exciting move coming up later this summer, the details of which I will save for the next column.

I have received a few updates from others. Whether or not we have connected before, I always love getting your notes and sharing them with the rest of the class. Every once in a while, when I don't have much to share, I reach out to you all from my email mz008@bucknell.edu. If you haven't been receiving any emails from me, let me know as that probably means the University doesn't have your current email address on file.

Here are the updates from a few of our classmates: **ANDY ISOLA** lives in Pompton Lakes, N.J., and works for Amazon FinTech.

ANNIE SCHULENBURG earned her master's of music at the Boston Conservatory and taught elementary music at a charter school in Queens for eight years. Now, she lives in Long Hill, N.J., and began a full-time music teaching position

in Paterson, N.J., this fall. Annie also teaches private music lessons out of her home and performs as a soprano in the area.

ABBY VIDMER started a new job in August as the associate director of college counseling at Roland Park Country School in Baltimore. This will allow her to use her knowledge from working in admissions at Davidson College and at Vanderbilt to guide young women during their college application journey. Maybe some of them will become Bucknellians. It was Abby's experiences at Bucknell that sparked her passion for higher education; she was so grateful for this new opportunity. Abby was sad to miss Reunion and was looking forward to getting to campus more often now that she is moving closer. Write to me anytime. — M.Z.



2014
KAITLIN MARSH
kaitlinmarsh@gmail.com

KAITLIN MARSH married Howard Tilkin May 21. "We are stage managers working on and off-Broadway in New York City."

2015
COLIN HASSELL
cmh027@bucknell.edu

TOM SMITH JR. joined Willig, Williams & Davidson as an associate in the firm's family law practice group.

THOMAS RIE graduated with his MBA from Fordham University in May and started with Citi Group in July. — C.H.

2016
REBECCA MOORE
rebecca.moore016@gmail.com

2017
AVID KHORRAMIAN
avidkhorramian@gmail.com

2018
ANNA MILLAR
aemillar3@gmail.com



2019
If you are interested in being the Class of 2019 Reporter or have news to share, please email Heidi Hormel, Class Notes editor, at hjh006@bucknell.edu.

2020
CHANDLER HOULDIN
cwh021@bucknell.edu

2021
MACKENZIE GROSS
mackenziealexandra-gross@gmail.com

Happy fall, and we hope everyone made it safely back to Lewisburg for homecoming. It is wedding season and several classmates have exciting news: congratulations to **JULIA KHRAKOVSKY** and fiancé Robert Kollmer; **SEAN CARSON** and **CLARE MCGOWAN**, and **RACHEL KESELMAN** and fiancé Colby Minear on their recent engagements. We wish you a lifetime of happiness. More love news: congratulations go out to **LOGAN BITIKOFER** and his wife, Peyton, on their recent nuptials.

Our alumni feature this edition is **MATT SENNETT**: "Entering the aviation and aerospace industry has always been a goal and dream of mine, but when choosing colleges, I still wanted an experience that exposed me to different opportunities and viewpoints. Bucknell afforded me the chance to dive into my passion but also gain different perspectives on problems and solutions that may not have been possible otherwise.

Immediately upon graduation, I attended Cornell University for a one-year master of engineering degree in aerospace engineering, taking the mechanical engineering foundation from Bucknell and leveraging it into my graduate studies and eventually into the professional world. For my master's project, I worked with GE Aviation, now GE Aerospace, to conceptualize and design a hybrid electric VTOL aircraft. This project increased my desire to work in vertical lift design and development and led me to my

current role at GE Aerospace as an aerodynamic design engineer where I conduct the aerodynamic design and analysis of turboshaft and turbofan engine components for defense and commercial aviation use. In addition, being able to see the use of our engines serving both U.S. and allied forces at home and abroad shows the impact that my work is having. One skill that I use frequently is performing computational fluid dynamic analysis and design. My original exposure to this was at Bucknell through Professor José Madero's fluid class and my work at Bucknell's Small Business Development Center with Professor Nate Siegel and Professor Craig Beal '05. I don't think I'd be in my current position, doing what I love, without their and the rest of the Bucknell mechanical engineering department's support and dedication. Bucknell has been able to give me the tools and confidence to succeed academically and professionally."

Thank you, Matt, for your powerful words; your hard work is an inspiration to us all. I'm sending everyone warm wishes for their fall season, and please reach out to me at mackenzie-gross@harvard.edu with any updates you'd like to share. — M.G.

