

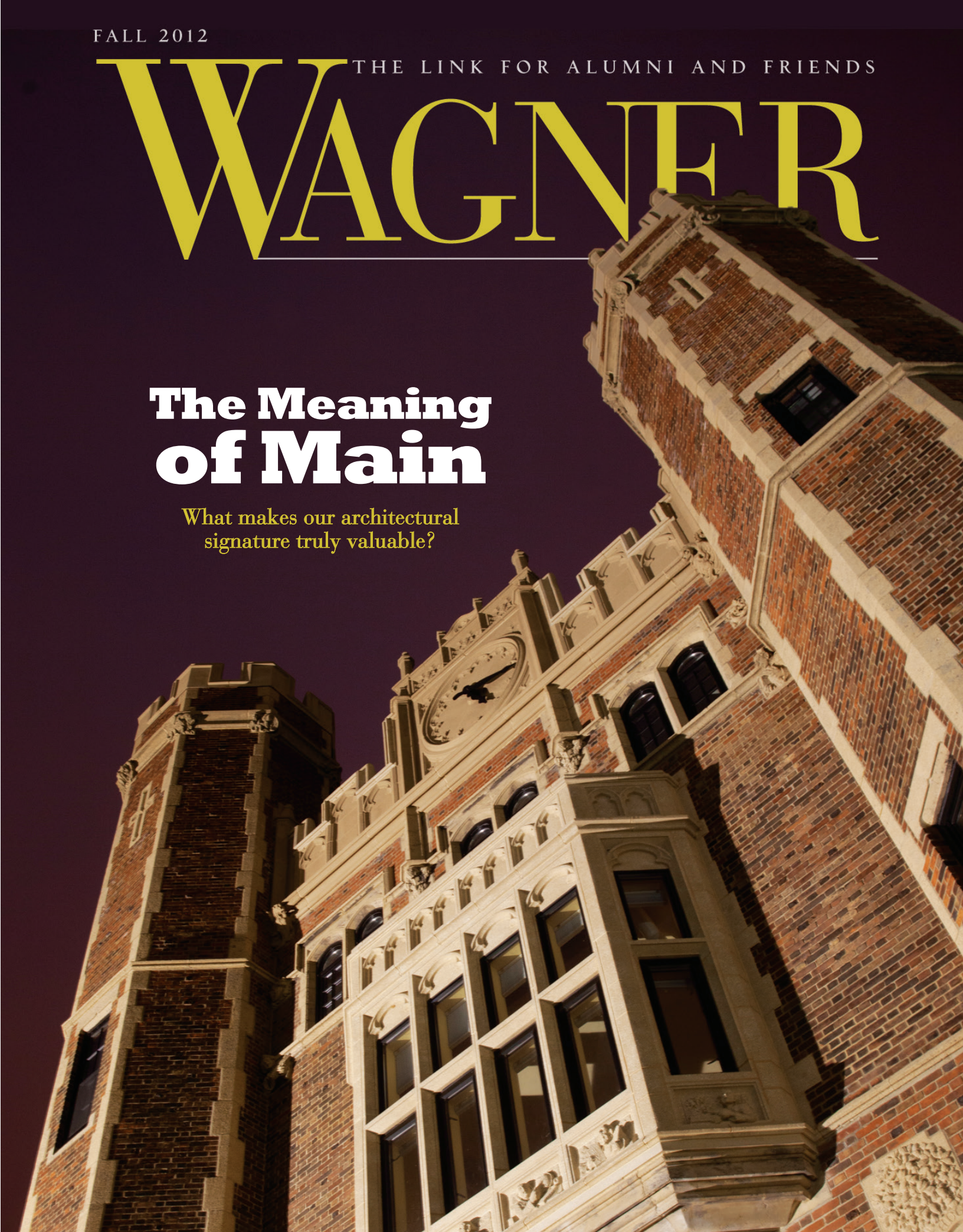
FALL 2012

THE LINK FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS

WAGNER

The Meaning of Main

What makes our architectural
signature truly valuable?





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The Meaning of Main

An art historian considers what makes Wagner's architectural signature truly valuable; plus, a closer look at the \$15 million project to save the face of the College.

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Expanded Horizons

Fifty years ago, Wagner opened its campus in Bregenz, Austria. Since then, the experiences of both students and the College have greatly broadened. Plus, profiles of three alumni living abroad.



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Wabi: The Beauty of Imperfection

A Wagner senior encourages 'everyone to learn to love that thing that annoys them about themselves and others, because no one is perfect, and flaws are nothing but individualistic beauty.'

Triumphant

Overcoming three season-opening losses and the setbacks of Hurricane Sandy, the Seahawks won eight straight games and their first Northeast Conference championship on November 17. The following week, they defeated Colgate and became the first NEC team to advance in the NCAA Division I FCS playoffs. The season ended in Cheney, Washington, in a hard-fought contest against No. 4-ranked Eastern Washington.

PHOTOGRAPH: DAVID SAFFRAN/WAGNER ATHLETICS

From the President

Lessons learned from Superstorm Sandy



What has touched me most is the response from our own students.

Even if you don't live in the New York–New Jersey area, I'm certain you have seen the coverage of the devastation that was left here in the wake of Superstorm Sandy in late October. At Wagner, it marked the second consecutive year that Carin and I, along with a number of our administrators and staff members, spent the night of the storm with some of our students in Spiro Sports Center. It was an opportunity to bond with a small group of our students as the winds howled outside. When we ventured out the next morning, it was clear that the destruction was much more profound than anything we've encountered here in recent memory. Though the campus endured the storm with only minimal damage, the situation was dire for many of our neighbors.

There was clearly much need, and what has touched me the most is the response from our own students. Even before most of them were able to return to campus, they were seeking ways to help. Greg Balaes '13, our SGA president, and his peers created Wagner Cares to focus the work of student volunteers and funnel supplies where they are needed most. (*Read more about it on page 6.*)

These efforts are a most meaningful response to this challenge, because our students have shown that the lessons they learn in our classrooms and in their fieldwork have become a part of their internal makeup. The Wagner Plan is, in large part, about a civic ethos. That ethos is strong on our campus; it is who we are.

Seeing this also reaffirmed to me how important it is for us to continue to fight for the kind of education that we are able to provide here at Wagner, even as American higher education faces increasing challenges.

Wagner is part of a tradition where exploration of ideas is critical, as is argument through reason and evidence, and,



perhaps most importantly, the promotion of compassion and empathy.

At the very beginnings of our republic, Franklin and Jefferson understood that to sustain a democratic government, a democratic culture would be a necessity. This culture would nurture independent thinkers, pragmatic problem solvers, and creative innovators.

They understood that the liberal arts would free people from becoming prisoners of their own limited experiences. The world they were building placed high demands on citizens to understand civic duties and responsibilities and democratic practice. The republic required engaged citizens who prized their personal freedom, but who also cherished and nurtured the welfare of their communities.

In this critical moment when higher learning and responsible citizenship are needed more than ever, we must support institutions that stand for the fundamental values of democracy, an open society, and a reverence for the dignity of life. This is what we do at Wagner.

RICHARD GUARASCI, PRESIDENT

From the Editor

A comic collaboration

This issue of *Wagner Magazine* features a genre that I believe has never been seen in its pages before: a comic! As we deal with the difficulties, frustrations, and tragedies that Hurricane Sandy left in its wake (the lateness of this issue being one of its minor results), I thought it might be a good time to tell the back story on something that I hope will inject a welcome moment of lightheartedness into your day.

Earlier this fall, while I was thinking about what to do for the “Reflections” personal essay in this issue, I had the



brainstorm of trying to bring together two alumni I'd heard about: Colleen Venable '02, who writes children's comic books (see her series *Guinea Pig: Pet Shop Private Eye*, with illustrator Stephanie Yue) and designs books for the graphic novel publisher First Second Books, and Robert Geronimo '09, a doctoral student in art history at the CUNY Graduate Center and a comic book illustrator.

Fortunately, they were both enthusiastic about the idea. I had no idea how a comic comes together, but the two of them are pros. The three of us met in September at the Gershwin Hotel lobby, near Colleen's office in the famous Flatiron Building. Under a giant screen-print portrait of the cartoon master Walt Disney himself, Colleen read us her draft of a script entitled “Ode to the Anchor.” Robert

asked her a few questions about how she envisioned the graphics and started sketching.

The process reminds me a lot of how the magazine itself comes together: I write the script (the stories), the graphic artist (art director Erika Reinhart) and I discuss the images that will accompany them, and then she puts it all together into a visual package. The combination of story and graphics produces something that communicates more fully than I ever could have imagined.

Now, turn to page 45 and check out the results. Hope you enjoy *Wagner Magazine's* very first comic, and may it bring back fond memories!

Laura Barlament
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WAGNER MAGAZINE

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On the Cover

Main Hall reopened for the fall semester after a year-and-a-half-long, \$15 million restoration project. Turn to page 12 to read art historian Sarah Scott's views on what makes historic architecture valuable to a community.

PHOTOGRAPH: PETE BYRON

From Our Readers



“ I think for anyone who comes to stand on this hill, surveying the greatest city on Earth, there is that undeniable belief that anything is possible. ”

Unforgettable

In *Wagner Magazine*, I have read about students praising their former faculty. Of all the science faculty, for me, Dr. Dale Yarns stands out. I probably took every course Dr. Yarns taught, but I was also very fortunate to have him as my advisor. Like most of my fellow biology majors, I started out pre-med, but then obtained an M.S. in marine biology and worked in that field for 20 years. Now I have the best of both worlds as a biology faculty member at a small, rural community college. Dr. Yarns was old-school, said what was on his mind, and I always looked forward to his classes. I felt that Dr. Yarns genuinely cared about his students and I recall having meaningful conversations not only about school, but about life with him. I hope some of my classmates read this and

smile when thinking about Dr. Dale Yarns.

MARCEL MONTANE '84
DEPARTMENT CHAIR AND BIOLOGY
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Editor's Note: Dale Yarns taught at Wagner College from 1969 until 1994. He died in the summer of 1994.



Changing Times, One Vision

Could my great-grandfather [Rev. Frederic Sutter] have imagined a Sicilian in the Wagner president's office? Doubtful. In fact, when my mother,

Joan Sutter, brought my dad, Robert Scialla, home to meet the family, I doubt there were many welcoming arms. Certainly there was a good amount of critiquing going on behind furrowed brows (we Germans are good at that), stern faces, and pursed lips. A Sicilian and a German? Say it isn't so! they must've been thinking.

But marry they did. And thankfully so, because here I am to tell you that Mr. Manchester's article, "That's Not a View — That's a Mission" [*Wagner Magazine*, summer 2012], brought me to tears for the very reasons it would have read like science fiction for my great-grandfather, the Reverend Sutter. Though he was a guiding force and a visionary, Wagner in its inception was not non-secular, nor a melting pot. But I am certain he, too, looked out from that majestic

vantage point of Grymes Hill and thought, 'This is the place where *all things are possible*, this is the future home of Wagner.' And like President Guarasci, I can assure you, my Germanic great-grandfather was all about "the mission."

The College (as my family endearingly referred to it — more as a family member than a place of work) has proudly come to embrace and embody those ideals of community across cultures under the leadership of the charismatic, genuine, and erudite President Guarasci.

I think for anyone who comes to stand on this hill, surveying the greatest city on Earth, there is that undeniable belief that anything is possible. The proof stares back in affirmation.

MARIA HARTMANN
VIA EMAIL



Upon the Hill

Learning, teaching, giving and achieving on Grymes Hill and beyond



HOMELESS
Storm surge washed the Breezy Point home of Allison McKeefrey '15 off of its foundation.

Sandy's Aftermath

The superstorm largely spared the Wagner campus, but life will never be the same again for many community members

On Saturday, October 27, Wagner College hosted a successful Homecoming Day. Under mostly sunny skies, 500 guests enjoyed the barbecue, and a stadium full of fans cheered the Seahawks on to victory over Robert Morris University — a fifth straight win. Life looked beautiful, but it was the calm before the storm — a storm that has changed life on Staten Island and in this region.

By Sunday evening, with Hurricane Sandy bearing straight at New York City, only about 50 students remained on the Wagner campus. At the urging of the College administration, all others had gone to their homes or to friends' homes. President Richard and Carin Guarasci and other key administrators remained on

campus, spending the night of the storm along with the students in the Spiro Sports Center.

In the days after the storm, it became clear that the campus could not reopen for the entire week. It took four days for full power to be restored on campus; throughout the area, power outages, blocked and flooded roads and tunnels, lack of public transportation, and fuel shortages brought normal life to a standstill. And then there were those areas that experienced devastation from the worst of Sandy's wrath: the massive storm surge.

The campus reopened on Sunday, November 4, and classes resumed that Monday, but at that point there were at least 50 students who couldn't make it back to campus yet. Most had transportation problems — lack of fuel or public transportation — but a number had suffered serious losses to their homes and property.

Gabriella Maldonado '14, a math and education major, lives with her parents and two sisters in the Oakwood Beach section of Staten Island, about four blocks inland from the beach itself. They were all at home the night of the storm. When Maldonado's father saw water in the street, he told his daughters to go upstairs and get some things together. Minutes later, she recalls, he was screaming, "Get out now!" The house started filling with water. The refrigerator flipped over, floorboards started popping up, and the couch was



Upon the Hill

Wagner

bumping into the wall. The family went out into the chest-high, icy water.

Two doors down, they reached a house that was built up higher than theirs. Maldonado says they “barged in” and asked for shelter, and they were able to wait out the storm there. Their own house was submerged in eight feet of water. The family’s cars were flooded as well.

In another part of Oakwood Beach, Hayley Semo ’16 and her family were experiencing similar circumstances. After Semo’s brother noticed a boat floating down their block, they had minutes to escape upstairs, where they were able to stay out of the flood’s reach. Their first floor and the family’s three cars were flooded.

Allison McKeefrey ’15 and her family are part of the Breezy Point community in Queens, where she was living while commuting to Wagner to study nursing. Located at the western end of the Rockaway peninsula, Breezy Point was devastated by the storm surge and a fire. McKeefrey evacuated to her boyfriend’s parents’ house in Long Island before the storm surge hit. In Breezy Point, the homes of her parents,

two of her brothers, other relatives, and her boyfriend’s own home were burned or destroyed by the flood.

In the Wagner alumni community, many have suffered great losses as well. The Staten Island house where Elisabeth Cardiello ’06 M’07 grew up was severely flooded. Cardiello had been living there with her mother for the past two years, since the death of her father, a general contractor who built the house. Fortunately, they had evacuated and moved all of their family photos and important papers to an upper floor that was not damaged. Neighbors took them in, and Cardiello is now focused on restoring the house. “My whole life is sort of on hold right now,” she says. “I’m in a little bubble of devastation.”

Maldonado is one of four commuter students who took Wagner up on the offer of free room in the residence halls after their homes were destroyed in the storm. “I feel a little bit better,” she says. “Living at school brings some normalcy back to my life. But it’s a weird feeling not having a home to go back to.”

Having lost her father two years ago,

Semo was unwilling to leave her mother. She was living in her house’s second floor with her mother and brother while they worked to restore the first floor. As of two weeks after the storm, they were still without power and heat. She missed the first week of classes after they resumed, and she says returning to school was overwhelming. But, she says, “the teachers are being pretty flexible with me.”

McKeefrey and her boyfriend, along with their dog, were staying with an aunt on Staten Island. “What happened [in Breezy Point] is devastating, but we are a strong community and will rebuild,” she wrote in an email. “Although the new Breezy won’t be like the old one, filled with so many memories we hold so close, maybe it can be better.

“I feel lost,” McKeefrey adds. “School, especially the nursing program, is so tough to stay focused on with all of these other thoughts I have. When can we rebuild? When will Breezy have power? When can I sleep in my own bed and see my lifelong friends I’ve grown up with? Everyone is scattered everywhere, since we are all homeless. Where are my friends, my support system?”

