

Dear FOOT Leader Alums,

I hope you are all well and thriving. We just had our spring FOOT Shakedown and it was fabulous. The current leaders are fantastic and are keeping the FOOT Leader spirit alive. I gave my “Cilla talk” in the middle of the day and pointed out that when we started FOOT about 41 years ago, we didn’t have personal computers, iPhones or email. Somehow, we managed with telephone trees and payphones. The good thing coming from this is that I know that FOOT can operate without all the high technology we have. However, when you can send out a letter to all the first-years by pressing one button, as opposed to using mailing labels, stamps and an assembly line to stuff applications into envelopes, I am so grateful for the progress we have made. We started FOOT with 12 leaders, 3 support crew members and 6 trips all in the Catskills. Now we are 174 leaders, 40 support crew members, and perhaps 87 trips in the White Mts., Green Mts., Berkshires, Catskills, Taconics, Housatonic Valley, Hudson Highlands and the Delaware Water Gap. Plus 3 trips in northeast Connecticut that have an Arts theme. The mission and goals of FOOT are very much the same. We created a firm and solid foundation. I only get nervous when 18 coach buses line up on College Street now to take the students to their trailheads. (We only had one trip get on the wrong bus last summer, but we discovered this before the buses took off. Whew!)

Yes, this has been an extremely challenging winter. On all fronts, but FOOT remains a super positive force on campus. You should be very proud of the organization you were part of. In case you missed our 15 minutes of fame in the *Yale Alumni Magazine*, check out your November/December issue! A huge Omgala before the departure!



But let’s get on with the news!

1985-87

**Jamie Williams:** we are making some big transitions this year. We decided a couple years ago we would move out of DC in 2024, so after twelve years at the helm of TWS, I let my board know it's time to start the search for a new president. I will stay on through the summer until hopefully a new president will be in place. In the meantime, once news was out on my transition, WWF approached me about leading their Enduring Earth Initiative, a partnership between TNC, WWF, Pew, and ZonaLab to create and expand protected areas in 20 countries through private and public finance. I will be taking on that role in the Fall after TWS. And now for the even more surprising news! We are moving to the coast of Maine, Rockport. Melissa's job in study abroad education is in the New England and my daughter is at Brown, and we thought this would be a fun adventure while still needing to stay on the East coast for awhile with so many family members here. I will be able to work for WWF from there! With travel. In any case, all is well and we are excited about our next adventure. Hope you all will come visit us! We found a great house in 10 acres up in the hills a few miles back from the coast.

Jamie hosted some of the FOOT Leaders who were working in DC last summer while he was still head of The Wilderness Society.

Here's Jamie in Bolivia working for the WWF:



**Eve Vogel** provided a hi after I sent a message to everyone saying send news or just say hi :). It was nice to receive the hi, ensuring that she is receiving emails, so Yay!.

**Beth Marrow** sent news this year. This is what she had to say:

I have never written in, because my hiking life is very limited and mostly exists as a set of wishes. Nonetheless, I love to get these foot newsletters. And, I have such fond memories of foot as the moment that I felt like I might fit in at Yale. (Sadly, it only came into existence as I was heading into senior year!) Anyhow, sending a picture of me, my husband, and our dog climbing a "mountain" in Western MA. Lots of Footies in W. MA, I believe — in fact, Eve, maybe we can get together sometime there (write to me separately).

The update: I live in Brooklyn, NY, work on child welfare policy, live with my husband Buck who runs a NYC tugboat company, and have two adult kids out in the world. We have a place in Western Mass, in Worthington, where we do outdoorsy things like clear trails, support the Hilltown Land Trust (some Yalies make that happen, go Sally Loomis!), and just breathe. My vision for old age included hiking big mountains and backpacking into my 80s, but that is just not the life I live. So, instead, our outdoor adventures tend to be cold swimming (like the annual polar bear swim in Coney Island), traipsing through woods in Western MA, and dreaming. Lots of love to all of you Footies. XO Beth



**Matt Etterson** also sent news: We're healthy and Duluth is awesome.

I'm still working on PFAS and hoping that line of research will remain viable. There are so many interesting questions still to ask. As we settle into our empty nest, Julie and I are rediscovering our love for international travel. Last summer we went to Peru, splitting our time between Cusco and the Sacred Valley, and the Amazon basin. This summer we're planning a circuit of Britain. It's fun to dream of retiring to an interesting new place. Hello to other FOOTs. Matt

**Liz Ablow:** My news has not changed much from last year. I still work for Seattle City Light in the Science Policy group, where I have focused substantial amount of my career on the South Fork Tolt River, including fish (with a focus on summer steelhead) and freshwater habitat that includes research, monitoring, and restoration projects along with the implementation of a FERC license for a small hydro project on the same river. Now I am in the midst of relicensing the hydro project, which is a 5+ year process, and I say publicly is my swan song, before retiring. Now that it is winter I try to spend as much time in the snow as possible, which mostly is takes place in the Cascades near Seattle. Fortunately, we also managed a ski trip in British Columbia. This summer we joined my sister and her husband on their sailboat in Glacier Bay National Park and and also took a road trip across country this fall from NYC, transporting my dad's car to its new owner, my son, in Seattle. We are all relieved that my dad at 92 is no longer driving. If I ignore the news and the craziness in Washington that is effecting so many lives, life is good, my kids are completely fledged, living their own full lives that I feel fortunate often includes Dick and I. But, truthfully, there is no way that the news can be ignored, so I am actively participating in protests, and making sure I let my federal colleagues know how much I appreciate them. This includes, you, Matt Etterson. One fun fact regarding FOOT, I know two current FOOT Leaders of which one is my niece. With that, I send my love to all FOOTies. Don't hesitate to let me know if you are in Seattle. Liz (Thanks as always Cilla for herding the cats to get the news out there.)



With Another Year Comes New Adventures and Many Gatherings! We Cannot Wait to Share Time With You in 2025. Love, Liz, Dick, Jacob, Sara and Our Extended Clan.

**1988**

**Roger Wynne:** No news to report from Team 88 this year, but I’m certain I speak for us when I send FLUV on our behalf...even though I have no idea what that means. (Yes, we’re old enough to predate FLUV.) Take care, Roger

**1989**

**Ann Vileisis:** Here is my news: Tim and I continue to love living on Oregon’s South Coast. Two years ago, I decided to shift my energy from writing books about environmental history to problem-solving in the present, joining my town’s city council. Serving as council president, I helped to steer through some tough straits, and in November I was elected to serve as Mayor (with 95% of the vote, since I ran unopposed 9)—so my life has just become even more filled with all manner of small-town challenges (in short: insufficient resources and revenue to accomplish what needs to be done). In addition, I continue to serve as president and conservation director for our Kalmiopsis Audubon chapter –400 members strong in a rural area with an extraordinary public lands backyard that includes wild and scenic rivers and biodiverse forests plus rich marine ecosystems. I expect we’ll be up against some major challenges to our public lands with the new administration, and so I hope that everyone who loves the outdoors will stay attuned for ways to defend them.

Tim finished his latest book last year *Seek Higher Ground, the natural solution to our urgent flooding crisis*--you can watch an excellent short film trailer for the book here: [Seek Higher Ground - The Natural Solution to our Urgent Flooding Crisis](#), and he has a new photo book coming out about the Youghiogheny River, a fabulous whitewater stream in SW Pennsylvania.

Truth be told, we’re not getting out for quite as many big adventures as we’d like, but rivers are still our passion -- 2 summers ago, we did a 30-day, 350+ mile Salmon River trip, and last summer, we did a week-long Rogue River trip. We also took my 13-year-old niece on a camping trip to Grand Teton and Yellowstone National Parks and stayed in the campground where we held our pre-wedding reception (that some of you FOOTies attended) 30 years ago! I did not get a chance to visit any FOOT friends this past year, but I enjoyed talking on the phone with Trex and cheering for his state senate campaign -- and also meeting up with his aspiring glass-artist daughter Lauren, who came to visit –what a treat!!! If

you ever make it out to Oregon’s South Coast, look us up! BIG FOOT HUG!!!

Ann



**Trex Proffitt:** FOOT continues to be such a strong bond. I was reminded of this in 2024 when I ran for state senate here in Lancaster, PA. The Yale and FOOT support made a huge difference in what we were able to do in a short time, and also how much fun it was. It was a pleasure to welcome **Toby Kovacs '89** and his spouse Rachel to Lancaster, consult with **Ann Vileisis '89** and **Tiff Cunningham '89** on how to run for office, and receive amazing unexpected and generous support that helped us get the word out to the voters. We lost the vote 60/40, which was the same split as for Kamala in our area, but we won in so many other ways, not least of which was renewing old friendships around a shared cause. We were fortunate to have my mom with us much of the year and she was our best campaign worker. Toby's parents also came down to help out in the final days! As you can guess, I'm doing a lot more with local Dems to try to support other candidates and plan for the 2028 run. We even got a chance to see Tiff in Connecticut right before New Year's. My wife Beth Proffitt '89 (nee Hackman) is still a residential college dean at F&M, I'm still a middle school teacher at the Lancaster Friends School, Lauren is working at a folk school in Wisconsin and will work another short stint at the Pilchuck Glass School in Washington State, and Eddie Proffitt '26 is at Yale studying Global Affairs. (He's a FOOT Leader!)



**Ben & Betsy Sayler & their boys**



Trying to keep old age at bay by getting our steps. Keeping it interesting on Scotland's West Highland Way.



**1990**

**Eve Porter-Zuckerman:** To kick off the new year, I managed to get out on a great hike with my 11 year old son up a nearby mountain that's a quick, lovely climb! Both kids (9 and 11) are off to 4-7 week overnight camps this summer and they are loving outdoor everything - more at camp than at home, of course! Meanwhile, they keep on rock climbing and we're looking forward to more and more hikes as the weather allows. Nature, family, friends, reading, art, creative anything, pets... these are all so essential and fortifying when facing all the many challenges of today. I'm glad to share and celebrate FOOT's ever-growing community and remind each other we are here! If you're in the lakes region of New Hampshire, look me up! All the best to you all! Eve



**Stewart Moritz:** Maura and I hiked the 96-mile West Highland Way in Scotland over 8 days in June. No backpacking, though! We're too old for that nonsense, and instead stayed in inns along the way. Great trip. We're off to the Tour du Mont Blanc (105 miles) this summer!



**Michael Kahan:** We are doing well! Gabriella and I are still living in Mountain View, CA and teaching at Stanford, where I remain the co-director of the Program on Urban Studies. The big news is that we will be teaching together in Paris in the fall of 2025 - so I will once again be "en France pour le semestre" (Cilla's phrase explaining my absence when I was studying abroad in the spring of 1988!). When I'm not teaching, I'm playing guitar or harmonica or tennis, or brushing up on my French! Our older daughter, Eva, is in her second year at Georgetown Law School, where she is happily taking part in lawsuits against the current administration! And she is engaged to be married - after the bar exam in the summer of



2026! Our younger daughter, Frieda, will be starting a master's in crop science at NC State in Raleigh in the fall of 2025. We'd love to see anyone who comes through the Bay Area! Michael Co-Director, Program on Urban Studies, Senior Lecturer, Sociology, Stanford University, Cell: 650-417-5043, [mkahan@stanford.edu](mailto:mkahan@stanford.edu)

**Renny Gleason:** After 17 years in Portland, Oregon, Pam Lloyd and I moved back east to West Stockbridge, MA, where we've had a place since 2001 - now our year rounder! Older son Jasper graduates from Dartmouth this spring and will head to Boston for work, youngest son Rufus is a freshman at Syracuse U and loving his engineering program. It feels right to be back east - this may sound odd to some but the land and rock speak differently out here and it was nice to feel resonant again. Turns out I need granite in my life - who knew? If anyone finds themselves in the Berkshires or in need of a rest while headed east or west on I90, we are the last stop on MA before the NY border and FOOTies are welcome, just hit me on my mobile 917.439.3464 so we can make sure the bed is made.

**1991**

**Baker Mallory:** "A few years ago I ran into a FOOT group on the AT near Bear Mt on the CT/MA border during their August outing. I couldn't believe my luck. What were the chances?! Well,... this year I ran into TWO groups of FOOT adventurers on different stretches of that same AT hike. One of the leaders was Trex and Beth's son!



