you were involved then . . .

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Being involved in campus life was part of what made your Oswego experience so memorable. Why not capture those feelings of connection and camaraderie again . . . by actively participating in your Oswego Alumni Association?

- Share your career advice with current students through the Alumni Sharing Knowledge Program.
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- Or contact us with your own ideas for involvement.

After all, you are the heart of your Alumni Association and we need you!

Web site: http://oswegoalumni.oswego.edu

Kendis Gibson ’94, right, entertainment anchor with CNN Headline News, speaks to students in a communication studies class as part of the Alumni-in-Residence program.
Picturing Women’s Lives 12
Dr. Geraldine Forbes studies what photos of India’s women reveal about their lives.

Renewing Oswego 14
Some buildings are finished, others just begun as Oswego continues campus renewal.

Faces of Philanthropy SPECIAL SECTION
Giving to Oswego wears many faces. Meet our generous donors in the 2002-2003 Honor Roll of Appreciation

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ON THE COVER:
Faculty Master Jay Button, right, spends some time with Johnson Hall residents, from left, freshmen Julius Wood, Matt Rashford, Zeida Muñoz, Sheldon Wong and Lauralee Tucker.

Cover photography by Dan Distler, Distler Communications
FROM THE OSWEGO ●President’s Desk

Autumn is the most beautiful time of year on the Oswego campus, and we’ve all had plenty of chances to enjoy it while gathering for some important occasions. First we had the rededication ceremony for our new home for the School of Business, then the grand reopening of Johnson Hall after extensive renovation. In October we broke ground for the Campus Center, the first new construction on our lakeside campus in over 30 years, and officially opened the new Penfield Library café, a cozy spot for students, faculty, staff and visitors to relax with good friends or a great book.

And while new buildings and modern renovations are exciting, what’s really going through my mind as I officiate at these festive beginnings is this: How great all of this is for our students! For the real purpose of our campus renewal is to better serve our students, now and in the future. We are moving ever closer to our vision of Oswego as a learner-centered institution. The advanced technology classrooms in the School of Business, the meeting spaces in Johnson, the convolution areas in the Campus Center and yes, even the comfy chairs in the library café are more than just beautiful spaces, exciting technology and amenities. They are a means to an end, and that end is an excellent educational experience for Oswego students. We want to create for our students the best atmosphere possible in which to learn and grow, both academically and socially.

That’s where our generous donors come in — benefactors recognized in our Honor Roll of Appreciation. Your philanthropy has helped make these renovations and construction possible. Your gifts allow Oswego to grow and excel. Your generosity has made us one of the best public colleges in the Northeast. For all you do for Oswego and our students, allow me to offer a very sincere “Thank you!”

Deborah F. Stanley
President

FROM THE EDITOR’S PEN

In every issue of Oswego, you can read about fellow alumni who are doing great things — winning awards, working against diseases like AIDS, creating art, music and books, teaching the next generation and leading businesses. In Class Notes you can read the news sent in by alumni in all walks of life. Sometimes it may be a new baby, a new house or a new career. Other times it’s a retirement after a fulfilling life in the classroom or the world of commerce. Still others write in with a shout out to old friends or a remembrance of the wind and snow on campus. I think it’s vital to remember that all alumni are important to Oswego. And if your face isn’t on the cover of an issue, your accomplishments as well as your dreams and aspirations are still in your alma mater’s heart. So this issue of Oswego is dedicated to all of you — the 54-year-old teacher and mother, the 23-year-old junior account executive, the 20-year-old paralegal in between. This is your publication and Oswego is your abiding home. Write home often and let us know how you’re doing!

Michele Reed
Oswego editor
O'Connor’s ‘Buffalo Soldiers’ premieres

Roberta O’Connor ’82, associate professor of English writing arts, got the Hollywood treatment at the premiere of “Buffalo Soldiers,” the movie based on his award-winning first novel of the same name. In July, he attended the premiere at Loew’s in New York City and later joined stars Joaquin Phoenix, Anna Paquin and Shiek Mahmod-Bey at an after-party at Elaine’s. The next day, he and director Gregor Jordan did a reading at The Housing Project, a bookstore that donates its proceeds to help homeless people with HIV/AIDS.

The dark comedy dealing with corruption in the peacetime Army in 1980s Germany is meeting with mixed reactions, says the author. Its cynical portrayal of the military is getting some negative reviews at home — the New York Daily News called the film “far too dark and violent to be funny” — while it did well overseas. Philip French in England’s Observer said, “It touches painfully on the canker that infects peacetime military life, and any institution that continues too long unchallenged.” The Guardian called it “a very nasty, tasty film, tightly and energetically put together, over which hangs a fume of cynicism like petrol.” The movie was nominated in five categories for the British Independent Film Awards.

The film was the darling of the Toronto Film Festival in 2001 but its release was postponed in the post-Sept. 11 atmosphere. O’Connor feels the subject matter is “now even more timely. We are now an occupation army and [the movie] details another time when we were an occupation army.”

The movie and its author enjoyed a recent Oswego premiere, with proceeds going to support the English writing arts program.

Best Northeastern Colleges includes SUNY Oswego


On behalf of the entire Princeton Review and our selection committee, please know that it was a great pleasure reviewing your school’s credentials; you have much to brag about!” the author, Robert Franek, wrote to President Deborah F. Stanley in August.

The Princeton series features student opinion. “Each college had to meet two criteria,” Franek said. “First, it had to meet our criteria for academic excellence within its region. Second, we had to be able to survey its students anonymously.”

Student comments about Oswego range from “good internship and foreign exchange programs” and “It seems like almost everyone gets along” to “the lake-effect snow is horrible” and “there are kinks in every school and this definitely applies for Oswego.”

SUNY Oswego also appears in America’s Best Colleges, released each year in August by U.S. News and World Report. The guide includes Oswego this year in its third tier of best master’s level universities in the northern region. Oswego’s company there includes Brockport, Cortland, Oneonta, Plattsburgh and Purchase among SUNY campuses.

It was a taste of student talent when Tyler Art Gallery opened its fall exhibition season with “Fast Food Illustrated,” featuring student work inspired by Eric Schlosser’s bestseller Fast Food Nation. The 42 illustrations focused on different aspects of the book, which was selected for campus-wide reading under the Oswego Reading Initiative. From left are creations by Jillian Beroza, Anthony Candela, Jin Wook Gha and Stephen Hansen. The exhibit was just one part of the ORI activities, which included an opening convocation featuring John Sutter, publisher of The Villager, a community newspaper that covers the area around Ground Zero in New York City, discussing advocacy journalism.
The Oswegonian shows in national competition

The Oswegonian is one of the top student newspapers in the nation, the Society of Professional Journalists announced Sept. 18.

At the society’s annual conference in Tampa, the ‘Gonian took second place for Best All-Around Non-Daily Student Newspaper (published less than twice a week) in SPJ’s Mark of Excellence Awards for outstanding student journalism during 2002. The Sentinel at North Idaho College placed first in that category.

The Oswegonian was one of just two colleges in New York to pick up an award at the national level this year. A student at Ithaca College placed third in the In-Depth Reporting category.

Before reaching the national competition, students placed first in SPJ’s regional competitions, which were judged in the spring. The Oswegonian was named the best non-daily student newspaper in the highly competitive Northeast region, a first for any SUNY newspaper.

This year’s competition drew nearly 2,700 entries in 45 categories for print, radio, television and online collegiate journalism. ●

Correction

Walter Snyder ’42 wrote in to thank Oswego for the article about his “Legacy of Learning” (p. 9, Summer 2003), and to clear up some misconceptions. His father studied algebra and Latin in a small rural school after completing the eighth grade. Walter has established annuities at Alfred University and a school for Native American children. As a member of the Avoca-Wallace Lions, his highest office is secretary, which he holds now.

Tuition increases at SUNY schools

This summer the SUNY Board of Trustees approved the first increase in undergraduate tuition in seven years.

The new tuition schedule included an increase in undergraduate tuition of $950 per year for New York state residents and an increase of $2,000 per year for out-of-state undergraduates. Tuition for in-state undergraduates is now $4,350 per year and out-of-state undergraduate tuition is $10,000.

“While I realize such news is not welcome,” President Deborah F. Stanley wrote to students and families this summer, “it is important to remember that even with this additional charge, SUNY still has among the lowest tuition and fees of any public institution in the Northeast.

“The added tuition makes up for the unfortunate loss of state tax-dollar funding, allowing SUNY to maintain its tradition of strong, high-quality programs at what continues to be a tremendous value. At SUNY Oswego, it makes it possible for us to maintain a vital learner-centered environment.”

“The financial impact of the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11 and the national recession have imposed significant budget constraints on our state, and has made a tuition increase necessary,” said SUNY Chancellor Robert L. King.

“New tuition levels at the State University of New York continue to represent a tremendous value, especially when compared with tuition levels of institutions in neighboring states,” said King.

At the State University of New York tuition alone, and tuition combined with mandatory fees, is below the levels of comparable institutions from neighboring New England and Mid-Atlantic states, such as Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Delaware, New Jersey, Maryland and many of the Big Ten schools. ●

Oswego’s second Return to Oz reunion for alumni of color, held in September 2002, won a Judge’s Citation from the SUNY Council on University Affairs and Development. Shown with the award certificate are Betsy Oberst (center), director of alumni and parent relations; Howard Gordon ’74 (right), executive assistant to the president and special assistant for social equity; and Monico Soto ’72 (left), diversity admission and retention counselor. Gordon and Soto were key members of the committee that planned the award-winning reunion. Also winning SUNY/CUAD awards were Oswego alumni magazine and the college’s annual report.
Oswego spearheads project to help train, assess future teachers

A NEWLY AWARDED FEDERAL GRANT to be managed by Dr. Suzanne Weber of SUNY Oswego and Dr. John Porter of SUNY System Administration will help State University teacher education programs enhance the training and assessment of future classroom teachers.

A three-year $682,769 grant from the federal Fund for the Improvement of Post-secondary Education will support collaboration between the 15 SUNY institutions that prepare teachers and SUNY System Administration to develop and implement a new system to assess the ability of prospective teachers to help K-12 students learn.

The goal is to enhance beginning teacher competency and SUNY teacher education programs across the state, said Weber, associate dean of SUNY Oswego’s School of Education. SUNY prepares about 25 percent of the more than 20,000 new teachers recommended by colleges and universities for certification in New York state each year.

The project will develop a well-rounded assessment model that can help judge and predict what makes a successful teacher more effectively than standardized test scores can, Weber said. “This is about teachers knowing the subject matter, and it’s especially about predicting whether teachers can engage children in learning,” she said.

“One of the top goals in the No Child Left Behind Act is to make sure students nationwide continue to have the most highly qualified teachers possible,” said Congressman John M. McHugh, of New York’s 23rd Congressional District. “This grant is great news for New York students, making sure teachers graduating from SUNY schools throughout the state are the best at what they do.”

The 15 participating campuses are the universities at Albany, Binghamton, Buffalo and Stony Brook and the colleges at Brockport, Buffalo, Cortland, Fredonia, Geneseo, New Paltz, Old Westbury, Oneonta, Oswego, Plattsburgh and Potsdam.

The federal FIPSE grant will finance 41 percent of the State University’s initiative in teacher education assessment. The 15 campuses are sharing the remaining 59 percent of the project costs, or $984,016.

What better way to salute a beloved music professor than by a concert in his honor? That’s just what the StateSingers and Solid State alumni did in September to mark the retirement of Stan Gosek, longtime director of the groups. Here from left, Julie Nitschke Shaver ’01, Lilly Sweeting ’99 and Dani Gottuso-Boudov ’98, organizer of the weekend, belt out a tune, backed up by other members of the “Stan Generation.” On hand for the concert, the finale of a weekend reunion for the jazz alumni, were former directors of the groups, Solid State founder Dr. Hugh Burritt, Dr. James “Doc” Soluri and Dr. Jerry Exline.

Update Your Address Book!

The Office of University Development has moved into historic Sheldon Hall. The Office of Alumni and Parent Relations will remain in King Alumni Hall.

Here’s how to reach us:

University Development
100 Sheldon Hall, SUNY Oswego, Oswego, NY 13126
Phone: 315-312-3003
Fax: 315-312-6389
E-mail: Give2@oswego.edu

Alumni and Parent Relations
King Alumni Hall, 300 Washington Blvd., Oswego, NY 13126
Phone: 315-312-2258
Fax: 315-312-5570
E-mail: alumni@oswego.edu
Web site: http://oswegoalumni.oswego.edu
Hot coffee, hot topics at Penfield

Remember the old cliché of the librarian, finger to her lips, sshhhing patrons into silence with a stern look? Put that stereotype on the shelf.

At Penfield Library’s new café, the librarians are encouraging talk. In fact they’re hosting a whole series of talks this fall aimed at bringing college and community folks together to discuss some interesting topics.

