

Spring 1984

## Columbia College Alumni News

Columbia College Chicago

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# COLUMBIA COLLEGE ALUMNI NEWS

VOLUME 4, NUMBER 2

SPRING 1984

## Strong Response to Alumni Fund

Columbia College's Annual Alumni Fund for 1983-1984 is off to a rousing start with more than \$1,500 contributed since the initial mailing went out in December. A follow-up package sent in March and another scheduled for June should double or even triple this amount, helping to defray the cost of extensive remodeling and equipment improvements here at the College. If you haven't contributed yet, please take the time to sit down now and write out your check; no matter how small the amount, your donation will be greatly appreciated and will help ensure that the same quality education you received will be available to today and tomorrow's Columbia students. And, be sure to check with the personnel or benefits office where you work to find out if your employer sponsors a **matching gift program**—it's more common than you think with over 900 participating companies throughout America!

We'd like to take this opportunity to thank the following alumni who have given generously to the Annual Alumni Fund (please note that this is only a partial listing, as new donations are received daily): James Ardon '77; Julie Badel '67; Stephen Bezark '70; Bruce Bublick '75; Karen Copeland '68; Gunnar Dahlberg '50; Thomas Danz '81; Susan Darow '79; Julie Ellis '75; Stephen Erwin '75; Shirley Jacobs '78; Wilella Jones '75; Jeffrey Justman '75; Ron Jenkins '77; John King '73; Theodore Kundrat '39; Eric Kister '74; Daniel Lloyd '75; Ira Miller '63; Manual Millman '70; Donna Montgomery '78; Christine Nieminski '76; Martha Pacelli '77; Jay Robinson '77; Paula Sinkler-Russell '69; Elizabeth Sinkler '83; Laurie Starrett '77; Arthur Stein '66; Jeffrey Tassani '73; Robert Tolchin '74; Terrence Thompson '76; Clifton Wilkow '75; Helena Wilson '76.

## Columbia Adds Third Building to South Loop Campus

Continuing its rapid expansion program, Columbia has acquired the 10-story building at 623 South Wabash Avenue, representing an \$8 million commitment in acquisition and remodeling costs and adding 200,000 square feet of space to the College. Columbia, which has increased its building space 10 times in the past 7 years, will use the new facility for classrooms and for faculty and staff offices.

The 93-year-old Wabash Avenue building, originally known as the Studebaker building and later as the Brunswick Building, was designed in 1895 by one of Chicago's best-known architects of the period, Solon S. Beman. Beman designed homes on Prairie Avenue for some of the city's early industrialists, as well as the entire "model town" of Pullman, a world-famous "ideal manufacturing town" built in 1883 by George Pullman, founder of the Pullman Palace Car Company.

Columbia President Mike Alexandroff has stated that acquisition of the Wabash Avenue building represents Columbia's "ongoing commitment to the development of the South Loop and preserves a building that is an impressive example of Chicago's pioneering architectural achievements." After remodeling, which is already underway, the building will be in full use by fall 1984.

## New Alumni Director Appointed

Lori Bartman has been named Alumni Relations Director whose major responsibility will be bringing Columbia's alumni into closer identification with the College and its goals through a variety of activities. Ms. Bartman is a graduate of the University of California at Berkeley and received a Master of Fine Arts degree from Temple University's Tyler School of Art, Philadelphia. She was formerly assistant director of continuing studies at Philadelphia College of Art, and served in executive positions at the Philadelphia Museum of Art and the Summer Six Art Program in Saratoga, New York.

Regarding the Alumni Association's role in Columbia's continued growth, Ms. Bartman cited "the unusually strong relationship between students, faculty and administration forming a professional community that extends beyond the period of formal education. Since today's alumni are what today's students hope to become, I look to Columbia's graduates to lend a helping hand in whatever way they



can." Ms. Bartman looks forward to meeting many alumni at upcoming events.

# Columbia College in Retrospect

Third in a series by Professor Theodore V. Kundrat, M.S., M.A.

For seventeen years the Columbia School of Oratory continued to thrive at 3358 South Michigan Avenue. The student population, although safe, remained static. Always the consistently extra-perceptive administrator, co-founder Mary A. Blood sensed a need for a period of transition. The transitive changes involved the expansion of the school's physical and teacher education programs, the speech and dramatic arts curricula, a practice teaching exchange, a writer's laboratory, the speaker's bureau, a platform artists agency, an adult education program, literary seminars, and inter-scholastic activities such as: declamation contests, debate tournaments, solo dramatic recitals, children's reading and story telling hours, and oral interpretation festivals.

