

FOOT Newsletter 2019

Dear FOOT Leader Alums,

Spring 2020

I hope wherever you are, you are safe, healthy and sadly, maybe even alone. Our times are scary at the moment, and I move from being optimistic, in that we will beat this Covid-19, to having panic attacks about what might be ahead of us. The important thing is that you somehow stay connected to the ones you love -- so lots of emails, texting, FBing, and telephone calls. I was having a hard time getting this finished, but then I thought it would be important for you all to have the news of each other. Please remember that most of this news came from before the Covid-19 hit the US, so it may seem as though we were living on a different planet. And, in some ways, we were.

Also – sadly, I must report the passing of two remarkable FOOT Leader Alums, Kashka Kubzdela '90 and Jeff Grigg '99.

Kashka Kubzela: Kashka passed away in February after a lengthy battle with pancreatic cancer. Throughout her illness, she was determined to face it head on, getting second opinions, and trying different treatments. She kept her love of nature by going for walks outside as long as she could. She lived near DC and worked at the National Center for Education Statistics, which collects, analyzes and makes available data related to education in the U.S. and other nations. Kashka was always interested in education, but most of all in connecting with people. This is from **Roger Wynne '88:** Joanna Rosen and I had the pleasure of having Kashka as a freshman on our trip in the fall of 1986, FOOT's second season. She was a remarkably positive person. That following winter—I think around Valentine's Day—she circulated a poem to all of us on that trip. (see below) As a sign of those times, she printed it in the then-distinctive Mac font on pink paper and delivered it to our rooms. It was an ode to the power we draw from friendship.

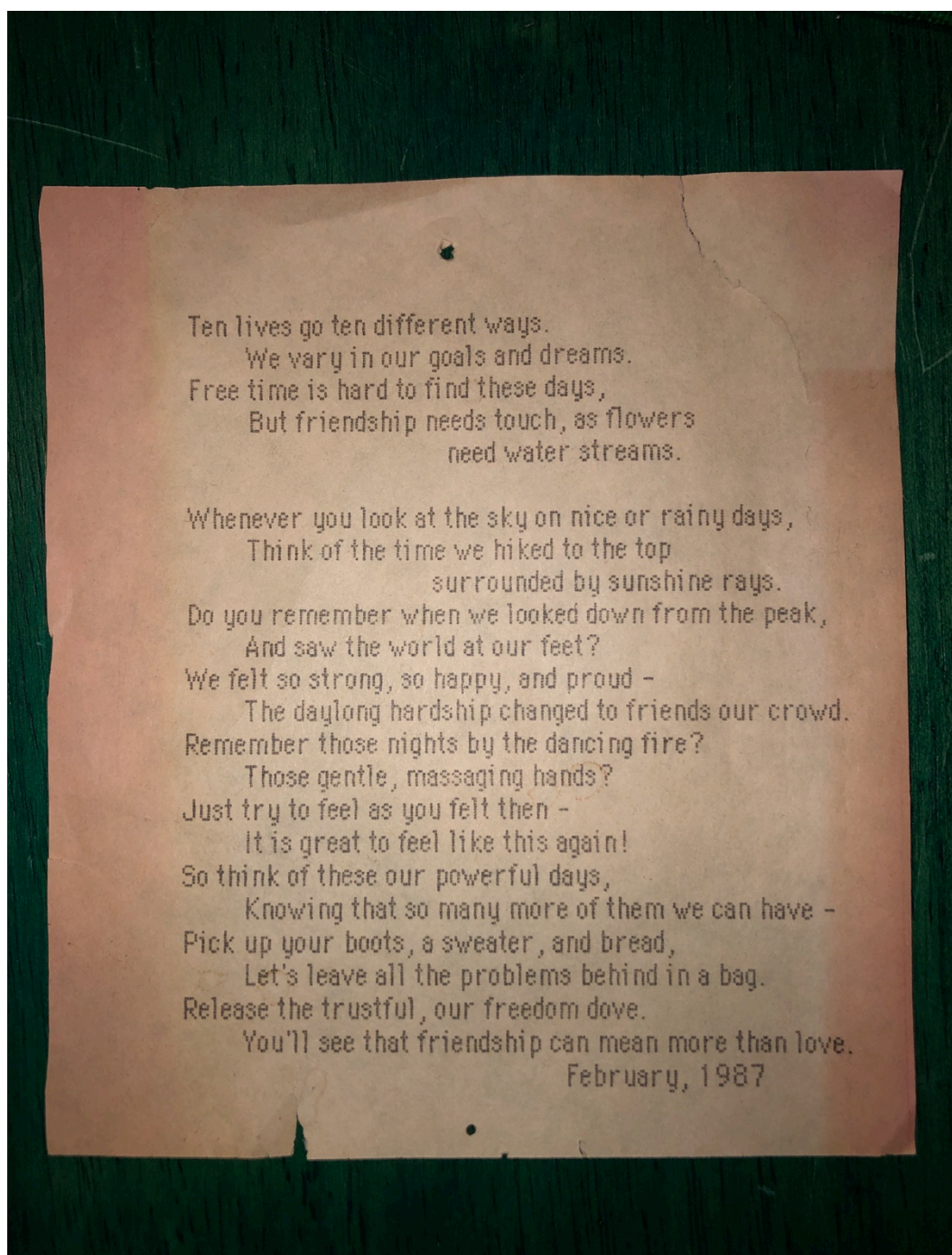
Here is Kashka with her daughter Nicola. Left: at Cilla's Sky Acres farm in Vermont at a FOOT Leader Reunion. Right: More recently, with Nicola, who is now in college.



On her FOOT trip 1986
Photo provided by Andrew Lederman



The poem Kashka shared:



Kashka's FOOT trip



FOOT Leaders 1988 with Kashka in the middle





Jeffrey Grigg: Jeff passed away last November due to a rare neurological disease. Jeff was an assistant professor at the Johns Hopkins School of Education in Baltimore. He studied childhood experiences, student mobility and social stratification. He focused on understanding how children's early life experiences are related to school success. His dean said he was "an outstanding colleague, mentor and friend to many." Jeff had an easy manner and was always there to help -- one of the last to leave if we had FOOT tasks to do. I remember him well. He was also the class agent for his fellow FOOT Leaders of '99.

With his wonderful young family last year



Now here is the news from you... Please remember that most of this news came from before the Covid-19 hit the US, so it may seem as though we were living on a different planet.

Classes of 1986-87

Liz Ablow: [note that Liz's entry came in after the Covid-19 hit, so there is a bit of sadness to it—understandably.] I would have shared the fact that my nephew participated in FOOT this year and loved the experience. I may have shared other happenings of the year but like you and everyone else, the COVID 19 has overwhelmed our being. My family members, dispersed in Utah, Colorado and Washington states are all good. I am fortunate that I can work from home. Dick on the other hand has had to close his restaurant. The trickle affect of this closure is huge....and he is only one small business. He cancelled linen service, cancelled coffee delivery, paying his employees for 2 more weeks while they are closed, but then they will have to go on unemployment, and so on. My neighbors business is based at Pike Place Market, which is now closed. My other neighbor is a choreographer and her work is on hold. We are all living this weird dream. I do have to say the level of support from the community, the calls and connections with friends, the new community groups developing are all uplifting. Dick brought produce/eggs from the restaurant and set them up on our front porch for neighbors. Despite the 6 feet distance between us we are all keeping connected during this time. I hope everyone else is staying healthy and safe. Liz

Class of 1988

James Shifrin: It is amazing to see how FOOT has grown! I include a photo of my 3 kids (Emma 23, Danny 20 and Henry 17) from our climb up Mt. Eisenhower in the White Mountains this past July and a shot from the summit. Sorry that I have not been more regular with the updates, but I send my warmest regards to my fellow Footies- if you find yourself in NYC or Westchester please look me up!



Patrick Whalen: [My class agent's] email reminded me of my trip this summer to visit my son who lives in Seattle. He has followed in my footsteps and teaches at a private school. I have now taught history for 32 years in Florida. He is in his fourth year teaching physics and mathematics at a school that specializes in gifted and learning disabled students. My younger son just started college. All of us still value our time in the outdoors when we are together, so my photo is of a summer hike I took with my older son near Mt Rainer. When I talk about my own college experience, I often mention FOOT as the activity that was most meaningful for me.



Class of 1989

Tiff Bingham: As for news and a lighter note, I have just learned that Trex and son Eddie traveled to Hartford for the high school Nationals squash tournament where the team earned 4th place, and I really wish I had been there to cheer them on! Congratulations!!! I am very impressed!

As for me, I am still in CT and am now working as an assistant film editor working on a documentary about civil rights issues. It's been an excellent career shift and life with Jim and son Cam (14) is going well.

My free time is spent trying to move our very conservative town in a greener direction... not yet very successfully, and I envy any of you living in areas where people are moving forward on our serious climate issues...

Paul, keep up the fantastic website,

Greg, keep all those balls in the air!!

Trex, keep teaching those kids in your fantastic and energetic way,

Kristin, thanks for the travel inspiration!

And if I missed anyone, my apologies! Email is getting harder and harder to keep up with! All my best to you ALL! Xoxo Tiff

Greg Felt: Susan and I still live in Salida, Colorado and have our 30th wedding anniversary coming up in September. I am still part-owner of ArkAnglers but am not nearly as involved as I used to be. A couple of young guys are running the day to day and I am just providing oversight and guiding some favorite long-time clients. Susan's interior building products company, Home & Design, is doing well in this strong national and local economy. Our daughter, Kestrel (26), works with her there. Our son, Rowen (22), is a newly minted software engineer out in California's East Bay.

I am now in my fourth year as Chaffee County Commissioner. I have been Chairman for a few years now and it is a very consuming job. Overseeing public health, building department, human services, road and bridge, landfill, jail, housing, EMS, ... it's been quite an eye-opener for a former fishing outfitter. On the flip side, though, what I may lack in bureaucratic experience seems to be compensated with small business experience and 35 years of guiding/outfitting. I am getting a lot done!

Last fall we had a forest fire that became the number one priority fire in the nation. At one point I had 1100 fire fighters camped out at our fairgrounds. We only lost one dwelling but now I am dealing with post-fire recovery, working relentlessly to do everything we can before the "monsoon" rains hit in July. We can't prevent flash-flooding but we can mitigate the impacts. The fire, and now the US Census, are

not things I can control. We just have to deal with them and do the best we can. I have many, many more interesting initiatives underway but it's too much to cover here. Suffice it to say that we did a major community visioning process over the last few years and have developed about 40 projects aimed at bringing those visions to reality. Passing a conservation finance ballot measure and creating a community foundation are a couple that are complete. A big thrust for me now is forest health and wildfire mitigation. It is a major undertaking but desperately needed!

I've also been doing a lot of work with water. I serve on the boards of two water conservancy districts and last month the governor appointed me to be the Arkansas River Basin rep to the Colorado Water Conservation Board. My senate confirmation hearing is next week. I cover about 28,000 square miles and 1.2 million inhabitants. The CWCB administers \$50-150 million a year in severance tax revenues, sets water policy for the state, negotiates our interstate compacts, and manages the instream flow and watershed health programs.

I am known as the man of many hats around here and with this latest appointment I think I have finally hit my limit on how much I can handle. (Actually, I am pretty sure I have exceeded it.) I am running for reelection to the county commission this year and so far I do not have an opponent (I am unaffiliated so in my first race I had two opponents). Hopefully, I won't have to run a real campaign as I truly don't have time!

Despite my whining about work, I do want to reinforce that our door is always open here in Salida and we are glad to help visitors find their way to a good time in the central Rockies. Best wishes to all! Greg

Paul Jahnige: News from the Loomigies (Paul Jahnige, and (should have been a footie) **Sally Loomis**, to whom I owe my initial introduction to Trex):

Our lives continue solidly in Western Mass. Our three offspring are thriving. Sage (23) is following in our footsteps of international travel arriving in East Africa yesterday. Sierra (21) is a Senior in college, and by all accounts kicking it (especially in the Pentathlon). And Skye (13) is positive and curious, and in to D&D and fighting Climate Change. As a reminder, Paul helps build and repair Massachusetts' Trails across the state, and Sally saves land in Western Mass directly a local land trust. Paul's mom died in January, after a long road of decline. There is both sorrow and relief in the finality of her passing. Paul has also started a new effort of self-improvement including adopting a goal to cut his personal Carbon Footprint in half. Follow his journey at <https://carbonwarrior.blogspot.com/2020/01/what-and-why.html>. Missing you all and hoping to see you soon. Love, Paul (and Sally, Sage, Sierra and Skye)

Trex Proffitt and Beth: We are still reeling from the loss of our son George at age 20 to a heroin overdose last May. George was one of a kind and loved the outdoors and the theory of hiking and camping. His loss has obscured the many other fun and exciting things we did this year, maybe which we did because of his death. It was incredible to have so many Yale friends come to be with us at his service, and to reach out from afar in the days following, a helpful reminder to keep prioritizing our good friends as time goes on. I remind myself every day that I have hundreds of children at the school where I teach and coach, and try my best to take care of them as best I can. Cilla has always been my inspiration and here I am much later in life finally able to implement something like what she did—a triumph. We even had our middle school squash tournament at Hopkins last month!