The discussion series opened Oct. 15 with Psychology Professor Dorothy Shedlock speaking on “Wisdom: What Is It?” Faculty, students and community members sipped coffee and listened to Shedlock’s presentation, then gathered in small groups to carry on the discussion over more java and goodies.

Also on the agenda for the Wednesday afternoon sessions were Biology Professor Peter Rosenbaum talking about the bog turtle in a session titled “North America’s Smallest Turtle,” Communication Studies Professor and Chair Fritz Messere ’71 addressing the question of “Who Should Own the Media?” and award-winning author Bruce Coville ’73 discussing “Audiobooks: Literature Returns to Its Roots in the Spoken Word.” Professor of Marketing and Management Jim Molinari ’75 wound up the series with his presentation on “The School of Business: Moving Forward.”

“It is a good way to bring people from the community onto campus and into the library and give them a sense of what the faculty are working on,” said Mary Beth Bell, director of libraries. “For example, this could provide retired people an interesting way to spend an afternoon, something a little different than the average day.”

The original suggestion for the series came from Frances Moroney Whited ’44, who shared the idea of “Mornings with the Professors,” a popular program at SUNY Brockport. Interim Provost David King is credited with making the Penfield series a reality.

“He asked me if I thought the café would be a good venue for a series like that, and I thought it was the perfect idea,” Bell said.

Electric cars on campus

Bill Hammond of the college’s building and grounds department lays out an athletic field while standing next to one of five electric cars recently donated to the college to spark environmentally friendly operations while cutting costs. DaimlerChrysler and the New York Power Authority donated a total of 130 Global Electric Motorcars to 26 SUNY campuses. The vehicles are expected to reduce polluting emissions and save on fuel, when they are used to augment the college’s maintenance vehicles.
Computing without a wire

Oswego students and faculty will discover an increased ability to use wireless computers in some renovated classrooms and common areas, thanks to a partnership between Verizon and the campus Instructional Technologies office.

Verizon donated an engineering site survey of Rich Hall that ensured that the areas of the building developed as wireless will work correctly and helped to train campus workers to do similar set up work in the future. The donation of services is estimated to be in excess of $50,000.

Classrooms in Rich Hall, the recently renovated home of Oswego’s School of Business, were part of the first phase of a project that will increase the number of places on campus allowing wireless access for computers. It was followed by the renovated Johnson Hall lobby and lounge and the new café in Penfield Library. Plans call for all academic common areas undergoing renovation or construction in the future to accommodate wireless access.

Mary Schoeler, Oswego’s chief technology officer, noted that the wireless initiative is a part of the college’s Engagement 2000 strategic plan and its goal to strengthen campus use of technology in support of student learning. It also encourages students to become fluent in the most modern tools to become better prepared for future endeavors.

India honors Dr. Chaudhari

In June, Professor Emeritus of Physics Ram Chaudhari was honored by the government of India at the seventh World Hindi Conference in Surinam for his “invaluable contributions for the cause of the Hindi language and literature.” As one of 15 scholars from 15 different countries, Chaudhari was the only American honored. Since its inception in 2000, he has served as the executive director of the World Hindi Foundation and has been editor-in-chief of its publications. Hindi is the official language of India. Dr. Chaudhari also supports three projects at his birthplace of Bhulpur, including a middle school, a medical dispensary and the Rural Center for Science Culture. The RCSC has been supported by a Rotary Foundation grant secured through the help of Professor Emeritus Richard Shineman.

What’s the mysterious creature spotted in Glimmerglass Lagoon? A Glimmer-Gator? Karen McCarty, a local resident out for a walk on campus, stops to watch the mechanical alligator introduced to keep geese from nesting near the shore.
Baseball

Oswego State once again had a winning spring season with several players earning honors for their efforts both on the field and in the classroom.

Catcher Dave Johnson ’05 (North Chili/Churchville-Chili) and second baseman Dan Vaccio ’04 (Rochester/Greece Athena) were both named 2003 Verizon Academic All-District 1 College Division Baseball Team. They are the first Oswego State students to garner that recognition.

On the field the Lakers compiled a 16-11 record. Dan Bartel ’04 (Lancaster) and Bob Farrell ’03 (Oswego) were both named First Team All-SUNYAC, with Johnson and Eric Garippa ’03 (Hoosick Falls) selected to the second team. Garippa tied for second on the team in wins and had a 14-strikeout performance against Plattsburgh.

Garrit Tallini ’04 (Durhamville/V-V-S) was named NCAA Division III ABCA/Rawlings New York Region Third Team. He led the Lakers in hitting with a .418 average while also leading the team in hits (41), runs (38) and stolen bases (18).

Golf

The Lakers opened the spring campaign in fine fashion as they captured the Hamilton College Invitational. Oswego State recorded a total of 323, one stroke better than the host Continentals. JP Myers ’04 (Fulton/G. Ray Bodley) earned medallist honors with a round of 76 at the par 71 Skenandoa Country Club in Clinton.

Next up for the golfers was a trip to Hershey, Pa., to participate in the NCAA Division III Mid-Atlantic Region Invitational held at the Hershey Country Club’s East Course. Myers, who recorded a two-day total of 152, earned medallist honors with a round of 76 at the par 71 Skenandoa Country Club in Clinton. Myers, who recorded a two-day total of 161 over the very demanding course, once again led the team in wins (41), runs (38) and stolen bases (18).

Outdoor Track and Field

The outdoor season was highlighted by junior Susan McWilliams ’04 (Central Square/Mexico) as she earned All-American honors in the 3,000-meter steeplechase. She was also crowned a SUNYAC champion in the event and participated in the prestigious Penn Relays in Philadelphia.

Deb Richards ’04 (Oswego) won the long jump at the SUNYAC Championships and Jessica Adam ’06 (Dover, N.H./St. Thomas Aquinas) took first in the discuss. As a team, the Lakers placed third.

On the men’s side, Rich Friedrich ’04 (Goshen) capped his Laker career by winning the 1,500 meters.

Jeff Beck ’04 (Fairport) had a strong spring campaign as he set school records at the 5,000 and 10,000 meter distances. He also

Men’s Lacrosse

The Lakers just missed out on qualifying for the SUNYAC Tournament based on a tiebreaker. Scott Ferguson ’04 (Ronkonkoma/Connetquot) had a huge season for Oswego State, scoring 42 goals and 10 assists. He now has 111 career goals, putting him 32 shy of setting a new school record. Ferguson was also a First Team All-SUNYAC selection.

Dave Pavlik ’04 (Port Crane/Chenango Forks) was also named First Team All-SUNYAC, as the versatile midfielder led the team in ground ball, face-offs and contributed with 11 points.

Brian Dautchir ’03 (Auburn) capped his Laker career in fine fashion, recording 28 goals and 19 assists. He finished his career as the school’s sixth all-time leading scorer with 147 points.

Women’s Lacrosse

Oswego State qualified for a pair of tournaments this past spring earning spots in both the SUNYAC and New York State Women’s Collegiate Athletic Association tournaments. The team was led by
Kat Stead ’03 (Clifton Park/Shenedehowa), as she was the team’s top scorer for the fourth straight year. Last season Stead had 55 goals and 17 assists and ended her Laker career as the school’s all-time leading scorer. In four years she tallied 221 goals and 83 assists for 304 points. She earned Brine/IWLCA New York Region First Team All-American, First Team All-SUNYAC, NYSWCAA Second Team ECAC Upstate Honorable Mention.

Katie Carbonaro ’05 (Auburn) was second on the team in scoring with 41 goals and 13 assists and earned Second Team All-SUNYAC honors.

Anchoring the defense was Liz McCarthy ’04 (Syracuse/West Genesee) as she earned a pair of postseason honors. She was named First Team All-SUNYAC and NYSWCAA Second Team.

Softball

With a young team, the Lakers gained experience on the diamond, with 13 players expected to be back in 2004. Melissa Moshetti ’05 (Vernon Center/V-V-S) led the team in batting with an average of .316, followed by Kristen Williams ’03 (Windsor) at .290. Susie Burt ’06 (Cuba/Cuba-Rushford) led the team in wins on the mound.

Nominate an alumni athlete or former coach to the Oswego Athletic Hall of Fame

Deadline: March 1, 2004

The Oswego Athletic Hall of Fame was established in 2001 to honor those persons who have made outstanding contributions to Oswego State athletics. Its purpose is to perpetuate the memory of those who have brought honor, distinction and excellence to Oswego State athletics.

If you would like to nominate an alumni athlete or former coach (living or deceased) for future consideration to the Hall of Fame, please call the Alumni Office at 315-312-2258 for a nomination form or submit online at http://oswegoalumni.oswego.edu/halloffame.

Susie Burt ’06 led the women’s softball team in wins on the mound.

Hale the new athletic director

Timothy G. Hale is the college’s new athletic director.

Hale was the associate athletic director at the University of Rochester from 1998 to 2000. He was that college’s men’s cross country and track and field head coach for 25 years, as well as a physical education teacher.

Hale comes to Oswego from his most recent position as director of athletics, physical education and health at Greece Arcadia High School in Rochester.

He has also served on the NCAA Division III Budget Committee and Championship Committee; directed the Instructional Sports Camp at the University of Rochester from 1976 to 2000; and planned and organized more than 40 conference, regional and invitational meets, including the 1980 NCAA Division III Cross Country Nationals, in his 35 years of athletic administrative experience.

Hale’s philosophy views athletics as “not just a physical activity,” but “also a medium that challenges the mind and presents experiences that require positive interactions with others,” he said.

“It is my strong belief that athletics is an integral part of a rigorous college academic environment,” Hale said. “Athletics, in all its forms, provides an avenue for expression, an opportunity for release from pressures, a means of honing competitive skills, and a chance to bring diverse groups of people together in an exciting and fun environment.”
Alumni Club Contacts

NEW YORK CLUBS

Binghamton – Margaret Clancy Darling ’82, 607-748-5125 (H)
Buffalo – Larry Coon ’83, 716-852-1321 (O), 716-873-2695 (H)
Capital District – Tammy Second Friend ’98, 518-454-2976 (O), 518-226-0347 (H), e-mail friend@strosat.net
Melissa Gannaz Mazzurk ’97, 518-339-4829 (coll), e-mail jefflandellmazz@earthlink.net
Long Island – Jessica Pristupa Hillery ’95, 631-842-8844 (H), e-mail Jess28754@cs.com
Mohawk Valley – Liz Fowler ’68, 315-337-9895 (H), e-mail efowler1@twcny.rr.com
New York City – Volunteers needed, please contact the alumni office.
Oswego – Sylvia Gaines ’76, 315-342-2662 (H), e-mail sgaines@oswego.org
Rochester – Henry Seymour ’97, 585-256-2579 (H), e-mail heymour@rochesterrc.com
Patrick Murphy ’95, 585-256-2463 (H), e-mail pattrick_murphy@yahoo.com
Syracuse – Kitty Sherlock Houghtaling ’87, 315-656-2457 (H), e-mail kbrooke@nvcc.edu

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Washington, DC – Kim Brooke ’73, 703-845-0788 (H), e-mail kirbrooke@ncce.edu

OSWEGO • Fall/Winter 2003

Club News

Club Event Notices Using E-mail

C lub events are publicized through the alumni magazine, on the Oswego Alumni Web site, through mailings as well as e-mail. If your e-mail address has changed for any reason or if you haven’t given us your e-mail address yet, please update your current information at http://oswegoalumni.oswego.edu/alumni/where.html. You may also notify our office by completing and mailing us the “Tell Us About Yourself” form on page 47. We thank you in advance for your help.

Atlanta

The Atlanta Club is collaborating with other SUNY alumni groups to expand networking possibilities and event offerings. Recent events have included monthly networking socials as well as an Atlanta Braves versus New York Mets baseball game. Upcoming event ideas include a financial seminar in November and the 3rd annual Business Card Exchange on Feb. 6. For the latest information about upcoming events in the Atlanta area, check out the club’s Web site at www.geocities.com/sunyalumniofatlanta or contact Jeffrey Travis ’89.

Boston

In August, 60 alumni from the classes of 1967 through 1999 gathered for the annual outing to Fenway Park for the Red Sox game and a rousing good time. Upcoming event ideas include a Holiday Social in December, a night at the Comedy Connection in January or February, a St. Patrick’s Day Social in March, a whale watching adventure in June or July and the annual Red Sox game in August. Watch our mail and e-mail for details on upcoming events or contact Rebecca Brown ’98 or April Spooesdor ’99.

Buffalo

The Buffalo Club gathered in September for their annual Bills game and tailgate party and are looking forward to watching the men’s Laker hockey team as they travel to Buffalo State on Nov. 14 and a Sabres game in December. Larry Coon ’83 asks Buffalo area alumni to contact him with future event ideas.

California

President Deborah Stanley is planning a trip to California in March for alumni events in San Francisco on March 23, Los Angeles on March 24 and San Diego on March 25. Watch your mail and e-mail for details.

