Remembering a Science Star

Dr. Barbara Palmer Shineman ’65, M ’71 honors the memory of her husband, Dr. Richard S. Shineman, with a historic $5 million gift

PLUS
- Niziol Is TWC’s Snow Man
- Art Alumni Exhibit Success
Making connections in YOUR community!

Oswego Alumni Association is relaunching a Regional Alumni Program!

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Or call 315-312-2258 to get involved as an ambassador in your community.
Remembering a Science Star 18

The late Professor Emeritus of Chemistry Richard S. Shineman was founding chair of the chemistry department in the 1960s. His legacy will live on in the Richard S. Shineman Center for Science, Engineering and Innovation, thanks to a generous $5 million gift by his wife, Professor Emerita of Education Barbara Palmer Shineman ’65, M ’71, and the Richard S. Shineman Foundation.

TWC’s Top Snow Man 24

Thomas Niziol ’77 got his passion for understanding lake effect snow phenomena at Oswego. Now he shares it with a national audience as The Weather Channel’s winter weather expert.

Art Alumni Exhibit Success 26

Oswego’s art alumni are making a living — and beautiful artwork — with their Oswego degrees. Thirty-five of them proved it in a landmark exhibit at Tyler Art Gallery in the fall.

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ON THE COVER: Barbara Palmer Shineman ’65, M ’71 made a $5 million gift that will name the Richard S. Shineman Center for Science, Engineering and Innovation in honor of her late husband. Photo by Robert Mescavage Photography.
FROM THE

President’s Desk

FIFTY YEARS AGO, our college had newly graduated from teachers college to comprehensive college of arts and sciences; we had just opened our new science building, Piez Hall; and President Foster Brown had recruited a young chemistry professor from Purdue University — Dr. Richard Shineman — to help expand Oswego’s science programs. Now, at another exciting time of growth and innovation for the sciences on our campus, the Shineman name is once again at the forefront.

Dick Shineman met his wife, Barbara Palmer Shineman ’65, M’71 at Oswego, and together they became two of our college’s staunchest advocates. As Oswego faculty members, both taught generations of students, he in chemistry and she in education. Over the years their roles on campus grew and evolved, their bond to the institution only strengthening as they moved into retirement and stayed active with the Oswego Alumni Association, Emeriti Association, Oswego College Foundation and a wealth of campus activities. Their generosity as donors is as yet unmatched and reached a pinnacle recently with the largest single gift in our college’s history.

A few months after Dick Shineman passed away in 2010, we broke ground on our new science complex. Next fall we will open this marvelous facility — the Richard S. Shineman Center for Science, Engineering and Innovation. When our history and our future come together in this way, it is a magical, radiant moment. I invite you to share in this special moment and take inspiration from what you read here of the two Shinemans — their devotion to education and to a bright and robust future for SUNY Oswego.

Deborah F. Stanley
President

FROM

the Editor’s Pen

MOST DAYS, WHEN I’M POUNDING the keyboard to write a story or poring over proofs, red pen in hand, I stop to think how fortunate I am. I have been able to build a career around my passion for the written word. So when I looked at this issue’s feature stories, I was naturally struck by the art alumni feature. Here are 35 artists who were able to fashion careers and make a living doing what they love. Their stories inspire our current students, and I hope you find that your Oswego education has served you well, and fuels your passion for life.

Michele Reed, OSWEGO Editor

Oswego Alumni Magazine

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Memorials
Dr. Richard Shineman — to help expand Oswego’s science programs. Now, at another exciting time of growth and innovation for the sciences on our campus, the Shineman name is once again at the forefront. Dick Shineman met his wife, Barbara Palmer Shineman ’65, M’71 at Oswego, and together they became two of our college’s staunchest advocates. As Oswego faculty members, both taught generations of students, he in chemistry and she in education. Over the years their roles on campus grew and evolved, their bond to the institution only strengthening as they moved into retirement and stayed active with the Oswego Alumni Association, Emeriti Association, Oswego College Foundation and a wealth of campus activities. Their generosity as donors is as yet unmatched and reached a pinnacle recently with the largest single gift in our college’s history.

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Deborah F. Stanley
President

OSWEGO alumni magazine is printed on recycled paper with inks that are non-toxic, contain no heavy metals, and are composed of bio-derived renewable resources ranging from 25-40% (as a percentage of total ink weight).
SUNY Oswego to offer electrical and computer engineering degree

SUNY Oswego will offer a new bachelor's degree program in electrical and computer engineering starting next fall, coinciding with the opening of the Richard S. Shineman Center for Science, Engineering and Innovation.

The new program is expected to help meet demand regionally and nationally for engineers in such cutting-edge fields as bioinstrumentation, robotics and power systems and in embedded systems such as microprocessors, which are omnipresent in machines and products from autos to refrigerators.

Oswego is only the second public college in the state to offer an undergraduate degree in electrical and computer engineering. The program joins software engineering in the college’s computer science department.

“At the heart of our proposal was a commitment to be laser-focused on curricula, activities, projects and learning facilities . . .”
— Lorrie Clemo, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Industry backing
From the beginning, Oswego’s proposal for an electrical and computer engineering program has had the support and guidance of employers throughout the region, including Welch Allyn, Lockheed-Martin, National Grid, Saab Sensis, O’Brien & Gere, Novelis and SRC, said Rachid Manseur, program director.

Some of those companies are represented on the college’s Engineering Advisory Board, which provides oversight and will assess the program as it moves toward a rigorous accreditation process through ABET, the quality-assurance authority for engineering and technology programs.

The college estimates that it will have at least 80 students enrolled in the program when it is fully up and running, producing about 20 graduates a year.

Lorrie Clemo, provost and vice president for academic affairs, noted that the college is prepared to gear up to meet higher student demand and to help reverse the region’s engineering shortage.

“At the heart of our proposal was a commitment to be laser-focused on curricula, activities, projects and learning facilities that would foster a vibrant, challenging and populous presence in engineering for Central New York,” Clemo said.

The Shineman Center will include two project laboratories, three studio teaching facilities combining lecture and lab, a faculty research lab, a project-building room and a computer lab, with state-of-the-art equipment for designing and testing medical and robotic devices, circuit boards and microprocessors.

A robotics expert, Manseur emphasized that robotics, embedded systems and the other specialties under Oswego’s electrical and computer engineering umbrella are “synergistically compatible” with existing Oswego programs in software engineering, human-computer interaction, cognitive science, graphic design and information science.

SUNY IT is the only other public college in New York that offers a bachelor's degree program in electrical and computer engineering. Regionally, Cornell University and the University of Rochester offer the degree.

— Jeff Rea ’71
### Five join OAA board

The Oswego Alumni Association Board of Directors welcomed five new members in October. Each will serve a three-year term expiring in 2015.

**Dan Scaia ’68** owned DFS Associates, a manufacturer’s representative firm in Syracuse. A regular contributor to *The Fund for Oswego* and proud member of the 1966 champion men’s soccer team, Scaia helped create the Ernest B. Luongo Memorial Scholarship.

**Lisa Marceau Schnorr ’87** serves as vice president, compensation and human resource information system for Constellation Brands in Rochester. Schnorr chaired the Class of 1987 Reunion Giving Committee. She and husband **Mark ’89** are also the parents of **Nicole ’15**.

**Mark Salmon ’93** of New York City is a senior network engineer at Bloomberg Financial Networks. Salmon is active in the Delta Kappa Kappa Alumni Association and has served as a New York City Career Connections and Reunion volunteer.

**Marc Beck ’93** of Glendale is director of research for Major League Baseball. He has been a New York City Career Connections and Reunion volunteer.

**Christie Torruella Smith ’08** is an admissions counselor at SUNY Oswego. She was the senior class gift coordinator as a student and currently serves as a member of the Graduates Of the Last Decade, or GOLD, Leadership Council and Return to Oz IV reunion planning committee. She was the alumni speaker at the 2010 December Commencement Eve Dessert Reception.

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Construction continued in the late fall months to enclose the Richard S. Shineman Center for Science, Engineering and Innovation with windows, walls and doors in preparation for winter, according to Facilities and Design Project Coordinator Allen Bradberry. The state-of-the-art building, at left, is on pace to open in fall 2013. Above, a 13,700-square-foot addition to Wilber Hall completed this summer includes this lounge.
New labs set stage for technology education’s future

Two space-age, state-of-the-art manufacturing laboratories and a new classroom opened to technology students for fall classes in a 13,700-square-foot addition to Wilber Hall.

The new spaces, like the construction and renovations surrounding them, represent an investment in preparing students to survive and thrive in an evolving world, said Dan Tryon ’89, a technology education faculty member helping guide the School of Education renewal projects.

“We have vastly superior equipment and facilities than we had last semester, and it will only get better,” Tryon said. “People know us from our historical strength, and this keeps us competitive. This lets students experience, learn and develop skills (in) current and even future technology.”

Oswego’s technology programs for 125 years have sought to prepare professionals to serve as technologically literate educators and managers. Tryon said the new laboratories, the multimedia classroom and renovations to come in two existing labs — polymers and metals processing — position the college for today and the future.

The manufacturing labs host such modern machines as a 3D printer that can use computer-assisted designs to turn out working thermoplastic models ranging from new mechanical inventions to chess pieces. A laser cutter- engraver, fast becoming a standard in industrial shops nationwide, can do its work from computer-generated designs on objects up to two by three feet.

Other equipment arriving during the semester included a four-axis computer numerical controlled router, industrial robots, modern milling machines and more.

“The way you design, the way you build, the way you print, changes everything,” Tryon said. “It means a dramatic step forward in terms of our technological tools and abilities.”

The other major portion of the $5.8 million Wilber addition, a new field placement office for the School of Education, will open in fall 2013, according to Tom LaMere, director of Facilities Design and Construction.

— Jeff Rea ’71

SUNY Oswego awarded $553,448 to pilot innovative teacher preparation

THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT awarded Oswego $553,448 in Race to the Top funding for an intensive teacher preparation program in high-need schools that also will enhance the college’s model of undergraduate teacher education.

The grant will enable SUNY Oswego’s School of Education to partner with the Syracuse City School District to deliver a pilot program to include a semester-long, full-time teaching residency for undergraduates in teaching English to speakers of other languages, or TESOL.

Pat Russo ’72 co-directs the grant with fellow Oswego education professors Jean Ann and Bruce Long Peng, who have guided development of TESOL at the college for 14 years. Russo said the program’s “clinically rich” teacher preparation model may be modified over time, but ultimately would serve as a template for training science, mathematics, social studies and other student educators.

“We are excited about this award,” Russo said. “At SUNY Oswego, we have been regularly improving our teacher preparation programs for 150 years. This grant will provide the resources for us to make a significant transition into the next generation of teacher preparation.”

The main goal of the intensive on-site teacher preparation provided by the TESOL pilot is to improve the academic achievement of K-12 English language learners. But Russo pointed out the experience is also designed to benefit the SUNY Oswego students selected for the program, their teacher–mentors in Syracuse schools and SUNY Oswego faculty who will go into the classroom to work with teachers and pre-teachers.

— Jeff Rea ’71
Ontarian archive available online

TAKE A WALK DOWN MEMORY LANE without even having to put your shoes on! Every Ontarian yearbook from 1922 to 2005 is available online at bit.ly/ontarian.


Relive some of your favorite memories from campus or explore Oswego’s rich history with this collection.

The Ontarian was not published in 1972, 2003 or 2004 and was discontinued after the 2005 edition.

The SUNY Potsdam-based Northern New York Library Network hosts the Ontarian collection as well as an extensive archive of Oswegonian newspapers dating back to 1935. — Shane M. Liebler

College to offer five-year combined broadcasting and MBA degree

The college has a new combined degree program tailored for students who know as undergraduates that they have interest in the business realms of electronic media.

The five-year program leading to a bachelor’s degree in broadcasting and mass communications and a master’s degree in business administration launched this fall.

Fritz Messere ’71, M ’76, dean of the School of Communication, Media and the Arts, said he sees many graduates of the college’s broadcasting program develop successful careers in the field outside the studio. The new degree option aims to give such students a quick start on that career path.

“Particularly the students we see graduate from the broadcast program who are not in a creative area, they tend to be focused in some area related to business: sales of broadcast time, programming, management of broadcast stations, advertising and marketing,” Messere said.

