

Telluride Newsletter

1989 February

Volume 76, Number 2

New Housemembers

This academic year, the house is graced with the presence of nine new housemembers, who constitute well over one third of the house.

Virginia Schattman is a freshperson in the school of Arts and Sciences. A chatty, gutsy Texas Rose, Virginia studies Theater Arts and Romance Languages and participates in various productions on and off the Cornell stage. Of Telluride, she says, "It's like walking into the door of my house in a previous life. It still tickles me that I can walk in and talk to people about so many things...even if you're a freshman, you can talk with upperclassmen." The bad side of this, she feels, is the occasional inferiority complex the company at Telluride House can bring on.

Carlos Rojas, another freshperson in the school of Arts and Sciences, is continually very tall as he pursues studies in Classics, Philosophy, and Cognitive Science. Adding to the southern contingent, Carlos joins us from Atlanta, Georgia. Carlos is a regular guest on Telluride House Computing Facility Late Night, where he laboriously churns out papers that garner him academic acclaim. Occasionally, he cannot find his shoes, but can always be found when discourse is in action.

Eulonda Goosby, another freshperson in the School of Arts and Sciences, pursues African-American Studies. A long way from Little Rock, Arkansas, she comments, "What I do like about the house — oh I don't know, I could rave on — is that I have close friendships here, and we're not in the intellectual wasteland." Eulonda feels we would all do well to relax a little bit more, and we share her sentiment.

George Paci is a freshman in the School of Arts and Sciences, from Trenton, New Jersey. He has studied Physics and Philosophy at Cornell.

Jonathan Pease, is the newest of the new housemembers, as he has just joined us Spring semester. Jonathan is a transfer student to Cornell from Deep Springs, and he spent his fall semester studying and working at an engineering co-op, gaining practical experience in his field of Civil and Structural Engineering. His goal at Telluride is "...to get a lot done, because there is a lot of work to be done here." He also expects to get a lot of quilting done here during the longer house-meetings.

Jeannie Chiu is a Junior in the College of Arts and Sciences, double-majoring in Biochemistry and English. When she is not having trouble deciding which of the many fascinating courses to take, she participates in on-campus scientific research. She says that with reference to the house, she would like to be a little bit more like Senior Jennifer Ruesink. This is not to say that she would like to be tall and row crew, but that she would like to bring her perspectives on biological sciences to this often humanities-oriented community.

Ellen Choy is a junior in the College of City and Regional Planning, studying coincidentally enough, city and regional planning. She was unfortunately unable to visit her family in Australia over winter break, due to a recently broken foot. She, Ellen McGill, and our new faculty guest XinXin Jhjang can be found speaking Mandarin Chinese together, much to the confusion of other housemembers.



Jeannie Chiu and Ellen Choy enjoy dinner. (New Housemembers)

Last, we welcome Sumangala Lelwala, a Sri-Lankan graduate student in Linguistics and Cognitive Sciences. Sumangala brings to the house a font of cultural experiences, from his birthplace and his long stint as a monk. Sumangala finds great value in the democratic process at Telluride house, "...the freedom of actual speech and energy." He says, "If the house is receptive, I would like to see a more balanced state of mind."

And the house this year is receptive to all our new and valuable contingent. Indeed, they have already shaped and become a part of our self-governing, intellectual community. They continue to challenge our old ideas and infuse us with new ones.

Terri van der Vlugt, SP86 CB87

CBTA Scientists

George Paci, a freshman from the 1987 Chicago Tasp, is continuing the house tradition of dividing his interests between the sciences and the humanities. He is probably one of the few housemembers who would touch Physics with a ten foot pole. As an intended double major in Physics and Philosophy, he is a worthy counterpart to sophomore Terri van der Vlugt, a College Scholar double majoring in Physics and Comparative Literature, and junior Jeannie Chiu, double majoring in Biochemistry and English. These science students not only bring their interests to the house, they interest the more humanities-oriented members by showing, in forums both informal and formal, the relationships between the laboratory and the library.

continued on page 2

Williams TASP 1988

"This is a small book on a large subject — an enormously large subject."

