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Captains Without Borders
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*Become an alumni enrollment volunteer! For more information, contact Laurie Weitzen at (800) 552-3633, ext. 12 or lweitzen@sea.edu*
I can't begin to describe the situation here. I arrived in Juba, South Sudan not quite two weeks ago, and then flew to Aweil two days later. I think that means I have been here for ten days. We have been working 12-14 hour days. The original goal of the mission, to support a maternity ward in a hospital has been dwarfed by our new emergency mission, which is to supply food and non-food items to several thousand displaced people in the area surrounding Aweil. Many of the children are malnourished, or severely malnourished, so we are also setting up therapeutic feeding programs. In these cases, children may stay at our centers, which are tents, for a week or so, to be fed special foods. Most would probably die otherwise.

12 February 2008 – Phil Sacks from the Sudan
Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) is an independent international medical humanitarian organization that delivers emergency aid to people affected by armed conflict, epidemics, natural or man-made disasters, or exclusion from health care in nearly 70 countries. MSF sends doctors, nurses, logisticians, water and sanitation experts and administrators on aid assignments to work in the field alongside locally hired staff providing medical care. According to their website, “MSF’s decision to intervene in any country or crisis is based solely on an independent assessment of people’s needs – not on political, economic, or religious interests. MSF does not intervene according to the demands of governments or warring parties.”

A 28-year career SEA Master, Phil applied for his first deployment with Doctors Without Borders late during 2005, looking to spend an upcoming sabbatical in humanitarian service. To his surprise, he was immediately invited for an interview in New York City where he also took the qualifying examination. Once he had qualified for a mission, he returned to New York for an orientation program and awaited an assignment. MSF pays travel expenses, provides a stipend and offers health and dental benefits for field staff. Personnel live together in the field and are usually provided with a local cook and housekeeper. Field staff have the option to decline an assignment after they receive an offer, and are normally given at least two months notice before deployment.

In April of 2006 Phil accepted his first mission and left for Thailand in July of that year. Since 2005, MSF has been providing healthcare and water supply to what has grown to be over 8,300 Laotian Hmong people taking refuge in a camp of 30-40 acres size in the Phetchabun Province. The Hmong people are an ethnic minority who supported the Americans during the Vietnam War and cite persecution as a reason for fleeing their country even today.

Our main distributions to the refugees are food and charcoal, each bi-weekly, on alternate Fridays. We are attempting to re-institute a distribution of a few additional critical non-food items, such as plastic sheeting for roofs, a cooking stove, pots, and blankets. However, it is becoming apparent that the demand is greater than our supplies. It is quite a problem to decide who should be first in line to receive what we have to give away. How do we determine the neediest? Quite a challenge. And, it seems, the more we give away, the more people ask for. If we begin giving away extra rice to the elderly not served by the large distribution for families with children, everyone gets in line for their share. 23 September 2006 - Phil Sacks from Thailand

Phil served as the logistician/administrator for the MSF team that included an American nurse, a French doctor, one Thai staff member and totaled 72, including local workers. In the period of a year, the number of refugees at the camp had grown from 6,500 to almost 8,500.

Bernard Kouchner, now the foreign minister of France, established Medicins Sans Frontieres in France 37 years ago. In 1968, he had responded to a call from the Red Cross for doctors to go to Biafra at the time of their fight for independence. What he saw sparked the organization, formed by him and his fellow doctors, that would take emergency care to locations impacted by violence or natural disasters.

The work here is very interesting. I’m sure all relief missions are unique, but this one has a few differences from most other MSF missions. In most refugee and displaced person camps, there are several non-governmental organizations (NGOs) present, and MSF is generally responsible for medical services only, or perhaps also water supply. Here
we are the only major relief agency (except for a few very tiny NGOs that give out a little rice now and then, or bibles). So, we are responsible for essentially all services here. We take care of water, latrines, garbage, vector control (rats and mosquitoes), food and non-food distributions (stoves, charcoal, blankets, and tarps), in addition to MSF’s more customary medical services. We operate an outpatient dispensary (OPD) that sees about 80 patients a day. For problems more serious than can be handled on-site, we refer and transport patients to one of several nearby hospitals. MSF pays all the bills for refugee referrals. The OPD has a staff of about 20 people, all refugees from the camp with various levels of medical training. Some were trained as medics in one of the other refugee camps they have lived, going back 30 years for some, since the end of the French and American wars in SE Asia.

I am responsible for all of the services other than the Outpatient Dispensary (OPD). The logistics team is about 50 people. Half are refugees from the camp, and the other, local Thai citizens, some ethnic Thai and other Thai-Hmong.

Captain Steve Tarrant started as a mate in 1997, and worked with SEA in various teaching positions until becoming a full time faculty member captain in 2003. He began community service work much earlier as a kid. Steve says the event that drew him to MSF service was the 2005 Haitian rescue on the Cramer. Steve was captain of that vessel when 51 Haitian refugees were sighted floating in Caribbean waters and were safely transported to Jamaica aboard the Cramer. (See Following SEA, Summer/Fall 2005.) After that powerful experience, he was moved to go to Haiti to try to understand the story of the Haitian people. Just months before going to sea with Class 197, Steve had been working as a volunteer at the AmeriCares Free Clinic in his hometown of Stamford, CT. Later AmeriCares was able to connect Steve to the Haitian Health Foundation (HHF) who provide improved health and hope to over 200,000 people in rural southern Haiti. Donations to SEA in honor of the crew and students of C-197 and in support of the refugees were directed to HHF, and ultimately provided badly needed fetal heart monitors for Haitian babies. Steve went to Haiti in January 2006 and when he returned, he wanted to do more.

I’m here in Port Harcourt, Nigeria, population of about 5 million—although census records are supposedly poor. I co-manage 208 Nigerian hospital staff in a 70 bed trauma hospital in one of the worst parts of town, Diobu. We admit lots of gunshot and knife wound victims, road traffic accidents and sexual violence cases. The cops, cults, gangs, militants and military shoot each other then come to our hospital. We don’t deny anyone admission. Care is free. The expatriate staff of physicians and nurses comes from the US, Japan, France, the Congo and Ireland. They are a great team. I relieved a friend and colleague here so my introduction to the place and situation was very thorough. He left me in good shape. 25 November 2007- Alan Hickey from Nigeria

It is happenstance that Alan Hickey followed Steve as a logistician at the Teme Hospital in Port Harcourt, Nigeria. After talking with Phil when he returned from Thailand, Steve applied for a mission with MSF. His tour of duty in Nigeria began on May 23, 2007 and ended on November 23, 2007, just as Al relieved him at the hospital.

Doctors Without Borders has been managing this 70-bed trauma center since October 2005. The team in Port Harcourt includes 10 expatriates, each stationed for 6 months to a year, and 4 medical specialists with shorter assignments, serving between two and four months. This area, in the southeast corner of Nigeria,
was once called Biafra when it succeeded in the late 1960’s. Civil war raged for three years; thousands of humanitarian aid workers witnessed atrocities. When the war was over, Biafra reverted back to Nigeria. Now it is a densely populated, oil rich area where there is a struggle to gain power and control natural resources that has sparked outbreaks of violence among fragmented networks of armed groups. The Teme Hospital serves victims of this and other violence.

We had three VSV (Victims of Sexual Violence) cases today. Girls aged 4-11 or so. Not good. MSF is expanding their Outreach to spread the word that we will be offering medical services for these victims.

Al Hickey first applied to SEA in 1978 as an assistant scientist. Over the next 17 years he served in many roles ending with his appointment to the position of Director of Marine Operations which he held from 2002-2007.

Al reports that he asked his Nigerian administrators what makes Nigerians different from other Africans. They pointed out that one difference is that Nigerians are multilingual due to so many languages among their people. (There are 250 ethnic groups in the country, although most belong to three.) Further, Nigerians are creative, do everything that they do fast, and love people. Al observes that they are also direct, well poised, proud and very much want to learn. “The names of locals cannot be beat. The guard is named Genius and the cleaning woman goes by Thankgod (all one word). Several others have names borrowed from days of the week, like Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, depending on the day of their birth.”

Frequently I see a notice spray-painted on the side of a building or on an outside wall that says, “Buyer Beware, This Property is NOT For Sale.” The reason the owners do this is that sometimes when they are away, some unscrupulous third party comes along and sells the property to somebody else. The owner then returns to find somebody who thinks they now own the property and the thief has disappeared with the dough. And this from the land of credit card schemes, fraudulent online dating and emails asking for lots of money to be deposited in a foreign bank account. Many folks are obviously enterprising.

The prerequisites for fieldwork with MSF include at least two years of professional experience, and availability for a minimum of 6-12 months for all, except for physicians who may be accepted for shorter assignments. Flexibility and language skills are considered an asset, as is travel or work outside of the United States. Along with a wide range of medical personnel, MSF recruits logisticians, water and sanitation logisticians, and administrators/financial controllers.