Seventh grade is a hoot most days, and teaching American history and civics at this time is about the best job one could have. There is no shortage of topics ever! I run a lot of squash programming out of our school now, and last year ran into FOOT alum and opposing coach Baker Mallory on court 3 in Payne-Whitney at the middle school team national tournament at Yale. It is good for me to be able to work with a lot of kids all the time, and I think my advancing age allows me to understand what's important and what's not in education. Very important in middle school: feeling like you belong and can do well. Not as important: homework and spelling.

Below in the photo are my other two children (Eddie 16 and Lauren 18), with my mom and me in Hawaii last summer. I get to see more of the kids because Eddie is in 10th grade at school with me and plays a ton of squash, so we get to do a lot together every day. Lauren is attending Franklin & Marshall College 4 blocks away so we see her every week at least—in a good way, not that helicopter parent way. She may live at home next year to save money, which will be nice after her long sojourn through boarding school and on campus the last 4 years. The second photo is of one of our dogs playing Santa at Christmas time—

not amused. She is old and might not make another year, but she has been a good companion for a long time. Like so many.



*Love, the Sayers:
Will (16), Betsy, Ben, and Jay (18)*

Ben & Betsy Saylor
Still living the good life in South Dakota

Class of 1990

Eve Porter-Zuckerman: With Thomas now 6, in first grade, and Ursula, 4, working hard to keep up with her big brother, we've been doing a lot of cross-country skiing and snowshoeing this winter, adding more

wonderful dimension to the ever changing adventures of woods-exploring. We added a Great Dane, Argus, to our silly pack of pets last year, and we're thoroughly enjoying the crazy presence of such a large creature now that he's grown. We got out in the cold up north at Quebec City's winter Carnaval, and the photo is of the four of us with the Bonhomme de Neige, the celebration's mascot. Life is full of multi-generational visits, outdoor adventures, rock climbing classes for the little ones, and occasional trips to Quebec. I still volunteer with the Squam Lakes Association, and am thrilled with its strong environmental educational purpose, well-fulfilled now with an Americorps program and an active community of engaged volunteers.



Kristin Wolcott Edwards: We dropped off our youngest Annika in Norway for her Gap year in August and will pick her up, combined with hiking in the Norwegian "Alps" near Ålesund, in May. Meanwhile we are trying to get and stay in shape to hike in Patagonia in March, 2 short weeks away! We have to hurry up and do these things before our backs and knees give out..! Love Kristin

Michael Kahan: It's been a year of world travel for me and my family. My older daughter, Eva, graduated from Tufts in May; a few weeks later, her younger sister, Frieda, graduated from high school in Mountain View, California. Careful readers of this space might remember that last year, we planned to celebrate this double-whammy with a massive family journey across Russia and into Mongolia and China on the Trans-Siberian Railroad. Well....that didn't quite happen, as everyone's schedules became a bit more complicated than we anticipated. However, we managed to squeeze in a fabulous three-week trip to Moscow, St. Petersburg, Tallinn, and Helsinki. (See photo #1!) We saw Lenin in his tomb, sang Cossack songs, admired the art in the Hermitage and the Metro, and picked mushrooms in the woods near a friend's dacha. Gabriella and I have spent a lot of time in Russia (Gabriella teaches Russian literature), but the girls had never been, so it was really fun to introduce them to everything!

In the fall, Frieda headed to the University of Vermont as a freshman to study Agro-ecology, while Eva went off on a post-graduate fellowship to Cairo to continue her study of Arabic. In December, we all went to visit her in Egypt (see photo number 2!) She was an amazing tour guide and translator, taking us to pyramids, tombs, temples, mosques, churches, synagogues, markets, and museums, as well as for a three-day Nile cruise.

Gabriella and I didn't remain empty-nesters for very long, as we are now renting out the girls' rooms to a former graduate advisee of my wife's - and the former advisee's 1-year-old daughter! We have had to re-install child proofing locks on the kitchen cabinets! Brings back a lot of memories, but this time we don't have to change any diapers! It has actually been quite a nice arrangement, and it will seem very quiet when they move out in June!

Otherwise, things continue more or less the same here: I continue to teach Urban Studies, and my wife teaches Russian and Yiddish literature, both at Stanford. We see Tali Zulman and Emel Gokyigit a couple of times a year, which is always a highlight. We'd be glad to connect with anyone in the Bay Area, or passing through Stanford! -Michael Kahan '90

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Class of 1991

No notes this year, sorry. We have another Yale reunion coming up so I'll be sure to arrange a FOOT get together. Best wishes, **Baker Mallory**

Class of 1992

Cynthia Boyd: We are good – enjoying our family, work and life, and trying to treasure our parents while they are still with us. My eldest Graham is 15 and almost driving! He's a sophomore and remains steadfast in his interest in nature and the environment, and has become a very good cook (which is much appreciated by all!) Liam is 13, and into running track and cross-country and board games and Magic. He decided to take up banister sliding at school as well, and managed to end up with an open forearm fracture requiring emergency surgery. He's now all better, but was disappointed to not set off metal detectors. Jane is 8, and is a great rock climber, thanks to our YMCA, and a good hiker (mixed in with piggyback rides and two-person carries from her brothers). We had two big trips this year – we went to Glacier National Park for a week as a family. Such an amazing place. Jane went to Stockholm and Visby with me this fall for a work trip. We had a blast, particularly climbing in the old churches and towers of Visby, and seeing the Roukar in the middle of the Baltic.



Sumner McCallie: Life is good. My wife Katie serves as the Operations Director for The Women's Fund of Chattanooga which does great work to improve the lives of women in Tennessee, which ranks 49th in the US. Our two kids are now 6 and 4. Not sure where the time goes. Seeing their friendship develop with such strength has been such a pleasure as a parent. I continue to serve as Dean of Faculty and Curriculum at McCallie School. Have also started teaching an Introduction to Philosophy course, so have been spending a lot of time thinking about how to teach students who I am not such actually exist.



Class of 1993

Emily Guimaraes: We have been in Oregon for 5 years now. We still return to Massachusetts every summer for vacation, and our boys (Carl and Joel, ages 9 and 11) will be having their first Appalachian Trail adventures at camp this summer.

Ashley West: I'm still an Associate Professor of Art History at Temple University in Philly, and enjoying my students and colleagues. I was on sabbatical for 2018-19 and spent part of the year in Berlin researching and writing. I also took the trip of a lifetime...on a Yale Education Travel programs. I had seen a notice that Mary Miller would be leading a trip to Peru for March 2019, and I knew I had to set my book manuscript-writing aside and go! What a great group it was - filled with Mary's 'fan-base' - everyone on the trip had been on at least one (and as many as five!) trips with her previously. We spent a few days on the Amazon River, also in Cuzco, the Sacred Valley of the Incas, and the cloud forests of Machu Picchu. Walked up to the Sun Gate (Inti Punku) overlooking the site. Pic attached. Highly recommended.



Someday I'll get back and do the full walk on the Inca Trail.



Burch and Rachelle LaPrade: We are just coming off the craziness of the Iowa caucus this year. Despite the recent debacle, we still love living here. Abbott, our oldest, is a junior at Middlebury and spent last fall at the University of Edinburgh studying and interning with a Scottish member of parliament. I (Rachelle) went over for a visit and we had a wonderful time hiking in Skye one weekend. We got lucky with the weather - crisp but beautiful and late enough in the year that there were few tourists. Forrest is a freshmen at Yale (Branford) and is embracing life on campus. He joined Word, the spoken word poetry group. He had an amazing time on his FOOT trip and I can confidently state that the FOOT magic persists. Beckett is a sophomore in high school. He plays hockey fairly seriously and otherwise seems to eat, sleep, and grow. Kendrick is now a 7th grader and continues to tear it up on the soccer field, the hockey rink, and the horseback riding arena. Burch's start-up Gain Compliance grows and demands more from him each quarter, a good but exhausting problem to have. I continue to love practicing equine veterinary medicine and riding in my free time.

What follows are two wonderful photos – past and present:

First photo from **1991 Shakedown**: Jody Esselstyn, Rachelle LaPrade, Burch LaPrade, Crickett Johnson, Rachel Huff

Front: Dave Lambert, Stephanie Kwei, Krista Longnecker, Jim Williams, Sumner McCallie
(Could this be when the first sparks flew?? ☺)

Second photo from **2019**: Forrest LaPrade (son of Rachelle & Burch) on FOOT! Fourth from the left. And Forrest was recently selected as a FOOT Leader! The cycle continues...



Jael Kampf: with Gerald celebrating his 70th with a Lakota naming & hunka (adoption ceremonies)



We know what each of us must do on an individual level: Wash hands. Social distance ourselves. Avoid crowds. Work from home if we can. We know what we must do for our loved ones who are elderly or at high risk: Help them stay home. Problem-solve errands. Provide emotional support. Teach them how to order delivery services. We know what we must do for our businesses: Lead. Provide educated answers. Re-imagine our work environments. Deliver. Move services we can on-line. We know what we must do for our community: Continue to support local businesses even with purchasing gift cards. Donate our time and talents. Rebuild a new social fabric that is community. Give to local Relief Funds. We know what we must do for the stranger: Lead with love and not fear. Isolate physically but not our hearts. Throw that thread outside of our known relationships. Provide a lifeline to a stranger without adequate resources. Ask what is most needed. Listen. Respond.

Stephen Kahn: Stephen is a doctor practicing in the Boston area. I recently found out that he is working for the Abundance Foundation, abundance.org: Abundance Project for Global Health. I received a random email from his organization and recognized him! This organization is putting out good information on the virus crisis.

Class of 1994

Elizabeth Murdock: I am still living in San Francisco (hard to believe I have now been here for 18 years!) with my husband, Paul, and our two girls, Zoë (13) and Pia (9). We also have a GSD/Malinois mix dog named Darwin, and two birds, named Pip and Willoughby (who turned out to be a girl, despite every attempt to ensure we had two birds of the same sex - oops!). Everyone is thriving and happy, and we are well. We don't do nearly enough hiking, but everyone loves the outdoors, and the girls are both found a random passion for surfing on a family trip to Hawaii this fall, so we will see where that leads. (So far, they only like it in warm water.) A huge highlight in 2019 involved attending reunion, where I got see so many amazing and much-missed FOOT friends, join you all for a hike to East Rock, and have lots of too-short chats under the big tent on Old Campus. And I had the added bonus of actually spending quality time with Meg on the drive to/from Boston!

For the past 4 years, I have been working at the Natural Resources Defense Council, where I oversee our Oceans work in the Pacific/West Coast. We work on everything from fighting offshore drilling to advancing sustainable fisheries, and my personal portfolio involves a lot of work on marine protected

areas and shark conservation—which was really fun this last year and included exciting trips to Geneva and Lima, Peru. This all sounds incredibly exciting (and sometime it is), but, in reality, my life is filled with writing and failing to respond to emails, commuting kids to activities, giving into the temptation to stream TV series at night because I am just too tired to read, and being at least a little late to virtually everything I do. My resolution for 2020 is to figure out how to slow it all down—and spend more time with friends. Love to you all! - Elizabeth

Dave Lambert: Greetings from Rochester NY! Emily (FOOT and Morse'96) continues to take excellent care of the people of Geneva NY, and I continue to happily pursue my quirky research interests (most recent pub is about the developmental biology of snail shell growth, and how it does and does not fit with geometrical models of the same—quirky!) Here is a photo from a recent weekend with Mark and Katherine Gergen-Barnett, who are, as always, rocking it in Boston.

From left to right: Amira G-B; me, dave; Gabriel G-B; Hannah G-B; Katherine; Mark; Emily; Wendell L; Sam L; Charlie L. Sadly no dogs were included.



Ben Strauss: After (too!) many years in Manhattan, my wife Danna and our son Noah and I have moved to leafy Princeton, NJ (ah... quiet at night, and a garden) where I'm chief scientist at the nonprofit Climate Central. And for the first time ever, we have ample room in our dwelling for guests... So any old FOOTie friends in the neighborhood or passing through should please give a holler and come visit! Warm wishes to all.