And so begins the bible of the Williams College 1988 TASP, *A Theory of Economic History* by Sir John Hicks. How large was the subject? During their struggle to discover the origins of "the making of modern industrial society in England and America", the 17 TASPers learned secrets of a Tuscan merchant's underwear, Dutch tulips, and Indonesian peasants. During their time as TASPers, they learned secrets of building friendships, building knowledge, and building a community. Only time will show whether the lessons of the immortal and despised Hicks outlast the others.

The Economic History was one of the first stops on the TASPers' journey to industrialized America, a journey led by Professors James Wood and Robert Dalzell of the Williams College history department. After a week of reading and discussing methods of reading and discussing economic history, the professors took the TASPers back to a time that bore little resemblance to the industrial era — the Middle Ages. Understanding how historical movements can have long-reaching effects on economic progress became a theme of the seminar, as the students worked their way from the traders of the European city-states through the explorers and settlers of early America up to the Revolutionary minutemen and beyond.

This study of many times and places led to questions about the definition of progress in these different contexts and the prerequisite conditions for economic change and, eventually, industrialization. Wood and Dalzell, who came to be known as "Siskel and Ebert go to the Industrial Revolution", encouraged, through the examples set by their own heated discussions, debate on these questions in seminar. The three-hour morning sessions also often included more unusual activities such as skits, *tableaux vivants*, and music videos (one depicting colonial traders crooning a Beatles medley) as other ways of interpreting the readings and the discussions.

Debate on questions raised in seminar often continued into other times of the day and night, but conversations on everything from socialism to Smurfs were heard at the TASP table in the Williams cafeteria and in the living room in Perry House, where the group stayed. Public speeches given by the TASPers also provoked arguments that ran late into the night. Although most speakers chose to discuss political or philosophical issues, punk rock, aborigines, and Rorschach tests were among the diverse topics that were also shared with other TASPers.

All of this intellectual stimulation was occasionally suspended for the sake of having fun with the other interesting and bizarre students brought together for six weeks on a small campus in the Berkshires. Spontaneous expeditions to local playgrounds, water-gun wars, and searching for a secret passage in the bowels of Perry House were among the unplanned adventures of the TASP. The Arts Committee, a branch of the group's self-government (sometimes referred to in whispers as simply "The Committee"), helped to arrange organized activities such as a trip to Tanglewood, visits to a local theatre, and a scavenger hunt which saw the TASPers bring back, in their quests for victory, guitar picks, local skateboarders, and a priest in an Amherst T-shirt. Sports also attracted attention, and students participated in an intra-TASP pool tournament and a valiantly fought but losing volleyball match against a band of marauding geometry students. During the close battle, the TASPers supported the theme of the Williams program and shouted at the mathematicians their battlecry of "Hicks, Hicks, Hicks!"

George led the way with his fall pubspeak this year on why math is important, yes, even to Art History majors. Cornell has no mathematics requirement, so this was a blast from the past for some housemembers. Jeannie gave the first pubspeak of the spring, an invigorating discussion of the pitfalls of sociobiology and biased biological research. We look forward to hearing Terri's topic, as she gave one of the early black dot speeches this year on the relationship between literary criticism and quantum physics.

George's ping-pong nemesis, freshman Dan Dulitz from the 1987 Williams TASP, is a Computer Science whiz with a strong interest in philosophy and theology. He and George discuss mathematical topics in such a way as to inspire even Theatre Arts majors to take beginning calculus with their friends who study government and gospel music. As long as George, Dan, Jeannie, Terri, and legendary rusticant Diane Thompson are around to help us every now and then, we promise never to laugh when they insist that there is more to being an intellectual than not being able to balance your checkbook.

Eulonda Goosby, SP87 CB88
Virginia Schattman, SP87 CB88

Letter to the Editor

Kenneth Odell, a member of the Deep Springs Board of Trustees, has asked us to publish the following letter, which he received from Mr. Melfe.