Richard Skolnik, dean of the School of Business, noted that the strength of the two programs at Oswego makes the combination especially attractive for students seeking thorough grounding for solid careers. The School of Business appears every year in Princeton Review’s guide to “Best Business Schools.” The Academy of Television Arts and Sciences lists Oswego’s broadcasting program among the nation’s outstanding television, film and digital media programs. — Jeff Rea ’71
Alumna invites current students to join ‘Roadtrip Nation’

Cathleen Richards ‘09 entered Oswego determined to be a TV broadcast director, but took “a few left turns and off ramps along the way.” She did end up in television, but not in the way she expected. She is part of “Roadtrip Nation,” a social movement and PBS series intended to inspire late-teens and 20-somethings to get real about their dreams.

“We’re here to ask the hard question of: What are you passionate about in your life?” said Richards while visiting campus in September.

Under the tagline “Define your own road in life,” Richards and her fellow “roadies” visit college campuses across the country in a trademark green RV. The perpetual tour is intended to inspire college students to discover what they love and strive to make it a career.

A Johnson Hall resident mentor, Admissions Office tour guide and member of the Omicron Delta Kappa honor society executive board as a student, Richards — currently active with the Washington, D.C., alumni chapter — was happy to bring the message to her alma mater.

“I think it’s really important to engage students one-on-one and especially to use travel as a way of self exploration and career exploration,” she said. “We want to help them integrate that into their majors and into what they’re doing and keep their interests and their passions on the forefront.”

Student leaders who take internships on the RV each year find and interview potential mentors, from STEM professionals to higher-profile entertainers. It’s tradition for the interviewees to leave behind a signature on the wall or ceiling of the RV.

Richards and her crew also encourage students to take their own road trip to get in touch with their passions and the people who can help make those goals possible.

— Shane M. Liebler

Cathleen tells how “Roadtrip Nation” rolls: oswego.edu/magazine/roadtrip
RISE supporting undergraduate research, creative opportunities

Earth sciences faculty member Diana Boyer, director of the Office of Research and Individualized Student Experiences, or RISE, can speak from experience on encouraging and enabling student research, creative work, internships and conference travel.

“When I was in high school, I was given an amazing opportunity to work with a faculty member at Penn State, where I’m from,” said Boyer, who wanted to explore her interest in paleontology. “I did a research project. I went out into the field, collected fossils, did the lab work, presented at a regional conference — and from that moment on I was hooked.”

Under Boyer, the year-old RISE has worked to increase opportunities for and interest among students in scholarly and creative activities across campus and across disciplines.

“I understand how important and how powerful these experiences can be for students,” she said. “Maybe it’s a bit of a pay-it-forward kind of thing, but I do feel very strongly about these opportunities, and we have a huge number of faculty on campus who are willing and excited and love to work with students. So to help make that happen is what I hope to do.”

RISE helps students start a mentored research or artistic project, assists with funding and research travel through its parent Scholarly and Creative Activities Committee, or SCAC, advisory board and searches for outside sources of funding.

Anthony Contento, left, works with students from the Syracuse Academy of Science.

Boyer, who has students working with her under an American Chemical Society grant, noted the RISE-administered SCAC grants for Summer Scholars to assist professors with research improved last year, supplying not only a stipend but housing. More than $67,000 in funds supported 17 projects.

Undergraduates have pursued a wide variety of research interests, from robotic telescope software development to diabetes prevention in Congo, from wetlands ecology in Brazil to creating musical and artistic works.

In addition to outside grants, funding has come from sources like The Fund for Oswego. In all, SCAC last year recommended 23 grants for faculty and students totaling about $96,500.

— Jeff Rea ’71

Diana Boyer, center, director of the year-old Office of Research and Individualized Student Experiences, talks in a Snygg Hall laboratory with biochemistry majors Ryan Cotroneo ’13, left, and Adam Szymaniak ’13, who worked as Summer Scholars with Fehmi Damkaci of chemistry, now associate dean of graduate studies.
Three Oswego courses to partner online with classes overseas

Three spring 2013 courses at Oswego are each expected to partner with a class in another nation as a pilot for the college’s recent agreement to join the SUNY Center for Collaborative Online International Learning.

Billed as a way to increase the international awareness of students who may not be able to study abroad, the COIL-inspired courses will have students in their home countries use technological tools to collaborate on projects — and in one case, an entire course.

Damian Schofield, director of the human-computer interaction graduate program, sees this as a “phenomenal” opportunity for his students and the students of Patrick Murphy, graduate studies director in the English and creative writing department, to study for a semester with Australian media and communications scholar Lisa Dethridge and her class. “Transhumanism” will explore an academic realm where science fiction collides with real science in such areas as superintelligent robots, avatars in virtual life and more.

Lisa Langlois envisions her online Japanese art history class and its international project partner helping to break down barriers to international study for those with physical challenges or child-care responsibilities, as well as those with financial limitations.

Susan Coultrap-McQuin, director of Oswego’s Institute for Global Engagement, plans to internationalize parts of an upper-division course titled “Women, the Workplace and the Law.” She sees COIL as another important tool among SUNY Oswego’s many options for international study, travel and engagement.

“From my perspective, the great benefit of … this is the opportunity for our students to engage with students from other countries,” Coultrap-McQuin said.

— Jeff Rea ’71
College communications win honors

The online edition of Oswego alumni magazine, Oswego’s online annual report and a video promoting the theatre and music departments’ production of “Grease” were recognized in the 2012 APEX Awards for Publication Excellence competition, which highlights work by professional communicators across North America. Oswego’s website, launched in spring 2011, was among seven Awards of Excellence winners in the “Magazines and Journals: Electronic and Web” category. APEX had honored the print edition the previous six years.

The college’s latest annual report, “A Tradition of Learning in the World,” was among seven honored. The Office of Public Affairs produced the winning “Grease” video, one of seven winners in the YouTube category.

— Julie Harrison Blissert

OCTAVIA MORRISON ’14, LEFT, A ZOOLOGY MAJOR and McNair Scholar who did research at Oswego’s Global Laboratory in Calcutta, talks Sept. 7 about her poster, “Biochemical Techniques for the Analysis of Proteins,” with biological sciences Professor Eric Hellquist, at the Summer Scholars Poster Symposium in Sheldon Hall ballroom. Provost Lorrie Clemo and the Office of Research and Individualized Student Experiences, or RISE, invited scores of Oswego student researchers, Global Laboratory students from Oswego and other colleges and high school students in Summer Science Immersion to display their posters and discuss their summer projects with visitors.

See students share experiences with The Fund for Oswego-supported Possibility Scholarship, Global Laboratory and Summer Scholars programs at oswego.edu/magazine/scholars
$872,523 grant to help younger students stay with STEM

The National Science Foundation recently awarded SUNY Oswego a five-year, $872,523 grant to boost the retention of freshmen and sophomores in STEM majors.

The grant will enable the college to increase support services — especially in math and chemistry — and research opportunities for all science, technology, engineering and math majors, with a particular eye to helping younger students avoid academic disqualification, switches to non-STEM majors and other departures from science and math disciplines.

“This will be one piece in the puzzle to streamline success for our students from high school to graduation,” said Associate Dean of Graduate Studies Fehmi Damkaci, assistant professor of chemistry and principal investigator for the grant.

The grant outlines a five-step program to shore up support for freshman and sophomore STEM majors: expanding a summer math camp for incoming STEM majors to include chemistry content and more students; integrating “math in context” components for introductory chemistry and physics classes; expanding and improving the tutoring services available to STEM students; instituting peer mentoring by upperclassmen for freshmen and sophomores; and expanding summer research opportunities for freshmen and sophomores in STEM.

The college plans to expand its Summer Scholars program to offer more opportunities for freshmen and sophomores to work with faculty on research projects.

— Jeff Rea ’71

Shirley Peng ’12, right, a chemistry major and journalism minor, talks with Fehmi Damkaci, assistant professor of chemistry and associate dean of graduate studies about the possibility of mentoring freshmen and sophomore STEM majors whose difficulties with required math and chemistry courses can lead to academic disqualification, changes in major or transfer.

Find the Founder!

In the summer 2012 issue, the founder could be found on a bag of groceries in the story about Lauren Cobello Greutman ’03 on page 32. The grand prize winner of a College Store gift certificate and Sheldon Hall print is Amber Singleton ’07. Winning Sheldon Hall prints are Tiffany Duquette Bergman ’07, Donald Mortimer ’58, Jim Onacki ’98, A. J. Crandall ’78 and Robert J. Ullery ’51.

A tiny replica of the Sheldon statue pictured here is hidden somewhere in this issue. Find the Founder and send us a letter with the location and page number, your name, class year and address. We will draw one entry at random from all the correct answers and the winner will receive a $25 gift certificate to the Campus Store and a print of Sheldon Hall. The next five entries drawn will receive Sheldon Hall prints. Send your entry to Find the Founder, King Alumni Hall, 300 Washington Blvd., Oswego, NY 13126. Entries must be postmarked by Feb. 15.
SAVAC celebrates 40th anniversary

When members of Oswego’s Student Association Volunteer Ambulance Corps, SAVAC, first rolled out on a call on a “crisp, cold day in January 1972,” they started a tradition still going strong today. SAVAC is the first totally student-funded, student-built, student-manned and student-trained ambulance corps in the nation.

The distinctions are important, say founding members Ed Balaban ’73 and Charlie Flood ’72 because other colleges lay claims to the oldest corps dating to the same era, but only Oswego’s is totally student-centered.

The founders could see just how far their efforts have come last April, when they took part in a 40th anniversary celebration that included 150 SAVAC volunteers spanning four decades.

“We saw a need and we took action,” said Flood. They were responding to the closing of the campus infirmary in 1971.

“This corps has plenty of esprit,” said Balaban. “They appreciate what their origins are and how many people unselfishly gave so it could be what it is: special, unique and ultimately, first in the nation.”

Meeting with current officers and members from the ’70s, ’80s, ’90s and 2000s, he remarked, “If we do nothing else in this life, you guys are our legacy.”

The first group of SAVAC members were first aiders, receiving Red Cross training. An EMT class started in 1996, remembers former Chief Mike Carlotta ’97. Now about 20 students gain their EMT certification each semester, according to former Chief Jennifer Figueroa ’12.

Membership fluctuated through the years, with the initial cadre numbering nearly 100. In the 1980s numbers waned to about 25 and now 70 to 80 students volunteer.

Things have changed a lot since that first group rolled out in their 1972 Econoline van, bought for $500 with a grant from Student Association and converted to an ambulance by industrial arts majors Marc Saphir ’72 and Tom Venezio ’74. (Tom’s daughter Michele Venezio ’02 would rise to ranks of assistant chief, making them the first father-daughter duo in SAVAC history.)

Now the corps goes to calls in a 2012 Chevy Braun ambulance, which cost $150,000.

Probably the biggest legacy of SAVAC is how it fosters a lifelong commitment to rescue work. “It’s life-changing, not just life-saving,” said Flood.

Volunteers from every generation have gone on to work in local rescue squads and fire departments, many rising to the rank of chief. Some were present in the aftermath of 9/11 through volunteer departments or work with the Fire Department of New York. Melissa Vincent ’00, who perished while working in a Twin Towers office, was a former SAVAC volunteer.

SAVAC’s landmark anniversary was honored last spring when Rep. Bill Owens entered a proclamation honoring the corps into the Congressional Record.

— Michele Reed

SAVAC alumni gathered for the 40th anniversary of the first totally student-run and supported volunteer ambulance corps in the nation.
National news veteran Garrick Utley joins faculty

FORTY YEARS AGO
GARRICK UTLEY
Brought news of
the Vietnam war
to people's living rooms
on the "NBC Nightly
News." Now he is com-
paring the broadcast
media of that era – and
earlier – to the present
and future of digital media
with students on the
Oswego campus, in his
new role as senior fellow
and professor of broad-
casting and journalism
in Oswego's School of
Communication, Media and the Arts.

"The digital age has
changed our lives
and will continue
to do so in many
profound ways."

— Garrick Utley

And in a true "medium is the message"
moment, he is doing it, not only in person
in a campus seminar room for several class
meetings, but live from New York City via
video conferencing the rest of the semester.

"The digital age has changed our lives
and will continue to do so in many profound
ways," said the longtime NBC and ABC
news veteran.