Why are SEA captains such a good fit to serve as logisticians for MSF? Steve Tarrant suggests that the skills are transferable, “In addition to having good organizational skills and the ability to communicate, the job requires adaptability. You need to be able to solve problems and be resourceful, like we do solving problems with whatever we have on the boats.”

My first week back at work after my vacation was incredibly busy, solving disputes, deciding how many blankets, pots, pieces of plastic the budget would allow us to purchase this month, ordering rice, Chile, soybeans and dried fish by the ton, counting latrine numbers, helping to improve a drainage ditch running underneath a TB patient’s house (she built the house over the drainage ditch so we had to re-route the drainage), etc., etc.

It is still such a challenge to work in so many different languages. One never really knows what understanding is taken away from a conversation or meeting by each of the parties involved. One becomes aware of and learns to accept this. Now, I don’t know what it will be like, when I return home, to be with a group of people who all speak English.

Phil knew that he wanted to return to work in the field on another mission and that he would have a break from teaching at SEA again early in 2008. He admits that he had been lucky, living in comfortable accommodations and enjoying an easy ability to travel throughout Thailand during the first mission. He didn’t know what was ahead.

This time he was assigned to a brand new mission, that of setting up an obstetric ward in an existing hospital near the southern border of the Darfur Provinces in the Sudan. Phil left for a briefing in Paris en route to the Sudan, on January 27, 2008 and will return to the United States in July. Perhaps it is this excerpt (below) from his journal, written near the end of the mission in Thailand, that may give insight into his desire to return...

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19 November 2006  – Phil Sacks from Thailand

Oh, time to enjoy the day. Walk up into the hills. I close today with thoughts in my mind of politics and the balance of power, of resources and distribution, and of the people in the camp, the hardships they have faced. Perhaps next time I will write about individuals, like the man we interviewed recently who is in the camp with one of his two wives (the Hmong are sometimes polygamous) and only two of his 17 children. The rest are either dead, in jail, or lost in the jungles of Laos.

But behind it all, to keep me going, I keep the vision of children playing in the camp. 18 November 2006  – Phil Sacks from Thailand
Key West is a funky little town with its own set of rules and its own set of characters. Along with the colorful cast of locals there is a large U.S. military presence, whose roots extend back to the territorial beginning of this city. Henry Flagler’s railroad to Key West (which was completed in 1912) once boasted that, in 24 hours, a passenger could step aboard one of his railcars in New York City and off of one of his ship’s in Havana Cuba. The end of the railroad’s line in Key West was a long jetty adjacent to the Key West Bight. For the past 3 decades it has been the home of NAVY Detachment Key West. NAVY is a civilian managed government agency, and their location in Key West has been the home of winter and spring dockings for SEA ships for the past 13 years.

January 15th, 2008 in Key West was a cold and blustery day. With the sun close to setting, an informal celebration took place on the deck of SEA’s Corwith Cramer to honor the 20th anniversary of her commissioning. Those in attendance included SEA staff and crew, staff members of NAVY Detachment Key West, and crew and staff of both Seaward Services and the research vessel known as 38. In addition, a special invitation had been extended to a local Key West resident and former Director of NAVY, Dan Probert.

After a casual gathering on the lee side with good food and drink provided by SEA stewards, a group of 25 moved towards the bow where Captain Jason Quilter began a small ceremony. Jason spoke of the Cramer’s history, and her original commissioning in Bilboa, Spain on January 15th, 1988. He told of her maiden voyage, the first of three Atlantic crossings, which was shared by H.D.S. Greenway in the May 1988 Boston Globe Magazine article entitled “An Atlantic Crossing.” Jason went on to remark that in 360,000 miles sailed, Cramer provided safety and security for faculty, crew, and 2,144 alumni on over 100 Sea Semesters, a testament to her design, construction and the care of many.

Special guest Dan Probert, the original Director of NAVY, has a long history with SEA. Many years ago Dan and his wife were invited to sail onboard SEA’s vessel Westward, where he met both founder Cory Cramer and Captain Wallace Stark. From that beginning, a relationship developed with SEA becoming an independent monitor of NAVY activities in waters near Key West, and the NAVY site becoming SEA’s homeport for winter/spring activities. So with Dan’s hand on the bottle, a splash of champagne and a toast to her longevity later, Cramer’s next 20 years were underway.
Following SEAWinter/Spring 2008

PASSAGES

SEA Semester Video Production

Ryan Maneri, W-169, returned to the Woods Hole campus on January 2, 2008 for the first day of Class 215. Ryan was on campus for the first of two camera shoots for the new promotional video that he is producing for SEA. Ryan, ecology major from University of Colorado, Boulder, attended an MFA program in Science Filmmaking at Montana State University and now owns Oystercatcher Productions in Chicago. He filmed the shore component on two separate occasions during the first week and again on the last leg of the cruise track from Samana to Key West.

The video is the first being made for SEA since Visionaries was filmed on C-153 in 1997. It will be distributed on DVD to prospective students, and sent to college and university Study Abroad offices, with excerpts used on the SEA website. The project was funded by a group of SEA’s Board of Trustees and is expected to be unveiled during Alumni Reunion/Annual Meeting weekend in June.

SEAlumni are AAAS Annual Meeting Presenters

Each year at the AAAS Annual Meeting, science and technology professionals from across disciplines and around the world, gather to discuss new research, emerging trends, and exciting new possibilities. Dr. Barbara Block (left), W-49, of Stanford University and Dr. Andy Rosenberg (right), W-7, of University of New Hampshire appeared together during the February 2008 conference on the topic: Last Best Chance for Tuna: Learning from the Cod Collapse.

One Million Miles Sailed

On February 29, 2008, SEA reached its 1,000,000th mile sailed during the 215th class of SEA Semester.

Marking the milestone in the Caribbean, the SSV Corwith Cramer had left the Bahamas and was underway to Samana in the Dominican Republic. In the Pacific, the SSV Robert C. Seamans was NW of Ua Pou in The Marquesas, on her way from Tahiti to Hawaii, as SEA reached its millionth nautical mile.

SSV Westward sailed 498,197 of those nautical miles before being retired in 2003. SSV Corwith Cramer has sailed 364,424 nautical miles since she was launched in 1988 and SSV Robert C. Seamans has sailed 137,381 nautical miles since her launch in 2001.

The event was celebrated in Woods Hole by faculty, staff and trustees and at sea by the students, faculty and crew of Class 215.

Onboard the Seamans (inset, page 7) life rings and a pfd, hung over the rail, marked the moment.

SEA on Ice

In July 2007, Dr. Sarah Das, a SEA W-129 alum and scientist at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution (WHOI), led a month long expedition to the Greenland Ice Sheet to study how the ice sheet is responding to climate change.

Das was in the field with colleagues from WHOI and the University of Washington, and while planning the trip she discovered the remarkable fact that 3 of the 4 field team members were alums of an SEA program! On a whim she stuck her SEA flag in with the boxes of chocolate bars and peanut butter while packing for the trip. In (this) photo, taken next to a newly discovered meltwater channel draining through the ice sheet, Das (center) is joined by MIT/WHOI graduate student Maya Bhatia and fellow WHOI scientist Mark Behn, W-137.

Save the Date – SEA Reunion 2008

Please mark your calendars to return to the Woods Hole campus on June 20-21, 2008 for alumni reunion. Classes 1-12, 32-43, 62-73, 92-103, 121-130, 149-160, 179-217 are invited in celebration of their 5th, 10th, 15th, 20th, 25th, 30th and 35th year anniversaries. Don’t forget that an overnight sail will be available to the reunion class with the highest participation in annual fund giving. Look for an invitation with more details. Further information will be posted at www.sea.edu as it becomes available.
Six Students Present at NCUR Conference

With the guidance of SEA Oceanographer, Dr. Jeff Schell, six SEA students attended the 21st annual National Conference for Undergraduate Research at Dominican University of California. Alumni from SEA class S-206 who presented their posters were:

- Working on Eddies: Justin Gillespie - 1st author, James Parra, Michelle Smet, and Scott Allen (helped with poster but not in attendance)
- Working on River Plumes: Rusty Robertson - 1st author, Allison Bruce, and Carolyn Moss

The conference had over 2,500 undergraduates and 500 faculty from over 100 small, liberal arts colleges in attendance. Congratulations to these SEA alumni for their outstanding work.
Class 07: Cynthia D. Hyde writes, “2 months at sea on the Westward remains a very high point in my life! I am pretty much a land-lubber these days, trading in my sea legs for farm animals. Still operating our art gallery in Rockland, which we opened in 1982.”

Class 10: Andrew M. D. Wolf writes, “Although it has been 35 years, my stint on W-10 remains one of the seminal events of my life. I’d love to hear from any remaining survivors!” Class 12: Marguerite B. Graham has moved to Los Olivos, CA where Will Graham is Head of School at the Midland School. Class 15: Katrina D. Schilling writes, “Having gotten married in January, we are living in Denver, CO and loving life. I’m spending my time working with the kids at Boys and Girls Club of Metro Denver using many of the lessons learned aboard Westward to hopefully help them become great citizens of the world.” Class 17: Louis Wrede writes, “I do hope my children want to join SEA. For me, SEA and Westward was the best adventure of all.” Class 18: Nancy B. Hendren writes, “I saw dear old Westward on a PBS documentary on Columbus Day. They were taking her around the Caribbean Islands where Christopher Columbus first landed!”

