Happy 1999 to History Alumni

You will notice that the Newsletter has grown, which is largely the result of the Email wave, which is encouraging more correspondance and providing more interesting stories. I have had the privilege of reading the complete letters, with the difficult choice of how much I can pack into this expanding report.

I think you will notice how many interesting bits of history come from the alumni. What has also struck me is that almost all of the reports show experiences, the like of which would have been unthinkable when the newsletter started. You will notice that there is a pretty fair sampling of the variety of American lives at the end of the 20th century and the 2nd Millennium.

There is mostly a glad face of happy and productive young adults, but also hints of a downside even in the lives of teachers, who are supposedly sheltered.

The History Office

We are lucky to have kept Sue Voelker (*85), who still combines her own business with helping us mornings. She took her winter vacation by returning to her beloved Ireland, to which she has no biological relationship, but a love for Irish music and culture. Her computer screen has some of the most gorgeous pictures from Ireland.

Chair Leichtle got the financing for a restructuring of the office, with a counter sheltering the maze of computers and printers filling the space up to the windows.

Jennifer Storlie is a junior majoring in biology and minoring in chemistry. “This is my second year working in the history office. I am from La Crescent, MN. I have traveled but only in the US to Texas a couple of times, to Arizona, and Nevada. I am planning on going to grad school and then working in research.”

Liz Paone is a sophmore in Broad Field Social Studies, secondary education. “Next fall, I plan to study abroad. I will be spending most of my time in Italy and Ireland, but I plan to see as much of Europe as possible.” Liz had the honor and pleasure of being Sue’s nanny for her Karl and Jack while she was in Ireland.

Our Computer and Xena/Hercules expert Tom Baxter (*98) did move to the Milwaukee area with degree and bride Anna in hand.

South Hall

In the fall work began on remodeling the third floor for classrooms, then the occasional hammering stopped. I learned from Dale Braun that they had ignored his warnings that old paint contains lead and were dumbfounded to discover it. Presumably the State of Wisconsin will be able to solve this problem.

Otherwise the building is filled to overfilled with classes, for Math coming from North Hall and various KFA departments. I had to struggle to get my European History class back to 224 SH with its necessary maps this coming semester.

Kurt Leichtle has a brilliant plan to get the History Department back to its home, after nearly 20 years in KFA. I should live so long.

Alumni Donations

We wish to thank the following for their recent contributions to this fund, which continues the increased support to deserving History majors.

George & Phyllis Garlid Scholarship
Donna M. Drummond
Kevin Drummond
Kristi J. Fogtman
Michael W. Higgins
David & Patricia Peterson
Robert M. Peterson

History Department Scholarship
James B. Aiken Sr.
James W. Armbuster
Charlotte H. Farago
Wayne Funk
Ford Motor Co. (Matching gift)
Gordon O. Hendrickson
Elliott L. Moeser
Manley E. & Ann M. Olson
Douglas L. Patin
Stanley G. Peskar
Susan J. Stockman-Whitenack
Mary C. Strey
All donations go to students, who are perhaps as deserving as you were.

Faculty News

Ed Peterson (*54) is obviously in a rut. He fears to miss a single class, writes all over the board, gets himself covered with chalk, grades papers for hours at a time and says he loves it.
When he is not grading papers, he sits at his computer going over and over a "manuscript," until a publisher takes it away. Then he starts on another one. To prevent any interruption in this life style, he takes off for two months every summer to get more documents, which he has to transfer into his Mac, which will then be worked on forever and ever. This summer it was mostly Berlin and Magdeburg, where he lived with the family of the very kindly director of the Secret Police files.

In August, Ursula joins him and they continue her constant research on her and others' ancestors, which material she works on when she gets home endless hours until it is clear to the lucky client.

Her fall diversion is the garden and grass, along with delivering over 30 slide lectures on River Falls history to 3rd Graders, then reading the thank you notes from each pupil. This fall she helped celebrate the Sesquicentennial in the new library (where the hospital used to be). She was also on the committee which produced a huge mural on R.F. History on the wall of what she would remember as Moody's or Ben Franklin store, across from what some would remember as the Phillips Gas Station or Subway.

John J. Buschen ('66) has become not only the department's greatest traveler, particular to avoid cold weather, but its most creative user of the internet possibilities. At the lowest level is the circulation of humor, then his Today in History, which is posted outside the Department. Most impressive are his series of beautiful art classics created for his classes. He scans them in, enables students and friends to have access to them. He maintains and modifies our Home Page, which you should check occasionally. He has as recent pictures he can get of the faculty. You can get a liberal education by getting on his Emailing list.

His Christmas report had the best news that he has excellent classes this fall, and you will remember what high standards he has.

Herb Cederberg ('66) & Alice. As a part of their quest to visit every continent and every subcontinent in the world, Herb and Alice spent a week in Nicaragua over the Winter break. While there, they came to respect and revere the people as well as the awesome scenery, to deplore the Somosa tyrants for their countless depredations of the land and the people, and to learn that even the most meticulous caution is no guarantee that Gringos can ward off the dreaded scourge often referred to as "Motorcuzma's Revenge." The tennis tournament at Wimbledon this Summer is next on the schedule. GO SAMPRAS!!!