With a heavy heart I left my teaching job at the Eaglebrook School in MA, but I am planning to start again next year closer to home. In the meantime, Jody and I are architecting / landscaping again in Fairfield County, CT. and we're looking forward to our big 20th anniversary trip to WY this winter! Gus, Brad and Rose are 18,16,16. All are enjoying their boarding school experiences away from mom and dad. Best Wishes FOOT, Love, Baker



**Dara Kovel:** Just back from a trip to Cuba with my husband Robert. Coming on my 10 year anniversary at Beacon Communities, doing affordable housing work across the northeast and mid-Atlantic. Living in Brookline and empty nesters for the first time – both kids in college in LA: daughter Amelia a mechanical engineer junior at USC and son Cullen halfway through his first year at UCLA. Picture from our visit to Iceland last summer attached. Hope to see some of the Eastern MA folks soon.



**Diana Fischer Gomberg:** I can't believe how huge FOOT has become, truly a BIG FOOT! I'm doing well in Newton, MA and Becket, MA. I'm currently working with a group at Boston Children's Hospital on some international environmental public health research projects, though our funding is now threatened, of course. This (and next) year I am Co-President of my synagogue. I finally got to explore New Zealand this winter with my husband Richard (JE'91) and our outdoorsy kid. It was beautiful and strange, just as promised. We took terrific hikes in very diverse terrain. I spend my summer weekends in the Berkshires where I enjoy hikes and swimming by day, and great performing arts by night (including at the nearby Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival). Our kids are in their mid-20s, working and studying in Philadelphia. Drop me a line at [dfgomberg@gmail.com](mailto:dfgomberg@gmail.com)!



**Lisa Nelson:** Hi All, So great to have these updates. I'm still at CDC (for now), based in Washington DC after work in Atlanta, Mozambique (2006-12), Geneva (2012-15), and Uganda (2017-23). I've been doing global public health work, mostly in HIV, TB, and emerging infections (Ebola, etc.). I completed a one-year detail to the National Security Council (NSC) in December, so we enjoyed the perks of White House tours (see photo). My 3 amazing kids (Amre, who graduated from Yale in 2024), Adam (an engineering sophomore at Georgia Tech), and Brooke (a sophomore in high school), keep me grounded together with my amazing husband, Aaron Proman (also a Yale 91 grad, just never did FOOT). We do enjoy hiking and travel—wish we had time for more. Other photos are from a recent family trip to New Mexico. Probably best to follow up on my personal email ([Ljanenelson@yahoo.com](mailto:Ljanenelson@yahoo.com)), given all the changes in the federal government. I'd love to reconnect! Best wishes, **Lisa J. Nelson, MD MPH MSc**, Senior Advisor, Division of Global HIV and Tuberculosis (DGHT), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Email: [Lbn9@cdc.gov](mailto:Lbn9@cdc.gov), Work: (404)394-4058



**Cameron Brooks:** Hello all! I've been in Boulder, Colorado for the last 18+ years, along with my wife (Stephanie), daughter (Amaya) and son (Malachi). I lead a regulatory strategy and advisory firm that is focused on helping companies, government and advocates understand what is happening at the state public utility commissions that set the rules for the electric grid. Most of the work is focused on clean and distributed energy. Our daughter is finishing up her last year at St. Andrews in Scotland, studying internal relations and will likely stick around the area for a year or so after her graduation in June. Our son finished up high school in December a bit early so that he could work full-time on ski patrol and as a firefighter. We joke (darkly) that he's going into a growth industry and is signed up to be part of a helicopter fire crew this summer before heading to Montana to study fire ecology. He got a little notoriety this summer. While I was galavanting out of state to see the remnants of the Grateful Dead play, I awoke on father's day to an alert that my son had set off his emergency beacon. Thankfully, it wasn't for him, but he ended up helping out an injured skier in the backcountry:

<https://coloradosun.com/2024/06/21/two-teen-ski-patrollers-rescue-skier-in-colorado-couloir/>

We welcome visitors, so come out to the high, cold mountains where the air is clear and the winds don't blow so strange (which is, of course, not so true anymore because everything seems a little strange these days and the weather is definitely in that category).



**Milena Novy-Marx:** Hi all, I have been living in Rochester, NY for the past 14 years with my husband Robert and our family. I teach Sustainable Development and International Environmental Law at University of Rochester and am also International Technical Advisor for Education Development Center, a global NGO. We work in over 80 countries to support education and training for young people, and have recently launched the [Our World, Our Work](#) initiative, which aims to support 1 million young people to access green and blue jobs over the next decade. Our oldest, Ella, is a senior at Pomona College, our middle son, Roman, is a sophomore at Brown, and our youngest, Harlan (16) decided to spend his junior year of high school living with his aunt and cousin out in Oregon – I can't blame him! I have fond, fond memories of our FOOT trips and my fellow leaders and Footies. I am keeping up my outdoor adventures as much as possible and backpacked last July with my sister and our two sons in the Desolation Wilderness of California. Just this past week, our family went XC skiing in the Adirondacks – not far from one of the FOOT trips I helped lead. Sending my best to all, and please let us know if you ever come through Rochester! [mnovymarx@gmail.com](mailto:mnovymarx@gmail.com)

**Glenn Brody Magid:** Greetings and happy New Year, all!

**Josh Barkan:** I notice there is a nice group of us who live in the Boston area: **Glenn, Diana, Philippe, Karen O'Brien.** If I have missed anyone else living in Boston, let me know. I would love it if we could all meet up for a drink some evening. Hello to everyone! And if any of the rest of you pass through Boston, let me know so we can catch up. Take care, Josh

**Tali Ziv (aka Tali Zulman):** Hi everyone! I'm still in Berkeley without major personal news, which these days seems like a good thing. Our recent winter "adventure" was with my husband, Elad, to Sea Ranch, CA, our happy place, this time with our 3 kids and two significant others. Our older two kids live in Philadelphia and New York, so we are back and forth a lot. Loved reading last year's newsletter, I found 3 people I know from other circles with updates; I never realized they were FOOT alumni too! Small world. Warm regards from Berkeley, California [talaziv1@gmail.com](mailto:talaziv1@gmail.com).

**Chris Roberts:** Martha (19) is a sophomore at Temple University here in Philadelphia. She's majoring in Global Studies and minoring in Arabic and music. She is living in a studio apartment, cooking healthy meals, digging into the Newman Center, and doing well in her studies. Over the summer, she worked at Nutritional Development Services helping the Archdiocese of Philly deliver meals to poor kids. She is hoping to study in Oman this coming summer and Morocco in the fall. Ruth (16) is a junior at Martin Saints. In the summer she spent a week with the Capuchin Sisters of Nazareth, two weeks in wintery Chile visiting a friend, and worked at Fox Chase Farm in Philly where she clipped goat hooves, among other chores. Now she is thinking about college, which is hard, because she loves everything. Sarah (almost 14) is in her last year of homeschooling with mom and is chomping at the bit to get to high school. In May, she played Rosalind in *As You Like It*. The final show was performed in the rain. She also learned to hunt deer with a cross bow at a Philly national wildlife refuge. Our freezer is no longer stocked but we devoured venison back strap with chimichurri. Sarah got confirmed in April taking the name of Blessed Chiara Badano. Sarah, Martha, Button and mom then travelled to Chiara's hometown north of Genoa plus Rome and Venice, meeting up with Auntie Clare, Uncle Charles and cousins Olive & Pip. Miriam (10) also homeschools with mom. She has a lovely friend who lives across the street and they spend hours playing outside and inside. She has started walking one of the dogs in Sarah's dog walking empire, getting ready for next year when she will be Sarah's business heir. She just played first shepherd in a medieval mystery play with a live baby Jesus. A favorite line is her offering to Jesus: "have a bob of cherries!" Chris' high school Martin Saints moved to a new location in June. Although the commute is longer, the building is far better and the landlord far more supportive. We are up to 64 students and anticipating more students in the fall, including Sarah. Hannah directed *As You Like It* and *Second Shepherd's Play* this year and is gearing up for *Julius Caesar* in the spring. She also taught a Lenape Indian nature class, skinning a squirrel, firing foraged clay pots in fire, and making pawpaw seed necklaces. With lots of love, Hannah, Chris, Martha, Ruth, Sarah and Miriam



**Kate Hackett:** I transitioned recently from the Executive Director of Delaware Wild Lands to Managing Director of Lands for Ducks Unlimited, where I manage all aspects of our national land protection program, including legal, financial, risk, cashflow, and conservation components of our lands transactions. Additionally, I am responsible for growing our land protection program across the country. This includes partial relocation from Wilmington, DE to Memphis, TN where DU's headquarters is located. The area is vibrant in the arts and rich in history that I am re-learning...I

am also enjoying getting to know and paddling the mighty Mississippi River!  
 Two college age daughters, one who will graduate this spring from Franklin & Marshall College (Lancaster, PA) with double major in Environmental Science and Spanish and a sophomore at Marist University (Poughkeepsie, NY) who is pre-med. Both row crew and I can attest it is the WORST spectator sport!

**HEADLINES FROM THE MESSER-HACKETT HOUSEHOLD: 2024**

Nora, 19, Sophomore at Marist College, (Poughkeepsie, NY)



Enjoying sabbatical. Completed a 160-mile Collegiate loop on the Colorado Trail. Joined, at points, by cherished friends and family.



Reconnected with college friends, biking the Atlantic Coast of Ireland



Maddie, 22, Senior at Franklin & Marshall College (Lancaster, PA) during study abroad in Costa Rica



Wishing you good health and happiness in the coming year!  
 Love, Kent, Kate, Maddie, Nora



Warm water lobsters now fear these first-time lobster divers (Key West, FL)



Enjoying the Spectacles of the total eclipse and concurrent Star Wars celebration (Searcy, AR)




Zzzzzzzzz

**Eric Steadman:** Eric has returned to Bangor High and started his work as the sole department head. This fall he became the math teacher for the Multilingual Learners, all speaking different languages and from different countries. This brings many new challenges and rewards to his teaching. Most recently, Eric was awarded the opportunity to develop curriculum modules for the Maine Department of Education. He'll be working with colleagues across the state and will get to utilize more of the materials he developed over his sabbatical. Eric and Rita are finally getting used to the empty nest. Cuddy is at Brown and Sophia is at Vassar.



1993

**Julie (Goodrich) Barker:** I have had a great year of hiking, starting with long explorations of ravine park system in Toronto where my husband has a new job and culminating in an eight-day, 88-mile trek with friends in Patagonian Chile called the O-circuit. 2025 is shaping up to be a great hiking year as well—have a trip to Sperry Lodge in Glacier National Park booked as I've set a goal of staying at all the National Park lodges only accessible by foot. I still love hiking but am finding my body doesn't love tent camping as much as it once did. Professionally, I'm an independent consultant and executive coach. And I serve on the board of The Conservation Fund, a non-profit with a dual mission of conservation and economic development.

**Burch and Rachelle (Lyons)**

**LaPrade:** We managed to get all six of us together this year for a week in Maine with great hiking in Acadia. Otherwise, Burch and I have settled into life in rural Connecticut. Burch continues to run Gain Compliance, which makes software for insurance companies, and I work at Millbrook Equine. Abbott is a 1L at Harvard, Forrest graduated last May with a fellowship to write poetry for a year, Beckett is a junior at Bowdoin, and Kendrick is a high school senior at Taft.



1994

**Charlie Hale:** Hey dearest FOOT friends. We've had a lot of adventures this last year — skiing, some trekking, some sailing in the Pacific Northwest, and a lot of forestry fun. Our 15 yr old son Charles will do another trek this summer — this time NOLS in the Wind Rivers. Our 15 yr old daughter will be at camp in Maine. And we're not sure about our 6 yr old, who is currently telling his first-grade teachers he lost his front teeth in a bar fight. I'm still working hard on local news with Patch — not many of us left these days. Love to you all.



**Anne Weil:** Things in Colorado are going well. We love living here in beautiful weather and so close to outdoor activities. I've had to slow down a bit because of a joint issues, but my hip is getting reconstructed at the end of March, so I'm hoping to build back my hiking, camping and skiing activities after that! My company, Flax & Twine, is busy and growing. I find an incredible amount of joy building something significant that is based on my passion. I am scrambling up that entrepreneurial learning curve which is steep and just keeps coming. Kind of like climbing a mountain with no view, hahah. I'm trying to enjoy the process and make sure I have time for the passion part as well. My oldest, Charlie, is in Dublin for the year and loving it, then back to UChicago. Baillie, my second son, is at Wash U in St Louis wrapping up his Junior year with his eye on a PhD, and my daughter, Allie, has had a great freshman year at Tulane. So much fun to be had in New Orleans! Let us know if you're ever in our neck of the woods, Sandy (BK '93) and I would love to see you!