Class 21: Raymond M. Palombo writes, “Living in Hanson with wife and dogs. Working on tugboats in New York City and Cape Cod Canal.” Class 23: Seth Garfield writes, “I am still operating the oyster farm on Cuttyhunk. We start our 27th year of raising the Cuttyhunk Oyster.” William T. Snedden writes, “My niece, Mara, recently went on two cruises in the Pacific. I guess we’re an SEA family now.” Class 24: B.Cort Delany is living and working (as a trial and estate lawyer) in Greenwich, CT and is married with 5 year old twin boys. He is still enjoying his time whenever he can.

Class 25: Luanne Rice has two novels coming out in 2008, Light of the Moon and Last Kiss. Class 26: Claudia P. de Mayo writes, “I just got my Pilot’s license last spring, working on Instrument Rating now and am still using navigations skills from SEA! I am enjoying sailing in the air now in a Beechcraft Bonanza GE36.” Brandon Y. Leeds writes, “Even though I am far away from the sea nowadays, except for summer vacations, I always have cherished my experiences with SEA and Westward back in 1976. If more people were given the opportunity to go out into nature through extended marine or tropical field-works programs, I am sure we would be ecologically more responsible in our daily lives.” Bradford C. Smith and Christine Smith, W-34 recently bought land on Molokai where they plan to spend winters away from their home in Maine.

Class 27: Andrew R. Follett says he would love to get together with W-27 crew someday. He offers the family place on Lake Champlain as a reunion site.

Class 32: Susan S. Dyckman is working as Director of Administrative Services for the Maryland Dept. of the Environment. Class 34: Kenneth Hasson writes, “I work as a pathologist specializing in aquatic diseases of fish and invertebrates, particularly aquacultured organisms.” Class 35: William J. Duggan writes, “Hi W-35ers. We will have to wait until 2008 for our 30th reunion and hope many of our class will attend this milestone event. Deb and I are still in Concord with our family; Kiera is 12, Kaleigh is 10 and Will is 6. Life is busy and we are healthy. Still manage to sail our sloop around New England. Keep in touch.” Melinda E. Pearce writes, “The girl’s camp that I have been working for just purchased an E-scow so I am looking forward to some sailing this summer. Our fleet includes 6 C-scows and the girls learn so much! I completed my chemo/radiation treatments last September…breast cancer. Enjoying life in Wisconsin – kayaking club starts next week.”

Class 42: Daniel F. Tierney recently added another Pembroke Welsh Corgi to their family. Class 43: Franklin B. Armour writes, “Greetings to all W-42 and W-43 classmates. Still enjoying retired life in southwest FL. Stop in for a visit, we’re in the phone book.” David M. Goldsmith is still sailing! Class 44: Katharine B. Bradford writes, “The company I started, Custom Marine Canvas, turned 22 in June. Most recently made awnings for the USCSC Eagle and cable tether sheaths for Alvin at WHOI. My Mom and I started New London Community Boating, now in year 8, getting over 300 inner-city kids on the water each summer free of charge. Very exciting.” Cynthia J. Kube writes, “Enjoying sun, surf and science in Virginia Beach. Creating wetlands and teaching middle school science. My oldest daughter just started at Virginia Tech.” Class 45: Martha Martinez del Rio is still enjoying Wyoming life with her family – sailing the plains on horseback and skis (it is windy there!). Mark J. Tedesco writes, “I was recently promoted to Rear Admiral (upper half) in the US Coast Guard and took over as the Coast Guard’s Chief Medical Officer and Director of Health, Safety and Work-Life. I was concurrently named as an Assistant US Surgeon General. Patty, the kids and I will enjoy at least 4 more years in northern Virginia.” Class 46: Stacy Rappleyea writes, “Hello to my fellow shipmates. Can you believe it’s been almost 30 years since our Westward adventure?!”

Class 48: Margaret E. Brandon is a Professor of Marine Transportation at Maine Maritime Academy and happily living on the Maine coast. “Come visit!” Douglas C. Goldhirsch writes, “The reason we were so busy here this year is that we were building Outward Bound’s new pulling boats!”

Class 50: Sharon L. Ginand writes, “I still sail during my vacations. This October our Mexican cruise itinerary had to be altered to avoid tropical storm Kiko. We managed to avoid the worst but had to ride out some rough seas.” Robert S. Nolan writes, “Hi to all the crew on W-50. Spending time flaking out on my 25 acre farm and working. All’s well.” Class 55: Marc E. Overlock writes, “I now serve as General Counsel for the Metropolitan Nashville Hospital Authority. This means that I do the legal work for 3 facilities, and like all SEA alums, also do lots of other fun things like grant writing and managing a charitable foundation. My wife, Wendy and I celebrated our 25th wedding anniversary last July (07).” Class 56: Michael J. Kent writes, “I work on hazardous materials and environmental pollution issues for the Contra Costa County Health Department, focusing on urban environmental justice issues.” Peyton Robertson, Jr. writes, “No more ‘Acting’, now the real deal Director of NOAA’s Chesapeake Bay Office. Taking up sea kayaking.” Class 57: Marla Gearing is still working at Emory and enjoying her nieces, nephews and godchildren who live close to Atlanta, plus her two canine personal trainers!

Class 60: Christopher S. Kelley writes, “Still living near Seattle, happily married and raising (trying to) 2 great kids.” Ellen M. Mihaich writes, “Twin daughters, Courtney and Whitney graduated in the top ten of their high school class and will both be attending University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill in the fall. Son, Stephen, is going into high-school.”
Class 61: Hilary L. Maybaum is living in New York City along the beautiful Hudson River. "I sailed in the 100th Annual Bermuda Race last summer in Westray, a 52-year-old Concordia Yawl. Was the smallest boat in the 160-boat division but came very close to winning it all! Wound up third overall, 9 hours out of first place on corrected time." Carolyn J. Sheild was selected to be the Student Experimenter at Sea: Teacher-at-Sea for 2007 and got to participate in a research expedition aboard the Atlantis from Jan 10-Feb 5, 2007. She said she was privileged to dive in the Alvin submersible to a depth of 2526 meters! Class 79: Judy S. Fairfull is working as a Guidance Director in an urban high school in Worcester, MA and is going back for her Master’s in Administration/Leadership (2nd Master’s). Stephen D. Rader is in his fourth year as a biochemistry professor in Prince George, BC. While he has wandered a long way from marine biology (and the ocean), he is happy to report that they do have a diving dinghy (an Optimist that his dad built in 1975!) and both of his children (ages 10 and 7) want to be marine biologists..."so they can live in Hawaii.”

Class 65: Janvin W. Demler is very excited to announce the arrival of their daughter, “Eliza” Elizabeth Weeckes Demler on May 10, 2007. Penny K. Lacroix is working as the Director of a local museum and spending as much time as possible in her weaving studio. Mary Ellen Masciale writes, “I took my kids to see the IMAX film ‘Galapagos’ which they loved, especially the section with the submersible sub to collect ocean floor specimens. Remy is 9, Wyeth is 6, and both are excited about the giant squids that are being found. Future oceanographers?” Susan L. Pierce writes, “I am busy with our 5 year old, James. I hope to take him sailing this summer.” Class 66: Susan B. Heard writes, “Hey fellow classmates! I’m still living in New Hampshire with my husband, Chris and 2 kids (Sara, 14, Jeremy, 12). Keeping myself busy in our schools, trying to improve our education system and provide new opportunities for kids. Would love to hear from my fellow W-66 seamen!” Class 68: Laurie E. Radovan is still in Santa Cruz and loving it. “We had a great sailing adventure in the Bahamas with Greg and Laura Lohse on their beautiful schooner Alliance.” Class 69: Mary Ann Boyer is living in Philadelphia with husband, Chris Hall and their 3 kids and 2 dogs. She teaches science and environmental science to lower school students.

Class 71: Dean E. Smith writes, “Back in school...double MBAs from American and Canadian Ivies, done in another year. Whew!” Class 72: Todd C. Rambo writes, “Living at a meditation center in Colorado. Drop on by.” Edward A. Walton writes, “I was honored to receive an award related to my work. I am currently Assistant Professor of Emergency Medicine and Pediatrics at the University of Michigan.” The Michigan College of Emergency Physicians Board of Directors has named Edward Walton, MD, as the 2007 Emergency Physician of the Year. Class 77: Gregg N. Delany is living in Greenwich, CT and working in New York City in RE Finance. Sailboat racing most weekends, including the winter time. “I sailed in the 100th Annual Bermuda Race last summer in Westray, a 52-year-old Concordia Yawl. Was the smallest boat in the 160-boat division but came very close to winning it all!! Wound up third overall, 9 hours out of first place on corrected time.”