I recently received the October issue of the Telluride Newsletter, which contained a letter to the editor suggesting that if Deep Springs forfeits the \$1,000,000 bequest because it becomes co-educational (or for any other reason), and the funds revert to Telluride, Telluride could decide that the original intent of the will is best carried out by appropriating equivalent funds to Deep Springs, without any restrictions....

I realize, of course, that this is merely the suggestion of one individual. Needless to say, however, the family and I are very distressed to learn that the possibility of such a subversion of Jim Withrow's intentions has even been suggested. It is clearly against the letter and intent of the conditional legacy to Deep Springs, and as Executor I will take all steps to insure compliance both during my term of office and following my official discharge.

I am sure that Deep Springs is taking appropriate action to insure that the intentions as well as the letter of the restrictions contained in Mr. Withrow's will will not be violated. It might be appropriate for the officials of both institutions to communicate to the student bodies their intent to fully comply with Mr. Withrow's condition....

Sincerely yours,
Thomas A. Melfe

TELLURIDE NEWSLETTER

The Telluride Newsletter is published three times a year in Ithaca, New York.

Editors - Miriam Aukerman, Virginia Schattman
Managing Editor - Eric J. Lerner

Letters and news are welcome. Please write to 217 West Ave., Ithaca, New York 14850.

Even on the first day of the program, however, a spirit rose up that would rival even the great Hicks as the patron saint of Williams TASP '88. Lenny McBoo, a fictional poet of the 1960's, was created by the TASPers as an excuse to write unbelievably awful poetry. The creative release of the students' minds during McBoo-writing sessions led to such infamous lines as "With a tremendous moo the cow underwent spontaneous combustion."

Spontaneous combustion describes well the Williams TASP 1988 experience. Intense but too short-lived, it will cause shock waves (and flashbacks) in the students' lives for years. This was reflected in the inscriptions the students made as they signed each other's copies of Hicks; one student wrote, "We had fun, etc., etc." But McBoo had the final comment on the summer. As the TASPers rode and flew off into the sunset, this was inscribed on the backs of their T-shirts:

*Feel the eggs
pulse through thine eyes;
The horror of ecstasy
reigns inferior:
and brightness descends —
Or doesn't it?*

Cathy Carlson SP88

Deep Springs TASP 1988

I think of the Deep Springs TASP as a series of smells. Sagebrush, perfuming rocks and scraping inert, sunburnt limbs on the first day. Sweat, emanating from everything, mingling with pervasive dust. Moist dirt on my face and teeth, as I helped dig a ditch. Curry, warming the kitchen as cooks sang with Bob Marley and set out loaves of fresh bread. The TASP was clearly shaped by the environment and values of Deep Springs, in its academic, labor and social aspects.

The seminar topic was interesting and suited to the TASP setting. We saw Native American artifacts on an archeological hike at the end of the fifth week, and discussed the immediate relevance of a lecture by ecologist Carla Scheidlinger. However, it was difficult to organize an interdisciplinary study of law, literature and anthropology in such a short time. Readings were segmented, professors fought for lecture time, and few clear connections were made in paper-topics or lectures. Discussions often degenerated into reiterated condemnations of Western culture, and lectures lapsed into simplified renditions of the reading. By the third week, there was a widespread feeling of frustration, worsened by the disgusted attitudes of the professors. Student body meetings were used to try to improve the seminar, with varying degrees of success. Although the veto-power of the factota created some resentment, the existence of a largely self-governing body made it impossible for anyone to passively complain about seminar. The professors, while disappointed, remained receptive to informal discussions, carefully evaluated papers, and gave helpful individual conferences. Writing papers and talking informally about different books was probably the best academic process of the TASP. Personal prejudices were also exposed - we talked a lot about ethnocentrism, racism, and democracy in the context of Native American culture. Public speaking was a well-executed part of the seminar, and sparked energetic discussion.