If all works out as planned, Herb will officially retire this Spring, but has worked out an "arrangement" with the new dean--an "unenforceable contract," to return in the Fall on a one-quarter time basis. Going "cold turkey" from his accustomed and necessary "student fix" might just be too great a shock--as others among the History faculty might well attest.

Stephen Feinstein ('69) & Susan. Steve is on a two-year leave from the History Department serving as acting director of a new Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies at the U of Minnesota. He has also accepted the offer of Director, effective September, 1999, at which time he will retire from UW-RF after 30 years of service. His new office is to help build education about the Holocaust and Genocide in both Minnesota and Wisconsin. The web site for the Center is http://www.chgs.umn.edu.

Since 1995, Feinstein has been the guest curator for Witness and Legacy: Contemporary Art About the Holocaust, shown originally at the Minnesota Museum of American Art. The show will be on tour through the year 2000 at twelve other museum sites across the United States. He is the curator of Absence/Presence: The Artistic Memory of the Holocaust and Genocide, a 7000 square foot exhibit at the Katherine E. Nash Gallery from January 7-February 25, 1999.

He has numerous articles, especially about Holocaust art, and an edited book, Feinstein, Schierman and Littell (eds), Confronting the hoasucn: a mandate for the 21st century (1998). He is writing Indelible images: artistic responses to the holocaust.

Kurt Leichtle ('86) "1998 was an interesting year for Leichtle. The year marked a return to the practice of public history as he helped research and then participated as the narrator in "Entering the Circle: The Lives of Pioneer Farm Women." The play toured through NW Wisconsin as part of Wisconsin's Sesquicentennial Celebra-tion. If you missed the stage version, a radio version is in the works.

Since the University is looking forward to its sesquicentennial as well the public history class researched and developed an exhibit to celebrate. The evolving exhibit will appear in stages in the Davee Library and open in April in the Barry Gallery. By May, we hope to have a touring version. I also continued to explore the world of electronic media. Parts of Hist 206, Native American History now have powerpoint presentations and I have been moderating the advanced placement U.S. History list since June. Yes, I have begun tinkering with Web pages. I will be co-sponsoring the AP workshops in the April again. This year we will hold three--River Falls, Memoninee, and Rice Lake--thanks to a system grant. The summer includes a graduate course on the 19th century."
"The Leichtle household continues on its merry way to somewhere. Kyle's voice has changed and he is as tall as his mother. There are rumors that he is becoming a teenager--fortunately we have one more year."

Betty Bergland ('90) returned from a one-year sabbatical leave engaged in research on relationships between Norwegian immigrants and Native Americans. She has submitted proposals for several conferences, drawing on this material, and is also working on a conference developing her findings. She plans to attend the "Women's Worlds" Conference in Tromsø, Norway, in June, where she will be on the program and hopes to interview Sami scholars on parallel issues in Finnmark. Of related interest, she participates in a year-long seminar on Race, Ethnicity and Migration at the University of Minnesota, committed to examining interethnic relationships in the U. S.; and she continues to serve on the Program Committee of the Immigration and Ethnic History Society. Also, she has been asked to submit several essays to The Encyclopedia of Life Writing, including one on Immigration, another on National Identity and Life Writing.

Recently, she submitted a new course proposal on Global Migration in U. S. History at UW-RF. She is also serving on the Ethnic Studies Committee, the Women's Studies Committee and the Legislative Advisory Committee. Her move to St. Paul this summer lightens, significantly, the commute to River Falls.

Ayasha Shariff ('97) filled in for Betty last year, finishing just in time to have her first son in June. She will teach her sport's history again this spring, surely pleased by her Cub's Sammy Sosa, as I am pleased with McGwire.

John Ness ('98) joined us this fall to teach the growing sections of Introduction to Asia. We have long looked for a teacher with his deep awareness of its history and the ability to teach it to our students. With the retirement of Steve, we have a good chance to keep Ness. One of the benefits was to receive a marvelous Christmas card as designed by his wife Karen, who teaches Art at Concordia College, St. Paul.

Faculty Emeriti

Walker Wyman ('32) & Helen still have the record for 46 years of service to UW-RF, plus the years of service in retirement, including the Wyman Lecture and Concert Series, the most important opportunities in the cultural life of the area. They are both still going strong, including south for the winter.

Clyde Curry Smith ('65) & Ellen, are enjoying the luxury of the Golf View Drive, with no longer any obligation to shovel snow. Ellen's mother just celebrated her 95th birthday, and at the other end of the family daughter Karen had her third child, a boy, which event briefly interrupted her teaching math at UW-RF. He had marvelous news that the great-grandson of Leonard King, Clyde's doctoral expertise, has contacted Mary Magnan, who wrote her Master's paper on King, which I left at the British Museum in London. As Oxford student he desires to obtain more information from Clyde and Mary.

Noble Stockton ('66) wrote from 209 19th St., Pacific Grove, CA, 93950, that they walk by the ocean as often as they can, but enjoy our "Ihatho yoga" class 3 times a week at the senior center and Ronnie works as a volunteer in the outpatient surgery of the community hospital. The month old Wm. Noble Stockton finally understands, "These are grandpa's books, your books are over there." Son Paul travels much, in Russia, Mongolia, S. Africa, right now in Germany. When at home he wants to plant grapes and make wine.