Julie Puttgen: I'm about to enter my last semester in the MA Clinical Mental Health Counseling program at Goddard College, in Vermont. I have stopped counting careers - whatever this is comes WAY after "nun" and "professor," and somewhere alongside "artist/facilitator." My thesis work will consider sexual awakening experiences in seasoned Buddhist women practitioners. What does loving subversion look like, right now? I delight in finding that out, every day.

If Julie Püttgen's husband, Timothy, were to start a magazine, it would be called *Dog and Stream*. Or maybe, more nonchalantly, *Dog & Stream*. Aided by two doughty double-coated rescue mutts, some serious cleats, and a smart phone, winter in NH opens up to endless forest wonderland. Julie tends to produce fewer essential *D&S* photos and videos than her spouse. Nevertheless, she benefits greatly from the ongoing re-wilding project of daily romps with their dogs in the Upper Valley of VT/NH. Julie's

expressive and somatic therapy practice in Hanover is thriving, and she continues to find delight in dance wherever and whenever she can.

Jennifer Pett-Ridge: OK, technically she didn't submit this, but her auto-reply is worthy of inclusion, I think: "I am on sabbatical leave in Ecuador through late June." Cool!
(Note from Meg: Should we all be starting a trend toward sabbaticals in non-academic careers, too? Because aren't sabbaticals a really, really good idea?!?)

Carrie Patterson: I have been unhappily busy lately, but I went cross country skiing once this year, on Monday. It was a relief to be outdoors in the wild. Now I'm holding on to that moment and trying to dig out of my work hole. Publishing is an often rewarding but fiscally ludicrous undertaking. I work out of my garden and dress in clothes that are 10-20 years old. This is a seriously depressing and anxiety-ridden moment in history. 50,000 homeless people in Los Angeles. Who will help us? But I'm doing what I can in the ways I can. Working on getting my father's Austrian citizenship worked out (he is Jewish, an exile after the Anschluss and lost everything). Maybe I'll move my husband and 3 cats to the EU when I get my legacy EU passport! Escapism is good, right? We also have a bug out plan with my husband's family for their ancestral land, the Philippines. Just fantasy, but fantasy is good, too, right? But it's mostly likely I will be sticking around here to try to make a difference. I miss all the FOOTies. Hello from warming Los Angeles. 90 degree beach day a month ago ... tempting for the northeasters? Take care everybody!!

Scott Walsh: Hi Guys! I was just wearing my FOOT fleece today. Our family is living in Ethiopia for a year while my wife is on detail with the US Embassy here. Addis Ababa is a frustrating city to live in, but a great base for exploring. We've been all around Ethiopia, which is pretty amazingly beautiful, as well as to Kenya, Zanzibar, Zimbabwe, and later this month, Egypt. I'm leading the local Boy Scout Troop and taught them FOOT-style tarpitecture on our last campout. Meg, thanks for keeping us all in touch. Best wishes to all y'all,

Marty Hale: hello everyone. Sooo.... The big news from the Brooklyn faction of the Hales is a new 4 month old with my Australian wife Pippa. His name is Gus and he is sleeping through the night. If anyone finds themselves near Brooklyn Bridge Park, please say hello.
Best, Marty

Jen Weyburn: I'm in Copenhagen with my family - we came here so I could serve as Director at Copenhagen International School. Great city with an outdoorsy lifestyle. I've been working on city biking in winter - particular technique for wind and snow needed. My goal for the coming year is to get into sea kayaking. Our school is right on the harbor. There is a great polar bear tradition here - in the posh part of town (the Upper East Side, if you will) come spring you will see elegant older people in bathrobes strolling down the street to the sea and then skinny dipping to start the morning. All best wishes to everyone, Jen

Kathryn (Wilder) Guarini: Oh, my, what an impressive bunch! Great to hear from everyone. We're in the less exotic locale of Westchester, NY....happily married 18 years, 18 years working in technology at IBM...3 kids (ages 15, 12, 7), 1 dog (Wheaten Terrier) who enjoys hiking on the trails behind our house.
=)

Charlie Hale: Fellow footies! Hello from the concrete forest of Manhattan. Methinks we need another reunion on a river. Like Marty, we have a newborn, except given the age gap with our 9 Yr olds, feels more like a grandkid. I'm trying to make local news a sustainable business with Patch, where we cover 2000 towns across the us. If you need things promoted for free, or want journalists on important issues, happy to help. Thanks, and miss you all. Charlie

Jay Ready [who wins the award for actually writing a haiku!]
Life is so intense
Middle age is really rough

Old parents, tough kids

I'd love to give a longer update for the newsletter, but for brevity's sake, here are the relevant details:- Further to my Haiku, my Mom died unexpectedly in early 2016, leaving my Dad behind, disabled and with significant health and personal needs.

- My mother-in-law is also fading from Alzheimer's
- Son started high school, completing the perfect tweener storm
- I had left my job at the end of 2015 to be an entrepreneur focused on geographic inequality and neighborhood transformation
- Self-employment was great for the flexibility to mourn a loss and attend to family matters
- Income, not so much
- FOOT-related, two developments: the first geographic equity project has been www.bigmarsh.org
 - o A \$10 million mountain bike park and ecological reclamation project to date
 - o Globally significant hemi-marsh for its importance to migratory birds near Lake Michigan
 - o The largest natural space in the Chicago Park District
- Second, with my puppy and thinking fresh about mortality, I started hiking a lot:
 - o Mapped out a continuous trail in natural spaces, 150+ miles around Chicago, which I call Chicago's Outerbelt hiking trail
 - o Started a Nonprofit organization, Outerbelt Alliance NFP, to be unveiled soon
 - o Come to Chicago and Hike Chicago's Outerbelt with me!

Miss you all, Jay

Meg Wickwire: I'm still in Concord, MA with my husband, Bill, and son, Penn. Penn is 11. I've loved seeing him grow and experiment with homework subversion, swearing like a sailor, and clay model re-enactments of WWII and Star Wars battles. He's full of energetic fun, yet a wonderfully peaceful soul. Bill has finally begun to think seriously about retiring. He has taught history and coached at BB&N School in Cambridge for more than 40 years. Unfathomable to people like me who get the career-switch-itch every couple of months. Actually, though, I'm still working full time as a tutor, earning about double what I did as a full-time classroom teacher. Go figure. Life is insanely busy some days (I had to expand my calendar view to include 14 hours, as 12 wasn't enough!), but I can fit in a long hike in the beautiful forests of Concord several days a week, and I've been having fun pretending to be obsessed with my Fitbit. It turns out that except for the running part, I do about a marathon and a half every week. Feeling this strong is a thrill I don't take lightly after cancer and chemo (7 years ago—all's good now!). Many days also leave me enough time to sit in a comfy chair with a mug of tea and read for a bit. Sometimes the reading is actually part of my prep work, so I can even feel virtuous—working, yet comfy and cozy! Pretty darn lucky, I am. Boppity Bop and all the best to all of you, Meg

Class of 1995

Sara (Heitler) Bambergere, reporting from Berkeley: Professionally, I've been doing nonprofit consulting, with a focus on capacity-building support for urban squash programs that offer squash and educational opportunities for underserved kids. Personally, as a mother of five kids ages 7-17, I spend a lot of time doing, well, parent-y things like coaching kids sports (Ultimate and squash), watching and schlepping to kids sports (crew, basketball, climbing, gymnastics), helping with homework, dealing with the spectrum of child issues from who sits in what car seat to AP and SAT prep, co-parenting with my husband, and enjoying the last few months of having all my brood living in-house.

The biggest news is that we will be relocating to Israel in the fall. We were there for two years from 2015-2017, and while we love all of our friends and family in Berkeley, it feels like the right next step for our family. If you find yourself in the Middle East, let me know!

Geoff Tanner: I've seen or talked to at least three of the people on this list within the last year, so some of you know what's up...but mainly, I live in New Haven, while serving as a faculty member at UConn Storrs, with my two lovely girls and my lovely wife Tasha, who is here for the year on a fellowship from Berea College in KY. Our house is conveniently located between many other places people seem to like to go, so if you are swinging through, or even coming specifically to New Haven, as Anne Egger did,

please come and stay with us, as Anne Egger did! Hope all are well!

Anne Egger: I went back to Yale in April last year for a Slavic Chorus Reunion: 50 years! And I hadn't been back to New Haven in - I think - 15 years. The reunion was awesome, and I got to hang out with Geoff Tanner, too. He and his girls came to one of our rehearsals PACKED with women to hear us sing. The whole event was a good kick in the butt for me to remember that I've been missing music and singing in my life, so I'm working on that. :) Otherwise, it's been a year - I'm sure many of you relate. Lots of health issues for parents and in-laws, life transitions for kids, career transitions for me. I won't bore you with the details of the ups and downs, the pleasures and challenges. But I hope you are all muddling through and still getting some time outside to catch your breath. I've spotted Kristen McDonald and Sarah Kelley and been in touch with Susan Burton, Dave Lambert, and BC Connolly. Hope all is well, Anne

And here we are again! FOOT Leaders and Slavs. (We made it into the 2018 newsletter since I published it so late...hmm...)

Cilla, Anne Egger '95, Catherine Kastleman '10, Sophie Oberfield '01, Sara Hipkens '01, Sylke Jackson '92, & Tasha Eccles '07.



Class of 1996

Jo Ilfeld: Here's my news in bullet points:

- I have 3 kids winging their way into adolescence: 12 year old daughter, 15 and almost 18 year old sons.
- My oldest is applying to colleges now. TBD where he ends up!
- My explorer's heart is still wide open. We took the kids all around Europe 2 summers ago, we're going to Alaska in June for an active trip and then Chile in December 2020. And I'd love to plan a Safari.
- I'm (and have been for 10 years) an executive leadership coach. My company is Incite To Leadership (incitetoleadership.com) and I work with leaders across the Bay Area and even got to travel to

Japan for work last spring which was a total high. Thankfully all before Corona Virus! ;-)

- I'm now co-president of YaleWomen of NorCal so if there are any norcal women who want to get involved, tell them to reach out to me!
- My husband and i are celebrating our 20th anniversary this summer with a trip to Fiji together and getting away from it all. I can only imagine for today's teens how amazing it is for them to be unplugged during FOOT.
- My closest to backpacking right now is hiking but I've really developed a love of hiking the past few years and try to go for 1-2 hikes a week. Usually in the hills above Berkeley.

Hmmm that's it. I don't see many other FOOTies. I've been in brief contact with Elizabeth Murphy but wish I had actually seen her. Busy lives and kids.

That's all my news. Well probably that's only a sliver of it but I can't think what would be interesting to others. Warmly, Jo

Here's me hiking in AZ in January, a YaleWomen of NorCal hike I organized for Berkeley, and with my kids.



Class of 1997

Jesse Heitler: All in all, life is good. I'm still living in London where my wife and I are amused by how British our three kids (12, 10 and 5) are becoming. Last year I launched a company to help banks manage their internal governance more efficiently. The "mountains" are a bit wimpy on this island, but apart from that I can't complain.

Amelia Shaw: I live in Ecuador with my husband Mario and my kids Luna (9), Stella (7) and Enzo (3) where we take advantage of a lot of hiking in the volcanoes and peaks around Quito. I still have my

FOOT hat, which I take out from time to time since the sun at the equator is brutal. We finished up living a few years in Laos in southeast Asia, it's never dull in the Foreign Service. I'm happy being able to explore distant corners of the world. Attaching a few pics from a river trip in Ecuador's Amazon.



Class of 1998

Matt Stiebel: he is doing well in South Florida. He added a rescue dog to his family this past year.



Liz Averill: Coincidentally, also added a rescue dog to her family this year! His name is Freedom!

Gretchen Boger: Gretchen is still teaching history at the Baldwin School for girls outside Philadelphia. Having stepped down from a term as department chair this year, she is filling in the reclaimed time with distance running, a return to singing in church choir, a foray into handbells, and climate volunteering as a Tree Tender for the city of Philadelphia, a participant in Citizens Climate Lobby, and a green team coordinator at church. Her husband, Tom, continues to train and coordinate disaster relief volunteers for the United Methodist Church. Her daughters Edith and Alice are in ninth and fifth grades, and the year without a middle schooler in the house is proving to be a great one for family relations! The whole family continues to be involved in the wonderful Farm & Wilderness camps in central Vermont, where Edith will graduate to the teen farming camp this summer and Alice has decided to try the totally off-the-grid new wilderness camp for girls. In an alternate fantasy life, Gretchen would live in the Green Mountains year-round.