**Jay Ready:** I am happily crafting a self-employed career with a joint legal role in community development and a small development/neighborhood improvement company I started by its side ([www.themetroadliance.com](http://www.themetroadliance.com)). The MetroAlliance has a couple projects that are FOOT-worthy: a Harvey Conservation Corps, doing green AmeriCorps work in an inner-ring South Suburb of Chicago, and the Outerbelt thru-hike trail ([www.outerbelt.org](http://www.outerbelt.org)) around Chicago, which I have written about before with this letter. The Conservation Corps has begun doing trail work on the Outerbelt in earnest.

In my own free time, I have become enamored by a long-distance cycling pursuit called Randonneuring. The centerpiece is a quadrennial 750-mile ride called Paris-Brest-Paris, which I attempted in 2023 and am obsessed about finishing in 2027. Like FOOT, I realized that my love of the bike is about making friends, the physical and mental health benefits of being outside, and seeing the world. Life in the 50s has been a tough road but a good ride.

**Scott Walsh:** Scott recently gave a fantastic talk titled "We can't afford NOT to do it: The business case for sustainability." Scott is now head rowing coach at San Diego State University!

A plug for a new group that already includes several of our FOOT '94 compadres. We've had some fantastic speakers, most recently our very own Scott Walsh!: If you're curious, send a note to [yale94.climate.action@gmail.com](mailto:yale94.climate.action@gmail.com) to join our distribution list to learn more about opportunities to engage, whether through our monthly zoom meetings, reunion activities, quarterly events featuring 9Y4 thought leaders, activists, and change makers in the climate space, or whatever else we dream up next.

**Kathryn Guarini:** It's been >1.5 years since I left corporate life for greener pastures (or, at least, pastures that offer more flexibility and autonomy!). A highlight of this time has been spending more time with family, getting to take on some passion projects that I simply didn't have bandwidth for before, and teaching at Yale. Last fall I had the surreal pleasure of returning to campus (where it all began!) to teach an undergraduate engineering course (on disruptive technology and responsible innovation) and a SOM class (on crisis management in tech). It was a real joy to be back in New Haven! Our kids are growing up! We're proud parents, enjoying every new stage. Our oldest graduated college last spring and now is doing a master's degree to become a math teacher. Our middle child is a sophomore in college, loving living in a house off campus and heavily involved in student theater (we love coming to his shows!). Our youngest just started high school and is involved in everything -- baseball, jazz band, Boy Scouts, science research....you name it, he does it.....and our job is to drive him places and try to keep up! It's such fun!

Michael (SM94) is still teaching high school social studies, following New York sports, and is now (a somewhat reluctant) Scout Master. His mom passed away last December, after struggling with various health issues. We've been married 25 years and took a big family trip last summer to celebrate -- a Mediterranean cruise from Barcelona to Athens. Southern Europe is too hot and crowded in August, but we loved having the family all together! Love to all! Kathy

**Meg Wickwire:** Recently I've found myself thinking about my backpacking days more often. Something about distilling the days down to such simple components--cook, eat, hike, play Boppity Bop Bop Bop, hike, eat, repeat--it feels like a great reminder of how simply happiness can come. 2024 wasn't my favorite year--more intense health issues than usual for me, and my Mom, who had a slow-moving kind of Alzheimer's for years, declined more seriously. All this while navigating Bill's Parkinson's and parenting Penn through the college process and then the gap year decision. The resulting care burdens and general duties challenged me in ways I hope not to repeat any time soon. My Mom died in late January. I know many of you have been through similar losses. It still hits me in the gut, but thank heavens her final days were peaceful. I feel some relief at being able to turn my attention to remembering her well--her smart, sassy, badass moments, her affection, her humor. So much of recent years was filled with sadness at her fade and worry about her

comfort and safety. Penn is traveling in Tanzania for the next two months with NOLS. I hear from him every few weeks. Most recently, he regaled me with a story of a gecko falling on his head ("It nearly brained me, Mom!" he said.) and of slaughtering a goat ("We should really be aware of the killing part if we're going to eat meat, Mom." Wait--we? Not *me*, surely?!?). Clearly, it is already challenging him in new and interesting ways. Kinda like life in our 50's, no? All this, and I still get such joy out of YOU all and what we share from those formative years on the trail together. Take good care of yourselves, and here's hoping to see each of you soon! The pic is last year at Christmas. (I don't think I took a single picture of the five of us this year!) L-R, that's Evan, me, Penn, Bill, and Jon. Bill, who was heavily influenced by his depression-survivor, secretly-wealthy grandmother, abides by the "any tree is a good tree" Christmas aesthetic. I agree with the mantra, but I'm not sure I like its Christmas application!



1996

**Ivan Kerbel:** Our family of three (Wallace, 10, Beatrice, 7, and me, 35) abides, enjoying Seattle area goodness from our well-placed hobbit hole on Mercer Island. A highlight of 2024 was a trip to France to cheer on Team USA (and especially the men's and women's Olympic fencers) ... a huge treat to be in Paris during that magical, convivial time, and to visit and spend time with friends near and far, including the wonderful **Rachel Donadio '96**. Please look us up if you're ever in Seattle!

**Dan Filler:** Every year I have the intention of writing and every year my boundless capacity for procrastination wins out. Maybe the eclipse has changed my start chart or something this year... I am writing from just up the road in Bellingham, WA. My husband and I moved here five and a half years ago to be stuck between the mountains and the sea. Been such a great move. After spending the first forty-five years of my life in New England, I am still a bit amazed that we have a view of a snow-capped volcano out our front window! Hiking in the North Cascades brings us to mountain landscapes that make me laugh out loud in amazement. And time among giant old-growth trees is always awe-inspiring. I recently wrapped up twenty-four years of teaching. Most of that time was spent as a Montessori elementary teacher. For now, I am focusing full-time on my printmaking, mostly woodcut. We'll see how long I can pull it off before I have to look for a regular paycheck once again. FOOT was a true pivot point in my life. Ever since that first backpacking trip freshman year, my relationship with the land has been a central and guiding part of my life. So many decisions/events I trace back to my involvement with FOOT. I really have no idea what my life would look like if I had never signed up for FOOT more than three decades ago now. Warmly, Dan Filler

**Charles Park:** I'll be transitioning back to the U.S. this Fall after ten years of living and working in northern Malawi, where I fell in love with the Malawian people and even had two children of my own. After we graduated in 1996, I worked in a few jobs in politics and public interest law, studied piano at a music conservatory in southern Italy, then decided to become a general surgeon. After a post-bac pre medical program, medical school and residency, I worked as a

general surgeon in Boston for a few years before I left for Malawi, a small country in east Africa, in 2015 to head a global surgery program to increase surgical capacity in the northern part of that country through service, teaching, and bringing the involvement of several U.S. academic surgical departments. My life here has been everything I could have dreamed of when I embarked on a career as a surgeon. I've worked at Mzuzu Central Hospital, the government referral hospital with a catchment area of 2.5 million, where I've had to learn surgeries to manage everything from intracranial bleeding in trauma patients to congenital malformations in neonates, things outside the scope of typical general surgical training. I've trained over 40 local clinicians in a three year program who have gone on to become the primary surgical providers at their regional district hospitals, and had the joy of coaching over 50 senior surgical residents during their two month rotations here. My father has become more frail and I am sensing it is time to come back Stateside for now. I'll be returning with Kiran, 6 and Zohra, 4. Love to you all, Charles



**Liz Sitnick Balfour:** lives in San Diego, California with her husband, David Balfour '96 and children Sarah (15) and Mark (13). The Balfours had terrific travel experiences in 2024. They went on a safari tour of Tanzania in the summer to take in the beauty of the Serengeti and Ngorongoro crater and check out amazing animals. In December, they went to Argentina and spent time in Buenos Aires and in Patagonia. They explored the Valdez Peninsula, where they visited penguin colonies and enjoyed sightings of elephant seals and sea lions. The highlight of the trip was Mark's Bar Mitzvah at Mishkan synagogue in Buenos Aires, with a small group of family and friends in attendance. Liz is an equity partner at the law firm Sheppard Mullin. She celebrates her 25th anniversary of practicing law at the firm this year, where she is a business litigator and healthcare attorney. She won a trial that is the subject of an article in the December-January ABA Journal called "How We Won the Case." David is a partner in the law firm Buchalter where he represents healthcare providers in licensure defense and other proceedings. Liz and David volunteer in Mexico with a nonprofit that supports orphanages throughout Baja, called Genesis International Orphanage Foundation, for which David is the Chair of the Board. Liz serves on the Board of the Center for Employment Opportunities, a nonprofit that trains individuals recently released from prison and helps them find and keep jobs. In their free time, Liz and David hang out by the San Diego Bay, where David goes sailboat racing and Liz goes running. Sarah and Mark enjoy sailing, playing piano, performing on-stage and also doing backstage tech support for theater, and shooting hoops with friends. The Balfours plan to be in New Haven for the 30th Yale reunion.

**Elizabeth Balfour:** Here are a couple photos from our Africa trip that the FOOTies might enjoy.



From our son's Bar Mitzvah  
Yes, my daughter is about 5 inches taller than me!



**1997**

**Leah Angell:** Hello, everyone! Here is my news: I live with my husband and children in a very rural area forty-five minutes west of Richmond, Virginia, and yes, we do see lots of wildlife, even bears! My daughter is a sophomore at UVA, and my son is a junior in high school. I am the director of the teaching fellows' program at Collegiate School in Richmond, but I still get to teach one section of ninth- or tenth-grade English and serve as an advisor. Both children play ice hockey year round, so I spend a lot of weekend time traveling to their games and tournaments. Last summer we made a very FOOT-like journey to Hawk's Nest State Park and New River Gorge National Park & Reserve in West Virginia, both of which are spectacular. Best wishes to all of you!

**1998**

**Gretchen Boger:** I am in my second year as Dean of Academics at St. George's School in Rhode Island, still loving my oceanfront life with husband Tom, 19-year-old Edith (in school for wooden boatbuilding and restoration), 16-year-old Alice (sophomore at St. George's), and 380 other adolescents. Hugs, laughter, and courage to all.



**Matt Stibel:** Greetings from sunny South Florida! -The Stibel family looks forward to hiking some of the White Mountains this spring/summer.



**Chris Cayten:** Megan and I and our three kids still split our summers between Northern California and Squam Lake in New Hampshire getting the kids outdoors at camps that get them muddy and send them out into soaking wet tents on rainy canoe trips. Our best nature encounter was staying in a cabin next to wolves in Parc Omega in Quebec for Will's 14th birthday. Hope everyone is well! Chris (ES98), Megan (BK96), Caterina, Will and Chili.



**Elliot Blanchard:** The Blanchard family hiking in Switzerland (Lauterbrunnen Valley) this past summer. Hope all are well!

**Dona Tversky:** I can't recommend this trip enough. This is the Swiss-Italian border on the Tour Mont Blanc, where you can hike all day and snuggle in a Swiss chalet for a warm dinner and bed at night. Husband Eran is taking the picture (where he likes to be), and that is Alma (17) and Dalia (14) humbling their mother on the trail. No Yalie-sightings on the trail but the week before, we bumped into Virginia Davis (!) at Plum Village, a Buddhist Monastery that was warm up for hiking. We are still in downtown Silicon Valley, trying to stay sane. Wishing you all the best...



**Manuel Cordero Alverado:** Hello FOOT Family! Long time reader, second time contributor here - I always love these updates. Adrienne Gagnon ('97) and I are loving it in Providence, Rhode Island. We have a 13 year old (Lili) and a 16 year old (Mateo) and together we love to adventure outdoors in the Northeast. Our favorite type of is boat camping - finding rivers and lakes with campsites we can paddle to. I run a multi-disciplinary design office that does planning and community engagement on schools, urban design and resiliency projects. Adrienne is the Executive Director of DownCity Design, the community design organization we co-founded in 2009. I recently met up with a few other Yalies - Nic King, James Tong, **Alec Bemis** and **Francis Franze** (last two are FOOT alumni) - to see Seth Gordon's (FOOTie!) new Netflix movie premiere - Back In Action (check it out!). I hope you are all doing great!



1999

**Megan Campisi** ('99) and **Gates Hurand** ('00) are still in Brooklyn with kids Arthur (9) and Kiera (7). Megan makes theater and writes historical fiction novels ([megancampisi.com](http://megancampisi.com) for links) Gates works as an attorney for the Commodity Futures Trading Commission. Sending our love to the community!



**Andrew Bonney:** In February 2024 Andrew wrapped up 17 years running “commercial” for Hyannis-based Cape Air (which operates 97 aircraft across the Northeast, Caribbean and within Montana) to become chief operating officer, responsible for the safe, efficient and reliable operation of the airline’s 80,000 annual flights. As part of this change, after years of flight training and building flying experience, Andrew became a fully-qualified first officer. So, watch for him to be your pilot on your next flight to Nantucket or Martha’s Vineyard!