Columbia was no longer a **school**. The term implied a limitative bond. Descriptively, **oratory** in its current usage was certainly not obsolete, merely passé in its application to Columbia's new approach to purpose and major objectives. It connoted an oratorical display of artificial mannerisms, bombastic elocution, and mechanical gesticulation.

Miss Blood's rigorous training in the evolution of elocution, her didactic principles exemplified in her own co-authored text, *The Psychological Development of Expression*, (Vols. 1-4), suggested the intrinsic prescription for a new name.

The word expression represented the basic factors of speech via thought, language, voice and body in conveying one's feelings, attitudes and emotions, vocally and physically, effectively and meaningfully. The process incorporated one-third inspira-

tion and two-thirds perspiration; one-third impression and two-thirds expression. (Teachers of speech and drama today still rely on these classic maxims.) Miss Blood's definition of drama: "The heightening and deepening of the facts of life" embodied a systematic development of expression—a methodology that is unquestionably foolproof.

Thereby, Miss Blood, the faculty members and the administrative staff accordingly had a sound basis for renaming the school. In 1907 the Columbia **School of Oratory** officially became the Columbia **College of Expression**. A name that was soon to receive favorable publicity nationally.

For eight years the "new" college progressed without impeding competition. The college's stature now demanded a new convenient and attractive location.

Columbia's strong educational foundation provided a bulwark which no other cultural institution could penetrate, let alone achieve.

In 1915 two distinguished members were added to the faculty. Alice Gerstenberg was a prominent Chicago playwright and novelist who was credited with originating the "expressionistic" play—a style of dramaturgy employing a device whereby the characters speak their subconscious thoughts as well as their conscious ones. This was ingeniously depicted in one of her many one-act plays, *Overtures*. She dramatized *Alice in Wonderland* which scored a solid success in New York. She was the founder and director of the Playwrights' Theatre and president of the Chicago Woman's Club.

Marie Merrill, friend of Miss Gerstenberg, was a dramatist, monologist, lecturer, dramatic interpreter and a pioneer in children's theatre. In 1917 these two ladies headed the search committee for a new location.

Alice Gerstenberg was an honored

member of Chicago's affluent elite who resided on Pine Street (now Michigan Avenue adjoining Lake Shore Drive). She hobnobbed with the best of them in high society—the Fields, the Piries, the Bordens, the McGanns! Mrs. Robert McGann was the daughter of Senator Charles B. Farwell and the neice of John W. Farwell. The Farwell brothers built two mansions side by side on East Pearson Street after the Chicago fire in 1872. They were two of the finest mansions in Chicago and their owners were among the wealthiest and best known citizens of the '90's. After Senator Farwell's death in 1918, Mrs. McGann bought the family home at 120 East Pearson Street. It remained vacant.

Miss Gerstenberg's and Miss Merrill's Columbia connection aided considerably in acquiring the vacant Farwell mansion in 1923 for Columbia's new site opposite the Water Tower. "The unusual new tenant, Columbia College of Expression, adds a certain prestige to the area," said the society column.

Monied benefactors were easily won. They were again attending the swank social soirées in the Senator's elegant mansion with its marble fireplaces, beamed oak ceilings and richly carved grand staircase! And what's more, they were doing it collegiately.

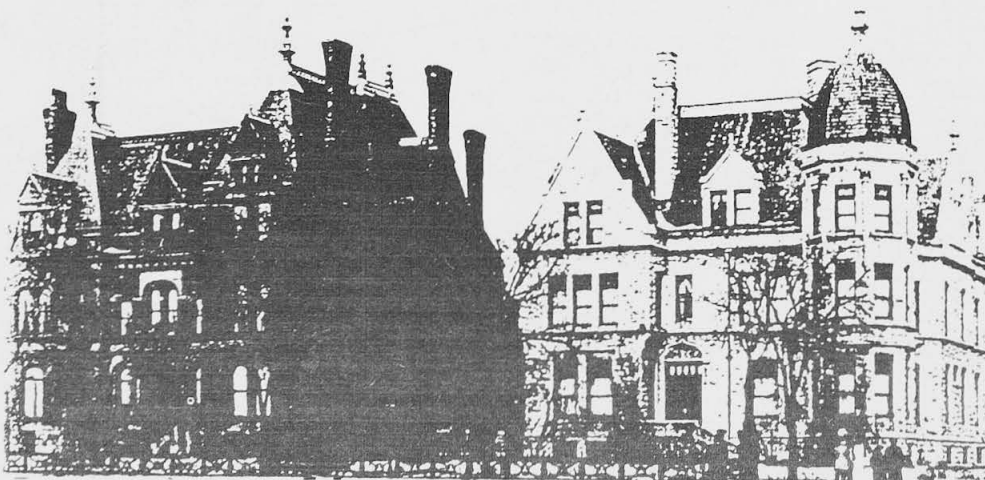
Societal benefit performances, recitals, play readings, dances, banquets, teas, meetings and lectures were held in abundance in Columbia's new home. Besides Chicago's big names were quite impressed with Miss Blood's Bostonian breeding. More importantly, Columbia College received contributions from everyone and anyone who visited those splendorous halls of ivy under the glittering chandeliers. The mansion was widely admired for its advanced steam-heating system, modern plumbing and plate-glass windows.