Utley teaches and holds seminars in
the communication studies department in
a variety of topical areas related to con-
temporary journalism, modern media and
globalization. In addition, Utley continues
to serve as the director of New York in
the World, an initiative of the SUNY Levin
Institute that focuses on the competitive-
ness of New York in today's global economy.
He was the founding president of the Levin
Institute and served from 2003 to 2011.
Utley had his choice of SUNY

Schools, but he chose
to join Oswego's fac-
culty: "The School of
Communication, Media
and the Arts at SUNY
Oswego is a recognized
leader in its fields," he
said. "I am excited to
be joining the faculty
and working with the
students. This offers the
opportunity to draw
on my professional and
personal experience in
media, journalism and
communications, which
are all undergoing dra-
matic and rapid change. Working together
I know we will be able to understand and
cope with what these changes will mean
for all of us as individuals and as a society."

Before joining SUNY, he worked as a
broadcast journalist on NBC, ABC and CNN,
as well as public radio and public television,
specializing in international affairs.

Utley began his career with NBC News
in Brussels in 1963. In 1964-1965 he cov-
ered the American entry into the Vietnam
War and then served as NBC's correspon-
dent in Berlin, Paris and London. In the
1980s he was the network's chief foreign
correspondent working out of the New York
headquarters. Utley also served as anchor
of the weekend editions of NBC Nightly
was the host of several network magazine
programs, the Sunday edition of "Today"
and the moderator of "Meet the Press."

From 1993 to 1996, Utley was chief
foreign correspondent for ABC News based
in London and, from 1997 to 2002, he was
a contributor for CNN.

Utley has received broadcast journal-
ism's most respected honors, including the
Overseas Press Club's Edward R. Murrow
Award and the George Foster Peabody
Award. He is the author of the book You
Should Have Been Here Yesterday, pub-
lished by PublicAffairs in 2000, a narrative
of the growth of television news in the
United States. ●

— Staff reports

All three campus
media outlets —
WTOP, WNYO and The
Oswegonian — pooled
resources to create an entire eve-
ing of election 2012 coverage
Nov. 6. Learn how some 60 young
journalists collaborated to produce
remote broadcasts from both par-
ties' headquarters in Syracuse,
moderate in-studio roundtable
discussions and interact with the
audience via social media at
oswego.edu/magazine/election2012.
Men’s Lacrosse

Oswego State’s men’s lacrosse team raced out to a program-best 7-0 start, including a dramatic, come-from-behind, double-overtime win over nationally ranked Ithaca. They finished the year 8-6 overall for the first winning season since 2000.

Captains Ian O’Brien ’12 and Eric Miccio ’12 received postseason recognition from the SUNY Athletic Conference. O’Brien was named to the All-SUNY Athletic Conference Second Team, while Miccio received honorable mention recognition after the Lakers went 1-5 in league play. Cody Hoose ’15 led the squad in scoring with 49 points on 20 goals and 29 assists for the most points scored by a Laker since 2004.

Baseball

The Oswego State baseball team remained in the thick of the conference playoff race through the final weekend of competition, but came up just short in the end with eight SUNYAC wins, which totaled more conference victories than the previous three years combined. The Lakers and first-year head coach Scott Landers closed out the year with a 10-2 win over nationally third-ranked Keystone to finish the year at 20-20.

Matt Miller ’12 led Oswego State at the plate, batting .379, while David Mazzullo ’13 produced a team-best 28 RBI and 44 hits. The bulk of the pitching staff returns, including Jon Stevens ’13, who paced the pitching staff with a 1.95 ERA, innings pitched (60.0), and strikeouts (35) en route to receiving Second Team All-SUNYAC honors. Alex Jurczynski ’13 and John Rauseo ’15 joined Stevens on the second team. Rauseo also became the first Laker to be named Clark V. Whited Rookie of the Year since 2004, when Mike Cortellini ’06 earned the award.

Softball

A youthful Laker softball team with two seniors on the roster and second-year head coach Casey Grimes Price ’00 consistently split games against SUNYAC opponents during the season to clinch the sixth-seed in the conference playoffs, marking the second time in program history and the first time since 2008 that Oswego State qualified for the league tournament. The Lakers ended the season at 16-23 overall and 8-10 in the league.

Offensively, the Lakers were led by Second Team All-SUNYAC pick Sammie Schroeter ’14, who paced the Lakers in batting average (.362), runs scored (20) and hits (42). The centerfielder ranked second with 17 RBI and 11 extra-base hits. In the
pitcher’s circle, Ashley Snyder ’13 ranked third among all league pitchers with 114 strikeouts and fourth in innings pitched (131.2) and appearances (29). At the plate, she was third on the team in RBI (16) and runs scored (17) as she joined Schroeter on the All-SUNYAC Second Team.

**Men’s Tennis**

Oswego State’s men’s tennis team posted back-to-back wins against Keuka and Keystone colleges last spring with a young roster comprised of six sophomores and freshmen after graduating seven players the year before before wrapping up the year at 3-7 overall. The Lakers gained experience over the course of the season, as they have a talented group coming back, including all six singles players and five out of six doubles players. Sam Moores ’15 turned in the best singles record at 4-3 with three of the four victories coming at the No. 2 position.

**Outdoor Track and Field**

Laker men’s and women’s outdoor track and field teams posted identical eighth-place finishes with 33 and 36 points, respectively, at the SUNYAC Outdoor Track and Field Championships under head coach David Thompson. Da’Quan Coleman ’12 and Brittany DalCais ’15 earned Second Team All-SUNYAC recognition after placing second in the 110-meter hurdles and the pole vault, respectively. DalCais later bettered her school record in the event at the Eastern Collegiate Athletic Conference Outdoor Track and Field Championships after clearing a sixth-place height of 3.55 meters, which narrowly missed qualifying for the NCAA championships.

**Women’s Lacrosse**

The Laker women’s lacrosse team reached the 20-goal plateau in three of its wins last season, while holding opponents in those contests to eight goals or fewer, as Oswego State went 4-3 against non-conference foes for a 4-10 overall record.

Erin Cummings ’12 was recognized on the All-SUNYAC Second Team after pacing the Lakers in scoring, as she amassed 53 goals and 19 assists for 72 points.

— Adele Burk
Gift Supports International Education

An alumnus who was the first in his family to have a passport and had his life changed by a study abroad experience through Oswego has made a generous gift to the college to pass on the opportunity of international experience to current and future students.

John Christian ’87, president and chief executive officer of CAPA International Education and CAPA have pledged nearly $200,000 over three years to foster international education at SUNY Oswego.

“Through this extremely generous gift, John Christian and CAPA pass on to future students the transformative cultural experience he enjoyed through his education at Oswego. We are profoundly grateful,” said President Deborah F. Stanley.

Christian shared his own story including humble roots in Troy and a life-changing experience at Oswego.

“Study abroad doesn’t just have an impact, but can truly transform lives,” Christian said. His experiences both as a study abroad student and his work with Oswego’s International Education Program under Dr. José Ramon Pérez would inform his life’s work.

Christian praised Oswego’s global engagement and dedication to making it a prominent part of the academic experience. “I’ve been in this field for 23 years and I’ve worked with a multitude of institutions that are looking to do similar things,” he said. “The global thinker is on all of our agendas, the global doer is the Oswego agenda.”

A gift of $100,000 over three years will support the President’s International Initiatives, creating opportunities for Oswego students, faculty and staff to infuse a global dimension into the teaching, learning and service mission of the college.

A separate gift will fund the José Ramon Pérez International Scholarship, to provide full need-based scholarships for Oswego students to CAPA’s London Program and Beijing semester program for three years.

— Michele Reed

The New York State Laborers-Employers Cooperation and Education Trust (LECET) celebrated a milestone — 15 years of generous support to Oswego’s Presidential Scholars Program. Bill Shannon, business manager for the Upstate New York Laborers’ Council and LECET representative, presented a check for $25,000 to President Deborah F. Stanley in the autumn.

“We believe in the importance of education and in maintaining strong relationships with our community,” said Shannon. He added that the trust is happy to support the Presidential Scholars program, which makes a high-quality education possible for many students, like the children of LECET’s members. Stanley thanked LECET for their continuing support of the program, saying “LECET’s unprecedented longevity of commitment to partnering with SUNY Oswego not only benefits our Presidential Scholars, but also the people of our state and region as these dedicated students take their Oswego degrees out into the world and do great things.”
New Giving Societies to Launch

A LONGSTANDING TRADITION AT OSWEGO is the President’s Circle giving societies, which recognize Oswego’s most loyal supporters. For the first time since their establishment in 1984, the giving society levels will change July 1, 2013.

“One of the things that I love about Oswego is its traditions,” said Jennifer Shropshire ’86, national chair of the Fund for Oswego. “For example, I vividly remember being part of the Torchlight ceremony as a senior. I’m also proud of another tradition that may not be unique to Oswego in theory, but certainly is unique in the way that Oswegonians carry out our daily lives personally and professionally. We step up.

“We approach what lies ahead of us with enthusiasm and a strong and sincere intent to make a tangible difference. In that spirit, I’m thinking about how I can step up my financial support to Oswego this year. I want to continue to be a leader in a way that matches my commitment to the college as well as my personal circumstances.”

Shropshire was referring to the new societies, which go into effect after June 30 of this year. Membership in the entry level of the President’s Circle will increase on July 1 from $250 to $1,000.

See the chart at right for the new giving societies.

Also changing are the recognition levels for gifts from $250 to $999. Gifts from $250 to $499 will provide admission to the Green Club level, and gifts of $500 to $999 will designate members of the Gold Club level.

“While the economy certainly plays a role as I consider my future, I’m mindful that it has an even more significant impact on the lives of current students and their families,” Shropshire said. “For most families, it is a challenge — sometimes a straight-up sacrifice — to pay for someone to attend Oswego. During the School of Business Symposium in November, I witnessed firsthand how eager every student I encountered was to get the most out of his or her Oswego experience in order to make his or her family’s challenge/sacrifice worthwhile.

“To that end, I pledge to rise to the occasion and hope that you will join me in rising to a new level of philanthropic leadership,” she said.

Donors wishing to stretch their giving to the next level so they continue to be a member of the President’s Circle will be able to make their gifts in installments.

Donors may make their gifts to be used in areas of greatest need or priority, or designate their gifts to support scholarships, one of the college’s four schools, an academic department, or a specific organization or program.

For more information on joining Oswego’s philanthropic leaders, call 315-312-3003 or visit oswego.edu/presidentscircle

New Legacy Society Chair Leads by Example

He knows that leaving a legacy gift to Oswego is one of the best ways to show his love for his alma mater, and now Jack James ‘62 wants to share his enthusiasm as chair of the Sheldon Legacy Society.

A longtime member of the Sheldon Legacy Society, James recently took on leadership of this group of loyal Oswego supporters who have remembered the college in their estate plans.

“A legacy gift is the ultimate commitment a donor can make to Oswego. It means that you are making the college a part of your family,” James explains.

Calling a planned gift both “symbolic and meaningful,” he added that a legacy gift makes a lasting impact on the college and its students. “When you invest in education, you are investing in the future,” he says.

As chair, James will lead a core group of Sheldon Legacy Society members committed to growing membership in the society and spreading the message of the value of planned gifts.

James explains that a legacy gift could give a donor the ability to support Oswego to an extent that might not be possible during his or her lifetime.

By giving the proceeds of an insurance policy or making the college the beneficiary of a retirement plan, donors can make a substantial gift without impacting their family’s present income.

James leads by example, bequeathing 70 percent of his own estate to Oswego. He also established a charitable gift annuity in honor of his class’s 50th reunion.

His gifts fund The Jack C. James ’62 Endowment Fund, which supports a scholarship fund for non-traditional students, an equipment and facilities improvement fund and a School of Education student program fund.

For more information about the Sheldon Legacy Society or making a planned gift to Oswego, contact the Office of Development at 215 Sheldon Hall, email sheldonlegacy@oswego.edu or call 315-312-3003.

— Michele Reed
Remembering a Science Star

$5 Million Gift to Name Science Complex for Richard S. Shineman

BY MICHELE REED

Dr. Barbara Palmer Shineman ’65, M ’71, professor emerita of education, sifts through memorabilia of her late husband, Dr. Richard S. Shineman. She finds a card their granddaughter Megan gave Dick for his birthday one year. It reads, “The man who reaches for his star is admired, but the man who helps others reach theirs is loved.”
“TRANG A BELL,” Barbara says of the card’s effect on her. It perfectly sums up for her the kind of man Dick was.

Now, thanks to her gift of $5 million — the largest cash gift in the more than 150-year history of the college — generations of students in the science and engineering fields will be helped toward their stars in the name of a seminal figure in the history of sciences at Oswego: the first chair of the chemistry department and a man who had already passed on the love of his discipline to thousands of Oswego graduates.