Class 80: Marlene E. Kattaron wrote that she lives in the Atlanta, GA area with her husband Tom, of 16 years, and her 2 children, Shaina and Joshua, while working as an ultrasound technologist with specialties in teaching and high-risk obstetrics. She has not done much sailing since SEA, but has fond memories of her experience and would love to hear from other alum from W-80. Class 83: Frederick C. Fritsch retired in June 2006 from the Navy after a 20 year career. He is currently working as a meteorologist for the National Weather Service in Juneau, AK. Stephen J. Laster joined the Harvard Business School last year as Chief Information Officer and says he is keeping pretty busy at work. He and Debi are living in Wellesley with Ben (4) and Abby (1.5). They are in Woods Hole frequently and Ben loves seeing the Cramer when she is in town. Anne S. Whitten writes, “I am currently breeding warm blood horses in Albuquerque, NM. At the same time, I am raising two teenage boys in Massachusetts.” Class 84: Elizabeth Stevens writes, “Carl, our two sons and I are currently in Honduras volunteering at an orphanage. We have been here one year. I have been teaching English and Carl has been using his engineering skills and handyman skills in the maintenance department. Our boys have been attending school with the orphans. I return to teaching at Phillips Exeter Academy this September.” Carl R. Stevens writes, “Betsy, the boys, and I are back in Exeter, NH after our volunteer year in Honduras. For now it is all school and soccer.”

Class 88: Steven K. Gold writes, “Deb and I are settled in Lexington, MA enjoying life with our 2 young children, traveling a lot and hoping to introduce them to sailing this summer.” Class 89: Patricia A. Nicoll writes, “My daughter is now 3 and I am still teaching 7th grade Life Science in San Antonio TX.”

Class 90: Valerie A. Beck writes, “Hello to W-90! Hard to believe 21 years have gone by. We are living in Chicago with our wonderful 4 year old daughter, Marissa. Please visit us!” Julianne W. Dalzell writes, “Still living in Wrentham, MA, staying home to raise 4 children, T.J. (12), Rylianne (10), and Bryce and Brody (both 5). Tutoring math and science in the evenings fills my schedule.” William A. Toomey, Jr writes, “This was a big year for us. Barb got a job at the Berkshire Museum as Natural Science Program Manager and I am now an Associate Director of Philanthropy for The Nature Conservancy. Sierra and Kai continue to grow and give us much pleasure.”
trips for the students every summer – last trip was 2 weeks in England and France, summer 2007. Planned excursions for Germany, Austria and Hungary, summer 2008.” Class 99: Martha R. Stark writes, “Stephen has just finished his 4th year as an Assistant Professor at the University of Northern British Columbia, distressingly far from the ocean but in view of the Rocky Mountains. Stephen is a biochemist, studying RNA splicing. I am also a biochemist and work with Stephen in the lab. We are enjoying Northern British Columbia, particularly the opportunities to enjoy the outdoors. Our children, Sierra 11 and Cole 8 have not yet had much sailing experience (although we hope that will change soon) but they enjoy lots of other activities, including underwater hockey.”

Class 102: Johnna M. Doyle says she finally got back on the sea this summer with a wonderful 5 day sailing trip around Newport and the Vineyard. “Felt good to get my sea legs back and chart a course again!” Class 105: R. Hawkins Cramer writes, “I’m in my 7th year as an elementary principal north of Seattle and writes, “I’m in my 7th year as an

to the land with their 1860’s home and enjoying life in New Hampshire.

Class 113: Scott J. Gilbert and wife, Lisa and older son Jesse (5) are pleased to welcome the addition of Zachary to their family. Vivian E. Lazo writes, “Hi Sailors! I received my MFA last year and am busy working as a technical translator/prooferreader, still in the Washington DC area. I would love to hear from any of you!” Dawn A. McIntosh writes, “Life continues to get busier as our kids grow. They are involved in soccer, dance, karate and various camps and sleepovers. My husband Doug and I somehow still manage to find time to race on a Farr40 and our M242. Getting out on the water keeps us grounded. Greetings to all of my classmates, although I don’t see you, I think of you.” Richard W. Schiereth writes, “Retired from 32 years as an Earth Science teacher. Traveling and investing for fun now!” Victoria T. Wright is still in the Bay area. “Greetings to all MS-113ers! Drop me a line.” Class 114: Jennifer A. Childress is living in Richmond, VA with her husband and two children (5 and 6). She is currently staying home with them. If any W-114 or C-114 alums are out there, she would love to hear from them! Scott N. Miller writes, “After almost 4 years in Hong Kong, China and Vietnam, we’re moving back to Lexington, MA. While we will be sad to say goodbye to our Hong Kong sloop, we look forward to sailing in NE waters again. To get used to the East Coast, I’ll captain a 40’ back from Bermuda in June.” Class 116: Peter E. Bender writes, “Married August 11th to my partner of 4 years, changed my last name to Bender (from Vollrath). Hatie Fern Bender was born to us on Dec 6, 2006.” Karen N. de Seve writes, “It’s been 16 years since I sailed on W-116, and I’ve realized how handy my SEA education has been. I went into science writing as a profession, and my work has often included oceanography topics. My SEA background gave me a leg up when I was writing diorama text for the American Museum of Natural History’s Hall of Ocean Life. Then I interviewed Paul Joyce for an article on phytoplankton for Science World magazine. Most recently (May 2006), I was an invited journalist aboard the USCG icebreaker Healy in the Bering Sea to document the trip for an exhibition at Liberty Science Center in New Jersey. Granted the scale of all the equipment was much bigger than I had used, especially the winches, but it was so helpful to have a basic understanding of a CTD or even water tubes – not to mention how to don a survival suit quickly! Thanks, SEA.” Class 117: Lisa S. Buffett writes, “I’m now a Senior Project Coordinator for marine estimates and proposals for Tyco Telecommunications in Morristown, NJ. I used to go offshore to do oceanographic surveys and now prepare marine estimates for the design, manufacture and installation of sub-sea fiber optic telecommunication cables. I would love to catch up with classmates in the area!” Class 118: Sherry Cawhorn-Christopher writes, “The nature we have been promoting to the State is built and open for business! I still teach science at Darby and finally got a new lab to teach in. Off to Alaska this summer.” Paul D. Jones spent the season operating the water plant at McMurdo Station Antarctica. “That was my third trip to the ice since retiring as a teacher in 1998.” Class 119: Christopher W. McChesney writes, “Now splitting my time between Boston and New York City in foreign exchange banking. Not exactly sure how that relates to sailing on the Westward, but I know which was the most fun.” Karen A. Sauls writes, “I have started my own law office called the Sauls Law Firm in Surfside Beach, SC.”

Class 120: Jeffrey P. Hughes writes, “My wife, Sarah, and I welcomed our 2nd daughter, Willa, on November 9, 2007. She joins her 3 1/2 year old sister, Madeleine (Maddie), who’s quite pleased to have another person to tell what to do. Everyone is well despite the lack of sleep.” Class 121: Winslow S. Burleson completed his PhD at the MIT Media Lab and is teaching computer science, art, media and engineering at ASU. He is interested in using under water robots to support team work in scientific diving. “Anyone want to collaborate?” Class 122: Grant Macdonald writes, “I’ve been working on boats continuously since W-122 and have most recently taken a break from my job as Captain of Foss Maritime’s corporate yacht to sail as Master on the Cramer for C-214. It was fun and satisfying, with a great class and crew. SEA still is my definition of what sailing is all about, and the Cramer has definitely had some improvements as a result of its mid-life refit. Where I live in Seattle in my spare time I like to fly small airplanes, work on my house and do machine shop work. Hi to all y’all and if you get to Seattle, look me up!!” Ara L. Schuur writes, “I am back in New York City working for the Clinton Foundation and looking for a new place to sail!” Shirley J. Steinmacher writes, “It’s been awhile since I was in contact. Same job, same house but always making improvements. Bob and I are finally able to see above water now that Hayden...
SCUTTLEBUTT

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and Eliot are 4 and 2. Whew! We just lost Oscar, the cat that Walter Carr (C-119) named. (Oscar’s a girl by the way.) That was 15 years ago. Life is always changing.” Class 123: Molly E. Cloyd writes, “My little boy, Gavin, just turned 1, so there hasn’t been much time for sailing! But SEA is always in my heart. I hope my 123 classmates are doing well. I’d love to hear from you!”

Alexis B. Levitt writes, “We have 2 kids now and still live on Boston’s South Shore. I have my own law firm practicing elder law.” Class 124: Michelle A. Bianco writes, “My current passion (apart from my veterinary practice) is natural horsemanship. My husband and I have four horses and are currently training two yearlings. Understanding ‘horse’ is like learning a foreign language and has been the most rewarding endeavor.” Kirklick Hinds writes, “Hello. You’ll notice I’ve changed my name to Killick. I’m a musician living in Athens, GA. My wife and I live in a solar-powered house of our own design. I tour regularly, so perhaps we’ll meet in your town!” Class 125: Mary B. Hamor writes, “Enjoying the quiet life on Swans Island in Maine and appreciating gorgeous sailboats at work.”