Capital District (Albany)

Tammy Second Friend ’98 has volunteered to rejuvenate alumni activity in the Capital District area and encourages all area alumni to fill out the club survey at http://oswegoalumni.oswego.edu/albany

Dallas

Kelly Russell ’98 is interested in helping to coordinate alumni club events in and around Dallas but would like assistance from other area alumni in the form of volunteers and event ideas. If you live or would attend events around Dallas, please fill out the survey at http://oswegoalumni.oswego.edu/dallas

Florida

President Deborah Stanley is planning to travel to Florida in March for alumni events in Tampa on March 10, Fort Lauderdale area on March 12 and Naples on March 13. Watch your mail and e-mail for details. Area alumni are attempting to get more regular activities going in Tampa. If you would attend events in the Tampa area, please fill out the survey at http://oswegoalumni.oswego.edu/tampa

Houston

Tammy Moffitt Komatsinsky ’97 is attempting to get alumni activities going in Houston, Texas. If you would be willing to help plan events, have event ideas or would attend events in Houston, please fill out the survey at http://oswegoalumni.oswego.edu/houston

Long Island

Jessica Pristupa Hillery ’95 is interested in helping to coordinate alumni club events on Long Island but would like assistance from other area alumni in the form of volunteers and event ideas. If you live or would attend events on Long Island, please fill out the survey at http://oswegoalumni.oswego.edu/longisland

Mohawk Valley

Event ideas and volunteers are needed in the Mohawk Valley area of New York. If you would be willing to help plan an event or have some great event ideas, please contact the alumni office or Liz Fowler ’68.
**New York City**

The alumni office is looking for volunteers to help rejuvenate activities in the New York City area. If you live or would attend events in New York City, please fill out the survey at [http://oswegoalumni.oswego.edu/nyc](http://oswegoalumni.oswego.edu/nyc)

**North Carolina**

A group of area alumni are trying to get activities going in North Carolina. Event ideas so far include sporting events, cocktail party/mixers, a golf outing, a picnic/BBQ and more. If you live in the area or know any alumni who do, please have them fill out the online survey at [http://oswegoalumni.oswego.edu/northcarolina](http://oswegoalumni.oswego.edu/northcarolina)

**North Country**

It has been too long since an alumni event was held in northern New York, so we’re going to change that by welcoming the men’s hockey team to Potsdam on Feb. 14 and attending a night of comedy at the Lake Ontario Playhouse in Sacketts Harbor in March. Watch your mail and e-mail for details.

**Phoenix, Ariz.**

The Phoenix alumni club has reached out to other SUNY schools to try to expand fellowship and networking possibilities and in August, alumni from Oswego and Binghamton attended a Diamondbacks baseball game. Upcoming events include a return to The Monastery on Nov. 8 and the third annual luncheon early in 2004. To inquire about future events contact Andrew Brown ’94.

**Rochester**

Area alumni from the 1940s through 1990s joined President Deborah Stanley in October for a reception and tour of George Eastman House. Future events include EstroFest on Nov. 23 and Oswego hockey versus RIT on Jan. 24. If you have event ideas or would be willing to help in the Rochester area, please contact the alumni office.

**South Carolina**

In October alumni gathered in Columbia for a trip to the zoo as well as brunch at the home of Bob Sparks ’80 and in November a get-together was held in Hilton Head. In January, Oswego alumni will join alumni from other SUNY schools to attend the 21st annual Lowcountry Oyster Festival at Boone Hall Plantation in Charleston. If you have ideas for future events, please contact Sonya Nordquist Altenbach ’91 or Karen Parker ’91.

**Southern California**

A group of area alumni are attempting to get activities going in and around Los Angeles. If you live in Southern California, please fill out the survey at [http://oswegoalumni.oswego.edu/la](http://oswegoalumni.oswego.edu/la)

**Syracuse/Oswego**

Alumni from the 1940s through 2000s gathered in September for an evening of music and culture at the Everson Museum, a Skaneateles dinner cruise and a bus trip to Kingston, Ontario, for Chilifest. Watch your mail and e-mail for details on a holiday social at Coleman’s in Syracuse on Dec. 11 and events on campus. If you have other future event ideas for the Oswego/Syracuse area, please contact the alumni office.

**Washington, D.C.**

Recent events included the annual picnic in August and King Street Krawl in September. Future events include a holiday social in December and ice skating in January or February. If you have event ideas or if you would be willing to help with future events, please contact Kim Brooke ’87.

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**Save the Date**

President Stanley will host events for alumni and friends in the following cities:

- March 10 - Tampa, Fla., area
- March 12 - Fort Lauderdale/ Pompano Beach, Fla., area
- March 13 - Naples, Fla., luncheon
- March 23 - San Francisco, Calif., area
- March 24 - Los Angeles, Calif., area
- March 25 - San Diego, Calif., area

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**Plan ahead for Reunion 2005!**

**JUNE 3 - 5, 2005**

Growing up in rural Alberta, Canadian native Geraldine Forbes had a sense that everyone was an immigrant. She recalls being comfortable in a community where many languages were spoken and many cultural traditions were practiced. That background set her on a path of scholarly inquiry and public school teaching that brought her to SUNY Oswego, where she is Distinguished Teaching Professor, immediate past chair of the history department and past director of Women’s Studies.

Forbes now travels a well-worn path back to India, where her research into the historical value of late 19th- and early 20th-century photographs is supported by a Fulbright award. From October to May, Forbes will live among beloved members of her global family. “For me, with my parents gone, my longest ties, my strongest friendships, are now in India.

“The path that led me to India was set out in my western Canada school days, where we were educated as subjects of the ‘mother country,’ and taught we had a bond with little children throughout the British Empire,” Forbes says. As a Girl Guide, she dreamed of being involved in an international jamboree. When it was time for her to choose a pen pal, she exchanged letters with a young man in India.

After earning a degree in secondary education from the University of Alberta and teaching high school in Winnipeg and Nova Scotia, Forbes began work toward a master’s degree at the University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana. A professor who taught Indian history encouraged her to continue toward a doctoral degree, and she made her first visit to India in 1969.

“I remember my first night in India. Somebody took me to an all-night concert that turned out to be magical, that made me fall in love with the country. The people! They are genuinely kind, with an emotional benevolence that is striking. It is generosity of the heart.”

Focus on Women

Forbes went to India to study 19th-century intellectual history. An unexpected interview was to become the impetus of her lifelong study. Searching the streets of Calcutta for the former home of a certain intellectual, whose papers and letters she had read, she eventually was led to his property and introduced to his descendants. They sent her to meet their aunt, whom they called the “family historian.”

“At first, I only asked this woman about her father and her great uncle, intellectuals I had already studied. Then, I began to listen to this woman, really listen. She had entered an arranged marriage at age 11; but spoke English fluently and had become a prominent member of various organizations to effect social reform. In the course of our conversation, she mentioned that if I were so interested in her background, perhaps I’d like to read her memoirs.”

The 500 typed pages turned out to be a personal memoir of the woman’s life. Later it would become the first volume in Forbes’ Foremother Legacies series. Today, Forbes says her encounter with Mrs. Shudha Mazumdar represents a bend in the road of her scholarly life. Her interest in the memoirs of this exceptional matron led to the idea of studying women and their place in Indian society. That was before women’s history had emerged as a discipline, and be-
Forbes explains that her research has never been limited to libraries and archives. As she did on her first trip, she continues to visit women in their homes to interview them and in search of letters and personal records, and to look for historical documents in schools, organizations and hospitals. She became such a familiar figure in Calcutta/Kolkata and Bombay/Mumbai that people began to introduce her to interesting women and to make sure that she got to see significant artifacts, including photographs. “I am very visual. Now, I’m working just on photographs, and the Fulbright award helps me bring to fruition some work that I began more than 20 years ago.”

A Smithsonian grant in 1980 enabled Forbes to locate and study photographs from the 1930s and 1940s, a period that she calls a “transformative” time for women in India.

“So much was going on. I wanted to see what the women’s meetings and demonstrations looked like. What did women wear when they marched in the streets? How did women differentiate between their public selves and their private selves? I did not find as much archival photography as I had expected, but people began to invite me to their houses, and I discovered family albums.” In talking with the women as they interpreted images, Forbes became interested in the reconstruction of circumstances under which the photograph had been taken and the meaning given to it by the speaker. She explains what she might discover, for example, by looking at a photo of a young woman at a mission school to see whether her hair is tied back:

“Hair was a huge issue for families. Hindus begin the day with a complete bath, and for women, who do not cut their hair until they are widowed, their long wet hair is left loose until it is dry. Christian schools for girls, all run by Westerners, demanded that hair be braided or tied back. What do I see in the photo? Does the family sacrifice the religious customs so the daughter can gain education? Or do they sacrifice the education in order to follow their beliefs and to appease the older women in the household, who probably have the biggest stake in maintaining order?”

In addition to learning about daily life and conflict from the photos, Forbes is interested in studying the political and financial implications of maintaining photographic collections. “It’s increasingly difficult to find the kind of collections I had access to 20 years ago. The pressure of time, the splitting up of families, conditions of ownership, all these are factors that make it difficult to locate well-preserved collections,” Forbes says. It is usually the females of a family who are expected to put forth the labor to keep family archives, a difficult task in the heat and humidity of the tropics.

With this Fulbright research grant, sponsored by the U.S. Department of State, Forbes intends to develop a shareable archive with Colonial-period photographs she has already collected and to prepare lectures to share her findings with scholars at colleges and universities in India.

Forbes’ most recent trip to India will augment her already significant contributions to the body of knowledge on women’s history in India. As she lives in a small apartment in Calcutta among her friends, as she seeks photographs of Indian women, and as she documents the stories that go with the photographs, Dr. Forbes will be continuing a lifelong quest. She will take yet one more step on that pathway that has led from a farm in Alberta, Canada, to the streets, homes and institutions of India.
If you haven’t been back to your alma mater in a while, you’re in for a pleasant shock. Oswego is renewing its physical self more than at any time in the last 30 years.

President Deborah F. Stanley (on backhoe) is surrounded by the platform party, members of Oswego State’s hockey team and representatives of student groups to be housed in the new Campus Center, at the groundbreaking ceremonies Oct. 17.
This fall the School of Business and Johnson Hall were rededicated and Penfield Library opened its bustling new café.

A new technical support center in Lanigan Hall and a facelift to the Mahar lobby greeted students returning this September.

Ground was broken for the Campus Center, a multipurpose structure that will unite the far-flung ends of campus and create a home for a myriad of student-centered activities.

Riggs Hall is undergoing a major renovation and the college is starting to design new futures for Lakeside Dining Hall, the West wing of Sheldon Hall and the Swetman-Poucher complex.

All of this is part of Oswego's capital plan, conceived over five years ago and thoughtfully put into practice.

Oswego

Located at the heart of SUNY Oswego, the Campus Center will be a focal point for the social, recreational and intellectual lives of students.
Campus Center to Be Heart of Campus

Smack in the center of campus, SUNY Oswego broke ground this fall for the new Campus Center. The $25-million building, the first to be constructed here in over 30 years, will not only be located at the exact heart of campus, it will be the heart of the college, housing social, intellectual and recreational functions in one state of the art, exciting new home.

“This building really connects everything together,” says Director of Facilities Design and Construction Tom Simmonds ’84. He points out that the Campus Center and Swetman-Poucher complex will be located at the crossroads of campus life — literally. It connects the East-West spine linking Oswego’s two academic quads (The Sun Quad with Tyler, Mahar and Lanigan to the West and Sheldon Quad of Sheldon, Park, Wilbur and Rich halls to the East) with the North-South pathway from the Lakeside residence halls on the North to the Hart-Funnelle and New Campus complexes.

It will also feature the social spaces where students, faculty and staff can get together, formally and informally, and in the Swetman-Poucher segment, will house disciplines like English and modern languages as well as academic support functions where students can seek internships, career information and volunteer opportunities.

‘Beacon of Welcome’

Designed with lots of glass — a wall of windows will look out onto Lake Ontario — the 111,492-square-foot Campus Center will be a “beacon” of welcome, clearly visible in daylight and by night giving off a warm, welcoming glow, Simmonds says.

As conceived, the Campus Center will serve as a hub of life on campus. It will be the main drop-off point for campus, housing an information kiosk, retail space and ticket booth. A food court will provide refreshment, while a covered concourse will give respite from Oswego’s harsh winds as students traverse paths to class and dorm.

The focal point of this centerpiece building will be a convocation space, which will hold from 2,500 to 4,000 people for commencement, concerts and hockey games.

Dean of Students James Scharfenberger sees the complex including the Campus Center and Swetman-Poucher as embodying a central goal. “I hope this building will bring us back to the center — both geographically and intellectually,” he says. “Back to where we started: To educate students as citizens and professionals, academically and socially.”

Ground was broken in October, and the first phase, of relocating utilities, begun. Construction on the building will begin in the spring, and the goal is to have the facility completed by fall of 2006.

“It’s a huge project. The construction will have an impact on the entire center of campus,” said Associate Vice President for Facilities Management Jerry DeSantis. “It will be a very visible construction project.”