‘BUBBLE OF DEVASTATION’

Floodwaters plowed through the Staten Island neighborhood of Elisabeth Cardiello ’06 M’07, piling possessions in streets and against homes.



Recovery Begins

Students take the reins to organize hurricane relief and volunteer efforts

Waiting out the storm in various safe places, a few student leaders saw the destruction Sandy wreaked on Staten Island and in other areas and had the same impulse: We want to help.

Within days, a new organization was born: Wagner Cares. Starting with a \$5,000 seed grant from the College, it had mobilized 187 volunteers to work on 43 projects within two weeks of the storm. And that’s just the beginning

Gregory Balaes ’13, Student Government Association president, and Kate Schaefer ’15, SGA’s vice president for community service, started brainstorming about organizing the

Wagner response to Sandy's destruction as soon as they could get in touch with each other after the storm.

"As a native Staten Islander, it was terrible seeing places I have known all my life turn to ruins overnight," says Balaes.

Since last summer, Schaefer had been thinking about a way that the SGA could channel students' community service efforts into a single focus. Balaes also knew that Wagner students would want to help, and that they could achieve more by working in a coordinated way.

"We quickly decided that we were going to take an active role in shaping how Wagner was going to respond to this," Schaefer says. "Greg had the idea of naming it Wagner Cares, and I agreed that it could all beautifully work together."

Judy Betz '13, president of the Student Athlete Advisory Committee, quickly joined the cause. Along with her softball teammates, she had stayed on campus during the storm. After seeing news images of the storm's destruction on Staten Island, she collected donations in the residence halls and brought them to a shelter. As soon as she found out about Balaes and Schaefer's work, she joined the Wagner Cares team.

With the support of the College, they launched a website where people who are in need can request help, and where volunteers can sign up for projects.

Students, faculty, and staff have been helping with relief work at various sites on Staten Island. Wagner Cares is collecting cleaning supplies, food, clothing, and other items; sending volunteers to sort donations received by the Salvation Army and emergency shelters; and distributing goods in devastated neighborhoods. Sports teams have helped flooded homeowners with cleanup and have collected donations at athletic events; student organizations have raised funds; and the Wagner College Choir held a benefit concert.



Wagner Cares is accepting donations. Funds raised will be used to facilitate the recovery and rebuilding efforts, such as purchasing needed supplies and providing transportation for Wagner Cares volunteers to damaged community sites.

To find more information, volunteer, donate, or request help:

www.wagnercares.org • 718-390-3276 • wagnercares@wagner.edu

{ A W A R D E D }

A DESIGNATED ROLE MODEL

Evelyn L. Spiro School of Nursing is one of 17 Centers of Excellence in the nation

The National League for Nursing, the top organization for nursing educators in the U.S., has named Wagner's Evelyn L. Spiro School of Nursing a 2012-16 Center of Excellence in Nursing Education.

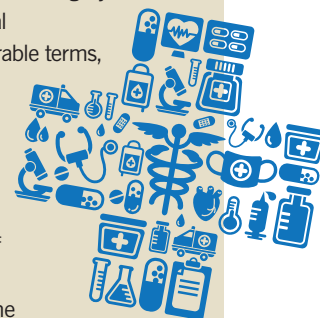
Only 17 collegiate nursing programs in the nation are currently designated as NLN Centers of Excellence.

"There are a thousand or more nursing programs in the United States, a number of which are attached to major research universities," says President Guarasci. "This places the Evelyn L. Spiro School of Nursing in the top tier of collegiate nursing programs."

The Spiro School of Nursing was awarded this high distinction in the category of "creating environments that enhance student learning and professional development," based on the school's ability to demonstrate, in measurable terms, sustained excellence in these areas, as well as its commitment to continuous quality improvement.

"The NLN relies on its Centers of Excellence in Nursing Education to be standard bearers of excellence, role models whose faculty, deans, and staff are available to share expertise, insight, knowledge, and experience to lift the entire nursing community to a higher level of achievement," notes NLN President Judith A. Halstead.

Wagner's nursing program was founded in 1943, in response to the critical wartime need for nurses, under the leadership of visionary educator Mary Burr. It was granted full accreditation as a baccalaureate program by the NLN in 1951. It offers the Bachelor of Science in Nursing, Second Degree 15-month Bachelor of Science in Nursing, Registered Nurse Program, Master of Science in Nursing, and Post-Master's Advanced Certificate Program.





WHERE DO YOU LOOK FOR 'PROGRAMS TO LOOK FOR'?

In *U.S. News & World Report's* "Best Colleges 2013," Wagner was the only college in New York State with three or more "programs to look for" – academic components that significantly contribute to a high-quality education. The College's first-year experience, learning communities, and service learning gave us this noteworthy distinction. For more information on Wagner's rankings, visit www.wagner.edu/media/honor_roll.

Welcome Home, 'Rent'

Wagner College Theatre presents the musical it discovered 20 years ago

On February 27, *Rent* comes home to the Wagner College Theatre.

Today, Jonathan Larson's rock opera is a staple of modern musical theater — but 20 years ago, *Rent* was still a work in progress consisting of a developmental script and a few self-recorded songs on a cassette made by the playwright-composer himself.

The idea for *Rent*, a modern adaptation of Puccini's opera *La Bohème*, had been conceived in 1989, but by 1991 Larson was still waiting tables at a SoHo diner to pay the rent on a fifth-floor, cold-water Hudson Square walkup he shared with two roommates and a couple of cats.

Fortunately, for him and for us, that's

when Larson somehow heard about the Stanley Drama Award competition for aspiring playwrights, administered by the Wagner College Theatre. He sent his script along with a demo tape to Bill Bly, director of the Stanley — and waited.

"It just jumped right out," Bly told *Staten Island Advance* arts editor Michael J. Fressola in 1996. "My impression at the time was that the script needed a little more work, but there was no question [as to whether it was that year's Stanley Award winner]. It was just so obvious."

Fressola himself today recalls listening to Larson's *Rent* cassette in his car in 1992 as he prepared a story about the Stanley.

"The tape was rough," Fressola says. "Nothing about it was polished, and at first the concept sounded derivative and unwieldy — but the material proved to be terrific:

smart, young, heartfelt, rousing and topical."

According to Fressola, when Billy Bly told Jonathan Larson he'd won the competition, "a grateful Larson told him that the \$2,000 Stanley prize would allow him to avoid taking a 'straight' job for a while and

buy him the luxury of a little time to work on *Rent*."

A year after *Rent* won the Stanley, it was given a staged reading at the New York Theatre Workshop, followed by a three-week studio production in 1994. A lengthy editing process, in collaboration with producers, readied Larson's masterpiece for its off-Broadway debut on January 26, 1996 — a debut the composer did not live to see. Larson died early that very morning in his walkup flat, killed by an undiagnosed heart condition. He was 35.

Rest in peace, Jonathan Larson — and welcome home to your masterpiece.

The Wagner College Theatre will present *Rent*, with book, music and lyrics by Jonathan Larson, on its Main Stage from February 27 through March 10. Tickets will go on sale in early January.

For more information, visit the Wagner College Theatre website: www.wagner.edu/departments/theatre





RENEWAL
Board of Trustees Chair Warren Procci '68 and President Guarasci inaugurate Main Hall.

The Heartbeat of Campus

After a multi-million-dollar restoration, Main Hall reopens for the fall semester

Trustees, faculty, staff, students, alumni, and community members gathered on October 11 to rededicate Main Hall, which reopened for the fall semester after a year-and-a-half-long, \$15 million restoration project.

Vice President for Administration David J. Martin, who oversaw the project, recalled that a couple of years ago, the College embarked on what was expected to be a \$6 million, four-month project.

The architects and contractors, however, “quickly determined that the building was in more serious need of renovation,” said Martin.

It would require more time, more funds, and the loss of the building’s use for the entire 2011–12 academic year.

That meant that all Main Hall classes had to be relocated to other spaces on campus, faculty offices moved to Harborview Residence Hall, and all Main Stage shows performed at the Snug Harbor Theatre a few miles away.

Calling Main Hall “the heartbeat of our campus,” President Guarasci said, “It’s so important for us to have saved this building and restabilized it. It represents everything that Wagner stands for. ... We are rededicating not just a building, but a commitment to learning and to liberal education.”

Read more in our feature story on pages 12–17.

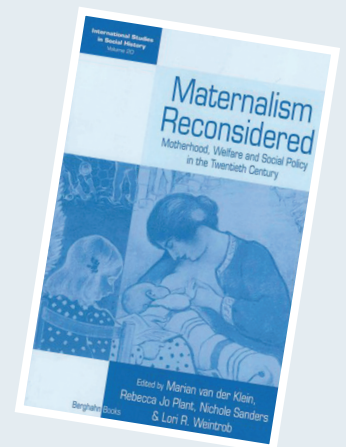


Mother Knows Best?

“Today as much as ever, mothers and motherhood are categories to be reckoned with in political debates,” write Rebecca Jo Plant and Marian van der Klein in the introduction to a new collection of essays, *Maternalism Reconsidered: Motherhood, Welfare, and Social Policy in the Twentieth Century* (Berghahn Books, 2012). Lori Weintrob, associate professor and chair of the Wagner history department, co-edited this volume along with Plant, van der Klein, and Nichole Sanders.

“Maternalism” is a concept that scholars use to describe how ideas about motherhood shaped the social welfare policies of many nations, beginning in the late 19th century. In all kinds of states and among all kinds of organizations – whether they were liberal or conservative, feminist or anti-feminist – the needs and concerns of mothers became central issues.

Weintrob writes a chapter about maternalism in France’s familial welfare state of 1890–1914, while other contributors cover the same movement during different time periods and in places as diverse as Argentina, Italy, the Soviet Union, and the United States.





THE FINAL FRONTIER
Wagner's new HD digital projector provides vivid views of space.

Star Trek

Planetarium upgrades make astronomy lessons bolder than ever

Ever since the Spiro Communications Center was opened in 1968, thousands of Staten Island schoolchildren have learned the basics about astronomy in the Wagner Planetarium.

Running a good old-fashioned AP3 star projector, the show was still impressive four decades later, drawing ohs and ahs from the College students and staff who attended its final showing on June 7. But the system was severely limited by its age and irreparable damage sustained over the years. “Only about 10 percent of what it should do is actually operational at this point,” said Planetarium Director Dennis Anderson at the time.

This fall, after a \$250,000 renovation, the planetarium reopened with new seating, sound system, and a SCIdome HD digital projector.

Now, when the show opens with the sky over Central Park, you see a full-color display, complete with the New York City skyline. Light fades as the sun moves across the sky and sets on the western horizon, bringing out the constellations in their full glory, free of real-life light pollution.

The new system allows Anderson to superimpose drawings of the figures for which the constellations are named. “This is going to be a big help, especially with the kids,” he comments. He can zoom in on planets, and take his viewers on a trip around the globe to show the skies over Tehran or elsewhere, with animations that make you feel like you’re traveling through space.

The system includes a few movies that take viewers on trips around the solar system and beyond, with beautiful graphics showing the surfaces of the planets.

“It’s so visual,” Anderson raves. “You have

these things where you can see a planet coming at you!”

Funding for the planetarium upgrade came through legwork by David J. Martin, Wagner vice president for administration and the College’s government liaison. He developed a proposal that was funded by State Senator Martin J. Golden of Brooklyn. Martin continues to seek funding to replace the dome, a \$100,000 project.

The Wagner planetarium — one of only two open to the public in New York City — offers shows for school groups and others, Monday through Friday at 10 a.m. and 11:30 a.m., by appointment. The planetarium seats 55, and shows cost \$3 per child and \$4 per adult. Schedule a group show by contacting Dennis Anderson at 718-390-3432.

Twin Peak

Multiple attractions draw sibling pairs into the class of 2016

Wagner College's new freshman class includes seven sets of twins.

Now, having 14 students who happen to be twins out of a first-year class of 450 students would be about average — but all those twins choosing to come, together, to the same school? That's unusual.

"The reason my twin Lexee and I came to Wagner is because we wanted the small liberal arts college feel while being close to New York City," explains Laynee Viniotis of suburban Seattle, Washington. "I loved the small, close-knit feel on campus and on Staten Island, and Wagner offered great academic programs for both of our majors and had plenty of art programs and athletics that we could participate in."

Plus, says Lexee Viniotis, "My sister Laynee and I are best friends and thought it would be weird to be apart from each other for long periods of time."

Emily Bovasso tells a different story. "My brother and I never planned on coming to

school together," notes the Cranford, New Jersey, student.

But it happened anyway, because Wagner fit the bill for each one. "This was actually the only school that we were both interested in," Emily says. "It just so happened that he really liked the business program, and I liked the science department — and we both loved the location and the size of the school."

Emily and Robert Bovasso are actually two members of a set of triplets. Their brother Anthony "decided to stay home and attend community college for a couple of years."

The five other sets of twins in the class include Phillip and Matthew Adamo of Morristown, New Jersey; Peter and Joseph Romano of Bushkill, Pennsylvania; Patrick and William McMenamain of Longport, New Jersey; Griffen and Reed LeClaire of Surrey, British Columbia, Canada; and Nicole and Alexandra Dattoli of Staten Island.

THEY BELONG

Nine of Wagner's 14 freshman twins: Pat and Bill McMenamain, Laynee and Lexee Viniotis, Pete Romano, Phil Adamo, Joe Romano, and Rob and Emily Bovasso.



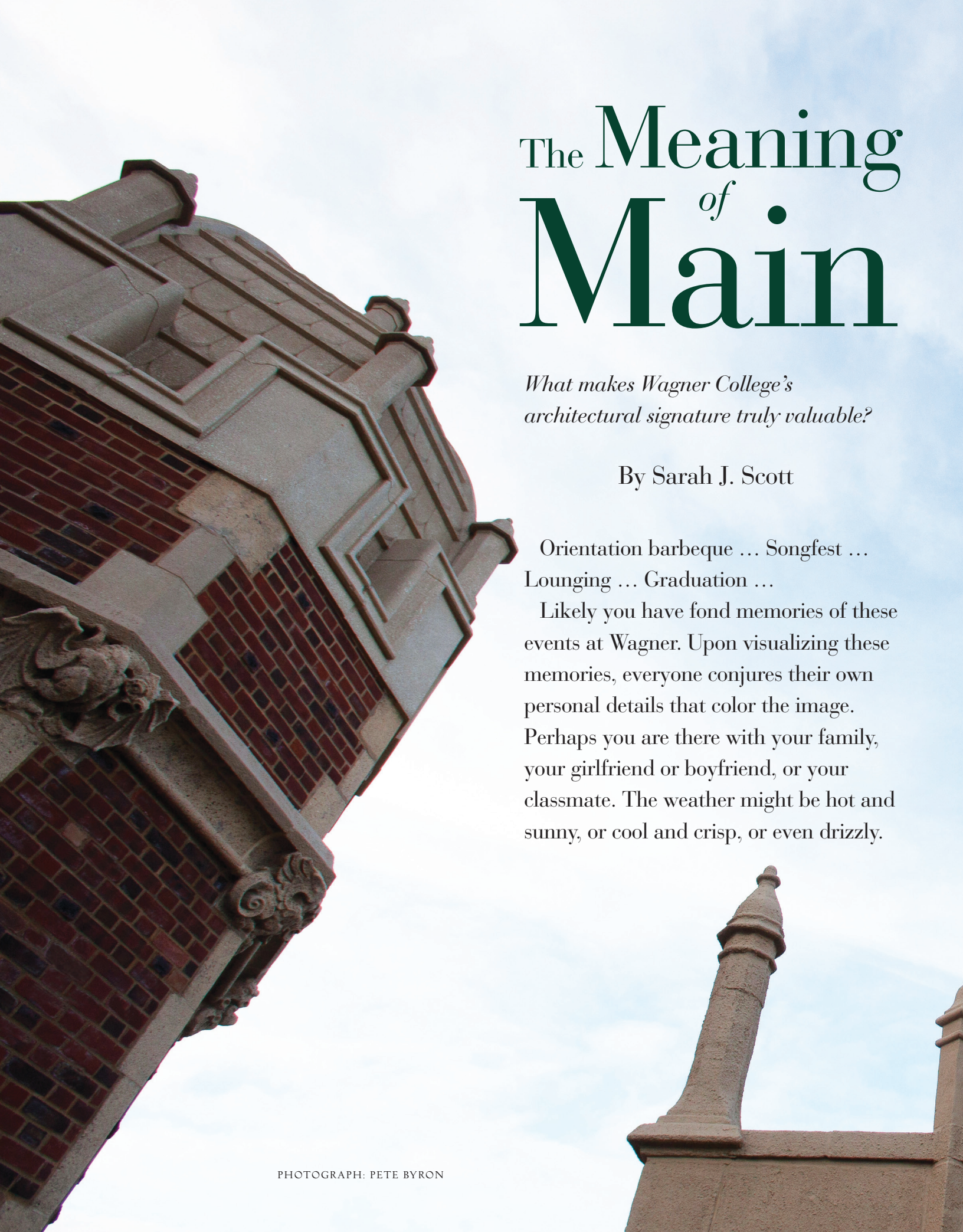
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On life with bacteria:

"They're there 24/7 to keep you alive. The problem is that bacteria are invisible, so you don't get up every morning and thank your bacteria that you're alive. You only think about them when you feel sick."