Visiting Noble's daughter Carol in Seattle, and granddaughter Ariel. "Occasion was Ariel's participation with 800 other children in a Suzuki-method musical spectacular in the new civic Auditorium. In the climax 550 violinists, aged 2 1/2 to 14 played together on the stage - in tune!"

Charles Graham: Pol Sci (1954-63) & Bonnie visited son John, and Martha and boys in London and traveled with them to see some of the sites where Bonnie's father (Spencer Ure) fought in France and Belgium in World War I. "Despite quite a bit of rain, we found it quite moving. We could actually drive up the roads and through the villages he wrote about (and photographed) in his diary, walk in the preserved trenches and see the American monument at Montfaucon with its plaque to the 91st Division to which he was attached as engineer. We also stayed in Oudenarde, where he was poised to build a bridge over the Scheldt River when the Armistice was declared. He wrote that if peace had not come that day, he probably would not have been around to write his diary. He also wrote that the Flanders action was just war and more war, the horrors of which need not be recounted, which should be a lasting reminder that there shall be no more of it."

Dick Swensen & Grace, ('55) "The dean" remains active in bringing European culture (the Habbestad trio from Oslo and the Prague Wood Quintet to the area and he joined in the choir for the "Messiah." Grace helped with 800 Lefse and 14 loaves of Swiss bread. She has led worship services at a number of area churches, and joined the staff at Gethsemane Lutheran Church in Baldwin. Special concerns continue to be Bread for the World, World Hunger, the National Peace Foundation and ELCS Disaster Relief, as to Nicaragua.

Blanche Davis ('46) & Maurice Frick, "On October 2, Blanche quietly celebrated her 90th birthday. A photograph shows both were in fine fettle June 1 for their 25th Anniversary." Blanche looks young enough to do another
“Arsenic and Old Lace,” with her peers. We were pleased to help her locate Walker Wyman.

Wayne Sukow & Carol wrote from Washington, where he works with the NSF and Carol has been teaching in an English as a Second Language program, with her Spanish MA. He went to New Zealand as NSF representative. “We’ll be glad to tell you all about watching penguins coming in from the sea, seeing albatrosses flying in to find their partner-for life, seeing a glacier up close and personal, and not being able to understand the New Zealander’s English.”

Sue Steinwall, who took Ericson’s place at the ARC sent us a picture of her as a “shareholder” in a legal firm. “Other firms have ‘partners,’ we have shareholders. As one of my colleagues pointed out the distinction is much like winning a pie eating contest, only to discover that first prize is more pie.” With a work that is sometimes overwhelming, she relaxes with house and garden. “I am assisted in all home chores by my dogs, Lisl and Heidi, who have at least learned that the gardens are off limits.”

Her email: ssteinwall@fredlaw.com

Susan Watson (’97) is doing great work with the ARC and helping with the River Falls celebration of its and Wisconsin’s Sesquicentennial.

Maurine & Dick Brynildsen wrote on 12 January from Sedona, AZ, “You’re having a milder winter than we are...snow still lingers on the ground from a heavy snowfall 3 days ago.” Their travels this year included Georgia and Florida to visit the adorable grandchildren. Three weeks in Spain and Portugal, they found the greatest charm in Toledo, and Ronda, with the Roman ruins in Merida really memorable. The planned trip to Peru was temporarily delayed while Dick took time out for all the treatments needed to rid himself of cancer. Letting Maurine do the driving gave him the rare chance to appreciate the beauty of the scenery. “The contrast between Sedona’s red rock spires and the snow virtually compel one to take camera in hand. Off to Peru in March.”

Mike Krukones teaching Poli Sci in Louisville, described a stressful semester. “I find the students’ attitudes have become very uncivil and downright abrasive at times. Maybe we are getting a different type of student and will have to adjust.” He also described the situation in Washington as ridiculous and scary. He expressed pleasure that “members of Congress were helping the folks in the hinter-land to know what is right and wrong.”

Chang, C.S. & Shelley, (‘64) wrote about their new book together, “Redefining History: Ghosts, Spirits and Human Society in Pu Sung-ling’s World, 1640-1715.” It was published by the Univ. of Michigan, where they have been teaching since leaving UW-RF.

Alumni News

Marla Sorensen (’76) sent a report on the achievements of the Amery Library: “We had several author events this fall. Tom Hegg who wrote A Cup of Christmas Tea and Peef the Christmas Bear gave a reading in October. Then Ben Logan came for the library’s 70th anniversary, financed by a Wisconsin Authors Speak Grant...Herb Cederberg is going to moderate our history reading group again. This, the fourth year, the group is reading immigrant literature. Last year John Buschen led two meetings and Herb led the other two. Everyone thought that Herb and John did a wonderful job.” As building upgrading, “We installed central air in May and the dogs just loved it during the summer.”

Ron Swanson (’81) “Besides my continuing genealogical research, I recently returned to my beloved Wyoming where I hiked to within view of Wyoming’s highest point, Gannett Peak, in the Bridger Wilderness of the Wind River Mountains. This area also contains seven of the largest permanent glaciers in North America. I am finally starting on my book, From Prussia to America, the story of my father’s German ancestors, and am, very thankful to Ursula for all the help in translating the old German records”. Next travel will be Banff area in Canada next summer and possibly Germany.

