In this issue:

Call to Convention ........................... 1
TASS Expands to Cornell ...................2
Alumnae Reflect on the Past, Provide for the Future ...................... 4
Past President Overcomes Post-Graduation Accident ........... 7
Trail Returns to Fold as Alumni Development Officer .......... 10
News & Notes ................................. 11
In Memoriam.................................... 16

Call to Convention

Dear Associates and Friends of Telluride,

By the time you read this, Telluride’s 2015 Convention will be less than two months away. What new and exciting business will committees bring for debate? And what old debates will we get to have again? In my recent perusal of some century-old Telluridean records, I’ve been amazed by how things have changed — and how much things have stayed the same.

According to historic Newsletters, ninety-nine years ago, we evidently found ourselves much in the same position as every February, kicking our work into high gear to fulfill the previous year’s mandates and getting our reports for Convention prepared on time. A 1916 Newsletter reads:

The 1915 Convention adopted the following resolution:

‘BE IT RESOLVED, that each person receiving financial assistance from Telluride Association for the purpose of pursuing a regular course of study or special investigation shall present at the convention next following his preferment a written report, in the form of a brief resume, of the work done by him during the preceding year. Should two or more persons together be carrying on work of the same character, a single report from each group shall be deemed sufficient.’

This resolution calls to mind the fact that a Telluride Scholarship is supposed to carry with it the mandate ‘do something.’ There are five months left before Convention.

In reading the Newsletters of 1915 and 1916, it is striking how we face many of the same issues today. One issue that was then hotly debated among the membership involved whether the Association’s members at Stanford and Purdue should be required to form new branches; a December 1915 letter complained that such branches, for want of sufficient membership, might be “a mere travesty upon the name of Branch for the Association to say that such an organization must be formed.” Over the course of this year, a committee has been considering questions related to potentially beginning a new Branch, and discussion at Convention in June will no doubt be lively.

Another issue discussed in the November 1915 Newsletter was the internal governance of the Cornell Branch — an issue that we continue to face today. Even as we consider expansion, we are constantly evaluating and discussing how to make our Branches more effective Nunnian projects. This year we have dealt with complex and challenging situations at the Cornell Branch that tested the limits of self-governance. We are grateful to the branchmembers, associates, and trustees who contacted us with their comments and suggestions.

continued on page 9
TASS Expands to Cornell
Association Recomits to ‘Constituting African-American Learning Communities’

By Thomas Miller, DS’04 TA’07

In October 2013, Telluride celebrated the twentieth anniversary of the Sophomore Seminar (TASS) with a weekend of discussion and festivities at Indiana University in Bloomington. During the weekend, word was received that eighteen months of negotiations with Cornell University had borne fruit: the university had accepted a proposal from the Association to expand the TASS program to Ithaca, in addition to existing sites at Indiana and the University of Michigan, beginning in the summer of 2015. Cornell agreed to cover one-third of the on-site programs’ costs, the same level of support it currently provides for TASP.

At Telluride’s 2014 Convention in Ithaca, the membership accordingly debated and approved several measures reaffirming and extending the Association’s commitment to TASS. One change gave TASS a more specific mandate to promote “seminars in Critical Black and Ethnic Studies” and the “constitution of African-American learning communities.” (Previous language had referred, less specifically, to “understanding race and social difference” and the “recruitment of talented students from historically underrepresented minorities.”) The membership also voted to change the title of TASS “tutors” to “factota,” the term used for the similar position at TASP.

Faced with a fifty-percent increase in the number of available places at TASS, the Association’s committees also made a concerted effort to ramp up recruitment for the program. Twenty-six associates volunteered to participate alongside paid staff in a campaign to place more than a thousand calls to high schools in order to encourage administrators and guidance counselors to “nominate” students for TASS. (A nomination is not required to apply to the program, but guarantees that a student will receive an application personally; nominations can be submitted by mail or, as of this year, online.)

Telluride associates also led an active effort to promote TASS on Twitter and other social media sites. (Associates tweeting about TASS had to work around the fact that the hashtag #TASS was already taken by Russia’s state-owned news agency, still known in English under an acronym originally standing for the “Telegraph Agency of the Soviet Union.”) Meanwhile, Pharlon Randle, a professional videographer based in the Flint, Michigan area, worked with TASSCom Chair Theo Foster and TASS factota and students to produce a promotional video for the program, shared on YouTube and also featured on Telluride’s website.

Thanks to these efforts to increase the program’s visibility, by the application deadline on January 8 of this year TASS had received 391 applications, the highest number ever. (The previous record was 384 in 2005, an exceptional year; in 2013 there were only 268.) Of these candidates, readers at Telluride’s branch at the University of Michigan selected 116 for interviews, underway as of March. Typically only between thirteen and fifteen percent of all applicants are offered a place in a TASS seminar.

The effort put into recruitment, as guided by the program’s newly sharpened mandate, paid off in the demographics as well as quantity of applicants. Fifty-nine percent of the applicants and sixty-two percent of the interviewees self-identified as “African-American, African, or Black” — a significant increase over the previous year, when only forty-three percent of interviewees did so. Forty-six percent of interviewees are eligible for a free or reduced-price lunch at school. As in previous years, the applicant pool remains significantly gender-skewed, with about seventy percent of applicants being female.

The first ever Cornell TASS, to take place this summer, will be on the topic “Ascending Melody: Contemporary African American Creative Arts and Critical Thought.” The faculty will be Lyrae Van Clief-Stefanon and Dagmawi Woubshet, both of the Department of English at...
According to the plan agreed to at Convention in 2013, a second seminar at Cornell could possibly be launched in the summer of 2016.

Cornell. The factota will be Rebecca Browne of Loyola University in Chicago and Alasdair Ekpenyong, of Brigham Young University (and formerly of Deep Springs College).

So far, making arrangements for the new program at Cornell has been smooth. This summer, TASS students will be living in the Cornell Branch, which has traditionally housed TASPers. “I am very excited about this inaugural year,” said Telluride’s Administrative Director Ellen Baer. “I hope that having TASS at Cornell encourages TASSers to apply to live at CBTA in 2017.”

At Indiana University, the original TASS site, Marlo David of Purdue University and LaMonda Horton-Stallings of Indiana University will teach “Growing Up While Black: Coming of Age in Black American Literature, Music, and Film,” alongside factota Liza Davis of the University of Pennsylvania and Keyanah Freeland of New York University. Meanwhile, at the University of Michigan, “Dreams of Freedom and Realities of Confinement” will be taught by long-time Telluride affiliate Diana Louis, now a fellow at Indiana University, and Michael McGee of the University of California, Berkeley. The factota will be Patricia Ekpo of Brown University and Tania Flores of Occidental College.

According to the plan agreed to at Convention in 2013, a second seminar at Cornell could possibly be launched in the summer of 2016, bringing the total number of TASS programs to four. This would require not just sustaining but in fact increasing the special effort put into recruitment this year. Any associates or friends who are interested in volunteering to contact schools, to make local presentations, or to do research to increase lists of nominators are encouraged to contact the Summer Programs Applications and Recruitment Committee through its vice-chair, Averill Leslie (averill.leslie@tellurideassociation.org).
Alumnae Reflect on the Past, Provide for the Future

By Jacob Denz SP’05 TA’11 and Matthew Trail, SP’81 CB’82 TA’84

Telluride’s alumni are remarkably diverse and accomplished. In this issue, we profile two such alumni, Kathy Frankovic SP’63, CB’85, SPF’93, and Carol Owen, SP’78 CB’85 TA’86. Kathy and Carol have also made the decision to include Telluride Association in their estate planning, helping to ensure that Telluride’s programs will continue to transform new generations of young men and women for many years to come. We talked to Kathy and Carol about the impact of Telluride on their lives, and why they’ve decided to support Telluride in this way.