Class 126: Kimberly C. Howland is consulting in the biotech/Pharma industry. She bought a place in Brookline last year and is still waiting to find out what the “joys of home ownership” include as thus far she just seems to be fixing things constantly. She is heading to Pakistan in August on a trek to K2 basecamp. Class 127: William A. Aquila writes, “Just had our first child, Elise Diane, born 4/15/07!”

Jeffrey A. Fellinger writes, “An upgrade for the Yankee Skipper Society (me and 2 good friends) this summer…a 1983 Cape Dory 25. A sweetheart. Got to bring it up the Champlain Canal to Lake Champlain, a very fun trip.”

Class 128: Nicole A. Stephenson is still living in Boston with her husband. They expected their first child in June 2007. Class 129: Mina M. Fasolo is attending Columbia University’s Mailman School of Public Health and will graduate in May with a Master’s degree in public health.

Class 130: Bruce D. Armstrong writes, “I used my cup from the stroycast in Physics class the other day. It was a big hit!” Christian D. Cox writes, “My wife, 3 yr old daughter Natalie and I welcomed twin girls, Sabrina and Adeline to the world on June 11th. We’re doing great in Pittsburgh, the lack of sleep notwithstanding.” David C. Zappulla writes, “After getting married this year in Oregon, I am moving to Baltimore, MD (from Boulder, CO), to assume an Assistant Professor position at Johns Hopkins University in the department of biology by summer 2008.

Incidently, I was recently “greeted” in Baltimore by the Westward itself (now part of the Ocean Classroom fleet). A treat to get a good look at the boat again after all these years and amidst a pirate festival no less. I will try to make it to 15th reunion in June ‘08, and hope to see other classmates then from both W-and C-129, etc!”

Class 131: David G. Kirk is living in Boston, has 2 kids and is a dentist in Sudbury. Misses his time on the water. Virginia C. Leslie writes, “In Washington DC – come visit!” Frederike van Markus-Doornbosch writes, “Unfortunately not sailing much lately, but I am finishing my residency in pediatric rehab medicine in February 2008 in The Hague, and staying on in the Rehab Center to work as a pediatric psychiatrist.”

Class 132: Andrew M. Enright writes, “My wife, Marty, and I were married in Dennis, MA over Labor Day…best time of our lives.”

Class 133: Melissa Teeter welcomed a baby girl, Meghan, on December 12, 2006. “She was big brother, Reilly’s, favorite Christmas gift.”

Class 134: Heather D. Bryant writes, “I am in Maine working on a Masters in Plant Soil and Environmental Sciences and hope to finish up in May 2008.”

John E. Goyert, III writes, “I am living in New York with my wife and 2 yr old son. I’ve left my private equity consulting job and am looking for something more creative and entrepreneurial again. I’ve had my eyes on offshore fish-farming for a long time now and the time might be right to get something going. Anybody want to join me?”

Kristen P. Patterson writes, “Greetings fellow W-135ers. My husband Dan, son Owen (turned 1 in Oct) and I returned to the US in June after spending a couple of years in Madagascar. We’ve landed in Arlington, VA where I’m working for The Nature Conservancy in their new Africa program. Hope everyone is doing well.”

Kristina S. White writes, “We recently welcomed our 2nd child, Emma Claire to the family. Big sister, Julia loves her little sister and we’re all getting adjusted to the expanded family. I’m still working at Rohm and Haas which has me traveling a bit across the US and Asia and would love to know more of what other W-135 alumni are up to.”

Class 135: Jacqueline S. Mitchell writes, “Had the rare opportunity to help release an albatross at Stellwagen Bank. My SEA experience (and my biology studies) meant I was the defacto expert on the boat!”

Class 136: Heidi E. McCann writes, “Life is grand with our 2 girls – Martha “Mattie” Grace, age 2 1/2 and Ava Kathleen, 7 months!”

Class 137: David G. Kirk is living in Boston, has 2 kids and is a dentist in Sudbury. Misses his time on the water. Virginia C. Leslie writes, “In Washington DC – come visit!”

Class 138: Grace, age 2 1/2 and Ava Kathleen, 7 months!”

Class 139: Heidi E. McCann writes, “Life is grand with our 2 girls – Martha “Mattie” Grace, age 2 1/2 and Ava Kathleen, 7 months!”

Class 140: Jessica A. Forton teaches biology at Melrose High School in Massachusetts.

Class 141: Aureanne E. Lopotka with her husband Geoff had a baby girl, Lara Shea, on May 31, 2007. They love her to pieces but it brings new meaning to “no free time.”

Class 142: Amy Berry writes, “We have been living in Lake Tahoe for years now. My husband Seth and I welcomed a baby girl, Grace in April. We see Laura Berner (W-143) in San Francisco and laugh about our days in Woods Hole.” Jennifer M. Wahlen writes, “I’ve been living in the Chicago area for the last 10 years. Most recently, I was the regional manager for Edelman’s Multicultural Practice in the Midwest. Since having my daughter, Siena in March 2006, I’ve gone into business for myself as a Hispanic marketing/public relations expert.”

Class 143: Alisa R. Barnard writes, “Teaching and living with 2 precious babes in Concord, NH. Would love to be in touch with other SEA alums!”

Elizabeth Nadin defended her PhD in Geology at Caltech in June 2006 and is now working as a science writer for Caltech’s Engineering & Science magazine. She got married in July 2007 and welcomes any correspondence from former classmates! Laura A. Trulson Bond writes, “I’d love to hear from any C-144 Alum or SEA friends!”

Class 144: Molly Peters writes, “My husband Jason and I welcomed a little girl to our family – Mya Alice Peters was born in Feb. We live in Vermont and would love to hear from my classmates. Jon, Holly, Brendan, are you out there?”

Class 145: Kara J. Saucerman writes, “I still have a love of the sea. A big passion has been scuba diving around the world. Moved to Seattle, WA 8 years ago and got married. Found my way to working in a huge computer company in Redmond, WA.”

Wendy G. Thorpe writes, “This July we moved back to Denver, CO and August brought the arrival of our daughter, Avery Grace. Big sister, Eliza Jane at 17 months old has transitioned very well to having a new family member. We are delighted to be near the mountains but are missing the water now.”

Class 146: Stephanie A. Erickson writes, “I recently got married at Sealeys Castle in Windham, NH. I live with my...
helped a couple friends sail their 26' boat from Chatham through Woods Hole and the Canal to Provincetown. A great time. Will be joining the Boston Sailing Center soon!"

Class 159: Angela D. Damery is teaching 7th grade math and science at a charter school in Plymouth, MA.

Class 160: Sarah A. Bennett writes, “Gus and I will be married in July! I hope that anyone from SEA class 160 who I have lost touch with will contact me if they want to come to the week long wedding celebration on Lake Champlain in VT.”

Randall D. Christian writes, “I’m currently working for MSC as an AB/Rescue swimmer. The pay and training and travel opportunities are awesome…but I sure miss having some sails above me! I’ve decided to stick with it at least long enough to get my 3rd mate unlimited license.”

Class 161: Melissa J. Darlington is in a medical residency at the Jacksonville Naval Hospital in FL. She will be doing an operational tour as a Navy Flight Surgeon this coming year.

Jay L. Reynolds and his wife had a baby girl, Lourdes Eugenia Reynolds, on Oct. 31, 2007, 7lbs, 5oz, 19 inches.

Class 163: Alison R. Brenner and her husband, Jason, will be taking a sailing sabbatical next year, sailing the Caribbean on their boat, Aljada. While sailing, Alison will be completing her Master’s work in Public Health from the University of North Carolina and Jason will be working on his Master of Laws in comparative and foreign law through University College, London.

Jaime C. Duval is currently employed at Ferry Beach Ecology School in Saco, ME where she coordinates a children’s garden program. She is recently engaged to Rob Beraneck, whom she met in graduate school at Antioch University New England.

Class 163B: Richard D. Carreiro is working on Master’s degree in Educational Administration. He is teaching at San Jose High Plus Program, an alternative program for at risk Jrs. and Srs.

Class 165: Deborah R. Liptzin writes, “I just finished up my second year of medical school, so I am now half a physician. I’m enjoying my few weeks of freedom before surgery starts this summer! I saw Chez Bigelow up in Vermont, and it made me realize how much I miss all of you!”


Class 172: Kyle J. Garrett finished his family medical residency in June, and is currently doing an extra years training in anesthesiology. Sarah M. Herzog writes, “I’m happily living, working and playing on Cape Cod! I’ve been in the marine mammal field for a few years now, working as a stranding researcher and responder. My fiancé and I are looking forward to a September wedding in Falmouth!”

Michelle A. Van Naeersen writes, “On land, I’ve immensely enjoyed working as a non-toxic builder for the past three years. I feel an urgency now, however, to put my time and skills toward sustainable and equitable watershed use. As my focus has shifted toward this global imperative, I am exploring projects and educational opportunities in the field and welcome any leads!”