Andrew continues to serve as a reservist in the US Air Force as a Medical Service Corps Officer, helping to run Air Force medical

facilities.

Andrew and his wife Christina (both ES '99) live with their two high-schoolers in the quaint seaside town of Marion, MA, where they are active in the sailing community. Andrew sings in St. Gabriel’s Episcopal Church choir.



*Bonney family at Yale-Harvard 2024*

Thanks, Cilla for all you do to keep the FOOT community thriving! I am grateful to both FOOT and Yale for solid beginnings.

*Oh let us strive that ever we  
May let these words our watch-cry be  
Where're upon life seas we sail...*



2003

**Tony Anagnostou:** Greetings from Eureka, California, where my wife Charlotte and I are still plodding along in the redwoods, mostly swimming neck deep in medicine in this underserved area, but occasionally finding time for adventures. We had enjoyable jaunts among the trees and rivers of Humboldt County, and made it out to Chad, Namibia, Hawaii, and small town Texas to enjoy the ethereal eclipse. If you get a hankering for a Lost Coast redwood tour, we still have a guest room:)



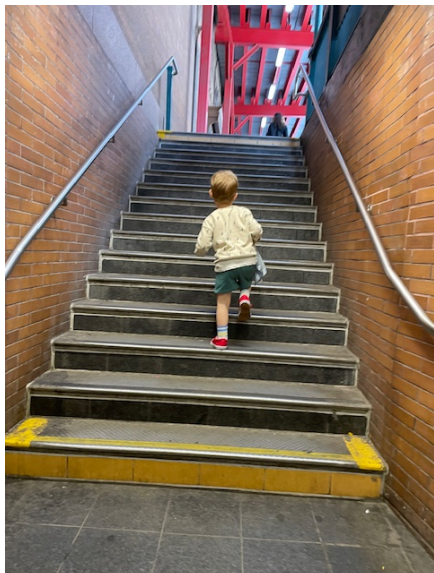
**Lauren Keane:** My family and I have spent the last year or so exploring the Pacific coast of Mexico on our 35-foot sailboat. We're headed to the South Pacific for the spring and summer to close out our two-year adventure before we head back to life in San Francisco in the fall. We've gotten better at fishing and I'm getting better at filleting them while balancing awkwardly on the back deck of a rolling boat. Otherwise, I am a boatschool teacher, ocean navigator, snorkel instructor, shelf-stable meal creator (thanks, FOOT FOOD!), Spanish interpreter, creature identifier, and whatever else the adventures of the day require. FOOT prepared me for all of these off-grid adventures and more. I'm grateful to be sharing them with my kids.



**Alex Milsom:** I'm an English professor at a CUNY college in the South Bronx called Hostos Community College where I started an Outdoors Club. I take students to parks around NYC to look at birds and trees and to eat snacks. The students refer to these trips as "death marches." I'm including a photo I took with the club's president and vice president at Central Park's "oldest planted tree," a London plane tree located north of the Reservoir. It was planted sometime in the 1860s, around when Central Park was forcibly established atop Seneca Village. I'm also really into birding now, as is former FOOT leader **Josh Berezin** ('01). We force our respective families to go with us on birding trips. The photo I'm attaching is of the two of us on one of Cape May's famous birding platforms which we visited during fall migration last year. It happened to be a day when the yellow-rumped warblers were passing through - we saw hundreds! I continue to aspire to create a backpacking program for my students at Hostos that resembles FOOT - I'm committed to finding a way to tap into my dormant knowledge of tarpitecture, goofball knots, and bear bags! I will keep folks posted on that effort, and if anyone ever wants to visit or join me on a "death march" with my students in the city, just send me a note! Love, Alex



**Ben Schrader:** What up friends—hope everyone out there is spending QT with family and just generally finding meaningful things to spend time on these days. Had a pretty good 2024 here in Nashville: we wrapped up renovations on our house and have settled into the quirky artist’s enclave of East Nashville, hopefully for a long time to come. On the nature/travel front, I ran the Nashville marathon this year (my fourth, although my first time running the full in Nashville); hiked the semi-famous Fiery Gizzard trail with fellow ‘03er **Dan Stein**; took the kids to NYC (I snapped a pic of our oldest’s first steps in NYC, see below); and tried to get in some good hiking in the large-ish park not too far from our house. The first 10 months were, uh, better than the last two, but we’re making it. Hope everyone out there is doing great!



**Julie Stein:** Hey FOOT! The big news in our family is that we're moving to Minneapolis this summer! We've been in DC for over a decade and are excited to slow things down a bit and raise our kids alongside their cousins. Are there any FOOTies in the Twin Cities? If so, I'd love to connect - please reach out! Now that our boys are a bit older - Isaiah is 6.5 and Asher is 5 - we've been doing lots of hiking and camping in Maryland, West Virginia, and Pennsylvania. One of our favorites was a Halloween camping trip where the kids ran wild, Trick or Treating from campsite to campsite. It turns out there's nothing quite like trekking through the fall woods at night with a very scary Darth Vader and a very cute cheetah! Sending lots of love, Julie



**Marc Silverman:** Marc Silverman writes that it was a busy 2024. The highlight was a trip with his kids to Costa Rica, filled with stunning views, fun adventures, and amazing animal sightings. He continues to plug along at the US Attorney's Office in Connecticut and recently moved into a new house, right on a lake.

**Sasha Waring:** Life in Seattle continues to be a packed thrill. Soccer, ultimate and lacrosse for our three boys keep us constantly moving. I sadly need to get a hip replacement in May (early arthritis came for me) but I'm excited this will mean many more years of pain-free biking, hiking, climbing, skiing and other outdoor pursuits. Fellow FOOTies please hit us up if you make it up to the great PNW and want to hang out.

## 2005

FOOT 2005 does not have any updates this year. You can say we are all out in the woods!  
I hope you are well. Best, **Carrie Coughlin**

## 2006

**Aaron Zelinsky:** After 10 years at DOJ, Aaron Zelinsky resigned just prior to Trump's inauguration. The upside was that he spent the early days of the Trump Administration off and skiing with his kids at some of the local mid-Atlantic hills that are not too far from Baltimore. He checks the trail maps often before skiing down to avoid a repeat of FOOT 2005!

## 2008

**Bevan Dowd Avery:** We're currently living in San Diego and trying to make the best of the sun, beaches, and perfect-for-hiking temperatures. I'm still a lawyer at Google, and my husband Lane continues to do his thing in the Marine Corps. Our son, Clarke, is 4 years old, and we are expecting another tiny human due to be born in June '25. We appreciate all tips on how to survive parenthood with two kids and two full time careers.  
Last April, we hosted **Peter Bull**, and last June, **Angel Hertslet** and I got together with our kids to enjoy a week in Colorado. FOOT leaders make everything better!



**Beau Babst:** I'm living in SF with my wife, Jessica, and 2 kids, Bear and Lilian. We just got a little playhouse in the backyard so we're making a lot of cracker soup in the new outdoor play kitchen (FOOT FOOD 4 LIFE). Life is generally hectic but wonderful -- chasing 2 little ones around while juggling work is all we do and its pretty perfect. Come visit!



**Molly Brett:** We are still loving life in Colorado! We live in a small town outside Boulder. I'm a primary care doc at the VA (fingers crossed my job survives all this) and have two girls, ages 5 and 3. Last summer's camping tally was 30+ nights (!! ) so here's to exceeding that in 2025!



**Anna Dechert:** Hello from Tunbridge, VT! I'm living my best life as a sheep farmer in central VT (with a pesky 9-5 on the side). We have a little flock of Icelandic sheep and our ewes are having their first lambs this spring! Blueberry - our first animal born on the farm - arrived in March and we're continuing to learn all about flock management and all the things. You can follow along on Insta at @fiddleheadfarmvt for cute lamb content. Our land is open for camping guests (and if you're nice we may even let you indoors) - note that the renowned Tunbridge World's Fair takes place Sept 11-14, 2025.



**Anna Gray:** 2024 was another year of London living and working (I'm still at EY-Parthenon focused on the education sector), and lots of travel - this time with a toddler as Rosie turned 2 last July. We managed to get to Mauritius for beach time, northern Michigan for summer lake time and all-weather holidays in Cornwall and the Scottish Highlands squeezing the last drops out of our hiking backpack as 'containment' is no longer a viable toddler strategy. Rosie is eagerly awaiting the arrival of her baby brother who is due in early May. Life continues on at a rapid pace!

**Pat Grimm:** We are still in Augusta, GA. Two children: Clara, 3 years old; Miles 11 months. Enjoying this phase of life - mostly :) I am practicing at Eisenhower Army Medical Center and Medical College of Georgia, orthopaedic foot and ankle surgery. Would be delighted to host anyone making their way through this part of the country. Best to all!



**Angel Hertslet:** Two future FOOT leaders hanging out in Oakland; not pictured are moms **Robin Pearce** '07 and **Angel Hertslet** '08.

**Annie Hirschhorn:** My husband, Evan, and I live in Silver Spring, MD, just outside DC. We do park playdates with my FOOT co-leader John Vinson and his daughter, which is so fun! My daughter, Lena, is six and in kindergarten and my son, Miles, is three and in his first year of preschool. We just took a family trip so actually have a recent, semi-decent photo of the four of us below!

Lena and I will do our third camping trip this summer- she loves it, which brings my FOOT leader heart great joy. I am a leader of her Girl Scout troop, so this summer's trip is their annual Encampment event. I can't wait to tie knots and build fires. Next year I believe the girls get to start hatchet throwing—only slingshots is allowed in Kindergarten 😊

I continue to run my coaching business. Evan coaches a boys' club keeping our house and Greg Lipstein and Laura us in last winter when Denver. We always so please anyone drop a



professional home organizing business. Evan soccer team and does the sainted jobs of kids in (relative) order.

Chandhok and their three wonderful girls took we ended up with an unexpected overnight in love seeing them and any other FOOT friends, line if you come through DC!

**Andrew Karlin:** I am engaged to be married, and we are moving from Raleigh-Durham to Philadelphia this year. My fiancé, Kate, is finishing her third year in medical residency at Duke and beginning at Penn for her medical fellowship. I am still doing life science services M&A advisory.

**Greg Lipstein & Laura Chandhok:**

Still out in Denver, wild and free  
With our litter of girls, 8, 6 and 3,  
We're getting older but can still get down  
We'd love to see you if you're ever in town



**Alice Baumgartner:** I live in LA and teach in the History Department at the University of Southern California. I try to get up to the Eastern Sierra as much as possible to ski, scramble, and trail run. Coming from a family of indoorspeople, I'm so grateful to FOOT for introducing me to camping and backpacking, which has become such an important part of my life. Give me a shout if you're ever in the area!

**Eli Bildner:** Hi 2010 FOOT people! I love that these updates continue now 15 years on — huge shoutout to Libbey for carrying us all these years. And while it's not quite mountain adventuring, it's been really fun working alongside Libbey at Guild now three years or so on. On the home front, still living in El Cerrito, CA with my roommates Astrid (also known as my wife), Ayla (4-year-old daughter, who actually does sleep on a floor bed in our room), and Shai (2-year-old son). And we've been fortunate to host a number of FOOT leaders over the past year, including Tully and Lili ('11), Craig Minoff ('10), and others I'm surely forgetting (see 4-year-old and 2-year-old). Not so many mountains this year, but we did manage to car camp for the first time with both kids, and they loved it (even if Shai did try to push Ayla into the fire at least twice). Hoping for more nights outside in 2025. Love all around.



**Doug Endrizzi:** The WHAM experiment I've been part of since 2021 officially made its first plasma July 15th, 2024! The two 17 Tesla high temperature superconducting (HTS) magnets that are the heart of the machine have been operating almost continuously since then, setting records each day for the longest an un-insulated HTS magnet has gone without quenching. We've been using those to trap fusion plasmas in the region between, making a "fusion mirror", and furiously trying to collect data before the magnets go kaput. This past year has been the busiest of my life, but thanks to good friends I've still managed to travel a bit and explored the Grand Tetons last fall. And I became an uncle, which has been the highest reward to effort ratio of anything ever. Highly recommend.

**Leslie Golden:** Hi FOOT! My biggest update since my last check in is that I got married! Last summer while Matt (aforementioned husband) was deployed I hiked the Tour de Mont Blanc which was an incredible experience I cannot recommend highly enough. I did the 112 mile trek in 7 days of hut to hut hiking and am completely enamored with the civilized European hiking vibe. The Haute Route and Dolomites are next on my list. Domestically, we are still living in Northern Virginia and get out to the AT when the weather is nice. Our dog, Kona, joins us and loves it. I am so excited to see many of you at reunion in the spring!