2022

JASMINE MINHAS
jkm030@bucknell.edu

2023

KATELYN COLLINS
kec019@bucknell.edu

My name is **KATELYN COLLINS** of Chatham, N.J., and during my time at Bucknell, I studied markets, innovation & design and film/media studies. On campus, I served as the Division of Communications' executive intern and TikTok team leader, and was involved in Greek life. I'd love to be able to keep our class connected through our accomplishments, adventures and endeavors. Please reach out with any updates or news to kec019@bucknell.edu. — K.C.

IN MEMORIAM

1942

DORY GREEN TETER, July 3, Hilton Head, S.C.

1943

CAROLYN DONEHOWER BALDWIN, July 10, 2022, Arlington, Va.

1945

MILDRED "MILLIE" DARLINGTON, June 7, Cape May, N.J.

JANET SHOTWELL HUNT, July 16, Wexford, Pa.

1949

TOM FUSIA, May 24, Somerset, Pa.

1951

DELBERT CRAGLE, June 21, Hanover Township, Pa.

BILL GINGERICH, April 8, Cummaquid, Mass.

1952

HARRY ALLSWORTH, June 22, Greensburg, Pa.

1953

BETTY STAGG NUOVO, July 4, Middlebury, Vt.

1954

ELLEN LIEBERHERR THORN, June 27, Wilmington, Del.

1955

CINDY DOREMUS MACKINNON, June 1, Brunswick, Maine

1956

IRA ELLIS, July 18, 2021, Montrose, N.Y.

JOHN MCCONNELL P'86, G'22, May 20, Pittsburgh

JOYCE WHITE OHL, March 25, Charleston, S.C.

HELEN KARCHER SHUTKIND, Nov. 7, 2020, Rockville Centre, N.Y.

1957

BOB LANDZETTEL, May 22, Mahwah, N.J.

PAUL M. REED, June 15, Sykesville, Md.

RALPH RIKER P'88, G'22, June 4, Wycoff, N.J.

DONALD SHAVER, June 1, Mill Valley, Calif.

WIESJE ZONRUITER VAN WYCK P'83, P'88, April 15, Colfax, N.C.

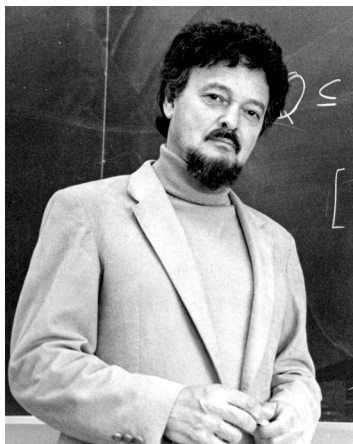
JOEL WINCHIP, May 13, Columbia, S.C.

1958

VICTOR ALLISON, June 1, Enfield, Conn.

IN MEMORIAM

CHARLES PINTER P'87, P'94, P'02



Charles Pinter P'87, P'94, P'02, professor emeritus of mathematics, who devoted nearly four decades of service to Bucknell, died July 3 in Lewisburg.

At Bucknell, Pinter was instrumental in creating the curriculum for a course called Topics in Math. *The Bucknellian* reported that this would be a "mathematics appreciation course" that would "explain that the thought behind mathematical theories is essentially the same as the thought behind the ideas in the arts and humanities."

Pinter's own appreciation for interdisciplinary studies is evident in his educational journey. Pinter grew up in Tangier, Morocco, and initially pursued a journalism degree in Paris. He then

moved to New York City and enrolled in Columbia University where his goals shifted. Pinter, who was fluent in eight languages, shared in a 2012 interview that he focused on becoming "an anthropologist-ethologist-linguist-student of comparative literature."

After graduation, Pinter landed a job as a computer programmer for IBM. While there, he happened to read a magazine story about a mathematical proof that he found so intriguing that it led him back to Paris to pursue his doctorate in the subject. It was in Paris where he would meet Donna Krewedl, a recent American college graduate who was visiting Europe for the first time. The couple married and celebrated 56 years together before Donna died in 2020.

When Pinter received an offer to join the mathematics department at Bucknell, he and Donna relocated to Lewisburg, where they lived even after Pinter's retirement in 2004. Over the course of his academic career, Pinter wrote multiple books, including *A Book of Abstract Algebra*, which became a mainstream textbook used to teach junior- and senior-level math majors and has been credited for helping to make higher-level math accessible. Most recently, in his late 80s, he wrote *Mind and the Cosmic Order: How the Mind Creates the Features & Structure of All Things, and Why This Insight Transforms Physics*, which was published in 2020.