Class of 1999

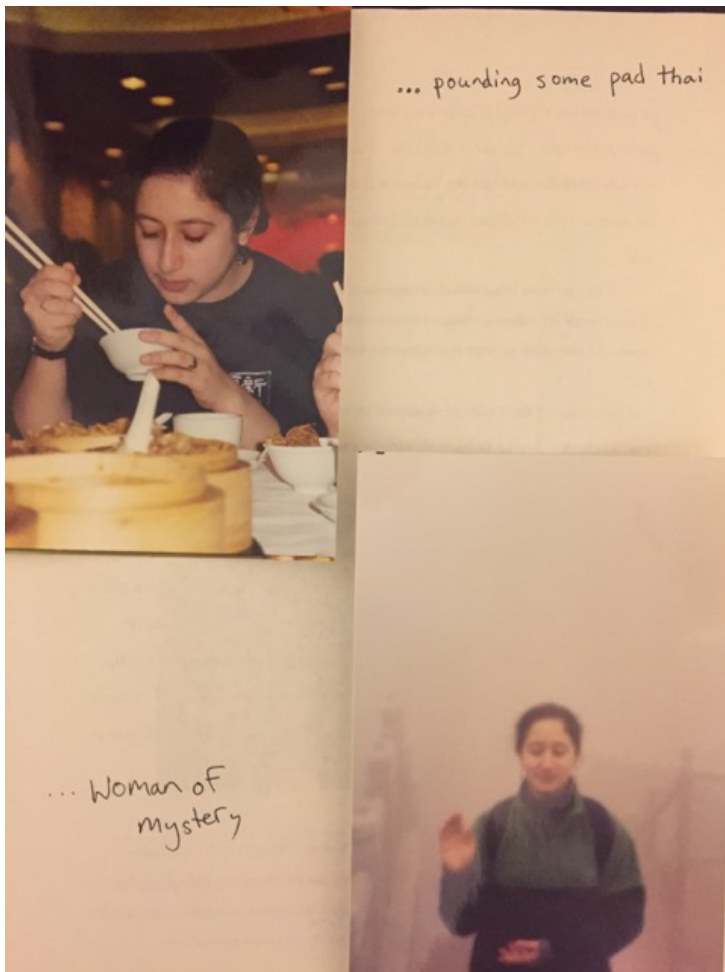
Ali Slater: the news in my life is that I got married, a little late, in 2018, to a wonderful woman named Priyali. We met at the World Bank where we were both working to promote sustainable global development and inclusion. She hails from India and, after five years in the US, she wanted to spend time closer to her family. So, in December, we left DC and moved to New Delhi, where I now work as the Deputy Managing Director of the US-India Business Council and she is a consultant to the Bank. In a strange twist of fate, my sister and nephews also live in Delhi, as she became a foreign correspondent for the Washington Post also in 2018. We feel very lucky to have so many people we love nearby and it has been a fabulous adventure so far. If any FOOT leaders find themselves passing through town, I'd be happy to connect with them and show them the town, although I admit that I'm still discovering much of it myself!

Class of 2000

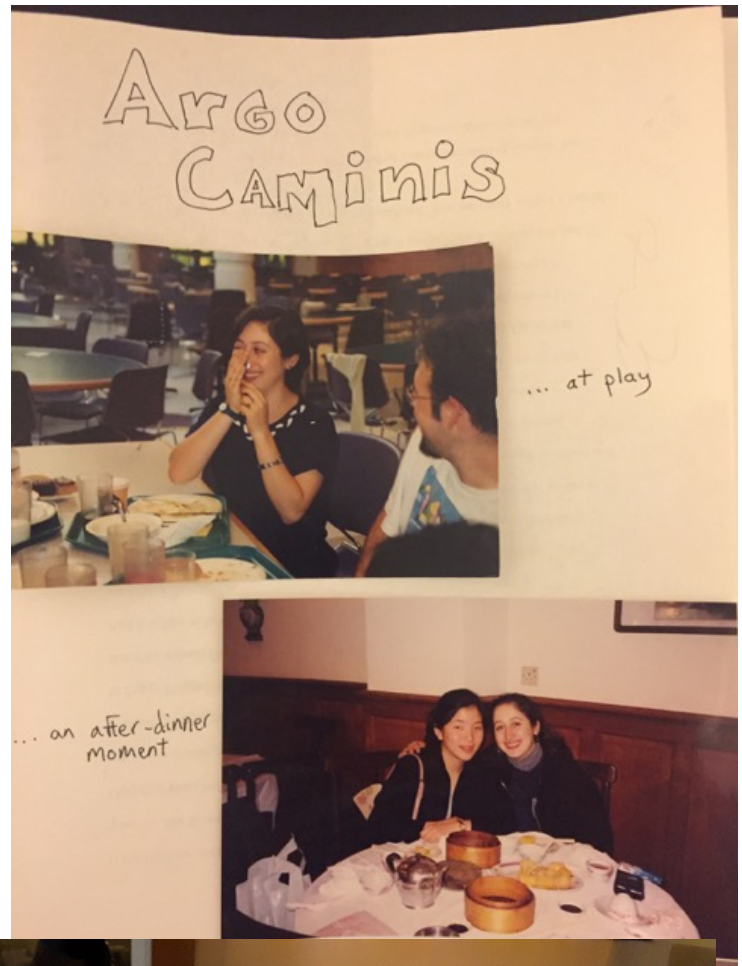
Emilie Hitch: Following my anthropologist mind and creative heart, I've found purpose in the global food/ag system working with NGOs, farmer organizations, and multinational companies. Projects with farmers from Cambodia to Zambia opened up a practice of strategic planning and climate change mitigation. I'm currently serving on the board for Eat for Equity & The Quetico Superior Foundation, and I'm a co-founder of DMA – a creative placemaking organization pioneering mural programs to bring art and uplift to rural America. Wailing Loons (my progressive folk-rock, americana band) will be touring nationally, and releasing a new full-length, self-titled album this year. Find us on instagram and wherever you stream your musical joy :)

Jacob B. Heitler: My wife Rachel and I are still in Berkeley, CA. I'm still chugging away at LifeLink.com, the startup I cofounded which focuses on patient engagement with chatbots. We've got 3 little kids (2, 4, and 6), so our hands are full with pasta and cheese, diapers, and survival. Not as much time communing with the wilderness as I'd like, but as people say, not all happiness is fun. :)
720.635.7376

Argo Caminis: Again, Cilla ran into Argo at the YAA Assembly (formerly AYA) in November. We had a lovely lunch together. Argo is a psychiatrist and professor at the Harvard Medical Hospital in Boston.



Look what Cilla found in the archives!!! From one of the original FOOT Facebooks!! (Way before FB existed!)



Class of 2002

John Norbury, Amanda (Farris) Mahaffey and her husband Kevin met up in the outer banks of North Carolina in December to share a meal, watch John's 4 year old twins jump into a swimming pool, and build mattress fort in a hotel room in North Carolina. John is also happy to report that 2019 marked a landmark career milestone where he published a paper on the utility of submerging hot dogs in metamucil and Jello



for the training of physicians in ultrasound guided injections (PMID 30575067). Apparently, nobody had thought of this before! He current research endeavors are focused on plant based options for ultrasound and medicine in general.



Class of 2003

Bates Barley: Hello friends! I am currently living in Duxbury Mass (my hometown) with my husband and 4 children (ages 1 to 10). I have stayed home with them since our second was born and am currently homeschooling (“homeschooling” may be more accurate) our older 2. We are in a bit of a transition - not sure yet what my husband Will (SY ‘05) is going to do next career-wise - so in the meantime loving being near my siblings and extended family, trying to savor this time with our 3 sons mostly delighting in their baby sister’s antics, and looking forward to maybe landing in the Boston area after many years in Abu Dhabi, some in London, and most recently in Waco, TX. Forest walks are a regular part of our week (although we sometimes have to brand them as Mandalorian adventures with light sabres to entice the unwilling). Xoxo Bates

Louise Langheier: Hello wonderful FOOT people! Makes me so happy to think of everyone involved in FOOT in writing this update. My husband Jay and I still live in the Presidio National Park in San Francisco which feels like as FOOT-like a life as one could have in the city. We have three little guys-- Davis who is almost 6, Logan who is almost 4, and Bobby who just turned 1. We are knee deep in being their parents and enjoying the family and friends who we consider family in our lives. One of those friends, godfather to Logan and Yale '03 classmate, Brian Wallach, was diagnosed with a terminal illness called ALS two years ago, and we have both been honored to support him and his amazing wife Sandra as they've launched efforts to combat the disease for themselves and others. The most prominent of those efforts is I AM ALS, a foundation building a patient-led movement to cure ALS. Check it out and join us at iamals.org. We've also done lots of fun adventuring with Brian, Sandra, and others as Brian's condition has reminded us of the power of living in the moment with the people we love and for the causes we believe in. I continue work with Peer Health Exchange and Jay with Zipongo. Hope to see any of you if you are in sf or we are adventuring in your neck of the woods soon! Love, Louise

Ben Schrader: Hi FOOT! Kristina and I had a super exciting 2019. I spent the first half of the year up to my eyeballs in work, getting ready for and then trying a two-month-long RICO gang case. Meanwhile, on the day we picked the jury, Kristina and I found out that kid #1 was on the way. We spent the summer aggressively nesting, knocking out a bunch of projects around the house and getting the place ready for the little man. On Halloween night, James Beaumont Schrader came howling into the world. So far he is a man of few words, but his nanny Miss Andi has been working on his Spanish ☺ Kristina has been a total champ, and is back kicking butt at her day job as a copyright and trademark lawyer here in Nashville. We did have a bit of sad news this past year: we had to put down Sammy, one of our two dachshunds (he is survived by his little sister Vera). First time I have ever had to put a pet down, and man, it really sucks! Sammy was 14 when he finally joined the choir invisible, and lived a good long life, which seemed to be mostly one of leisure. Now that we've got a kiddo who is going to need some exposure to the natural world, we've resolved to spend more time on the trails around Nashville. I try to keep up my FOOT cred through my monthly membership at the local hipster climbing gym. Missing all of the FOOT folks, and already counting down the days until our 20th reunion . . .



Julie Stein: Things are going great in DC! I've been busy adulting at breakneck speed over the past few years. I got married in 2017, welcomed a son (Isaiah) in 2018, took a breather in 2019, and had a second baby boy (Asher) a week ago to kick off 2020! Isaiah alternately gives hugs to his little brother and ignores him in favor of anything with wheels. On the professional side, I'm a history teacher and the 10th-grade dean at Georgetown Day School. I've been there for 7 years now and love it. Although life is busy these days, we try to break out the hiking boots and baby framepack and get out into the woods whenever we can. Last summer, we headed out on a 6-week east coast road trip and hiked all over Vermont, New Hampshire, and Maine. We even got in some high altitude hiking on a quick trip to Colorado which was literally and figuratively breathtaking (especially when you're 3 months pregnant). Sending lots of love to my FOOT buddies!





Sasha Waring: I've fully embraced the PNW life after identifying as a Californian since birth. My wife Avantika and I picked up and moved from Oakland to Seattle in 2016 to chase cooler sounding medical jobs and immense access to Nature. We live for evening and weekend adventures with our three boys (9, 6, and 4), each other, and occasionally solo. I'm fairly obsessed with trail and ultra running, which I try to balance with healthy doses of climbing, biking, skiing and paddle boarding. Even 21 years on from my first FOOT trip I still think often about those experiences in the VT and CT woods. Thanks Cilla and Co!

Karen Weise: Greetings from Seattle! We're currently in something like 24 consecutive days of rain, but other than that, life is good! Our three-year-old is a hoot—goofy and cuddly and ridiculously verbal with quite a YOLO vibe. He's been a great traveler and has turned into an extremely determined hiker, insisting he scramble up mountains by himself, even when it's damn slow and at times ill advised! I changed jobs in August 2018 to join The New York Times, where I'm the Seattle tech correspondent. There's been some crazy news cycles but also room for more investigative work—a good mix, and I'm learning a ton. Please holler if you swing through town!



Class of 2004

Madeline Fleisher: Happy to provide an update at least once a decade: I'm still happily settled in Columbus, Ohio (new slogan: "drop the comma" -- okay, that's an insider Columbus joke), now at 5 years and counting for probably several decades more. Still have two kids (Henry, 6 and Jane, 3, aka Penguin and Unicorn per the photo). We're hopefully headed toward some more extensive outdoor adventures as Henry has started Cub Scouts this year, meanwhile enjoying our robust Metroparks system. The big change in the last year was that I moved from lawyering for an environmental non-profit, the Environmental Law & Policy Center, to lawyering for a law firm, Dickinson Wright. But there's a definite through-line in that I'm still getting to work in support of clean energy and clean water policy in

Ohio as well as a few other states where the firm has offices, just with some private sector clients, so continuing to exercise all my nerdy energy/environmental regulation neurons and muscles. Sometimes exhausting but never boring at least. Plus we now have rooftop solar so that's fun! (Electric vehicle is next.)