This fall’s groundbreaking was the culmination of years of planning. The project was conceptualized in 1998. By January 2001 the architects were on board as well as the Campus Center Steering Committee. They met with representatives of all the constituencies on campus, to ensure that the resulting building would serve all their needs, and a mission statement was developed to guide the planning.

The building is funded through a $17-million member item from State Sen. James Wright’71 and about $3 million from the university’s Capital Plan. The college will raise an additional $5 million from private donors. These funds will complete the project, adding...
equipment, accessories — “All the things to make this house a home,” says Simmonds.

He points out that some of these amenities will include technology and color “to make the spaces come alive.”

And those spaces will be less dense than in the older, traditional model of campus buildings. “This parallels what is happening in the corporate world,” says Simmonds, where managers now have their offices among other staff instead of isolated on higher floors.

In the new academic model, faculty offices will be in suites, with central spaces for informal conversations and the sharing of ideas. The entire Campus Center complex, including the Swetman-Poucher component, is aimed at getting as much interaction as possible, according to Scharfenberger. “It will be a place where faculty and students can come together comfortably, both formally and informally, on social and intellectual levels.” It will also be a place where faculty members can come together in spaces not delineated by departmental boundaries.

The Swetman-Poucher component, when completed, will include a two-story atrium, overlooking an academic commons and support services. Students will be able to access offices like Experience-Based Education, the Honors Program and the volunteer center, while faculty will find the Center for Excellence in Learning and Teaching close at hand.

Whether they come to the Campus Center to learn, to grab a bite to eat, to participate in sports or clubs, or just to gather and enjoy each other’s company, students, faculty and community members will find a vibrant atmosphere and a warm welcome at the campus’ heart — the Campus Center.

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**Help is Here!**

When students, faculty and staff have a problem with a computer or other technology service, help is now a little easier to find. This fall saw the opening of the Technology Support Center in the Lanigan 26 suite. All the technology support services — the help desk call center, ResNet and network services, computer repairs and the instructional technologies administrative support are grouped at this single location — under a single umbrella of Campus Technology Services. Campus Chief Technology Officer Mary Schoeler calls it “one stop shopping” to make getting technical help more convenient for students. “We recognize how important technology is to students now. They just want it to work,” she says. “And when they have a problem, they want to be able to report it and get it resolved as quickly as possible.”
New Students, New Hall

First year students moving in to Johnson Hall had a pleasant surprise waiting for them – accommodations rivaling, as one student put it, “a five-star hotel.”

The $14-million renovation includes a foyer with a soaring ceiling of golden pine and terrazzo floor. A sprawling deck with casual seating looks over Lake Ontario and alongside the entryway is a spacious lounge area featuring comfortable seating and a majestic stone fireplace, mimicking the stones washed up on the lakeshore. On the ground floor, a classroom complex has French doors that open onto a patio leading down onto a stretch of lawn.

A fourth floor and new roofline was added to the structure, originally built in 1958 as Oswego’s first lakeside residence hall. “The design was chosen to be more visually pleasing and to fit better with the traditional architecture of the campus,” explained Associate Vice President for Facilities Management Jerry DeSantis. To take advantage of the building’s lake view, it was oriented to face the lake instead of the road.
Each student room has data ports, bathrooms are more spacious and numerous than before, and lounges and gathering spaces are scattered throughout the building.

Creature comforts aren’t the only things that went into the renovation. Johnson, which houses 240 students, was updated with all new mechanical systems, new building furnishings, and life safety and health features like wheelchair access, sprinklers, new alarms and access control by card.

“If we were going to build a building ourselves this is the way we would build it,” said Director of Housing Chuck Weeks. “We tried to make the space so that it’s particularly usable at this point and we hope it will be flexible enough so that it’s current for years to come.” The renovation of Johnson Hall is important to Oswego’s vision of its future, he said. “It’s a clear statement of our commitment to being a residential campus.”

**More community space**

Another reason for upgrading Johnson Hall, Weeks said, is that it is home to the award-winning First Year Residential Experience. This program, which brings together the academic and student affairs areas of the college to help students succeed, creates a unique living-learning environment for students. To accommodate the First Year Experience program, the hall now has more meeting space, classrooms and lounge areas, to create a more extensive community space.

The First Year Residential Experience was begun in 1996, and has nurtured students who have gone on to be leaders in student government, editors of the *Oswegonian* and key players in campus organizations like the Black Student Union and other groups, said Kathleen Smits Evans ’84, associate dean of students and one of the co-creators of the program with Associate Provost Rhonda Mandel.

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**Two Thumbs Up!**

**By Janel Armstrong ’03**

Johnson Hall is back. Renovated and remodeled, it welcomed freshman residents for the fall 2003 semester. With state-of-the-art facilities, a new patio, built-in fireplace and newly refurbished dorm rooms, the residents of Johnson agree: They like it!

_It’s nice having a living environment that is made up of all freshmen. It’s more comfortable._

**Kareem Abednego ’07**
Major: Education
Hometown: The Bronx

_It’s a very nice building. It’s got the best people on campus._

**Denis Ladyzhensky ’07**
Major: Secondary Education
Hometown: Brooklyn

_I like the rooms and the new building. It’s nice that it’s all freshmen._

**RoseAnn Jacomo ’07**
Major: English
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_I like it. Because we’re all freshmen, it kind of puts us all in the same boat, and helps us to get along a lot better._

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She recognized those actively involved in delivery of the program now, including Assistant Dean of Students and Program Coordinator Robin McAleese ‘93 M’95; Becky Nadzadi, hall director; and Jennifer Ayotte Moran, area coordinator.

Jeannie Buddle Wiggins ‘96 MSEd ‘98 and Deb Vickery ‘94, M ’00 were hall directors in the past. The hall has a faculty master, Professor Emeritus Jay Button, and a graduate assistant, Sara Signor M ’04, who lives there full-time.

Saleem Cheeks ’01, now assistant appointments officer for the governor of New York state, is a Johnson Hall alumnus who was on hand for the rededication of his former home. “The community that exists in this building is tremendous,” he told those gathered. “The friends you make here will be not only friends throughout college, but for life.” Illustrating his point, Cheeks reunited with his freshman roommate, Scott Cunningham ’01, now residence hall director at Seneca Hall.

Megan Wheeler ’07, president of Johnson Hall, echoed Cheeks’ sentiments. “We’ve all become one big family,” she said. “Every morning I can’t wait to come down and see everyone’s smile!”

Family dedicated to students

Johnson Hall was named in 1958 for Harold B. Johnson, publisher of the Watertown Daily Times, chair of the Oswego Board of Visitors (now the College Council) and a founding member of the State Dormitory Authority. He was followed on that board by his son and now his grandson, John B. Johnson Jr., who was on hand for the September rededication of the building. He said that he was “proud to be part of the family whose vision and dedication made it possible.”

Johnson is part of a three-building complex expected to be completed by 2006. Riggs Hall is now undergoing renovations and Lakeside Dining Hall will also be refurbished to finish the project.

“This marks a real beginning for us, for a complete building renovation and sets the stage for us to renovate other buildings on campus that serve students in a residential setting,” said Dr. Joseph F. Grant Jr., vice president for student affairs and enrollment management. He said that the college was actively exploring building apartments and townhouses to add to the housing choices for students. “As students mature and want more independence, we hope to offer them more options,” he said.

‘Memory Book’ Relives First Johnson Opening

On display at the Johnson Hall rededication was a table-sized wooden scrapbook put together by the hall’s first residents in 1959, when Johnson was a women-only residence.

The introduction reads:

“The residents of Johnson Hall, June, 1959, present this book to the future women students of this our ‘home away from home.’ We hope it will serve as a pleasurable reminder of the many aspects of dorm and college life that we are fortunate to enjoy. May your accomplishments and proud moments fill these pages and your lives…”

It was followed by a rendition of the hall’s first year — in verse.

Two hundred girls knew what guests didn’t know,
That Lakeside was settled in three foot deep snow —
Down from the Union came baggage and cartons,
To live here we almost had to be Spartans!

But nevertheless, our rooms were made clean
And for our open house party the dorm was “a gleam” . . .

There was no room to spare
Appreciative voices filled the air.
These were the banners that we did attain
When newspapers awarded us highest acclaim!

But there was no end to the cards and flowers
And gifts and good wishes arrived for hours.
The days passed quickly and all were content,
With studies and dates, but now time was spent
On committees for that and committees for this,
While decorating Lakeside for its first Christmas.
The tree lights were tangled,
The stockings were hung —
There were girls on the ladders,
Yes, one on each rung!
There were dorm parties, floor parties, room parties, too.
Good times and good spirits were in prominent view.
The last touch was given to add to our show,
Then white stuff came down —
That was the ’BIG SNOW.’
Open for Business

You enter past a wall of glass-punctuated by strong grids of green metal, ascend the terrazzo stairs through a soaring atrium and find yourself in a lobby where folks are watching the latest news on a plasma screen. Nearby, conversations are lively in a trendy café, where some sit and sip while others compute wirelessly. As you make your way down the hallway, you notice people gathering informally in comfortable conversation areas, talking, laughing, sharing ideas. Young people stop at wall shelves and plug in their laptops for a quick e-mail check. You have just entered the new home of Oswego’s School of Business.

The $8 million renovation of Rich Hall was paid for by the SUNY Construction Fund and Oswego raised nearly $800,000 to equip the building with state-of-the-art technology and other amenities that give the building the ambiance of a bustling corporate headquarters.

Students learn in advanced technology classrooms, where every seat is wired for computer use and Internet access. Professors lecture from a podium equipped with the latest computer tools for presentations. Faculty office suites provide comfortable areas where students and professors can get together and continue intellectual conversations outside the classroom, or just relax and get to know one another better.

‘New level of quality’

After three weeks in the renovated building, Dean Lanny Karns reported that “Students generally feel like it’s a new level of quality with regard to technology and the whole surroundings.” While they were originally in awe of the building, within a few weeks students started giving “tremendous comments about using the technology classrooms,” Karns said.

The Dean’s Student Advisory Council reported that students feel they can interact with each other without feeling rushed, and faculty reported that students seemed more attentive in the nicer surroundings.

“When students are more professional in their bearing, more attentive,” Karns said.

Bright Day Marks Rededication

The fully renovated Rich Hall was officially opened Sept. 11 under a cloudless sky amid balmy early fall temperatures. Faculty, staff, students and community members gathered as Dean Lanny Karns and a contingent of students cut the ribbon officially opening the School of Business’ new facility.

On hand for the ceremony was State Senator James Wright ’71, who called SUNY Oswego “a major economic driver in the community.” He recognized Oswego’s students as “what the future of the community, the state and the nation is all about.”

“The energy and passion of the entire campus community has fueled investments in faculty, programs, accreditation, technology and the beautiful new home of the School of Business that stands before us,” said Mark Tryniski ’85, chair of the School of Business Advisory Board. “Like all good investments, these too, will provide a substantial return — in the form of students who are well-prepared for success in today’s demanding and complex business world, and pride in the understanding that our School of Business is quickly becoming one of the most recognized in the Northeast.”

OSWEGO • Fall/Winter 2003
Penfield Opens New Chapter with Library Café

It’s a storybook ending — and a beginning. Campus community members had the dream of a café within library walls, a cozy spot where patrons could sit and sip their latte while getting together with good friends or losing themselves in a great book. But money for such a massive project was lacking. Along came generous donors with the funds to make it all possible. Many months and much work later, the dream has become a reality. On Oct. 25, the Penfield Library Café was formally opened.

The sprawling space at the southeast corner of the library’s main floor features floor-to-ceiling windows looking out on the site of the future Campus Center and the main pathway traversed by students and faculty on their way to classes. Sculpted drop ceilings float overhead while underfoot, carpeted areas alternate with sleek tile floors. The 3,000 square-foot space includes three seating choices: traditional table seating, tall bistro style arrangements or comfy couches and chairs for dawdling.

A variety of coffee drinks and pastries are for sale, provided by Auxiliary Services. Racks of popular newspapers and magazines are available for browsing and CNN for those who prefer to get their news on screen. The café is home to a wireless-computing environment and library patrons can check out a laptop for a quick e-mail message or to write that last page of a term paper due next class period.

**Donors brew café dreams**

The Library Café cost $150,000 to construct. Making the dream a reality were two sets of donors. Dr. Jack and Marion Narayan M ’81 at first made their $75,000 gift anonymously and only revealed their identity as the dedication ceremony neared. Their gift was a challenge grant, offered if the library could find another donor willing to put up the other half of the cost. Lester Gosier ’37 took up the challenge and made his donation in memory of his wife, Carolyn Heath Gosier. In all, Gosier pledged $100,000, and the remaining $25,000 of his gift will be a challenge grant to inspire someone else to support the college. “That way we can carry on the tradition, and maybe from this two people will get the idea that we have a fission going on,” said Gosier, who spent 40 years teaching high school physics. “From one branch comes two and from two comes four and so on.”