**Matt Lacasse:** Lizzi and I launched a new business this year - [E+PATROL](#) may be the perfect FOOT food :-). Hope all is well!

**Craig Minoff:** 2024 is in the books and what a year it was! It kicked off with a bang, spending a delightful month in Frisco, CO with a rotating cast of friends for all varieties of skiing. The year was punctuated by meetups with the Settlers crew in Park City (**Dan Schechner '10**, **Jasper Frank '10**, **Brian Boyle '10** and **Dan Schechner '10** + **Zack Abrahamson '10** in spirit) for mountain biking and more, a Hudson river run with **Thomas Smyth '12**, a Denver bop about with **Eli Bildner '10**, and delicious smoked meats by **Thomas Meyer '11**. Wedding prep is well underway with a camp-style wedding scheduled for this June in Glacier National Park. In the meantime, life continues happily in Cambridge, MA. Let me know if you are ever in the area!



**Dan Schechner:** Making up for lost time with this update—I now live in Miami (not much in the way of mountains) with three kids, the youngest born last November. Definitely a change of pace from Manhattan with no kids only a few years ago. Unfortunately not traveling as much with 3 under 5, but still manage to hang with Zack Abrahamson, Tom Schnitzer, Craig Minoff, Jasper Frank, and Brian Boyle a few times a year. I welcome any and all FOOT visits for some delicious tropical fruit milkshakes and/or Cuban food — most recently I saw the kaboom '11 boys (Tully, Elliot, TMeyer, Dennis, and Yuri) while they were visiting for a wedding. Dale!

**Tom Schnitzer:** I am living in Jacksonville FL with my wife Kristina and our kids Jackson (4) and Cassidy (1). Not a lot of mountains in Florida so our outdoor time focuses on enjoying the beach and exploring salt marshes. Last year I did make it to Big Sky MT for a few days of skiing and to Park City UT for a catch up with **Dan Schechner, Jasper Frank, Craig Minoff, and Brian Boyle**. We've also kicked off a family challenge to visit all the continental national parks together. So far we've seen Yosemite and Acadia with Glacier up next. For work I am deep into the world of e-commerce and my current role is to help large consumer brands manage their presence on Amazon and other marketplaces.



**Rebecca Summer:** I'm still living in Portland, Oregon, where I'm a professor at Portland State University and am still loving it. We welcomed our son, Jed, in July, and he joined big brother Dean (3.5). Life is good despite upheavals, especially in the foreign aid sector where my husband works. Among the many bright spots of 2024 was getting to see **Rana** in DC with her new little one (see photo).

## 2011

**Chris Lash:** The vibes in DC aren't quite as warm as they were a year ago, but we are persevering. Hope you all are enjoying 2025 so far. Best update from my year by far: I got married in November to the wonderful **Adri Ortiz (FOOTie '13)** in November. The event was thick with FOOT leaders, including but not limited to the motley crew pictured below. Adri and I then spent a few days hiking in Costa Rica. First jungle experience for me - would recommend! Please reach out if you live in DC or are visiting for any reason - 508 404 4208.



**Chelsea Willett:** I am quickly wrapping up my time in Austria and planning for a return to the USA, exact location TBD! Recent highlights include riding my bike from one world capital to another (Vienna to Bratislava - honestly not too bad), checking out less-visited places like Chişinău, Moldova, and becoming a “movie person.” Hope to see many FOOT faces when I’m back stateside!

**Dounia Bredes:** Putting down roots in Lil’ Rhody. We’ve started raised-bed gardens and we’re installing two beehives this year. (I’m taking a class on beekeeping at Rhode Island College and my husband likes to tell everyone I’m in B(ee) School...ha.) Kiddo is 18 months old and zooming around. Come visit! We have a guest room now. # 802-274-0150



**Christopher Magoon:** We are enjoying a very full life in Cambridge, MA. The kiddos are 2 and 4. Our dog is much happier to join for adventures now that we rock a minivan. I'm enjoying working as a psychiatrist in the emergency department and in private practice, as well as researching grief/bereavement. Wishing everyone a warm and happy year to come—please reach out if you're around!

**Steph Marton:** All is well here in Boston. We just welcomed our third baby, Jude, and moved to a (slightly) more spacious spot in the Seaport. I'm enjoying a long maternity leave from my consulting gig, while husband (Collin) is pounding the pavement with his financial technology start-up. We've been making the most of the local trails, taking the kids out hiking whenever we can, and I still catch up with the nearby footies often! If you're ever in Boston, let me know! (312.783.3167)



**2012**

**Alejandro Torres:** Snow in Atlanta! We had fun, but it melted in 2 days — much better than those New Haven winters. We have been blessed to see fellow Yalies this past year (including fellow FOOT alumnus Dacie and her strapping husband, Dennis Meng, plus their 2 boys)



**Mia Yabut Wiese:** FOOT FAM! Greetings from Brooklyn Heights with our wild crew of 5 (humans) + 1 pup. Jamie (5) and Rafa (3) helped us welcome baby girl(!) Amalia this fall and as soon as she secured her shots and passport, we all traveled to Whistler to enjoy some mountain air. I've loved seeing some of you + your littles in BK and welcome anyone who wants to walk / chill / playdate with us!



**Jonathan Martin:** Carrie (FOOT '11) and I send our love from Denver. Work is much the same as last year, but 2024 was still eventful. We took a weeklong trip to Western Massachusetts with my college roommates and our families (including Jack Bisceglia and 10 toddlers/infants). Callum started preschool, and we celebrated my parents' and in-laws' 40th wedding anniversaries in Kauai. If you're ever in Denver, we'd love to see you. Jon, Carrie, Callum & Norah x





**Lepi Jha Fishman:** Eddie and I are still in NYC, raising our two kiddos Ibha (girl, 3) and Ayan (boy, 1). Our highlight this year was hiking with Ibha and Ayan along the many twists and turns of Acadia National Park, a favorite of ours since Eddie and I were both kids. Lepi's dad joined too and it was an indelible intergenerational experience that we feel very lucky to have enjoyed! Now back in the concrete jungle, please drop us a line if you are in the West Village -- our very exciting offer of a West Side Highway hike still stands! Most excitingly for our family, Eddie's book *Chokepoints* is coming out in February 2025: <https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/0593712978>. We'll be traveling as a family to celebrate Eddie's book tour, please let us know if you are in DC, LA, SF, or NYC -- we would love the chance to see you.



**Catherine Osborn:** I and my partner Marco, who are usually to be found in Brazil, got married in my grandparents' backyard in Austin! Sending our love to FOOT friends and let us know if you are ever in Rio!



**Ari Berkowitz:** *Hi all! I'm still in LA, with my wonderful fiancé (that's new!) and my asshole dog (that's old!). I'm currently writing a on the old show for ABC Studios about know anyone who works PLEASE HELP ME CALLS). And I just Outside of writing, I've watching women's see a WNBA game with country, hit me up! This after Will's proposal recreate the moment!*



*movie for Nickelodeon based "Double Dare," and a script the US Postal Service (if you in the Dead Letter Office THEY WON'T RETURN MY finished my first novel! gotten very into playing and basketball, so if you wanna me literally anywhere in the photo is from 20 minutes when a stranger made him*

**Jack Bisceglia:** Hey gang! We capped the year with an extra special Thanksgiving with the arrival of our son Teddy! He shares



an illustrious birthday with legendary FOOT alums Pete Croughan, Travis Ing, and Will O'Shaughnessy. Ginny just turned 3 and is taking her big sister duties very seriously. Come and see us in Richmond if you're cruising down the east coast! Love, Jack, Dibya, Ginny, and Teddy.



**Keith Rubin:** Hi Foot Fam! I miss you all and I love seeing your updates! On my end, 2024 brought a lot of travel for shows, including to Washington, DC, and North Carolina, where I got to work with my wife and get in some real good hiking (see photo). I also had one of my plays produced in NYC for the first time, which was very exciting. If you're ever in the Big Apple, let me know and we'll hang out! Much love, and wishing everyone a fantastic year ahead.



**Raffi Friedman:** Hi FOOT! Luca and I just rounded out our second year in Madison, WI, and, with slight alarm, I can report a Midwest accent creeping in... Ope! This year's roses include Misha the pup, backpacking in the sierras for two weeks with my sister (Ali, FOOT '14!), and exploring Germany's castles, Greece's beaches, and Italy's mountains. My small thorn (there are always bigger ones, but this is a cheerful newsletter!)... is splurging for a snow blower this fall when we've only had one big snowfall. At least the lakes are clear for skating. As for buds... after two years teaching at the law school and litigating immigration removal cases and federal criminal appeals, I'm pivoting to serve as legal counsel to the Governor of Wisconsin. Should be a wild ride. If you're ever in Madison, come through. We'll treat you to Luca's pizza, squeaky cheese curds, long country bike rides, and tranquil lake life. Maybe Joe Schottenfeld (FOOT '12) will join, too. :)



[Luca <3 at our home with Misha the pup <3]

[High Sierras with Ali and my brother-in-law!]

[Lake Monona in Madison]



**Peter Wiczynski:** 2024 was a year full of change and excitement. Jill and I got engaged, we moved to DC from CO, then I switched jobs and we moved back to CO (we are splitting our time for the foreseeable future). After a few years of incredibly fulfilling academic work at Palantir modernizing and designing the company's ontology system, I hung up my track jacket and went back to digital cartography, joining a satellite company called Maxar after they were taken over by a PE fund. It's been extremely fun trying to learn how space works and seeing how my 12 years of work experience in a highly-idiosyncratic corporate culture translates into the generic business world. If you're ever looking to build a map or if you just want to geek out about ontologies or cybernetics, hit me up!

**Angie Ramirez:** Hi FOOT fam! 2024 was a wild ride—the biggest highlight? I got married! 🎉 In July, Moritz (a German engineer I met in Medellín, Colombia back in 2020) and I tied the knot in a 1,000-year-old castle on a hilltop in Waldeck, Germany. It was a fairytale weekend filled with love, laughter, and friends from 15 different countries—we're

still in awe that so many people traveled across the world to celebrate with us!



NYC is still home, where we live in an apartment full of light and a tiny herb garden. We both work from home, meaning

we struggle to exercise but excel at coffee consumption (perks of two engineers under one roof!). This past year we fully embraced the nomadic life—we gave up our apartment for 6 months and traveled to Colombia for my bachelorette, Seattle, Oakland, Albania for our honeymoon, Italy, Iceland, and, of course, many times to Germany to visit family. While we have loved the adventure, we're looking forward to staying put (a little) more this year. If you're in NYC, come say hi! We'd love to catch up, share a meal, or just nerd out about life.



**Nate Taylor:** My longtime loves of Rhode Island, Ultimate, and facial hair collided last Memorial Day in Madison, Wisconsin, site of ‘Stachionals, as our players affectionately dubbed the 2024 College Championships. Brown returned to Providence with the trophy and rather less mustache wax. Leaving the building industry in summer ‘23 to pursue coaching and “making house” afforded me time in ‘24 for an interior decorating project (spurred by a movie filmed chez nous), a dalliance with Marie Kondo’s The Lifechanging Magic of Tidying Up, and lately physical and emotional preparation for an infant. Emily and I expect to meet them by mid-March.



**Snigdha Sur:** Just got married this past weekend (February 15)! To another Yalie (Morse '08). It was lovely :)



**Dacie Meng:** Hi hi - Still in Chevy Chase with Dennis, the kiddos (3yo Thatcher and 1yo Walden), and the pup (7yo Kobe). Trying to hold on to our sanity as best we can - getting outside, going on adventures, seeing friends, and keeping up the fight. Don't be a stranger - we need each other now more than ever. Love, Dacie

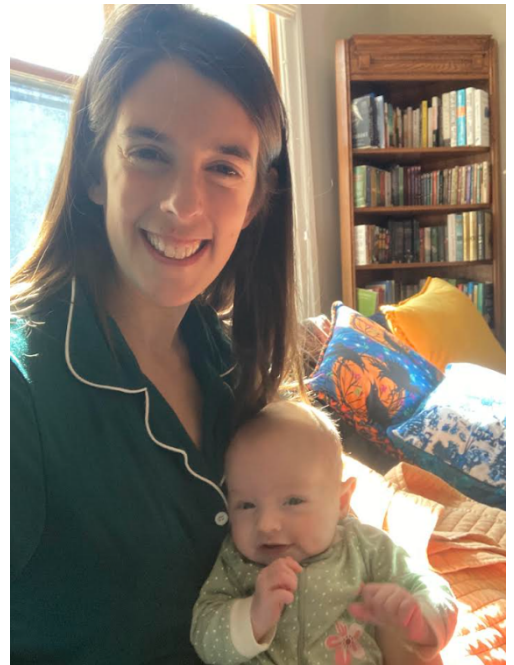


2013

**Bay Gross:** While many a cheap US political pundit has threatened to flee to Europe, Bay has fully committed to the bit. Find him married in London and expecting a little backpacker in April.