— Bonnie Bassler, Squibb Professor of Molecular Biology at Princeton University, giving the 2012 Kaufman Repage Lecture at Wagner College. Her groundbreaking research showing how bacteria communicate with each other is paving the way for novel medical therapies.





The Meaning *of* Main

*What makes Wagner College's
architectural signature truly valuable?*

By Sarah J. Scott

Orientation barbeque ... Songfest ...
Lounging ... Graduation ...

Likely you have fond memories of these events at Wagner. Upon visualizing these memories, everyone conjures their own personal details that color the image. Perhaps you are there with your family, your girlfriend or boyfriend, or your classmate. The weather might be hot and sunny, or cool and crisp, or even drizzly.

Your olfactory senses might be picking up whiffs of grilling food, dried leaves, or your signature perfume or cologne. You might be listening to other students cheering at a football game, a professor teaching class, or the B-52s on the radio. But it is likely these events took place on Sutter Oval. And if you were on Sutter Oval, Main Hall was there as a backdrop.

When I talk with students in my art history classes about ancient architecture, one of the challenges is our inability to physically place ourselves not only in the structures, but in the actual place. Experiencing a place or a work of architecture is not only about seeing the walls, noticing the sculptural detail, or sighting the filtering of light in and around the structure; it is also about other sensory experiences: smell, sound, touch, and even emotion. A tourist who visits the Parthenon today will be bombarded by sensory experiences built upon sight, smell, sound, touch, and particularly upon emotion, which will likely be affected by the political and economic turmoil in Greece today. And that experience is drastically different than that of the sixth-century BCE Athenian citizen, who approached the structure with the goal of religious pilgrimage in the newly victorious Athenian polis under the patronage of Pericles. Hence, the experience of architecture — the experience of architectural setting — is also dependent on time.

So, our own experiences of architecture today can help us when we are learning about ancient architecture. Understanding architecture through this approach of phenomenology is a new trend in scholarship, asking us to overlay thoughts and experiences going on in an occupant's mind while approaching and walking through a structure.



Main Hall was designed to aid us in succeeding in the mission of higher education.

Architecture is built for a purpose; the study of architecture asks us to analyze the relationship between form and function. Our phenomenological impression of a building is related to the function of that structure. Main Hall was built initially to function as the administrative headquarters of Wagner in the late 1920s. It was designed in what is now called the “Collegiate Gothic” architectural style, following trends in campus buildings that were embraced across the country in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. It was a trend that sought to link the function of college campuses with a particular aesthetic.

Gothic architecture, as it developed in France and spread through Europe in the 12th century, sought to elevate the spirit and raise the mind to greater heights. The Benedictine Abbot

Suger of St. Denis wrote extensively on the link between physical illumination and the broadening of the mind:

Thus, when — out of my delight in the beauty of the house of God — the loveliness of the many-colored gems has called me away from external cares, and worthy meditation has induced me to reflect, transferring that which is material to that which is immaterial, on the diversity of the sacred virtues: then it seems to me that I see myself dwelling, as it were, in some strange region of the universe which neither exists entirely in the slime of the Earth nor entirely in the purity of Heaven; and that, by the grace of God, I can be transported from this inferior to that higher world in an anagogical manner.

Story continues on page 16.

WATER WOES

Water was the source of all of the building's problems. As the wear and tear of weather eroded the brick and mortar, water penetrated through the walls and started corroding the underlying structural steel, causing the steel beams to twist. It became an accelerating cycle as the twisting caused the bricks to crack, letting in even more water.

Restoring Main Hall

A closer look at the \$15 million project to save the face of Wagner College

RIGHT ON TIME

The clocks on the front and back of the building have been restored to working condition. The front clock had been non-operational since about 1950.

TOP SLATE

All new slate tiles were used to restore the roof. The roof now has a uniform look, as previous patch jobs did not match. No other roofing material beats slate, and the new stainless steel nails will not corrode like the old ones did. "It will last forever, probably," says StructureTone construction foreman Mike Calvello.

GABLE TROUBLE

Cracked brick in the building's gables had allowed water to corrode the steel I-beams beneath. Those portions of the walls and the corroded ends of the beams were removed. New steel was welded to the intact portion of the old beams, and then the walls were rebuilt.

BRICK & MORTAR

From about 1990 until 2005, ivy had been allowed to grow on the building. English ivy has aerial roots that can penetrate into existing cracks in weather-worn brick and mortar, accelerating Main's water problems. Throughout the building, cracked bricks were replaced and the mortar was repointed, matching the color of the old as closely as possible.

STEPPING UP

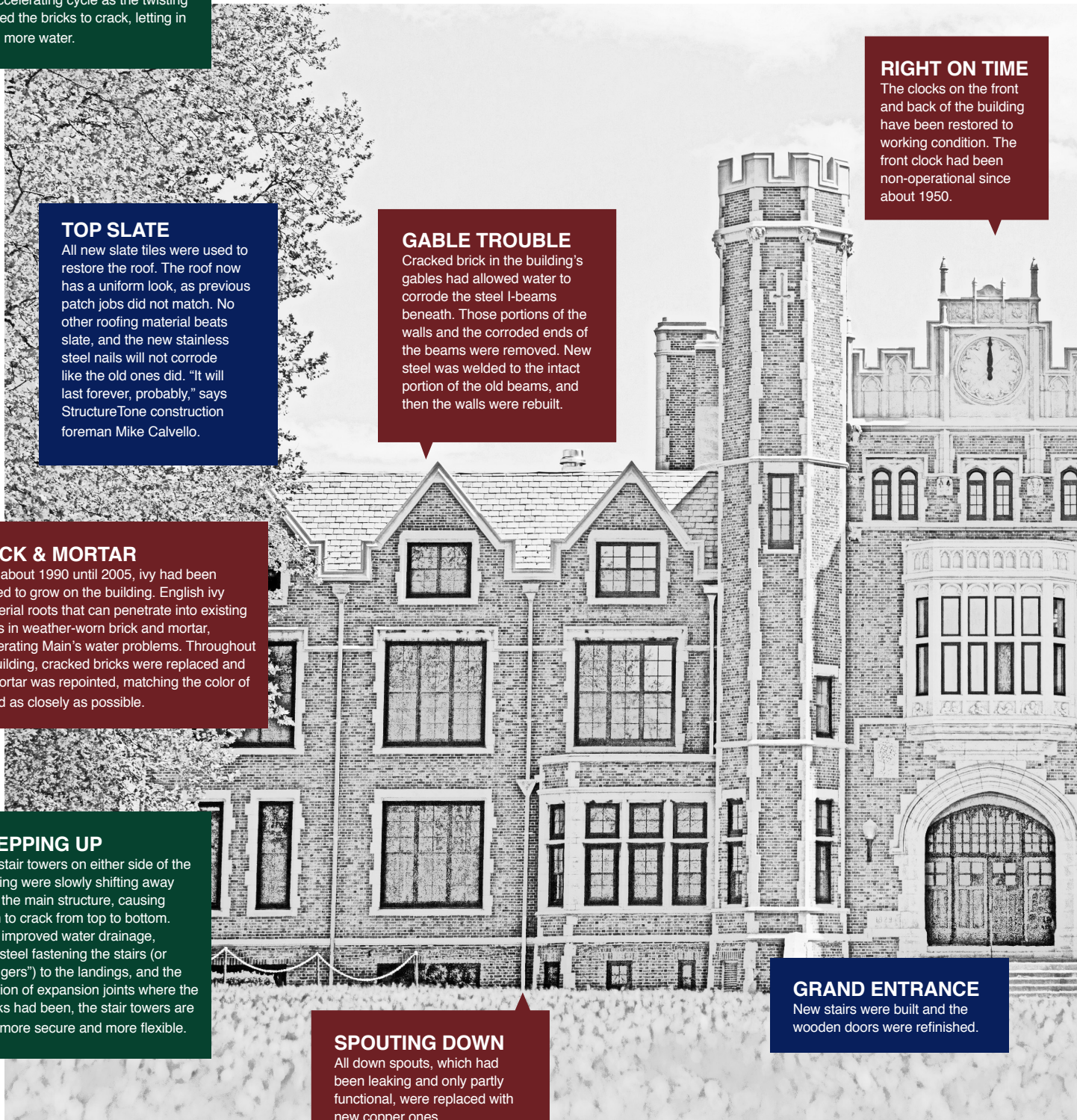
The stair towers on either side of the building were slowly shifting away from the main structure, causing them to crack from top to bottom. With improved water drainage, new steel fastening the stairs (or "stringers") to the landings, and the addition of expansion joints where the cracks had been, the stair towers are now more secure and more flexible.

SPOUTING DOWN

All down spouts, which had been leaking and only partly functional, were replaced with new copper ones.

GRAND ENTRANCE

New stairs were built and the wooden doors were refinished.





TOWER FIX

Originally, only the dome was slated for replacement. Closer inspection revealed that the walls of the octagonal tower had separated; there wasn't anything solid for a new dome to sit on. Workers deconstructed about 30 feet of each tower, and rebuilt them using cinder block and brick with steel rebar reinforcement.

CASTING STONE

Every original cast concrete piece that could be saved was saved, after being cleaned and repaired. Those pieces included the quoins (the decorative stones at the exterior angles), the crosses, and the trees of knowledge and life on either side of the front entrance. Pieces that were irreparably damaged were replaced with glass fiber reinforced plastic molded to exactly match the old shapes, including the dome on the west tower, the bay window, finials, the gargoyles, the coping stones along the parapets, and details in the clock area.

NEW VIEWS

All windows in the building — nearly 300 total — were replaced.

SETTING THE STAGE

The theater roof was rebuilt, including the replacement or repair of steel support beams and reconstruction of the tops of the walls. Inside the theater, patrons can enjoy new seats, refinished flooring, and new curtains.

A SOUND FOUNDATION

To eliminate water seepage into the basement, workers dug trenches around the entire building, replaced the pipes and installed new footing drains, repaired cracks, and waterproofed the foundation.

WISH LIST

The College was not able to complete all desired upgrades to the building, such as:

- Adding an elevator and improving wheelchair access to the building.
- Installing central air conditioning.
- Further upgrading the theater by raking the seating area and modernizing all stage equipment.

Continued from page 13

Today, the flying buttresses, sculptural tracery, finials, and towers typical of Collegiate Gothic architecture aid college communities in reaching new heights in intellectual development, in the same way the original theories of medieval ecclesiastical mysticism worked for monks and laypersons. Main Hall was designed to aid us in succeeding in the mission of higher education. The building is just as important to us today (literally, as I see students, faculty, and staff gather for the re-dedication ceremony outside my window), as it was when the cornerstone was ceremonially laid by the Reverend Frederic Sutter in 1929.

During the fall of 2011, when the work on Main Hall was going full steam, my Museum Studies class conducted research on the process of historical architectural preservation, using Main Hall as a case study. Through research into a variety of topics such as the Collegiate Gothic architectural style, brick and stone conservation, historical landmarking, and Wagner's history, the students learned many things. But the concept they found most engaging was the heritage cycle. Buildings acquire a social value far above that of their architectural value. The class and other Wagner

students that came before them had developed a subconscious connection to Main Hall. My students came to understand that this relationship, not necessarily the architectural mastery, was the reason the building was valuable and worth preserving.



The building became more than an object. Main Hall was conjured as a sentient being, a stalwart, omniscient presence of the Wagner experience.

As a class we took multiple trips down a Wagner memory lane; they remembered things like orientation, Songfest, and hanging out with friends on the Oval; they described people, sounds, smells. But when asked to very pointedly visualize these memories, they all realized that Main Hall rose up as their primary stage set. And as they came to understand that Main Hall was thus the backbone of their collective experiences and memory at Wagner, the building became more than an object. Main Hall was conjured as a sentient being, a stalwart, omniscient presence of the Wagner experience.

Main Hall is forever part of every Wagner student's memory, but Main Hall also is a symbol of the Wagner community's collective memory. It is icon and friend to all who experience the place that Wagner is. It embodies the academic and social goals of the institution perhaps better than any other structure on



campus. Of that we have all become more aware, now that it has been rescued from the ivy. So the next time you think back on your days at Wagner, although your phenomenological memories of the place might be in the fore, try to visualize the setting for your memory. Chances are Main Hall will appear in your mind's eye; be sure to give your old friend an appreciative nod of acknowledgement. ■



About the Author: Sarah J. Scott is an assistant professor of art history. She specializes in the art and architecture of the ancient Near East, Aegean, and Egypt, and she has worked at the Metropolitan Museum of Art and on excavations in Greece, Tunisia, Italy, and Belize.



What Does Main Hall Mean to Us?

Thoughts from Students in Art History 221

Understanding Main Hall's preservation is essential to understanding Wagner College's deep cultural heritage.

— NEAL FESSLER '13

The Gothic style "made a college look like a college," or what the American public believed a proper college should look like. ... The style underpinned the legitimacy of the American university and allowed the American university system to grow and flourish into the multifaceted system it is today.

— BLAIRE MASSARONI '12

Besides acting as a multipurpose arena for student activities, Main Hall has become the unofficial architectural representation of the school, attracting students from around the country and the world to enroll at Wagner College. Its detailed design and impressive architecture are worth noting.

— JESSICA MAKWINSKI '13

In order to increase society's interest in historical architecture, the community must have more of a say in what is preserved. Main Hall is an example of just that. It is not an outstanding piece of Collegiate Gothic architecture. But in the hearts and minds of its community it is incredibly important and most assuredly worth preserving.

— JACQUELINE SCANLON '12

Expanded Horizons

Jessica Friswell '06 has traveled to every continent besides Antarctica. She did fieldwork for her master's degree in Cameroon.



Fifty years ago, Wagner College opened its campus in Bregenz, Austria. Since then, the experiences of both students and the College have greatly broadened

By Laura Barlament

Jack Denys '64, from Brooklyn, was an English major headed for a career in the Lutheran ministry.

Barbara Hittl '69 had just discovered her love of the German language and declared it as her major.

George Laszlo '72 was a biology major who intended to follow his father's footsteps into medicine.

Glen Tottser '71, a sociology major, came from a blue-collar Philadelphia family who never traveled farther than a summer vacation at the shore.