Jack Narayan is dean of graduate studies and director of the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs, with one of his offices in the library’s basement. Giving to Oswego is based on his family’s long connection with the college. “The entire family has benefited from our being at Oswego,” he said. A science teacher at Oswego Middle School, Marion Narayan completed her master’s degree in education at SUNY Oswego in 1981. On Sunday mornings the Narayans and their three sons would ride bicycles around campus. Now grown, Darren, Dwayne and Drew were motivated by professors at the college to pursue math and science fields on which they based their careers.

“The library café will facilitate learning out of the classroom where students will have the opportunity to collaborate with others and reflect on their learning,” said Jack Narayan.

“There are not any places on campus that are just like it,” said Mary Beth Bell, director of libraries, of the café.

One of Bell’s hopes is that the café will inspire more campus community members to drop by the library. “I think times are changing and libraries are competing with bookstores and such these days. Although we have a lot to offer, you need to provide those types of conveniences to get people in and get them interested,” she said. “Hopefully they will come into the café and look around the library and get involved.”

Many academic libraries now have cafés, Bell said, and her research indicates that they are successful in bringing faculty and students into the library.

The new café opened without an official name. A contest will be held on campus and students in the art department will develop a logo for the winning name.

Whatever name is chosen, it will be the title of a popular new chapter in the library’s history.
Remembering Lost Friends

The Class of 1953 remembered classmates who had passed away with a memorial service on Saturday of Reunion Weekend. Vice President Kevin Mahaney lights candles for Sophie Tsaryk Braunsdorf '53 and Hank Svika '53, while Barbara Hart Friends '53 looks on.
Golden Class Gathers

The Golden Anniversary Class of 1953 gathered for their 50th Reunion in June — and it was a weekend full of activities. On Thursday evening they were hosted by Barbara Hart Friends ’53 and Gerald Friends ’55 at their home on Sodus Bay, followed by dinner at the Pleasant Beach Hotel. At the Saturday morning breakfast hosted for them by President Deborah F. Stanley, they remembered lost classmates in a moving memorial service. Later in the day they were inducted into the Golden Alumni Society at a luncheon at which they raised money for the Class of 1953 scholarship (see photo of check presentation on page 5 of the Honor Roll). Shown on the stage at Sheldon Hall, Class of 1953 members are, from left, front row, Terry Trudeau, Dominic DeCastro, Alex Beattie, Jerry Jonas, Kenwyn Richards, Bob Van Dusen, Vic Ferrante, Joyce Hopkin Miles and Tom D’Angelo; second row, from left, Fred De Lisle, Len Cooper, Barbara Hart Friends, Joyce Hollis, Sophie Tsaryk Braunsdorf, Jeanne Woolway Ferrante, Flo Stasiak Walpole, Jean Dilgard Pierce and L. Adele DeSantis; third row, from left, Jo Cataldo Goodman, Sheila Greene Bellen, Susan Albert Sommerfield, Stephanie Tokos Alexander, Inge Adler Lomonico, Joseph Lomonico, Jean Lerry Sheldon, Joanne C. Mochi Gray, Marcia E. Giller, Marilyn Poulin DeVuyst, Connie LaRock Seeber and Tony St. Phillips; and back row, from left, John F. McDonough, Jim Brown, Jeane Keckley Schilling, Arthur C. Schilling, Myron Schlesinger, Bob Boeshore, Hank Svika, Elinore Schlegel DeVuyst, Peg LeRoy Ellis, Joan Armbuster and Nan Feller Carr.
The sky's the limit for William E. "Bill" King '59. Bill regularly flies antique aircraft at the Old Rhinebeck Aerodrome and this spring flew a 1910 Hanriot at an air show in Australia marking the centennial of flight.

Bill was "always interested in flying," a love that was born during World War II, when he and his middle school classmates constructed model airplanes of wood and painted them black, so American gunners could recognize U.S. planes from enemy ones.

King carried that love into the hobby of flying remote controlled planes. On a visit to the Aerodrome with his remote controlled planes, King became hooked on the real thing. He has since earned his pilot's license and mechanic's license and has logged over 2,300 hours in planes.

The Hanriot has wings made of wire, fabric and wood. When Bill pulls the left-hand stick, the whole wing warps. "It looks rather fragile, but works well," he says.

"Is it scary up there?" the 74-year-old is often asked. "Usually if a gust of wind gets me and upsets the airplane, I'm concentrating on getting the plane on an even keel, and by then it's too late to be scared," he says.

And although there's a little speed indicator on the wing, a flap of metal that moves when the wind blows over it, Bill doesn't know just how fast he goes. "I've been flying for 18 years and haven't looked at it once," he says. "I haven't been relaxed enough to look at it."

He has restored several airplanes over the years including his own 1944 DeHavilland Tiger Moth, a World War II training plane from England.

At Oswego he studied industrial arts and learned to work on airplanes in the transportation shop, taught by Willard Allen.

Oswego holds other special memories. Bill was a counselor at Draper Hall, a men's residence that is now King Alumni Hall. He met his wife, Jane, when she served as assistant dean of women until Bill's graduation and their marriage in 1959. The couple has two sons, both of whom have commercial pilots' licenses and fly with their dad at Rhinebeck.

Bill taught at Sleepy Hollow High School for 30 years before retiring in 1989. He then taught technical drawing part-time at Armon High School in Byram Hills.
Heraldo Muñoz ’72 heads a United Nations Security Council Committee on Al-Qaeda sanctions. He told a July 2 news briefing at UN headquarters in New York, that, despite significant progress in the fight against the terrorist group blamed for the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks against the United States, “We have a long way to go.” He gave a report to the world body along with Michael Chandler, chairman of the UN’s Monitoring Group on Al-Qaeda. Muñoz was named the new Ambassador of Chile to the United Nations in June and presented his credentials to Secretary-General Kofi Annan June 19. Prior to his appointment, Muñoz was Chile’s Minister Secretary-General of the Government.
Silver Reunion Get-Together

A rainy Saturday afternoon couldn’t dampen the spirits of members of the Class of 1978, as they gathered at Shady Shore for a reception hosted for them by President Deborah F. Stanley. After many hugs, stories, smiles and toasts, they gathered on the steps of founder Edward Austin Sheldon’s historic home for a group portrait.

NEWS MAKER

THERE’S A NEW FACE BEHIND THE MAYOR’S DESK IN Rome, N.Y., and it belongs to a SUNY Oswego graduate. John Mazzaferro ’65, MSED ’71 was sworn in as mayor of the city on June 16, when his predecessor resigned to take a county executive post. His term will be short, however, as he has chosen not to run in the November election, and to relinquish the office to the election winner in January. A teacher at Rome Free Academy for 37 years, he has set a record with 23 years as president of the Rome Common Council. How does he hope to be remembered by Romans? He told the Rome Observer in its July 4-10 issue, “When I finish, I would like people to say, John Mazzaferro tried hard, he did his best, he was fair, and he cared.”
Alumni Bookshelf

Chuck Swanson ’88 presents two instructional books on computer security. In his book, *Windows 2000, Designing a Secure Network*, Swanson teaches information technology administrators how to design Windows 2000 active directory networks so that they are secure. The book also assists readers in preparing for the Microsoft Windows 2000 Security Design exam. Swanson has also recently co-authored *Security+, A CompTIA Certification*. Swanson’s books offer a step-by-step lesson plan to teach users how to implement security for different types of networks. Both instructional books can be used as manuals for instructor-led training. Chuck Swanson is the owner of Swanson Computer Training and Consulting, Inc., in Liverpool. He is also the co-host of the National Cable Ace Award-winning computer TV show “Point ’n’ Click.” Swanson graduated from Oswego with a bachelor’s degree in mathematics with a computer science emphasis. Element K Press, 2003.

Dr. Joseph Casbarro ’72, CAS ’81 believes “There is just too much anxiety in our lives.” In his book, *Test Anxiety and What You Can Do About It*, Casbarro provides a range of practical strategies for classroom teachers, parents and students. These strategies are designed to help students to regulate their emotions, increase understanding of content and enhance their memory. The book explores the origins of anxiety and the understanding of what symptoms are associated with test anxiety; it offers pre- and post-testing strategies and numerous charts to help the reader deal with anxiety. Casbarro received a master’s degree in school psychology from Oswego and completed his doctorate in school psychology at Syracuse University. He is an assistant superintendent of schools. Dude Publishing, 2003.

Song of Miriam by Pearl Itzkowitz Wolf ’51 captures the essence of Jewish life during the reign of Catherine the Great and Alexander I. The novel encompasses the politics of anti-Semitism beginning in the late 18th century in Czarist Russia. The *Song of Miriam* is the story of a beautiful woman raised to take her place in the royal society of Russia. Her loves, her trials, and her determination to be happy clash with her devotion to her heritage in a world that is a contrast of great beauty and hideous prejudice and violence. It’s a sweeping narrative that weaves history and romance together. *Song of Miriam* is Pearl Wolf’s first historical novel. She is also the author of three children’s books published when she worked in the New York City Public School system. Hilliard Harris, 2003.

Control High Blood Pressure Without Drugs by Constance del Bourgo Schrader ’54 offers a complete self-help guide on how to prevent high blood pressure, cope with it if it occurs, and lower your blood pressure through sensible, inexpensive natural means. It is a book of real strategies for busy and hurried people who must cope with real-life situations. The book presents the reader with the most recent and reliable medical information and it offers strategies for weight reduction, incorporating exercise into your life and stress management. Schrader is also the author of *1001 Things Everyone Over 55 Should Know*, published in 1999. Schrader now lives and works in Eureka Springs, Ark. Simon and Schuster, 2001.

Julia Rozines DeVillers ’89 is the author of a new series for “tween-girls” (ages 7-14) called “Tuned In.” The series of fiction for young girls...
begins with the first episode, titled *Fast Friends*. The book chronicles the life of Maddy Sparks and her new best friends. It is a first-person account of all the good, bad, worse and great things that happen to a typical "tween-age" girl who is all about fun, fashion and friends. 'Tweens will love reading about Maddy and how she deals with being around her little brother, the most red-faced moment ever, and Maddy's amazing adventures with her friends. Young readers will get to know Maddy's likes (her favorite color is blue), and dislikes (broccoli), and how, right in the middle of her worst day ever, suddenly something incredibly cool happens. DeVillers is the author of several acclaimed books for girls and her new series hit the shelves beginning in July 2003. Too Brands Investments, 2003.

Ron Wooten-Green '61 is the author of *When the Dying Speak*, a book on "how to listen to and learn from those facing death." When Ron Wooten-Green heard his dying wife make a joyful exclamation before her passing, he knew that although he couldn't see or hear the people to whom she was referring, he had witnessed a significant step in her journey to heaven. Using his personal experience as a caregiver and hospice chaplain, Wooten-Green seeks to decipher the deeply symbolic language of the dying and reveal the importance of listening to, and learning from, those at the end of their earthly journeys. Loyola Press, 2001.

In *When We Were Young in the West*, Dr. Richard Melzer '71 has examined the diverse experiences of children growing up in different communities, in different cultures, and in different historical periods. Using New Mexico as a focus, and drawing in memoirs, oral histories, diaries and autobiographies, Melzer has compiled a thorough, captivating and compelling set of true stories about childhood. His collection ranges from the experiences of Billy the Kid to those of Douglas MacArthur. Richard Melzer is a professor of history at the University of New Mexico/Valencia campus. He is the author, co-author, or editor of eight books as well as many articles and chapters about New Mexico history. Mention of Thomas Judd's recent retirement has finally motivated Richard to let his fellow alumni and professors know of his work. Dr. Judd was a favorite professor and an inspiration in Richard's teaching career. Sunstone Press, 2003.

Brian Hiller '82 is the co-author with Don Dupont of *It's Elemental: Lessons that Engage*. The book is intended for elementary music specialists and is a collection of 15 fully-processed lessons which integrate the elements of the Orff-Schulwerk approach through singing, speech, movement and instrument playing. Each lesson in the book focuses on a particular musical concept. It begins with a brief activity that engages the learner. The lesson continues with a step-by-step process designed to lead the students toward the desired outcome. The lesson culminates in a performance where the students demonstrate understanding of the concept. Extension activities are available for each lesson that further enhance the learning. The book is also full of classroom tips designed to aid in classroom management, organization and routines. Brian and Don are both elementary music teachers. They are working on their second book, *It's Elemental, Volume 2*, due out this winter. Memphis Musicraft Publications, 2002.
A LEADER IN PUBLIC POLICY FOR THE elderly and a world-renowned author were named Distinguished Alumnus at Reunion 2003.

**Dr. Joseph Coughlin ’82**, director of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology’s AgeLab and SUNY Oswego Associate Professor of English Writing Arts **Robert O’Connor ’82**, author of the critically acclaimed novel *Buffalo Soldiers*, received the 2003 Distinguished Alumnus Awards at the Anniversary Class Dinner.