Adam T. Vitarello is in Washington, DC heading up an e-commerce company called ESpot that sells excess business assets online. By pure coincidence, he had a business contact with another SEA grad, Matt Nickerson, a lawyer who works with the Bose Corporation.

Class 172: Bradley A. Hahn is moving to Seattle to work as an urban garden planner.

Class 174: Christopher Acheson is getting married Oct. 11, 2008. Matthew T. Stringer writes, “I graduated from Commissioned Officer training school at Maxwell Air Force Base in Montgomery, AL. I’m going into my 2nd year of medical school at Nova Southeastern School of Osteopathic Medicine in Fort Lauderdale.”

Class 175: Peter O. Hahn still uses celestial and point-to-point coastal navigation techniques. Sara E. Yablon-Smith writes, “I got married 9/3/06!”

Class 176B: Lucy Trainer writes, “I graduated from Barnard College in May 2007 and now live in Brooklyn. I hardly get a chance to sail these days, but I still think often of the amazing weeks spent on the Cramer in summer 2001!”

Class 177: Hans O. Albee was engaged to be married in Sept 2007 to Jen Jackson from Jefferson, ME. Kristin I. Hunter-Thomson is fully into a Masters in Marine Science at Moss Landing Marine Labs in CA, enjoying fish tagging and manned submersible surveys.

Amy L. Larocca writes, “I graduated with my MA in Speech Pathology in December, and just got married May 26, 2007. I’m working in a rehab center in Columbus, OH and loving it!”

Class 178: Zachary R. Caldwell is living in Hawaii working for The Nature Conservancy.

Class 179: Kalmia M. Buels is currently a 3rd year graduate student at Oregon Health and Science University in Portland, OR. Sarah D. Newell is currently working at Clough Harbour and Associates as a Geologist II. She just moved back to the Albany, NY area to be closer to family.

Katherine J. Och writes, “Still sailing and moving with the wind!”
Class 180: Erin Klein joined the crew of the Pride of Baltimore II last spring for her return to the US from France. “Trade winds were elusive so the crossing was 19 days from Grand Canary to San Juan.” Class 181B: Kristina White writes, “This was by far the best professional development experience I ever had! I still talk about it with my students.” Class 182: Rhianne P. Mulligan writes, “Things are busy here in the Midwest. I’m returning to school to get a teaching certificate, student teaching starts Fall ’07. Alanna will be one on Feb 25, so we’re getting ready for the first cake!” Class 182B: Julie E. White writes, “Currently living in Portland, ME working as an intern at the Portland Museum of Art and as a sales rep for West Marine.”

Class 183: Thomas H. Martin is living in Boston, MA and working at State Street Bank. Corey L. Spering writes, “I now live in West Palm Beach where I attend graduate school pursuing a Master’s of Education in curriculum and instruction with an emphasis in environmental education. For work, I create and design curriculum and various other projects including being part of one of the 1st green elementary schools.”

Class 184: Jonatha L. Giddens writes, “Just returned from a semester in Chile and traveling around South America. Patagonia and Tierra del Fuego are amazing. Finished working as a captain aboard Kona Aggressor II. Living aboard a dive boat while going back to school to study Marine Science/Anthropology and Spanish.” Katie J. Goeres writes, “After holding a gamut of jobs from wildland firefighting to substitute teaching, I have returned to The Evergreen State College, in Olympia, WA to get my second Bachelors in Marine Science. I am hoping to go on to get my PhD in Chemical Oceanography. Traveling continues to be prominent in my life. I have recently returned from Germany. I find that the world is small, I have run into a number of other SEA Alums, including Lex, from C-184, in Manhattan. We got on the same bus and were working at summer camps that were less than 30 miles apart! I continue to sail with the local Club, South Sound Sailing. Pax is a 32’ Trimaran. I am an active part of an all women’s Roller Derby league and volunteer with the Surfrider Foundation.” Erica B. Moore is studying for her Masters in English Literature in Cardiff, Wales. Class 185: Jay C. Delehanty writes, “From Key West to Key West doesn’t look like much of a journey, but it was one of the most amazing 6 weeks of my life.”

Class 187: Christopher P. Miller writes, “I’m almost finished with my 2nd year of medical school at Yale. I’m getting ready to start studying for the boards in mid-May. I’m having a great time and would love to hear from old friends. I hope you are all doing well and having as much fun as I am.”

Class 189: Sasha A. Pryborowski is working for NOAA in the Office of Coast Survey, “The Nations Nautical Chart Maker,” since August ’05. Class 189B: Jacob D. Samberg writes, “I spent the last three years working on a traditional Chesapeake Bay oyster dredging boat called a Skipjack. Her name was the Martha Lewis. During that time I received my 100 ton near coastal sailing and towing and became one of the skippers aboard the boat. I recently stopped working for them and just got a job aboard the Tole Moa which is a triple-masted topsail schooner out in Long Beach, CA.”

Class 192: Jared C. Kosin writes that he is missing the boat everyday! “I am working hard to make good policy in the state of MI, and start law school part-time in the fall.”

Jessica L. McGreehan was a deckhand on C-210 and is working in Portland for SailMaine this summer. Timothy J. Pusack writes, “Joined a Zoology PhD program at Oregon State University studying coral reef fish dynamics and marine protected areas, specifically the coral reefs in the Bahamas.” Erin V. Rodgers writes, “I always thought I’d end up back on the sea, but for now I’m having a great time working as an environmental educator in upstate NY. I still get to go/back sailing, but on much, much smaller vessels, like a Sunfish.”

Class 193: Mark C. O’Brien writes, “As of now, I have finished my summer hike of spending around four and a half months on the Appalachian Trail. Using my degree wisely, I am currently a ski bum in Crested Butte, CO. This spring I am planning on being a deckhand aboard the Cramer on its trip up the Gulf Stream.” Class 194: Bula L. Kozma is in her second year of law school. When she completes school she hopes to work in the field of ocean/coastal/fisheries law. Class 195: Maureen A. Lynch is working on marine phytoplankton and bacteria at Virginia Institute of Marine Science and spent “an amazing 6 weeks doing field work at McMurdo Station, Antarctica.”

Class 196: Joel T. Barkan writes, “I am spending the winter on Maui doing humpback whale research with The Dolphin Institute. Last week we were out working whales in the channel between Maui and Lanai when I heard the Seamount haul another vessel over the radio. Soon she came into view over the horizon and we watched her sail in the distance for a few hours. I talked to someone onboard over the radio and told him who I was. It was definitely an unexpected thrill to randomly see my ship for the first time since I went ashore in Tahiti in January 2005.”

Class 197: Maria L. Viscaino writes, “Currently I am performing research in Marine Biomedicine, specifically in marine environmental microbiology and natural product chemistry.” Class 198: Min-Yi Jou has been accepted to City Year, and has moved to Seattle for a year, Aug 07- June 08, after which she plans to go to Taipei to teach English. Class 199: Leslie A. Goenast just finished her first year at Harvard Law School and is interning with the Cape Cod & Islands District Attorney. Erin M. Soucy writes, “I graduated from College of the Atlantic in 2007. My interest is marine science, particularly marine mammal biology. I have continued my interest in sailing, participating in a couple of other sailing programs, and working as a crew member on a couple of schooners.”

Class 200B: Darcy H. Hammond is attending Agnes Scott College in Decatur, GA, just outside Atlanta. She plans to major in biology with a possible double major in education. Class 201B: Dylan A. Armajani graduated from Bard College with a BA. Thomas W. Summers writes, “Whenever I want to smile, I think of those 5 weeks in the North Atlantic.”

Class 203: Max G. Bronstein was appointed as a Science Asst. by the Deputy Director of the National Science Foundation. Class 204: Alexander I. Dorsk writes, “Hi SEA folks! I’m back on a ship, working for WHOI as a shipboard technician. My SEA experience was a big reason I got the job.” Class 205: Yana Thaker writes, “I’m studying in Turkey right now and I almost died from the food, I got very sick. I miss SEA and especially the great food we made.” Class 208: Benjamin Yanni-Lazarus worked on Star Island of the Isles of Shoals as a boat captain. He was able to board the Cramer on her trip north and revisit the boat after his class trip in the Caribbean last winter. This winter he plans on getting his commercial license.

Class 209: Adam G. F. Scherr writes, “Thank you for a truly life changing experience. My room has never been so clean. I miss the ocean and all of my shipmates.”

Following SEA Winter/Spring 2008 13
The 2007-2008 academic year promised to be an exciting one at SEA, and we have not been disappointed. Faculty are designing new programs built on our talents and passions, staff are working tirelessly to run the organization seamlessly, and students continue to bring a wide variety of academic backgrounds and reasons for wanting to learn more about our oceans.