Pinter is survived by four children — Nicholas Pinter, **Marco Pinter '87**, **Andres Pinter '94** and **Adrian Pinter '02** — and eight grandchildren.

NANCY VON GLAHN BIGLOW P'91, May 24, Naples, Fla.

PATRICIA KENNEDY HUBBARD, June 3, Buford, Ga.

ANNE RAMSBURG JONES, May 31, Merritt Island, Fla.

JANE VETTER KING, June 10, Fort Myers, Fla.

JOHN PARRISH, June 24, Roseville, Mich.

1959

SUZANNE REED HENGVELD, June 22, Bedford, Ohio

ANN HARDY SHARP P'90, G'21, May 4, Wilmington, Del.

PATSY MCCLINTOCK STEISS, April 28, Christiansburg, Va.

1960

KURT GERRISH, April 29, Jupiter, Fla.

BABS LAFFERTY GLAUNER, Jan. 30, Concord, N.H.

TED GRONLUND, June 15, Naples, Fla.

HENRY "HANK" PULIZZI P'90, June 3, Bethesda, Md.

1961

MARY SHIPPS ERNST, July 3, Nazareth, Pa.

BERELL KORNREICH, June 30, Myrtle Beach, S.C.

GEORGE MONCILOVICH, May 11, Johnstown, Pa.

1962

JOYCE PULEO CYGLER P'89, G'23, June 3, Basking Ridge, N.J.

JOHN RUYAK, May 8, Allentown, Pa.

1963

NANCY HENDERSON GREENWOOD, April 21, Wayne, Pa.

CAROLYN CARSON GRILL P'92, May 11, Wilmington, N.C.

DORLAND MILLER, May 16, Linden, Pa.

1964

BONNIE RAMER CASEBEER, April 27, Hershey, Pa.

DAVID HALTER, June 15, Brunswick, Maine

JOEL SWANSON P'92, May 6, Manlius, N.Y.

1965

MARYANN LEE ORR, May 21, Altoona, Pa.

1966

ED RECHBERGER, April 13, Perry, N.Y.

DEAN STUMP, May 16, North Fort Myers, Fla.

1967

JERRY WELSH, June 23, Churchville, Md.

1968

ROBERT KOTZ, April 4, Canton, Ga.

JOHN MOSER, April 19, Philadelphia

1969

CHARLES LEE, May 10, Hackettstown, N.J.

CHARLES "CHAZ" STRICKLAND, May 21, Denver

1971

HENRY "PAT" MARTIN, May 22, Englewood, Colo.

1972

ALAN AXELROD, May 16, Miami

JACK HARPER, June 7, Rosslyn Farms, Pa.

WENDY PALMETER HUTCHESON, April 14, Cortez, Colo.

TIM KELLER, May 19, Roosevelt Island, N.Y.

1973

GEORGE CLAYTON, May 28, Apopka, Fla.

1974

JANICE MERRY CONTI, May 21, Hudson, N.H.

1975

BRIAN GREER, May 8, Loudon, Tenn.

1976

JOHN FITZGIBBON, June 5, Newport Beach, Calif.

1981

GRETCHEN JONES SWITZER, May 13, Worcester, Mass.

IN MEMORIAM

ARTHUR KINNEY JR. '56, P'81



Devoted Bucknell supporter **Arthur Kinney Jr. '56, P'81** died Sept. 3 at the age of 90.

Kinney served on the Bucknell Board of Trustees from 1984 to 2005, during which time he was chairman of the Bucknell Campaign, one of the most successful comprehensive campaigns in Bucknell's history. In 1996, Kinney received the Loyalty to Bucknell Award, presented annually to a member of the alumni community who deserves recognition for extraordinary service, dedication and commitment to the University. In 2002, the Arthur D. Kinney Jr. Natatorium was dedicated in Kinney's honor.

At Bucknell, Kinney played football and was a member of Sigma Chi fraternity. After graduating, he served two terms as a captain in the Army and then began his 35-year career at Connecticut General Life Insurance Company, which later became Cigna Financial Corporation. He held many roles at the corporation and rose to the level of executive vice president before retiring in 1991.

Kinney, who lived in Lake Barrington, Ill., is survived by his children, Douglas Kinney, **Laura Kinney '81**, also a former trustee, and Christopher Kinney; their spouses; and seven grandchildren.

A memorial service was held on campus for Kinney on Friday, Oct. 27, in Rooke Chapel. Donations in Kinney's name may be made to the Arthur D. Kinney Scholarship.