Moira Heiges-Goepfert: After a cross-country drive featuring stops at the Grand Canyon, Arches and other amazing parks, my husband and I finally moved from NYC to the West coast with our two girls, landing in the Bay Area. I'm working for a plaintiff-side employment and civil rights law firm in San Francisco, and having a great time reconnecting with college friends and getting to know the local hikes and natural wonders of this beautiful area. Looking forward to more adventuring once we manage to get settled in...



Adam Stack: Ending a long chapter in Somerville, MA, I moved to Santa Fe, NM, where I work in environmental consulting, mainly collaborating with Native American tribes to communicate the cultural impacts of environmental damage. If you're passing through the Southwest, come visit!! [Yes, fellow FOOT Leaders—Adam Stack is a real person!]

Class of 2005

Carrie Coughlin: Wishing everyone an excellent 2020. -Carrie

Aaron Mitchell: I am still living in NYC and loving every minute of it. We recently shifted neighborhoods to the East Village. Still working at Memorial Sloan Kettering.

My wife Grace and I just welcomed our daughter Vivian Serena earlier this fall. As of when I'm writing this, we are about to take her on her first trip back "home" to the Appalachian mountains (Asheville) for Christmas, so I can give her a taste of the outdoors and toughen her up a bit before this city life starts to get her too soft. Her is her first Halloween costume. She went as Goku and got really in to powering up, as you can see. -Aaron



Edward Pritchett: My wife Rebecca and I are enjoying our move to Puerto Rico, minus the earthquakes. We have completed our family with the birth of our twins back in May of 2019. Luke and Raina joined their older brother and sister, Theodore and Amara who are now 4 and 2 respectively. Attached is a little Christmas picture of us from this year. I hope all is well with you. Cheers, Eddie

Class of 2006

Dannie Lovell: Life split between SF and Vancouver continues to be pretty great. My husband John is working on his third independent video game project (an indie Souls-like for anyone who still plays video games), and our lovely daughter Soma just had her first birthday (us at a friend's wedding this weekend). Life in the late mid-thirties feels a lot about growing into mastering what I do and how I do it, but also working for a startup brings all sorts of exciting chaos week by week.



Becky Levy: I've been having a blast in my training out in Palo Alto. I'm wrapping up child neurology residency and preparing to start medical genetics fellowship as well as basic lab work at Stanford, where my hubby is also a doctor. My son Marcus is almost 7 and has become an avid ornithologist, skier, and we are looking forward to his first camping trip this summer. We hope anyone passing through the Bay Area will come visit!

Brandon Middaugh: Mark and I are enjoying watching Davis (10 months) learn to walk but haven't yet fitted him to carry a backpack. In fact he'll get to ride in one for the upcoming hiking season. Claire Gagne (FOOT '06) joined us in Seattle this January to ring in the new decade with a polar bear plunge in Puget Sound. Looking forward to hearing the latest FOOT news from our fellow 06ers.

Mike "Dot Dot" Brown: I am enjoying life here in Charlotte, with my two kids aged 5 and 3. I fondly recall driving all over Vermont with my sophomore year support group, and send my love to my trip co leader Perrin!

Dawn Lippert: All is well at Elemental Exceerator - we're growing like a weed and this year reached 99 startups invested in with breakthrough climate solutions. Despite the challenges, I still think there's hope in bending the emissions curve. ...which is a good thing because now I have a little person who's future depends on it! Brody and I had a baby last year, Lily Quinn, who is now 10 months old. She loves blueberries and backpacking, and is stoked to host all fellow mini FOOTies who come visit us in Hawai'i.



Jason Fischer: 'll be finishing up my Pediatric Emergency Medicine Fellowship this spring at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and I took a job in Boston with Boston Children's Hospital beginning in August, so we'll be moving up North this summer. We also welcomed our two newest editions, Reid and Keaton Fischer 3 weeks ago (twins are a totally new experience...). Big brother Lyle (now 4 years old) has been showing his sister, Merin (20 mos) all about how to be a big sibling. They're both excited about joining their buddies Jonah and Ezra Caven-Warren up in the Boston area. Laura, Will and I got our families together this winter for a kid-friendly sledding mini-FSAS reunion in the Poconos in December which was a lot of fun. Lyle is already a FOOT leader in training having conquered a 3 day/2 night trip paddling up in Central Maine this past summer (I took him on a canoe trip this summer up near my old camp just the two of us, which was a blast).

Aaron Zelinsky: All I could get out of Aaron, was "No comment." You know he is doing important stuff.

Class of 2007

Tasha Eccles: Hi, everyone! I'm back in New Haven as of last fall, teaching in the English department at Yale, developing vehement opinions about pizza in spite of myself, and trying not to get lost in the labyrinthine trails of East Rock Park. I don't generally identify myself as an alumna to my students, but I do like to play a secret game of "guess the FOOT leaders" with myself. I'm always tickled when I'm proved right by the course of events. This week during office hours one of my students compared a poem we were reading to the FOOT icebreaker "Hometown" (???), cited as though it were a household name. Highlight of my week!

Annie Galvin: After 8 years in Charlottesville, VA, I've relocated to New York City, which has considerably fewer mountains. I have something called a Mellon / ACLS Public Fellowship, which supports humanities PhDs transitioning into careers outside (or in my case adjacent to) academia. Through the fellowship, I'm an editor and podcast producer at *Public Books*, an online magazine of scholarship and the arts based at Columbia and NYU. If you, too, are in the Big Apple and missing the mountains, let me know and we can go climb or ski down something!

Anny Gaul: Anny Gaul defended her dissertation on North African food history last summer and has spent this academic year doing a postdoc at Tufts. Recent FOOT related hangouts include hangouts with Caroline Howe in both DC and Boston and Brent Godfrey in New Orleans. She'll be heading back to the DC area to start a job in the Arabic department at the University of Maryland College Park in the fall.

Caroline Howe: Caroline Howe is still doing improv, hiking and biking, spending time in the garden, and trying to do a ton of artistic projects, so not much as changed since college. She is still teaching sustainability entrepreneurship as an adjunct, but has left full time university-life to work for the DC Department of Energy and Environment, coordinating the implementation of the Sustainable DC plan, which is, for the moment, living the dream!

This is Caroline and her 5-year-old rabbit, Sherpa!



John Vinson: Just a month ago, back in February, my wife Laura and I welcomed our first kid, Eleanor. We live a bit north of DC where I've been since 2012, working for NIST.



Class of 2008



Annie Hirschhorn: my daughter, Lena, turned one in December and keeps us very busy! She loves eating (see photos) and playing outside, so she's definitely my child and ready for FOOT 2036! My husband, Evan, works as an athletic director at a school in Glenn Dale, MD, and I continue to enjoy being my own boss running Clean Lines, my professional organizing business. We don't get into nature as much as we'd like, save for walks in the neighborhood that include our sweet dog, Zora. BUT we recently got a hiking pack to carry Lena, so hoping to have some more outdoor adventures this spring and summer!
Xoxo Annie



Olga Berlinsky LaBelle: I've just had a baby! I'm not checking or responding to e-mails at this time as I bond with the little guy.

Class of 2009

Lizzie Fulton:

These days I'm living in Mexico City with my husband Aaron Reiss (Yale '10) and welcoming any and all visitors. Recently got one by our very own **Ian Dull**. I work as an immigration lawyer, mostly doing asylum work at the border. Sending love to everyone.

Laura Zatz: Hello FOOT! It was great to see so many 09ers at reunion in June! The big news is that Ben and I moved to Providence, RI last summer. We were sad to leave Boston, but it was time to switch off on the commuting burden (and save some money on rent lol). We're having fun exploring Rhode Island and we get to hang out with **Jasper Frank** and **Mara Harwel** more often. I've been keeping busy frantically trying to finish my dissertation and applying for jobs in nutrition policy. We didn't get to hike as much as we would've liked last year, but we did enjoy some quality hikes in the Catskills with **Severin Knudsen** and friends for a BK wedding. Let us know if you're passing through Providence -- we're happy to show you around!

Tom Gilliland and Edwina Clarke: Greetings from cloudy Boston! As you know, Edwina and I have a 7-month old named Thomas. Hope you guys are all happy and healthy, T/E

Becca Levenson: I hope you're doing well!! We've got a major update this year. Our daughter Sophie Bressler was born on December 17! We're happy to report that her primal scream is ready for cross campus. See picture.



Class of 2010

Zack Abrahamson: Zack had an eventful 2019: After Deepa Mahajan swept into his life in 2017, the two were married last August in Half Moon Bay, California, in the presence of family, friends, and more than a few FOOT leaders. Zack and Deepa live in San Francisco, where Deepa works as a consultant and Zack as a lawyer. Come visit!

Eli Bildner: After lots of moving around, I've now hit two milestones — the longest I've ever lived (post-college) in the same house (1.5 years!), and my longest-ever job tenure (26 months!). All to say, my wife Astrid and I are still living in Oakland and taking advantage of the Bay's proximity to outdoor adventuring. On the job front, I'm still working to grow the org I started a couple years back, a college designed to support traditionally underserved students like working adults and parent learners. Highlights of the past year included lots of good time with family and friends, a fair bit of time on a bike, making a



lot of pizza with my pizzaiolo brother **Rafi**, and watching my 18-month-old nephew learn the word "algorithm." (Note: FOOT parents, please do not buy the book "Baby Loves Coding.") Sending good vibes all around.

Libbey Davis Hunt: 2019 was a wonderful year in Denver, exploring Colorado outdoors and some other wonderful

travel to see friends and explore the world as well. Our big news is that we moved to Boston over the holidays to be closer to family—has already been wonderful to reconnect with some FOOT friends in the area, and we are looking forward to doing more of that in the future—let us know if you're in the area! Our even bigger news is that we're expecting little baby Davis Hunt this summer! Much love to all!

Dan Frank: I'm still in San Francisco's Lower Haight neighborhood, but left my startup-turned-big-tech job of six years to take a breather and enjoy all the outdoors that California has to offer. I highly recommend it!

Leslie Golden: Hey FOOT crew, my big life update is that in August I'm moving to Salt Lake City, Utah! I am currently finishing up the 5th year of my Orthopedic Surgery residency at UNC and will be heading west for one year of sports fellowship. Look for me on the sideline of Utes football games. I can't wait for all the outdoor adventures I am going to have. I would love to explore with some FOOT leaders so hit me up if you're in the area!

Dan Schechner: Reporting live from the Trader Joe's zoo as we fight for the last cans of beans in anticipation of the apocalyptic coronavirus lockdown. Other than losing an eye to a rabid snarling 72-year old after grabbing a box of carrot-ginger soup (low sodium of course), life continues apace. I traded in my aeroponic overalls last September for catering delivery bags, now working as a general manager for DoorDash. My wife and I still live in NYC near the best babka bakery in the city -- if that doesn't make you interested in stopping by for a coffee, hot chocolate, or game of backgammon, then you'll just have to settle for the Union Square farmers market on Saturdays. Hope to see some of you at the reunion!

Rana Searfoss: Hey FOOT family! I miss you all! 2019 was an awesome year--lots of time exploring the lakes and breweries in Minneapolis, traveling across the US to weddings of dear friends, and crosswording with family. I still work in Strategy at UnitedHealthcare's Medicaid business, but the big news is that I'm moving to DC this Spring to be with my partner David--I'm excited to be done with long distance and move back east near family. For those in the area, I can't wait to hang out--give me a ring!

Becca Summer: I graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in May with my PhD in Geography. After seven years in Wisconsin, my husband and I said a bittersweet goodbye and moved to Portland, Oregon in August. I'm now an Assistant Professor in the University Honors College at Portland

State University. I do research and teach about urban history and planning, and I'm really enjoying the students at PSU. We're still adjusting to a big move, but are happy about the warmer winters and having the mountains and ocean nearby. The donuts and coffee in Portland aren't bad either!

Craig Minoff: Hey FOOT fam, 2019 was a wonderful year and full of change. Changed jobs (left Airbnb after 4.5 yrs to join a hospitality startup called Kasa), ended a long term relationship (and am now in a promising new one!) and changed apartments to live with fellow FOOT leader Peter Wilczynski (2012). Lots of outdoor adventures and FOOT leader shenanigans in between, including this gem in San Diego with the Settlers crew:



Class of 2011

Thomas Meyer: I'm in my second year of B-school at MIT and will be living in Boston for the foreseeable future. I've been #blessed to see many FOOT leaders over the last year, so let me know if you're in town!