Wade Appelman '86 was a business major looking for adventure.

It may not seem like an obvious choice for people with these majors, backgrounds, and ambitions, but all of them spent a semester or a year in an obscure Austrian town, Bregenz, for the Wagner College Study Program. The program opened its doors 50

years ago this fall, and operated for more than 25 years.

All of them returned with new experiences and perspectives that permanently influenced — and in some cases, significantly changed — their life paths.

Today, we're living in a world that has shrunk drastically, as transportation advances and communication technologies have drawn all parts of the globe into an ever-closer web. On the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Bregenz Program, once a crown jewel of the College curriculum, it's a good time to ask: What effect did, and does, studying abroad have on people's lives? And where have Wagner's study abroad programs gone in the years since Bregenz?



First of all, why Bregenz (which, by the way, is pronounced something like 'BRAY-genns.')

Why not a place we all know — Rome, London, Paris? According to a 1972 report by Gaspard Pinette, the Wagner modern languages professor who founded the program and served for many years as its director, student demand for study abroad was growing in the late 1950s. Grappling with the difficulties of assigning credit for courses that Wagner students took through other colleges' overseas programs, Dean Adolph Stern proposed that Pinette look into establishing a Wagner campus abroad.

It so happened that "a young Fulbright assistant" was working at Wagner at the time, and he came from somewhere near Bregenz.

Pinette, who had earned his Ph.D. in Germany, hit it off with the town leadership. The mayor offered the use of local facilities at a reasonable rate; by the program's ninth year, it occupied two buildings owned by the local government: A former palace held the classrooms, and the so-called College House provided space for a library, recreation and study rooms, and apartments for proctors and deans. Students lived with local host families. Pinette and local professors provided instruction in English (except for the required German coursework) in history, art history, literature, philosophy, religion, and a few other disciplines.

Students from all majors and many different colleges and universities flocked to the Bregenz Program: By 1980, it had enrolled more than 1,000 students from more than 200 American institutions.

The above-mentioned Jack Denys of Brooklyn was there in the program's first year. "We were the pioneers," he says with a laugh.

That group's experience set the tone that would define the program's success: The emphasis on great European cultural achievements and sights; the friendliness, charm, and slow pace of life in Bregenz; the majesty of the surrounding Alpine terrain; the adventures of independent travel to many different countries, made accessible through Bregenz's central European location; and group bonding that has made the "Bregenizers" a distinct fraternity of Wagner graduates.

For Denys, the most important part was meeting people — people whose background, language, and religion may have been quite different from his, yet with whom he found he shared much. In Bregenz, he found Austrian guys his age to drink beer with and discuss anything from everyday life to world politics. He remembers that one of their families couldn't afford a phone, yet he noticed expensive art books in their home. "So you knew what

the priorities were," he recalls.

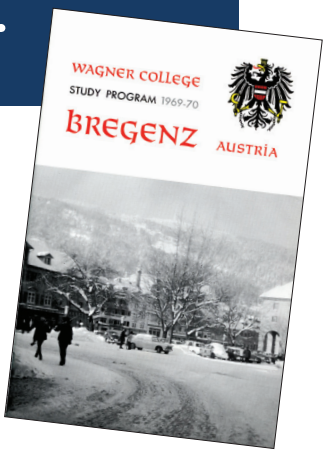
He still gets goose bumps telling about a trip "behind the Iron Curtain," to Hungary, in the depths of the Cold War — the Cuban Missile Crisis happened during his year abroad. In Budapest, Denys and his travel buddy met a young man about their age, who took them to his apartment, where he lived with his mother. The man's father had disappeared after being involved in the 1956 uprising, and his girlfriend had escaped to Switzerland, but the young man was stuck. Taking the train back to Austria, Denys remembers discussing with his friend that "we knew we could become free again, and this guy can't. It was very powerful."

For Denys, the year away from home solidified his life goals. He got married, went to seminary, and became a Lutheran pastor. But the Bregenz experience lingers. To this day, he goes to Bregenz reunions. Of the original 55 participants (eight of whom have since passed away), about 30 members are still in touch and contribute to an annual newsletter published by Carole Hrubec Chapman '64.

What Can Students Do to Make Their Study Abroad Successful?

Tips from Ellen Navarro, Director of the Center for Intercultural Advancement

- ▶ Use the resources of the Center for Intercultural Advancement and become informed.
- ▶ Have a plan for what you want to do in the country.
- ▶ Be flexible – you can't expect it to be just like Wagner College.
- ▶ Have a sense of adventure.
- ▶ Realize that this experience will become a distinctive part of your résumé.





Andy Cortese '72, London

It was Andy Cortese's first week living in Milan, Italy. He was 25 years old and had never been overseas before, although he had grown up hearing stories about Italy from his immigrant grandparents. It was the mid-1970s, and Italy was experiencing a severe shortage of coins.

"I walked into a store and bought a newspaper or something like that, and I paid with a lira bill," Cortese recalls.

"The cashier returned a telephone token, a tram token, and a piece of candy as change."

Nonplussed, Cortese walked out of the store. Back at the office, he asked a colleague to explain. His coworker told him that the tram token was worth 50 lira, the telephone token 25, and the piece of candy 5. These could be used in lieu of coins at other merchants – except for the candy.

Going overseas for the first time, Cortese says, "was the most exciting thing that had happened in my lifetime – apart from marrying my wife [Natalie Migliaro '92]. I haven't stopped traveling since."

Cortese now lives in London, where he's spent a total of about 12 years in different stints, during a career that has taken him from JP Morgan Chase to Goldman Sachs and, since 2007, to the international insurance giant AIG. He has also lived in Geneva, Switzerland, and now he is the head of AIG's information technology operations in Europe, the Middle East, and Africa.

He didn't go to college thinking he would work in international business – although he does highly recommend that any student interested in business take courses in his major, which was accounting. "It's such a good foundation for investment banking. It has helped me immensely in my job over the last 35 years," he says.

However, Cortese did have a desire to travel abroad, inspired by his grandparents' stories. He started out in the internal financial audit division, which gave him some exposure to all parts of the business. Learning about overseas locations piqued his interest. When he heard about an opportunity to apply for the foreign exchange business, he went for it – and ended up in Milan, using tram tokens for coins.

Since then, he has thoroughly covered Europe, Latin America, the Middle East, and the Far East. He has stood on the Great Wall of China and Red Square in Moscow, and recently attended the London Olympics and the Queen's Jubilee.

His advice for young graduates: "If you have an opportunity in your business career to take an assignment overseas, take it." He also highly recommends studying abroad. "We're in a global business and we're in a global economy. It will only help you."

Andy's London

- ▶ **A history buff, he recommends** taking in sights like the Houses of Parliament. "The roots of our government and society come from here."
- ▶ **His favorite park** is Hyde Park, and he's always impressed with Buckingham Palace.
- ▶ **A sports fan, he recommends** the Lord's Cricket Ground, although he admits he prefers to follow the Chelsea Football Club.
- ▶ **His favorite restaurant:** La Famiglia, where he's been going since 1983.



Richard and Carin Guarasci with Andy and Natalie Migliaro Cortese in London.





Left: Bregenz students at the Berchtesgaden, Germany, salt mine in 1969–70. Right: Barbara Hittl Garzon '70 still lives in Austria.

The Bregenz group of 1969–70 has also stayed remarkably close. Celebrating their 40th anniversary a few years ago at George Laszlo’s home in the Poconos, 35 of the original 52 participants showed up, coming from as far away as Hawaii.

For several members of this class, the year in Bregenz set them on a new course in life. Laszlo started at Wagner with the class of ’71, majoring in biology and intending to become a doctor, like his father. But after Bregenz, where he took courses in religion and philosophy and art history, he switched his major to philosophy and took an extra year to graduate. In Bregenz, he says, “I had the time to think about what I was doing. In a foreign environment, I could be myself. It afforded me the time to grow up.”

Laszlo focused his career on software systems for the biotech and pharmaceutical industries, and he worked with clients around the world, especially Switzerland and Germany. “From my perspective, studying philosophy was the most important thing I have ever done for my career,” he says. “It teaches you to apply logic, reasoning, and discipline to everything you do, and to understand people. For your personal life as well as business, it’s invaluable.”

Laszlo went to Bregenz with the full support of his parents; as Hungarian immigrants to the U.S., they came from that cultural realm. But for Glen Tottser, another 1969–70 Bregenzer, traveling to Europe was like going to the moon. “I remember my father said, ‘Why should you go when I’ve never gone?’” It was a “pipe dream,” he says. Yet, because the Bregenz tuition was slightly less than regular Wagner tuition, he went. For the first time, he was exposed to art history, classical music, Alpine skiing — a different way of life. He found a new family in his host family. Since then, they have stayed in touch and exchanged many visits, and Tottser has

traveled all around the world, including Europe, the Middle East, Asia, and Africa. “I never would have done these things if it weren’t for Bregenz,” he says.

Pinette’s 1972 report included the factoid that by 1972, eight Wagner students in the Bregenz Program had married Austrians. One of them, Barbara Hittl Garzon, another member of the 1969–70 group, is still living in the Bregenz area. Garzon had transferred to Wagner College for her junior year, as a German major; she went to Bregenz as a senior, and never returned to Wagner, having finished her degree through her Bregenz coursework. She began teaching English and math in a nearby school, and there she met her first husband. That marriage ended in divorce, but she married again, to an Austrian. By now, Garzon has spent more than half of her life in Austria. “I love Austria and wouldn’t want to move back to the U.S.,” she says. Still, she stays in touch with her Bregenz classmates, including her roommate, Patty Flynn Moore, who has lived in Bangkok for many years.

Pinette retired in 1976, and was succeeded by a few different directors and coordinators — most notably, James Mittelstadt, who served as director from 1979 to 1986. During the late 1970s and into the 1980s, the program suffered enrollment declines. As a result, it started recruiting and enrolling non-U.S. students, especially from Thailand, where Mittelstadt had taught previously. Some of those enrolled at Wagner in Staten Island as well.

Meanwhile, students like Wade Appelman were still greatly enjoying and profiting from the Bregenz Program. He attended during the fall of 1984, his junior year, looking to “round out” his education. He fondly recalls spending at least half of every

Study Abroad Today: Reports from Current Students

Alexia Bayer '15 is one of 15 Wagner students who are abroad for the fall 2012 semester. Her First-Year Learning Community in Spanish and business influenced her to become an international business major. Most of her previous foreign-language training was in French, so as a sophomore she took the plunge of enrolling in Wagner's exchange program with the University of Lyon 2 in France, where she is taking a full course load, in French. "It's a good way to become completely fluent," she says. "It's important to know a second language... It will be an asset in international business."



Shelby Schebilski '14 is on her first trip abroad this semester, at the St. John's University Rome campus. A psychology and sociology double major, she planned her schedule carefully to fit in study abroad. With financial aid and scholarships, she only has to pay her additional travel expenses. "I wanted to travel badly," she says. "The chance to be immersed in another country for four months – when else can you do it? I hope it's the beginning of me traveling."

Students on athletic teams are also finding ways to go abroad, despite intensive practice schedules. Last summer, biology major and swimmer **Lynn Tay '14** studied in Singapore, while football player and international affairs major **David Lopez '13** did an internship with the United Nations Global Compact, and spent a month in Brazil for the Rio +20 Corporate Sustainability Forum.

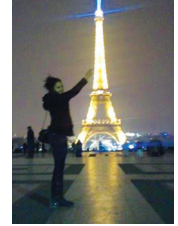


Arielle Richardson '14 has taken advantage of every opportunity to travel and learn since she came to Wagner. Her first international trip took her to Ecuador with Wagner's chapter of Habitat for Humanity. She then took the Expanding Your Horizons course on world religions, traveling to Israel. As a sophomore, the international affairs major spent the entire year in Jerusalem through Wagner's exchange program with the Rothberg International School of Hebrew University. She studied both Hebrew and Arabic language, culture, religion,



and history, and traveled throughout the region. She fell in love with the vibrant culture and is saving her money to return.

Biopsychology major **Francis Zuniga '14** and theater studies major **Katie Cawley '13** both said that spending last spring semester in Almería, Spain, on Wagner's exchange program with the local university, was a huge growing experience. Studying at a Spanish



university was a big adjustment, not just because of the language but also because of the different university culture. "I gained a different perspective on everything," Cawley says. "It's important to be aware that there are many different people and cultures out there. I knew it would be different, but I was sheltered." The students also said they gained confidence from their semester abroad. "If I set my mind to do something, I can do it," says Zuniga.



week traveling all around Europe on cheap train tickets, as classes were held only Tuesday through Thursday. For him, it became the perfect preparation for his future career in international marketing, with frequent world travel. "Even today, the experiences I got through that semester — especially the travel — being street-smart and city-smart were the most valuable part," he says. And, he acquired a breadth of experience and an ability to empathize and listen to others that are essential in sales and marketing.

By the late 1980s, the Bregenz Program was becoming untenable for the College to maintain. It wasn't as cheap as it used to be, and Wagner itself was in a financial crisis that brought it to the verge of closing its doors. Bregenz had changed, too, and the city was selling the buildings Wagner used

for the program. In 1989, President Norman Smith made the decision to close the campus.

But that was far from the end of study abroad at Wagner. A young, dynamic faculty member had come to Wagner in 1989 to teach Spanish. Marilyn Kiss, who had been inspired by studying in Spain as a college student, added study abroad advisor to her professorial duties in 1991. Over the next 17 years, she influenced and helped hundreds of students to study around the world, primarily through Wagner College's affiliation with an organization called IES (originally, the Institute for European Studies, later changed to Institute for the International Education of Students).

Primarily, language majors who wanted to be immersed in the language and culture they were learning took advantage of study abroad. But there were also students like Jessica Friswell '06, an English major with minors in Spanish and sociology/anthropology.



Mitch Sims '06, Vienna

The first time Mitch Sims '06 traveled to Vienna, for a summer program before his senior year at Wagner, he got lost. Really lost.

He intended to take the train from the airport into the city; but he took the wrong train, and ended up out in the Czech countryside. Upon getting off the train, however, he explained his dilemma to a friendly gentleman, who rode with him for two hours on the train back to Vienna.

“At that time, I felt like I was home,” says Sims. “I’m from the South, and that’s how we treat people.”

Sims grew up in a north Florida farming community and came to Wagner for the music and arts administration programs. Before going to Vienna, his experience with the German language consisted only in the pronunciation skills he learned in an opera workshop. By now, after six years in Austria, he says that his mother tongue feels awkward because he’s so accustomed to speaking German.

Taking initiative and learning the language, he says, are the two keys to successfully integrating oneself into a new culture.

Sims decided to pursue graduate studies after completing his B.A. Although he applied to U.S. universities, he chose the Universität Wien (University of Vienna) because the faculty encouraged him to pursue his interests combining musicology and math.

Sims received funding through Rotary International and the Fulbright Program, and he has completed the coursework for two master’s degrees, in mathematics and in musicology. He now works as the business manager of the Danube International School while continuing his thesis work on Baroque and Early Classical musical instruments.

Living in the seat of so much European musical culture gives him extraordinary opportunities; for example, while perusing documents at the National Library, he discovered a very rare fragment of medieval Gregorian chant that was written for the Feast of Fools, when children would playact mock clerical roles. His discovery was published in the journal *Codices Manuscripti*.

He’s also active in performing (he plays the trumpet), organizing concerts, and composing – opportunities that the Austrian capital offers him in abundance – and he loves Vienna’s multicultural environment. “Vienna is a gateway between East and West,” he points out. “I’ve never experienced any other place where there’s a multitude of people speaking different languages and practicing their distinct cultural traditions.”