Columbia's enrollment, of course, increased and with it ran the gamut of assured success. The registrar's records read like the well-known blue book. How long would this extremely comfortable position last?

John W. Farwell's home was destroyed for the widening of Michigan Avenue in the 1920's while Columbia's residence, the Senator's, lingered until 1928 when the college was threatened with eviction.

Forthcoming: three graduates become Broadway luminaries; the college community mourns the death of a co-founder; Columbia College of Expression fights for its existence.

**Professor Theodore V. Kundrat '39**  
Vice-president/Historian of the Board of Directors  
Columbia College Alumni Association



Left, the Senator Charles B. Farwell Mansion, Home of the Columbia College of Expression, 1923-1928 (120 East Pearson Street). Right, the John W. Farwell Mansion (brother), Corner of East Pearson and Pine Street.



# Columbia Establishes Thaine Lyman Fellowship Endowment

Mike Alexandroff, President of Columbia College, has announced the establishment of the Thaine Lyman Fellowship Endowment by friends and colleagues of Lyman in recognition of his many contributions to the broadcast industry, Columbia College and human rights. The Fellowships will be granted to regularly enrolled undergraduates, graduate students or graduates of the College who have demonstrated excellence and competency in their area of study and whose projects merit support.

The Fellowships will be awarded for the completion of special communications projects; for research into issues affecting the broadcast industry or profession; or for special professional opportunities which would help to gain further competence in telecommunications.

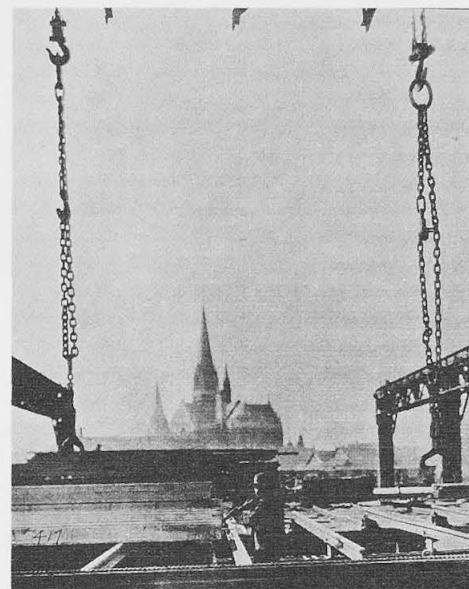
Thaine Lyman, who died in November, 1983, began teaching at Columbia in 1949, developing the "Fundamentals of Television" course that has remained for 34 years the foundation of the College's television curriculum.

During this time, Lyman was affiliated with WGN-TV (Chicago) in a wide variety of television activities. He was also a leading advocate of minority and women's employment in the broadcast industry and had a major impact on the development of FCC (Federal Communications Commission) regulations and broadcast legislation.