Kate Grace: Kate splits time between Portland, OR; Colorado Springs; and Park City, UT. Please drop a line if you're in town(s). If dates match, she would like nothing more than to catch up over coffee or an easy hike. For the track fans out there, she runs for the Bowerman Track Club. The deciding step to this year's Olympics are the Track and Field trials in June 19th-28th in Eugene, Oregon. Come cheer in person, or follow along with the NBC coverage!

Will “Bolded” O’Shaughnessy: looking older (but none the wiser).

Hilary Faxon: is wrapping up 5+ years in Myanmar and a PhD! Assuming all goes to plan, you can catch her hiking in the Sierra and rafting in the PNW this summer before the next adventure.

Chris Magoon: Hey gang, Doing well, living in Harlem working at Columbia's hospital for the first year of psychiatry residency. My wife and I are really enjoying the neighborhood with lots of nice parks and a fun vibe. Holler if you're ever around.

Chelsea Willett: Recently re-located from Berkeley to Oakland and hoping to get outside even more in 2020! Got to see many awesome FOOT 2011 folks in the past year, including Lauren Smith + Monica Ceragioli on a trip to Maine, Thomas Meyer + Yuri Shadunsky + Dennis Howe in New York, and Rebecca Hinkle in the Bay Area.

Riley Scripps Ford: After dating for several eons, Kate Wiener (FOOT '15) and I tied the knot in October here in New York. FOOT 2011 attendance was predictably strong, with Jon Russell, Chris Brown, Chris Lash, Steph Marton, and Jeannette Penniman doing us proud on the dance floor. My parents seemed surprised we have such cool friends. Aside from the dog we don't have (yet), life is good: Kate graduated from HLS in June and is currently clerking on the New York State Court of Appeals before starting her corporate gig at Davis Polk; I work for a relatively non-evil hedge fund called Select Equity Group, which I love. We live in Flatiron but frequently escape to hike Breakneck Ridge, which is a Hudson Valley “9” but a White Mountains “4.” Much FLUV to all—be sure to drop us a line next time you're in the big city.

Akina (Aki) Younge: Hello FOOT friends and fam, near and far! In 2019 I graduated from the Harvard Kennedy School Masters in Public Policy program and created a website to teach people about algorithms with my friends for our master's thesis (check it out at automating.nyc). I was lucky to get to travel a lot during my grad school time including going to India, Palestine & Israel, Turkey, Ecuador (specifically the Galápagos), Ex-Yugoslavia (Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Serbia, Montenegro), and Mexico...some of which I got to show on my new INSTAGRAM account which I started in 2019 (I still don't have a Snapchat account though the kids tell me it's cool). I also still play ultimate frisbee, including with my old team Revolution from Medellín, Colombia. We played in and won the first ever semi-professional women's frisbee league last summer! I am now back in NYC working for a planning firm, but not really on a traditional planning project. My project is to work with School District 28 in Queens NY as a facilitator, leading a process of community conversations and community policy brainstorming that will end with the community making their own policy plans on how to improve their school district, focusing on valuing diversity and integration. It's a hard but meaningful project...so I've been trying to spend time with friends, my family (and new niece!), and nature to help keep me grounded and would love to see any FOOT folks in the NYC area.

Dounia Bredes: Still teaching and loving it! Moving from New Delhi, India to Monterey, California in June 2020. Getting married sometime in 2021, or whenever Jose Carlos and I can agree on a time and a place. Recent photo from a party in Delhi...sadly, not my scooter.



Elliott Brennan: I'm still in Washington, DC, running my long-shot presidential campaign out of a Starbucks on Pennsylvania Ave. Was lucky enough to run into **Tully McLoughlin, Chris Lash, Thomas**

Meyer, and Dennis Howe at Long Beach Island, NJ, last summer (photo attached, sorry it's the best I have and Chris refused to wear a shirt all weekend). I've been spending my free time getting knocked over by guys who outweigh me by 100 pounds (second and third photos) and really enjoying DC. Most importantly, **Dennis Howe**, Esquire, recently moved to town so if you have been in a car accident or if you are the victim of medical malpractice, he's your man! Call 1-800-GET-RICH and win the settlement that you deserve!



Class of 2012

Adi Kamdar: This past year was amazing! I got married and moved back to San Francisco, where I'm working as a lawyer, going on hikes (literally) every weekend, and hanging out with an incredible FOOT crew (Peter Wilczynski, Thomas Smyth, Pete Croughan, Joe Schottenfeld, Julia Lurie, and I'm sure many more). My wife's name is Naomi, and you'll love her when you meet her. We have a great place out in San Francisco with a SECOND BEDROOM, and we love love love hosting people. Come visit!

Ari Berkowitz: Hi y'all! I'm still living in LA with my dog, Toby Ziegler Berkowitz. This year for Halloween he went as Toby Wan Kenobi. When I'm not arranging pun dog costumes, I'm writing for the CBS comedy, "Carol's Second Act" and writing a couple movies for studios (a romcom and a Christmas movie — go Jews)! My favorite thing this year has been condescendingly telling people that I was singing "Baby Shark" (as led by Jon Russell at FOOT) wayyyyy before it was cool. Miss you all!

Eliza Scheffler: Hi friends! 2019. Big year! Big changes in my family: my last living grandparent passed away at the age of 99.5! He was spry and full of life until his last days. Then a month later, I got married!

Our hora was EPIC; it lasted about 45 minutes. My husband's name is Andy. He plays piano and makes me feel great. My sister and bro-in-law had a baby! She likes to smush food on her face. Andy's brother and sis-in-law have 2 kids! We love hanging with our nieces and having all our close family nearby. I'm still in Rabbinical school, working at an awesome congregation in Brooklyn. We try to leave the city for hikes as much as we can. If you want to join, please reach out! Always happy to have hiking buddies. Much love to all.



Brendan Ternus: Still living and thriving in Melbourne, where I've launched a series of fun arts education projects: a program designing escape rooms with kids, an immersive theatre experience on bikes, and a professionally-published book of "creepy horror" stories written and edited by middle schoolers. I just got back from a solo hike through Wilson's Prom, a national park at the southernmost tip of mainland Australia, where I jumped in the ocean all along the trail and big-spooned a 1kg tub of hummus. Adam Stack, if you're reading this, thank you for your legacy. Sending you all "heaps" of love and good vibes from around the world!

Picture: Me exhausted and elated at the sunset end of my hike.



Rae Ellen Bichell
Still living in Colorado (let me know if you find yourself in the Boulder area!) and still doing public radio. Otherwise mostly chasing down this goober. Look how he got himself dressed for a walk.

Jack Bisceglia

Hey gang! It's been a BIG year! I got married to my wonderful wife Dibya in May, and in September I became an uncle, which is a pretty sweet gig. Dibya and I are living in DUMBO, Brooklyn – come over some time and we'll cook for you! Here's a pic of us from our Nepalese wedding ceremony in Virginia.



Adrienne Spiegel: Hi All! I graduated from law school this year and finally moved west. I'm living in Berkeley (with Rosie Bichell -- sister of famed FOOT leader Rae Ellen), and working in Oakland, fighting against gender-based violence and police brutality. If you're in the area, please give a shout! I'd love to get together for a hike, climb, beer, scone. Miss you all <3.

Class of 2013

Stephanie Rivkin: While 2018 was a year of big change, 2019 was quite a bit more constant - I am still in Chicago, still at Google, and still married to Joel Sircus ('14). Joel and I had the chance to tackle a 3-day trek outside of Queenstown, New Zealand over the holidays. Ric Caraballo ('13) made a surprise visit



to Chicago for my birthday a few weeks back. And I am looking forward to heading back to New Haven for commencement this year to watch Alex Rivkin ('20) walk across the Pierson College tent! Hope everyone is doing well!

Ric Caraballo: Feels crazy to think about, but I just finished my third year of living in San Francisco and working for Tesla. It's been a pretty wild ride but one that I'm still enjoying very much and hope to be on for a long time to come. Been thinking about picking up a new hobby lately, if you have any suggestions hit me up.



Helen McCreary: I'm in Columbus now, working at the Ohio UAS (Unmanned Aerial Systems) Center! I fly a lot of drones, collect a lot of data, and solve a lot of problems. Hit me up if you're ever in the area!

David Carel and Diana Saverin: Diana and I wanted to send in a little update. We got married in early November in the Adirondacks and give full credit to FOOT for introducing us. For our pre-wedding honeymoon, we walked and floated for six weeks across the central Brooks Range in Arctic Alaska with our sled dog, Mason, and have since settled into a cozy cabin life in Fairbanks, Alaska.

Megan Leslie: I just finished up my third year of medical school at UVA in Charlottesville, and am gearing up to apply to Internal Medicine residencies this year. I had the wonderful privilege of hosting Charlotte Parker and Katie Fruin (both FOOT '13) at my ranch on the Southern Oregon coast for New Year's (photos attached - any and all are more than welcome to visit if you ever find yourself in the area!).



Marissa Caan: I am a psychiatry resident at Cambridge Health Alliance in Cambridge, MA. Attached is a photo. Hope all is well.



Alex Kramer ('13) is still in New York and still acting, with appearances in *Law & Order: SVU*, *The Deuce*, *Chicago Med*, and the upcoming film *Greyhound*, across from Tom Hanks. He's also running a PAC called *Knock for Democracy*, that's harnessing volunteer energy in New York to knock on doors in closely contested races around the country. If you're New York or anywhere nearby and looking to get involved this election cycle, email him at alex@knockfordemocracy.org! Seven years later, he still spends an inordinate amount of time around FOOT leader friends and loves every bit of it.



Class of 2014

Ali Friedman: SHOH! Medical school is FINALLY coming to an end and I will go wherever the winds of emergency medicine residency take me!

2019: split between Uganda and South Africa (did some "research" and going back for more in Feb), found the desert elephants and mountain gorillas (w/ CharPar!), returned to my San Francisco commune with my lovely partner Lucas (who moved to South Africa with me to write a novel), CharPar and other friends. Grew into Northern California, including light roast coffee, dim sum, no formal clothing ever (yay scrubs!) and endless outdoor activities. Come visit - it's got the best backpacking :)

Lucas and me in Namibia:



Amanda Hall: I'm still living in Scotland, finishing up my PhD in International Relations at St Andrews. I'm also getting married this summer — James proposed last spring on one of our favourite hiking trails -- and then we're moving to London! I was sorry to have missed reunion but really would love to see all of you, so please get in touch if you're ever passing through!

Amelia Earnest: Hi FOOT friends! 2019 was a great year -- really feeling at home in New York and in my second year in global health consulting, working mostly on polio eradication and R&D. It's been really fun work and, in a year that saw many new polio outbreaks, challenging, too. Work brought me to London and the UAE, but I only had cause to pull out my ol' FOOT pack while moving five blocks within the East Village to move in with my boyfriend (/tree carrier). So in that way, a small move and a big leap all at once! I loved seeing the amazing things all of you are up to at our 5-year reunion and hope to see more of you in 2020. Please knock on my door if you find yourself in NY!

Courtney Halgren: Still in NYC, still at Sotheby's--although once more with a new position as Senior Manager for Business Development in the Contemporary Art department. The more things change, the more they stay the same! I just returned from two weeks in China, during which I learned tai chi, made my own dumplings, and fed a real live panda (a well-earned treat after a morning spent as a panda pooper scooper). As usual, I'm on the lookout for my next adventure (personally and professionally) and am excited to see what 2020 has in store!

Eric Fishman: This year I went back to grad school (for education), which has been a mixed blessing. Definitely more time on my hands to pursue various side projects (poetry translation, activism), but also sad



to be out of the classroom full time. Although this second semester I'm back with students, for a full time internship. Let me know if you're ever in Boston!

Ira Slomski-Pritz: Five years into saying I'll go to law school "soon," I'm still in Anchorage and haven't taken the LSAT. Other stuff kept coming up! Things that keep me busy: day job in the Mayor's office, extracurricular involvement in the AK political world, recreational soccer and rock climbing, mountains. I live with a special group of friends, which I'm savoring while it lasts, and feel increasingly invested in the special place. Open invitation still stands!

Jake Keaney: I'm finishing up my 9th year in New Haven and my last year of medical school, starting residency in the summer.

Joel Sircus: I am still living in Chicago with my co-leader for life **Stephanie Rivkin** ('13). I work for a family investment office (which I dig!), and keep a pantry stocked full of PB & tortillas (which I also dig!). This past year was highlighted by our five year reunion, with the Foot '14 oom gala continuing to warm my heart deep in the throes of Chicago winter. I mostly spend my days longing for baseball season, volunteering with Big Brothers/Big Sisters, and trying to recruit strangers to join me in a neighborhood game of miniature tanks (to no avail). Stephanie and I got to go on a sweet hike in New Zealand this past Christmas, but the Kiwi attitude towards outdoor deuces was sadly not as friendly as it is back home. For those keeping score at home, Joel beat **Ric Best** ('14) in fantasy football yet again!