KATHY FRANKOVIC attended the first coeducational TASP in 1963. She earned an AB in Government from Cornell in 1968 and a Ph.D. in Political Science in 1974. Kathy is one of the world’s leading experts in public opinion polling, and was an election and polling consultant for CBS News for over 30 years. Before joining CBS News, she taught political science at the University of Vermont, and has also held visiting professorships at Cornell and at the Annenberg School at the University of Pennsylvania. She is a co-author of *The Election of 1980*, *The Election of 1992*, and *The Election of 2000*. Among her many articles are: “Sex and Politics: New Alignments, Old Issues,” one of the first academic analyses of the gender gap.

Kathy has been a frequent faculty guest at Cornell Branch over the years, including a semester-long stay in 1985 while she taught at Cornell and conducted research for a book. She taught the 1993 Cornell II TASP “Citizen Participation: Images and Reality” with Cornell’s Davydd Greenwood, and has been a dedicated summer program interviewer for decades.

What do you remember most about your TASP?

TASP totally changed my life. I was attending Catholic high school in New Jersey. My father hadn’t gone to high school and my mother was a school secretary who had not at that time completed high school. I had no concept of what the possibilities were. TASP exposed me to the world. I remembered being enormously jealous of almost everyone in the TASP because of their background, high school, etc. It was an intense experience and something that stayed with me since then. I remained friends with a few other TASPers for...well, I still am friends with at least one.

You were one of the first female TASPers. Tell us about this experience.

It was a matter of blind luck that as a woman I was even there at all since women had just started to be admitted. I think the women in the TASP weren’t really aware of that until some TA members came and we realized that this was still a divisive issue. After all, the materials just said eight men, eight women in each program except at Princeton where it would be all men, so we just sort of blindly accepted that and didn’t really pay attention because we were all treated quite normally. And then it was like—oh! Actually, at least one TA member pointed out that it was wrong to admit women because we would just get married and have children and not contribute. And some women fought back, some women agreed. It was 1963.

You’ve been a long-time summer program interviewer, a TASP faculty, and a regular visitor to Cornell Branch for decades. What changes have you seen in Telluride over the years?

A lot hasn’t really changed, certainly in terms of the capability of the students. I have seen CBTA through all sorts of political incarnations, but I think that’s relatively minor in the grand scheme of things. I

“It really opened doors for me in terms of conceptualizing what would happen to me down the road. I had a very limited perspective before on what was possible. All of a sudden you came to the realization that you could go to a really great college.”

— KATHY FRANKOVIC

Kathy Frankovic in a lively discussion with Michigan branch members, 2001
don’t see changes for the worse, and still think it’s a pretty great place for people to be. The ethnic and gender diversity has increased since 1964, when CBTA was a bunch of men and Gayatri Spivak, and Frances Perkins was a faculty guest.

When I read about the issues that are debated within Telluride, there is also continuity: funding of programs, and whatever the issue of the year is. Coeducation at Deep Springs dominated for a long time, and then there were debates about divestment, investment strategies, those sorts of things.

What impact has your Telluride experience had in your life and career?

It really opened doors for me in terms of conceptualizing what would happen to me down the road. I had a very limited perspective before on what was possible. All of a sudden you came to the realization that you could go to a really great college. That’s mattered a lot. Once the door opened and I knew where I was going to go and what I was going do, then things just happened.

In terms of my career path afterwards, I certainly am not doing what I thought I would do at sixteen. Everybody’s career path goes through some changes. Although I recently saw my TASP application and there is a line to the effect that I wanted to accomplish something and wasn’t sure I knew what I wanted to accomplish. I wasn’t sure I’d get married, and if I did it would only be after I had accomplished something. As it turned out, I did get married at 45 years old after I’d already been working at CBS for fifteen years. In that sense, my life did turn out the way I thought it would when I was sixteen.

Who are some of your Telluride friends you’re still in touch with?

Two of the women are dead, unfortunately, Debra Orin (nee Slotkin) and Blair Gibb. We do a Christmas dinner at our house every year and one of the people who comes is Steve Hanan (formerly Kaplan), who is now an actor and writer in NYC. I also used to say that when I would interview, you keep in touch with these people for a very long time. I have other friends I met interviewing who are now my good friends. And of course people who were at CBTA in the 80’s. I will say that intergenerational friendships also emerge in the course of being part of Telluride activities. The women friends are great, and then you run into people occasionally whom you haven’t seen in 50 years and it’s very nice to see them again, and that’s happened several times with my TASP.

Please tell us about your decision to support Telluride in your estate planning. Why are you doing this now? Is there a particular project or mission of Telluride that’s near and dear to your heart?

My husband and I don’t have any children together. I am in a very good position that way in terms of thinking about what would happen after we’re gone. I said well, I do own this apartment in New York. You aren’t allowed to sell it because of the co-op rules, but it’s still a reasonable amount of money for TA to do something with.

When I look back, I say what’s the reason I am where I am now, Telluride is probably the reason. And I’m sure there are many people who feel the same way I do. Looking back, what mattered most? That TASP made the biggest impact in my life.

Is there anything you’d like to add?

I think it’s really useful for people at a certain stage of their lives to think about what they’ve managed to have, and I think ownership of apartments, houses, etc. these days are sizeable investments. Certainly apartments in NYC are sizeable investments even if you bought them really cheap. It’s really valuable to think through this, and everybody should have a will. I think it’s useful to look at one’s own family situation: people with children and grand-children have different priorities than those who don’t. Reviewing your history and what mattered to you, Telluride could be part of your estate planning in some way or another. I think this is something you can and should think about.
In her over 35 year affiliation with Telluride, CAROL OWEN has touched nearly every aspect of Telluride (and Nunnian) life. After attending the 1978 TASP, she graduated from Yale with degrees in English and Theater. She holds Masters degrees in those same fields, and a JD from Vanderbilt University. She joined Cornell Branch as a graduate student in 1985, and joined TA in 1986. She has served on TASP Board, the Board of Custodians, as TA Vice-President, and President, and also on the Deep Springs Board of Trustees. Since having a Certificate of Graduation conferred upon her by Telluride Association in 2009, Carol has remained active in alumni affairs and summer program interviewing.

Professionally, Carol is a shareholder with the law firm of Baker Donelson, in Nashville, TN, where she concentrates her practice in complex litigation and risk management counseling for clients in the automotive and medical device manufacturing fields and in operations and risk management. She also teaches a seminar in the Common Seminar program at Vanderbilt University entitled “Antarctic Exploration, the Nature of Virtue, and the Search for Heroism in Modern Life.”

What do you remember most about your TASP?

Broadly speaking, as with many TASPers I know, I remember it largely as among the best six weeks of my life and a summer that gave clear direction to my future plans. Largely as a result of my TASP experience, I went to Yale, then to graduate school at Cornell, and ultimately to law school at Vanderbilt. I remember writing my first academic essays; spending afternoons reading Locke, Mill, Marx, Nietzsche, and Freud; and staying up imprudently late playing bridge. Most of all I remember making close friends, some of whom I have stayed in touch with for more than 35 years.

You’ve been a TASPer, branchmember, Custodian, and TA President. What did you learn about yourself in these various aspects of Telluride life? What impact has your Telluride experience had in your life and career?

When I was a TASPer, intellectual discussion and debate were so foreign to me that, although I observed closely throughout the summer, I contributed little. The seminar, taught by Mickey Morgan and Barbara Herman, impressed upon me the importance of living in communities — at the micro and the macro levels — in which all members make a commitment to form opinions responsibly, to articulate those opinions sincerely, to listen to others respectfully, to compromise gracefully when possible, to advocate unpopular but principled positions when necessary, and to honor the will of the majority while not excluding the minority. That is among the most important lessons I have learned, and it has guided both my academic and legal careers.