The labor program was a highlight of the TASP. It was difficult to balance public-speaking, labor, and readings, but certainly possible. Each member of the community was assigned a specific job for the summer, varying from librarian to irrigator to dishwasher (which rotated every two weeks.) Many TASPers were assigned to general-labor, which included digging ditches, clearing branches, and riding to the dump on

Summer Job Opportunity

Harold Levy, Telluride Association Member and Chair of the University Settlement Board of Directors Camp Committee, has written to us about the latter organization's summer program for sixth and eighth graders from New York's Lower East Side. This summer the camp, located in Beacon New York, which runs two four-week sessions in July and August, will have an educational component, sponsored by the New York City Board of Education. He encourages TA members and associates, as well as friends of the association, to apply for positions as counselors and as Camp Director, which is a full time administrative position. Send requests for more information, or a short letter containing a statement of interest, relevant experience (including TASP participation), curriculum vitae, and transcript, to Harold Levy, Esq., 1221 Avenue of the Americas, New York, New York, 10020 ((212) 790-6857).

top of dilapidated pick-up trucks. GL was a good assignment because of the diversity of tasks and camaraderie that developed in the group. I think the implicit values of a labor program, of communal responsibility, found their way into my thinking. I, along with most TASPers, could not have imagined not working in that environment. I spent time questioning this fact - was it brute coercion, Pavlovian response, masochism? but finally realized that I liked labor, and miss the feeling of health and strength it created.

The social aspect of the TASP was spectacular. There were early, close friendships, long walks and rock-climbs through the desert, and swims in the reservoir with friendly green slime. There were many late-night talks, as at other TASPers, on such diverse topics as capitalism, art, agricultural policies, Buddhism, and the implications of sleeping on a flag on the front lawn. We were able to intellectually challenge and emotionally support each other. The exclusion of the second-year students caused much tension, and has fortunately been corrected in the formation of the 1989 DS TASP. In spite of some structural problems, the TASP was exciting and unforgettable. I left Deep Springs with some deep friendships, a slightly clearer understanding of the ambiguous concept of "social responsibility", many questions to resolve and books to read, and few unshakable convictions.

Chaya Bhuvanewar SP88

1988 TASPers Preferred

Ivan Ascher	Myriam Gilles
Chaya Bhuvanewar	Susan Goslee
Michael Booth	David Jenemann
Eve Brunts	Sandhya Subramanian
Jessica Bury	Andrew Sullivan
Cathy Carlson	David Williams
Suruchi Chandra	Sean Williford
Libero Della Piana	Ethan Zuckerman
Ross Garon	

CBTA Faculty Guests - Fall 1988

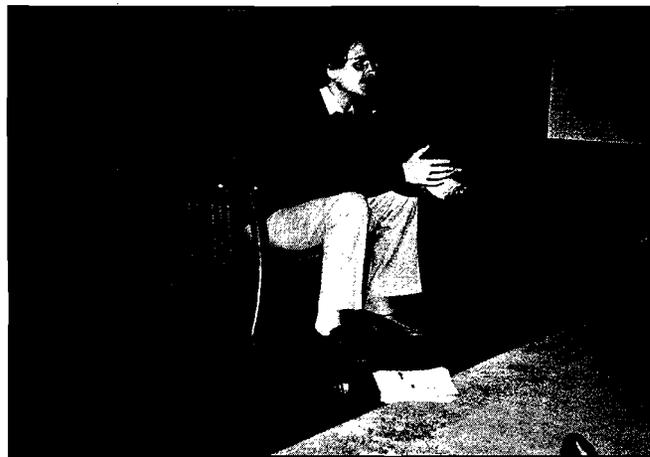
This fall Telluride House had three faculty guests who together cover a lot of academic territory. John O'Neal in Theatre Arts, Samia Mehretz in Comparative Literature and Thomas Risse-Kappen in Peace Studies shared Telluride with housemembers who were concerned in particular this semester with a lack of fruitful intellectual interchange amongst themselves. If this is in fact a problem, we would have been much worse off without John, Samia, and Thomas, who each led formal seminars in their specialty.