Here is a brief update on some of the exhilarating activities of this year:

- We have formed a partnership with Boston University, which will further strengthen our long-time and valued relationship with this fine institution – and will create another pathway for more high-quality students to learn about SEA. We also collaborated with Duke University, University of Chicago, and University of San Diego for short programs onboard our vessels.
- We are offering more upper-level modules with a primary focus on science, such as the new semester Oceans and Climate. This complements our new humanities-based course, Documenting Change in the Caribbean.
- The entire organization is involved in a strategic planning process, chaired by trustee, Dr. Susan Humphris, which is seeking ways to build on our past achievements while looking for ways to be aligned with the needs of students and their hosting institutions today and in the future. The ideas have been flowing in from all parts of the organization!
- We have welcomed a new Dean of Enrollment with deep experience and significant successes in higher education marketing and recruitment. Glen Thomas has landed running and has brought many solid ideas to our enrollment efforts.

The 2008-2009 year is looking very promising because of the enhancements to our program offerings and our continued recognition as a premier off-campus program. We are grateful for the role each of you has played in building our reputation and our possibilities for the future. Please continue to provide the support we need to keep gaining momentum.

We gratefully acknowledge the many alumni, parents, faculty, staff and friends who generously contributed their money, time and effort to Sea Education Association during the 2006-2007 fiscal year. Every effort has been made to list all contributions accurately from July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007. If, however, an error has been made, please accept our apologies and notify us.
### Trustee and Overseer Donors to the Annual Fund 2006-2007

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<td>Richard Chandler, W-07</td>
<td>Thomas B. Clark, W-26 †</td>
<td>Norris Clayton</td>
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<td>Sarah Das, W-129</td>
<td>Benjamin Cuker</td>
<td>Margaret Clowes</td>
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<td>Peter Ellis</td>
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<td>E. Peter Elsaesser</td>
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<td>William Duggan, W-35</td>
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<td>Susan Farady, W-83</td>
<td>John Farrington †</td>
<td>David Ford, W-113</td>
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<td>Edwin Fischer</td>
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<td>Richard Hawkins</td>
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<td>Robert Gagosian</td>
<td>Mitchell Gibbons-Neff* †</td>
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<td>John Gerngross, W-20</td>
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<td>M. Susan Lozier</td>
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<td>Sarah Murdock, W-66 †</td>
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<td>Eric Swergold, C-102</td>
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<td>John Wigglesworth, W-05</td>
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<td>Gale Willauer, W-30</td>
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<td>Kimberly Bower</td>
<td>George Woodwell</td>
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</tbody>
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- Mary Barnes
- John and Jane Bradley
- Gale Brewer and Calvin Snyder
- Jacob and Barbara Brown
- John and Laurie Bullard
- Benjamin Coates
- The Community Foundation
- Ali Davis
- Malcolm Edgerton
- Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund
- Fleetwood and Anna Garner
- Thomas and Stephany Haines
- Thomas and Caroline Haines
- Richard Hawkins and Marian Ferguson
- J. Welles and Hannah Henderson
- John and Louise Kingsbury
- Leila Linen
- George and Sarah Loring
- Ellie Linen Low and David Low
- August Meyer
- Dwight Minton
- Morse Hill Trust
- Richard Murray, W-71, and Sara Nuiciforo
- Thomas Nash and Elizabeth Allen
- Rafe and Kate Parker
- Anna Lou Pickett
- George and Kathy Putnam
- Cynthia Robinson, W-64
- Judith Russell
- Jon and Claire Scarborough
- Robert and Eugenia Seamans
- Noel Silverman and Tanya Melich
- Richard and Joan Southgate
- Samuel and Elizabeth Thorne
- Henry Towers
- Janet Wagner
- Mr. and Mrs. John Weitzel
- Daphne White
- Peter and Nancy Winslow

### EXY JOHNSON ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP
- Michael Johnson, W-97, and Carla Martin
- Robert and Elizabeth Johnson

### MELVILLE IRELAND ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP
- William and Anne Coughlan
- Jodie Ireland and Frank Louda
- Melville Ireland
- The Kate Ireland Foundation
- The LOJO Foundation
- The Pegasus Foundation

### NEW HORIZONS CAPITAL CAMPAIGN
- J. Scott and Mayke Briggs
- Peter and Cynthia Ellis
- Peter and Deborah Gibbons-Neff
- Eric Swergold, C-102, and Dawn Dobras
- Christopher Watson, W-108, and Jennifer Arlinsky
- Whitehall Foundation, Inc.
- Eric and Sandra Wolman

### CAMPUS IMPROVEMENT FUND
- Heather Kaese, W-111
- Stephen and Barbara Kane
- Robert Knapp, W-99, and Kristin Collins
- Christopher Lanoue, C-153, and Elizabeth Pancoast
- Lucy Loomis, W-18, and Thomas Creighton
- Ellen, W-60, and Stephen Mihaich
- Heidi Miller, C-190
- Marisa Porges, W-134B
- Gary and Bernice Reynolds
- Courtney Richmond, C-107, and Michael Grove
- Henry M. Rowan Family Foundation
- Alisa Scott, W-158A
- Manning and Virginia Smith
- Charles, W-96, and Lyne Sne
- Elizabeth Strojny, C-172
- Edwin, W-81, and Susan Williams

### OCEANS AND CLIMATE ENDOWMENT
- Jacob and Barbara Brown
- E. Dennis and Sandra McCarthy
- Eric and Sandra Wolman

### OCEANS AND CLIMATE SEMESTER
- Meghann Horner, C-163
- Terry and Anne Marie Horner
- The Horner Education Trust

### JOHN C. PARKER ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP
- Margaret Parker
- Vision Fund of the Triangle Community Foundation

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| Richard Murray, W-71, and Sara Nucifor
| Following SEA Winter/Spring 2008        | 25 |
From 1971 through 1975, young Sean Bercaw sailed around the world on his family’s 38’ ketch, Natasha. His was a seagoing family. Jay Bercaw, Sean’s father, had sailed as 1st Mate for Captain Irving Johnson on the 5th and 6th world voyages of the Brigantine Yankee, later meeting and marrying Sean’s mother, Gretchen, a former Girl Scout Mariner.

Sean said that he was inspired to study ocean currents by throwing bottles over the side of the boat as a 10 year old, but that the first hurdle he had to overcome was getting wine bottles. “My parents didn’t drink” he laughs, “But I was able to conquer this difficulty by sleuthing behind bars in our various ports of call.”

Sean eventually threw 35 bottles over the side as he sailed through the Indian and Atlantic Oceans, recording the “data” in a comprehensive format that included the date, latitude and longitude of deployment, a description of the location, condition of the seas and how the bottle floated.

Each bottle contained a note asking that the finder notify Sean with information to include the bottle number, and the location and date of the find. His first response came in 1974. A bottle that had traveled over 1,500 nautical miles in less than 3 months was found by a boy living with his grandparents in Nicaragua. Thus began the intrigue of this science experiment, the individual story associated with each bottle’s recovery.

Inspired by his 1972 visit aboard Westward (on W-1) in the Galapagos Islands, Sean began his working relationship with SEA in 1990, sailing for over 15 years, at various times as an Engineer, Mate, Assistant Scientist, and Captain. During that time he logged a total in excess of 104,000 nautical miles on 27 SEA Semesters and about an equal number of shorter seminar voyages, 2/3 of them sailing as Captain.
The ‘Message in a Bottle’ experiment was revived, and Sean integrated it into his SEA teaching and voyages. The first bottle of the renewed project was deployed on October 21, 1999 ESE of Georges Bank, and was found 1 ½ years later by a young couple in France. Over the period of one month on that cruise (C165), 32 bottles were launched and 7 were found. The other bottles of C165 were discovered in the Bahamas, Florida, Texas, Turks & Caicos, and the British Virgin Islands.

Out of 205 bottles deployed on Captain Bercaw’s SEA voyages, 41 have been found so far, giving a 20% recovery rate. Sean is ecstatic with the project as each of these recovered bottles comes with its own story. Bottle No. 18, deployed on November 4, 1999 was found on the NE side of Anegada, British Virgin Islands 6 1/3 years later. A young woman from British Columbia found the bottle walking the beach. She told Sean that “Something drew me right to it; it was strange.” As a further incentive for finders to respond, Sean offered rewards, typically in the form of SEA T-shirts. Often finding the bottle was its own reward.

In 2001, Galveston Texas resident Tally Calvert found one of Sean’s bottles. The Galveston County News reported, “Combing Galveston beaches, Tally Calvert has found shoes, floats, sea beans, sand dollars, shark’s teeth, hats, gloves, medical supplies, ear plugs and dead sea turtles. But for 30 years, the fabled message in a bottle eluded her. She found the bottle, medical supplies, ear plugs and dead sea turtles. But for 30 years, the fabled message in a bottle eluded her. She found the bottle, No.60, which had been thrown overboard from the fabled message in a bottle deployed on our trip. The bottle had skirted the shorelines of Puerto Rico, Hispaniola, Jamaica and Cuba before bobbling through the Yucatan Channel and into the Gulf.” “It’s neat.” Bercaw said. “You have the science with the sea currents. And you have the romance of finding the bottle.”