In addition, I have often reflected upon advice given to me by a preceding Telluride President upon my election to that office in 1998: the essence of leadership is not the ability to make the right decision — it’s the ability to make a decision. While, like most people, I try to make ‘right’ decisions every day, that advice has always helped me keep moving forward, even when it has been unclear what the ‘right’ thing might be.

On a different note, I cannot overstate the impact that housemeeting and Convention had in teaching me the power of debate. Years ago, I was elected as a representative to a college faculty Senate. At our first meeting, a proposal was made to change the student advising system in a way that, in my view, would lead to misery and despair. After its proponent read the resolution on the floor, I raised my hand, the chair called on me, and I said (with what I hoped was the élan of Jeremy Rabkin): “This is completely ill-conceived. You have failed to consider [insert 3 passionately expressed reasons]. This is doomed to failure.” I sat down, expecting someone to advocate as passionately for the opposing view. Instead, the resolution’s proponent said: “You’re right. This is a terrible idea. I withdraw the motion.” Everyone else looked relieved. I, however, was both disappointed (I was ready for a great and lengthy debate) and shocked (“Can imposing my will possibly be this easy outside the Nunnian world?”). I was never as reckless again in expressing my views to a democratic body of non-Telluriders — but it became clear how valuable are the skills we learn as Telluriders.

Finally, I would observe that while it is great to be ‘right,’ it is always important to be kind. And it’s generally best to remain calm.

Who are some of your Telluride friends you’re still in touch with?

There are many — most frequently, I am in touch with Chris Breiseth, Brian Kennedy, Chris Campbell, Denis Clark, Andrea Kavalier, Marilyn Migiel, Ellen Baer, Matt Traill, Lars Wulf, Tom Christina, Michael Millette, Michael Greve and Louisa Coan, Chuck Pazzlernik and Miriam Aukerman, and Noah Zatz and Jess Cattelino. Cameron Jones just finished a four-month rustication at my house. During that time we enjoyed staying up late working in the library and planning the Bell Buckle Branch. To those of you whom I see less often: if you are coming through Nashville (or want to come and visit for a month or two), please let me know. It would be great to see you.

Please tell us about your decision to support Telluride in your estate planning. Why are you doing this now? Is there a particular Telluride project or mission that’s near and dear to your heart?

Like others of my era, I have been involved with many Nunnian projects: TASP, TASS, Cornell Branch, Michigan Branch, Chicago Branch, and Deep Springs among them. Those projects were (and are) all important to me, because they are vibrant manifestations of Nunnian ideals — communities where democratic self-governance, intellectual life, and labor are valued, and where community members suffer or exult in the consequences of their own decisions and those of the group.

To me, the particular projects of any one era are less important that the evolving expression of our shared values. Some of my favorite projects are dormant at the moment: the yacht on Lake Cayuga, the box at the Metropolitan Opera, tea-dances on the lawn. Some of my other favorite projects remain unrealized: “Telluride in Europe” (so inspiringly championed by Mary Tedeschi), fully-funded scholarships for branchmembers, founding a 21st century secondary branch. Should Sweet Briar College become available this fall, I hope the current Trustees will consider the opportunities there — founding a new college would certainly call for alumni and friends to marshal their resources for a compelling and all-consuming project.

**continued on page 10**
Past President Overcomes Post-Graduation Accident

Telluridean Prometheus Unbound

By Thomas Hawks, SP85 CB86 TA87, and James May, SP99 CB’00 TA’02

On November 20 last fall, Charles Pazdernik, SP85 CB86 TA87, stood before a packed house in the Mary Idema Pew Library at Grand Valley State University to deliver a lecture titled “Blind Hopes?” Storytelling and Human Fortune.” Drawing on the tragedies of Aeschylus and Aristotle’s *Poetics*, the presentation offered a wide-ranging discussion of narrative form, reversals of fortune, and the ways literature allows us to reflect on the suffering those reversals cause. A professor of Classics at GVSU, Chuck had delivered many similar lectures on the literature and philosophy of ancient Greece before, but this talk was different. He was speaking at the invitation of his students and peers as part of Grand Valley’s “Last Lecture” series, in which professors are asked to pass on to students the wisdom they would choose to share if it were their last chance to speak. And he was using his own story as an example of *peripeteia*, a sudden change or reversal of fortune.

On the morning of July 14 during the previous summer, Chuck had been involved in a serious accident while cycling to work after dropping his daughter Cara off at summer camp. As he approached an intersection in downtown Grand Rapids, a minivan in the oncoming lane suddenly turned left in front of him. Braking hard to avoid being hit, Chuck was thrown over his handlebars and into the car, seriously damaging his spinal cord. Hours later, he emerged from surgery in the Spectrum Butterworth Hospital’s ICU, fitted with a “halo” to keep his head immobile while his spine healed, and with limited sensation, but no motor function, below his chest.

Several days later, he was transferred to the Mary Free Bed Rehabilitation Hospital in Grand Rapids to begin his recovery. At first, Chuck’s therapy aimed to strengthen his upper body and to prepare him for life in a wheelchair. His physical and occupational therapy sessions involved lifting weights, developing core strength and relearning how to complete personal tasks — including, critically, the ability to grind and brew his own coffee. During these early weeks in Mary Free Bed, Chuck made steady progress, growing more adept at managing life in a wheelchair.

He was also rapidly becoming the Dean of the Spinal Cord Injury Recovery Unit. Even in difficult circumstances, Chuck’s good humor, diligence and quick wit made him a favorite, and as he wheeled down the halls, staff and fellow patients would call out greetings as he passed by. At the same time, he continued to work as a productive scholar and teacher. Confined to a wheelchair and encased in a halo, he invited students to visit him in the hospital to continue the Greek reading group he directs at GVSU, while also working on an article of his own, recently published in the journal *Greek, Roman and Byzantine Studies*.

Then, during a consult with his surgeon in early August, Chuck found quite incidentally that he could again move his toes. The course of his therapy shifted from preparing him for life in a wheelchair to restoring all possible mobility. Throughout the remainder of the summer and early fall, Chuck continued to recover. In late August, he was able to stand unassisted. In early September, his halo was removed. Finally, on October 16, three months after the accident, Chuck was discharged from Mary Free Bed. By the end of the Last Lecture, Chuck was able to stand and walk to the podium, where he delivered the entire hour-long lecture on his feet.
Throughout his recovery, Chuck has been supported by friends and family, and especially by his indefatigable wife, Miriam Aukerman, SP86 CB87 TA85. Miriam was able to take a leave of absence from her position as Staff Attorney of the American Civil Liberties Union of Michigan, directing the West Michigan office, in order to spend time with Chuck at the hospital, to advocate for his care with health care providers and insurers, and to care for their daughters, Thea and Cara. Miriam has been assisted by a large network of caring friends and co-workers, who prepared meals for the family and arranged activities for the girls. An even larger network of friends and colleagues, many of them Telluriders, helped support the family financially by donating online. This tremendous outpouring of care testifies to the deep gratitude felt by so many of Chuck and Miriam’s friends for the ways Chuck, Miriam, Thea and Cara have enriched their lives.

Indeed, at its annual Convention, just a month before Chuck’s accident, Telluride Association had expressed its gratitude for his 27 years of service by “graduating” him from its membership. A certificate of graduation is Telluride’s highest honor, conferred, at the direction of its Constitution, only “upon such Members as have completed their course of study in the Association.”