Sister Jane (Winkler, ’72) gave us last summer a marvelous tour of the new Retreat house at her Carmelite Monastery in Hudson. She counts her many blessings: “The Center for Independent Living continues to be one of the focal points of my life...they have supplied me with a ‘chair glide’ that allows me to ride up and down two of our four flights of stairs. I can’t tell you what an ‘energy saver’ this has become for me, beside enabling me to be more self-sufficient. Then through the Dept. of Vocational Rehabilitation, they were able to obtain for me a state of the art voice activated computer. I am so excited because this now means that with the aid of some lessons to help nudge me into the lane of computer literacy, I will once again be mainstreamed back into the world of communication...They are providing me with two special phones. One is a cordless phone that can go anywhere I go. The other is really ‘high tech’; it can be operated by remote control, but used as ‘speaker’ phone and replaces the normal receiver with a ‘headset’. This is a great asset especially since my muscle strength continues to decrease as the effect of my MS and CP increase...Each day I wonder how life could possibly get any better, and then God shows me!”

Paul Marcello (’98) “I am writing you from my new home in Memphis. I am working at the Hung-Phelan Home, which is an historic antebellum mansion built in 1828. The home has a rich civil war history. The owner was a
confederate Lt. Colonel, in charge of arms procurement. Leonidas Polk organized the provisional army of Tennessee on the grounds. Noteworthy guests were Jefferson Davis, Nathan Bedford Forrest, as well as U.S. Grant, who set up his H.Q. in the home after Memphis fell. I hope to be working as historic interpreter at Gettysburg this spring.”

**David & Lani Madis (’61)** sold their cabin. “Dave is talking about looking for property along the Mississippi. I think he fondly remembers his youth and cooking catfish on the beach... During the summer the store went... on the internet. It started with 3-5 items a week and has grown to 50 plus in a wide variety of categories. Kelly or Dave now spend at least three hours a day, six days a week, monitoring responses and bids. This from a man who still can’t set the VCR. Really keeps everyone hopping trying to pack items and ship between customers. Last week I was called to do three mail runs because they were too busy to leave. We understand Christmas CRUNCH.”

**Mike Dodge & Catherine (’59)** first wrote with his card that he had finished the first draft of a novel. “I’ve either finally done something worthwhile or committed my most extravagant act of dilettantism. Catherine is writing a book-length memoir. I’ve seen some of it and she’s got some very funny stuff.”

When ENP lamented that he found even fewer comedians funny, Mike sent his funny *Tribune* piece about St. Paul Saints’ baseball, and a Commentary for the *Trib*, “Hunting even real witches is ugly,” an emphasis on the Tobacco Trial. In his “Is anybody Funny,” he counted Harry Shearer, Fran Lebowitz, Garrison Keillor and the cartoon character Mark Trail. Mike described, “The national comedy routine in which the President takes a blow to the solar plexus and a prominent Republican topples over on cue.” Like a Laurel and Hardy routine. He thought: “There’s something about Mary,” was surprisingly funny.

He concluded with a funny piece about a visit to a submerged New Orleans after a rainfall of 21 inches in 24 hours. At a bar, the proprietor introduced him to his Congressman Livingstone, “He’s a fascist. But, by God, he’s my fascist.”

**Diane (’78) & Craig Zabel (’77)** Craig is now chair of the Art History Dept. at Penn State and Diane is Business Librarian, but Zach is doing great things with youth hockey, a 5 win record, in soccer, also Little League baseball, summer camp in the Adirondacks, and now a drummer for the school band. His Christmas tree and snow man card looks like a computer creation.

**Dave Peterson (’80/MA’91) & Pat Owen** Pat finished her Master’s degree in Library and Information Science in August and now concentrates on chipping away at stuff that’s been on hold for a few years. “As Woodbury’s population continues to climb off the charts, we continue to be the busiest branch, so we almost always seem to be overwhelmed. As more and more people rely on the Internet for information, we find that our job is to stay a step ahead of most people and attempt to organize the sites so we can find things in an efficient manner. I’m surprised that so many people think we can just type their questions into a computer and come up with an answer in seconds.”

For the new house, “Orrin Thompson kept delaying the construction date and raising the price by thousands of dollars, so I the impatient one, told them to forget it.” Dave, at the MHS, checks on various History conferences, visits South Hall and sometimes leaves his mark, “The South Hall Ghost.” Their Elinoor and Michael show keen interest in both music and in books. Pat’s address is PjoOOG@iol.com

Pat was clever enough to locate **Paul & Karin Sailer (BS ’79, MAT’ 90)** in Angleton, TX, by using “Switchboard.com” on the Internet.

**Ken Thatcher (’88)** is delighted to be working among the books of the River Falls Library and hopes to increase his hours as its popularity increases.

**Michael P. Peterson (’76) & Kathy** last summer driving through Australia, stopping to let Amelia do some opal mining, and Michael to lecture in Melbourne on animated cartography. This left him little time at his cabin in Cornucopia, as will spending this spring on a Fulbright Professorship in Vienna.

**Jim DeMarco (’61) & Virginia** have reached the stage of admiring their first grandson, to join the three granddaughters. “Jim’s program at the Labor Department incorporated the beneficiaries who were formerly paid through the Social Security Administration. That, along with Y2K and the various fits, starts and re-scheduling imposed on the people who are trying to fix it have occupied most of his time. Virginia has continued to deal with petitions for Federal acknowledgment - two groups of squabbling Nipmuc have now been superseded by two groups of squabbling Eastern Pequots as the focus of her research. A prior petitioner that was denied by the Assistant Secretary has filed suit in federal district court against everybody from Sec’y. of Interior Babbitt down to the lowly staffers who wrote the technical reports. “If you encounter accusations flying around the Internet that Virginia DeMarce has a long history of racist writings, please do not believe them without checking with us for the context.”