In 2001, a Chief Engineer on the CCGS Leonard J. Cowley, found bottle No. 103 in Placentia Bay during his annual leave. It had been thrown only one month earlier in St. Pierre Bank, south of Newfoundland from Westward 176B, a college Summer Session. Sean’s subsequent attempt to contact him resulted in a message from the captain of that vessel, Captain James Chmiel who attached a photograph of the Cowley, “Most mariners I know enjoy the sighting,” he wrote.

Several bottles were found by children who were most enthusiastic about their finds. Bottle No. 117, deployed east of Bermuda from Westward 177 in October of 2001 was found on Mid Ocean Beach, on the south side of Bermuda nine months later. Kade, Jackie, and Melissa’s father sent along their photograph and wrote, “I think it was not there for long as people like to walk the beach and hunt for things like this!” In January of 2002, a 7-year old named Aline found Bottle No. 138 three months after it was thrown from that same voyage in the Caribbean, 15.5 miles north of St. Croix. Aline wrote, “We are in the Island of Punta Pajaros on the Caribbean coast of Mexico. I was very excited when I found your message.”

On May 26, 2005, four bottles were deployed together from Cramer 199 while sailing in the Gulf Stream, headed northeast at 2 ½ knots. Exactly 23 months later, on April 27, 2007, bottle No. 165 was found on a beach called Las Canteras in the Canary Islands, Spain. Jose Lopez (Paco) wrote to Sean, “Never I have had any experience like this. I feel happy. I have seen it only in pictures or some novels. I tell you this because I have not good health and life, but (this) was really a wonderful discovery for me.” Unbelievably, Paco attached a Google Earth photograph showing the location of the find and later sent Sean a photo of himself with the bottle note.

Sean passed these experiments to others at SEA who have taken on bottle projects. In 2007, bottles were deployed from the Robert C. Seamans as collaboration between Sean, SEA Oceanographer, Dr. Jan Witting, and Derek Esibill, C-116, now a teacher at Kailua Intermediate School in Hawaii. Students from Derek’s 8th grade class wrote the bottle’s notes and were thrilled to hear seven months later from a 12-year old living in Papua, New Guinea. The bottle had floated 3,000 miles. Sean said, “(This finding) brought a ‘dumb science project’ alive for Derek’s students and elicited a television appearance for a student in his class.”

SEA faculty Oceanographer Dr. Kara Lavendar also deploys bottles from SEA voyages. In June of 2007 she sent an email to her students from Class S-189. “I want to share with you an email from someone on the Japanese island of Iriomote who found the message in a bottle deployed on our trip. The bottle was found 1,277 days after we hurled it overboard offshore of Mexico and after a 12,677 km journey across the ocean basin. The bottle traveled 10 km/day. Anyone remember what surface currents are likely to have carried it from Mexico to Tahiti? Regardless, I hope you still have fond memories of our journey together.”

Meanwhile, the experiment lives on as messages in bottles continue to be found by distant individuals of all ages, cultures and lands. It’s the romance of this project that allows for the ongoing connection of the science and the people.
The first time we walked into the Olympic stadium during the Opening Ceremonies in Sydney, 2000 that one moment seemed to stand still. It is frozen in my memory forever. I was wearing a red, white, and blue outfit and vigorously waving our nation’s flag with a perm-smile plastered across my face. One look to my left or right and I found an equally ecstatic teammate. That first step onto the track, as your country’s name is announced, is something that you do not just see, but feel. The lights and camera flashes feel hot on your skin. The thousands of screaming people, the sheer excitement and happiness of people all around vibrates through your entire body. I like to compare it to standing right next to a speaker at a rock concert. Just thinking about it now, eight years later, gives me goose bumps, makes my heart beat a little faster.

I participated in SEA the year after I got back from Sydney. My next goal, post-Olympics, was to finish my degree at Berkeley. I read a brochure about SEA posted outside the science department and thought it sounded a lot like being on a water polo team – a group of people working together whose main focus happened to be scientific study rather than winning medals.

Arriving in Woods Hole was the first time I had ever been to the East Coast. I had no idea how to sail and had never been on a boat as big as the Westward. This was farther out of my comfort zone than my coaches would ever get me. The only thing I wasn’t scared of was falling off the boat into the ocean. I knew I would be able to tread water for days thanks to all those water polo practices. And sharks are not as intimidating as some of the Hungarians I have played against.

Once on the ship, focusing on the skills we learned on land made the idea of floating on a boat in the middle of the ocean an awesome adventure rather than something scary. And if I ever had any doubts, there were my fellow students, the mates and the captain to turn to. I soon realized that being successful at SEA took the same tools it takes to be successful in sport at the Olympic level. Both situations are unique, intense and dynamic. Both require focus, determination, communication and respect. In water polo you must respect your opponent; at sea it’s the ocean that demands your respect. I came back home after SEA believing that I could be successful in any situation in the future, no matter how uncomfortable I felt.

I earned my degree in 2001 and have devoted the past seven years to water polo. I have now won two Olympic medals – Silver (2000) and Bronze (2004). I have been a part of two World Championship teams (2003 and 2007). And most recently, our team won the Pan American Games in Brazil to qualify for the 2008 Olympic Games in Beijing. What I dream about now is having the opportunity to stand on the top tier of the podium at the Olympic Games. The work that the team is doing now is more difficult than it has ever been, and at the age of 29 I am playing the best water polo of my career. I am privileged to be playing with 14 extremely gifted athletes from whom I learn new things every day. I truly believe we have the right combination to make it a golden year.
During the first Oceans and Climate program, Dr. Jan Witting along with the scientists and students on cruise S-210 used an instrument borrowed from WETLabs (Philomath, OR) to collect depth profiles of CDOM fluorescence (Colored Dissolved Organic Matter) during their transect across the equator.

This data was included in a proposal titled: “Documenting inherent optical properties along repeated cruise tracks in the Atlantic and Pacific by Sea Education Association’s vessels,” and in October 2007 Sea Education Association received funding from NASA to enhance the global ocean sampling capabilities of both our ships. The grant will provide funding from 2007-2010 to purchase optical instruments for both vessels, process the data, and submit it to national archives. Data from these instruments will support student projects, faculty research, and NASA’s Ocean Biology and Biogeochemistry Program. The grant also provides approximately one month per year of salary for an Assistant Scientist to process the data for submission to NASA’s database. Both vessels will be equipped with WET Labs instruments to measure inherent optical properties and basic biogeochemical measurements including Colored Dissolved Organic Matter (CDOM) fluorescence, in-vivo chlorophyll fluorescence, and beam attenuation (measured by a transmissometer) from both surface waters and depth profiles. CDOM correlates with the amount of dissolved organic carbon in the water, beam attenuation correlates with the total number of particles in the water, and in-vivo chlorophyll correlates with the amount of phytoplankton carbon (biomass) in the water. These three measurements together will allow SEA to generate a biogeochemical database of basic measurements of the carbon cycle.

Instruments for depth profiling with the CTD are being used on both boats for Class 215 that sailed on 13 March. The instruments for surface water measurements underway will be integrated into the clean seawater system during Class 216. Building on NSF-funded instrumentation already in place the new equipment will contribute data on Global Ocean Carbon/Particle abundance along SEA’s repeated cruise tracks through under-sampled areas such as the Equatorial Pacific.

Data from SEA cruise S-208 on SSV Robert C. Seamans in Nov/Dec 2006. Colors represent DOM-FL concentrations (QSD equivalent in ppb) on an oblique section across the equator from Puerto Vallarta, Mexico (right side), to the Marquesas Islands (surface spike in CDOM on the left). Contour lines represent a. in-vivo cbl fluorescence (relative units) in the upper panel and b. oxygen concentration (mg/L) in the lower panel.

Erik Zettler graduated from Allegheny College and earned a MS (Biology) from University of Waterloo. He was appointed Science Coordinator at SEA in 1994.
Our Favorite Titles
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W-58

Itapi
David Baltzegar
W-154

Light of the Moon
Luann Rice
W-25

We welcome any information on books published by SEA authors.

Alumni/Parent Sails 2008

A number of unique opportunities for alumni and parents are available to participate in short program sails onboard both the Corwith Cramer and the Robert C. Seamans. Berths will be made available on a first come first served basis.

May 18 - 24, 2008: Charleston, SC to Baltimore, MD (**) Please note there was a change in the dates SSV Corwith Cramer. This program’s fee is set at a special rate of $800 per person, and does not include transportation to the ship.

May 26 – 28, 2008: Baltimore, MD to Philadelphia, PA- SSV Corwith Cramer. This program’s fee is set at a special rate of $500 per person, and does not include transportation to the ship.

August 28 – September 2, 2008: Los Angeles, CA to San Diego, CA- SSV Robert C. Seamans. This program’s fee is set at a special rate of $1000 per person, and does not include transportation to the ship.

Parents and alumni are invited to bring a guest or other family members. Berths will be held by credit card at the time of the reservation. As with all SEA programs, these sails will be vigorous, but rewarding! Please contact Laurie Weitzen- lweitzen@sea.edu to register.