**Cody McCoy:** This year, our baby girl Artemis entered the world on 12/12/2024!!!!!!!!!!!!!! We live in Chicago with our dog Beam, and we are so excited to see Stephanie Rivkin and her family in just a few short weeks. I took a few adventures in 2024 with my trusty FOOT t-shirts: in Palau, I finally spotted the elusive Biib (an endemic rainbow dove) after days of searching; in Texas, I experienced pure transcendence with the total solar eclipse in April. I hope to see many of you wonderful folks this year! FLUV



**Hannah Slater:** These days I'm spending a lot of time working on negotiating the first union contract for Planned Parenthood Northern California, where I'm an RN and a member of our bargaining team. I'm also all in on my latest hobby: queer country line dancing. I finished hiking the Bay Area Ridge Trail in 2024 and I'm still working on the PCT in sections every summer. FLUV to all!



**Helen McCreary (Corkum):** I've got two little ones now, James and Evelyn, and they're keeping my husband and me very busy! If you're ever in the Columbus area, give me a shout :)

**Jimmy Murphy:** I had a good year! I finished fellowship and finally have a real adult attending doctor job which is much better than the preceding 10 years of medical training. That boyfriend I mentioned last year continues to be amazing and is now my fiancé and makes me happy every single day. I'm also going



"glamping" in May and excited to get back out in nature. FLUV to all <3



**Max de La Bruyère** is a #GirlDad. You can see four years of May training experience in his superb gear-loading form, pictured. He lives happily in Denver with Mikayla Thompson (class of 2015, known for doing her freshman year FOOT trip in a boot), and continues to invest in strip malls and karaoke studios.





**Nate Zelinsky:** FOOTies everywhere are devastated to hear that Zelinsky is finally and officially off the market, married to Edyt Dickstein in DC. As a self-described 'legal thoroughbred' his highlight of this coming year will be arguing orally for SCOTUS.

**Ric Caraballo:** I'm still in SF after moving back from Austin just over a year ago, and it's been a fun return to the Bay! I discovered salsa macha (Mexican chili oil that I'm definitely addicted to) and recently got am trying to get into rollerblading around parks. Highlight of the past 12 months though was getting to spend a week hiking around Torres del Paine National Park in Patagonia and seeing a puma stalk a pack of guanacos (Patagonia's llama cousins). Hope everyone is doing well!



**Stephanie Rivkin:** Hi friends! As always, I can't believe it's been another year! Our biggest change came with the arrival of our daughter Jackson (7 months) who joined us in August of 2024, making Cooper (2.5 years) an adorable big brother (and Dusty (4 years) an even bigger brother). I'm still at Google - going on 8 years - and we're enjoying travel whenever we are able to. We recently had the pleasure of seeing fellow leaders **Bobby Dresser** and **Kat Lau** in

Mexico City, and we're looking forward to seeing **Cody McCoy** in her new Chicago home soon.



2014

**Natalie Akers:** I recently moved to Bellingham, WA and am affianced to a bulldog. No dog dogs, yet. I work at a community college up here and love nerding out about (vocational) education. 2024 highlights: talking to Ariel, sitting in silence, hot tub boats. Keep up your lovely work, please, so I can continue to brag about my historic proximity to you :) For co-exploring North Cascades and more: [nakers54@gmail.com](mailto:nakers54@gmail.com)!

**David Cruz:** My daughter Lucia was born in February 2025! Erin and I are over the moon about starting a family. Otherwise, I'm still working at the City of Austin in affordable housing and organizing with my union. We will be spending a bit more time in New Haven in the coming years as my sister will be pursuing a graduate degree at Yale.

Drop me a line if you're passing through! I've even babysat for FOOT visitors in the past.



**Amy Durkin-Napleton:** 2024 was great for me! My wife Abigail and I got married and spent a honeymoon in France and the Dolomites (which had a bit more type 2 fun than we bargained for— I strongly recommend not backpacking there in early summer). I will be wrapping up my residency in family medicine this year and we plan to stick around Chicago forever, so please reach out if you are in town!



**Amelia Earnest:** Hi FOOT friends! 2024 was a great one. Settled into our new spot in Park Slope, hosted some lovely visitors and celebrations, and made time for some big outdoor adventures. Our top trip: an amazing 10 day, hut-to-hut hike on the Via Alta in the Dolomites. Beautiful vistas by day and gnocchi by fireside at night! It's no four-day old sweaty pack cheese, but we cannot fully reprise the FOOT days I suppose :). Our other big adventure - Raahul and I are expecting a baby boy in February! We are very excited, and I will be exceptionally free on maternity leave March - July if anyone in the Brooklyn area is down for some weekday hangs. So enjoyed seeing some of you at the 2014 reunion -- please let me know if any of you are swinging through Brooklyn sometime soon (or maybe even already living here? -- as I seem to find FOOTies wherever I go!)



**Sarah Grace:** Michael, Simeon, baby #2 (due in August) and I are still in Watertown, MA. I still serve in ministry with Athletes in Action, I still love being a mama and don't take it for granted, I'm still trying to teach my boy Spanish even though I'm not fully fluent, and I still find the winter pretty rough. Michael and I are celebrating 8 years of marriage, and we love Saturday mornings for hanging with family. Simmie is my sous-chef all the time, and I cherish the quotidian precious moments. We've got big questions about where we want to settle for the long haul, what life and ministry will look like with two, and things like that, but we are grateful to be a team and to trust in a God bigger than ourselves and our wisdom. We've got space for visitors til August if you're stopping through!



**Amanda Hall:** I'm still living in the UK with my husband and at the same academic job, teaching and researching about terrorism and political violence. We left London last summer to move to the suburbs in Reading, which puts us closer to both my office and the countryside. My first book - *Strained Peace: Northern Ireland from Good Friday to Brexit* - came out in October. Please get in touch if you're ever in England!



**Tao Tao Holmes:** Rang in the new year with **Kevin Kirk '15** and **Kieran Dahl '14** in El Chalten, Argentina. Some epic day hikes, a couple nights of camping, some glaciers, some cold plunges, lots of farting. We then headed to Rio for a heavy dose of fresh fruit and fut-volei on the beach. A grand adventure all around.

**Jake Keaney:** Hi friends! Got engaged this past summer, and will be moving from NYC to Boston this upcoming summer. Reach out if you're in Boston or passing through! Much love to all of you.



**Isaiah Lyons-Galante:** Hello FOOT! I'm in my 3rd year now in Boulder, CO and I decided to double down on Boulder and grad school with a PhD in Environmental Studies! I'm researching ways to use big geospatial data to study changing populations and landscapes in hard to reach areas. It was a tough decision to make on whether or not to do the program but I really love my research group and I feel quite connected to the mission. I got engaged last year to my partner Charlotte and we'll be having a celebration this summer in her hometown in rural France with a bunch of friends and family that I'm very stoked for. It's gonna be funky and weird and a jolly good time. I had a blast doing an oomgala at our 10-year reunion last year (video evidence: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/o7ApvkJJxvBtxNUL7>) and I would be oh so thrilled to host any FOOTies passing through the Front Range of Colorado, so hit me up! Same # from college :) Fluv, Isaiah



**Sophie Nethercut:** Hi beautiful FOOT fam!

After spending the last four years bouncing between Anchorage, Seattle, and rural Alaska for medical school, I'm nearing the end of my nomadic academic existence and am about to find out where I'll be for psychiatry residency for the next 4+ years. I'm 99% sure I'll be in the Bay Area (hopefully living my best beach life in Pacifica) so if you're around I would obviously be so tickled to see you! Also shoutout to **Diana Saverin, David Carel, Ira Slomski-Pritz, and Will Kronick** for making my last decade in Alaska extra magical 🌟



**Ericka Saracho:** After a year-long break from rugby to focus on [Bright Raven Studio](#) (a joint pottery/candle business with my partner Gabriela De Jesus YC'15) I focused on 6 months of physical therapy to play in the D2 fall season with New Haven Womens+ Rugby. Yes, I'm still in New Haven! Yes, I'm still playing rugby?! lol. Also, I'm still at Yale, but on the employed side of things for the past 5 years or so, my focus is on assisting researchers at YSE with applying to federal grants, for now... Outside of work, pottery, and rugby, I'm just chilling at home, taking too many pics with my cats, reading cozy fantasy books with a cup of tea, or watching anime. Hit me up if you find yourself passing through the Elm City and wanna sling a pot, just as long as you don't make a "Ghost" joke

>.< [saracho.ericka@gmail.com](mailto:saracho.ericka@gmail.com)



**Joel Circus:** Joel and his co-leader for life, **Stephanie Rivkin** ('13) welcomed their second kid, Jackson, into the world. Jackson's older brother Cooper has been playing support crew to varying levels of success, but the two of them are keeping us plenty busy in Chicago. Cilla never told Joel that being a FOOT leader would be such good training for being a parent, but he has learned there is a lot of overlap in the requisite skill set: keeping people warm, encouraging folks to finish all of their food, exploring new and exciting places to take and clean up poop - the list goes on. Although a lot has changed this past year, one constant holds true - Joel beat **Ric Best** ('14) in fantasy football yet again.



**Ira Slomski-Pritz:** Last fall a fin whale washed up on shore about 10 minutes from my house in Anchorage. While a lot remained similar last year -- lots of campaign work, adventures outside when possible, time with friends in AK and far away -- Alaska has a way of throwing new things our way.



**Margaret Van Cleve:** My daughter Annie was born in July! We are having so much fun ☺ She loves to walk the dog, which I think is boding well for her future hiking career. We are still in DC so please reach out if you are passing through. I would love to see you!!!



## 2015

**Kevin Kirk:** 2024 was year 2 of living in Rio de Janeiro. I love it -- this place has the most beautiful + accessible nature. I'm teaching English twice a week and have improved ~100x at juggling a soccer ball, the latter helped largely by a morning fut-volei routine on Ipanema beach.

On the work front I'm still a software engineer, working on making geospatial data more useful in Google Earth. My favorite trip of the year was to Patagonia for DIY fly fishing, a religious experience.

**Adam Goff:** Rooting down in DC after a year of wandering. Working on pandemic prevention and indoor air quality. Stop by and say hello!

**Valerie Eisenson:** Hi FOOT! 2024 brought many adventures: a trip to Singapore and Vietnam with our toddler (Lila), a move to our new home in Providence, RI, and the start of new jobs for the whole fam. Even Lila will be promoted soon to Big Sister (coming April 2025). We took a quick trip to New Haven, where Lila was rightfully awestruck by Old Campus. Hope to see many of you in 2025. XOXO!



**Emily Rutland:** Living in Brooklyn and doing lots of running, pottery and bread making while finishing up my last year of medical school. Will be starting pediatrics residency next year - tbd where!



**Rachel Tobin:** Highlights from 2024: traveling the world through my startup and living in Abu Dhabi, getting hugs from Usher (see pic of him hugging my mom), visiting my bff **Mackenzie Naert** (Foot 15) to celebrate her baby's first birthday, my new relationship, spending time with friends and family in LA!





**Adrian Chiem:** Hey FOOT! Life is moving along in Philadelphia where the days have been long but the years have been short. After 4 years, I'm finally graduating from my OB/GYN residency and moving to Boston in July '25 for EVEN MORE training with a 2-year fellowship in Complex Family Planning which includes early pregnancy and miscarriage management, contraception, and abortion care. (I'll still be practicing as a general obstetrician and gynecologist as well.) Seems like my life is destined to exist along I-95 so let me know if you'll be around Boston or Providence or Portland or what have you. I've been promised that life gets a bit easier after residency! We'll see!

**Abigail Carney:** I had a baby less than two weeks ago [as of sending this update]! Leo Cornelius Hurwitz was born on 2/18/25 - named after two of his great grandfathers. So far Leo really likes to eat. Nick and I are having a lot of fun and sleeping when we can.