Mitch’s Vienna

- ▶ **Everyone needs to experience** the Austrian coffeehouse atmosphere, he says.
- ▶ **Vienna is known for its architecture;** his favorite example is the National Library.
- ▶ **He recommends Austrian restaurants** where the menu is not translated into English; he has found the food quality to be better when they do not cater to tourists. One of his favorites is Steman. “It has a wonderful Austrian wine selection,” he says.
- ▶ **A hidden treasure is** the Augustinerkirche, next to the Hofburg, which offers fine performances of sacred music.
- ▶ **Another is** the city waterfront along the Alte Donau – the Old Danube – which he compares to the riverfront in Boston.



Michele Appello '98, Amsterdam

After five successful years in the online advertising business in New York City, moving to the Netherlands was not easy for Michele Appello '98.

Appello had been steadily gaining experience and responsibility since starting in online classified sales. By 2003, she supervised a staff of three and managed online campaigns for nearly 150 websites and newsletters.

Then, she moved to Amsterdam to be with her partner of almost two years. "It was difficult for me, career-wise," she says. "I was not a fluent Dutch speaker and thus had to start at the bottom of the totem pole, so to speak."

She initially worked in subscriptions for a start-up English-language newspaper. But her New York City work ethic combined with her cultural adaptability led her back to the online advertising business. Today, she is director of trading for Omnicom Media Group Netherlands, overseeing the purchasing of online, mobile, and video media placements for clients like Pepsi and Renault. She now has permanent residency status and has bought a home with her fiancée, Lee Boonstra, who is Dutch.

A psychology major and journalism minor at Wagner, Appello says that her psychology background helped her adapt to a new culture. She also credits Professor Meta Townsend, who started the international affairs major at Wagner, for opening her eyes to the world. "She just had a way of making me see things from a different perspective," says Appello.

Although her employer is part of an international conglomerate, Appello says that the corporate culture where she works is "98 percent Dutch," which brings some interesting differences from U.S. culture. "From my experience, in the Dutch work culture you work to live, instead of living to work," she says.

One example of Holland's more liberal worker protections include unlimited sick days – and a more generous interpretation of reasons to take them. "To me, taking time off due to stress is very strange," she notes by way of example. "It's not something I would ever do, but this, I think, is because I come from New York City, where work stress is considered normal."

At the same time, she appreciates benefits such as greater vacation time, which she uses to travel. (Berlin, Brighton, and Rome are her favorite European destinations.) "Living overseas for me has been and continues to be an amazing experience," she adds.

What does it take to be successful in living abroad? "Being open-minded, self-motivated, independent, smart, adventurous, and possessing a willingness to step outside of your comfort zone – and the strength to be able to stick it out and make that place your home, no matter how foreign it may be," Appello says.

Michele's Amsterdam

- ▶ **Café de Jaren:** "Nice outdoor space by the water. Good for a drink and people watching."
- ▶ **Keukenhof garden:** "The best trip I had there was when some friends were visiting; I stopped at the Albert Cuypmarket and picked up some bread and spreads. I brought that along with a bottle of wine, and we sat at a table in the garden and had lunch."
- ▶ **The best street parties** are Koninginnedag (Queen's Day), a national holiday on April 30, and the Amsterdam Gay Pride boat parade on the first weekend of August.

For more of Michele's recommendations and links to websites, visit www.wagner.edu/wagnermagazine.

Wagner Around the World

Expanding Your Horizons Program Courses in 2013

- ▶ Bangladesh: Environmental Pollution and Health
- ▶ Hawaii: American Business and Culture
- ▶ Kenya: Service and Politics Abroad: The AIDS Crisis in Kenya
- ▶ Amsterdam: Modern Commedia Dell'Arte
- ▶ Germany and Austria: Music of Germany and Austria*
- ▶ England: Medical Clinical Practice IV (for physician assistants)
- ▶ Israel: Understanding Different Faiths: Judaism, Christianity and Islam

* This combined Wagner College Choir tour and course will make a stop in Bregenz in honor of the former Wagner College Study Program.

She struck out on a program called the Semester at Sea — literally, a ship-based university, which took her to 10 ports on three continents for study and community service work. She followed that up with a summer in Peru, devoted to learning Spanish and volunteering for a nonprofit development organization.

After graduating from Wagner, she completed a master's in anthropology, environment, and development at University College London — and even during that time, she went further abroad, completing her fieldwork in Cameroon with traditional hunter-gatherer people. "I'm fortunate that by the time I was 23, I could say that I had been to every continent apart from Antarctica," she adds.

Now an AmeriCorps/VISTA volunteer in Boston, she says, "I encourage every young person I know to study abroad as a way to expand their horizons, meet new people, learn about a new culture, and have an opportunity to examine the world from a non-American perspective."

Since Friswell graduated in 2006, study abroad at Wagner has been going through a growth spurt, adding programs, options, and niches for students with different interests. Today, about 30 percent of Wagner students have a study-abroad experience by the time they graduate.

The first new program grew out of Professor Mohammad

Alauddin's work with the water contamination crisis in Bangladesh. Wanting Wagner students to see and understand this issue, he created a course, Environmental Pollution and Health, that included a short trip to Bangladesh. Based on this model, the College launched Expanding Your Horizons, which offers spring semester courses with short-term travel to points around the world, giving students first-hand experience of the course topic. (See "Wagner Around the World" sidebar.)

"In Expanding Your Horizons, students learn how exciting, exhilarating, and transformative study abroad is," says Marilyn Kiss. "It gives them a nibble, and then they want to bite off summers or a semester."

At the same time, the College has increased options for affordable longer-term study abroad programs. The College has signed agreements with four foreign universities, in Israel, Spain, and France, and with St. John's University's Rome campus. Wagner students continue paying Wagner tuition and keep their financial aid to go to these campuses. More agreements are in the works with universities in South Korea, Greece, and Slovakia — the last being very close to Wagner students' old stomping grounds in Bregenz.

Wagner's newest agreement, signed this fall with the Kibbutzim College of Education in Tel Aviv, Israel, showcases the College's goal to create study abroad possibilities for students in various majors. Physician assistant students also may complete one of their required rotations abroad, at a psychiatric treatment facility in England.

The director of Wagner's Center for Intercultural Advancement, Ellen Navarro, is expanding the array of possibilities even further by increasing the number of Wagner-approved study-abroad consortia whose programs students can use, while continuing to pay Wagner tuition and keeping their financial aid packages.

Navarro's office brims over with brightly colored brochures, posters, flags, maps, and clocks showing the time at points around the world. Paris, Tokyo, Morocco, and New Zealand are but a few of the contenders competing for attention. When students venture in for advisement, Navarro says, she quizzes them about their interests and goals. Then, she presents them with an array of options. In London, for example, three different programs offer connections to five universities. You can stay on campus, live with a family, or find your own apartment. You can be part of a small cohort or a large international group.

"I tell them go shop to see what you want to buy," Navarro says. "Because there's something for everyone." ▶

'Work in Progress'

Ashley Korbey '12 covered a part of her head that made her feel self-conscious (*below*), then unveiled her smile to reveal her special beauty for photographer Sasha May's "Wabi" exhibit.



Wabi

The Beauty of Imperfection *By Sasha May '12*

This project began as an appreciation of the “naturally different,” specifically in the area of self-image. As I began to study self-image (how people feel about themselves), I was inspired by a lecture given by our very own Provost Lily McNair. She spoke of the Japanese concept of *wabi-sabi*, which is the art of finding beauty in things that are imperfect, impermanent, and incomplete.

This caught me, because I felt a lot of students in my shoes could identify with this idea of being a beautiful “work in progress.” We are just starting our lives, and most of us have no clue where it can go. Thus was sparked my senior RFT art gallery, where I decided to combine ideas of negative self-image and

expression of this concept of *wabi-sabi* through *wabi* specifically — *wabi* being the kind of perfect beauty that comes from imperfection.

Each model was asked to cover (using their hands) a part of their head that they were self-conscious about or uncomfortable with. ... Models are then shown to be smiling; I'll leave the meaning up to you to decide.

My hope is that this show will be exhilarating and inspiring for all who take the time to experience it. The idea is to encourage everyone to learn to love that thing that annoys them about themselves and others, because no one is perfect, and flaws are nothing but individualistic beauty.

Editor's Note: Sasha May '12 created "Wabi: The Beauty of Imperfection" for her Senior Reflective Tutorial (RFT) in art last spring. It was exhibited in the Horrmann Library's Spotlight Gallery in May. Here, Wagner Magazine brings you a portion of that exhibit, along with her interpretive note.





About Sasha May

She graduated from Wagner College as a chemistry major, with a concentration in biochemistry, and a minor in art. She was born in Hartford, Connecticut, and raised there and in the Washington, D.C., area. She writes, "I discovered my love for art through photography in my sophomore year at Wagner College, and I hope to continue to share that love with others for as long as I can. My hopes are to be able to use my experiences in art and the sciences to aid pediatric oncology patients in restorative art therapy." She is now the artist-in-residence at the Alice Austen House on Staten Island.





SHOWN
Kenny Howard
Sarah Sutliff
Anna Kivela
Sylvain Habersaat
Amanda Padilla



The Man Who Hates to Lose

After 32 years, football coach and athletic director Walt Hameline hasn't lost his fire

By Cormac Gordon

New Hartford High School had just lost a close game in the 1970 New York State basketball sectionals. And a drained Walt Hameline, point guard for the Syracuse-area team, was furious.

In the losing locker room, the square-jawed, five-foot-six teenager raised himself onto his toes to confront the Spartans' six-foot-seven star.

Hameline chewed out the towering big man.

Competing without enough passion was the accusation. "How could you do that?" he challenged his stunned teammate, is his recollection all these years later, while sitting in his wide-windowed office on the second floor of the Spiro Sports Center, overlooking Wagner's sycamore-surrounded Oval.

"And he was my next-door neighbor," Wagner's longtime football coach and athletic director deadpans.

That's Walt Hameline.

"It just kills me to lose," he readily admits, waving a hand over the stacks of paperwork on his super-sized desk.

The obsession isn't just about football, either, in which Hameline has won 213 games at Wagner, ranking him 59th at the beginning of this season among all-time college coaches at any level.

Just ask anyone who's played in one of the 61-year-old's impromptu three-on-three lunchtime basketball games at Spiro. Or who has joined him on a post-practice run along the winding streets surrounding campus.

Staff members shake their heads at his notorious workouts in Spiro, the exercise equivalent to speed dating.

Hameline admits to being a marginal golfer. Especially when playing against more accomplished types like sometime playing partner Phil Simms.

But the father of two grown daughters, who married his hometown sweetheart, Debi McLean, after graduating from Brockport State in 1975, suffers even after those inconsequential losses. Winning counts all the time.

"I really believe that the fire still burns today just as hotly as it did the day he took over," says Wagner associate head

coach Tom Masella '82, who played on Hameline's first team in 1981. "Walt's a great person, a great guy. But not if you're playing against him, even now."

In his high school days, besides basketball Hameline was also a 140-pound quarterback and a catcher in baseball, an unlikely three-sport star on winning teams. A classic sports overachiever.

There is a slice of very personal history that may explain the trait. Hameline says his high school coaches were stabilizing influences, and even inspirations, for a teenager whose own father had died suddenly of a heart attack when Hameline was 12.

"I could have gone in any direction," he says of that moment in his life. "And I was lucky to have good people around me."

It was those men who, as time passed, would encourage him to consider the possibility of coaching.

It has been quite a ride ever since. After 32 years as head coach and athletic director, during which time he's overseen an expansion of Wagner's sports programs and facilities in every way imaginable, Hameline remains driven.

Not to mention, pragmatic.

The Colts Neck, New Jersey, resident still cuts his own hair during the football season to save time.

"And the \$15 bucks," he adds.

And he keeps a blow-up mattress and small refrigerator stocked with cold drinks next to the shower in his office restroom. "I don't need much to be happy," he says, laughing.

Even now, his legacy secured long ago, Hameline will sometimes spend nights at Spiro to get in late film work with his assistants.

"You don't want to cheat the kids," is his explanation. "You want to teach them that in the real world they'll be constantly evaluated on how they perform, and that you have to work hard to succeed. These days that's so more than ever. I believe the only way to accomplish your goal as a coach is to have that drive, to stay hungry yourself."

If it all sounds pretty intense, it is. But Hameline's real gift has been an ability to balance all that competitive thrust with an understanding of the ever-changing role of

*'Walt's a great guy.
But not if you're
playing against him.'*



WINNING ISN'T EVERYTHING

But it does feel good. With the Seahawks winning their first NEC Championship this season, Walt Hameline was named NEC Coach of the Year.

football and athletics at Wagner.

“Wagner is a better place compared to when I got here,” he says. “The school has an elevated academic profile now. There are new fields, new buildings. I think a lot has been accomplished.”

Things on the gridiron are not what they were in 1987, however, when the Seahawks were a Division III power going 13-1 and winning a national championship. In his first eight seasons as head coach, Hameline teams went a remarkable 68-15-2, advancing to post-season play six times.

Those numbers alone made September’s naming of the field at Wagner College Stadium for Walt Hameline a natural.

“I’ve had good players, good coaches and great support here,” he says. “You have to work hard, be lucky, and have people who support you.”

The current program plays at the more competitive Football Championship Subdivision level of the NCAA. Last season’s Top 25 in the FCS included much larger, public schools like North

Dakota State, Northern Iowa, and James Madison universities. The Seahawks went a disappointing 4-7 in 2011. “Those early teams dominated,” Masella acknowledges. “Now it’s a fight on every snap.”

The added challenges of recent years are part of what made this past football season on Grymes Hill so magical for its longtime coach.

Picked to finish seventh in the eight-team Northeast Conference, and beginning the schedule with three stumbling losses in the first three games, the Seahawks began an upward trajectory in week four that progressed further than anyone could have hoped.

Coupling a stingy, aggressive defense with a balanced, mature offense and a rock-solid special teams unit, Wagner rode those elements to an unlikely eight-game win streak, some of the barn-burning variety. They captured a first-ever NEC title and a trip to the NCAA FCS tournament.

And after accomplishing all that, the red-hot Seahawks pulled the ultimate upset: They

defeated favored Colgate 31-20 at Hameline Field to advance to the NCAA Round of 16.

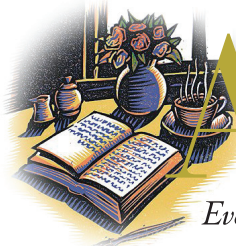
In the program’s biggest game of the last quarter-century, quarterback Nick Doscher threw for two touchdowns, running back Dominique Williams ran for 106 yards, and a swarming, dominating defense forced five Colgate turnovers.

The Seahawks traveled to No. 4 ranked Eastern Washington University for the second round of the NCAAs on Dec. 1, eventually losing 29-19.

Still, against formidable early odds, the 2012 season ranks as the school’s best since that championship year of 1987. “We really improved as the season progressed,” Hameline says. “At the end of the day, the kids have to go out and make plays. They did that, and they deserve the credit.”

And as for the surprising nature of the season’s accomplishments?

Hameline is as insistent as ever. “Our goals haven’t changed,” says the three-decade-long cornerstone of the Seahawk football program. “We’ll always strive to win.”



AlumniLink

Events, opportunities, and celebrations for the Wagner family, both near and far

{ FLASHBACK }



WHEN PHONES HAD CORDS, WAGNER UNION, CA. 1999?

These once-ubiquitous contraptions have become an endangered species. New Yorkers were searching for pay phones again, however, in the wake of Hurricane Sandy, when many people's cell phone service went down. Share your memories of pay phones, or of the (to us) unknown person in this picture, by contacting *Wagner Magazine* at laura.barlament@wagner.edu, 718-390-3147, or One Campus Road, Staten Island, NY 10301.