Son John would finish college, but a required course has failed to meet its minimum enrollment and has been canceled five semesters in a row. They visited daughter Josie at Oberlin. “They assured us they had done a truly marathon stint of dish washing in preparation for our arrival. We toured the lab where she experiments on rats,
heard a lecture on biodiversity by Edward O. Wilson, who is very famous for things like that, and generally acted as parently as possible."

Son Karl won the election for associate judge in Scotland County, MO. He enjoyed being in the state legislature, but it didn't pay well and limited the legal assignments he could take. The retiring judge decided to go out in timely fashion, leaving his successor to deal with the New Year's drunks."

Francis Sagert ('85) & Dawn wrote mostly on 18 month old daughter Emma, "walking, talking, starting potty training and teaching us how to giggle a little. Uncle Erich lived 96 years, out-lived 3 wives, 2 world wars. He grew up poor, experienced combat on the Russian front and was a P.O.W. for 4 1/2 years. Then he raised a family, built a candy business in Green Bay and lived to see his great-great grandchildren."

Carole Kettner ('81 & '87) & John Peters "The year's traveling took us to California for Easter to meet our wonderful new grandson, Tyler...In June we went to Lake Tahoe. John attended an insurance conference there. We got some nice hiking in, and a very little bit of gambling. This year's NEA meeting was in New Orleans, so we were there for the 4th of July. Carol moved into a brand new classroom in October. Her two favorite things: a sink and more than 2 outlets. She has a great class this year and is not looking forward to saying good bye to them in June. John was able to accompany a group of students to Madison for the lighting of the Christmas tree in the Capitol. He was nominated by a former student to be in Who's Who Among America's Teachers. Carol was awarded the Elementary Environmental Teacher of the Year."

David Olson ('68) sent from Nagoya a card with a picture of bamboo logs. "Still pursuing bamboo zen ideal of perfect fullness in emptiness while my platter runneth over with world and its manifestations!"

Ken Peterson ('71) thought that he had applied revisionist history about him in a newsletter two years ago. He quotes himself, "The next four years will be interesting. I've never seen a seated president impeached or a first lady go to prison before.' Half way into the term I have been proved 50% right and the other 50% is still within the realm of possibility. Now that I have rubbed salt into the wounds, I can leave this topic and move to less abrasive items." Ken then argued that Clinton has received his due punishment by getting his earned place in the history books. He has an understanding for Clinton's actions.

He watched the Minn. election. "At Coleman headquarters the business elite wandered around in a daze, while at Humphrey headquarters, the pseudo intelligentsia did the same thing. At the Ventura headquarters, however, the disenfranchised young were having a party with a rock band and most pit. (sic) The fellows on the way to the bowling alley showed up in their bowling shirts, and a whole bunch of common people were celebrating with their candidate. This is maybe the way it was intended, common people electing one of their own."

He regrets somewhat that younger daughter Leann will not be taking a course with me this spring - as her sister did - but will work and then go to an English Education program in Indiana next fall. "She picked the school, Bethel of Indiana, but I could not have picked a more conservative school." Before she reaches the land of Quayle, she will spend some time in California, then off to China for 3 weeks, then to Calcutta to spend 3 weeks in a mission hospital/feeding station, then off to Romania, and finish the summer in the UK."

Chris Gildemeister ('89/MA '93) finished his work at Catholic University of America on his Ph.D. "After four years in our nation's capital, cynicism and the urban environment had taken their toll. I knew only that I was unhappy and that I was seeking. Finally I decided to follow an inner desire and came to Eureka California. I am employed at Alder Bay, an assisted living home for senior citizens, and I am enjoying the work very much. It is nice, after so much study to do something, especially for some one else - and our residents are wonderful...and do they have stories to tell? Marvin, the bombardier from World War II, Dorothy, the perennially cheerful walker...There are many kind and loving people here who truly go out of their way to make me feel welcomed...Most enjoyable is the fact that the Cursillo Community is ecumenical in the extreme, thus permitting the group to see and to share what is best in each tradition - each a separate tile in a mosaic, each with its own shape and color, each contributing a vital part to the entire picture of God" He insists he still the same old Chris and would be interested in some community college teaching in history and religion.

His internet: gildemeister@wein.net

Nancy Johnson Herbison ('74) "The web page looks very nice! None of you will remember me, because it has been a few years since I earned my BS in History. I went on to finish my M.S.E. program in Guidance in 1975 and have been working in the Tomahawk School District since then. Even though Dr. Cederberg predicted guidance would drive me to insanity, I am still with it most of the time. I even get the chance to teach history from time to time. My last foray was a course called Contemporary History. I started with the reform movement (using Dickens, etc., the kids couldn't understand why they were reading literature in a history class) and ended up discussing discrimination and prejudice. The class made a 47 minute video on developmentally disabled members of our community that the D.D. Center is currently
using. It was great fun, but all 29 kids decided that video production was NOT a future career option. I am also coaching 37 students grades 7-12 in forensics. Obviously, Moments in History is my favorite category."