“Barbara and Dick have been longtime generous supporters of our college. They epitomize the loyalty and devotion of the entire SUNY Oswego community.

“But this gift is of another dimension. As the largest philanthropic gift in our college’s history, it will mean many things to our students — from well-equipped science facilities to top-notch faculty,” said Oswego President Deborah F. Stanley in announcing the gift.

“We are tremendously thrilled and grateful. This gift comes at a key time, as we focus more than ever on educating students in the sciences and related disciplines. The work and recognition made possible by this wonderful and welcome act of generosity will put Oswego on the map in these fields,” she added.

In accordance with state education law and State University regulations, President Stanley, the Oswego College Foundation, SUNY Oswego College Council and SUNY board of trustees have approved recognizing this historic $5 million gift by naming Oswego’s new science complex the Richard S. Shineman Center for Science, Engineering and Innovation. It is now under construction and set to open in fall 2013.

The gift will establish an endowment that will support an endowed chair in chemistry and educational and cultural opportunities including science programs and research and initiatives of the faculty of the Shineman Center.

“It is always a point of pride when our campuses are given philanthropic gifts in recognition of the excellent education they provide to students in so many different fields of learning,” said SUNY Chancellor Nancy L. Zimpher. “It is also an honor for campuses to be able to name facilities or scholarships after donors who have shown an exemplary dedication to the campus. Congratulations to SUNY Oswego on this much-deserved donation and many thanks to Professor Emerita Dr. Barbara Shineman and the Richard S. Shineman Foundation for their consistent support.”

“Dr. Barbara Shineman is a lifelong true philanthropist. She embodies the very mission of the Oswego College Foundation,” said Bill Spinelli ’84, chair of the Oswego College Foundation board of directors. “Her personal philanthropy includes a leadership role as a charter member of the Sheldon Legacy Society, the college’s planned giving program, as well as establishing student awards and scholarships, supporting The Fund for Oswego and the Emeriti Association, and most generous gifts to college fundraising efforts.”

“Dick would be overwhelmed by this … and very humbled,” Barbara said, “He really had a great deal of respect for the college. When Dick joined the faculty in 1962, he was hired to help reshape the sciences at Oswego, so he would be so very pleased to see this state-of-the-art building, where all the disciplines will be under one roof.”

Proud History at Oswego

Dick Shineman was one of the founders of Oswego’s chemistry program and its first chair, as well as part of a cadre of professors who helped design the science facilities in Snygg Hall. With an under-

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graduate degree from Cornell University, a master’s from Syracuse and a doctorate from the Ohio State University, he was hired by then-President Foster Brown to get the sciences program under way, and he worked with chairmen in the other science disciplines and math along with colleagues in SUNY Central Administration to design the building.

Dick Shineman took pride in chemistry graduates who went on to do great things. Dr. Corliss Varnum ’79, one of Shineman’s early students, later became his physician and attended him in his final illness.

One of the courses Dick Shineman was proudest of developing was “Chemistry and the Public Concern,” which spoke to environmental issues becoming prominent in the early ’70s. Long after his retirement, as the new century dawned, he was pleased that it was still being offered as a new generation of environmental concerns surfaced.

Barbara Shineman has deep roots at Oswego, too. She is a proud alumna, having graduated as a non-traditional student with an undergraduate degree in childhood education, master’s in reading education and a Certificate of Advanced Study.

She joined the college community as a young mother of two, married to Robert Palmer, director of Auxiliary Services at the college, when she decided to take classes at the college in 1958. Palmer died suddenly in 1969. They had been married for 23 years and his death was a shock to the community.
“It changed my life. I decided it was time to go on to grad school. I got my master’s at Oswego and then decided on Penn State for my doctorate,” Barbara recalled.

About this time she met Dick Shineman, when both were serving on a music committee at the Presbyterian Church, where Dick would go on to serve as a deacon and elder. Through many meetings to choose a new hymnal, the two became friends. “We shared similar values,” Barbara said. “I was impressed with his outlook on life, and the fact that he was a good person.”

When it was time for Barbara to leave for Penn State, Dick urged her to follow through on her educational goals. “Dick would call from Oswego – ‘Are you busy this weekend?’ he would ask, and plan a visit,” Barbara relates. “Before summer ended, he proposed.”

Although Dick encouraged her to stay and complete her degree at Penn State, Barbara was able to transfer to Syracuse University, where she would complete her doctorate. The two were married in 1973.

After marriage to Dick, “life again took a great turn,” Barbara said. Especially after retirement, the couple traveled frequently, to places like the Galapagos Islands and to England, to visit Barbara’s daughter, Kathy.

Barbara stayed involved in the life of the college, teaching at the Campus School. “The Campus School experience was the most professionally rewarding, getting to know the students, working with college students, parents and colleagues,” she said. When

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“The college was a big part of our life together. We took a lot of pride in doing things that reflected what the college was doing and what it needed. I felt good about that and really enjoyed working on it.”

— Dr. Barbara Palmer Shineman ’65, M ’71
the Campus School closed, Barbara joined the elementary education department at Oswego, where she taught until her retirement in 1989.

She would direct the Sheldon Institute for Gifted and Talented Students and the Potential Teacher Program, and coordinate Swetman Learning Center advisement while continuing her work as a professor of elementary education in what is now the college’s School of Education.

“The college was a big part of our life together,” Barbara said.

After retirement, they would go on to be involved in the Emeriti Association. Dick was a founding member and served on the original board of directors. Barbara was president for seven years, and led the effort to establish a historical record within all named campus buildings.

“We took a lot of pride in doing things that reflected what the college was doing and what it needed,” she said. “I felt good about that and really enjoyed working on it.”

Professor Emeritus of English John Fisher and his wife, Joanne, are longtime friends of both Shinemans. “When we think of Dick, we remember how much of a giving person he was, and Barbara is the same,” said Joanne. “She really has put her life into the college,” added John, who taught Barbara in a freshman English class and later served on the Emeriti Association with her. “Her actions told what her feelings were.”

Speaking of both Shinemans, he said, “They were both very proud of Oswego.”

Barbara served as the Annual Fund volunteer chair, and was the recipient of the Oswego Alumni Association’s Lifetime Award of Merit. During the college’s first capital campaign, “Inspiring Horizons,” Barbara served as a member of the Presidential Campaign Cabinet.

For more than a decade, she served on the Oswego Alumni Association Scholarship Committee.

President Stanley presented Barbara with a Presidential Medal for her lifelong support to SUNY Oswego.

“Dick and I always agreed about the tremendous importance of education. We always felt education is an enabler ... it enables you to pursue your dreams and gives you the confidence in your ability to achieve success. It follows that the more resources the college has, the better it will enable students to reach for their dreams.”

— Dr. Barbara Palmer Shineman ’65, M ’71

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The Shinemans have been longtime generous donors to Oswego. Here, they attend one of the early Shady Shore receptions for President’s Circle donors.
A life of generosity

Philanthropy – especially giving to SUNY Oswego – has been extremely important to the Shinemans, both of whom served on the Oswego College Foundation board of directors.

The couple focused their giving on the college, providing nearly a million dollars in support during Dick Shineman’s lifetime.

“Dick and I always agreed about the tremendous importance of education. We always felt education is an enabler ... it enables you to pursue your dreams and gives you the confidence in your ability to achieve success,” Barbara Shineman said. “It follows that the more resources the college has, the better it will enable students to reach for their dreams.”

Dick Shineman insisted on anonymity during his lifetime, although he acknowledged his support of the Freshman Chemistry Scholarship, with four awarded to incoming Oswego students each year. Barbara Shineman has supported Penfield Library, campus beautification projects and the School of Education, among other initiatives.

To this SUNY Oswego couple, nothing was more important than the college that was at the center of their lives — and its students. “The college was a very important part of [Dick’s] life,” said Barbara Shineman. “He had a very strong, committed, loyal feeling about Oswego — where it was going, what it was trying to do.”

Dick’s generous nature developed through his father’s advice and example, Barbara explained.

A spirit of philanthropy permeated their lives together, from their wedding in the Shineman Chapel House on the Hartwick College campus, which was donated by the Shineman family, who helped found the Beechnut Corp. in Canajoharie.

Barbara tells a story that epitomizes Dick’s approach to philanthropy. “Every June, Dick would take all the solicitations he had received from organizations – the Bible Society, chemical societies, etc. — then write a check to each of them,” she said. “It wasn’t millions, but he wanted them to know he supported them.”

She added, “Dick’s philosophy was that money is not something to hold on to. You come into the world with nothing, and go out of it with nothing.”

That philosophy found its ultimate expression in the Richard S. Shineman Foundation, which Dick founded just before his death.

“The money that he put into the foundation will benefit people in the community, who might not otherwise have the opportunity,” Barbara explains.

The gift to SUNY Oswego is the first for the foundation, which aims to be a “Catalyst for Change,” funding community programs in Upstate New York and especially Oswego County.

“[Dick] would be pleased that the foundation is doing what it’s doing,” said Barbara. “He would be so happy to see all the sciences under one roof at SUNY Oswego, to bring so many disciplines together in one building. He would be utterly overwhelmed. Nothing would please him more than to see it. He would be very humbled by it.”

“When we think of Dick, we remember how much of a giving person he was, and Barbara is the same. ... She really has put her life into the college. Her actions told what her feelings were.”

— Joanne and John Fisher

She said Dick would be most pleased by what the gift will mean to the college and future students. “He would be in awe of the kind of development the future students will have because of the new building: how it will help them get into programs and finish their education,” she said.

Through this historic gift to Oswego, the Richard S. Shineman Center for Science, Engineering and Innovation is just one more way, that even though he has passed on, Dick Shineman can help others reach for their own stars.
When your résumé includes experiences like standing atop Piez Hall measuring the wind speed as the Blizzard of ’77 rolls in off Lake Ontario, where else would your career take you but before the cameras of The Weather Channel as the Winter Weather Expert?

Luckily Tom Niziol ’77 made it down off that roof safely. Now he draws on his Oswego snow schooling and a 30-year career with the National Weather Service in Buffalo in his role with the country’s premier source for consumer weather information.

Niziol joined The Weather Channel in January 2012, and immediately took to the air to explain extreme weather conditions around the country.

He is featured regularly during winter weather coverage on The Weather Channel, which reaches more than 100 million American homes. Niziol also contributes his expertise with content on The Weather Channel’s digital platforms including weather.com and social media outlets.

Niziol enjoyed being a student in Oswego’s meteorology department, he said, not only because of the school’s excellent reputation in the field but because the program was small enough to get individualized attention and the opportunity for hands-on research with faculty members. The late Professors Emeriti Eugene Chermack and Robert Sykes were his mentors and heroes, he recalls.

“Professor Sykes used to take us onto the roof of the meteorology building to begin class each day and he spent time to train us how to connect and ’feel’ the weather. I particularly remember one day when the winds were very light, they did not even rustle the flag and he asked us to tell him the wind direction,” Niziol recalls. “We all looked for signs to help us but could not find any. Then he asked us to smell the air. It smelled sweet like chocolate and we all immediately knew that was the aroma from the Nestle chocolate factory in Fulton. Now that’s meteorology at its finest.”

Niziol’s interest in weather started young. He remembers watching the sky and following the weather as a kid, but it was his high school earth science teacher who triggered his interest in meteorology as a profession. “However, once I arrived at Oswego, it kicked my interest into high gear and meteorology became a passion,” Niziol says.

“The friends, the dorms, the meteorology lab, the wrestling team workouts, the sunsets, the winter storms, the lightning over the lake — it was all wonderful . . . If I had to go back and relive those days, there is very little I would change.”

— Tom Niziol ’77
Oswego was a logical choice for the budding meteorologist. “I picked Oswego mainly because it was one of only a couple of state schools that offered a reasonably priced college education and had a meteorology department. I also picked it because of its idyllic location on the shores of Lake Ontario — what other college campus can offer the type of sunsets and connection with storms that Oswego can?” he says.

That connection spawned a host of memories for the weather expert, like pulling a couple of co-eds off the fence at the tennis court next to Seneca Hall when they could not navigate the icy sidewalks in 60-mph winds.

“The friends, the dorms, the meteorology lab, the wrestling team workouts, the sunsets, the winter storms, the lightning over the lake — it was all wonderful and it is so nice to revisit those memories from time to time,” Niziol says. “If I had to go back and relive those days, there is very little I would change.”

After Oswego, he went to work for the Cornell Aeronautical Laboratories in Buffalo, now CALSPAN Corp., and from there joined the National Weather Service. He worked his way up the career ladder, eventually becoming the officer in charge at SUNY Oswego.