Perhaps "seminar" isn't the most accurate word to describe John's dress rehearsals of his one-person shows, the *Junebug* *Jabbo Jones* plays I and II, that he did for housemembers in the living room. Both times John played to (and interacted with, after the style of his work) packed and enthusiastic audiences who were only too happy afterwards to engage the Cornell Playwright-in-Residence with discussion and questions about the plays, the problems of the one-person show, and the nature of audience participation. John performed these two works about black life in the south, and a third about blacks in the military in World War II, on campus this fall. Housemembers would agree that we were lucky to have a sneak-preview, as well as an opportunity this semester to get to know John and his family, particularly his children Wendy and Webo who visited us.

Samia impressively held her own against the coverage of the second presidential debate, which was going on during her seminar held in conjunction with the first faculty guest reception. Together we read and discussed the Algerian short story, *The Severed Head*, with which Samia also opened her Cornell course on Arab literature. It is one of her favorite stories for introducing North African literature, she says, because it deals metaphorically with the problem of being an intellectual in a society that censors, as well with the idea of the "intellectual's" choosing to stand back from the world and separate him or herself from it. This struck a responsive chord in the housemembers who attended the talk. When asked if Telluride students were different from other Cornell students, Samia remarked, "Not completely different, but when you get together, you have a different group dynamic." We will miss Samia, who once said, "I can't see how an undergraduate can be expected to produce work in five courses — just *attending* them is enough!", as she returns to Egypt at the end of this term to continue with her own work. She will be finishing *Creating and Transforming: The Arab Writer Between Past and Present*.

Like John and Samia, Thomas, whose specialty is NATO, shared his work with us as well as presenting it to the larger Cornell community. He involved the house in a discussion about arms control after the INF treaty on the night before he was to give an evening lecture on campus about arms control after the election. Thomas has been a Telluride faculty guest before this year and said during his talk that he really enjoyed the kind of responsive interaction that characterized organized house discussions. Thomas will be returning as a Telluride faculty guest next semester, joining among others one Professor Roy Wright who teaches Native American languages. We can all thank John, Samia, and Thomas for providing the house with a great diversity of experiences through their discussions with us, and while we will miss those who are leaving, hope for good things this spring as well.

Virginia T. Schattman SP87 CB88



Thomas Risse-Kappen addresses the house.

The House in the Election Year

It was about time for the evening public speech on the night of Tuesday, November 8, when the end finally came. As a small group watched the television in the dutch, ABC News, which had been projecting the state of Maryland for Dukakis, reversed its projection, giving Bush over 270 electoral votes in all and, therefore, the presidency. Most of those living in the House this past fall — and especially those from Maryland — were pained, if not surprised, by the outcome. "Most of us are touchy-feely liberal," acknowledged one such Branchmember. Like the rest of the Cornell community, the voters of Telluride, casting their ballots in Ithaca or sending them home absentee, had predominantly sided with the Democratic nominee and once again ended up in the national minority.

Beyond partisan preferences in the presidential election, however, were some more fundamental reactions of the fall House to political contests in particular, and to politics in general, during the election year. One such reaction was a lack of involvement of individual Branchmembers in the elections, both presidential and otherwise. On one hand, as the House's one active participant in the year's politics, Richie Baum worked in the campaign headquarters of Marty Luster, the area Democratic candidate for the New York state assembly. Leaving behind the memory of his gallant efforts on behalf of Gary Hart last spring, Richie this time sided with the winner; moreover, as the aide in charge of scheduling all of the candidate's campaign appearances — including speaking events, parade appearances, and a stint as wine-tasting judge at a regional food fair — Richie was instrumental to Luster's victory. On the other hand, no Branchmembers other than Richie worked for a campaign organization this fall or participated actively in the election campaigns. Richie's involvement, rather than being the rule, was very much an exception within the House.

One reason for this lack of involvement was surely that many people in the House were already so busy; the idea that Branchmembers in general were working too hard, on things like committee work, volunteer service, and their studies, to



Branchmembers watch the news after dinner.

spare much time for other things, like election politics, would seem to fit with other perceived trends in the fall House, such as less informal activity in the public rooms.