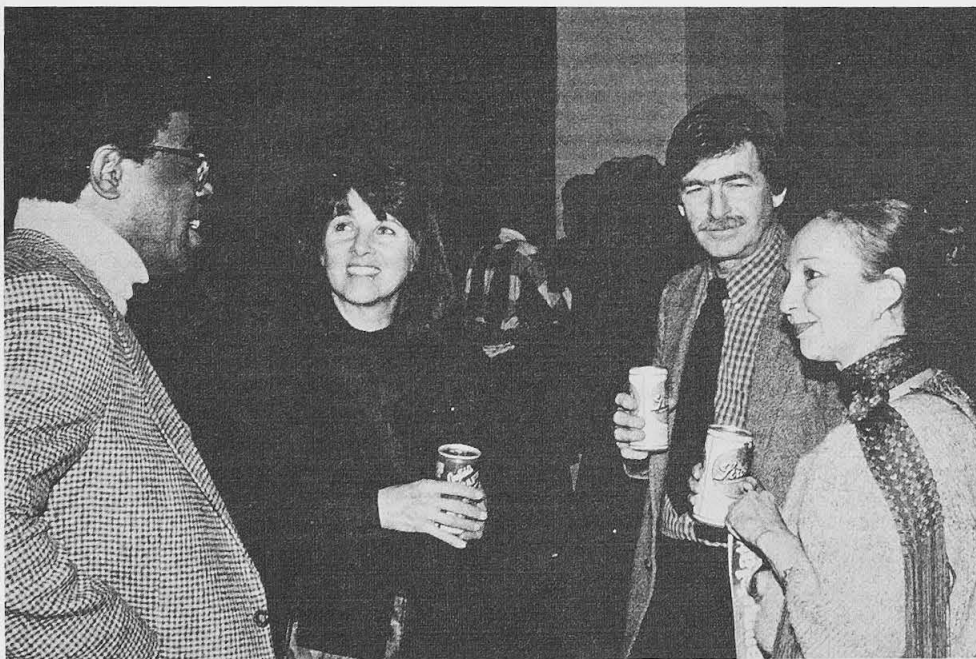
Committees have been formed to raise the \$100,000 necessary to establish the Endowment. Members include Honorary Chairman Jack Brickhouse, John Drury, Irv Kupcinet, Bill Kurtis, Newton Minow, Wally Phillips, Sterling (Red) Quinlin, William Friedkin, Morry Roth and Lionel Bolin, Chairman of the Advisory Committee, as well as Columbia alumni Annette Anderson, Julie Badel, Bernard Basley, Loren Coleman, Chet Coppock, Chris Cross, Jim Disch, Wolfram Dochterman, Bruce Dumont, Greg Hultman, Douglas Little, Ira Miller, Ron Norinsky, Danielle Ross, Rik Sandoval, Ed Schwartz, Howard Shapiro, Paula Sinkler-Russell, Bob Sirott, Cheryl Stutzke and Ron Weiner.

## Southeast Chicago Historical Project on Film

*Wrapped in Steel*, a feature length documentary film that chronicles the life of Columbia's Southeast Chicago Historical Project, will have its premiere showing on May 18 at the Museum of Science and Industry on South Lake Shore Drive. For the past three and a half years, the Project has facili-



Chicago Southworks, 1919



**Socializing after "The Man Who Came To Dinner"** are Alumni Association Directors Ron Jenkins (left) and Helena Wilson (right) and guests Charlotte Shure and Robert Cully. More than 150 alumni and friends attended the March 23 performance of what *Sun-Times* critic Dick Saunders calls "the spryest show in town". A reception with co-directors Nicholas Rudall and Susan DaFoe and cast members followed. We'd like to extend a very special 'thank you' to Gunnar Dahlberg, Class of 1950 and a Director of the Association, for his energetic promotion of this event which resulted in the sale of 60 tickets. Photo/Lynn Manuell

tated an inquiry into the past, present and future of one of Chicago's—and the nation's—most traditional urban working-class neighborhoods. The result has been a reawakening of community identity and the accumulation of a mountain of information. The script of *Wrapped in Steel*, for example, is based on more than 50 hours of film and video tape dealing with the history, traditions, politics, values and lifestyles of urban working-class people.

What emerges provides the audience with a rare glimpse of a rapidly disappearing world, a world that revolves around the family, church, the work ethic, and, of course, Chicago's distinct style of politics, made all the more relevant because the chairman of the Democratic Party of Cook County is Ed Vrdolyak, resident and alderman for most of the community.

*Wrapped in Steel* was produced and directed by Jim Martin, Director of the Southeast Chicago Historical Project and a member of Columbia's film department faculty from a script written by Martin and Dominic Pacyga, historian and Associate Project Director. Two Columbia alumni also worked on the production of *Wrapped in Steel*—James J. Klekowski '82, production manager and assistant direc-

(cont'd on next page)



*Southeast Chicago Women, Four Generations, 1890*

tor and Michael Goi '80, cameraman and co-editor.

Although the film's first showing is by invitation only, a limited number of tickets may become available to Columbia alumni and guests. For information, call the Alumni Relations Office at 663-1600, extension 417.