After three decades at the government’s weather service, Niziol expected to finish out his career there, until a call came “out of the blue” from the Weather Channel, asking him to audition to explain the weather. He worked his way up the career ladder, eventually becoming the officer in charge of the Buffalo office.

“The friends, the dorms, the meteorology lab, the wrestling team workouts, the sunsets, the winter storms, the lightning over the lake — it was all wonderful and it is so nice to revisit those memories from time to time,” Niziol says. “If I had to go back and relive those days, there is very little I would change.”

After Oswego, he went to work for the Cornell Aeronautical Laboratories in Buffalo, now CALSPAN Corp., and from there joined the National Weather Service. He worked his way up the career ladder, eventually becoming the officer in charge of the Buffalo office.

Ten meteorology students run the Lake Effect Storm Prediction and Research Center. They use what they’re being taught in the college’s meteorology department and the latest weather models on sophisticated computer software to forecast what is going to happen in Oswego hour by hour for the next day.

From this information, superintendents and transportation supervisors can decide whether they should open schools on time, later than normal or close for the day.

Working out of Oswego’s meteorology lab in Hewitt Union, the Lake Effect Storm Prediction and Research Center opens for business at 4 a.m., when the student meteorologist on call checks the equipment to see if anything looking is heading across Lake Ontario.

“Lake effect snow is very unpredictable — it’s a challenge,” says student Ben Noll ’13. “We utilize forecast models that don’t always put the (lake effect) bands in the right place.”

“We have to learn more about all the different models so we can better anticipate where the snow bands will go,” said Jordan Rabinowitz ’13.

— Michele Reed

Students at SUNY Oswego Pinpoint Storms For Schools

Meteorology Majors Make Hour-by-Hour Forecasts of Lake Effect Snow

When Oswego County BOCES transportation supervisor Kathy Jamerson thinks there might be a bad winter storm ahead, she turns to students at SUNY Oswego for help.

“They’re local, so their forecasts are a little more accurate, a little more specific,” Jamerson said. “They are really good at pinpointing the very time a storm will go through. Like we’ll be thinking of dismissing at noon, but they’ll say, ‘No. It will be worse at noon than at your regular dismissal time.’”

The Lake Effect Storm Prediction and Research Center was the brainchild of Scott Steiger ’99, an associate professor of meteorology at Oswego. He oversees the development and operations of the center, including recruiting students to do forecasting, leading planning meetings, developing research goals and scheduling forecasters. The number of student participants varies depending on current research objectives and the number of forecast clients.

So far this year, the Oswego City School District and Oswego County BOCES have contracts with the center, which began about five years ago. Others may sign up as the season progresses. Districts pay $400 a month, money that’s used to buy equipment.

“I thought it would be a big help to school districts and others to get personalized forecasts and have a meteorologist they can call at any time,” Steiger said. “And this is a great opportunity for the students to apply what they learned.”

Robert Peters, Liverpool school district transportation director, said Liverpool used the center a few years ago, but doesn’t now. He said the students’ forecasts were accurate and helpful.

“We could find out what they think, is a storm coming our way,” Peters said. “They’d provide us with information regarding storms that we were able to use to keep the kids safe.”

Brian Donegan ’13 and Tara Heck ’13 direct the center. “We do forecasts for the schools, we update forecasts throughout the day and we’re on call 24 hours a day seven days a week,” Donegan said. “We also update our website at 4 a.m., 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. each day.”

“The most difficult thing about forecasting lake effect storms is their isolated nature,” Donegan said. “It completely depends on the wind direction about a mile above the ground as to where the band will set up. Once that wind direction shifts, it shifts the band, so you really have to pay attention to the wind direction.”

The center’s service for school districts runs the winter season, Nov. 1 through the end of March.

— Debra J. Groom

Syracuse Post-Standard
Alumni Exhibit Success in All-Oswego Show

In the fall, art department alumni spanning four decades shared their work and their stories in a special exhibit at Tyler Hall.

Some 35 alumni artists were included in the first such show in nearly 20 years.

Commercial artists, teachers and children’s book illustrators were all represented. The exhibit included many New York pieces as well as imports from several states.

“It is by and large positive recognition of their time spent here,” said Michael Flanagan, assistant director of the Tyler Art Gallery. It’s also inspiration for current students, who got a flavor for the variety of careers artists can pursue.

The recognition came with much appreciation from artists like Mario Romano ’05, who wrote, “I look back at my undergraduate degree and I am thankful for the freedom I had to express what was necessary for me at that time.”

In this virtual exhibit, OSWEGO alumni magazine takes a look at the pieces and people exhibited.

Visit oswego.edu/magazine/art for a complete slideshow.

Alumni Exhibitors

Jamie Ashlaw ’92
Marc Barr ’74
Paul Bartow ’88
Catherine Bebout ’79
Gail Bering-Porter M ’08
Amy Gutter Bernard ’98
Amanda Besl ’98
Isaac Bidwell ’08
Kelly Chilton ’09
William DeMott ’84, M ’89
Holly DePue ’11
Bernice Ficok-Swenson M ’77
Kenneth Freed M ’75
Gary Grosenbeck ’89
James W. Johnson ’77
Tyrone Johnson-Neuland M ’99
Sarah Heppell ’09
Deale A. Hutton ’01
Denise Lisiecki M ’75
Mike Lupa ’05, M ’06

TreeLee MacAnn ’75
Thomas MacPherson ’73
Rebecca Mushtare ’03
Rick Muto ’75
Sarah Nesbitt ’06
Stephen Nevitt M ’73
Mary Ann Spavins Owen ’73, M ’75
J. Malcolm Owen M ’78
Paul Pearce ’79 M ’03
Mary Pierce ’94 M ’96
Kelly Roe ’94 M ’97
Mario Romano ’05
James Russell ’83
Virginia Saunders ’75
Roy Strassberg ’72
Cara Thompson M ’02
Kate Timm ’74, M ’76
Rose Throop ’95

Super Service,
Oil and acrylic on panel, 2012

Drawing from the influence of photorealists of the 1970s, professional artist Ashlaw finds inspiration in the “neon tubes, bright colors and quirky shapes that direct us where to eat, bowl a few frames or see a second-run movie.”

Jamie Ashlaw ’92

Oswego College • Winter 2013
"It’s important to have an image that encompasses a message, a person, a place," says Chilton, an illustrator and graphic designer based in Plattsburgh. "Images should make you want to go somewhere."

Nevitt, professor of art and division head for arts and communication studies at Columbia College in Columbia, S.C., included photographs of his ancestors in this piece intended to explore “the lost opportunities for women who, due to the milieu into which they were born, could not pursue their ambitions and dreams.”
**Bad Habits**  
*Oil and rubber band on panel, 2011*

Romano is a professor of art at the Art Institute of Chicago, where he earned his master of fine arts. “What does my painting not do? What did I not put in it? I feel this is just as important as what my paintings actually hold and do.”

**Kaleidoscope Moon**  
*Acrylic on canvas, 2012*

Oswego adjunct Art Professor Pierce exhibited this work that shares her thankfulness for her father, who recently passed away. “Although he was much more reserved than me about color choices, he loved my artwork.”

**Randomness of Life**  
*Watercolor on paper*

Lisiecki is director of the art school at the Kalamazoo Institute of the Arts in Michigan. The artist behind numerous one-person exhibits across the country, she has her work displayed in more than 50 museum and corporate collections.
“Springtime,” one of four pianos created for Steinway & Sons by Rick Muto ’75, spent the summer on display in Shanghai, China.

A serene, soft-blue pond filled with green lilies feeds a gentle waterfall featuring flourishes of white surrounded by a vibrant garden full of red, yellow, orange and purple.

It’s a striking piece of art by Rick Muto ’75. And so is the artwork underneath.

“The piano is a three-dimensional canvas,” said Muto, who about five years ago began creating perhaps the world’s most unique Steinway pianos. The iconic Steinway brand is steeped in musical history, and collectable pieces, like the four that Muto has been commissioned to create, fetch hundreds of thousands of dollars.

Like the pianos themselves, the artwork can take up to a year to complete. Each instrument has to be completely disassembled, painted and reconstructed.

The result is something much more than a pretty picture on a piano. “I’m slicing out a piece of the landscape,” Muto explained. “All of the project is a continuous image.”

Each part of the piano is graphically connected to the other. For example, the waterfall in the “Springtime” work cascades down the sheet music stand and key cover, settling into a series of tributaries on the bench.

Under the tutelage of art Professor Emeritus Paul Garland, Muto began to find inspiration at nearly every turn. Buildings, sidewalks, virtually everything became a potential site for a piece. He started his career restoring antiques and eventually went on to creating murals and other decorative art for both private and public places like the Eastman House and Bausch + Lomb headquarters in Rochester.

His Steinways are spread throughout the world in the hands of distinguished, wealthy and usually unnamed collectors who commission the works.

—Shane M. Liebler

Rochester Artist Makes Images, Not Music with Piano Compositions

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Timm, a professional artist, says her move to the rural town of Sterling in 1980 began her 30-year-plus career as a still life painter. “My paintings reflect my immediate surroundings,” like this work that transposes various household items against Upstate New York weather and scenery.

A full-time painter for nearly 20 years, Freed has won several competitions and earned many commissions with his artwork. An instructor at the Kalamazoo Institute of the Arts, Freed developed a three-year apprenticeship program through his studio as a way of giving back to the art community.
Members of the Class of 1962 gathered for a golden anniversary reception with President Deborah F. Stanley during Reunion Weekend 2012 in the Sheldon Hall Lower Lobby. Celebrating the 50-year anniversary were, first row, from left: James Anderson, James Balducci, David Bates, A. David Bird, Donald Blauvelt, Monica Bolvin Carroway, Frank Cleary, Patricia Crosson Cleary, Patricia McCarthy Coughlin, Mary Reilly Crabbs, Lester Crowell, Janice Bartow Curro, Marilyn Fragetta Daluisio, Peter Dankelman, Gail Freeman Dembin and Lawrence Fagen. Pictured second row, from left, are: Mark Montoney, Jean Moser McKay, Christopher Maniscalco, Marguerite Boyle Lowenthal, Eleanor Koch Link, Diana Schoff Lawlor, Roberta Bonacci Lang, George Ladd, Donald Kline, Jack James, Anne Petrak Horner, Martin Holland, Anne Dunn Herb, Edward Heinrich, Ronald Harrison, Edwina Foster and Phyllis Maguire Fanizzi. Pictured third row, from left, are: Colette Chapman Ozarowski, Marie D’Amore Petrelli, Michael Picciano, Lois Glick Reiter, Kathleen Haggerty Ross, Arleen Statnikoff Rudoy, Clayton Sauberan, Nancy Tuma Sauberan, Frederick Scharf, Rosemary Bushneck Shanahan, Michael Shramek, James Stahlman, Joanne Clark Szalay, Robert Thole, Marjorie Pfluke Trudeau, Donna Fry True, Peter Vignogna and Beverly Brown Wilkins.
Alumni Bookshelf

This column celebrates the publishing success of Oswego alumni authors, illustrators and recording artists. Please keep us informed about new books and audio recordings by requesting that your publisher or distributor send a copy for the Oswego Alumni Bookshelf at King Alumni Hall.

Dwight Logan ’59 teaches how to study, take exams and speed read in Essential Learning Skills. The book includes practice tests, tools, definitions and tips on useful subject matter. Insight Publishing 2009.

Gary Fuller ‘64 uses trivia to teach his readers about practical geographic concepts and explanations in The Trivia Lover’s Guide to the World: Geography for the Lost and Found. Fuller asks questions like, “What continent contains at least 75 percent of the world’s fresh water?” and then provides answers in full detail, complete with illustrations and background information. Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, 2012.

Don McNamara ’77 instructs preschoolers how to do American Sign Language through easy-to-follow illustrations and instructions in the Fun with Abby and Alyssa series. There are six books with themes such as: breakfast foods, zoo animals, colors, bedtime activities, school and family members. Second Printing, 2011.

Chris L. Brock ’83 shares a collection of humorous short stories of small-town life along the St. Lawrence river in Those Carp People: and Other Tales of Life Along the St. Lawrence. The book includes 10 stories inspired by Brock’s life along the river in Waddington, and his career as a journalist. Laughing Carp Publishing 2012.

Jennine Wright ’83 shares her personal collection of recipes and family traditions in the cookbook Meals That Make Memories: Recipes My Mother Never Wrote Down. Wright gives instructions on how to make many of her family’s recipes and also includes personal memories. Morris Press Cookbooks, 2012.