1982

JEFFREY BULEY, April 25, Voorheesville, N.Y.

1983

DAVID KAMMER, May 14, Marcellus, N.Y.

1993

LORI BURGESS LEFFLER, May 28, Alpharetta, Ga.

MASTER'S

RUTH SCHENLEY MORRIS M'56, May 27, Everett, Pa.

FACULTY AND STAFF

BARBARA EGLI, June 3, Lewisburg, Pa.

CHARLES PINTER, July 3, Lewisburg, Pa.

EARL SMITH, April 27, Mount Pleasant Mills, Pa.

PATRICIA STARCHER, May 29, Milton, Pa.

DO

NOMINATE AN OUTSTANDING BUCKNELLIAN

Know of a fellow graduate who should receive a Bucknell Alumni Award?

➞ Learn more and submit your nomination at go.bucknell.edu/alumniawards

ANSWER THIS:

WHAT IS SOMETHING AT BUCKNELL THAT YOU ABSOLUTELY LOVED BEING A PART OF?

➞ Follow us on LinkedIn to submit your answer. LinkedIn.com/school/bucknell-university

CROWDSOURCED

WHY DID YOU DECIDE TO ATTEND BUCKNELL?

"To play football in the Patriot League, be in the beautiful mountains of Pennsylvania, and relish the time in the bubble."

Brad Hunt '97

"I sought a university with a smaller student population, small class sizes and opportunities for individual attention from both professors and staff. Plus, the financial aid package was so generous."

Do Yung Kim '04

"I was the 34th in my family to go to Bucknell, so not sure I had a choice! So glad I did. It was a great experience. I made lifelong friends."

David Humphreys '96

"The beautiful campus and accredited chemical engineering program."

Shalanda Turner '06

"I wanted a liberal arts education but also wanted to be prepared to be a teacher when I graduated. This combination and the outstanding courses and professors made my four years at Bucknell ones that touched my life forever!"

Marjorie E. Merle Castro '64

Get Informed

This fall, Bucknell released a Freeman College of Management Report and a College of Engineering Report to show how each college is providing a premier educational experience for students. Each report details distinctive initiatives and innovative programs that support Bucknell's strategic goals.

➞ Read them at go.bucknell.edu/ManagementReport and go.bucknell.edu/EngineeringReport

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**CAPTION
CONTEST**



SUBMIT YOUR CAPTION BMAGAZINE@BUCKNELL.EDU / [FACEBOOK.COM/BUCKNELLU](https://www.facebook.com/BUCKNELLU)
Compose a clever caption. The five best sent by Dec. 1 will win a cool Bucknell T-shirt.

SUBMIT A PHOTO HAVE A VINTAGE BUCKNELL IMAGE THAT DESERVES CAPTIONING?
Send high-resolution images to bmagazine@bucknell.edu for consideration.

Photo: L'Agenda, Courtesy of Special Collections/University Archives

SEE ART THAT CONFRONTS 'GIANT' ISSUES



VISITORS TO BUCKNELL'S Samek Art Musuem this fall have the opportunity to experience the artistry of celebrated graphic designer and social activist Shepard Fairey.

Fairey is perhaps best known for his iconic 2008 red-and-blue "Hope" poster that depicts then-presidential candidate Barack Obama. A collection of his work, *Facing the Giant: 3 Decades of Dissent*, which includes 30 large silkscreen and mixed collage works on paper, is on display in the Samek through Dec. 3.

Fairey's artwork, which is influenced by punk, skate, street and protest culture, is meant to inspire people to question the world around them. Combining elements of graffiti and pop art, Fairey visualizes themes such as climate change, civil rights activism and police brutality to inspire empowerment and create a more just world.

The Samek Art Museum is located on the top floor of Bucknell's Elaine Langone Center. Learn more at museum.bucknell.edu

Witty Winners

Here are our favorite caption submissions from the last issue:



"Ever since my journalism class, I devour the news." Joe Manganello M'69

"Bob took a moment to literally savor his killer outfit for Project Runway: Journalism Week." Megan Bonsall Jacobs '90

"I hate recycling day. I can't wait until we go digital." Cort '77 and Carole Van Orden Steel '77

"NERVOUS ABOUT HIS INTERVIEW TO BE THE NEXT YEAR'S EDITOR OF THE BUCKNELLIAN, FRED DISTINGUISHED HIMSELF FROM THE OTHER CANDIDATES." Bruce Jackson '67

"The Bunknellian: Sink your teeth into our news!" Janet Thompson Salzer '59

"A true Bucknellian from head to toe!" Karen Stachowicz '87

Submit your caption for the retro photo on P. 62 to bmagazine@bucknell.edu or [facebook.com/bucknellu](https://www.facebook.com/bucknellu) by Dec. 1.