## Nominations for Alumni Award Solicited

The Alumni Association has announced the creation of the Founders Award to honor an outstanding Columbia alumnus or alumna who has demonstrated continued support and service to the College and the Association and who has significantly contributed to the goals of the institution and the Alumni Association.

The award was established in 1984 in memory of Mary A. Blood and Ida Morey Riley, co-founders of the Columbia School of Oratory in 1890 which evolved into Columbia College.

To nominate a candidate for the Founders Award, please submit the name, address, class year, pertinent biographical and professional information and the reason for your selection to the Alumni Relations Office, 600 S. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, IL 60605 by September 1, 1984.

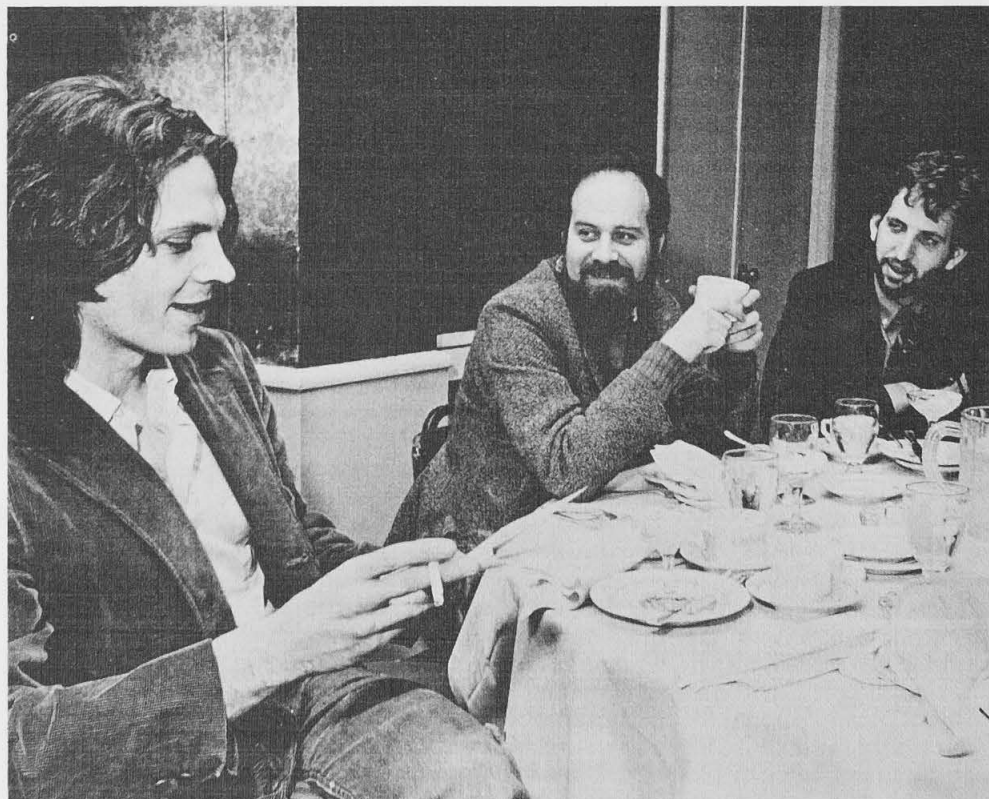
# Career Awareness Day Brings Alumni, Students Together

More than 40 Columbia alumni participated in the College's 4th Annual Career Awareness Day held March 20 at the Americana Congress Hotel. The day began with a keynote address by human resources consultant Charlotte Flinn who urged attendees to keep an open mind about the career/life options open to them as a result of their professional training at Columbia. Then members of the audience broke up into individual seminars conducted by working professionals in fields that included television, industrial video, photography, filmmaking, advertising, journalism, interior design, audience development, dance, public relations, and more. Students heard the realities of on-the-job experiences and learned what kind of talent and training are important to a would-be employer.

Sharing their tips on getting and keeping a job were the following Columbia alumni who we would like to thank: Karen Angel; Maria Barbachi; Penelope Barnes; Marcia Richardson-Best; Patrick Butler; Karen Cavaliero; Diane Chandler; Wendy Dahl; Edye DeLoch; Julie Ellis; Susan Farraro; Ron Fleischer; Karen Greenstein; Les Grobstein; Steve Gross; William Hard-

er; Stan Higgins; Jerry Hossli; Diane Kehl; Robin Lakes; Bruce Miller; Tyra Neal; Julie Novak; Ivory Ocean; Bruce Real; Chris Reid; Pam Roberts; Chuck Rosenberger; Loren Santow; Kathy Sladek; Jess Smith; Bob Solorio; Nancy Stone; Chris Swider; Ron Terry; Pamela Wade; Susan Whitaker; Jan Wizezorek; Helena Wilson; and Janis Wolf.