Deirdre Maloney ’95 offers strategies for nonprofit organizations in The Mission Myth. She uses examples from her experience as a consultant to debunk the “mission myth,” the false belief that nonprofits should focus all of their time and resources on their missions alone. Business Solutions Press, 2012.
Alumnus Used Tech Ed to Build Multiple Careers

IF YOU LIVE IN NEW YORK CITY, RAYMOND DENNIS HARQUAIL ’71 might have something to do with where you live.

Raymond is the founding chief of the city’s Building Inspector and Plan Examiner Training Academy, which has more than 300 inspectors studying 17 different categories at any given time.

It’s the most recent of a number of careers Raymond has taken on, going all the way back to his days as a student and young shop teacher when he would do electrical, carpentry and plumbing work in the summers.

“I started with my hands and I’m still working with my hands,” says Raymond, who took a lot of cues from his grandfather, one of the first union plumbers in New York City.

The training academy is designed to keep building inspectors current and knowledgeable. His role developing the curriculum is actually his encore as a city government employee.

From 1987 to 2003, Raymond was training director for the Metropolitan Transportation Authority, where he oversaw development of some of the first bus simulators in the country.

“From my 20s to my mid-60s there was always room to learn,” says Raymond, whose careers have been notably varied.

After graduating with a master’s in instructional technology from Indiana University, he headed to the SUNY College of Optometry, where he put together a learning resource center serving doctors, medical students and more than 100,000 clinic patients a year. Earlier in his career he worked as an engineer for EBASCO, travelling the world to train more than 20,000 nuclear power plant managers, supervisors and construction trade workers. He went to the Rochester Institute of Technology to become a biomedical photographer performing diagnostic imagery of patients prior to eye surgery.

The common ground? His instructional designs follow principles he learned at Oswego, Raymond says.

“I couldn’t do it without Oswego.”

— Shane M. Liebler
Members of the Class of 1987 gathered for a silver anniversary reception with President Deborah F. Stanley during Reunion Weekend 2012 at Shady Shore. Celebrating the 25-year class anniversary are, first row, from left: Kimberly Morella, Kitty Sherlock Houghtaling, Francine Maltz Dorfman, Nancy Brown Corbin, Kimberly Cockayne Brooke, Karen Coney Coplin and President Deborah F. Stanley. Pictured second row, from left, are: Pilar Di Pietro, Laurie Harrison Kennen, Marcie Benjamin Brasier, Kristine Kuehnle, Suzanne Vernon Vienneau and Lisa Marceau Schnorr. Pictured third row, from left, are: Carol Jones Quirk, Jean Linnenbach Klein, Regina DeBottis Sheehan, Courtney Grace DeWitt, Liz Gocs and Stu Rothenberg. Pictured fourth row, from left, are: Henry N. Seymour, James D. Hewitt and Doug Steuerman. Pictured fifth row, from left, are: Andrew Wojnowski, David Smith, Keith Chamberlain, Wendy Cobrda and Dennis O’Toole.
Longtime Sports Journalist Becomes NBA ‘Voice’

DAVID BENZ ’92 WANTED TO SKIP WALKING THE STAGE for his December Commencement to make sure he wouldn’t miss his final chance to call Laker basketball.

Mom put the kibosh on that idea, but Dave was able to grab his degree, make his first and only collegiate play-by-play broadcast and launch a career that has made him the television voice of the National Basketball Association’s Minnesota Timberwolves.

“I’ve always wanted to do full-time play-by-play,” says Dave, who has spent his two-decade career as a sports broadcast journalist in Miami, Dallas, Denver and D.C., among other cities.

Most recently, he was able to enjoy the Giants’ 2010 baseball championship run and last year’s successful 49ers football season as a host, anchor and reporter for Comcast Sportsnet Bay Area in San Francisco.

“I’ve had the chance to go to great places and meet a lot of people … I’ve had an unbelievable career,” Dave says. In addition to his full-time studio work, Dave found his way into some TV and radio play-by-play gigs covering college sports and arena league football while also working the sidelines for the NFL, MLB and NBA broadcasts. The work paid off as he now enters a very small fraternity of NBA commentators.

“I feel like this is the job I’ve been grooming myself for basically my whole professional life,” Dave says.

David Benz ’92 most recently hosted, anchored and reported for Comcast Sportsnet in San Francisco. Last fall he became the TV play-by-play voice of the National Basketball Association’s Minnesota Timberwolves.

“There’s just something about doing the game live,” he says. “It’s so much more electric.”

Dave cut his teeth “cutting tape” in the WTOP studios, where he directed and hosted “7 O’Clock News.”

“That was invaluable experience,” says Dave, who worked closely with Professor Mike Ameigh, current School of Communication, Media and the Arts Dean Fritz Messere ’71, M ’76 and Bill Canning of the television lab staff.

— Shane M. Liebler
EVERY DAY STARTS WITH A GOOD MORNING FOR CAMERON JONES ’09.

As operations coordinator for “Good Morning America,” Cameron processes hires, tracks freelancers and runs the internship program among other tasks. The former WSTM-TV (Syracuse) and WNYW-TV (New York) intern hopes to make his way to the front of the cameras eventually, but loves learning all aspects of the broadcasting business.

A member of the Future Alumni Network as a student, Cameron stays active with the Graduates Of The Last Decade Leadership Council.

Cameron’s advice: “If you use the tools you are given at Oswego and stay connected, you’re going to be successful.”

1. **Key to a good morning:**
   My key to a good morning is started with my Pandora radio, specifically the Anita Baker station. Listening to the classic oldies puts me in the perfect zone to make a good morning a great morning!

2. **Part of a complete breakfast:**
   I love pancakes and cream cheese bagels — separately of course, everything bagels to be exact. But I would not be myself without having a banana and at least one cup of coffee.

3. **Go-to Oswego dining hall dinner item:**
   Anything off the grill at Pathfinder dining hall from paninis, cheese steaks, chicken philly’s, burgers, waffle fries — Oh my!

4. **Favorite campus activity/organization:**
   There are just too many! Big shout out to FANs (Future Alumni Network), Department of Campus Life, Residence Life, Phi Beta Sigma Rho Xi chapter, Student Association and ALANA!

5. **Greatest Oswego experience:**
   My favorite Oswego experience by far was being a building manager working in Hewitt Union and the Campus Center at Campus Life.

6. **Worst thing about leaving Oswego:**
   I miss the carefree, casual life where there appeared to be a sense of security — a safe haven.

7. **Best thing about coming back:**
   I love to see the new developments at the college, whether it be new structures, academic progress, reconnecting or meeting students.

8. **Coolest internship:**
   Coolest internship was when I did news reporting at WSTM-TV Channel 3 in Syracuse. I learned the craft of reporting and working at a television station. Most of all, I got a front-row seat journeying throughout Central New York to places I would have otherwise not known.

9. **Dream job:**
   I think I am at my dream job. I’ve dreamed big all my life and I seized a golden opportunity to work at ABC News and to be a part of the Good Morning America family! I intend to keep growing, learning and seeing what can come of this experience.

10. **Words of wisdom:**
    To always strive to set a good example in work ethic and relationship building. You never know who may be watching or looking, but just know that someone always is.
By Executive Director
Betsy Oberst

There continues to evolve a myriad of ways you can stay connected to your alma mater and to fellow Oswego alumni. Two current priorities in the Oswego Alumni Association strategic plan address this. We are launching a new and improved OswegoConnect alumni social network. Look for news about our exciting new online community later this spring!

Another priority is the relaunch of a robust, national regional alumni events program. Due to staffing constraints in recent years, we had scaled back our regional event programming. We are now fully staffed in the Alumni Relations Office and we are inviting you to join us in coordinating regional Oswego events throughout the country (athletic, social, educational, cultural, community service and career networking events).

Oswego Alumni Ambassadors are being recruited now who will help us identify event ideas, venues, speakers, encourage attendance of fellow alumni and assist in staffing regional events. You can help Oswego alumni and friends to stay connected to each other in your own community and learn about the latest happenings at SUNY Oswego at the same time. We invite you to consider signing on as a volunteer in your area!

Our volunteer Board of Directors of the Oswego Alumni Association, led by President Keith Chamberlain ’87, is an elected body of alumni who represent all of our 77,000-plus Oswego graduates. The board of directors is actively involved in serving both the college and our alumni. The mission of the Oswego Alumni Association is to inform and interest a diverse constituency in the life of the college to create a partnership that encourages involvement, enhances loyalty and serves the current and future needs of the institution and alumni.

The alumni association also serves Oswego by engaging alumni to volunteer their talent and experience in ways that are beneficial to the college and, most importantly, our current students. Our strategic plan strives to offer alumni meaningful engagement opportunities and experiences both on and off campus, as well as through our growing number of social media channels, including Facebook and LinkedIn.

Our online Honor Roll of Appreciation (see page 9) recognizes the more than 760 volunteers who supported Oswego programs and students last year. To all of you, we offer our hearty Thanks!! We look forward to your continued involvement and encourage others to join us in our programming efforts.

Until we see you again on campus or on the road...
Alumnus’ passion, research earn high award

TODD PAGANO ’96 has been named one of only four “U.S. Professors of the Year” by two prestigious higher education institutions.

The director of the Laboratory Science Technology Program at the National Technical Institute for the Deaf in Rochester was recognized in the “Outstanding Master’s Universities and Colleges Professor” category. The institute is based out of the Rochester Institute of Technology, where Pagano is an associate professor of science and mathematics.

His award was presented Nov. 15 in Washington, D.C. Pagano was selected from more than 300 nominations.

“If you don't have this burning passion to do anything that you can do to make a student understand a concept then you may not be approaching it with enough vigor,” Pagano told The Chronicle of Higher Education.

He is nationally recognized for his research in florescence spectroscopy that can help predict the formation of dangerous carcinogens in drinking water and map cancer-causing chemicals in cigarette smoke.

The U.S. Professors of the Year Awards Program, created in 1981, is the only national initiative specifically designed to recognize excellence in undergraduate teaching and mentoring. The awards are presented by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Council for Advancement and Support of Education.

John Lippincott, president of CASE, commended this year’s award winners for their “intentional, innovative and inspirational” approach to the classroom experience.

U. S. Sen. Chuck Schumer of New York praised Pagano as he entered news of his honor into the Congressional Record.

A chemistry major at Oswego, Pagano earned his degree in three years and earned his advanced degrees at Tufts University. He has dedicated his college teaching career to instructing deaf students.
FORMER LAKER MIKE LUKAJIC ’04 made d3hockey.com’s list of top 15 goal scorers of the last decade. Lukajic’s 33 goals in 2002-03 for the Oswego men’s ice hockey team placed him at No. 9.

Lukajic was the sole SUNY Athletic Conference representative on the list, which ranked NCAA Division III players’ best individual seasons. In addition to a one-goal-per-game average in the 2002-03 regular season, he also scored at least one goal in each of Oswego’s postseason victories that year en route to the Division III national championship game.

Lukajic had more than 100 goals in his four-year collegiate career and went on to four years in the Central Hockey League, where he played 172 games and scored 74 goals, according to d3hockey.com.
Recent Graduate Quickly Climbs Adirondacks’ 46

AS BRIEANNE WILSON ’10, M ’12 trudged upward, wind and cold gnawed at her face. It was only November, but the weather had surprised her and her friends with snow and temperatures that dipped below freezing.

Now they were caught in a snowstorm on the side of a mountain in the Adirondacks. Unlike Wilson, who brought winter gear, half the group forgot hats and gloves. Some even neglected to bring winter coats.

They pushed on through the snow. When Wilson finally hoisted herself up to the summit of Big Slide Mountain, which stands 4,240 feet above sea level, she was greeted by a panorama of New York state’s highest and most rugged mountains.

“The view was absolutely fantastic,” Wilson said. “The fulfillment of getting to the top … I felt very rewarded once I got to the top.”

Since that climb with the college’s Outdoor Club in 2009, Wilson has conquered all 46 of the Adirondacks High Peaks, those that rise more than 4,000 feet.

She was officially inducted as the 7,328th member in the Adirondack Forty-Sixers Club May 27 in Lake Placid.

Wilson dedicated her final mountain, Gothics, to her deceased grandfather, who along with her father got her interested in the outdoors when she was young. On the summit, she placed a memorial and drank a toast to her grandfather with wine she carried up.

Now Wilson has a new goal to climb all 46 High Peaks again, but during winter. That would put her into an even more exclusive club of only 564 who have accomplished that feat.