Chuck’s course of study included, among other important roles, a term as Telluride’s President from 2000 to 2002, as well as a long stint as one of the Custodians of the Association’s endowment. He and Miriam were both instrumental in the founding of the Michigan Branch in 1999, and their residence in nearby Grand Rapids meant they were regular presences in Ann Arbor, where they influenced the new Branch’s character and helped it face the obstacles of its early years. Chuck’s term as President also coincided with a period of professionalization and formalization of TA’s policies. Many of the documents that have served the Association on legal and insurance matters in recent years did not exist before he drafted them. Even the report he wrote as “Budget Analyst” in 2000 is still read by chairs of the Budget Committee, fifteen years later.

With all of this experience, Chuck was naturally regarded as an “expert Tellurider” by other Association members. But along with this wonkish role, he’s also been a cultivator of Telluride’s human resources and Chuck’s colleagues were equally pleased to have him back where he belonged, on campus and in front of his students. Peter Anderson, a friend and fellow professor in the Department of Classics, described the lecture for us:

“Thinner even than usual, and somewhat bowed from the rigors of recovery, Chuck was nevertheless fully there, eyes alight and greeting friends, rehab staff and former students with joy. I cannot properly express what his physical presence back on campus in that role meant for anyone in that room who knows him. Chuck’s message and lecture acted out for us as we listened not just the desperate horror of the accident and the changed lives the accident has forced upon his family, nor even the extraordinary love and hope he and Miriam share with each other and with their beautiful girls. The lecture grounded that entire, very human, experience — sudden change, irreversible reversals, love, perseverance and hope — in the powerful and rich tradition of the Classics in which Chuck has found deep meaning and to which he has devoted his life. The fragility, challenge and inevitability of human hope in the face of constant uncertainty became as real for us while he talked as it must surely have been for Athenian audiences of tragedies in the 5th century BCE. Normally we call his teaching, ‘excellent’ or ‘exemplary,’ him a ‘master teacher’ — and it and he are. But in that moment he truly stepped back into his place as ‘the teacher.’ I knew he would be back teaching with his colleagues and friends, needed to be back teaching with his colleagues and friends. I hope that moment gave him a perspective not only on the many things that have changed in his life, changes that may never be reversed, but also on the many, many things that could never change as long as Chuck is Chuck.”
Cassandra is cursed with prophecy and must figure it out. As we see in our history and our present, the work of Telluride Association trustees and associates. Telluride often asks big things of its volunteers and then sets them free to figure it out. Thank you for your support of this year’s Convention decided to increase the number of factota at TASP from one per seminar to two per seminar.

Chuck made himself a model with his patience in passing on his knowledge, his willingness to engage other members as equals regardless of their age or experience, and his calm wisdom in the face of difficult decisions.

Call to Convention continued from page 1

Yet a review of our past also suggests, more optimistically, that we have made progress. The Newsletters of 1915 and 1916 are remarkable for the ubiquity of the male pronoun, and “girls” are more frequently mentioned than women. In 2015, women have been welcomed as equals in Telluride programs for over fifty years. This year also brings exciting news from the Valley: our fellow Nunnian institution, Deep Springs College, continues its fight to become coeducational, and won a key ruling in late 2014.

Another form of progress that would no doubt be equally surprising to many of those early Newsletters’ authors is the continuing success of our summer programs. This is the first year we are operating three Telluride Association Sophomore Seminars. Thanks to the hard work of trustees, branchmembers, and Telluride associates, and our staff, we were able to expand our TASS applicant pool and to successfully evaluate the expanded pool of applications. We are currently interviewing finalists for the summer programs, and we encourage associates to participate in the interview process. Additionally, our recruitment efforts yielded a bumper crop of new factota, another critical element in a successful year of summer programs since last year’s Convention decided to increase the number of factota at TASP from one per seminar to two per seminar.

On a personal note, it’s been a pleasure and a privilege to serve as the Telluride Association President this year. I’m frequently heartened by the tremendous volunteer efforts of our trustees and associates. Telluride often asks big things of its volunteers and then sets them free to figure it out. As we see in our history and our present, the work of Telluride Association is to help us all learn to figure out how to figure it out. Thank you for your support of this experience that is — and continues to be, for me, more than 10 years into my Telluride career — tremendously educational.

Best wishes,

Amy Saltzman, SP’02 CB’03 TA’05, TA President 2014-15
Alumnae Reflect on the Past, Provide for the Future
continued from page 6

With regard to the ‘why now?’ question: In recent years, Telluride has celebrated TASP’s 50th anniversary and the Association’s 100th anniversary. Both of those were notable milestones, and I was inspired by attending the celebrations at Ithaca and Ann Arbor marking them. At the Telluride Centennial celebrations in particular, I observed a lot of energy and enthusiasm among alumni for ensuring that future generations have the opportunity to experience a formative and meaningful Nunnian education. I also met current Association members who wanted to work with alumni to form a strong network to support such an effort. I wanted to be part of that undertaking.

Is there anything else you’d like to add?
I don’t know exactly how future Telluride Trustees will be spending the income from the Endowment 30 years from now. But I do know, based on the past 100 years, that they will be careful stewards, committed to building a meaningful future based on the ideals our Nunnian community shares. My confidence in their future is what led me to commit some of my future resources to my expectations of their success and my hopes they will realize their most daring ambitions.

For more information on how you can get involved in Telluride alumni activities or financially support Telluride’s programs, including bequests and estate planning, please contact Telluride Development Committee chair Jacob Denz at devcom@tellurideassociation.org, or Telluride’s Alumni Development Officer, Matthew Trail, at matthew.trail@tellurideassociation.org.

Trail Returns to Fold as Alumni Development Officer

Matt Trail, SP81 CB82 TA84, rejoined the Telluride Association staff in November 2014 in the newly-created part time position of Alumni Development Officer. Trail, who is based in Lexington, KY, served as Administrative Director from 1995-98, and has since held a number of leadership positions in the nonprofit world, including directing a sustainable community development program and leading several associations of state government officials.

In his new position, Trail coordinates Telluride’s alumni relations and fundraising efforts. “It’s been wonderful reconnecting with multiple generations of Telluride friends and colleagues, from the 50’s up to today,” says Trail. “Telluride has been transformative in my life, and I’m honored to be able to continue serving it in a new capacity.”

Trail is married to Amelia El-Hindi Trail, a professor of Education at Transylvania University, and has two children, aged 14 and 10.

You can reach Matt at matthew.trail@tellurideassociation.org, or 859-321-0790. Send him your alumni news, photos, suggestions for alumni events, and your Telluride stories and reminiscences (printable and unprintable). He’s also very happy to discuss the many ways alumni can support Telluride with their time and financial gifts.
1940s

ROBERT RICHTER, PB47, posed with Angelina Jolie at a recent New York event honoring her as the director of a new motion picture. Richter is a 25 year-long member of the Documentary Branch of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences.

1950s

In April, the University of Utah Press is releasing L. JACKSON NEWELL’S, DS56, book The Electric Edge of Academe: The Saga of L.L. Nunn and Deep Springs College. Newell is Professor Emeritus of Educational Leadership at the University of Utah, where he was also dean of liberal education for sixteen years. He served as President of Deep Springs College from 1995 to 2004. The forward to the book is written by BILL VOLLMAN, DS77 CB79.

1960s

WALTER ISAACSON, SP69, received a positive review from New York Times critic Janet Maslin for his recent book, The Innovators, a history of the computing machine and the Internet. “As this book so clearly demonstrates, he is a kindred spirit to the visionaries and enthusiasts who speed us so thrillingly into the technological future,” writes Maslin.

1970s

CAROL LEE, SP71, writes “I am a member of the Council (the governing body) of the American Law Institute, a 90-year old nonprofit organization that is dedicated to clarifying and improving the law by producing Restatements of the Law and other publications. This year, I gave a paper on Judge J. Skelly Wright and campaign finance at a symposium in the Judge’s honor at Loyola University New Orleans College of Law, and helped organize a reunion of the law clerks of retired Supreme Court Justice John Paul Stevens. I work as special counsel for Taconic Capital Advisors, a hedge fund manager in New York City.”