Margaret Van Cleve: Hey FOOT! I had such a blast seeing so many of you at the reunion in June. It was truly wonderful to be back together. I am still living in DC with my boyfriend Greg and my dog Jef. I am now teaching kindergarten at a DC Public School. I love my new school a lot! I am officially an ordained minister and married two of my best friends to each other on New Year's Eve—please hit me up if you need to get married!!!

Ric Best: Ric continues to live and work in Philadelphia, where he just moved into an Oomgala-friendly house with a guest bedroom. He is fully committed to hosting any and every FOOT alum who finds themselves in the area, provided they are willing to do a two-person Oomgala (Twoomgala?) with him upon arrival.

Sally Helm: Sally Helm is getting an M.F.A. in fiction at Brooklyn College, and loving life! She and Nimal Eames-Scott (FOOT '14.5) recently moved in together to the third floor of a house in Ditmas Park, Brooklyn, where they have a porch and a backyard and also a guest room to host any FOOT leaders who might be passing through town (FOOT guests thus far have included Caroline Lester and Mark Trapani). She's still working part time in podcasts (this year she's hosting a new podcast for the History Channel) and for the past year she has been taking group mandolin lessons in Brooklyn. Catch her at an amateur mandolin recital the next time you come through NYC!

Sarah Maslin: I'm still living in São Paulo, covering Brazil for The Economist, and welcoming any and all visitors! Memorable stories this past year included a cover on the fragile future of the Amazon rainforest, a week inside a barricaded city after Bolivia's disputed election, and features on feminist funk MCs in Rio and the Brazilian surfers who are dominating the sport. I'm hoping to do more hiking this year. Aren't we all?



Tao Tao Holmes: Still based in Brooklyn, working on Atlas Obscura's Trips team, which has grown from one (just me!) to eight in the past two years. With a new round of investment, things continue at what feels like breakneck speed, but I'm trying my best to keep up. Occasional jogs in the park with Leland ('14), RBTs with Charlotte ('13), and dinners with Kev ('15) help ensure I properly chill out and reflect. A most definite dearth of hiking and camping in my life—but always on the lookout for remedies.

Wesley DeVoll: I'm halfway through my second year of law school at Stanford. I live on campus with my boyfriend Jackson, who is a high school history teacher at the public school nearby. We just adopted a 1-year old puppy named Linus!



Yaakov Ginsberg-Schreck

Hey everyone! I'm living in Boston now, since starting rabbinical school at Hebrew College in the fall. (If you don't recognize this name from the 2014 crew, that's because I've started going by my Hebrew name, and because I added my mother's last name to mine — open to suggestions for what language to switch my name to next!) I'm studying part-time, and working with a brilliant yoga teacher named Evelyn Punch to unearth the breath and body in Jewish text. Did you know, e.g., that the word in Torah for breath, *neshama*, is also the word for "spirit"? In any case, we just opened a community yoga studio, called Breath Lab, in the Hebrew College building! What else... I still think a lot about climate change and sustainable community; Evelyn and I are the proud platonic parents of two amazing kittens, Zilly and Zeb, who are inching towards cathood; and I now have long hair, a beard, and am slowly but surely developing a collection of dangly earrings. I also have a new email — yginsbreck@gmail.com — and would love to be in touch.

Class of 2015

Val Eisenson: Hi FOOT! Sending love to you all! I am still teaching ESL at Excel Academy in Chelsea, MA to a wonderful group of spunky middle schoolers. Highlights include: a sleep over field trip at the Museum of Science with our 5th graders, a pig dissection with 6th graders, attempting to get 7th graders to talk to one another, and staging a dramatic Romeo & Juliet performance with 8th graders. My partner, Aroop, and I live in Cambridge and love to run along the river and eat a lot of pasta. Hoping to see lots of you lovely people in 2020.

Kate Ford: 2019 was a big year! After shuttling back and forth between Boston and New York, I graduated from HLS in May and began clerking for Judge Wilson on the New York Court of Appeals. In October, I married Riley Scripps Ford (FOOT '11), surrounded by a bunch of incredible FOOT leaders, including Courtney Halgren, Jessie Garland, Val Eisenson, Gaby Garbasz, and Ben Burke (plus some of RSF's old folks)! It was magical. Riley and I are now living in NYC full time, so if you make it into town, please say hello!

Kevin Kirk: Last year, my FOOT update included something aspirational about "Planning my exit from NYC (and possibly software development)," but instead I've decided to move further into the heart of the city. I left my apt in Harlem and moved downtown to live with my brother and a few friends from school.

I'm still a software engineer, I still work at Google, I still vaguely aspire to quit my job and take a leap like many of you in this newsletter have (shoutout @Mandelbaum and @Isaiah Lyons-Galante). One adventure highlight for me this year was taking a week-long, solo bike trip. I cycled from the Poconos home to Harlem, camping gear loaded on my bike, with only a vague route planned prior to the trip. Maybe when I'm finally ready to leave NYC, I'll do it on two wheels :). Until then, drop me a note if you're in town! (or if you're not in town. kevinkirk43@gmail.com). - Kevin



Grace Lindsey: Hi FOOT! Still teaching 6th grade history with Jerelyn right down the hall teaching 6th grade Science! Here is a picture of us before we led a hundred eleven year olds in a rousing campfire rendition of Jellyfish!

Gordon McCambridge: Still in Shenzhen. Business has been healthy, but has led to a crazy year as we grow the team and do many things for the first time. Turns out making stuff is hard. Came back to New Haven in October to talk to a class about manufacturing. Saw Liza in Vietnam and Anne in Chicago! Looking forward to seeing everyone at the reunion.

Megan Opatrny: Hi FOOT! I'm still in Cleveland, now in my third year of med school at Case Western Reserve University. I'll apply to internal medicine residency programs this fall. Hoping to see many of you at the reunion! Love, Opat

Evi Steyer: I've been living in London and working for a VC fund investing in technologies to create a more regenerative, fair, trusted, nutritious food system, but I took a leave of absence to move to Iowa and work on my dad's presidential campaign. I spend all day every day talking to people at their doors, on the phone, and in small groups. It has been transformative to hear directly from people how challenging their lives have been and how brave and strong they have been to find a way forward. I love getting to work so directly on restoring our democracy and fighting climate, and I feel really lucky to be learning so much. Please let me know if you want to hang in Iowa, South Carolina, Nevada, or California! Love, Evi

Class of 2016

Adam Beckman: Adam sent us these photos, without comment! He seems like he is doing well, as do several other FOOT leaders pictured!





Rafi Bildner: Hey Foot folks! I find myself mostly living in San Francisco these days, with a few wanderings now and then. Trying to stay a little more in one place after two years of leading cycling trips around the world for Backroads. Still leading the occasional bike trip in the Middle East and in California, but I'm mostly making lots of pizzas and bread these days, and getting a mobile pizza catering/pop-up business off the ground! Lots of love to you all!



Brooke Eastman: I've spent the last year living in New York working in the art world (and hanging out with fellow FOOT leaders), but I'll be hopping back across the pond soon to be with my fiancé in London. Olly and I will be getting married this summer and look forward to a life together in the same country!

Isaac Hudis: On the one hand, Isaac has a pretty boring update – still in law school at Columbia, now a 2L! On the other hand, when not studying torts (the law kind, not the food kind), Isaac found time to go on some pretty awesome trips, including to Patagonia with his boyfriend (see photo). Sending fluv to you all xo.



Jerelyn Luther: I'm still living in Brooklyn and teaching 6th grade (with fellow Poobah Grace Lindsey '15)! Not much has changed work wise (still wrangling emotional 11 year olds and learning more about my own feelings through the process every day), but in my free time I've joined a book club, am trying to figure out how to do a headstand in yoga, and how to make the best winter soup. One of my favorite things I did in 2019 was transform my backyard from an actual wild forest into a relaxing place with a hammock! Come visit!



Jacob Osborne: I'm living with Onagh MacKenzie and a startling number of houseplants in Providence, RI, and our apartment is always open to visitors! I just finished acting in Joshua Harmon's Admissions at the Gamm Theatre in February, and I'm spending my days working as an AmeriCorps VISTA at a youth empowerment and juvenile justice reform nonprofit. Sending hugs and big Fluv to all! Here's a couple pictures of Onagh and I cheesing in front of mountains in Peru last summer:



Sophie Paci: I moved to San Francisco in August 2019! I am teaching first grade at an independent all-girls school. Our school is right next to a coastal trail by the Pacific Ocean and it is beautiful!!! My favorite parts of first grade include picking out library books and talking about our feelings. First graders give the best hugs and tell the best stories. I try to play FOOT games (a favorite is the Warm Wind Blows) as much as possible in the classroom!

Here is a picture of me at the Lands End Coastal Trail next to my school! And here is a picture of me hiking with my SF roommate Kamyra Jagadish (Yale '16)!

Skylar Shibayama

In 2019 I was fully immersed in the schedule and lifestyle of Major League Baseball, traveling with the Seattle Mariners across 8 months as I put together automated scouting reports to assist with in-game decision-making (in R...remember that program you hated from Stat 102?) After seeing basically every American city (and Tokyo!), I am happy to be settling down for 2020 and remaining mostly Seattle-based for my work. I am very much looking forward to filling my newly-returned free time with more Spikeball, rock-climbing, and reading. Miss you all - please drop a line if you're in the Pacific Northwest!

Lily Vanderbloemen

Lily is worried that her 2020 blurb will sound way too much like her 2019 blurb and is therefore opting not to send much of one. Learning the ukulele and trying to go single-use-plastic-free are her pastimes this year.

Class of 2017

Emma Ryan: Hello FOOT friends! I'm living in Boston and doing public health research at Tufts and living with a crew of great people in a house where we share our groceries. Please let me know if you're ever in Boston and in the mood for rice & some form of roasted/stir-fried veggies. Also doing my best to see FOOT friends! Turns out 2019 was the year of the self-propelled water craft -- please enjoy the photos of canoes with Rob & Brandon & our friend Kaylyn in the Boundary Waters in Minnesota and a kayak with Juliet in a bayou outside New Orleans. Lots and lots of fluv!!



Laura Goetz: From January 2 to December 20, I was in my Major Clinical Year of medical school (at Columbia, in New York City), which meant moving through 6-week clerkships working in different

medical and surgical specialties. I cared for hundreds of patients, learned an inexplicable amount, and feverishly wrote poetry about all of it. I am now heading into my final year and a half of “differentiation” into my career path of choice: psychiatry! Other 2019 highlights include long pre-dawn bike rides along the Hudson River, photography, and hosting frequent potlucks with friends.



Zoe Dobuler: After two years working in Boston, I started grad school at Williams this fall for a Master’s in art history. If you find yourself in the Berkshires, let me know!

Rob LaRose: I’m back in new haven. Please visit. Oh and more importantly, I saw three moose this summer.

Juliet Strauss: Hi FOOT family! I hope everyone is well! A lot happened in the past year!! Wowza. I moved from the Big Apple (NYC) to the Big Easy (NOLA) to begin my MD/PhD journey at Tulane Med. I also hiked/walked 500 miles across Spain along the Camino de Santiago! My feet definitely hurt by the end of that one. Though I spend most of my days reading about things like ~how many capillaries surround an alveoli~, I have been so lucky to have visitors (shoutout Emma Ryan) grace me with their wonderful presence and break up the monotony. And I am already loving the Big Easy!! If anyone ever finds themselves in NOLA or craving a beignet/jazz, let me know!



Calvin Harrison: Hi everyone! I think I missed the last couple newsletter submissions (bad on me!), but here I am! I am still living in Egypt, entering my third year(!) in Cairo. After finishing a year working at the American University in Cairo's Office of Sustainability, I started working for a small company where I translate, research, and edit for two daily business newsletters, one about Egypt's energy sector and one about Libya's economy at large. It's interesting, but I am looking for a more fulfilling and challenging job more aligned with sustainability/urban development, preferably in Cairo but maybe somewhere else.

Aside from work, I've started baking sourdough, exploring film photography, and continuing to struggle through early Arabic poetry with my tirelessly patient and lovely tutor, Sabri (his name comes from the word for patience, fittingly). Living in the Nile valley doesn't leave me with that many hikes around, but I've managed to get out into the desert a few times for outstanding stargazing and got my FOOT fix on a four-day trek in Georgia (the country) for the Eid holiday. Perhaps the highlight of my 2019 was a visit from erstwhile Food Core Head and fellow Islamic architecture aficionado Myles Garbarini '17, pictured here enjoying Egypt's national beer, Stella (no relation to Artois). Any other FOOTies passing through Middle East/North Africa, please drop in! Loads of Egyptian fluv for all.