“You get such a rush from it that you’re like ‘I need to do this again,’” she said. ●

— Ken Sturtz ’12

BriAnne Wilson ’10, M ’12 climbed the first of 46 Adirondack High Peaks in 2009 when she scaled Big Slide. Her quest to join the Forty-Sixer Club ended successfully atop Gothics Oct. 29, 2011.

Ed. Note: This story originally appeared in the May 23 edition of the Oswego Palladium-Times. This modified version is republished with permission.
Come to our Oswego family reunion!

Make plans now to join your friends and classmates at Reunion 2013! Everyone is welcome, but special events are planned for milestone classes and groups.

Reunion Hotline: 315-312-5559
Email: reunion@oswego.edu
Watch for registration materials in the mail this spring!
Check the website for additional groups and for the most up-to-date information: oswego.edu/reunion
Kristen Nuzback ’01 and Brian Shoemaker were married Nov. 12, 2011, at St. Madeleine Sophie Church in Guilderland and The Mohawk River Country Club and Chateau in Rexford. Pictured from left: Eric “Chewy” Vaughn ’00, Allison Shoemaker Beauechemin ’09, the bride, the groom and Colleen McGovern Zimmer ’01.

Shane Hogan ’06 and Jamie Messineo ’07 were married on Aug. 6, 2011, at the Surf Club in New Rochelle. Alumni in attendance included Ann Devine Farrell ’70 and Ryan Braden ’06 at far left. Pictured top row, from left: Kyle Kenny ’06; Greg Crandell ’06; Nick Lotito ’06; Conor Hogan ’09, M ’10; Cassandra Beal ’06; Kevin Pytel ’06; CJ Theiss ’06; Bill Gannon ’06; Elizabeth Farrell Dunnigan ’05; Chris Dunnigan ’06 and Joey Farrell ’09. Pictured middle row, from left: Erin Brennan Jacobsen ’06; Jessica Leo Kenny ’06, M ’07; Stephanie Foreman Lotito ’06, the bride; and the groom. From left, Ian Cella ’07 and Michael Crowley ’06 are pictured in the bottom row. Shane is an accountant and Jamie is an account executive. The couple resides in Hoboken, N.J.
Kate Rose ’08, M ’10 and Gary Sutton ’08, M ’10 were married June 29 at Rolling Greens at Dutchess Golf and Country Club. Several alumni attended, including, pictured top row from left: Carrie Roblee ’08, Nathan Roder ’08, Katie Maxwell ’97, M ’02, Kori Ayres, Sabrina Corn ’08, Jennifer Ronnenberg ’08, Robin McAleese ’93, Erik Kahoon, Patrick Lesswing ’08, Ron Slater ’08, Darrick Fuller ’10, Jeff Stevens ’10, Patty Hollister ’07, Jennifer Nolan ’09, Jenna George ’09, Jessica Zalesny Barber ’09 and Steve Akin ’08. Pictured middle row, from left: Dominica Thornton ’10, Annie Rose ’10, the bridegroom, the bride, and Dr. Jay Button. Pictured bottom row, from left: Amanda Fajen Akin ’08, Jessica Czachowski ’08, Jennifer Barrenger ’08, Victoria Sivers ’07, Andrea Tucker ’07 and Ford Barber ’09. The couple resides in Charleston, S.C.

Erin Brennan ’06 and James Jacobsen were married July 13 at the Venetian in Garfield, N.J. Alumni in attendance included, front row, from left: Shane Hogan ’06, Will Boylan ’06, Kevin Pytel ’06, Pam Lubowsky ’06, Larry Clever ’06, the bridegroom and bride. Pictured back row, from left: Michael Crowley ’06, Kyle Kenny ’06, Gregory Crandell ’06, Valerie Kahn Meltz ’06, Cassandra Beal ’06, Jessica Leo Kenny ’06, Nicholas Lotito ’06, Jamie Messineo Hogan ’07 and Stephanie Foreman Lotito ’06. Erin is an event planner. The couple resides in Pearl River.

Jenna Marchetta ’08 and Christopher Mack ’08 were married Jan. 21, 2012, in Utica. They were joined at the reception by several alumni. Pictured top row, from left: Jeff Frenzel ’07, Scott Stevens ’08, Dan Wentworth, Brendan Lennon ’10, Dan Gatto ’07, Chris Mosca ’08, Colin Kennedy ’06, Greg Mastrianni ’09 and Josh Cornue ’08. Pictured middle row, from left: John Haugh ’96, Tony Thai ’10, Michael Griffin ’10, Michael Marchetta ’10, Jimmy Kari ’10, Mike Fernandez ’07, Josh Drumm ’08, Anthony Labozetta ’08 and Phil Caban ’05. Pictured bottom row, from left: Maryl Haney ’08, Lindsey Colello ’08, Kate Fruscione ’08, Hillary Gally ’08, Christopher Mack ’08, Jenna Marchetta Mack ’08, Melanie Kane ’08, Alison LaRocca ’08, Kelli Mosca and Allison Kleber ’08. Jenna recently completed her master’s degree in school counseling and Chris is a designer for Four Seasons. The couple resides in Rochester.

Jessica Zalesny ’09 and Ford Barber ’09 were married in June 2010 at the Dutchess Golf and Country Club in Poughkeepsie. Pictured back row, from left: Mike Symons ’10, Matt Peirson ’09, Dustin Quinn ’09, Steven Akin ’08 and Gary Sutton ’08. Pictured middle row, from left: Amanda Fajen Akin ’08, the bride, the bridegroom, Jessica Barber ’09, Chelsey Hammond ’08, Jillian Johnson ’10, Jenn Barrenger ’08, Ryan Pregent ’09 and Nicole Bishopric ’09. Pictured front row, from left: Christine Lucas ’09, Mariana Bartonicek ’09 and Katie Rose ’08. The couple resides in Pleasant Valley.
Ella Lindsley Arnold ’33 of Fulton passed away Aug. 11 at the age of 99. She taught in a one-room country school near Bowens Corners and in Schroeppel. She was the first kindergarten teacher at the Cleveland Elementary School. Ella is survived by a son, a daughter, four grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Anna White Howell ’34 of Port Byron passed away May 29, 2011. She taught in the Port Byron School District for more than 40 years, retiring in 1975. Anna is survived by a daughter.

Merva Martz Walsh ’37 of Camden died July 4. She taught for several years before raising a family. After her children were all in school, she tutored homebound students. Merva is survived by two daughters and four grandchildren.

Helen Williams Cornell ’40 of Jamesville died June 17. She was a teacher for 26 years. She taught in California and Monroe County, and retired from the Fayetteville-Manlius School District. Helen is survived by a daughter, a son and two grandchildren. She was predeceased by her sister, Verna Faulkner ’36.

Dorothy Kiola Williams Gantt ’41 of Arlington, Va., died March 11. During World War II, she worked as a secretary in the War Department, office of the quartermaster general, in Washington, D.C. In the summer of 1944, Dottie returned to Oswego and worked at the Emergency Refugee Shelter at Fort Ontario. Dottie retired from the U.S. Court of Military Appeals in 1972. She helped to establish the Northern Virginia Senior Olympics in 1982. She and her husband, Charlie, participated for 18 years, winning gold medals in dance, tennis and walking. Surviving are a son, two daughters, nine grandchildren, 12 great-grandchildren and five great-great-grandchildren.

Howard Mumford ’46 of Fayetteville, Ga., died April 29. He served with the U.S. Army during World War II. Howard was a teacher, counselor, assistant principal and principal in the Atlanta Public Schools for 42 years. Surviving are his wife, Barbara; two daughters and five grandchildren.

Norman Gurley ’48 of Niagara Falls passed away April 18. He is survived by three children, seven grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

William Jewett ’48 of St. Augustine, Fla., passed away Dec. 19, 2011. He was predeceased by his wife, Agnes, on Jan. 13, 2011.

Robert Sweet ’48 of Phoenix, Ariz., died July 9. In 1965, Bob founded Universal Technical Institute in Phoenix with 11 students and two classrooms. Today the company has 11 campuses across the country and more than 16,000 students. Bob retired from UTI in 1991. He is survived by his wife, Bobbie; 10 children; and 18 grandchildren.

Betty Henderson Kenyon ’49 of Freeville passed away June 25. She earned a master’s degree at SUNY Cortland. She was an elementary school teacher and later a mathematics coordinator during her 41-year career, with the majority of it spent in the Groton Central School District. Betty retired in 1991. She is survived by two brothers, Bernie and Allen.

Elizabeth Kettel Vomacka ’49 of Largo, Fla., passed away April 12. Prior to raising her family, she taught third grade in Valley Stream. She returned to the workforce as a teaching assistant at Garden City Preschool, and went on to become a lead teacher in Nassau County’s first day care facility. Elizabeth then worked as a recertification classifier until she retired. Her husband, John ’49, predeceased her Feb. 8. Surviving are two sons, a daughter and a grandson.

John Vomacka ’49 of Largo, Fla., passed away Feb. 8. He served in the U.S. Army. John was an educator in the New York City Public School System for more than 25 years. John was survived by his wife, Elizabeth Kettel ’49, who passed away on April 12. Surviving are two daughters, a daughter and a grandson.

Henri Floch ’50 of Phoenix, N.Y., passed away July 3. He was a veteran of the Korean War. Henri taught in the Phoenix Central School District for more than 38 years. He is survived by his wife, Doris Burkle ’52; three daughters; and two great-grandchildren.

Leland Salsbury ’50 of Brewerton died Aug. 19. He served with the Army Air Force during World War II. Leland earned his master’s degree at New York University. He taught at Spring Valley High School and worked 38 years as an electrical engineer at General Electric. Surviving are his wife, Johanna; a son; three stepchildren; and four grandchildren.

Kenneth Jahelka ’52 of Melbourne Beach, Fla., died Feb. 13. He earned his master’s degree at Hofstra University. Kenneth worked in the Levittown Public School District for 30 years, beginning in 1957 as an industrial arts teacher. He retired in 1987 as the director of industrial arts and vocational education. Surviving are his wife, Mary Thomson ’52; three children, Judith Kur ’74, Laura Fleming, and Kenneth; nine grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

Arthur Rogers ’52 of Denver, Colo., passed away Sept. 3. He received his master’s degree from SUNY Buffalo in 1962. Arthur started his teaching career in Canastota from 1952 to 1954. He taught in Newark from 1954-1956. He taught in the Niagara Falls City School District from 1956 until his retirement. Surviving are his wife, Gertrude Rochelle ’54; two daughters; two sons; and five grandchildren.

Rosalyn Reeves Snow ’52 of Memphis, N.Y., died Aug. 17, 2010. She was a substitute teacher for many years in the West Genesee and Baldwinsville School Districts. She was co-owner of Snow’s Egg Farm in Warners. Rosalyn is survived by her husband, Gerald; a son; a daughter; and three grandchildren.

Margaret LeRoy Ellis ’53 of Oswego died Aug. 9. She taught in Baldwinsville for three years and was a substitute teacher in the Oswego City School District for more than 30 years. Surviving are two daughters; two sons; a sister, Marilyn Kindle ’52; a brother; and six grandchildren.

Henry Straub ’53 of Penn Yan died March 23, 2009. He served with the U.S. Navy during World War II. Henry taught industrial arts at Penfield High School for 35 years. In retirement, he worked as a general contractor. Surviving are his wife, Clarinda; a son; a daughter; and two grandchildren.

Lyle Allen Boyce ’54 of Valatie died Feb. 15. He attended Syracuse University and The University at Buffalo, earning master’s degrees in school administration and special education and a doctorate in audiology. Al was instrumental in developing the program for the deaf in the Guildersville School District where he taught science and was department chair, and later became assistant principal of the Junior High School. From 1967 to 1999, Al served as superintendent of schools of the Menands School District. He is survived by his wife, Regina; three sons; a daughter; five grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; and a great-great-granddaughter.

Albert Skinner ’54 of Colorado Springs, Colo., died July 2. During the Korean War, Al served in the U.S. Naval Reserves and later spent two years on active Navy duty in the Mediterranean. He earned graduate degrees from Iliff School of Theology and Long Island University. Prior to seminary, Al was a social studies teacher and worked in the National Parks ministry. He was ordained in the United Methodist Church in 1966 and spent the majority of his ministry as a chaplain in the U.S. Army. Al served in Vietnam in 1968 and 1969. He is survived by his wife, Ann; two daughters; two granddaughters; and three great-grandchildren.