More important, perhaps, was the general nature of the political climate itself and its effect upon the individuals in the House. If, as conventional wisdom now has it, the presidential election campaign was dominated by contrived images, irrelevant issues, and sound bites, and if the particularly low level of debate was in part responsible for the particularly low voter turnout, then many Branchmembers seemed to share the public's cynicism and disappointment, though not its civic delinquency. "At an intellectual level it was a very disappointing campaign," remarked one Branchmember, and his sentiments were shared by others. "Democracy can't function effectively if it's all sound bites," noted another, and one other Branchmember recalled that "most people were disgusted." In the absence of stirring causes or candidates to be enthusiastic about, Branchmembers had little incentive to forego other matters for the sake of a political campaign.

Perhaps another result of the uninspiring quality of the campaign and the cynicism of most observers in the House was the fact that, even in an election year, public — as opposed to House — politics generally failed to bring Branchmembers together in lively intellectual discussion, even in a House supposedly reawakened recently to political issues. "It wasn't considered completely idiotic to discuss politics, but it wasn't discussed that much," recalled one Branchmember. The evening network newscasts retained their following in the House but ultimately seemed to promote more inconsequential small talk than thoughtful commentary. "When we started watching the evening news together it was a good thing," recalled a member of the 6:30 news club, "but I don't think it provoked any good larger discussion."

As the main vehicle by which the elements of an uninformative campaign debate were disseminated, the newscasts, while providing a focus for people to gather around, may even have discouraged these people from themselves participating in the debate. "It's certainly not compelling to participate [in such a spectacle]," said one Branchmember. "It's a little repulsive." Thus, as another Branchmember notes, if common concern over the election brought the House together at all, it was only in a negative way: "The fact that all of it was so shallow made all of us similar in our cynicism and distaste."

On the other hand, some other elements of the national political scene which lent themselves more to thoughtful discussion managed to stir up some interest. One Branchmember recalls discussions over reform of the voting process, both in a narrow sense — reforming procedures for voter registration and absentee ballots — and in a broad one — offering people "meaningful choices on the ballot." Concern over low voter turnout as a constant recurring problem also sparked some conversation. Also with regard to House discourse, low levels of involvement and emotional attachment meant less personal acrimony than in past Houses. The general nature of Branchmembers' interpersonal relationships also contributed to a relatively amiable atmosphere; one senior Branchmember noted more of a collective "live-and-let-live attitude" in this year's House than in previous ones.

If such comparisons of current with previous Houses tend to serve a purpose at all, it is to demonstrate that, in the absence of any disruptions of House life, what one generation of Branchmembers collectively lacks it often makes up for in other areas, and that while one year may be better than another in some ways, things often tend to balance out. The significance of examining the House's approach to politics this past election year may lie in bearing this fact out. If the House was not as politically active this year as in the past, because of the circumstances of the election or for other reasons, perhaps this is just as well. After all, Telluride is a continuously evolving project, and the education of its community members lies essentially in their confronting varying circumstances and making of them what they will.

Norwood Andrews, SP86 CB87 TA88

CBTA Community Service

The Spring of 1988 House amended the CBTA bylaws to require 15 hours of community service from every Branchmember each semester. Despite its passage by unanimous vote, the service motion sparked real doubts among Housemembers. Some feared that an additional House commitment would hamper recruitment; others questioned the House's increasing role in outside activities of Housemembers.

The fall House this year was a test for the motion; most Housemembers find it valuable, or at least acceptable. As expected, Housemembers are engaged in diverse activities: teaching (Virginia Schattman) and trying to tutor (Tom Hawks) are popular. Miriam Aukerman counsels at the Tompkins County Jail and mediates for a conflict-resolution center. Norwood Andrews will transport mental patients in his home of Lubbock, Texas. Nick Hall works for South African divestment, Dan Dulitz cooks and cleans at the Lutheran Church, and others work in Ithaca's soup kitchen. Lynne Sacks was bubbling about her Little Sister: "Her name is Hilary Ann Hodges, she's 6 years old, and likes reading, writing, and sledding. She's neat!"