**Gordon Lenz ’58**, the CEO of New York State Business Group/Conference Associates, received the Anniversary Class Award. **Barbara Hart Friends ’53**, a retired educator who spearheaded the Class of 1953 scholarship among her other work with her Reunion, was honored with the Alumni Service Award.

Several other alumni, who could not attend this year’s Reunion or earlier ones, received their awards at a June ceremony.

**Davis Parker ’47**, a retired educator and volunteer both for the Oswego Alumni Association and community and national organizations, was recognized with the Lifetime Award of Merit.

**Lori Brinski-Blackburn ’93**, a teacher in the Hannibal Central School District, and **Dr. Stephen Wolniak ’72**, professor and associate chair of the department of cell biology and molecular genetics at the University of Maryland at College Park, received the Sheldon Award for Excellence in Education.

**Amy Yoxthimer ’94**, who has devoted herself to fighting HIV/AIDS in third-world countries and is now seeking graduate degrees in public health and physician’s assistantship, was honored with the Graduate of the Last Decade (GOLD) Award.

**Benita Zahn ’76**, an anchor and reporter for WNYT Channel 13 in Albany received an Anniversary Class Award. Her award was granted in 2001, but she was unable to attend an award ceremony until this year.

If you know an Oswego alumna or alumnus who might qualify for an award from the Oswego Alumni Association, please let us know by Jan. 1, 2004. To request a nomination form, please contact the alumni office or fill one out online at www.oswegoalumni.oswego.edu/alumni/awards.html
M. Monica Bartoszek ’80 OF CLIFTON
Park, executive news editor at the Times Union in Albany, was recently given the 2003 Hearst Eagle Award, created to honor those working for Hearst Newspapers who have achieved excellence. Only a handful of individuals are selected from among the thousands of employees in any given year. Recipients of this award are chosen for outstanding performance and an unwavering pursuit of organizational goals and objectives. She was chosen for “her keen organizational skills and smart journalistic judgment that have helped the newsroom meet its mission on behalf of readers,” according to the award citation. Monica is often called upon to edit special sections and organize newsroom training. She has also assumed additional supervision over the Sunday paper. The award also cited: “Whether creating pages when big stories break or calmly leading a strong copy desk day in and day out, Monica is the ‘go-to’ person in the newsroom. She is a dedicated and capable journalist.” In June, she was honored at a luncheon in New York City with other Eagle winners from around the country.
Mark Levy '86, creative director and senior producer for NBC Olympics won four Emmy Awards at the 2003 ceremonies: three for his work on the Salt Lake City 2002 Winter Games and one for a show that he produced about a football game between the New York City firemen and policemen just after Sept. 11, 2001. They are among 10 Emmy Awards he has won during his years at NBC. He writes that he owes a great deal of his success to the early education he received at Oswego. "It really solidified in my mind that this was the business I wanted to be a part of," Mark writes. He is shown here in Greece scouting locations for 2004 Olympic programming.

Two Oswego alumni were among four National Weather Service meteorologists to receive the 2003 Award for Exceptional Specific Prediction, presented by the American Meteorological Society, the nation’s leading professional society for scientists in the atmospheric and related sciences.

Honored were Raymond H. Brady III '80 and David Morford '83, forecasters at the National Weather Service Office in Binghamton.

The award was given for their work in providing emergency management officials with accurate and timely warnings for the unusual outbreak of severe weather from May 31 to June 2, 1998, that ranks among the worst in Central New York and Northeastern Pennsylvania history in more than 50 years. Nineteen tornadoes occurred, resulting in millions of dollars in damages and two fatalities. These outbreaks were exceptional for an area that averages 2.1 tornadoes per year.

They were credited by the society with making “critical decisions that resulted in extremely timely severe weather and tornado warnings that saved many lives.”

Brady was the forecaster on duty prior to both events. He issued severe weather outlooks and thunderstorm potential statements describing the potential threat well in advance. On June 2, Morford was the radar operator/warning decision-maker, verifying the severe weather events and warnings. The average lead time for the tornadoes was 20.5 minutes on June 2, well above the national average. Their work has earned numerous awards and recognition from government officials at the local, state and national level.
Reunion 2004
JUNE 4–6

Come Home to Oswego for Reunion 2004!

Reunion 2004 will be June 4 to 6. It’s your chance to relive an Oswego sunset, reconnect with faculty and friends and renew your commitment to your alma mater.

REUNION CLASSES:
75th – 1929
70th – 1934
65th – 1939
60th – 1944
55th – 1949
50th – 1954
40th – 1964
35th Cluster Classes
  1968, 1969, 1970
25th – 1979
15th Cluster Classes
10th – 1994

- To plan a mini-reunion for your group, contact the Alumni Office no later than Jan. 15, 2004.
- To get involved in the planning or gift committee, contact the Office of Alumni and Parent Relations.
- Registration forms will be mailed next spring to members of the official Reunion classes, but everyone is welcome to attend. If you do not receive a registration form and would like one, contact the Alumni Office.
- For the most up-to-date information on Reunion 2004, check out the Web site at http://oswegoalumni.oswego.edu/Reunion2004 or call the Reunion Hotline at 315-312-5559.
Exactly 20 years later, and on nearly the same spot, Connie Rodriguez '83 and her daughter Christine Walker '03 celebrated their graduations from Oswego. Connie, who got her degree in computer science, is now program manager in marketing and technology for My Brands Inc., which sells hard-to-find favorite products like gourmet foods and laundry soap. Christine's father, Barry Walker '76, is now a professor at Monroe County Community College, teaching computer science. Christine received her bachelor of fine arts degree with honors at the May 17 commencement and is now enrolled in Oswego's MFA program, with a graduate assistantship.

David Rothstein '86, Special Assistant to the Counsel at the Bureau of Customer Services for the New York City Department of Environmental Protection, was the focus of a Newsday Queens profile.

"I've always been an advocate, both professionally and personally. I'm very committed to education," Rothstein told Newsday reporter Sheila McKenna. "It is very important that parents get involved and be aware of the power that they have. I spend a lot of time telling parents how much control they really have over the future of their children."

Now Rothstein is working on the Individual's Disabilities Education Act or IDEA. The federal law mandates that children with special needs get a free and appropriate education. It was in the process of being reauthorized by Congress when Rothstein spoke with Newsday and he was working on making it happen.

He is the founding editor of a newsletter for the Electchester Cooperative Housing Complex in Flushing. He is also a member at large of the board of trustees of the Learning Disabilities Association of New York State, and a member of the board of the Queens Jewish Community Council; Community School Board 25; National Alliance for the Mentally Ill, Nassau-Queens Chapter; and Lodge 486 Free and Accepted Masons. David is married and has three children.
Most of us associate renewal and growth with springtime and the budding of trees and the sprouting of flowers—particularly after a long Oswego winter! This fall, however, there has been an exciting sense of renewal and growth on our campus.

We began the semester with a re-dedication of Rich Hall in mid-September as a state-of-the-art School of Business, complete with a trendy snack bar café, wireless capabilities throughout the building and a high-tech plasma screen in the lobby keeping students updated with up-to-the-minute MSNBC news feeds.

Later in September, we had the “official” reopening of Johnson Hall, the First-Year Experience Residence on the lakeside. As you enter the grand foyer, it is reminiscent of a plush hotel with marble floors, a sweeping view of the lake and an Adirondack-themed great room complete with a massive stone fireplace.

Certainly one of the most exciting new projects on campus was the groundbreaking in mid-October for the new Campus Center in the heart of campus—the campus’s first new building project in more than 30 years.

Finally, but certainly no less important an addition to our daily campus life was the dedication of a beautiful new café in Penfield Library which conjures up a Barnes and Noble style ambiance—TVs tuned to CNN, literature racks with newspapers and current magazines from around the country, Starbucks coffee and pastries for sale and comfortable couches and chairs scattered among bistro-style café tables.

There is a palpable feeling of excitement and energy among students, faculty and even our alumni. Happily, the energy around all of these ceremonial celebrations included the voices of our alumni. At the School of Business dedication, Mae Squier-Dow ’83, chair of the Oswego College Foundation recounted her student memories of “low-tech” paper postings on professors’ office doors in comparison to the high-tech atmosphere for today’s business students.

Saleem Cheeks ’01, an alumnus of the Johnson Hall First Year Residence Experience, former Student Association president and current member of the Oswego Alumni Association Board of Directors and assistant appointments officer to Governor George Pataki reflected on his student memories of Johnson Hall—and the feeling of family and community that was shared by all the residents.

At the Campus Center groundbreaking, we heard from current SA president, and future alumnus, Brian Randolph ’04, who said the new Campus Center would serve as a renewed source of school pride.

And at the dedication of the library café, we heard from Lester Gosier ’37, one of the donors who generously funded the renovation of the space into a café, talk about his reasons for supporting Oswego and his challenge to other alumni to support the campus and our current students. The café will be one of the focal points of learner-centered campus connections where students can come together with other students and with faculty to engage in the sharing of ideas.

What an exciting time for all of us—current students, faculty and staff and alumni alike—to be a part of our Oswego family. So, as always, we invite you to come home to campus and see all of the exciting new changes for yourself. And while you’re here, stop in at your “alumni home” in King Alumni Hall and meet the alumni staff. We’ll offer a comfortable chair, a cup of coffee and a friendly hello.

We look forward to seeing you soon!
Serving Women, Helping Communities

Amy Yoxthimer ’94 is enrolled in a combined master’s degree program in Physician Assistant and Public Health at The George Washington University in Washington, D.C.

Q. Amy, tell us a little about what you are doing now.
A. I’m currently a full-time student studying public health and to become a PA [physician assistant] I also volunteer one Saturday a month at a Hispanic clinic in D.C. called Mary’s Center; doing family planning options counseling and HIV/AIDS counseling, specifically with women and adolescents.

Q. How did you get interested in this field?
A. After graduating from Oswego I went into the Peace Corps in Thailand as an HIV/AIDS volunteer and I was doing mostly rural public health-related work with indigenous people in northern Thailand. The work involved direct HIV/AIDS education, and also income generation, agriculture, sanitation and other community development projects that were important to enhancing the overall health of people and perhaps indirectly important to preventing HIV. Often I would be the only health worker villagers would have access to. I found myself frustrated with not having clinical training to meet the needs of people I was working with. This is one of the main reasons I decided to pursue a combined degree program.

Q. What was next for you?
A. After Thailand I worked as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Ecuador doing rural health, mainly in the areas of reproductive health and nutrition. These projects involved working with really amazing people, specifically women, who were extremely dedicated to attacking social and health problems such as malnutrition. Once again I found myself collaborating with very remote indigenous people whose traditional healing practices were eroding and who lacked access to basic health services of any kind. I decided to pursue clinical training so that I could have more hands on contact with people, specifically the underserved, and so that I might be able to eventually integrate the benefits of both traditional and allopathic medicine in healing.

Q. Why did you want to be a physician’s assistant?
A. I think PAs have the unique opportunity to focus on preventive medicine with people, particularly with marginalized populations. My initial interest in clinical care was because I enjoyed counseling and health education, these are main components of PA work. I also like that PAs don’t have to specialize right after training. I can work in the area of women’s health, pediatrics or internal medicine. I will also have time to explore my other interests such as natural healing. I feel that the combined degree will allow me to continue to work at the community level helping to address other issues that affect people’s health.

Q. You didn’t major in pre-med, did you?
A. No, I majored in political science with an interest in international studies.

Q. So, how did you get into public health issues?
A. I got into AIDS work when I was at Oswego. I did an internship in the area of HIV/AIDS at the Red Cross and that was how I got recruited into the Peace Corps.

Q. What do you hope to be doing in the future?
A. I’d like to continue working with the underserved and particularly work with ethnically diverse communities, and in the areas of women’s health and adolescent services, in a clinical setting and also doing some community work as well.

Q. Any special influences while you were at Oswego?
A. Definitely, Dr. Geraldine Forbes was a big influence. Her international experience and accomplishments have been an enormous inspiration to me. When I was at Oswego Dr. Forbes taught a course entitled ‘International Perspectives on Women.’ One of the things that I thought was really unique and effective about this course was that she allowed women, as much as possible, the unique opportunity to speak for themselves about their oppression, empowerment, and culture, etc. It allowed students to hear a variety of opinions as well as perhaps understand a less popular view on an issue.

Q. Words of advice for those following you?
A. Study abroad, interning abroad or even domestically. It gives you what you can’t learn in a book or classroom. I think Oswego gives you the opportunity to acquire the experiential component of your undergraduate degree that really makes a difference. I also highly recommend volunteering in the community. It gives you a unique perspective on the community you are studying in as well as offers the opportunity for exploring different interests and for personal growth.