L'Agenda Yearbook from 1985.

Although initially associated with athletics, the Bison crosses over to the academic world when it appears on the 1937-38 University student handbook cover.



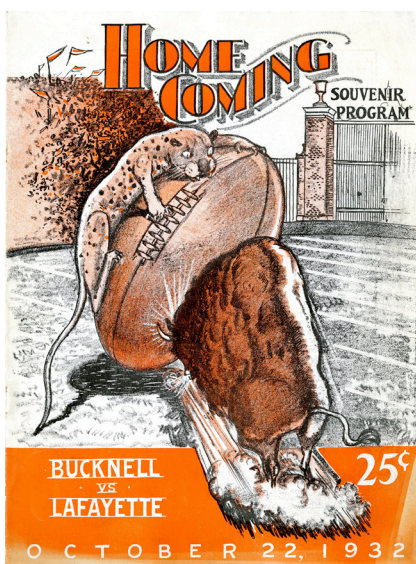
Celebrate 100 Years of the Bison

FOR AN ENTIRE CENTURY, Bucknellians have been rallying behind our mighty Bison. Prior to 1923, Bucknell student-athletes were sometimes called the wildcats ... and sometimes the timber wolves. In 1910, **William Bartol, Class of 1872**, a former athlete and head of Bucknell's mathematics department, pushed for a singular, consistent mascot the campus could get behind. (Leave it to a mathematician to bring order to our world.) Bartol suggested the bison because it was believed that American bison once populated our Central Pennsylvania area. Though lack of evidence now casts doubt on that belief, Bartol's idea eventually took hold and was embraced by campus. In 1923, the Bison became the University's official one-and-only mascot. We visited the University Archives to uncover a few artifacts documenting the early days of our beloved Bison.

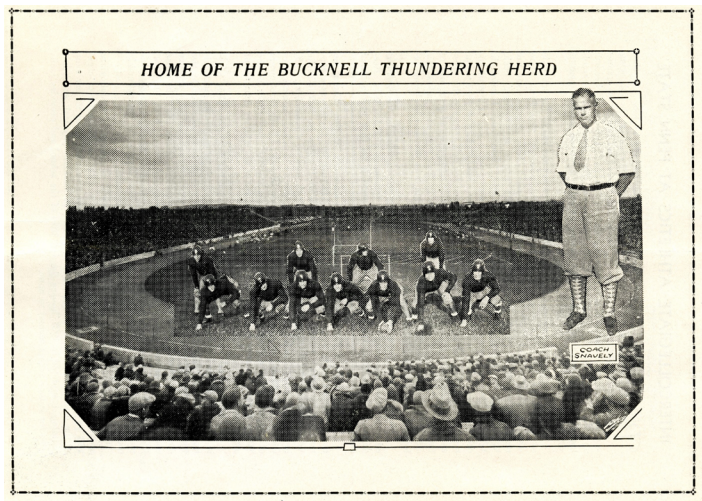
➔ **A 100 Years of the Bison celebration was part of Homecoming & Family Weekend in September. See photos from the festivities at magazine.bucknell.edu**



The Bison Club purchased the first Bucky costume in November 1948, captured in this 1951-52 *L'Agenda* photo.



A mighty bison charges a timid Lafayette leopard on the cover of the Oct. 22, 1932, football program.



Though there is no direct mention of the Bison, a football program from Nov. 1, 1930, (Bucknell vs. Penn State) alludes to the "Thundering Herd."

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Photo: Emily Paine



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The excellence of the Bucknell experience is a direct result of the generosity of our loyal donors. Whether you support scholarships, facilities, research and travel experiences, athletics, academics or the arts, your gifts make a daily impact on students.

More than **13,000** alumni, parents, students and friends of the University made gifts to Bucknell in 2022-23.

Thanks to their giving, the University received nearly **\$32.5 million** — all of which will directly enhance our students' educational experience.

➞ [Learn more about the areas of campus that benefit from your generosity
bucknell.edu/YourImpact](https://bucknell.edu/YourImpact)

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Our newest Bucknellians 'ray for the orange and the blue during Orientation.

photo by EMILY PAINE