**Megan Opatrny and Alex Dobner** took a couple of fun trips with friends over the past year, first to Iceland, and then to the Florida Keys for some much-needed winter sunshine. Some highlights included a glacier hike, a hot springs dip, and a snorkeling tour. We have a busy year ahead - after our wedding in May, we'll be moving from Ann Arbor to Boston. We're excited to plan some trips around New England and hope to reconnect with our friends in the northeast (including Adrian Chiem!) – let us know if you're around! FLUV <3



2016

**Truett Davis:** Truett's big 2024 updates are that he spent a month in Mexico City (woohoo!), went through a break up (yikes...), started living alone for the first time in beautiful Crown Heights Brooklyn, and rang in 30 with a lot of dancing, sweating, traveling, meditating, swimming, journaling, crying, laughing, etc. This photo is of him and bestie **Devon Geyelin '16** in Mexico City last summer, getting ready to go out dancing.



**Isaac Hudis:** I am still in New York, and he will be for the foreseeable future since my husband matched at Mount Sinai West in Psychiatry! The downside is that there is no actual mountain, so no hiking, tarpitecture, or Adam Stack-ing. The upside is we will likely be moving from the East Side to the West Side, which is the #BestSide. Here is a photo of us camping in Maine last fall.



**Sara & Greg Kahanamoku-Meyer:** Sara and Greg Kahanamoku-Meyer are still based on O'ahu, where Sara is junior research faculty at University of Hawai'i in Mānoa! In 2024 Greg started a postdoc at MIT, which he does about 2/3-1/3 remotely between Hawai'i and Cambridge. So if you are in Hawai'i or the Boston area and want to hang out/climb/play ultimate/pet our dog Kolohe, reach out! (petting Kolohe only possible in Hawai'i. lol)

(Also, this year, Greg saw **Isaiah Lyons-Galante** in Boulder where they climbed the flatirons. Greg thought this photo was cute and wanted to include it too.)



**Bella Klitz:** Grateful for lots of big highs this past year including getting married to Jimmy (peep married FOOT '16 Leaders **Adam and Katie** (ugh young fluv) celebrating with us), FOOT-inspired honeymooning in New Zealand (that's us on Roy's Peak...couldn't find Roy but found a lot of other tourists not pictured), and starting my own firm Isabella Carlucci Architecture doing residential architecture and interior design (including FOOT '15 Leader **Evi's** fab home in Brooklyn - check out more pics at [isabellacarlucci.com](https://isabellacarlucci.com)!). Looking forward to a year ahead designing interiors, but trying to get OUTSIDE more.





**Lily Vanderbloemen:** Another year and another move—work moved me to Los Angeles, where I’m trying to stay sane by running lots in the mountains and on the beach with my pup. A big highlight of the past year was running around Mount Du Blanc in the alps! 👍👍



**Jerelyn Luther:** Jerelyn is still living in Brooklyn and celebrated turning 30 last year. In her free time, she hangs out with her cat, discusses Severance conspiracy theories with friends and does crafts with **Maddy Landon '16** when she's in town!



Back at it again, **Skylar Shibayama** and **Maddy Landon** are bouncing around from Houston to Seattle and some random places in between!! After seven exciting years with the Seattle Mariners, Skylar is seeking new adventures in pursuit of safer global AI development. Maddy is seeking the courage to leave her job and start a Houston hospitality company with her sisters. Hit us up if you are on the Gulf Coast or West Coast! Or if you want to talk about AI alignment or safety policy.



**2017**

**Teddy Goetz:** My spouse and I had a baby in April 2024 and we'll be relocating to the Maryland suburbs of DC later this spring for my first grownup job (post-psychiatry residency) lol! Hit me up if you're in the area <3

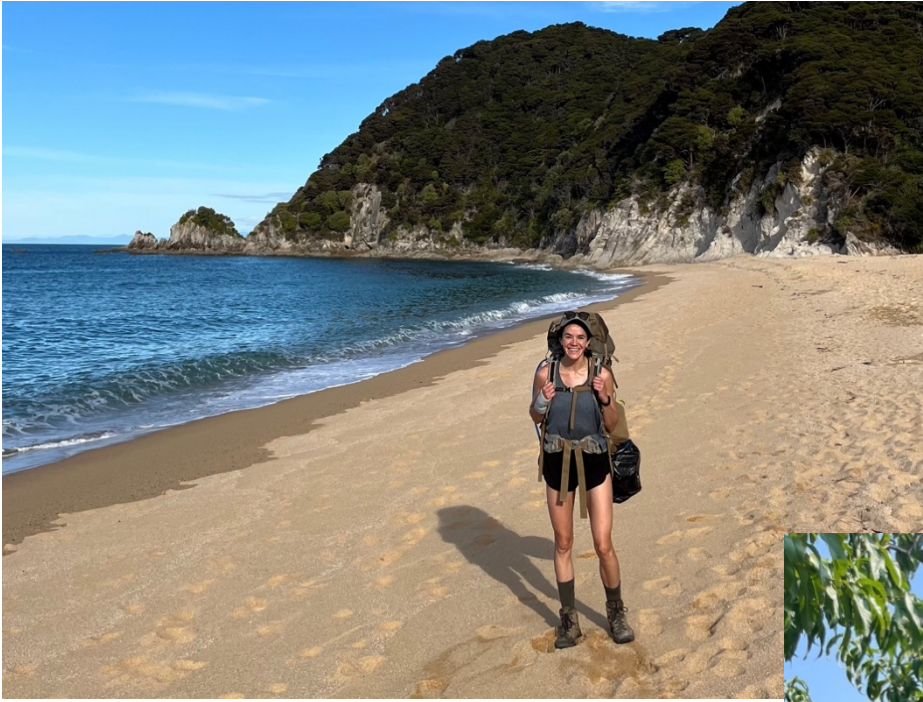
**Brandon Hudik:** I got married this past May! And am now doing residency in family medicine up in Middletown, CT. Sending lots of fluv

**2018**

**Amelia Nierenberg:** Hello everyone! Writing this from a little public library in London, down the street from where I now live. I moved here in June -- for work and, also for love -- and am so very happy. The work: I'm a reporter on the International desk at the New York Times and mostly cover breaking news in this timezone. The love: Chris, my boyfriend, with whom I was once in a very long-distance relationship and am, thankfully, now in a very short-distance one. And also Sadie, my-now-our cat, and friends old and new! And parks, and pubs, and cheaper theater tickets, and really stunning sunsets ... ! Please, please let me know when you're in town -- I have a) recommendations and b) a very comfortable couch. Sending fluv across the world. Big hugs / best wishes / <3

**Julia Gilbert:** Hey friends! After almost five years in Denver, I quit my policy job to spend a year in Aotearoa New Zealand, bopping around and working a couple bar jobs. I've done a lot of hiking and poured a lot of beers. I also took a quick detour to Europe and popped by Leipzig, Germany, to visit fellow Vermonter and FOOT leader **Sam Gurwitt**. Sam found us a canoe to paddle around the city in -- go figure. Wishing you all gentleness, joy, and community amidst the difficult times we're in.





**Meg Pritchard:** Hi FOOT! After three years in Charlottesville for grad school, I just couldn't say goodbye, so I'm sticking around for another year of bagels, peach picking, Shenandoah hiking, mountain laurel viewing, and enjoying all the highlights Central Virginia has to offer. If you're ever in the neighborhood or thinking of passing through, please say hi!!! Sending all my fluv, Meg

**2022**

**Naomi Shimberg:** A big year!! Got engaged in May, moved to Cambridge in August, and started a PhD in environmental economics in September. Over the summer we had a whole FOOT gang (ft. **Adin Feder**, **Noah Kopf**, and **Sam Oldshoe**) staffing Madison Springs Hut while the real croo took time off. And it has been wonderful hanging with other Cambridge-based FOOT pals **Max Krupnick** and **Danielle Losos** since starting school.



**Kapp Singer:** After a lovely year in New Haven post-graduation, I boarded a one-way Metro North train to Grand Central to join what seems like half of our class in New York. I'm working as a bicycle mechanic here and really enjoying my time riding around the city and exploring. Next year I'm planning to start a graduate program in history, though I'm not sure where that will be yet. Pictured is a trip I took to Chicago to visit FOOT '22 leaders **Charlotte Keathley** and **Eli Mennerick**, where we embarked upon a long and very filling hot dog bike tour.



**Max Krupnick:** A great year! I'm still hanging out in Cambridge, working for the crimson-shaded enemy. I had lots of fun outdoor adventures this year, including my first two whitewater rafting experiences with FOOT leaders **Eric Benninghoff**, and **Charlie & Hannah Uchno**. I also took a trip to the Scottish Highlands, which are sort of like weird-looking Appalachian Mountains. I've enjoyed lots of Shabbat dinners with Naomi—short on photos, full of fun.



**Bea Pickett:** After two years working for the U.S. EPA in Boston, I moved to Seattle this summer to begin a master's degree at UW's School of Marine and Environmental Affairs. My program is a highly interdisciplinary blend of environmental science and policy, with an oceans and coastal emphasis. I am also working as a TA for an undergraduate course, which frequently reminds me of being a FOOT leader (in both the best and most chaotic ways). Other highlights of this year included giving fellow FOOT leader **Katie Burchfield** a tour of Oregon and getting Scuba-certified in Hood Canal, Washington. (Pictured: the place in Hood Canal that I went Scuba diving, but not pictured: the many cool things I saw underwater, including a Giant Pacific Octopus, because I don't have an underwater camera.)



**Chloé Glass:** After living in Europe for the past couple years (I did my art history Master's at the Courtauld in London then lived in Paris while working at Christie's) I've now come back to the US to work at the Art Institute of Chicago! Even though I've settled in Chicago, I've still been traveling a lot, both to the East Coast to see family in CT and to Europe especially as my partner, Victor, lives in Paris so we've explored Iceland and Portugal recently. I kept up with water polo throughout my time abroad and have now joined a swim team and enjoy living a block away from Lake Michigan in the summer. Looking forward to more adventures in 2025 and please let me know if you're in Chicago and want a tour of the AIC! (p.s. I still have not tried deep-dish pizza, thin crust forever)



**Anne Northrup:** It's been a very Air Force two years. I moved to Columbus, Mississippi right after graduation to start Undergraduate Pilot Training in the T-6 Texan. Flew lots of loop-de-loops, instrument approaches, low levels and formation with other students (yep – as nerve-wracking as it sounds!) before moving on to another plane, the T-1 Jayhawk. Rinse and repeat there, but this time we practiced single-engine scenarios and simulated aerial refueling too. After UPT I took a chunk of time off to travel with my boyfriend, Ethan. We went to Indonesia to scuba dive, then Singapore, Thailand and Japan just to take advantage of being on that side of the world. Ethan is from Memphis, TN and he 10000% would've been a FOOT leader in another life. Now I'm stationed in Florida, learning the AC-130 gunship, maximizing my beach sunset time, and learning how to decode plastic rocks. Echoing Chloé – look me up if you're in the panhandle!



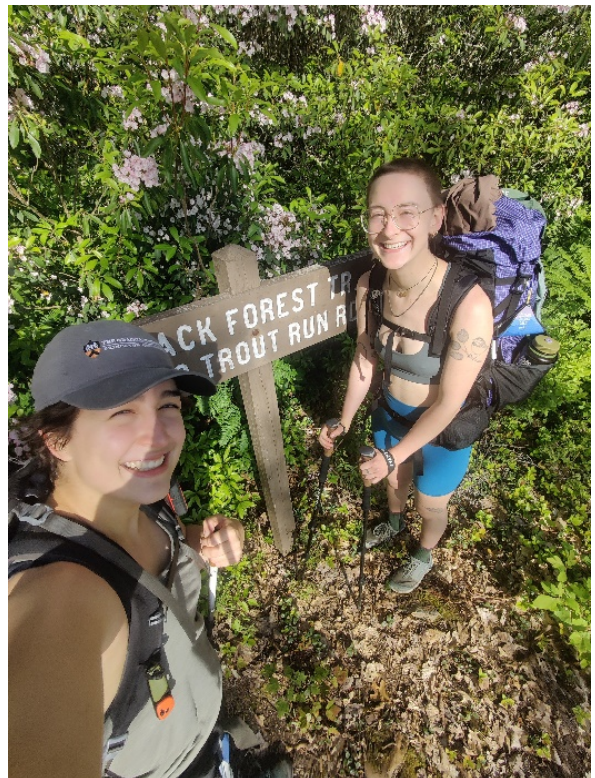
**Daniel Chabeda:** I've been living in Oakland, CA for the past two years and working on a chemistry PhD at Berkeley. I'm in my third year now and still excited about so much, which is a treat :) The Bay area has some truly amazing outdoor spaces that I have been enjoying. It is a harsh beauty here, scrubby plants, exposed rock, and few trees. To me, as an east coast kid who grew up with soft, green forests, I feel super cool hiking through caves with my friends. Here are some recent photos!