Upcoming Events

Alumni

- Winter on the Hill
February 16
Alumni Reception and Basketball Doubleheader
Wagner vs. Bryant

- Reunion Weekend
June 7–9



Campus Events

- Commencement
May 24

Music

- Tribute to Black Music
College Choirs and Guests
Feb. 26, 9 p.m.
Campus Hall, Music Performance Center
- Sendoff Concert
College Choir and Fest Chor
March 3, 4 p.m.
Park Ave. Christian Church, Manhattan
- Germany–Austria Tour
College Choir and Fest Chor
March 7–17
- Home Concert
College Choir and Fest Chor
March 24, 4 p.m.
Trinity Lutheran Church, Staten Island
- Spring Concert
Treble Concert Choir
April 28, 4 p.m.
Trinity Lutheran Church, Staten Island

- Jazz Ensemble Concert
April 28, 3 p.m.
Main Hall Theatre
- Final Choral Concert
College Choir
May 5, 4 p.m.
Trinity Lutheran Church, Staten Island
- Vocal Jazz Set
Stretto/Espresso and Guests
May 7, 8 p.m.
Campus Hall, Music Performance Center
- Concert Band Concert
May 11, 3 p.m.
Main Hall Theatre
- Spring Concert
Vocal Synergy
May 11, 7 p.m.
Campus Hall, Music Performance Center

Theater

- *Rent*
Feb. 27–March 2 & March 6–10
Wagner College Main Stage
- *Five Women Wearing the Same Dress*
March 5–10
Wagner College Stage One
- *Guys and Dolls*
Apr. 24–27 & May 1–5
Wagner College Main Stage
- *The Dance Project*
April 30–May 5
Wagner College Stage One

For more information, registration, and tickets:

Alumni Relations 718-390-3224 • Music Department 718-390-3313

Theater Box Office 718-390-3259

Seahawk Happenings

Gatherings

Wagnerians getting together across the country



Coast to Coast: On July 21 we were on the East Coast for the annual sell-out event, Alumni Day at the Ballpark, which brought 48 alumni, friends, and current students to the Richmond County Bank Ballpark to see the Staten Island Yankees take on their crosstown rivals, the Brooklyn Cyclones. On August 5, we were on the West Coast to join alumni — including **Susan Moan Hardie '74** and **Gayle Snyder '98** — as well as parents and current students who live in the Southern California area for an afternoon at the Del Mar Racetrack.



In New York: On August 16, Lily McNair, provost and vice president for academic affairs, welcomed 42 alumni, parents, and students at a networking reception at the University Club in New York City. Among the guests were the proud Wagner family pictured here: **Karen, Natassia '11, Dominique '14,** and **James Miller**. One week later, the new academic year got underway, with 225 new students and their families stopping by the National Alumni Association table during Orientation.



In Florida: For the football season opener on August 31 at Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton, more than 75 Seahawk fans converged upon Duffy's Sports Grill for a pre-game reception. **John "Bunny" Barbies '39** (in white waving to the crowd), longtime Wagner coach and director of alumni relations, came to see many of his former players and friends. Those who didn't play for Bunny had the chance to meet the legend himself. The following week, on September 8, 30 alumni and parents came out to Washington, D.C., to cheer on the Seahawks football team as they faced Georgetown University.



On Campus: On September 15, we gathered at Wagner College Stadium to honor Walt Hameline's 32 years of service as head football coach and athletic director, as the field was named Walt Hameline Field. More than 250 former student-athletes and Seahawk supporters came together for a post-game reception to thank and congratulate Coach Hameline. Pictured: Wagner Trustee **Fred Williamson '64 H'11**, Walt and Debi Hameline with daughters Kristen and Kelly, President Guarasci, and Wagner Trustee **Marc Lebovitz '91**.

To stay informed of upcoming events in your area visit www.wagner.edu/alumni.

Who in the Wagner World Was ... Lauritz Melchior?



Lauritz Melchior (1890–1973) was the most famous Wagnerian *Heldentenor* (“heroic tenor”) of his day. From the 1920s through the 1940s, he sang at all the great opera houses – Covent Garden, the Festival Theater at Bayreuth, and, most significantly, the Metropolitan Opera of New York. Also appearing in several Hollywood musicals and on American television and radio, the Danish-born singer (who became a U.S. citizen in 1947) was a household name, with a larger-than-life physique and personality.

As a measure of his significance, biographer Shirlee Emmons notes that the National Park Service asked Melchior “for five or six personal items for their new American Museum to be housed in the base of the Statue of Liberty.” Universities including Syracuse, Yale, and Boston sought his memorabilia as well.

In the end, he left all of his possessions to his son, who donated them to Dana College in Nebraska. Today, that collection is at the Danish Immigrant Museum in Elk Horn, Iowa. Except, that is, for a few items – which is where Wagner comes into the story.

Professor Otto Rath likes to tell the tale that in his early years on the Wagner faculty, in the 1960s, then-President Arthur O. Davidson would often mention his friendship with the elderly Melchior. “He’s going to leave something to Wagner in his will,” Rath remembers the president saying on more than one occasion.

Melchior died in 1973 – and, as promised, he remembered Wagner College in his will. He left the College his big-game trophy collection.

Melchior was a lifelong, avid hunter. He went on hunting expeditions all around the world; according to Emmons, at the age of 77 he went on safari in Kenya and bagged a bushbuck “two-and-a-half inches bigger than the world record specimen.” At home, he displayed mounted heads and other trophies, such as ashtrays made of bison hooves. President Guarasci was able to confirm that Melchior did, indeed, leave his collection to Wagner College.



Homecoming

What a different scene than last year's blizzard-like conditions! But it was only the calm before the next storm, Hurricane Sandy. In the meantime, on a perfect fall day, 500 alumni and friends returned to campus to enjoy the Homecoming BBQ, seven outstanding former Wagner student-athletes were inducted into the Athletics Hall of Fame, and the Seahawks defeated Robert Morris University. It was the Seahawks' fifth straight win – their first time to achieve such a record in Northeast Conference (NEC) play since the league was formed in 1996.



HAWK TALK Wagner staff members Sara Klein and Matt Hollingshead, plus Wagner friend Michelle Nikoomanesh, chat with President Guarasci at the pre-game barbecue.



Venezia '90 M'96, Quincy Lewis '93, Patti Winterfeldt '84, Eve Slocum '84, Rich Robinson '90, Greg Kovar '89, and [Name] were inducted into the Athletic Hall of Fame.



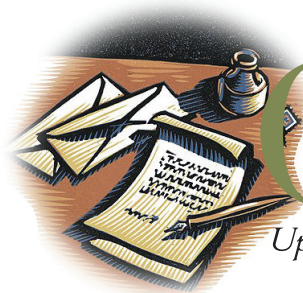
GO, TEAM! Fans cheered when the Seahawks made their first touchdown on their way to a 23-13 win over Robert Morris University



(left to right) Lonnie Brandon '72, Daymon Yizar '82, Marilyn W. Jackson '73, and Carol Lewis Bellamy '81



BABY SEAHAWK Tad Bender '06, president of the National Alumni Association board, with his wife, Ashley, and their daughter Adeline, age 1.



Class Notes

Updates from old friends across the generations

1949 & 1952

Trygve '49 and Ruth Stangeland '52

Skarsten celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on June 28, together with their four children: Linda Skarsten Ibsen, Cheryl Skarsten Alban, Kevin Skarsten, and Caryn Skarsten Ginter; and their 12 grandchildren: John, Sara, Evan, Emily, Austin, Haley, Matthew, Jenny, Tyler, Jacob, Logan, and Zachary. Trygve and Ruth live in Pickerington, Ohio.

1950 & 1951

Margaret '50 and Palmer '51 Thompson

celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary in April. They are working as travel agents for their daughter at her own travel agency, Magic Mouse Travel, in Shawnee, Kans.

1955

Doris Rockefeller Lehmann is retired and lives in Mahwah, N.J. She writes, "Thanks to Wagner's wonderful preparation, I was an elementary

teacher for over 31 years, also doing 'bedside' instruction while my four children were small."

1959

Lou DeLuca was inducted into the Wagner College Athletics Hall of Fame class of 2012 for his numerous achievements in fundraising, academics, and athletics. Lou has been an ambassador for Wagner athletics for many years and serves as an adjunct professor of education.

1962

*Editor's Note: Thanks to "Kallista '62 Continued," the 50th reunion publication of the class of 1962, we bring you updates from 35 members of the class, plus this note from a few people not able to attend reunion at Wagner in June: **George F. Scarpato, John F. Dwyer,** and **Robert Sheridan,** "founding members of the San Francisco chapter of the Wagner College Golden Seahawks," met for lunch over pizza and wine on June 8, to coincide with the 50th anniversary class reunion on Grymes Hill. "We raised a glass," they reported, "and resolved to send our best regards, our fond remembrances, and best wishes for*

a delightful reunion to all of our esteemed classmates." The Rev. **Clair Anderson**, a retired pastor in Hanover, Pa., and his wife, Lucinda, love to travel, and have been to 49 states and several European countries. Clair has returned to playing the violin; other hobbies include model railroads, stamp collecting, and poetry writing. **Brian Andrew Bates**, dean of students emeritus at the Thunderbird School of Global Management, is semi-retired with an education evaluation company. Brian and his wife, Ginger, live in Arizona and love it, "despite its politics," in his words. He enjoys traveling, the local theater, and opera as well as time spent with his family. **Elise Benedict Browne** lives in Tampa, Fla., with her husband, Vernon, whose Navy career took them all over the world. Elise taught school and then resumed her profession of breeding and selling thoroughbred horses in Tampa. She has three sons and two grandchildren. **Georg W. Bohsack** continues to pursue his work in the field of ophthalmology, which has taken him and his wife, Anne, to 80 countries. Anne and George have moved to Marshfield Hills, Mass., where he is rebuilding an old New England stone wall on the property. **Richard Bolstein** retired in 2006 as chair of the statistics department at

George Mason University in Fairfax, Va. He has a part-time consulting business in statistical survey sampling. He enjoys playing jazz and classical piano, and working on his very hilly yard and garden under his wife Sharon's direction at their home right off the Blue Ridge Parkway near Waynesboro, Va. **Ted Caccia** retired as a program manager for a defense contractor in 2000. He enjoys tennis and gardening with his wife, Sue. They split their time between Cape Coral, Fla., and the South Shore of Long Island, N.Y. **John J. Campi** and his wife, Carol, have lived and worked in the U.S. and overseas and enjoy travel and golf. They spend about half the year at home in Jupiter, Fla. They enjoy spending time with their two children and three grandchildren. **Don Cavalli** is retired from many years as a high school history teacher and multi-sport coach. He enjoys golf, skiing, and European travel. He is a Wagner Athletic Hall of Famer and has been chair of the selection committee for 19 years. He lives in Morris County, N.J., and has three children and five grandsons. **Carol Gaise Crews** retired last year from managing a large psychiatric practice. She says that mental health has become her "passion and cause." She and her husband, **John**

Keep in Touch!

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Web: www.wagner.edu/alumni/

Mail: Alumni Office, Reynolds House,
Wagner College, 1 Campus Road,
Staten Island, NY 10301

Publication policies:

Deadlines: This issue reflects news received by October 1. The submission deadline for the Summer 2013 issue is June 1.
Content: Wagner welcomes your news and updates, and we will happily share them with the Wagner family. We ask that you send us announcements of weddings, births, and graduations after the fact.
Photos: We accept photos of Wagner groups at weddings and other special events. With the photo, send the names and

class years of all alumni pictured; birth date, parents' names, and class years with photos of children; and dates and locations of all events.

Photo Quality: Digital and print photos must be clear and of good quality. Prints should be on glossy paper with no surface texture; they will be returned at your request (please attach your address to the photo). Digital photos must be jpegs of at least 250 pixels per inch; low-resolution photos converted to a higher resolution are not acceptable.


Crews '64, enjoy traveling, and took a cruise through the Panama Canal and to Costa Rica earlier this year. They live in Port Ewen, N.Y. **Eleanor Warren Derr** retired in 2005 from a career as a nurse, nursing instructor, and specialist in medical quality. She lives in Williamsport, Pa., where she moved with her late husband, Lester, in 1967. Her passion is her volunteer work for Yokefellowship Prison Ministry. **Vince Fischetti** H'10, a microbiologist at Rockefeller University in Manhattan, was featured in a Q&A in the August 2012 issue of *Scientific American*. The interview by Brendan Borrell was entitled, "Phage Factor: Long ignored by mainstream researchers, the viruses that infect bacteria have a role to play in modern medicine." Vince and his wife, Barbara, live in West Hempstead, N.Y. **Bjarne Gabrielsen** retired in 2006 from a career of university teaching and research as a chemist at Wagner College and the University of Florida, followed by many years of work in drug discovery for the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases at Fort Detrick in Maryland and the National Cancer Institute at Frederick, Md. He received the National Institutes of Health Award of Merit for his work on preserving the intellectual property rights of indigenous peoples and institutions, as he helped the NCI Natural Products Branch obtain samples of native marine life and plants from more than 30 established and developing nations. He enjoys music, teaching in church, fishing, family, and grandchildren with his wife, Marie. The couple lives in Punta Gorda, Fla. **Nancy Born Goodwin** moved to Whitefish, Mont., 17 years ago. She enjoys traveling, specifically bicycle touring, which has brought her to several Hawaiian Islands, the Canadian Rockies, Europe, and North Africa. She volunteers at the local library and takes road trips to the Oregon coast. Her two children also live in Montana. **Richard Granger** became a commercial airline pilot for United after he stopped flying jets for the Marine Corps in 1966. Since retiring, he has taken to golf quite exceptionally; he is learning to play bridge with his wife, Karlene; and he is an avid reader and enjoys gardening, photography, and computers. Richard lives in New Providence, N.J. **Judith Cornell Haven** worked primarily as a geriatric and

Crib Notes

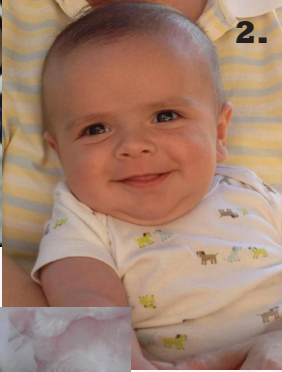
Classes of 2032 and 2033

Some of the newest faces
to join the Wagner family


1.



2.



3.



We'd love to see your baby's face.
Please see opposite page for publication guidelines.

1. Christine Pedit Gise '96 M'98 and her husband, Andrew, announce the birth of their son Andrew on February 28.

2. Thomas Koncewicz '99 and **Lauren Marrone Koncewicz** '00 announce the birth of their third child, Christian Paul, on February 23.

3. Violetta Hancock '05 and her husband, Tom Hancock, welcomed Madison Elise on June 2.

rehabilitation nurse in Paramus, N.J. She now lives in Stratford, Conn., in an active retirement community and volunteers with the Medical Reserve Corps of Stratford. She and her husband, Ronald, have two daughters and four grandchildren. **Dan Hays** has written many articles from the passionate to the provocative in his years as a journalist. He enjoys skiing, bicycling, kayaking, and sail boarding. He continues to work on a freelance basis and does volunteer publicity work for New Jersey's Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge. Dan and his wife, Linda, live in Morristown, N.J. **Richard and Heike**

Schander Kilgore are both retired from Procter and Gamble Pharmaceuticals. They live in Norwich, N.Y., and visit daily with Heike's mother in a nearby nursing home, and frequently with their grandchildren, who all live within a few hours' drive. **Rita King** has taken to improving her Scottsdale, Ariz., home and has become a budding horticulturalist, using only xeriscape materials — in other words, plants not requiring irrigation. Many of the plants and landscaping materials she used were recycled from neighbors' castoffs, while the leftover materials became the perfect medium for a vegetable garden. **Carolyn McCabe Miller**

spent 48 years in the medical laboratory field, working in hospitals in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Long Island. She is very active in her community, volunteering with Meals on Wheels and animal causes. Her two rescued greyhounds keep her from being lonely after losing her husband in 2001. Her many friends in North Charleston, S.C., and children and grandchildren in Virginia make her say, "Life is good." **Russell L. McIntyre** retired from the full-time faculty of the UMDNJ-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, where he was professor of medical

Take a Walk Down Memory Lane...