MARILYN MIGIEL, SP71 CB72 TA74 SPF’04, has been appointed to a three-year term as chair of the Department of Romance Studies at Cornell University. Her latest book, The Ethical Dimension of the Decameron, has been accepted for publication by the University of Toronto Press.

In a March 3, 2015 New York Times article, “Lawyer Put Health Care Act in Peril by Pointing Out 4 Little Words,” TOM CHRISTINA, SP72 CB73 TA75, is credited with outlining a new legal challenge to the Affordable Care Act, which came before the Supreme Court in March. Christina uncovered the challenge at a strategy meeting of the American Enterprise Institute in 2010. A Harvard law graduate, Tom worked in the Justice Department in the Reagan administration and then joined Covington & Burling, a major Washington law firm, where he became fascinated by employment benefits law. The Times cites Christina as saying there were valuable features to the law even though he was opposed to parts of it. He added that the issue at the heart of the Supreme Court case was straightforward.

PEPPER TRAIL, CB72 TA73, is the ornithologist and a senior forensic scientist at the National Fish and Wildlife Forensics Laboratory in Ashland, Oregon. His work combating wildlife crime takes him to such exotic destinations as Bismarck, North Dakota, and Hanoi, Vietnam, where he was stationed in 2013 as a State Department Embassy Science Fellow. In his spare time, he leads natural history trips around the world (most recently to the Galapagos), and writes poetry and prose. His environmental essays appear regularly in High Country News, and one of his poems was nominated for a Pushcart Prize in 2014. His collection Cascade-Siskiyou: Poems is now available on amazon.com.

In September 2014, long-time public education advocate and leader HAROLD LEVY, CB74 TA75, became Executive Director of the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation. The Jack Kent Cooke Foundation is a private, independent foundation dedicated to advancing the education of exceptionally promising students who have financial need. It is the largest scholarship foundation in the United States. Following a successful Wall Street career, Levy has been an innovative leader in the field of public education, serving on the New York State Board of Regents, as Chancellor of New York City public schools from 2000-2002, and on several corporate and philanthropic boards.

KEN POMERANZ, SP75 CB76 TA78, served a term as President of the American Historical Association in 2013-14. In an intellectual biographical piece prepared for the 2014 AHA Annual Meeting, KATE MERKEL-HESS SP94 describes Ken’s years at Telluride: “Telluride House became the core of Pomeranz’s social and intellectual
life for the years to come—not just in college but beyond too. He meets his wife, MAUREEN GRAVES [SP74 CB75 TA77], and many of his closest friends in the House. Another resident was Pomeranz’s intellectual sounding board and occasional collaborator DANIEL A. SEGAL [SP75 CB76 TA79] (now a professor of history and anthropology at Pitzer College)—the two had been friends since attending the same TASP in high school. The House was run based on principles of shared governance and intellectual intensity. The result was a community in which nothing—from the menu planning to after-dinner chats—was conducted unselfconsciously. Life in the House compounded Pomeranz’s earnest intellectualism, but it also forged his political outlook and his patience for committee work and institutional management.”

1980s

JAMES COWELL, SP81, has recently been chair of and teaches in the Department of Linguistics at the University of Colorado. A linguistic anthropologist, James’ most recent book is Arapaho Stories, Songs, and Prayers: A Bilingual Anthology, published by the University of Oklahoma Press. He currently has an NSF/NEH grant to work on an Arapaho dictionary.

GEOFFREY GENTH, SP81, reports that “My wife Rachel Eisler, a high-school English teacher, and I are the proud parents of Leah (15) and Harry (12). I’ve been doing commercial litigation and other legal work with the same mid-sized firm in Baltimore since ’92, and have also greatly enjoyed being involved with local non-profits. I’d love to catch up with any ’81 Cornell TASPers who may be in the Baltimore area.”

After TASP, BONNIE ST. JOHN, SP81, became the first African-American to win Olympic or Paralympic medals in ski racing, taking home a silver and two bronze medals in downhill events at the 1984 Paralympics in Innsbruck, Austria. Bonnie graduated magna cum laude from Harvard University and earned a Rhodes scholarship to Oxford, taking an M.Litt. in Economics. After returning to the US, she began her business career at IBM. Washington came calling and in the late 1980s Bonnie was appointed by President Bill Clinton as a Director for Human Capital Policy on the White House National Economic Council. Bonnie is the author of six books, including her most recent #1 bestseller, How Great Women Lead, with her teenage daughter, Darcy, and is a speaker and leadership consultant.

STEVE VALK, CB83, is a contemporary dance dramaturge, visual artist and designer and currently the director of the first Institute of Social Choreography in Frankfurt, Germany. The Institute specializes in “deep dramaturgical research, the development of new cultural formats and collaborative networks, and the practice of social choreography as a set of methods for discovering and manifesting alternative patterns in the ecology of our collective experience.”

DIANE THOMPSON, SP84 CB85 TA88, is Managing Counsel at the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau in Washington, DC. She is one of two people overseeing mortgage regulation in the country. She lives in the DC area with husband KEVIN McCARTHY, SP81 CB82 TA84, who has his own IT company, SqoolTechs, which provides IT support to Moodle-based learning platforms for schools. Kevin is also a filmmaker, whose current project, Trans*Geek Movie, is a documentary exploring the intersection of transgender identity and geek culture.

JERRY KANG, SP85 and NOAH ZATZ, SP89 CB90 TA92, participated in the 7th Critical Race Studies Symposium: Whiteness as Property: A Twenty Year Appraisal, at the UCLA School of Law in October 2014. Kang is Professor of Law, Professor of Asian American Studies, and Korea Times-Hankook Ilbo Chair in Korean American Studies, UCLA School of Law. Zatz is Professor of Law at UCLA.

MIRIAM AUKERMAN, SP86 CB87 TA88, was interviewed for a May 21, 2014 NPR story on the surprising lines and fees charged to debtors by the courts system and their devastating effect on the poor. “Debtors prisons are alive and well in Michigan and across the country. People go to jail because they’re poor and that’s a two-tiered system of justice.” Aukerman is an attorney with the ACLU of Michigan.

In November 2014, EULONDA SKYLES, SP87 CB88 TA90, joined Capital One as Assistant General Counsel, IP Litigation, in Washington, DC. Previously, she was the founder of Skyles Law Group, and a counsel with Orrick, Herrington, and Sutcliffe LLP.

DEREK ABBIW JACKSON, SP88, is in his second semester of his first year at SUNY Buffalo Law School. He keeps in touch with Williams ’88 TASPers MONA KARIM, SHANA BROWN, and ANDY SULLIVAN, his TASP roommate, as well as ANDY FOLAND, DAVID WILLIAMS and KRISTEN ANKIEWICZ, also all TASP ’88.

In an October 21, 2014 New York Times op-ed piece, SHAEL POLAKOW-SURANSKY, SP89, argues that meaningful play is a critical building block of a good pre-K educational program. Polakow-Suransky served as senior deputy chancellor of the New York City Department of Education from 2011-14, and is the President of Bank Street College.

MARIANO-FLORENTINO CUELLAR, SP89, was sworn in as an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of California on January 5th, 2015. Cuellar was previously the Stanley Morrison Professor of Law at Stanford Law School and the Director of Stanford’s Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies. He has been the Co-Director of Stanford’s Center for International Security and Cooperation.

1990s

A former MIT Sloan Fellow for Innovation and Global Leadership in the Energy Ventures program, JOSH ADLER, SP90, is the founder and CEO of Sourcewater, an online exchange for conserving freshwater resources and creating market incentives for recycling water while enhancing the security of water supplies for unconventional energy producers.