"Clare and I will be married 25 years in July. Son Scott is currently a junior. He is looking at attending UW-RF, although most likely in computers. Kari is a freshman. James is in 5th grade. They are all into the rounds of school and extra-curriculars. Scott is into music and drama. Kari and Jim enjoy music and athletics.  

Patrick J. Hughes ('84) "My wife and I are currently living on a wooded lot outside of Randolph, MN. I have two children from my first marriage, Megan, 9 and Emily, 7. Both girls live with their mother in Faribault, MN and are top students in their class. My second wife and I have one boy named Brandon, nine months old, and another baby due in May. We are both employed by General Motors Acceptance in Bloomington, MN. You could say I landed pretty far away from the History field. However, I still enjoy history immensely and find myself watching many programs on the History Channel, A&E and PBS. I really miss the intellectual discussions and the great camaraderie that campus life had to offer. We do make it a point to attend Homecoming each year if possible and generally take a tour of the campus. It is amazing how much changes in a short amount of time. I have to run now, but I just thought you might want to hear from another lost soul from days gone by."

Dave Olson ('74) is the Director of Contract Operations for the 92nd Contracting Squadron at Fairchild Air Force Base, Spokane. I have been in the contracting business for 22 years. Contracting for the DOD/AF Base enabled me to live and work in England for 8 years. I spent 4 years in Suffolk and 4 years in Oxfordshire (just outside of Oxford). Because I was not happy with my academic performance as an undergraduate (spent most of my time playing baseball & socializing), even though my student teaching experience under Phil Schneider in Frederic, Wisconsin was wonderful; I went back to school in 1992 to study Public Administration. I received my MPA from Troy State University (Europe campus) in 1993.

I've been married to Bobbie for over 25 years. Two children, Billie, a junior (plus) at the University of Washington, and Matt a sophomore at Eastern Washington Univ. I am currently writing a history of my family, which I will present to my parents at their 50th wedding anniversary in Cushing, WI, in September, 1998. Though I was not a totally dedicated student during my undergraduate days, the background I received in my history courses gave me a strong foundation to build my career on. I return to RF every few years, walk the campus, and relive the fond memories.

Mike McLaren ('91) finished the MFA in Graphic Design at the Savannah College of Art and Design. "I managed to fly through my reviews...they actually told me that I was a standard by which they judged other students' work! I am no longer with the school as a designer, having resigned in September. There are various reasons for my resignation ranging from egos to personalities to ethics, but the primary reason was that I watched a friend die last summer and it caused me to think of the future and my own mortality.

I managed to do some viable work for my book, most notably a complete redesign of the school's entire identity system, now being used on every conceivable promotional item from key chains and mouse pads to marble plaques and vehicles. I also designed the academic catalogue and a recruitment poster for use in Spain, both netted me design awards, and three design citations for other pieces. I guess I found something I'm reasonably good at!"

Joanie and I recently returned from Scotland, where we spend 5 days in the Highlands, tracing my ancestry along the braes of Balquhidder, the parish and village that surround Loch Voil and Loch Lubnaig some 40 minutes north of Glasgow. I did research on the net, contacted various clan groups including the Clan MacLaren Society of North America, to locate specifically where the ancestral lands of the ancestral lands of the MacLarens was, and where exactly the "Boar's Rock", the clan chief's gathering place in Balquhidder and the motto for the clan, was. We found the place only because it is now the final resting place of the subject of a Hollywood movie.

After touring my idol Rennie Mackintosh's Glasgow School of Art, situated on a ludicrously STEEP hill above the river, we hopped the Flying Scotsman train to Edinburgh for two days of sightseeing. We have decided that we will return to the city for an extended stay, because it is one of the most beautiful we have ever experienced -- as were the people and the Scotch!"

Mark Ledbetter ('91) has been informing me of the realities of police work in Hopkins, MN, which he finds much more interesting than finishing a Ph.D. in Chemistry, with its repetitive experiments. He sent me a picture of his carrying off a limp protestor, but noted that he is on a first name basis with the most active peace protesters.

He was kind enough to invite us to his wedding to the gorgeous Kim, with an excellent wedding sermon, and a reception in what must be described as a fancy basketball court and a cast of hundreds. The unforgettable part was seeing Mark and McLaren in full tuxedo regalia clambering down the bank to welcome us, and
were not offended that I was in my tieless teaching uniform. Email: bedwetter@ibm.net

Erich Moore (98) "I just thought I would send you a quick E-mail, letting you know that I am now beginning my great drive to full scholarship here at Temple. I begin classes tonight with a course on the French Revolution and then have a World War II course with Dr. Russell Weigley tomorrow. I had to get permission into that one as his are always full... but since he's considered one of the premier military historians and will be retiring in a couple years, I figured I'd best get them all in as I could... I am enjoying Philadelphia. It needs a great overhaul and is rampant with poverty, but aside from that is filled with many wonderful things. I have been given quite the scenic tour and have begun hitting the museums and such... quite a good place to finish my career as a student... anyway, I hope all is well and I shall offer any great new insights or academic debates as I encounter them that might amuse you... and I shall now begin to see how well prepared I am and how truly in the minority approach I am... nothing like a good challenge!"

