

More of us are headed off to higher education. **Meaghan Massella** is working toward becoming a master of acupuncture at Tai Sophia in Laurel, Md. In the meantime, she is also working part time at a mortgage company, making ends meet. Before she heads off to Chapel Hill, **Mercedes Barletta** is interning at the Art of the Ancient World department at the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston. In the fall, she will begin her post-baccalaureate program in classics at UNC. **Adriana Jones** is currently working at the C.D.C. and will be moving up north to start medical school in the fall. **Jen Greenberg** also is starting graduate school in the fall—in clinical psychology at Rutgers University. **Tracy Manaster** has moved again to join the Iowa Writers Workshop, working toward her MFA. She invites any classmates to come visit her for a taste of middle America.

If you want to head further west, **Josh Koch** reports that he and his classmates, **Dave Bihldorff**, **Ben Hurwitz**, and **Manny Sharma** loaded all their junk and moved into a shack in Baja. They are welcoming fellow classmates to come and visit. Upset with the current political and economic climate in the States, they have opted for the Cali life of surfing, drinking cheap beer, and fishing for dinner. **Courtney Watts** writes in from Stinson Beach, where she walks to work on the beach everyday. She works at a Montessori preschool and has been taking classes toward certification as a master teacher.

She lives with **Luke Kephart**, who is completing his degree at New College of California with a

humanities degree in culture, ecology, and sustainable community. They recently acquired a new gray cat named Hank.

**Juliet Ide** just completed her M.A. in religion and literature at Yale Divinity School. She has taken a job as a humanities teacher in Annapolis, Md., at the Key School, a private school set up by the professors at St. John's College. Also teaching, **Matt Zimpler** recently moved to Japan to teach English there. **Joseph Raymond Casey** is finishing a 10-week program in Okazaki, Japan, and planning on spending next year at the Hopkins-Nanjing Program in Nanjing, China. Also in the Far East, **Michael Gambale** is teaching young kids English in South Korea. He would like his classmates to know that his television only speaks Korean.

Marriage bells were ringing June 8 at the wedding of **Darcie Shapiro** and **Jeff Klein**. Fellow grads at the ceremony included **Elizabeth Owen**, **Katie Davis**, **Chelsie Antila**, **Andrea Donnelly**, **Liz Stein**, **Beth Slepian**, and **Ari Brochin**, as well as **Mike Schwartz '00**. Congratulations to Darcie and Jeff, as well as **Sarah Turbert** and **Keith Damsky** on their engagement! Keith popped the question at Disney World while Sarah was visiting fellow alumnus **Jamie Chin**. They have set the date for June 5, right over the bridge from Wesleyan in Portland, Conn.

Also in Connecticut, **Will Gladstone** is pursuing a master's and working full time at our alma mater. **Vasilios Hoffman** also is working at Wesleyan. **Andee Marksamer** is doing environmental field work near Hartford and **Nikesh Dalal** also is working and living in West Hartford.

That's all this time around. Please update us with what you and yours have been up to.

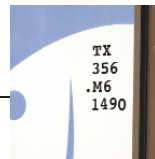
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## 2002

It dawned on me that yet another summer has passed since we graduated from Wesleyan. It's scary to think that the incoming class this fall will graduate in 2007. 2007! I am sure we all feel old. It just seems like the other day that we unpacked into the Foss Hill dorms or in my case, Butt C. Ah, nostalgia, what drives us through the years... That being said, let's start the updating!

First off—some wedding news: **Matthew Seidner** just got engaged to his girlfriend of two years, Jennifer Lazarus. They are planning a wedding for the fall of '04 in Chicago.

Sharla and **Joe DeMedeiros** announced the birth of their first child, José "Walker" DeMedeiros born Aug. 21 at 11:52 a.m. Joe reports everyone is doing well despite the lack of sleep.