Alex Simon: Hello FOOT!! I had an incredible 2019 and have been living in San Francisco and LOVING San Francisco. I live with three badass women (see picture!) and we have an amazing community here- we host these Sunday Dinners where we each invite a few new people and we all go around and each answer the same question. (Let me know if you are in the bay and ever want to come!) I sunrise swim every week in the bay (no wetsuit!) and bike around the city on an orange bike that at this point feels like another limb. 2019 had a lot of highlights - I started ceramics, dove deep into the world that is Burning Man, fell in love with a man named Chris who has electric positive energy and unparalleled moves on the dance floor. Hit me up if you are in SF and let's HANG!



Brandon Hudik: Hey FOOT! Highlight of 2019 was that my sister got married! (See below) And she chose me to throw the flower petals. Oh and I finally started (and finished) watching The Office.



Brady Currey: Hi FOOT friends! I've been spending the year living and working in Dakar, Senegal (and speaking very bad French) before heading back to New Haven for law school in the fall. Come say hi if you're ever in the area! (We don't have any good places to hike in Senegal, but we do have some great surf breaks, so as a bonus you'll get to watch me wipeout over and over and over again)

Abby Dutton: 2019 brought with it the completion of a number of bucket list items. 1) Jumped out of a plane! Immediately went to the ER. The jump was fun, my cousin's dislocated shoulder was not. 2) Became a dog-aunt! All of the fun and zero of the responsibility. 3) Completed my first year of medical school and only passed out once (turns out, ophthalmology is not for me....). Still in Hanover, NH working towards completing an MD/PhD dual degree program at Dartmouth. No idea what I want to do with my life but grateful to be in a place with awesome clinical and academic resources, and easy-access mountain and river study breaks. On the side, I am volunteering for the Warren campaign in NH, nannying two tiny and mischievous little imps, and learning (read: fumbling through) hip hop dance from super talented classmates. Come visit me!! :)



Class of 2018

Amelia Nierenberg: I'm covering food and the environment at the New York Times as part of a yearlong fellowship, and welcome any suggestions for stories! Before moving here in June, I worked in Dakar, Senegal and Boston, Mass. The closest thing I've come to nature recently is planting bulbs in the teeny patch of dirt outside my apartment... keep your fingers crossed that they bloom! Sending you all so much love.

Sara Meyers: Hey FOOT!!! Ah, just want to start off saying I miss you all and FOOT so much and hope you all are well! I love reading your updates.

Right now I am at UNC School of Medicine and loving it! My professors are great as well as my classmates. I am truly inspired all the time by what I am learning and doing- I definitely think medicine is the right career for me! In other news, I am ENGAGED! If you will remember I was dating my high school sweetheart long distance throughout college. Last year we lived together in South Carolina where he is stationed in the Air Force while I worked in an OBGYN clinic. It obviously went well...and now we are getting married in July back in Idaho! Living in SC/NC has been awesome because I have been able to get up to the Appalachians which is stunning (see pic). If you are ever in the Chapel Hill area, let me know! I would be happy to host you with my new-found Southern hospitality ☐



Kelsi Caywood: Hey FOOT friends! 2019 was a great one. Lots of bouncing around: finished up my LLM in China and started studies at Stanford with pitstops in Hong Kong, DC, and the UK along the way. Highlights: riding my bike around in the CA sunshine and taking my fam to see the Terracotta Army! Seems like there is a strong California FOOT contingent, so do reach out if you're in the Bay Area — I have a couch to crash on and marginally better cooking skills than I did during undergrad!

Kate Anstreicher: Greetings from the Hudson Valley! I moved to Beacon, NY last April to start working at the Glynwood Center for Regional Food and Farming (#1 goal: trying to make my FOOT Food Core Dads, Rob and Myles '17, proud <3). My office is in an old stable, and this fall I spent my lunch breaks picking apples and feeding the gnarly ones to the pigs. When I'm not at work, I'm either petting my cat Laszlo, hiking in the Hudson Highlands, running along the Hudson River (I'm training for a 25-mile trail race), taking ceramics classes, or cooking obscure root vegetables.

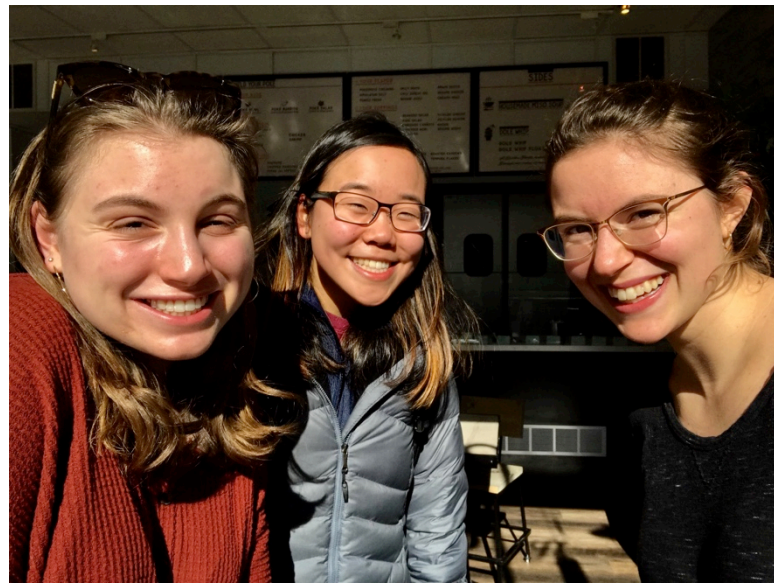
Greetings from the Hudson Valley! I moved to Beacon, NY last April to start working at the Glynwood Center for Regional Food and Farming (#1 goal: trying to make my FOOT Food Core Dads, Rob and Myles '17, proud <3). My office is in an old stable, and this fall I spent my lunch breaks picking apples and feeding the gnarly ones to the pigs. When I'm not at work, I'm either petting my cat Laszlo, hiking in the Hudson Highlands, running along the Hudson River (I'm training for a 25-mile trail race), taking ceramics classes, or cooking obscure root vegetables.

Last spring, I went to an a cappella reunion in New Haven and ran into not one, but TWO of my AT 4-day FOOTies (who I was lucky enough to co-lead with James Post '19). Both of them are Frocos now, and I am very nostalgic and proud. I went to New Haven this past weekend and ran into Brian Beitler '18 in the grocery store, who was not only a fellow leader, but was on my freshman FOOT trip in the Whites. It's always a delight to see familiar FOOT faces!

Image 1: Me with my FOOTies in New Haven

Image 2: Weekend trip to the Adirondacks (Sleeping Beauty)

Image 3: Hoarfrost near Bozeman, MT (where I was visiting Alice Buckley '15!)



Diksha Brahmhatt: Helloooooooo FOOOOOOT!!! I'm writing this update from the Thar desert in the Indian state of Rajasthan (photographic evidence below)! Since graduating from the 5-year MPH program at Yale, I've been living the life of a government employee at the NYC Department of Health, where I analyze tons of data with the goal of reducing health disparities in the city. Living on the north end of Central Park, I get to retreat into the North "Woods" to get my hiking fix in this concrete jungle. Of course, life post-grad is filled with FOOT friends! When the one and only Justin Abassi '18 visited from DC, we ate more pastries than we could manage. Brandon Hudik '17, Rob LaRose '17, and I had a mini Food Core reunion in the Have, where these two goons decided to spam my phone with selfies. This December, I experienced some holiday cheer with Momo Chapa '18, Julia Rosenheim '18, and Romy Carpenter '18 <3 If you're in NYC or need a place to stay, hit me up!!!



Julia Char Gilbert: Sending love from Denver! I live here now. It's nice. Come say hello.

Holden Leslie-Bole: Hi FOOT! After a series of post-grad adventures, misadventures, and other travels, I've finally settled down in San Diego where I'm working to start a climate nonprofit. Life is good, but I miss the wonderful FOOT community and think of you all often. Otherwise, I'm learning to surf, tending to my veggie garden, working on grad school applications, and going backpacking whenever I can. I hope you all are doing well, and if you're ever in SoCal, my door is always open!

Here's a picture of me on top of Wheeler Peak in New Mexico.



Taylor Drew Holshouser: Hello from Anchorage! I currently split my days between running my dad's startup and working as a research fellow at the Wilson Center's Polar Institute. I spent more time indoors last year than I care to admit, but I managed to sneak away from the office in July, when fellow FOOT leader Max Graham and I walked/packrafted across ANWR (photos attached). If you run into Max on campus this spring, ask him about the snow geese. And if you're in Alaska this summer, hit me up! My email and cell number haven't changed.



Meg Pritchard: After a summer spent leading trips with a number of other former FOOT leaders (special shoutout to my former co, Franklin Eccher '19!), I moved to Williamstown, MA to start working full-time for Overland planning trips and working on gear. Sometimes it seems like FOOT never ended! (It often feels like spring EQ day!) In my free time, I'm doing a lot of hiking, running, biking (new to me!), and nordic skiing. Highlights of the year have been backpacking in the Adirondacks, moonlit snowshoeing in Vermont, reconnecting with friends at Harvard-Yale, and trying to camp outside once a month. I'm looking forward to the warm weather! Sending fluv to you all, always <3



Christina Drexler: Hi FOOT. I'm living in Boston and love love this city. Highlights include running by the Charles River, groovy farmers markets, and I'm learning to play pool (a proper adult skill I reckon)! Let me know if you're passing through and I would love to show ya around!
[\[christina.y.drexler@gmail.com\]](mailto:christina.y.drexler@gmail.com)

Romy Carpenter: "Hi hi! I spent most of the summer in New Haven, and left just as the next generation of FOOT leaders were starting their pre-FOOT activities. :) I was also lucky enough to spend some time at home in Maine sitting in sunny fields with alpacas next to me and fishing in cold streams with Julia and Jacob next to me. Then, in the logical next move, I'm currently working at a sushi restaurant in New York where I'm learning about the anatomy of sea creatures like this geoduck (pronounced goo-wee-duck but unrelated to the waterfowl). If you're ever in the NoHo area, please come visit me at the restaurant! It's called BONDST. "

Hope all is well, Romy



Class of 2019

James Post: I hope you're doing well, and that everything is going smoothly in the lead up to FOOT 2019! I just wanted to let you know that a couple weeks ago I had a little reunion with some FOOT leaders from the class of 2018, **Hedy Gutfreund** and **Claire Chang**. We met up at the Biltmore mansion (in Asheville, North Carolina) and went on a little hike in the woods surrounding the estate. All the best, James

Julia Weiner: Julia's brother, Noah, was just selected as a FOOT Leader! Congratulations!



And now news of me: **Cilla**. I am moving between two worlds -- B.C. and A.C. (Before Coronavirus and After). At the moment, I am fine. I am healthy—I get outside for walks and bike rides, but fear this may even become limited. I am working on getting FOOT leader training online as best we can. I do fear that backpacking trips will be the last thing people will think about. So we may have a year without FOOT. I'm preparing for that. But we will definitely survive in one form or another.

These photos and captions are from B.C. (Before Coronavirus)

Cilla & Russell found a great apartment complex known as the Corsair, which is the old factory that produced the Corsair propellers during WWII. We attended the Yale Alumni Association Assembly as delegates, but better yet, we were at the 50-43 Yale-Harvard Game, Yale winning in double overtime! Cilla's brother Bart had played on the 29-29 Game in 1968 so this was especially meaningful. We joined the 1969 Yale football team (Bart also played this year) after the game for dinner, where members fondly remembered their college years.



Our address in New Haven is: 1050 State Street #441, New Haven, CT 06511



We have a farm Sky Acres in Washington, Vermont. This is where we got married a year and a half ago, and so we celebrated our first wedding anniversary in September. Yay! We are still hosting other weddings here too. Check us out at Sky Acres Events: <https://www.skyacresevents.com/> I'm still waiting for my first FOOT Leader wedding!



We still have our West Chop house on Martha's Vineyard. Cilla fell off the roof here last July, but she has recovered! I broke lots of bones (nose, jaw, lower back, leg) and was medivacked to Brigham & Women's Hospital in Boston. For a while I looked like Mrs. Beetlejuice! Still working on new front teeth though...

And finally, I have changed my name to **Priscilla Whiteman Leavitt!** So please, stay in touch!

My email is the same: priscilla.kellert@yale.edu, as is my cell phone number: 203-500-5350.

Sending you ALL lots of love. Stay well and healthy! xoxoxo, Cilla