Barbara Corey-Boulet (75): "I am still prosecuting criminal cases for the State of Washington. I am the Senior Appellate Deputy for the Pierce County Prosecuting Attorney's Office in Tacoma (a 115+ attorney office) and also carry a homicide caseload. Indeed, I am presently in the early stages (jury selection) of what will likely be 3-4 month capital trial for the kidnapping, rape, and murder of a 9-year-old girl. You may not think that Russian history has all that much relevance to this type of work, but I incorporate seemingly innumerable analogies from Russian history in closing arguments, etc. For example, I sprinkle my closings with references to Potemkin villages and false Dmitris.

I also do a little teaching for various professional organizations and will teach technical prosecutions at the National Advocacy Center in Columbia, South Carolina, this January. My oldest child (there are 4 boys) is off to the University of Washington in a few weeks. He proposes to major in history.

Rich Peterson (98) "I am working on a project dealing with Australians in World War I, mainly at Gallipoli. I have only been able to find two books at the local library, and neither deals exclusively with Australians. Essentially, I would like to know of any good books on the subject, especially on the experiences of the infantryman, or if you know where I might start my search?"

Kerry Grippen (70) raved about Buschen's History Dept. Home Page: "I am overwhelmed! It is now about 4:15 and I should be out of here but I started looking at your history links... and here I am! It is really a great site that you have put together. I clicked on the first one and was going to print it until I realized it had over 2,500 links and would have taken 53 pages to print!... I again found some good sites for my teachers and students but your page will really help some of them."

Stephanie Zeman (88) is in her second year of Law School at Wm. Mitchell in St. Paul. "It was tough but she survived nicely. She sent a card of North Hall, being sold but dating back to 1964. "I am helping a Prof. with a 100 year history of the law school. I get to do a timeline on MN/US history. What power! History according to me!"

Kathie Nettestad (80) Pat Peterson wrote that "Kathie works for Northwest Airlines as a reservationist. She does not particularly like that her job starts at 4 a.m., but it allows her to indulge in her passion for travel. She is always jetting off here and there and tries to spend as much time as she can in Pelican Rapids (her hometown). She regularly she especially likes to travel to visit various museums and is always in the know about special exhibitions that are happening around the world."

Frank Ginther (BS '89, MS, Ag Ed '91) We met one very cold night in the Post Office. He was delighted he had achieved tenure in his beloved position as Youth Agent for Pierce County.

Mary (Magnan) D'Andrea (70) was on campus last spring interested in a position in our Registrar's office, like that she does at Lakeland College. She looks great.

Doug Putin (76) & Liza: "Work remains intense with too much travel throughout the U.S. Liza and I had a great trip to Japan last Summer. Nicholas went with me to Sweden to speak at a conference. Russia is disintegrating quickly. A car bomb exploded in Liza sister's courtyard killing its intended victim, a neighbor. The lady politician murdered in St. Petersburg had advised Liza on her Master's Thesis. I fear the worst is yet to come. The politics in our great capital have become so anal and disgusting that it's amazing that the country is doing so well. Perhaps the only solace we can take out of the situation is that the rest of the country functions quite well without Washington."

Janet Poff (BS '86, MA '90) "I am married to a very nice Georgian man. Levan has a degree in English from Tbilisi University and master's in Linguistics from the University of Victoria, BC. He is ABD on a master's in political science from Ohio State. He used to work as an interpreter for the Georgian Foreign Ministry. He interpreted for Eduard Shevardnadze and James Baker during Baker's official state visit to Georgia in 1992. Now he works for Inger and Aronson in Minneapolis."

Janet has been doing quite a lot of genealogy work at the LDS facility in Oakdale, so perhaps you will run into her there. She has traced her mother's side back to the 16th century. Her library work is in Oakdale and Lake Elmo.

Ward & Kay Winton (67) "Anna is at Menomonie working on a Masters degree in apparel
design and Angeline is a junior at UW-EC. Both are anxiously waiting for the day when they will be finished with their education. But even though they leave every Sunday to travel the freeway south to school, they never really leave home, thank heaven...This summer Ward completed my gazebo which was a birthday gift for last year. We spend a good deal of the day there among Angeline’s plants watching the birds, squirrel and bunnies in the backyard. The Winton women have already started looking at the seed catalogues for next spring.”

**Phil Schneider, BS/MS 1966,** “I believe I was the first one to complete a thesis in the Master’s Program at UWRF. I taught history and economics in Frederic for 35 years and impacted approximately 2,500 students. I outlasted 5 administrators, 5 principals and numerous Boards of Agitation, I mean Education. I was chief negotiator several years and active in NUE all of my career and have friends throughout the state with similar interest in making education a more desirable career. I have been the President of our local chapter of Dollars For Scholars (Citizens' Scholarship Foundation of Frederic) for years and active in politics on all levels.

“Someone recently asked me why I was retiring and I thought a minute and said, “Well, some of my former students are now in their 50’s and I was teaching before the Kennedy assassination.” They responded with “OH!”

My wife, Joan, is completing her 28th year (graduate of UWRF in 1964) of teaching and is currently planning an elementary library as part of a building project. This will be her third such endeavor having planned our high school library and a library in Webster in the 60’s. She is also active in public service and involved in political activities.”

**David** and Michelle became parents in July to a daughter, Taylor Lee. Michelle teaches LD in New Richmond; David teaches history and economics in Durand. He continues to run a mowing and snow removal business on the side in the Hudson area where they reside. All three of our family are actively engaged in sending others to reap the benefits of UWRF.”