Q. Why did you choose to focus on women?
A. One reason is that I think women are essential, not only to the family but the community. If you are able to facilitate empowerment of women in areas of health, economics and politics, not only does it help the woman, but it helps the children, the family, and the community. That’s what I’ve seen — the domino effect that empowering women has. Many of the women that I have worked with, particularly overseas, are incredibly overburdened with work, yet, they are willing to add on more work to tackle problems such as income generation, nutrition, HIV prevention and many other social topics. Their activism and social dedication is empowering to me.
ABNER JEANPIERRE ‘90 HAS BEEN selected as one of the 2003 recipients of Governor Pataki’s Tribute to African American Leaders of Excellence in State Service. The award is one of New York State’s highest honors for public service. JeanPierre began his career with the state as a graduate student assistant with the NYS Division of the Budget. After his graduation from Rockefeller College at SUNY Albany with a master’s degree in public administration, he was appointed as a compensation analyst in the Division of Classification and Compensation in the NYS Department of Civil Service. He is currently a principal compensation analyst and heads a unit which oversees one of the largest public sector human resources systems in the United States, containing records on over 200,000 positions and millions of records on active and retired employees.

“I credit my success to the quality education that I received at Oswego. The support that I received from professors like Fritz Messere ‘71 was instrumental in my academic development,” says JeanPierre, who was a regular on the President’s and Dean’s Lists at Oswego.

In 1999 and 2000, JeanPierre, who graduated cum laude, was selected as Outstanding Chapter Member of the Year by the Eastern Region of the International Public Management Association for Human Resources.

Tackling a Big Assignment
National Football League 2003 MVP Rich Gannon (center), Oakland Raiders quarterback, huddled with Frank Mahar ‘93 (left) and Cris Bengis ‘92 (right), for a big Pizza Hut/Pepsi/NFL TV shoot this summer. Cris is a marketing director for Pepsi-Cola on the Pizza Hut account and Frank handles professional athlete talent for Genesco Sports Enterprises. The commercial aired nationally for six weeks this fall and featured three NFL stars, including Gannon.
Two Join King Hall Staff

THE OSWEGO ALUMNI ASSOCIATION WELCOMED TWO NEW employees this year, Michelle Tackett-Spinner '98, new assistant director for alumni and parent relations, and Jennifer Broderick, graphic designer.

Michelle works on developing and implementing programs to involve students with alumni. She coordinates the Alumni Sharing Knowledge mentor program and the Alumni-in-Residence program, which invites alumni to campus to speak with students. Michelle also coordinates Torchlight ceremonies and advises the senior class committee programs.

As a student, Michelle was very active on campus as a student leader. Her involvements included being a student orientation leader, a resident assistant, a student admissions representative, captain of the women's tennis team and a musician in several ensembles. She graduated cum laude with a bachelor of science in education and a bachelor of art in music.

Michelle earned a master of education degree in college student affairs from the University of South Florida, where she interned as a resident director for the Office of Residence Services. Her first full-time, professional position was at the University at Buffalo as a residence hall director. Michelle became experienced in alumni affairs through her work as a member of the 2002 executive reunion committee.

Jennifer Broderick is responsible for the design and production of most of the publications and mailings for the Office of Alumni and University Development. She graduated from Nazareth College in 1990 with a bachelor's degree in art. Her first job began in 1990 at Infantino Associates, an advertising agency in Rochester, as a mechanical artist and graphic designer. Jennifer eventually became the art director at the agency.

In 1997, Jennifer accepted a temporary position as a graphic designer in the publications department at SUNY Oswego but returned to Infantino Associates in 1998 as a freelance graphic designer until she was hired as a part-time graphic designer in January 2003 in the Office of Alumni and University Development.

She is married to Kevin Broderick, M ‘92 the head men’s basketball coach at Oswego and is the mother of three young children.

— Emily King ’05
Boone Named to Board of Directors

The Oswego Alumni Association welcomed Tomasina Boyd Boone ’93 to the board of directors to serve a three-year term.

Boone is associate publisher for Today’s Black Woman magazine and Hype Hair magazine. She is employed by Mitchell Advertising.

Prior to joining Mitchell, she worked for Johnson Publishing, which produces one of the oldest African American publications, Jet magazine, and earlier, The Nation, a 100-year-old liberal magazine, as assistant advertising manager.

She has been involved on campus with the Return to Oz II reunion for alumni of color and is one of the founders of the REACH Scholarship, which stands for Returning Excellence Among College Honors. Begun by Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc. and the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc., the fund is well on its way to being an endowed scholarship, the proceeds of which will support students of color.
Several alumni and students had a tall order – literally – when they painted a mural 154 feet wide by 13 feet high on Oswego’s East Side. The City of Oswego Historic Mural Project’s seventh installment, “The History of Firefighting in Oswego,” is on the west wall of Oswego’s East Side Fire Station, and contains images from the city’s historic fires, in addition to portraits of all seven of Oswego’s fire chiefs from 1876 to the present.

Working on the project were, from left, Jessica Johnrew ’03, George Bough ’03, and students Rich Mulye ’04 and Kim Bolen ’04. Absent from the photo is Jenn Badgett ’03. The Mural Project, begun in 1998, uses bare walls throughout the city to illustrate Oswego’s extensive history to thousands who visit each year.
A fine PiKTure

The brothers of Phi Kappa Tau gathered for a reunion on campus from April 25 to 27. Attending were members from the classes of 1991 to 2002, as well as many current students. The men gathered for a group portrait April 26 after their formal dinner and awards event, held at the Newman Center on campus.

This summer, while at a graduation party, three cousins discovered they had a lot more than bloodlines in common. Oswego State runs in their family. Cousins Bonita Tyrell ’81 (left) of Orange City, Fla., and Linda Mead Williams ’86 (right) of Crogan both lived in Johnson Hall (2nd North) for two years. This fall, entering freshman Jenna Champion ’07 (center), Bonita’s niece and Linda’s cousin, is also attending Oswego. Bonita is a head start teacher at Coleman Head Start in Cobson, Fla., where she supervises 11 staff, runs the school and teaches a class of 18 pre-schoolers.
Alumni Return to Campus

Rob Cesternino ’00 presented a program in September for students on “How I Survived ‘Survivor.’” Here, he autographs a program poster for Chris Peterson ’07, an accounting major. Earlier that day Rob talked with communication studies classes, members of the Honors Program and professors. “You would think that 38 days of starving and misery wouldn't be fun, but it was,” he said of his ‘Survivor’ experience. Rob noted that he learned a lot about human nature during his time in the Amazon on the popular reality television show. “I learned more about myself, though,” he added.

Cindy Ludwig ’87, wigs and make-up designer for the Baltimore Opera, lent her expertise to the theatre department’s fall production of “The Importance of Being Earnest.” In addition to helping design the wigs and make-up for the show, she held several workshops with current students. Here Cindy (at far left) demonstrates wig making with, from left, Kayla Greeley ’04 and Sara Rodbourne ’03, both theatre majors; and Shana White ’03, an English major.
Sonya Nordquist Altenbach ’91 and Hans Altenbach were married April 20, 2003, in Mount Pleasant, S.C. Pictured from left are Joe Mazzara ’91, Karen “Kotwas” Mazzara ’92, the bride, and the bridegroom, and Karen Parker ’91. Sonya is president and technology designer of C3 Technology, Inc. Hans works for Dolphin Builders and Architects. The couple honeymooned in the Dominican Republic and now resides in Mount Pleasant, S.C.

Jennifer Foss Downey ’00 and Lee Downey ’00 (Sigma Chi) were married July 6, 2002. Oswego alumni attending the wedding, included, front row from left, Steve Shively ’00 (Sig Chi), Jackie Grossi ’00, the bride, the bridegroom, Andrea Scaturro Shinsato ’98, Brian Christman ’00 (Sig Tau); and second row from left, Jon Herrick ’00 (Sig Chi), Jeremy Thurston ’00 (best man, Sig Chi), Carrie Cutro Thurston ’98, Michelle Mc Quown ’01, Karen Peworchik ’00 (bridesmaid), Janice Searles ’00, and third row from left, Jason Mehan ’01 and Jon Leyden ’00 (best man, Sig Chi).

Christina Russo Galbo ’91 and Joseph Galbo were married June 1, 2002, in Rochester. Oswego alumni in attendance were Angela DiFabio ’83 (back right), John Russo ’93 (front row left), the bride and Sheila Bacon ’91 (front right). Christina has a new job as a compliance specialist at SunHealth. The couple lives in Phoenix, Ariz.

Arvind Bamhi ’99 was married to Indu Bamhi on July 22, 2003, in New Delhi, India. After graduating from Oswego, Arvind worked in New Jersey for three years with a software consulting company as a business development manager. He returned home to India a year ago and is now involved with family business in New Delhi. He sends his regards to Gerry Oliver at the International Education Office and Charles Spector in the School of Business. “They were a great help and support during my days at SUNY,” he writes. Arvind and Indu are pictured on their engagement day, April 22.
Jessica Aponte ’97 (left) was formally joined to her wife, Kimberly R. Huckabee, in a civil union in Stowe, Vt., on July 4, 2003. On July 12, 2003, they were joined in a holy union in The Colony, Texas, before family and friends. Present but not pictured was the best man, Timothy B. Bishop ’98. Jessica and Kimberly will be residing in McKinney, Texas.

Michelle Tackett Spinner ’98 and Brent Spinner ’97 were married on June 22, 2002, in Corning. Pictured are Oswego graduates, front row from left, Paul Heskestad ’01, Jennifer Tackett ’02, Sondra Tackett ’03, the bride, the bridegroom, Robin McAleese ’93, M’95 (staff), Jennifer Corrao ’97, Pam Lavallee (staff), Mike Yoon ’00 (staff), Tony Wattie ’98 and Jason Fitzgerald ’97, middle row from left, Gary Percival ’01, Kate Deforest Percival ’96, Kate Monroe ’98, Jeanette Schuleenberg Antonoff, Sheila Burns Tanzman ’97, Michelle Racette Wattie ’98, Erin Trondle Schiavone ’97; and back row from left, David Kuntz ’81, Tom Antonoff ’81, Mike Tanzman ’97, Kelly Smith Petro, John Petro ’97 and Chris Schiavone ’98.

Music Traditions Play On

At the wedding of Michelle Tackett Spinner ’98 and Brent Spinner ’97, Oswego State alumni and staff attendees were called to the dance floor to serenade the bride and groom with the school alma mater. Those attendees who were music department graduates or Mu Beta Psi fraternity members were invited in advance to bring their instruments to the wedding for a jam session during the reception. The group played many jam tunes including, "Mercy, Mercy, Mercy." In the photo above some of the music graduates participate in the long-standing Oswego music department alumni tradition. From left to right, Jason Fitzgerald ’97, trombone; Mike Tanzman ’97, trombone; Tony Wattie ’98, trombone; Brent Spinner ’97, trumpet; Gary Percival ’01, saxophone; Michelle Tackett Spinner ’98, trumpet; and Chris Schiavone ’98, keyboard.
John Moore '28 of Vista, Calif., passed away Dec. 21, 2002. John received his master's degree at New York University. He was in education for 35 years as a teacher, superintendent of schools and Director of Education for State Home for Boys in Jamesburg, N.J. After retirement, John moved to California where he was personnel director and business assistant for the Carlsbad School District for six years. He is survived by his wife of 73 years, Leora; two children, four grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Frances DeLisle '29 of East Lansing, Mich. passed away June 22. Fran earned her bachelor's degree from the State University at Buffalo, a master's degree from Michigan State University and a Ph.D. from Michigan State. She taught in Medina before joining the Michigan State University faculty in 1947. She retired in 1972. Fran was honored by Oswego State with a Distinguished Alumni Award in 1977. Surviving are two sisters.

Lauria Hawley Bough '30 of Oswego and Bradenton, Fla., died May 30. She is survived by a son.


Clara Piquigney Burghart '32 of Sterling passed away June 11. She taught at Fair Haven Elementary School, retiring in 1975. Clara is survived by her husband, Fay; a daughter; three sons, six grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Florence Cattlin Calkin '35 of Oswego died April 11. She received her bachelor's degree from Syracuse University. She began her teaching career in a one-room schoolhouse in Bowen's Corners, then taught in Moshannon and Vanhornesville before returning to Oswego. Florence is survived by her husband, Hosmer; three daughters; two sons; and 10 grandchildren.

Martha Hopkins '35 of Aurora passed away Dec. 5.

Margaret Summerville Terpening '35 of Westvale died May 30. She is survived by three sons, five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

William Clemens '38 of Columbus, Ohio, passed away Feb. 28. He is survived by his wife, Frances; several children; a granddaughter and a great-granddaughter.

Aleta Apilin Abbott '38 of Syracuse passed away Nov. 21, 2002.

Gather a Cypress Wilson '38 of Venice, Fla., passed away July 13. She is survived by her husband, Robert '47; and her sister, Ellen Cypher Ruffino '31.

Elizabeth Morefield Clarke '39 of Port Jefferson passed away Sept. 2, 2002. Norman Gover '44 of Wyncote, Pa., passed away May 6. He served with the U.S. Army during World War II. Norman is survived by his wife, Beatrice; two sons; and two grandchildren.