Out on the West Coast, **Sebastian Kaplan-Sears** moved back to California to start Stanford Law School. **Emily Isaacs** just returned from three weeks in Wyoming on a NOLS backpacking and climbing trip for outdoor educators. She was psyched to start her new job with "Naturalists-at-

Large," where she'll be traveling around California leading outdoor educational trips for middle-schoolers! **Dan Clark** is moving to the Bay Area in California at the end of August, will live in West Oakland, and planned to work for an environmental consulting company. **Nora Houseman** is teaching in a self-contained sixth-grade classroom at the American Indian Public Charter School in Oakland and coordinating the JusticeCorps program. **Sarabeth Broder-Fingert** just received her master's from Wesleyan and will be moving to San Francisco in October with **Catherine Crowley-Delmar**.

**Erik Dawe** is living in Los Angeles doing special effects for films. He has recently worked on *Terminator 3* and *The League of Extraordinary Gentlemen*. Currently he is working on the *Chronicles of Riddick*, the sequel to Vin Diesel's *Pitch Black*. **Miles Gerson** graduated with his master's degree from Wes this past May and is heading out to teach at a private school in California.

**Christian Prellwitz** spent the past winter living in Telluride, Colo., working as a ski instructor and doing a lot of skiing and ice climbing. He lived for part of the summer on Long Island with his family before heading back to Telluride for another season of instructing and working towards becoming a certified mountain guide. While in Telluride, Christian had the pleasure of playing host to **Austin Zinsser**, **Steve Scribner**, **Ryan Huggins** and **Kathleen Jones '03** for some skiing and partying. The four of them spent this past year in Durango, Colo., living the good life and figuring out their

## WESLEYAN ALUMNI ASSOCIATION NEWS

### How to Keep the WESpirit of Service

This summer I received an e-mail from a Middletown resident, Evelyn Butts Elam. She asked me how to get in touch with three Wesleyan alumni who graduated in the late '60s. They had been her high school tutors. She wanted to reconnect and thank them for their help many years ago from her current vantage point as library technical assistant at *Choice* magazine. Evelyn's inquiry focused my attention on the vital role that community service plays in the Wesleyan learning experience.

"I took them for granted," she wrote, "but as I grow older I can more fully appreciate them and what they were doing." In reminiscing, Evelyn added: "No doubt they have memories of their youth at Wesleyan and the things they did to try to make the world a better place."

Wesleyan's Office of Alumni and Parent Relations helped Evelyn connect with these former tutors. I met with her recently and talked about outreach programs active on

Wesleyan's campus today. Community involvement remains a vital part of the Wesleyan experience. One of the ways the Wesleyan community is working to improve life for Middletown residents is with projects like the Green Street Arts Center, a neighborhood-based cultural center where students will be involved in programs which will bring the arts into the community.

Catherine Crimmins, Wesleyan's director of community service and volunteerism, reports statistics that indicate 70 percent of Wesleyan students will volunteer at some point during their tenure, all together logging approximately 30,000 hours each year. The real stats, though, are likely higher: "Wesleyan students are so independent, they often go out on their own and volunteer," she observes.

Of the students who find volunteer opportunities through her office, most opt for the tutoring program, she observes. "Being in such a strong education environment,



students want to share that knowledge with others," she says, noting that it can be "a very powerful experience." Tutor Jhanelle Allen '04 concurs. A biology and neuroscience and behavior double-major, she is considering a Teach for

America career. Jhanelle says, "My one or two hours of tutoring per week will plant seeds of confidence and ambition and also pave the way to higher education." Nneka Ogbaa '04, a biology major, notes that "tutoring gives me an opportunity to gain skills and knowledge that I may not otherwise obtain." Danny Rodriguez '04, an English and

economics double-major, relates his volunteer efforts to his own experience growing up in New York, recalling the impact that others had on helping him get to Wesleyan.

"It's a two-way street; both tutor and tutee are deeply affected by the relationship," says Catherine Crimmins.

Wesleyan alumni apply lessons from the undergraduate experience in a myriad of ways. Beyond the careers that many have devoted to service, most regional Clubs offer opportunities to connect with others in the Wesleyan family who value community service. Hearing from Evelyn years later drives home the message that your service can make a big impact. We can all be proud of the Wesleyan tradition of community service.

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