Doris Houser Tilton ’54 of North Syracuse died Dec. 18, 2011. Dorie taught in the North Syracuse School District for several years. She later embarked on a new career, working with deaf children, becoming an expert in sign language. Dorie was predeceased by her husband, Robert. Surviving are a son, a daughter and two grandchildren.

Donald Thomasson ’57 of Elma died June 22. He is survived by his wife, Grace; three children; and four grandchildren.

Marguerite Gardrell ’58 of Oakdale died Feb. 16, 2011. She received a master’s degree from Hofstra University. Marguerite taught fourth grade at Timber Point Elementary School for more than 45 years.

Mary Lynn McDonald Sincebaugh ’58 of Orlando, Fla., passed away Jan. 4, 2012. She taught in Auburn and Florida for many years. She served on the Auburn Board of Education for several years. Surviving are her husband, Gerald; a son; a daughter; and three granddaughters.
Charles Sixour '58 of Lenoir City, Tenn., died May 18. He is survived by his wife, Jeanette; four daughters; 13 grandchildren; and one great-granddaughter.

Joan Tompkins Mattison '60 of Newman, Ga., passed away Aug. 20. She earned her master’s degree at SUNY Potsdam. She taught in the Ogdensburg City School District for 32 years. Surviving are her husband, George '58, a daughter; a son; and five grandchildren.

David Weisenburger '60 of Rome passed away Feb. 27. David taught industrial arts at Rome Free Academy. He retired in 1992, but remained active with Rome Free Academy as a substitute teacher. David is survived by his wife, Nancy; a daughter and three sons.

Eleanor House Cali '61 of Oswego passed away June 6. She taught biology at Gates Chili High School until her move to Oswego. Ellie worked as a secretary at Oswego Catholic High School before taking a job at the Oswego Hospital Laboratory, a position she held for 25 years, rising to the position of county laboratory supervisor. In 1972, she and her husband, Michael '63, opened Cali’s Carriage House Florist. Ellie is survived by her husband, two sons, a daughter and 12 grandchildren.

Bonnie Pritchard '62 of Cazenovia died June 7. She taught kindergarten for 34 years in the Jamesville-Dewitt School District, retiring in 1996. Bonnie is survived by two sisters and a brother.

Vincent Savona '63, M '70 of Oswego passed away May 31. Vincent taught chemistry in Central Square and then at Oswego High School for 29 years. He is survived by his wife, Margaret Evangelist '64, and two sons, Michael '91 and Andrew '94.

Paul Scheno '63 of Pawleys Island, S.C., passed away Aug. 11. Paul was a teacher and reading specialist for more than 40 years. Surviving are his wife, Susan Roach '63; two sons; and two grandchildren.

Marjorie Tyler '63 of Hannibal died Aug. 1. She taught physical education and English at Hannibal High School. She retired as a typesetter and editor at the Brown Newspapers in Baldwinsville and had previously worked at The Palladium-Times, The Valley News and Red Creek Herald newspapers. Marjorie is survived by two brothers.

Donald Capron '64 of Gilbert, Ariz., passed away July 14. He earned a master’s degree at the University of Vermont and an MBA from San Francisco State University. Don worked for Dansk International Designs as vice president of Western Regional Operations, and as vice president of Securities Analysis at Smith-Barney Securities. After retiring, he spent three years as an associate professor of business administration at the University of Massachusetts.

Edward Finnerty '65 of Camden passed away Aug. 25. He also earned a master’s degree at Oswego. Ed taught in the Vernon-Verona-Sherrill School District for 13 years. He then worked for Harden Furniture for 25 years, retiring in 2005. He is survived by a sister, Joyce Seubert, and his aunt, Doris Brown Allen '42.

Helen Cianci Lavinio '65 of Southampton passed away May 11.

Patricia Johnson Diehl '66 of Rochester died Aug. 15, 2009. She began her career as an elementary teacher at Park Road Elementary in Pittsford and retired as a guidance counselor at Pittsford-Mendon High School. Patricia is survived by her husband, William; a daughter; and two grandchildren.

Russell Hassler '67 of Newark died Oct. 26, 2011. He is survived by his wife, Christine Doyle '70; two sons; and two granddaughters.

Gail Goodman Wright '71 of Hicksville died Aug. 29. She is survived by three children.

Mary Bucher '74 of Canton passed away June 6. She earned master’s degrees from SUNY Albany and St. Lawrence University. Mary worked as a librarian at SUNY Canton for 35 years. She is survived by five brothers.

Bennie Lee Walker '74 of Brookline, Mass., died July 17, 2011. He was a retired assistant headmaster at Snowden International High School. Surviving are three daughters, a son and three grandchildren.

Irene Goldman Gilman '75 of Oswego passed away Aug. 17. She worked at the Oswego Hospital Mental Health Unit, was director of the New York State Migrant Head Start Program and most recently was a substitute teacher in the Oswego City School District. Irene was predeceased by her husband, Kevin '74. She is survived by a sister. Donations in Irene’s memory may be made to the P. Kevin Gilman '74 and Irene Goldman Gilman '75 Memorial Scholarship at 215 Sheldon Hall, SUNY Oswego, Oswego, NY 13126.

William Musacchio '76, M ’78 of Oswego passed away March 19. He is survived by his wife, Janet, and a son.

David Bennett '77 of Kalispell, Mont., passed away June 20. He worked for the U.S. Forest Service as a forest firefighter, and was a member of the Inter-regional Hotshot crew. David is survived by his wife, Becky; two children; and three grandchildren.

Ruth Nolan Mulford '77 of Ronkonkoma died Sept. 12. She was employed at Oswego County BOCES from 1970 to 2000, and had been the regional vice president for the Long Island/Metro region of the Association of Builders and Contractors since 2000.

Regina Whiteside '79 of Syracuse died May 10. She earned a master’s degree in deaf education and sign language interpreting at Gallaudet University. Regina was an American Sign Language interpreter, taught sign language at Onondaga Community College for more than 20 years and was an elementary school teacher of the deaf.


Joseph Klapkowski '83 of Highland Falls died March 3. He was a financial analyst with Valley National Bank in New York City. Joseph is survived by his wife, Mary Elizabeth; two sons; and two daughters.

Richard O'Brien '83 of West Babylon passed away Sept. 29, 2010. He is survived by his wife, Katherine, and a daughter.

Joan Mathieu '85 of Redding, Calif., passed away June 28. She is survived by her husband, Don Mathieu, Emeritus Professor of History.

Mario Caruso '88 of Brewerton died Dec. 19, 2009. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army. Mario was a retired hair stylist and the owner of Caruso’s Imperial Coiffures at Imperial Gardens. He is survived by two sisters and two brothers.

Kathleen Deugaw ‘97 of Colton passed away June 9, 2011.

Linda Day ‘00, M ’10 of Sandy Creek passed away Sept. 12. She earned a master’s degree at Syracuse University. Linda previously taught at Immokalee High School in Immokalee, Fla. She is survived by two sons.

Chad Kelly ‘05 of Fulton died July 23 at Al Udeid Air Base in Qatar while doing contract work for the Department of Defense. Chad served with the U.S. Army from 2006 to 2010 and served in Iraq from August 2007 to October 2008. He was currently employed by MacAuley-Brown. Surviving are his parents, Herbert “Butch” and Donna, and his girlfriend, Lauren.

Edward McNally M '05 of Syracuse passed away Oct. 20. He earned a bachelor’s degree at LeMoyne in 1988 and a master’s degree at St. Mary’s Seminary in 1995. Ed was formerly the chaplain at the Hall Newman Center.

Jonathan Rothwell ’09 of Fayetteville passed away May 13. He is survived by his parents, Dickson and Carol; a brother, Matthew; and a sister, Joy.

Brent Pangburn ‘12 of Lisle passed away July 19. He is survived by his parents, Doug and Jody; a daughter; and a sister.

J. Michael Adams, professor of technology at Oswego from 1972 to 1984 passed away June 21. He was the president of Fairleigh Dickinson University for more than a decade before his retirement in May. He was the president of the International Association of University Presidents. While at Oswego, Michael earned the Chancellor’s Award for Teaching Excellence. Michael earned his bachelor’s degree from Illinois State University, a master’s degree from the University of Illinois and his Ph.D. from Southern Illinois University. He is survived by his wife, Susan; two daughters; a son; and four grandchildren.
Sandy and Mr. Mangrove

Neither oaths, nor sciences
Or man’s stratagem
Dared to halt her fury and rancor.
Before her fierce raid,
She rallied the towering of the ocean,
Emboldening her measure,
Inflating her lungs;
Her bloated cheeks
Gusting the wind
Rushing the monster waves to shore.
there she was, Sandy the savage lover
Lingering, wrecking, taunting.
The tide bursted, ripped free.
Flood, deluge, everywhere!
Then came night;
A tenebrous abyss
Filled the latitude.
And souls espoused nothingness,
The unknown and dark spirits of the elements.
Trees and prides hitherto tall and mighty
Thereon surrendered hubris and heightening.
Fear, tears, anger
Simmering in the torments of the night.
Sneers, curses and prayers
Met with deaf ears.
Mayhem reigns everywhere.
The tempest roars with no yield or pity.
Apocalypse seemed impending.
Sandy the furious nymph,
With her veils, her wretched kisses and rough kicks
Shattering pines, oaks and elms …
Abruptly, she veered to court Mr. Mangrove.
Oohh! Mr. Mangrove!!! She mocked.
Mr. Mangrove, a stern and robust timber
With luring brow.
Sandy paused, stared and stormed with vigor.
The Stoic Tree defied the strike.
In time, the fearless lover, tamed and beguiled
Unwinded her fury and lust
At the shrine of the wooden Centaure.

Eli Fleurant ’76
October 29, 2012
Your gift to The Fund for Oswego has an immediate impact on students like me.

When we call you, please say “Yes!” and join the action!

Thank you for your generosity!
Dr. John Demidowicz, professor emeritus of Spanish, liked to play a little joke on the first day of class. He would let a golf ball slip out of his pocket and tell the students, in Spanish of course, that he was on the golf course when he remembered he had to teach. “You ruined a great game,” he would say.

Invariably, they would laugh, and that was just what he wanted. “A burst of laughter is like an unexpected quiz,” he says. “It shows they understand.”

For Demidowicz, humor was the first of four ingredients essential in every class, followed by mastery of the subject matter, awakening students’ confidence and potential, and planting the seed of continuing with the language.

He believes the classroom is a two-way street. “You inspire the students, impart the knowledge, but they also have to inspire you,” he says. “Mutual respect is key.”

He earned his bachelor’s degree from Seton Hall University and a master’s from Middlebury College, where he studied abroad in Madrid. He earned a doctorate at University of Madrid followed by four years at the University of Paris.

Demidowicz joined the Oswego faculty in 1965 and taught for 32 years, retiring in 1997. And while the classroom was the center of his life, he served on a host of committees, including the departmental curriculum committee, where he developed Spanish 340-341, “Masterpieces of Spanish Literature.” A delegate to Faculty Assembly, he also served as chair of the Spanish department.

A highlight of his career was directing Oswego’s study-abroad program at Madrid, which he did for 10 summers. “It was a tremendous experience,” he says. “You saw the students in a whole different environment.”

Two unforgettable moments marked his teaching career. In April 1994, a group of students surprised him, presenting him with a plaque in appreciation of his teaching. Several years later, upon his retirement, a group would fete him at a party in the International Center, singing a song in Spanish. “It was a tender moment,” he says.

Retirement has allowed time to pursue his scholarly interests. In 2007 he presented a paper on the Spanish writer Conde de las Navas — the subject of his dissertation — at the renowned Ateneo Library in Madrid. He was invited by the writer’s great-grandson. He also has published two articles in the literary journal, Isidora.

His pursuit of his passion for Spanish led to another important part of his life. He met his wife, Maria, in Madrid, and the two were married 50 years ago this year.

He cherishes his family, Maria and their son, Robert. The centerpiece of his life in retirement is their grandson, Eric, an avid golfer who spends his summers in Oswego with John and Maria.

The couple loves to travel and a highlight was a 2010 trip to Germany, Austria and Hungary, a cultural and religious pilgrimage which included the Passion Play at Oberammergau. They also travel to the Shaw Festival at Niagara-on-the-Lake each summer.

Wherever their travels take them, they always return to Oswego and their home across the street from the college that was central to John’s career. “This was my life and it was a good life. There was laughter and tears, but I don’t regret anything,” he says.

— Michele Reed