ROSAMUND KING’s, SP91 CB92, new book Island Bodies: Transgressive Sexualities in the Caribbean Imagination, has been
published by the University Press of Florida. It includes analysis of literature, music, carnival characters, and film from the English, French, Spanish, and Dutch(?) Caribbean — and looks at both heterosexuality and queer sexualities.

CARA REICHEL, SP91, writes “In collaboration with my writing partner/husband Peter Mills, I've received a 2015 Bogliasco Fellowship to spend a month this Spring researching and working on our new musical drama Death for Five Voices (inspired by the Renaissance composer and murderer Carlo Gesualdo) at the Bogliasco Foundation study center in Italy. More info here: http://bfny.org/en/fellows. Cara is Producing Artistic Director at the Prospect Theater Company in New York City.

IRE’NE LARA SILVA, SP92 CB93, is the author of two chapbooks: ani’mal and INDíGENA. Her first collection of poetry, furia, was published by Mouthfeel Press in October 2010 and received an Honorable Mention for the 2011 International Latino Book Award in Poetry. Her first collection of short stories, flesh to bone, was published by Aunt Lute Press in 2013. flesh to bone received the 2013 Premio Aztlan, placed 2nd for the 2014 TEJAS NACCS FOCO Award in Fiction, and was a Finalist for ForeWord Review’s Book of the Year Award in Multicultural Fiction. flesh to bone was also selected as the May 2014 Book of the Month for the National Latino Book Club/Las Comadres. Aztlan Libre Press will be publishing her second full-length collection of poetry, blood sugar canto, in Summer 2015.

In The New Republic on August 28th, 2014

JESSICA NORDELL, SP94, writes that understanding the experience of transgender people at work can help us understand why women still aren’t advancing at work at the same rate as men. Jessica is Lead Creative at Zeus Jones in Minneapolis, MN as well as a journalist.

Ithaca-area Association member SHARON TREGASKIS, CB94 TA96, continues juggling freelance editing and reporting with chores at Tree Gate Farm (est. 2008). In addition to a cider orchard and flock of laying hens—hatched on the farm in April 2014—Sharon and husband Dean tend approximately 100 varieties of annual veggies including blue potatoes, purple tomatillos, pink shallots, ten varieties of heirloom tomatoes, and five types of kale, all sold locally. They sell their specialty crops (baby ginger, turmeric) through a wholesale distributor who supplies coops and grocery stores throughout New York State. This past fall, Sharon and Dean celebrated installation of electric power for farm operations and this spring they began the long-overdue process of formally certifying their organic growing practices through NOFA-NY.

ADAM ARENSON, SP95 TA’01, is relocating to New York City in June 2015 to start a new job as associate professor of history and chair of the urban studies program at Manhattan College. He also welcomed a daughter, Madeline Rose, on December 1.

MARK E. HAUBER, CB97, after publishing over 150 articles on birds, has now also published his first book, by the University of Chicago Press, The Book of Eggs (2014). Based on a broad sampling of 600 specimens from the egg collection of the Field Museum of Natural History, the book tells the story of each egg, each nest and each species behind these colorful embryonic homes. The book was positively reviewed by the Chicago Tribune and by The Guardian in the UK. While at Cornell Branch, Mark studied parasitic eggs and nestlings in Ithaca for his Ph.D. at Cornell in Neurobiology and Behavior, and these years his own grad students, based at his lab in Hunter College of the City University of New York, continue to visit Ithaca for the summer field seasons.

MATTHEW CHAUVIERE, M.D., SP98, Distinguished Graduate of the United States Air Force Academy (’03), UTHSCSA (’07) (Alpha Omega Alpha) received his board certification in General Surgery in January 2014. He is currently stationed at Lakenheath AFB England, having recently completed a deployment at Bagram AFB, Afghanistan.

LUIS GARCIA-VEGA, SP98 CB99, and Sasha Marie Dessy were married on May 17, 2014 in Dallas, Texas. JESSICA BAUMAN, SP98 CB99 TA’03 and JOHN BRIGGS, SP98 CB99 TA’01 attended.

MAGGIE LEHRMAN, SP99, passes on news of the publication of her first book, The Cost of All Things, coming out in May from HarperCollins. Maggie is a writer and editor living in Brooklyn. She has an MFA in Writing for Children and Young Adults from the Vermont College of Fine Arts.

2000s

ARTHUR HONG, SP’01 MB’02, married in Seoul, South Korea in October 2014. A host of Michigan branchmembers, including CATHERINE MORRIS, MB’02, MAX MONTESINO, MB’00 TA’04, ADAM HOGAN, MB’02 TA’05, NEIL RAO, MB’04, SUMON DANTIKI, MB’00, and ED BASKERVILLE,
moved to Malawi in Southern Africa to work with the Clinton Health Access Initiative to fight stunting and malnutrition in Malawi, while also providing improved income opportunities for smallholder farmers.

After completing a 2010 tour of duty in Afghanistan, Marine 2nd Lieutenant (now Captain) ADRIAN KINSELLA, CB’06, battled bureaucracy and security concerns for more than three years to obtain a visa and bring his unit’s Afghan combat interpreter Mohammad out of Afghanistan. Mohammad had been marked for death by the Taliban for his cooperation with the Americans. After tireless lobbying and networking efforts led by Kinsella, Mohammad obtained his visa and joined Kinsella in the Bay Area. Last December he was successfully reunited with his family, and efforts are now under way to secure political asylum for them. Kinsella is currently finishing law school at the University of California, Berkeley. After he passes the bar exam he will become a Marine Judge Advocate.

BRIAN ROSA, CB’07 TA’11, is assistant professor of urban studies at Queens College. After receiving a master’s in City and Regional Planning at Cornell, he earned a Ph.D. in human geography from the University of Manchester.

Last summer, MICHAEL BECKER, SP’08 TA’13, received a FLAS (Foreign Language and Area Studies) fellowship to spend six weeks during the summer studying intensive advanced Haitian Creole in Port-au-Prince. He is currently a second year Ph.D. student in Caribbean history at Duke University, working on the intercolonial circulation of political ideas among free and enslaved communities of African descent in the western Caribbean.

RACHEL HARMON, SP’09 CB’11, has been named a Rhodes Scholar. Harmon, a senior at Cornell’s School of Industrial and Labor Relations, is one of 32 students selected from a pool of 900 applicants. She will pursue a master’s degree in evidence-based social intervention and policy evaluation at Oxford University. While studying at Cornell, Harmon has been involved in research and service activities and has earned numerous academic honors. She is a Public Service Center Scholar, a Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellow, a Rawlings Presidential Research Scholar, an ILR Irving Ives Award winner and a teaching assistant in the Cornell Prison Education Program.

JAMES GOLDEN, CB’10, is co-author in a study featured in the November 4th edition of the New York Times studying the unexpected complexity in jumping spider brains. The article appeared October 9th online in the journal Current Biology. James reports that he is finally finishing his dissertation and is starting on a post-doc at Stanford, focusing on how the retina processes information.

UKU LEMBER, CB’11 TA’12, received his Ph.D. in History from the Central European University in October 2014. Lember’s dissertation focused on intermarriages between so-called “Russian newcomers” and “Estonian locals” during the Soviet era through extensive oral history.