The motion has certainly spurred debate within the House. Miriam Aukerman and Rich Baum co-sponsored an amendment that proposed to recognize "political service" for purposes of the service motion. After a lively debate about the fundamental goals of the service motion, the House defeated the amendment with 17 yeas, 3 nays, and 2 abstentions. A two-thirds majority was needed to pass.

TASP Alumni News



Rich Baum enjoys fulfilling the Nunnian labor ethic.

Proponents of the motion are pleased with the results so far. Virginia Schattman says that "The motion helped me re-examine my schedule. I wouldn't have gone into the community otherwise, but now I know I do have the time." Lynne Sacks adds that, "Telluride was created to advance Nunnian ideals of self-government, intellectual pursuit, and community service. Until the service motion, there was no institutional encouragement for community service. Now it seems we are giving it the same priority as the other values."

But not all Housemembers are satisfied with the current form of the motion. Nick Hall notes: "Nunnian service is attitudinal, not hourly or procedural. There was a time when the ideology of service was much stronger in the House." That is the crux of the matter. The service motion expresses the House's desire to become more involved in service. Our continuing task is to foster those attitudes and refine our ideas of service.

Dan Dulitz SP87 CB88

■ *Barbara Evenson, SP77*, sends greetings to her fellow 1977 TASPers. She's alive and well and owns a computer consulting business in Rapid City, South Dakota.

■ *Melissa Lane, SP83*, writes that she is completing her final semester as a Harvard/Radcliffe undergraduate and will be graduating *summa cum laude* in Social Studies (which isn't quite what you do in third grade. She has been named a Marshall Scholar, and will be spending two years at Cambridge studying philosophy and theology. But she's most excited that for the Spring and Summer of 1989 (February to August) she will be working in Costa Rica as a speechwriter for President Arias. She would love to hear from any other Telluriders in Central America. She can be contacted through her parents at 12755 Addison Street, North Hollywood, CA 91607.

■ *Melissa also reports that her sister Diana Lane, SP86*, is a sophomore at Harvard, *Anjana Shrivastava, SP83* has returned to Harvard after two years in Germany, *Dan Sodickson, SP83* is a graduate student in physics at M.I.T., *Varun Gauri, SP83* is working as a research associate at the Hastings Center in New York City, and *Sarah Kass, SP83* has finished her thesis and has been named a Rhodes Scholar.

■ *Keith Mitchell, SP77*, writes that he is back in Boston (where he attended M.I.T.), working at a convenience store, and preparing hard copy for nine books. His life has revolved around harmonic wave combination, magnetic field development, frequential magnetic induction technologies, the socio-politics of awareness suppression and expanded-consciousness...and love. A Taoist who is running from many job offers, he lives by the Tao and Jimi Hendrix. His new address is 1202 Commonwealth Ave., #B-4, Allston, MA 02134.

■ *Melissa Sydeman, SP83*, graduated from Princeton last June, and was elected to Phi Beta Kappa. She won the *Franklin Mint First Edition* prize for her creative thesis, and a volume of poetry. She was awarded a Rhodes Scholarship, and is now enrolled at Oxford.

■ *Marlene Wittman, SP79*, writes that she has recently leapt into a hectic entrepreneurial existence with her Boston and New York-based start-up company (The Wittman Partnership, Inc.) involved in brokering construction equipment and technical services to Asia. (Actually, she was convinced that this was the only way to combine a fluency in Mandarin, long residence on the Mainland, and an architecture career). While the original scope of the company was to be building and engineering, it has since expanded into the medical technology field with an association of US doctors marketing medical supplies in Asia.

ADSTA WEEKEND

ADSTA Weekend & CBTA Spring Party

April 14 - 16, 1989

Call Telluride Office for details.

News from Alumni and Friends

■ *Jonathan Black*, CB57, writes that he has taken the Hunder Chair in Bioengineering at Clemson University. This is the first endowed chair at Clemson, Jonathan is the first chair holder, and it is also the first chair in Biomaterials in the US, so far as he knows. He will continue to do research in Orthopaedic biomaterials and teach in the Department of Bioengineering at Clemson.