**From the Correspondence of C. C. Smith**

**Jim Rapp** (’71) excused his delay. “We presented a musical that I had written, “Bring on the Angels.” A cast of 50 and four performances. Our plan is to present a non-musical drama, “Daughters of Jerusalem” for Easter. …I’m looking forward to enjoying condo living more now that I am not building set or practicing drama every day…We are hoping that condo living will give us more time to do things we want to do.”

**Phil Idsvog (’68 & MA ’74) & Elaine** had their first grandchild. “Phil and I are enjoying our grownup children, golfing, motorcycling and still trying to survive in the work market. Phil is being Principal at P.J. Jacobs High School and Supervisor on the County Board. I have a new job working as a secretary at the high school. …Great Grandma Palma turned 104 in March and then a week later passed away. She was a little concerned that God had forgotten her.”

**Diane Raddatz** (’69) wrote from Hartford, WI: “It was last year almost to the day that one of my friends and a co-worker had her husband murdered. It became the O.J. style affair for Washington County and surrounding areas. …Two of the three young men who committed the murder work here as do many of the friends and relatives on both sides.” One was given 40 years, the other was acquitted. There were almost weekly visits to where she works with drug busts, “the usual Huber DUIs, the five finger people, and a couple of domestic assault charges to make the eye a little blacker still.” In Diane’s other world, A favorite breeding mare survived surgery, “All my other critters, three other horses, two cats and myself are healthy.”

**Kevin Trafford**, visiting English student in the late 70s, remembered trying to write about American history fast and illegally. “George Garlid asked me to read my mid-term paper to him. I ground to a halt after 2-3 lines.” He also remembered a student in Ed’s class likening the activity on the road to Verdun in 1916 to River Falls Main Street on a Friday night.

**Michael Higgins** (’71) wrote that he had happily finished a major renovation of his older home that had developed some structural problems. “As with any remodeling project involving drywall work, white plaster dust becomes a ubiquitous part of your life and an unending cleaning task. Most of the monumental cleaning endeavor is now behind me, but enough small details remain to keep me busy for months. The other main preoccupation had been weddings, three nephews and one niece.

“As Wisconsin celebrated its Sesquicentennial, I wanted to do a memorable project with my students. We made a 30 block quilt, each block showing an important event in Wis. history. Unable to find a mother to sew the blocks together, I had to do that myself…The most recent addition to my CD collection is the Cecilia Bartoli CD called “Live in Italy.” On it are two wonderful tracks one by Vivaldi entitled, Agitata da due venti and another by Rossini entitled Canzonetta Spagnuola. Listening to them simply takes one’s breath away.”

**Sheng Po Chang**: Cederberg got word from this History major four or five years ago. After graduating from UW-RF, he went on to obtain his Ph.D. in American History. He is now back in Taiwan teaching at Taiwan University.
Following are selections from the Alumni News on the HISTORY HOME PAGE, courtesy of Buschen. Its many older items you would find interesting, and its contemporary pictures.

Flint Johnson ('95) has completed work for his doctoral degree in Arthurian Studies from Glasgow U. in Scotland. While he waits for paper work and details to be completed, he has returned to his home in Hudson and stops by UW-RF on occasion as he applies for college teaching positions. He will substitute briefly for Buschen this spring.

Mike Newman ('76) Mike teaches 7-8 grade Social Studies, coaches track, and serves as the Bruce, WI, schools' gifted and talented coordinator; this is his 21st year with the schools. Wife Leah is an aide in Early Childhood and taking a course in sign language. Son Avery is in 5th grade, is taking trombone, and enjoys hunting and fishing. Sister Andrea is in 3rd grade, taking dance. Young Evan started kindergarten and enjoys his time at school. A trip to Disney World for the family was a special treat this past year.

Doug Champeau ('76) wrote that he is a speech writer for one of the politicians in the Minnesota House of Representatives, a career he finds exciting and highly creative. He lives in St. Paul with his wife and two children. Doug graduated with a double major in History and Journalism, so his current life combines his love and skills in both. He still remembers papers which he wrote for History classes as good preparation for life.

Paul Vasterling ('71) was on campus recently, showing his daughter, a prospective student, around. Paul and family live in Rochester, MN, where among other things, Paul has a weekly Sunday evening radio program entitled "Musica Romantica" on K105 which he conducts in Spanish. Paul and family continue to make regular trips to Latin America.

Tom Ptacek ('71) was in town visiting recently. Tom is principal at Highland Park Junior High in the suburbs of Portland, Oregon. Tom has held a variety of positions in the Portland School District for a number of years. They are now converting to block scheduling, and Tom is overseeing the changes, allowing a great deal of latitude to the teachers of each "house." Students are typical and range from children of highly motivated professional parents to highly armed children of other sorts. Tom is no longer wearing sandals, but otherwise appears the same.

Again our Invitation

What has become the easiest way to keep us informed is to get on the net to any of us, like, edward.n.peterson@uwrf.edu.

Unless you graduated before the Seventies, you will be able to find your way around the campus rather easily. To any of you, South Hall will look quite familiar and most of our classes are there. You may have to remind us of the name that goes with the older face.

ENP

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www.uwrf.edu/history