In November 2014, DANIEL MARSHALL, CB’12, helped Cornell Government Professor Isaac Kramnick organize a two-day event entitled “Vietnam: The War at Cornell.” Among the events Kramnick staged were panel discussions attended by hundreds of current students, a “teach-in” involving both sides of the antiwar debate, and presentations from former activists during meetings of more than a dozen academic courses. Former English Professor Jack Matlack recalled

DAVID MOSSNER DS63 CB66 TA67,
took his course on Henry David Thoreau. “It was very clear that he was very much against the war,” Matlack said, “and wanted to live a life based on conviction, on principle, and on consistency.” Almost a year later, Matlack learned that Mossner had stepped on a landmine while fighting in Vietnam and been killed instantly. It turned out that Mossner, fearing that he’d lose credibility if he dodged the draft, had joined the Army after graduation and quickly moved up the officer ranks. The professor went back to a book he had lent the young student; inside, he found Mossner’s draft card, only half burned. “And I could do nothing but grab it and weep, as I still do,” Matlack told a roomful of students in Uris Hall. “Not understanding, but realizing this is a young man that’s wrestling with the deepest aspects of this struggle, of this war, of what is right, of what he is called to do.”

JOSEPH FRIDMAN, SP’12 CB’13 TA’14, serves in Cornell’s Student Assembly. He’s been accepted for the College Scholar program, through which he’ll be majoring in Cognitive Science. Joseph is also President and Founder of a program called Splash! at Cornell, and has been working to implement an open course evaluation system and to promote student free speech rights through the Student Assembly.

JULIE CASABIANCA, CB’13, started an internship with the UN Office for REDD+ Coordination in Indonesia (UNORCID) in February 2015. She will be working in Central Kalimantan for six months on community-based planning for a green economy. In February, Julie also presented her Masters’ research at the East-West Center’s International Graduate Student Conference in Honolulu, Hawaii. She spent last summer in Malang, Indonesia with Lin Fu CB’13. They spent eight weeks studying bahasa Indonesia as part of the State Department’s Critical Language Scholarship (CLS) program. Julie will receive her master’s in Regional Planning in Cornell’s Department of City and Regional Planning in May 2015.

Marina Hsieh, SP77, named Deep Springs College Trustee

Hsieh is a Senior Fellow at Santa Clara Law who teaches and works in their leadership education initiative and assessment. Marina joins Alan Kaufman, DS67 BB69, and Eric Swanson, DS65 BB68 TA69, as Telluride alumni currently serving as Deep Springs Trustees.

At the founding: L.L. Nunn and colleagues inspect the site of the future Deep Springs College. Courtesy of the Division of Rare and Manuscript Collections, Cornell University Library.
WILLIAM ALLEN, DS42, died on October 11, 2014. A brilliant lawyer, graduating first in his class from Stanford Law School in 1956, he served as chief law clerk to Chief Justice Earl Warren. His decades-long career encompassed both the practice of law as partner at Covington & Burling and teaching at Stanford, Cornell and Howard Law Schools as well as his beloved Deep Springs College — which he also served as chairman of its Board of Trustees — in the high desert of his native California. He drafted the first open housing act to be enacted south of the Mason-Dixon Line and argued four cases before the United States Supreme Court. His keen mind, gentle curiosity and humility all defined his life. He will be profoundly missed by family, friends, and generations of former students and colleagues. Contributions in his memory can be made to Deep Springs College; HC 72 Box 45001; Dyer, NV 89010-9803.


GARY CLIFFORD, SPF74, passed away March 26th, 2014. A specialist in American foreign policy, Gary served for 27 years as graduate director in the Department of Political Science at the University of Connecticut. Gary co-taught the 1974 Cornell II TASP Seminar “American Foreign Policy as History: The 20th Century.” Thirteen Cornell TASPers were preferred to Cornell Branch the next year, many of whom went on to be active Association members.

WERNER DANNHAUSER, CBG71 SPF84, passed away on April 26, 2014 in Frederick, PA. Born in Buchau, Germany, May 1, 1929, Dannhauser came to America as a refugee from Nazi Germany at the age of 9. He earned his Ph.D. at the University of Chicago under the legendary Leo Strauss. Dannhauser was Professor Emeritus of Government at Cornell and influenced a generation of Telluriders, including ARTHUR MELZER CB69 TA71, who co-wrote Reason, Faith and Politics: Essays in Honor of Werner J. Dannhauser (2008). Dannhauser co-taught the 1984 Cornell II seminar “The Public Interest and Factions in American Government.”

AUDREY DANTZLERWARD, SP‘10, passed away at the age of 22 on January 10, 2015, in Princeton, New Jersey. Dantzlerward was a member of the Wildcats a cappella group, Princeton Women’s Mentorship Program, Princeton Presbyterians, and Edwards Collective, a residential community that celebrates the humanities and creative arts.

PAUL DAVIS, DS77, died on January 10, 2014, in Seattle, WA of complications following cancer surgery. He was 54 years old. Seeking a change from his New England upbringing, Paul went west to attend Deep Springs College. Technology’s power to transform individual lives and entire societies informed Paul’s interpretation of a life of service. When he transferred to Brown University in 1981, he planned an independent major, technology in society, combining courses in history, sociology, engineering, and computer science. In 1984, Paul bought an original Macintosh computer, and became an early believer in the possibilities of “personal” computers. Moving to the San Francisco Bay Area in 1986, Paul used his computer savvy to overhaul computerized subscriptions for the Whole Earth Review, and went on to work on the hypertext version of the Whole Earth Catalog. He worked at the Bay Area Discovery Museum, forming an interest in expanded computer use by non-profits. This led him to pursue a Master of Non-Profit Administration at the University of San Francisco. In 1994, Paul became the first Mac software tester for a small start-up called Netscape, where his chosen title was ‘Empiricist.’ In 1999, former Netscape colleagues lured him to Seattle and Amazon.com, where he managed the team responsible for keeping the website running.

Paul showed extraordinary courage and perseverance in the face of illnesses that shaped, but never defined, his life. In 1981, he was diagnosed with an aggressive non-Hodgkins lymphoma. Radiation and chemotherapy were brutal — and lifesaving — but had devastating long-term side effects. In 2002, months after walking a marathon for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, Paul developed chemotherapy-induced heart failure. His response was to train as a life coach, helping people living with chronic medical conditions. With his customary eloquence, heart and wit, Paul chronicled his battles with cancer at http://nosmallplans.com/pvtsm and http://nosmallplans.com/again. He listened intently, argued brilliantly, gave generously. Paul was happily married to architect Kimberly McKittrick, whom he met at Brown.

— Deep Springs College website
DAVID GOLDEY, CB54 TA55 SPF66, passed away on July 25th, 2014. David, fondly recalled as the “Lincoln Scholar Who Stayed,” was a Telluride Lincoln Scholar to Oxford University, and ended up becoming a Fellow at Lincoln College and then Senior Tutor. Teaching at Oxford for almost four decades, David was an expert on French and Portuguese politics, and was for many years Telluride’s Oxford contact for the Lincoln Exchanges. CHRISS BREISETH, CB58 TA59 SPF69, writes, “David was a warm and personable colleague and teacher. His wit was ever present and he had a large personality. On one sea voyage on a freighter, he was holding forth at dinner with the relatively small group of passengers. When he began talking about French politics (his specialty), a dowager type elderly lady leaned forward and said ‘Young man, I never talk politics on a ship of less than 50,000 tons.’ He was full of personal anecdotes like that—he used to keep us laughing. At the same time, he was a serious intellectual and astute analyst of European politics. It is hard to think of the world without David’s effervescence. He more than anyone bridged the Telluride and Lincoln College relationship.”

NEWTON GARVER, DS45 CB56 TA48, passed away February 8th, 2014 after a long illness. He was 83. Newton received an A.B. from Swarthmore, a B.Phil. from Oxford, and a Ph.D. in Philosophy from Cornell. He began his academic career as an instructor of English at the National College of Choueifat, Lebanon in 1954. Following stints as an instructor at Cornell and the University of Minnesota, Newt joined the faculty at University of Buffalo in 1961, where he would teach for over 35 years. He was Professor of Philosophy, specializing in the study of ethics and policy, the philosophy of language, Wittgenstein, and peace and conflict. He was appointed a SUNY Distinguished Service Professor in 1991.