Clarence Scalon Tice '40 of Oswego passed away Oct. 8. She was a volunteer with the Oswego Alumni Association for many years. Marla taught in Minoa and in the Oswego area in Rural School District 7, Kingsford Park Elementary and Leighton Elementary before retiring in 1979. Mrs. Tice is remembered fondly by her former students, including this writer [LMP], and will be missed by all. Surviving are her son, Daniel Tice '71 and daughter-in-law, Dianna Hansen Tice '72; her daughter, Kathleen Tice Tyder '72 and son-in-law, Roger Tyder '76; her sister, Anne Cullinan '47; and seven grandchildren.

Clarence Parry '49 of Tupper Lake passed away Jan. 25. He is survived by his wife, Norma Clark Parry '48.

Anthony Borgognoni '50 of Elmira died March 23. Prior to his retirement, he was superintendent of schools in the Elmira Heights School District. Anthony is survived by his wife, Katherine; three daughters and four grandchildren.

Arthur Carin '51 of Baiting Hollow and Boynton Beach, Fla., passed away Sept. 14 after a long illness. Born in Brooklyn, he enlisted in the Army at age 17 and served as a medic in Japan at the end of World War II. With the help of the G.I. Bill, he enrolled at Oswego, where he met his wife, Doris Terry Orkand Carin '51. He earned his master's degree at Queens College and a doctorate at the University of Utah. He taught at Queens College for 33 years, rising through the ranks to become full professor and associate dean of teacher education. He is the author of a widely used textbook for elementary teachers, Teaching Science Through Discovery, and co-author of a series of science books for school children. He served on the Jericho school board for six years, including four as president, during a period of expansion and improvement for the district. He was honored in 1985 by the Oswego Alumni Association as a Distinguished Alumnus, the association's most prestigious award. "We were proud of Art's professional career, which was a direct result of his education at Oswego," writes Terry. In addition to his wife, he is survived by two daughters, Jill Adams and Amy Ohman; a son, Jon Carin; two sisters and three grandchildren.

Richard F. Sardella '51 of Syracuse died Dec. 14, 2002. He retired in 1986 from Moses DeWitt School in the Jamesville-DeWitt school district and had been an elementary school teacher and vice principal. He served with the U.S. Army during the Korean War. Richard is survived by his wife, Jane; three sons; a daughter; and eight grandchildren.

Kenneth Shuker '57 of Cornwall died Jan. 4. He retired from the U.S.M.A. at West Point where he was a craft shop supervisor. Ken was a veteran of the U.S. Air Force.

Kenneth Tambs '60 of Liverpool passed away June 7. Ken earned his master's degree at Syracuse University. He was an elementary teacher and reading specialist before retiring from the Liverpool Central School District in 1994 after 37 years of service. Ken was an avid gardener, and his garden was certified in 2001 as an official Backyard Wildlife Habitat site by the National Wildlife Federation. Surviving are his long time companion, Wesley Ayers, and a son, Bruce.

Jessie Mae Lounsbury Learned '61 of Lacona died June 24. She earned degrees at Genesee Normal School and Syracuse University. Jessie was a librarian at Sandy Creek School and Fairgrieve Elementary in Fulton, retiring in 1976. Surviving are a son, three grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren.

Frederick Tvrdek '62 of North Fort Myers, Fla., passed away March 20. He taught for 36 years prior to retiring. Fred is survived by his wife, Kay; two children; and two grandchildren.

Eda Reniff '65 of Sterling passed away Nov. 26, 2002.

Richard Walker '65 of Mexico, N.Y., died March 14, 2002.

Elizabeth Decker '68 of Oswego passed away May 18. She earned master's degrees from Oswego State and Syracuse University. She taught at Alabama, Liverpool and Oswego for many years, and worked for the Oswego County Department of Social Services. Elizabeth is survived by her mother, two brothers and a sister.

Susan Mount Gutelius '69 of Ithaca passed away Feb. 18. Sue taught second grade for two years in Pulaski and later taught for 11 years in Ithaca. She spent the last 10 years working at her own business, Best Beginnings, creating educational toys. Sue is survived by her husband, Jim '70; a daughter, Jill '95; and a son, Doug.

Robert Kronenbitter '71 of Oswego died May 27. He was a 27-year veteran of the U.S. Air Force, serving in World War II, the Korean War and Vietnam before retiring in 1969. He later taught in Red Creek Central Schools. Robert is survived by his wife, Mary; three daughters, Ann Conzzone '74, Ellen Parker and Julie Sova; two sons, Jack, and James '78; and 11 grandchildren.

Marc Mattie '73 of Brooklyn passed away May 8.

Paul Rinella '76 of Liverpool died March 22. He had been employed by Federal Express for 15 years. Paul was a member of the New York State Lacrosse Officials Association and a lacrosse official for 15 years. He is survived by his wife, Teri; a son and a daughter.

Scott Daitz '77 of Rochester passed away July 30, 2002.

MaryEllen Kodel Jelenek '80 of Newark, Del., passed away Feb. 15. She received a master's degree in occupational therapy from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1984. MaryEllen is survived by her husband, Joseph; four children; and her father.

Edward Bryan MacDonald '82 of Honolulu, Hawaii, passed away Sept. 17, 2002. He is survived by his wife, Karen.

Frances Koenigsberg, emerita associate professor of counseling and psychological services of Oswego, passed away June 2. She was a graduate of Rockford College in Illinois and earned her master's degree in education from Harvard University and doctorate from the University of Buffalo. After retiring from Oswego, Fran became active in the Oswego County United Way and the Success by Six program. She is survived by a son, a daughter and three grandchildren.

In Memoriam Policy
Printing notices of alumni deaths is an important service of Oswego alumni magazine. In order to assure the accuracy of our reports, we require verification before we can publish a death notice—an obituary or a letter signed by a family member. Because the magazine is published only three times a year and we are working on an issue months in advance, there may be a delay of several months between the time we receive notification and the news is printed in the magazine. Thank you for your patience!
Tell Us About Yourself

Share your information in the Class Notes section of an upcoming Oswego magazine.

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Here’s my news (attach separate sheet if needed.)

Please send admissions information to: Name

Address       City       State       Zip

I would like to make a gift to Oswego State. Enclosed is my check made payable to Oswego College Foundation for $_____. For credit card gifts, gifts of stock, or information on other forms of giving, call 315-312-3003 or go online to http://oswegoalumni.oswego.edu/development.

Clip and mail to The Office of Alumni Relations, King Alumni Hall, SUNY Oswego, Oswego, NY 13126 or respond electronically on our Web site at http://oswegoalumni.oswego.edu/alumni/where.html

Three Notes about Class Notes

Oswego alumni magazine is happy to print news of alumni weddings and birth announcements — after the events. We can not print wedding plans or news of pregnancies in Class Notes. Please send us word when the wedding occurs or the baby is born. The editor reserves the right to select wedding and other photos for publication based on available space and the quality of the photo. Actual photos are preferred, but digital photos may be used, if they are of high resolution. When in doubt, please write us at alumni@oswego.edu.

Spouses! If you are sending in a news note about yourself, and your spouse is an Oswego graduate, please let us know what he or she is doing as well. Don’t forget to include your or your spouse’s last name as a student.

Because Oswego alumni magazine is published only three times a year, there is often a lag between the time you send in your Class Note and when it appears in print. Our goal is to include as many of your Class Notes as possible, to keep alumni informed about their fellow graduates’ doings. So, if you don’t see your news in the next issue of Oswego, chances are it will be in the following edition. Thanks for your patience!
Hey, hey, hey.
It's Yogi Bear!

The picture on the bottom of page 48 in the Summer 2003 edition of two guys working on a snow sculpture is of Peter Synek '62 and Ron Cleeve '62. "I'm looking over my shoulder and Pete is kneeling down to spray paint Yogi Bear's bellybutton! It was the winter of 1961-62," writes Ron.

"We were all at Oswego for the 'big snow' which started on December 7th, 1958, and enjoyed the Winter Weekend activities immensely every year. I made about $2.50 an hour shoveling the railroad tracks during the '58 storm.

"Dr. [Maurice O.] Boyd wrote the song, 'Oswego is Famous for its Snow' for our concert that year (Symphonic Choir). I was President of the choir, Gamma fraternity, and also of the Associated Student Body (Cathy Richardson '63 was my Treasurer). What a wonderful time we all had!!"

One beautiful day in 1950, Physical Education Professor Alice Ayton was conducting a canoeing class on Romney Pond.* At the end of the class period, two burly young men classmates in one of the canoes challenged two comely young women classmates in another canoe to a race to the shoreline. Challenge taken. The two strong, husky, muscular men were trouncing their two comely classmates. Suddenly within 20 feet of the shore, both men made the fatal mistake of paddling on the same side of their canoe. Naturally the canoe made a violent sharp turn to the left, the men lost their balance, the canoe abruptly overturned, and the two strong, husky, muscular men were thrown into the drink. As they surfaced spluttering, dripping wet, clothes, hair and all, and stood up in the waist deep pond, their two now victorious — comely adversaries, all their classmates, the many onlookers on shore, and especially Professor Ayton doubled over in helpless mirth.

*Romney Pond now no longer exists. It lay to the west of Sheldon Hall, about where the Snygg Hall parking lot is now, and was the site of recreation activities and physical education classes.
More than ever private giving to Oswego State is making a positive impact. Your gift to The Fund for Oswego honors our distinct heritage while securing our future as a premier academic community.

The Fund for Oswego is helping to position Oswego State as one of the best public universities in the Northeast. By sharing in this vision, your gifts help to provide student scholarships, computers for faculty and students, funds for departmental equipment, library acquisitions, the award-winning First Year programs, student retention programs, student recruitment and so much more.

We invite you to join us in sharing the vision. For information on how you can make a difference, contact the Office of University Development, 100 Sheldon Hall, SUNY Oswego, Oswego, New York 13126;
It happens more often than this modest man likes to admit. Dr. Herbert Van Schaack '51 will be at an alumni awards ceremony, shopping in a grocery store or walking down the street. Someone will come up to him, and the conversation invariably begins, "You won't remember me, but I remember you. You were my teacher."

"It's very moving to me," he admits. "I'm touched at times because they'll quote me."

Van Schaack, an Oswego psychology professor emeritus, has made an indelible impression on literally thousands of Oswego students who studied with him from 1956 until his retirement in 1995. Add to that the lives he touched as a Sunday school teacher, Oswego County legislator and chair, Faculty Assembly chair and Public Employee Relations Board mediator, and it's no wonder his gentle smile is familiar to so many.

An Oswego fixture for half of the 20th century, he distinguished himself as both a teacher and a leader. "I had a blessing through the years of being able to relate with people and being able to serve as a leader," he says with typical humility.

Ironically, when Van Schaack came to Oswego from Brooklyn in 1947, he had no great desire to be a teacher. The son of a longshoreman had no history of attending college in his family. But his friend was enrolling in Oswego's industrial arts program, and Herb decided to give it a try. He made money for his expenses as a Western Union delivery boy and summer camp counselor. When he arrived in Oswego, he was eager to have a successful four years. He accomplished this by making the honor roll, being selected as a Beta Tau Epsilon fraternity brother, participating in student government, getting elected as student body president and being chosen as outstanding senior of his class.

After graduation, he had a stint in his country's service as a military intelligence instructor. Using the G. I. Bill, Van Schaack earned his master's and doctorate at Cornell University. He returned to Oswego in 1956 as President Foster Brown's administrative assistant, alumni secretary and public information officer.

He also taught one course, and that single experience changed his whole life. "I found that teaching was where my real love came in," he says.

He joined the psychology department and spent the better part of four decades teaching Oswego's undergraduates. "It gave me great satisfaction," he says, "Just seeing people develop and learn." He became so fascinated by what makes a great teacher that he spent a sabbatical year observing and writing about excellent teachers from coast to coast. Even now he thinks about it, concluding that what's important is "being able to communicate, keeping the interest of students."

Part of that was learning every student's name, except in large class instruction of over 100 students.

He not only studied excellent teaching, he lived it. Which is why he was honored with the SUNY Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching in 1975 and named a Distinguished Teaching Professor, SUNY's highest rank, in 1989.

Van Schaack personifies the Latin motto mens sana in corpore sano. Over the decades he played basketball, baseball, tennis, handball, racquetball, squash and golf. Now he keeps busy rebuilding a stone wall and cleaning up downed timber on his sprawling acreage on the lakeshore west of Oswego. He lives there in a 200-year-old home built of bricks made on the site, with his wife, Sandra Richmond Van Schaack MS, CAS '77, CAS '80 whom he married after his first wife, Sally Lott Van Schaack '53, died in 1992. Talking about his life with both women, he uses a word that is a refrain for him: "blessed."

He uses it for other things, too: his years in the classroom and the sabbaticals he took to Libya and Switzerland, experiences in teaching abroad that kept him "refreshed." And he uses it for the opportunity to be involved in the Alumni Association and the Emeriti Association.

Considering the reaction he gets whenever he meets up with those whose lives he's touched, it's obvious that Herb Van Schaack has done his share of blessing others as well.