Wagner College Memories: A Photographic Remembrance of Grymes Hill in 99 Images, Past & Present

This 10-by-8-inch hardcover book contains 99 classic scenes, from a panoramic view of the Verrazano-Narrows Bridge to the Collegiate Gothic grandeur of Main Hall to winter's snow-covered calm. Available for \$39.99 in the Wagner College Bookstore

To view the book online and
download a mail order form, go to
www.wagner.edu/newsroom/node/135

1962 cont.

ethics and health law, in 2007. He lives in Morristown, N.J., Ocean City, Md., and Stuart, Fla. He still teaches a continuing education course in professional ethics for physicians under disciplinary action. He provides lectures in medical ethics and health care laws to hospitals and medical societies in the tri-state area. He enjoys world travel, golf, boating, sudoku, surf fishing, and his grandchildren. **Constantine P. Pagonis** practiced internal medicine and cardiology in Cumberland, R.I., until 2006. He and his wife, Betty, have been traveling extensively to Europe, Central America, and the Caribbean. They also love to babysit their two granddaughters, and Constantine has been studying Spanish. **John W. Palmer** served as a Marine Corps officer and then pursued a career in law in New York, serving as assistant DA in Nassau County and later trying aviation cases around the nation. He maintains a law office in Mineola, N.Y. He and his wife, **Elaine Angelides Palmer** '64, settled in Oyster Bay, N.Y., and have two children. **Karen Olsen Peterson** was the

Dallas Independent School District's Teacher of the Year in 1996-97 and has been traveling around the world since retiring. She has been to the Taj Mahal, the Great Barrier Reef, the Great Wall of China, King Tut's Tomb, and a safari in Kenya. She lives in Rock Hill, S.C., and enjoys her 13 grandchildren. **David Petrovits** started a site development company, BTM, and a couple of auxiliary businesses, which his two children and son-in-law help manage. Though still working, David and his wife, **Randi Joberg Petrovits** '64, find time to travel and winter in Vero Beach, Fla. **John C. Pfisterer** retired in 2003 from active ministry in various New Jersey towns. He retired to Southern Pines, N.C., and serves as part-time interim pastor of a small Lutheran church in Hamlet, N.C. He also enjoys gardening, reading, golf, and overseas travel with his wife, **Susan McClure Pfisterer** '63. **Janet Haffen Rice** was a nurse in the New York area, became a school nurse and health education teacher in Westchester County, and finally became a clinical nurse specialist at White Plains Hospital and

participated in many HIV/AIDS outreach programs. She "retired" in '98 and moved to Watertown, N.Y., and works part time at a BonTon Department store. Janet loves cruises and went to Hawaii in September. **Richard Charles Rice** had a long career as a school principal and superintendent in Montvale, N.J., earning the Distinguished Service Award from the Bergen County Superintendents Association. Richard and his wife, **Barbara Freiberg Rice** '64, live in Tamiment, Pa., and have enjoyed extensive traveling, in the U.S. and abroad. They have three children and five grandchildren. **Karen Murtha Rosnell** worked for many years with her husband, **Ken Rosnell** '60, in their franchise of Snelling Personnel, in Cincinnati, Ohio. She also started a temporary staffing service, which she retired from about three years ago, but her son continues to run. She helped form the local Rotary Club and became the first female governor of the southwestern Ohio district. Besides their volunteer activities, the couple enjoys time spent with their children and grandchildren. **Paul Sarkisian** worked in sales and is the president of his own company, Besada Enterprises. He is very active in missionary activities and bringing food and supplies to areas of need around the world, works with the Red Cross, lectures on Biblical prophecies and health issues, and assists with local ministries. His other interests include travel, stamp collecting, gardening, target shooting, making stained glass windows, and riding the subways of the world (17 so far). Paul and his wife live in Ormond Beach, Fla. **Alan W. Schlienger** worked for the New Jersey Bureau of Parole, retiring as district parole supervisor in 1997. He and his wife, Kathleen, live in Northfield, N.J. They spent many vacations in the Florida Keys and have been on numerous cruises, including two with the Philadelphia Eagles. Alan is chair of the financial management committee of St. Andrew Lutheran Church in Atlantic City, where he is a lifelong, very active member. **Linda Dengel Simpson** taught special education in Plano, Tex., for 20 years. She and her husband, **Charlie Simpson** '59, have three children and seven grandchildren. They live in McKinney, Tex. **Beth Kirkwood Stensrud** has lived in Philadelphia for

many years, teaching, raising her two children, and running her business selling decorative accessories for the home (www.PSOOriginalsOnline.com). She has five grandchildren. Her husband, **Rolf Stensrud** '60, passed away in March 2011. "We all miss him a lot," she says. **Robert A. Straniere** served for 24 years as Staten Island's assemblyman in the New York State Legislature. He also practiced law on Staten Island with his brother, **Philip Straniere** '69, and worked as the assistant corporation counsel and assistant legislative representative for New York City. He is now an administrative law judge for New York City, and spends his leisure time with his wife, Ruth, visiting their five grandchildren, commuting between Manhattan and Los Angeles, and enjoying the Yankees, the Jets, and Broadway shows. **Karl F. Trachte** retired in 2010 as the deputy commissioner for the New York City Human Resources Administration. He is an adjunct professor of management and marketing at the College of Staten Island. Karl is a Free and Accepted Mason, and was the Richmond District's Mason of the Year in 2012. His special interests include traveling, golf, and community service; he and his wife, Joanne, have three children. **Beverly Hoehne Whipple** is a certified sexuality educator, sexuality counselor, and sex researcher. She has co-authored many books and won many awards for her work on women's health issues and the sexual physiology of women. She is professor emerita at Rutgers University. She enjoys traveling with her husband, Jim, and their children and has been to all of the continental United States, the southern provinces of Canada, and 93 countries. Beverly and Jim live in Voorhees, N.J. ... In other class news, *Wagner Magazine* learned that one class member recently passed away: **Lloyd Sherman**, a professor at the Mt. Sinai School of Medicine for about 40 years, died in a car accident in August. A specialist in science education, he created Mt. Sinai's Center for Excellence in Youth Education, which served to increase knowledge in biomedical science, mathematics, and language arts and to expose and motivate young people to pursue careers in biomedical science, medicine, and health.

Knot Notes

Wagner Weddings *Celebrating new commitments*



Adam Abderrazzaq '07 and Sarah Shepler '07 were married on May 26 in Bedford, N.H. The Wagner alumni at their wedding included Becca Gottlieb '08, Emilia Martin '07, Erin O'Neil '08, Julie Mason '07, Jake Smith '07, Robin Steintal '07, Maggie Marino '07, Kyle Erickson Hewitt '07, Lawren Roulier '07, Michelle Lehrman '07, Lauryl Trenholme-Pihl '07.

Christopher Kline '02 M'04 and Francie Kontominas '07 were married on June 16 at St. Teresa of Avila Church in Summit, N.J. They shared the day with several fellow alumni, including bridesmaids Nathalie Londono '08, Dominique Zirino '07, Lauren Ernst '07, and Tiffany DiCarlo '07, and groomsman Javier Arbelaez '02.



Megan Rooney '05 married Salvatore Fazio on September 17, 2011. The couple shared the day with Alpha Delta Pi sisters Erin O'Brien Sheeler '05, Julia TenBroeck '06, Marisa Benigno '05, Victoria Consentino '05, and Jennifer Cordero Bialowarczuk '05.



Michela Agozzino '04 M'06 married Vincent Schiavarelli on October 2, 2010, at Blessed Sacrament Roman Catholic Church in Staten Island, with photos on campus. Pictured: Jessica DiLeo Zanfardino '04, Jamie Koppel '03, Adele Agozzino, Maria Agozzino, Michela, Diana Senese '03, Nicole Gaeta Barone '04, Vanessa Palmiotto Demma '03, Kelly Dalton Noto '03.

Have a wedding photo with "Wagner family"? Please see page 36 for publication guidelines.

Jim '79 & Carol Driscoll '77 Kagdis

Flying Higher and Faster



CLAIM TO FAME: During a long career at Sikorsky Aircraft Corp., Jim Kagdis was recently part of the team that created the world's fastest helicopter. As

Sikorsky's medical director, Carol Kagdis keeps the company's 18,000 employees in good health.

BIG GUY IN THE SKY: Even if you've never heard of Sikorsky, you certainly would know the name of Black Hawk, the company's famous workhorse military helicopter. And Marine One, the presidential helicopter – Sikorsky has held that contract since 1957. Jim started his career at Sikorsky 32 years ago. He has served in the areas of research and engineering, government business development, and innovations. A Wagner history major, he says, "I'm proof you can learn by osmosis."

SUPERFAST: Jim managed the Sikorsky Innovations team that designed the X2 Technology Demonstrator helicopter. On September 15, 2010, the X2 set an unofficial world record speed of 263 knots, or almost 300 miles per hour – twice as fast as traditional single main rotor helicopters. "Seeing the X2 lift off the ground and take flight for the first time is seared in my memory," he says. After that, it became a matter of "systematically, methodically and safely" expanding the aircraft's capabilities. The X2 received the National Aeronautics Association's 2010 Collier Trophy, marking the year's greatest achievement in aeronautics or astronautics in America. The X2 technology is now being applied to prototype light tactical helicopters for the US military, and Jim is now leading a team "that is competing to win the right to supply the United States Air Force with a new combat rescue helicopter."

SMALL STEPS: Carol, a Wagner nursing graduate, joined Sikorsky three years ago as a nurse practitioner focused on health promotion; when the medical director position opened up, she was tapped. Skills she learned at Wagner – "listening intently without judgment, tactfully asking probing question, and relationship building" – have been key throughout her career. To help patients quit smoking, for example, she encourages them to set their own goals, with "modest steps like simply stretching out intervals between cigarettes." She may have a big title, but she knows that in health care, as in aircraft development, "Small changes on an individual level often result in big impacts to many."



1967

Peggy Nusplinger is in her 36th year as director of the Adirondack Community Chorus, which gives three concerts per year and has performed with the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra and the Syracuse Symphony.

1969

Cliff Oster created a “silver stain” that yields an intensely beautiful yellow-gold color for stained glass windows — so beautiful, in fact, that it was chosen for use in a new window in Westminster Hall, the oldest building of the English Parliamentary Estate, in honor of the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth, which honored her 60 years as monarch. It is called the Ancient Walpole stain, and it has been in widespread use since Cliff developed it in the early 1980s. Cliff made a trip to England last year to deliver the stain to the window designer, British artist John Reyntiens, who personally chose it and insisted upon featuring it in the window, which uses around 1,500 pieces of glass to depict the Queen’s coat of arms. The window was unveiled by the Queen in March.

1970

Christine Mahon won a blue ribbon at the Arizona Quilters Guild show in March for her quilt celebrating the Arizona centennial.

1972 & 1974

Erik '72 and Jane Waleski '74 Unhjem were in a plane crash on Long Island on August 19. Erik survived, but Jane and another person in the plane did not. About a month after the accident, Erik posted the following report to the Bregenz Study Program 50th Anniversary Reunion on Facebook: “As many of you know, Jane and I were involved in a terrible accident in late August. Sadly, my wife, my love, the mother of our children, didn’t survive, though she valiantly fought to live for about seven hours before succumbing to her injuries. I

already miss her in so many ways. ... I’m happy to report, however, that my somewhat miraculous recovery has exceeded all expectations. ... Due to the scope and severity of my burns, the doctors had originally estimated that I would be in the hospital for 60 days. I was released in 27. They attribute my relatively speedy recovery to my good health and condition at the time of the accident, and while in the hospital I worked very hard at getting better.” Jane’s funeral was held on October 20, and her life and career were celebrated on October 21 at Goshen (N.Y.) High School. Jane was a beloved school system administrator in Goshen, known by students, parents, and colleagues for the dedication and joy she brought to her work. Before coming to Goshen to serve as assistant superintendent for curriculum and instruction, Jane was an educator in the Monroe-Woodbury School District.

1973

Nancy Riess Freer recently graduated from SUNY New Paltz with a bachelor’s degree in classical voice performance.

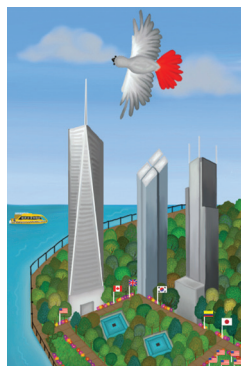
1977

Mindy Reynolds '77 M'83 was consecrated as a diaconal minister at the 25th annual assembly of the Virginia Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America on June 9. She was then installed as the synodical minister for healthy leadership and wellness.

1978

John Rubino was featured in the December 2011 issue of *WorkSpan* magazine, a global human resources publication of the organization WorldatWork. John is a WorldatWork faculty member, seminar developer, and instructor. Since 1996, he has run his own firm, Rubino Consulting Services. He has written two books and many articles about human resources issues such as compensation and management training. He has traveled to more than 100 countries doing HR training and consulting. “I absolutely love what I do,” he

told *WorkSpan*. “It truly defines me. I feel so fortunate that I have embraced an occupation in human resources.” Last year, he received an Honorary Lifetime Membership Award from an HR organization in South Africa, the South African Rewards Association. He also continues to pursue his love of performing music. He and his wife, Cindy, have a 20-year-old son.



1981

Greg LaMorte '81 M'83 is working on a children’s book, *A New York City Tail*, with illustrations (see above) by Taryn LaMorte, daughter of Greg’s brother, **Al LaMorte**. “It’s about a baby pigeon that gets lost, and he gets help from hawks and parrots all over the city to find his mother,” he says, adding, “Wagner is in the second book I’m writing.” It is dedicated to the three friends he lost on 9/11.

1982

Dominick Iorio '82 M'84 received GAMA International’s Master Agency Award and the International Management Award, at the Diamond Level. The program recognizes excellence in traditional and contemporary field management throughout the financial services industry. Dominick is managing director with Bridge Financial Group, an office of MetLife, in Staten Island.

1984

Steve Slocum was inducted into the Wagner College Athletics Hall of Fame, class of 2012. He is considered to be one of the best offensive linemen in school history.

1986

Edward J. Nitkewicz was named to the 2012 edition of *New York Super Lawyers* for his work representing personal injury plaintiffs in matters of general negligence, product liability, and no-fault litigation. In addition, *Super Lawyers* cited his work as a leader in the field of education law. Ed is a senior counsel with the Sanders law firm in Mineola, N.Y.

1988

Rosa Graziano and her brother, Rico, star in “Rosa & Rico’s Italian Food Truck,” a weekly series that premiered in September on the Hungry YouTube channel. Find episodes at youtube.com/hungry. **Rich Negrin**, deputy mayor and managing director of the city of Philadelphia, was named the Latino Lawyer of the Year at the 2012 Hispanic National Bar Association Annual Convention.

1989

Greg Kovar, the starting quarterback for the Seahawks’ 1987 Division III National Championship team, was inducted into the Wagner College Athletics Hall of Fame, class of 2012.

1990

Rich Robinson and **Mike Venezia '90 M'96** were inducted into the Wagner College Athletics Hall of Fame, class of 2012. Rich was one of the top defensive linemen in Wagner history, and Mike turned in an amazing career on the baseball diamond for the Seahawks.

1993

Quincy Lewis, noted as Wagner basketball’s “ultimate playmaker” and “one of the greatest point guards in Wagner history,” was inducted into the Wagner Athletics Hall of Fame, class of 2012. **Pia Wilson’s** play *The Flower Thief* ran from August 2 to 18 at the Red Room in New York City. The play explores a young man’s grief over the loss of his twin brother.