2023

**Julia Balch:** Hello FOOT! I'm reporting in from Princeton New Jersey where I am working on my PhD in molecular biology studying bacterial pathogens. I've found some time in 2024 to go on some adventures with lovely FOOT folks! I never did a FOOT trip in the Whites, but **Tilden Chao** and I did a fun filled (possibly type 2) Pemi loop this past spring. A few months later **Laurel Humphreys** and I hiked the Black Forest Trail in PA and had a blast...despite a "bear" sighting. If anyone wants to go hiking with me in 2025 get in touch! Fluv, Julia



**Syd Bakal:** Hi FOOT friends! I'm very excited to read your updates! I'm now based in Brooklyn, NY, living with two dear Yale friends—Samantha White ('21+2) and Marty Chandler ('21). I do a lot of miscellaneous jobs—tutoring the SHSAT to middle schoolers, leading Shabbat morning services at Central Synagogue, assistant-directing Reentry Theatre of Harlem, and acting in indie film/tv and musical projects. I love exploring Prospect Park, but I'm hoping to do more hikes and get out of the city in the upcoming year, so if you're also NYC-based, feel free to reach out and maybe we can organize a group!



**Forrest LaPrade:** In the fall, I attended a wonderful baked goods exchange hosted by FOOT icons **Rosie Rothschild** and **Kate Williams**, to which I contributed a passable batch of chocolate crinkle cookies. Now I'm off to complete a poetry writing fellowship on my godmother's cattle ranch in California. Send me book recommendations!



**Tilden Chao:** Last June, I moved with my girlfriend to San Francisco! We live in the Mission District, and we'd love for anyone in the area to say hello and come by for brunch or dinner. I'm currently working at a sustainability-focused investment firm chaired by Al Gore (which means I see him around the office every once in a while!) I really love it here. With all due respect to the East Coast, there's a certain splendor about this area of the country that can't be matched. We've been slowly exploring the Marin Headlands, Point Reyes, Yosemite, Tahoe ... there's too much to see! Missing you all and hope that all is well.

**Cali Baillie:** Hi FOOT Family! This fall, I made the move from New Haven to London and started my MSc in Clinical Psychology. Before starting the program, I spent a few months traveling around Vietnam and Indonesia frolicking in the mountains and swimming in the ocean. Although the sunny days here in London are few and far between, I have been loving my time in the UK. My course is fantastic, and I am gaining a lot of valuable experience working part time in a mental health crisis unit as a part of my program. These days, I split my free time between time training for a half-marathon and testing out new local pubs! The best part of being in the UK is that I also get to see **Avery Mitchell** ('23) quite often! If anyone happens to find themselves passing through London, don't hesitate to reach out! My email is [cali@bailliefamily.com](mailto:cali@bailliefamily.com) :) Fluv!! – Cali





**Laurel Humphreys:** Hello from Easton, PA! The past year's been pretty busy with field work and grad school applications. I led a field team in Washington, where we climbed bigleaf maple trees to collect data on moss communities in the canopy (pictured). Right after this field season, Julia Balch and I went hiking, then I jumped right into another field season in PA. Once the temperature started to drop, I dove right into grad school applications. It looks like I'll be in Knoxville, TN or Irvine, CA to start my PhD in the fall! Outside of work and grad apps, I'm still spending plenty of time making kombucha, dogsitting, climbing (pictured: me with my first lead anchor), and doing various DIY tasks. If you're in the Knoxville or Irvine/LA areas, I'd love to connect! My email is [laurel.humphreys@gmail.com](mailto:laurel.humphreys@gmail.com). All the FLUV, Laurel



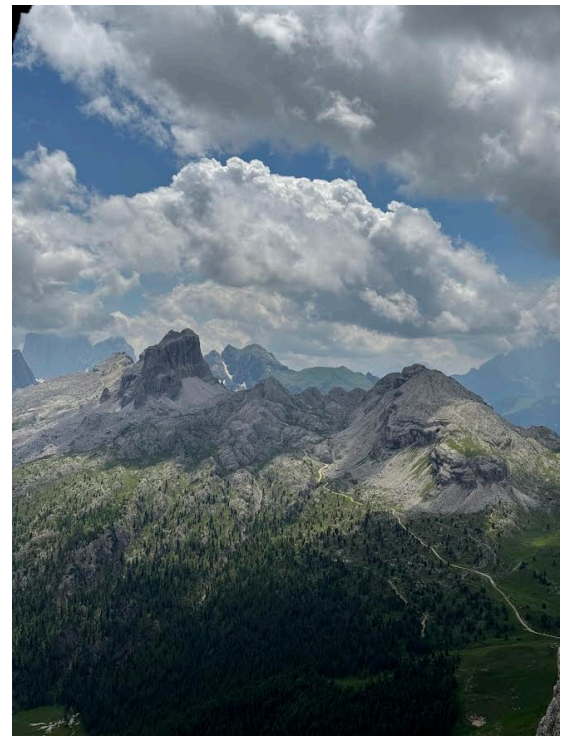
**2024**

**Sam Bezilla:** Hello FOOTists. After several months of frolicking (running a children's production of Spongebob in Montana, sailing with teenagers in Canada, remote work with adults from many states), I have moved to NYC! I spend a lot of time traveling to small businesses for work doing things like making sure they're digitized their meatball recipes. I recently wore women size 6 ski boots and lost a toenail! Miss you all.

**Matt Bruning:** Hi FOOT! I moved to DC after graduation this year where I've been trying out some new sports (see picture for learning from the best) and (re)watching the West Wing. Let me know if you're in town!"

**Ben Cifu**

Hello! Post graduation I did the Alta Via 1 in the Dolomites with some friends, including ex-Soul Core head Drew. They are some of the most beautiful mountains I've ever seen, with amazing food at every stop. Since then, I've moved to New York to work in software engineering. Like every '24 I'm training for a half marathon. Hit me up if you ever want to go hiking near(-ish) NYC, go for a run, or climb.



**Theo Haaks:** Hey everybody!! After graduating in 2024, I had an awesome summer working on a conservation crew in Colorado and Wyoming (pic features a Beaver Dam Analogue🦫)! Since the summer, I have moved to DC for a job in government consulting and, inspired by FOOT friends, have started running on the city's beautiful trails (pictured: type 2 fun rainy long run with fellow 2024 FOOT leader **Matt Bruning**). Hope everyone is doing well! My email is [theolhaaks@gmail.com](mailto:theolhaaks@gmail.com) — reach out if you're ever in the DMV!! FLUV 🍀



**Cora Hagens:** Hiya everyone! After a summer touring in the UK and trekking across the Balkans with illustrious Poobah **Kate Williams**, I spent the fall semester freelancing as a choral musician in New Haven. I recently moved up to Cambridge, MA to work for an environmental nonprofit, and am rejoicing in my newfound proximity to the Whites and Berks. Let me know if you're ever in the Boston area—I'd love to catch up on a run or over a cup of tea!

**Eli Kennard:** Hi Everyone!!! I hope everyone has been able to find adventure in their lives. I am currently teaching English through a Fulbright in Algiers, Algeria. These past few months I have been exploring the country and getting to know the community here. Getting to connect to nature here has been so incredible: the Sahara, the Mediterranean Sea, and the Atlas Mountains, have all been starting to feel like home. Can't wait until I can go on my next FOOT adventure, I miss this community a lot:)





**Camilla Ledezma:** Hello FOOT! Writing to you from Brooklyn, where I am substitute teaching and reading a lot and learning to play the harmonica! Also living and hanging out with former FOOT leaders, **Emilia and Peter!** I moved around a lot last year, accompanied by my lovely partner, Ansel. We visited friends and family and WWOOFed in Italy, planted trees with the Urban Resources Initiative in New Haven, and went canoe camping on the Delaware together. Upon moving to NYC, I (finally) finished my undergraduate thesis on autism and nature connectedness and officially got my degree. Another important update is that my dog, Princess, has just turned 17 years old! Here is a photo of her from the summer. My email is [camilla.ledezma@gmail.com](mailto:camilla.ledezma@gmail.com)—feel free to reach out. I would love to read a book together or play harmonica in your band or something like that.



FOOT leaders pictured: Camilla Ledezma, Emilia Fernandez, Peter Steinmann

**Bea Portela:** Hi FOOT friends!! Since leaving New Haven in May, I lived in Washington DC for six months, where I was spoiled with many FOOT friends and travels (like Pitbull concerts, white water rafting, riding rollercoasters, and cheering on Kate and Matt's marathon with a sizable FOOT entourage). In January I moved to beautiful San Francisco! In both places I've been working as a paralegal at an environmental law non-profit. If you're in the Bay, reach out and we can go on a hike and/or feel the magic of Golden Gate Park!

FOOT leaders Pictured: Bea Portela, Theo Haaks, Sam Bezilla, Calista Washburn, Rosie Rothschild, Matt Bruning, Kate Williams



**Rosie Rothschild:** Hi! I graduated from Yale in May as an electrical engineering and computer science major. After spending the summer traveling, leading Overland trips in the Tetons/Yellowstone, and some fun hiking trips, I moved to NYC. I'm currently working as a product manager and living with Poobah extraordinaire **Kate Williams.**



**Natalie Smink:** My year post grad has been one of adventure! I spent 44 days section hiking the Appalachian Trail in Maine with a group of eight 15 year old girls (FOOT training really came in handy) where our only showers were the lakes and rivers we crossed. Following a quick pit stop in Denver, I continued the adventure in Argentina and Chile with fellow Yale Alumni, Harper Lowrey. We started in Buenos Aires and spent two months working our way south to Patagonia where we finished with an 8 day trek through Torres del Paine National Park in Chile. My year of adventure has ended with a stint as a ski instructor at Jackson Hole. It has been so fun getting to ski every day for my job and I highly recommend it if anyone is looking for a career shift. It is very FOOT core

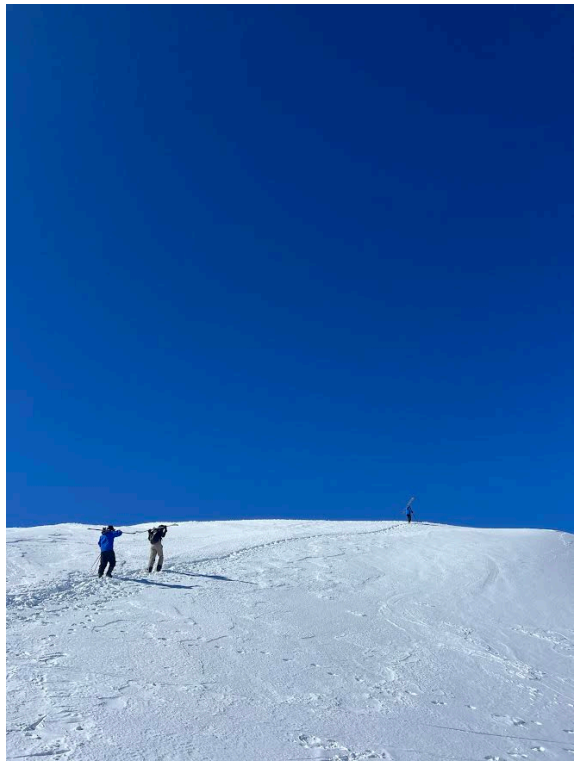




**Calista Washburn:** I am graduated and living in New York. I love spending time with foot people in the city, and have gotten into gardening.

FOOT leaders pictured: Calista Washburn & Kate Williams

**Kate Williams:** Hi, FOOT! Since moving out of New Haven last spring, I have spent my time seeking adventure, laughter, and love in both the big and small parts of life—much of which has included my wonderful FOOT people. Some highlights of the past year include trekking the Albanian Alps with **Cora Hagens**, running the Marine Corps Marathon with **Matt Bruning**, and skiing anywhere and everywhere I can. I'm currently settled in Williamsburg with **Rosie Rothschild**, working as a renewable energy developer. Come hang with us if you ever find yourself in the city!



So that's all the news for 2024. It always takes a while to pester the Alumni Agents, but I am grateful for the final product. There are a few years that are quiet, but I hope they will start contributing again. It's so great to hear and see pictures from everyone.

I am doing well – I live in a fun apartment building on State Street, complete with gym and pool. I travel between Virginia and Vermont. Our big project for the year was building a new house on the Vermont property. It is nearly complete, which is super exciting. I play a lot of pickleball which keeps me active and healthy – both physically and socially. I just hope our country survives this onslaught of executive orders. It is scary. If the government comes after Yale, I hope it can fight any demands the way Harvard is now. We shall see. The goodness and positiveness of FOOT keeps me going many days. Love and FLUV to all, xoxox, Cilla



Cilla with current leaders playing pickleball!!