Newton devoted his life to his beliefs in social justice, sometimes taking unpopular stands. In the early 1960s he was a co-founder of the “Citizens Council on Human Relations” advocating racial integration and equality. As a young UB professor in 1964, he risked dismissal when he joined five other colleagues in refusing to sign a loyalty oath regarding what he would teach about the government. He became an active opponent of the Vietnam War, both through academic committees and also through his religious affiliations as a Quaker in the New York Friends. He remained active both socially and intellectually until very late in life. During his retirement, he worked on behalf of Bolivian Quakers, establishing an education fund to provide school supplies and resources to the impoverished community. He visited Bolivia multiple times in direct support of the effort.

Newton’s Telluride career was quite distinguished as well. He taught classes in the summer at Pasadena Branch in 1948 and 51, and in 1951-52 he served on the TASP Planning committee, which created the summer programs. From 1952-54 he was one of the first Telluride scholars to participate in the Lincoln College exchange, and was acting chancellor of Telluride Association in 1956-57. He also served for three years on the Deep Springs Board of Directors in the late 1950s.

— Deep Springs College website and Telluride files

ANDREW PATNER, SP76, died February 3rd at age 55 in his hometown of Chicago. Andrew was a renowned journalist, broadcaster, critic and interviewer in the arts scene in Chicago, and the author of I.F. Stone: A Portrait. Chicago Symphony Orchestra music director Riccardo Muti said, “I had enormous respect for him as a man of great culture and deep humanity. We had a sincere friendship and his death is a tragic loss to the cultural life of Chicago.”

NORRIS SMITH, DS45, CB47, TA47, died on February 4, 2014 in Wallingford, Connecticut. Norris described his life in a 1991 Telluride alumni survey as “a multi-year experience, showing the flexibility of a sound liberal arts preparation and a certain heedless frivolity in undertaking new enterprises.”

“Norrey” was born in San Francisco in July, 1929. He left the Palo Alto High School at the age of 16 to study at Deep Springs College. After two
year, he transferred with a scholarship to Cornell University, graduating in 1951 with a B.A. in Government and Cultural Anthropology. When the Korean War began, Norris joined the Air Force and was assigned to Chinese language study. He was an interpreter during the peacetime negotiations at Panmunjom in 1952-53. He received an honorable discharge in 1954 and with a grant from the Ford Foundation went on to complete a master's degree in East Asian studies at Harvard. Norris joined the U.S. Foreign Service and for 10 years held various posts in East Asia, including service in Laos, Vietnam and Thailand. In 1971, Norris left the Foreign Service and joined the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory where he was responsible for public relations and worked as spokesman and senior editor for the lab's news bureau. He later collaborated with Sidney Karin in 1987 to author a history titled, The Supercomputing Era. He resigned from Lawrence Livermore Lab to found and edit a new magazine, Super Computing Review. In 1989, Norris began writing full time about computers and the Internet. He retired in 2005 to pursue personal writing interests.

ROBERT SPROULL, DS35, CB38, TA38, passed away at the age of 96 on October 9, 2014 in Rochester, NY. Sproull was an internationally known physicist, professor and the seventh President of the University of Rochester (1970-84).

Born and raised in Illinois, Robert Sproull attended Deep Springs College, as he could not afford to accept a fellowship offered by Harvard College. There was no physics instructor at Deep Springs, but he became intrigued by reading about it and transferred to Cornell University after three years of part-time study. He received a bachelor's degree in English (1940) and Ph.D. in physics (1943) from Cornell. As World War II approached, Sproull developed an experimental thesis at Cornell, which became classified because of its application to microwave magnetrons. He then went to RCA Laboratories in Princeton, N.J., to work on Navy radar. He worked at RCA during the day; in the evenings he taught physics to Navy and Marine students at Princeton University, and microwave theory and technique to Navy and industrial engineers at the University of Pennsylvania. In 1946, Sproull accepted an assistant professorship in physics at Cornell, where he advanced through the faculty ranks of its growing physics program. He organized and was the first director of both the Laboratory of Atomic and Solid State Physics and the Center for Materials Research at Cornell. From 1963 to 1965, he served as director of the Advanced Research Projects Agency in Arlington, Va., reporting to the U.S. Secretary of Defense and supporting a range of programs from nuclear test detection to computer networking. He would also serve as chairman of the Defense Science Board from 1968-1970. He returned to Cornell in 1965 to become the university's Vice President for academic affairs. In 1968 he joined the University of Rochester as Vice-President and Provost, and from 1970-84 served as President, leading the University in major research, development and programmatic initiatives.

Sproull's Telluride career was no less accomplished. He joined Telluride Association upon leaving Deep Springs and entering Cornell Branch in 1938, and was immediately elected Secretary and concurrently served on the Board of Custodians. Bob was Telluride Association President during 1945-46, and negotiated the return of Telluride House from US Navy hands after the war. Bob developed Telluride's first “timing plan” for investment, which later evolved into the SI-6 spendable income formula. Bob served two separate terms on the Deep Springs Board of Trustees, the first time from 1967-1975, and again 1983-1987, and in the late 1990s he and his wife donated the funds for the new Deep Springs Student Body dorm.

In a 2002 interview with Brad Edmondson DS76 CB80 TA90, Bob described what he thought was unique about Telluride: “The other part is teaching people early on to take responsibility for their actions that other people count on. So I think that that the Telluride difference is in its emphasis on responsibility. A number of times I've had a choice — do I serve on a group the routine way, or do I become chairman? Usually I became chairman. When I took the responsibility, I took it seriously. I think that's a good part of the uniqueness of the Telluride. You don't shy away from taking responsibility.”

Predeceased by his wife of 70 years, Mary, Robert is survived by his children, Bob F. of Leeds, Mass., and Nancy HighbARGER of Los Gatos, Calif.; three grandchildren, and nieces and nephews.

— University of Rochester Newscenter and Telluride files

ED WESELY, DS45 CB47, passed away peacefully at home, at age 85, on February 15, 2015, after several years of declining health. Ed had a distinguished legal career, including service as a federal prosecutor, was a litigation partner with Winthrop, Stimson, Putnam & Roberts (now Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman) for 37 years, and served as special master in federal court cases. Ed was a dedicated humanitarian, serving for many years as

Ed Wesely, courtesy of CARE.
chairman/President of CARE, the leading international relief and development agency, and was also a co-founder of CARE International. Ed’s many honors include a Foreign Press Association World Humanitarian Award in 1988. He was also a member of the Council on Foreign Relations, served on nonprofit boards, and chaired legal committees in the federal court system. Ed traveled extensively and lived his life with zest. Ed is survived by his wife of nearly a quarter-century, Marcy Brownson, former wife Yolanda T. Wesely, daughters Marissa Wesely and Adrienne Shirley, granddaughter Emma Allen, and a large extended family.

Also Remembered

C. MURRAY ADAMS, CB48, died March 29, 2011 at the age of 79. Born in Ithaca, he lived in Brooklyn for 50 years and was very active in community affairs.

JEFF LUSTIG, SPF80, died on June 14, 2012. Jeff was a leading scholar of California politics and frequent teacher at Deep Springs College.

MICHAEL YARROW, JR., son of Clarence Yarrow DS25 CB28 TA28, died at age 74 on June 2, 2014. Mike taught Sociology at Ithaca College for 18 years before moving to Seattle in 1997. There he worked as an organizer for peace and justice, especially at the Western Washington Fellowship of Reconciliation, where he launched the Peace Activist Trainee program that has graduated over 90 high school students.

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