■ *David W. Brown*, DS80 CB83, writes that he does Opposition Research for the Research Department of the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee in Washington. David puts together information on the voting records of Republican Senators for use in Democratic senatorial campaigns. He also remains interested in foreign affairs, and has just published a piece in *In These Times* entitled "Behind the Burma Crisis: US Policy from the '50s".



Carlos Rojas (floor), Norwood Andrews, and Miriam Aukerman carouse in the new computer room.

In Memoriam

A Remembrance of Harold Cole

The last surviving charter member of Telluride Association, Harold Cole, passed away on Sunday October 30th in Tucson, Arizona, where he had been residing for the past twenty years. Harold Cole joined the Telluride undertakings in 1910 when he traveled West from New York City to work at a series of power stations from Beaver River to Pocatello to Provo and Olmsted. He spent three years in the West, but attended the founding convention of the Association in 1911, and moved to Cornell and Telluride House in 1913. After three years at Cornell he graduated with a degree in electrical engineering and immediately joined the Detroit Edison Company, where he worked for the next forty years.

As L. L. Nunn had pioneered the introduction of alternating current in Colorado, Harold Cole helped to lead the Detroit Edison Company in a shift from direct to alternating current in southeastern Michigan. He also spelled out a plan in 1920 for the Detroit Edison transmission system that set the pattern for the next half century. A recent history of Detroit Edison carried the following assessment: "Mr. Cole, probably more than any other individual, influenced the development of the overhead transmission system as we know it today."

I remember clearly the cold grey Sunday afternoon, December 7th, 1941, when my parents and I drove out after church to see how work was progressing on the new high voltage power line that was being built to service the Willow Run Bomber Plant outside Detroit. We first heard about the attack on Pearl Harbor over the car radio, and as we looked out at the nearly completed bomber plant and the power line that was going to energize it, so that soon it would be turning out B-24s, one per hour, there was at least a feeling that the country was not totally unprepared to respond the attack. Harold Cole was responsible for seeing that that power line was there in time.

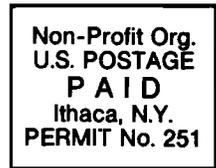
My father was a modest and shy man, not one to make a big impression, but one upon whom everyone counted to take responsibility and do a job well. He loved to tell stories about the early days of the Telluride Power company when the young "pinheads" were given great responsibilities for the management of remote and primitive installations. He was recently interviewed by a Tellurider compiling a living history of the Association, as reported in the Telluride Newsletter. He climbed Mt. Timpanogus, near Olmsted, with Davy Johnson, who later became a leading climber of the Grand Tetons. Elmer "Johnny" Johnson and other contemporaries used to call Harold, "Senator," but no one could remember the origins of the nickname. Dad also used to recall weekend walks from Ithaca to Watkins Glen and back, and when he took me to Cornell for a first visit, at the age of eleven, he led me on a walking tour of the campus that left me totally exhausted.

His commitment to Telluride and Deep Springs was reflected in annual gifts that have probably been recorded on the books of the two institutions for almost all of the 72 years since he left Cornell. Last year he said he couldn't afford an extra contribution for the hydro-electric project at Deep Springs, but hoped that the younger alumni would pick it up. He outlived his wife of 68 years, Mabel Cole, by just two months; and four days after his ninety ninth birthday, after finishing his 3rd or 4th thousandth double crostic puzzle, he quietly slipped away.

*David C. Cole
Jakarta, Indonesia
November 13th, 1988*

Telluride Association

217 West Avenue
Ithaca, N.Y. 14850



Address Correction Requested

We Welcome Your News

Your friends and TA Associates are interested in what has become of you. Write us about your recent travels and adventures, honors and awards, books or papers published, promotions or job changes, marriages, births and address changes for Newsletter publication.

Please send us your change of address

Check if new address

Name _____

Address _____