Dr. Linda Walsh '76 examines a young patient while her protégé, a Dominican medical student, watches.

How I Became a Medical Missionary

I didn't plan to start doing annual medical mission trips, but in 2003, two 17-year-old Girl Scouts decided to do their Gold Award projects somewhere with great need. With the assistance of their leaders and our church (St John's Lutheran Church, Sweet Air, in Phoenix, Maryland), a team of 20 people went to the Dominican Republic to work with children; we played sports and games, taught basic first aid, added a second floor to a church building, and fostered relationships. As a family physician, I was struck by the immense medical needs of the community. I was unable to ignore the malnourishment and rampant fungal infections, evidence of the poor access to health care for many individuals living in the Dominican Republic.

The next year, I returned to the DR armed with suitcases containing basic medical supplies and medications to host our own medical clinic. We treated about 150 patients with the help of two nurses and several lay people. In the following years, the team increased in size and scope. Our most recent trip had 19 team members, including a family medicine resident, four physician assistant students, one medical student,

a nursing student, and a nurse. We held 10 clinics and treated over 700 patients. We included a dental clinic for the first time, staffed by a dental hygienist and a Dominican dentist whose education had been funded by a former team member.

This year, we visited a new community that was particularly remote and poor. When we were finishing up our last clinic, a woman came in carrying

a naked child with a high fever. He was suffering from a urinary tract infection. When I told her he needed antibiotics and a fever reducer, she said, "I know, but I have no money." "Don't worry," I replied. "We have the medicine here for you. It is a gift from God." She wept with relief as we prepared the medication. Several hugs were shared. It is hard to convey the joy we all shared in being there at the right time.

I guess you could say that I am addicted to going to the Dominican Republic. I started out wanting to give and to make a difference for people, following Jesus' admonition to care for the poor. But now I go because I love going. We have made friends who help us in our work, we have watched many children grow up and start going to college. So it is all about relationships. We build schools, churches, and playgrounds, and conduct children's ministry and medical clinics. They show us how to be happy with less, how to be generous with little, and how to be grateful. After 10 trips, my hope is strong that I will be able to continue for many years to come.

— Dr. Linda Walsh '76,
Jarrettsville Family Care, Jarrettsville, Maryland

1998

Greg Breinberg M'98 and his terrific elementary school chorus from Staten Island's PS 22 will be performing in the 57th Presidential Inaugural Ceremonies. This follows a string of high-profile successes, including singing at the White House Christmas tree lighting in 2009 and performing at the 2011 Academy Awards.

1999

Thomas Koncewicz and **Lauren Marrone Koncewicz** '00 announce the birth of their third child, Christian Paul, on February 23. (See *Crib Notes*, page 37, for a photo.)

2000

Jedediah Bila is an author, columnist, and political commentator who has been frequently featured on Fox News and Fox Business as well as several radio shows. **Frank Cafasso** '00 M'02 was appointed interim chief information officer at Wagner College in October. **Lauren Marrone Koncewicz** and **Thomas Koncewicz** '99 announce the birth of their third child, Christian Paul, on February 23. (See *Crib Notes*, page 37, for a photo.)

2002

Michael Brillante '02 M'06 left his position as director of media services at Wagner to join the New York Police Department in July. **Christopher J. Kline** '02 M'04 and **Francie M. Kontominas** '07 were married on June 16 in Summit, NJ. (See *Knot Notes*, page 39, for a photo.)

2003

Drew Babitts '03 M'06 has a new job as a major and planned gifts officer at the Pratt Institute in Brooklyn. **Gina Ferreri** '03 M'05 was named director of development and alumni relations at Saint John Villa Academy in Staten Island.

2004

Michela Agozzino '04 M'06 married Vincent Schiavarelli on October 2, 2010, at Blessed Sacrament Roman

1994

Patti Winterfeldt Svraga '94 M'96 earned her place in Wagner's Athletics Hall of Fame class of 2012 by her tremendous versatility on the Seahawks basketball team, with 1,149 career points, 556 rebounds, 239 assists, and 132 steals.

1996

Christine Pedit Gise '96 M'98 and her husband, Andrew, announce the birth of their son Andrew on February 28. (See *Crib Notes*, page 37, for a photo.)

1997

Kathleen Ramirez married Kirk Wright on September 15 in Roswell, Ga. Kathleen moved from San Francisco to Alpharetta, Ga., and works for GE Capital as a vice president for strategic investor programs. Kirk, who was born and raised in Jamaica, is general manager of a hotel in midtown Atlanta.

Catholic Church in West Brighton, Staten Island. (See *Knot Notes*, page 39, for a photo.) **Renée Marino** is in the ensemble for the Broadway musical *Chaplin*, which opened at the Barrymore Theatre this fall.



2005

Michael Coppotelli '05 M'12 has been named the associate superintendent for public policy and government programs in the New York Archdiocese's Department of Education. In the role, which he began in July, he serves as the primary liaison between the office of the superintendent of schools and all government entities. He also oversees the archdiocese's child nutrition program, as well as the drug and alcohol prevention program. He previously served as chief of staff for New York State Assemblyman Lou Tobacco of Staten Island. **Violetta Hancock** and her husband, Tom Hancock,

welcomed Madison Elise on June 2. (See *Crib Notes*, page 37, for a photo.) **Mark Intoccia** married **Amanda Concilio '08** on October 12 in Staten Island. Mark is working for a marketing research firm in New York City and Amanda works at Bamboo Salon in Staten Island, where they live. **Megan Rooney** married Salvatore Fazio on September 17, 2011. (See *Knot Notes*, page 39, for a photo.)

2007

Adam Abderrazzaq and **Sarah Shepler** were married on May 26 in Bedford, N.H. The two met at freshman orientation at Wagner. Adam is active duty in the U.S. Army as an explosive ordinance disposal technician, and he will be deploying to Afghanistan in January. **Anthony DeMaria** presented a paper, "Rupture Resolution Training and Its Effect on Patient and Therapist Interpersonal Process," at the Society for Psychotherapy Research annual conference in Virginia in June. Anthony is working on his dissertation in the New School's clinical Ph.D. program. **Francie M. Kontominas** and **Christopher J. Kline '02 M'04** were married on June 16 in Summit, N.J. (See *Knot Notes*, page 39, for photos of the wedding parties.)

2008

Amanda Concilio married **Mark Intoccia '05** on October 12 in Staten Island. Amanda works at Bamboo Salon in Staten Island, where they live, and Mark is working for a marketing research firm in New York City. **Bill Jock** presented a paper, "A Cross-Cultural Look at Patients' Perspective of Change," at the Society for Psychotherapy Research annual conference in Virginia in June. Bill started his doctoral coursework in the clinical Ph.D. program at the New School this fall.

2010

Frantz Placide spoke at the Republican National Convention in August regarding the Florida educational system and the opportunities it provided for him. The sociology major and football player was called "the finest special teams player in school history." He is coaching at his former high school and working for Wells Fargo, while applying to become a New Jersey state trooper. **Salvatore Valenti** visited campus in September to speak with the Pre-Health Society. After finishing his bachelor's in microbiology, he enrolled in a Ph.D.

program at New York Medical College. He left that program to begin medical studies at the Touro College of Osteopathic Medicine, where he is now in his second year.

2011

Patrick Heffernan did summer stock at the Mac-Haydn Theatre in Chatham, N.Y., and then went on tour with *Fiddler on the Roof*; in the role of Perchik. Check the show's schedule at www.fiddlerontour.com.

2012

Brian Krinsky is performing in the national tour of *Beauty and the Beast*. He plays an enchanted object and a townsman, and is also the understudy for both Gaston and the Beast. Go to www.beautyandthebeastontour.com for more information. **Julian Stanford** became the first former Seahawk to make an NFL regular season roster since 1972 by making the final 53-man roster of the Jacksonville Jaguars. In the Jaguars' first season victory, Julian registered three tackles and was featured on the highlight video of the game.



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In Memoriam

Celebrating lives that enriched the Wagner family

FACULTY REMEMBRANCES

Professor Roy Mosher *Microbiologist was instrumental in establishing new BS/MS degree program*

Roy Mosher, associate professor of biology and director of the master's degree program in microbiology, died on June 21. He was 50. Born in Montreal, Quebec, he grew up in Halifax, Nova Scotia, and earned his bachelor's, master's, and Ph.D. in biology from Dalhousie University in Halifax. He started teaching biochemistry and microbiology at Wagner College in 2002. He was instrumental in establishing Wagner's five-year BS/MS degree program in microbiology. Students and colleagues remember him as a humble, kind, and positive person. He loved music and theater, and became a Mets fan during his time in New York. He is survived by his brother and sister-in-law, Steve and Sonja Mosher, and his niece Holly of Halifax, Nova Scotia. He is also survived by his colleagues and students at Wagner College, who were like a family to him in the United States. An annual student award, the Roy H. Mosher Award in Microbiology, has been established in his memory.



Head of Library Barna Csuros *Hungary native headed then-new Horrmann Library*

Barna Csuros, Wagner librarian from 1965 to 1971, died on August 2 in Dover, New Jersey. He was 88. He earned a double doctorate in law and political science from Peter Pazmany University in Budapest, Hungary, but fled the country during the Hungarian Revolution of 1956. After receiving a master's degree in library science from Columbia University in 1961, he worked at branches of the New York Public Library in the Bronx. He played a pivotal role in building Wagner's library collection during the 1960s, and was named head librarian in 1967. He completed his career at Kean College (now University), where he served for 20 years as associate director of the Nancy Thompson Library. He is survived by his wife of 38 years, Trudi; his brother, Csaba Csuros; his daughter, Sylvia Csuros Clark; and his former wife, Eva Lazar Laszlo.



Alumni

Mr. Theodore W. Gibson '42
Mrs. Ruth E. Kriby Schroeder '42
Mrs. Marie Ohlson Dietrich '43
Mrs. Joan A. Spiro Hector '47
Mr. John L. Codomo '49
Mrs. Josephine Gabriele De Nigris '50
Mrs. Margrete Hoth '50
Dr. Andrew A. Mancini '50
Mr. Hugh McNeil Murphy '50
Dr. Robert W. Wannemacher Jr. '50
Mr. Charles A. Allbee '51
Mr. Michael F. Petosa '51
Mr. Ralph Carloni '52
Mr. John D. Silva '52
Mrs. Clara Niggel Richon '53
Mr. Howard Berntsen '54
Mr. James E. Collins '54
Mrs. Barbara Helmke Henriksen '54
Mr. Ronald C. Larder '56
Mr. Stephen R. Alexander '57
Mr. Anthony D. D'Auria '60
Mrs. Marian B. Williams M'60
Mr. James J. Krieger '61
Dr. David C. Blum '62
Dr. Lloyd R. Sherman '62
Col. Manfred A. Liebner '64
Mr. Roger W. Rappe M'64
Mr. Jay J. Abbes '65
Mr. William S. Steiner M'65
Mr. John O'Hara '68
Mr. Frank Pisano M'70
Mr. F. A. Kellermann '71
Mrs. Jane Waleski Unhjem '74
Mrs. Dianne Anderson Holroyd '83
Mrs. Dorothy M. Dunaway Gianelli M'88
Mr. Charles H. Lohr '88

Faculty, Staff, and Friends

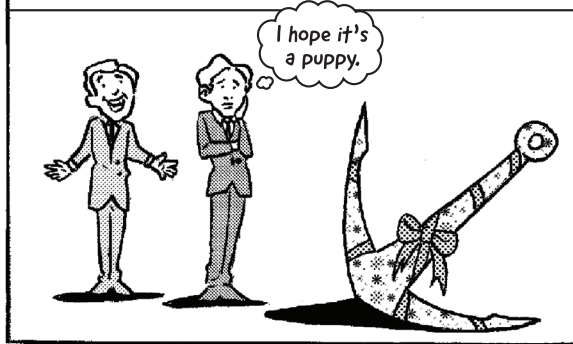
Dr. Barna Csuro
Dr. Don S. Leeds
Dr. Roy H. Mosher

ODE TO THE ANCHOR

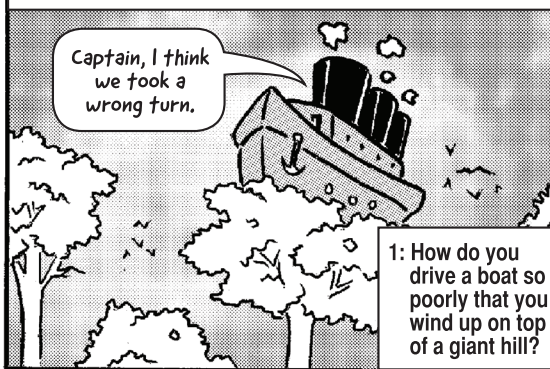
Written by Colleen Venable '02

Art by Robert Geronimo '09

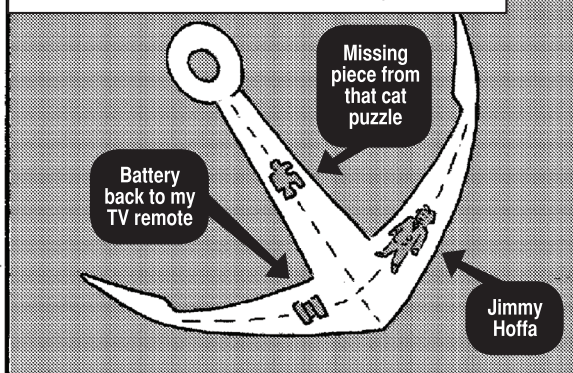
The WAGNER ANCHOR is pretty hard to miss. Supposedly the story is long ago some famous steamship company gave the anchor to Wagner as a gift.¹



During my Wagner years I passed the anchor a million times and every time I thought the same three things:



2: How thick is that paint? Was there even an anchor under it at all? What was *really* in there?!



And finally number 3...



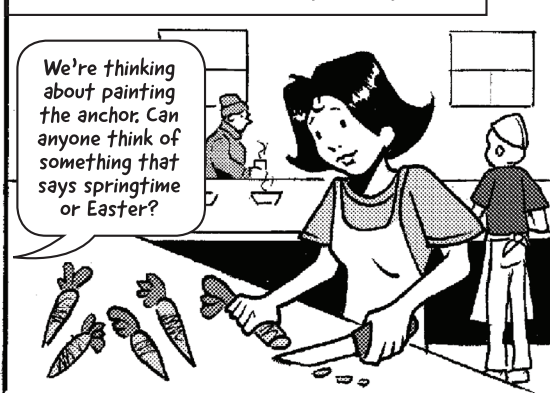
The rules stated any organization could paint the anchor if they camped around it for eight hours.

I wanted to paint the anchor. **DESPERATELY** wanted to paint the anchor.

I joined as many organizations as I could: Nimbus, the Guitar and Lute Ensemble, hosted a show on the radio station, peeled carrots in the soup kitchen for Newman Club, ran the photolab. I was even on the Wagner Swim Team a year BEFORE Wagner had a pool (true story).

But no matter how many clubs I joined, no one else seemed to share my anchor obsession.

Until one beautiful afternoon my senior year...



1- The Cunard Steamship Company gave the anchor to Wagner College in 1963. The whole story is in your Wagner Handbook, but they don't mention puppies OR bunnies, so this comic is better.

WAGNER COLLEGE

AN ARMY OF HELP

Wagner students jumped right into relief efforts in Hurricane Sandy-ravaged sections of Staten Island. On November 11, Molly Delbridge '14, Harborview Hall Resident Director Loydes Vasquez, Kylie Tanabe '14, and Kellie Griffith '14 worked with the Salvation Army to deliver supplies in Midland Beach, while the National Guard contributed its manpower as well. Read more about the student-led Wagner Cares initiative and find out how you can contribute, page 6.

PHOTOGRAPH: ANNA MULÉ