Columbia's Office of Career Planning and Professional Placement would like to take this opportunity to remind alumni of its many services available to them, especially if you're considering a career change or experiencing a case of mid-career slump. You might want to consult the department's job board or job book; make an appointment for a personal career assessment; or attend one of the many Career Workshops that take place throughout the year. Topics include "Writing Resumes and Cover Letters"; "The Job Interview"; and "Surviving on the Job" plus many more that provide a great refresher course. If you haven't used the Placement Office's services in more than a year, make a call first to reactivate your file; the number is 663-1600, extension 280.



Alumni participants in Career Awareness Day included 1982 graduates (from left) Bruce Real (Film), Steve Gross (Photography) and Jess Smith (Photography).



# California Here We Come!

The Columbia College Alumni Association is anticipating forming its first out-of-town chapters in San Francisco and Los Angeles following a successful fact-finding trip there in March by Jack Wolfsohn, Director of Development. More than 140 Columbia alumni reside in the two metropolitan areas, many of them having moved there shortly after graduation to pursue careers in the film and television industries. "Interest and enthusiasm for the project are high," Wolfsohn reported, "with many voicing the opinion that support of alumni activities is an appropriate acknowledgement of the role Columbia played in preparing them for their chosen careers."

Los Angeles area alumni who have indicated their interest in forming a chapter include Annette Anderson '75, Bernard Basley '73, Peter Berkos '51, Charles Carner '78, Danielle Ross '70, Steve Elkins '74, Sam Reynolds '51, Lisa Gottlieb '77, Loren Coleman '64, Ira Miller '63, Cheryl Gotskind '78, Robert Enrietto '67, Jerry Kupcinec '68, Haig Keropian '41, Marc Lief '73, Cary Brown '64, Cathy Abbi '62, Richard (Munchkin) Jacobs '77, Wolfram Dochterman '59 and Richard Sandoval '74.

San Francisco alumni who have responded favorably to the idea of a local chapter include Nancy Johnsen '67, Robert Repke '68, Walter Clayton '77, Ruby Cooper (formerly Cheryl Witte) '76 and John Montedore '69.

Columbia President Mike Alexandroff and his wife, Jane, will host receptions for West Coast alumni on June 9 at San Francisco's Stanford Court Hotel and on June 10 in Los Angeles at the Beverly Wilshire Hotel. We look forward to seeing many of you there. In the Los Angeles area, contact Haig Keropian at (213)788-7385 for more information; in San Francisco, contact Ruby Cooper at (415)386-0366.

**WINTER GET TOGETHER AT THE HANGEE UPPEE.** More than 40 alumni and friends of Columbia gathered on Friday, February 10, to share a bit of mid-winter warmth at the Hangee Uppee just off Rush Street. We were pleased to see a lot of new faces in the crowd; here, Don Stroup and Helena Wilson catch up on old times. The evening included a raffle for prizes that included dinner for 2 at Chicago's Playboy Club; a night on the town at Faces; and a gift certificate to Crate & Barrel.

## Class Notes

### Pre-1960

EDWARD G. AIKEN, a 1956 Broadcast Communications graduate, is living and working in New York City as VP-Director of Programming for Petry Television, Inc.

### 1960's

BARRY SIGALE, Broadcast Communications '69, has been named President of Sigale, Smith & Mills Public Relations and Advertising...JEFF STARR MARARIAN writes from Worcester, Massachusetts, where he's a TV host. Jeff graduated in 1967 with a degree in Broadcast Communications...ART STEIN, Broadcast Communications '66, is a State Farm Insurance agent and serves in the Rotary Club of Matteson, Illinois.

### 1970's

CHRIS RENDINA, a 1977 Photography graduate, lives and works in Seattle, Washington where she is a freelance photographer. Chris (shown here)



worked under a grant last summer teaching photography to Eskimos living on a remote island off the coast of Southeast Alaska...1979 graduate TROADIO SATIZABAL divides his time between duties as office manager for O.M.A.R., Inc., an advertising agency specializing in the Hispanic market and a similar position with WBBS-TV, Channel 60... JOHN M. PUDELEK, Class of '76, sends greetings from sunny California

where he works as staff/stage manager for Golden West Television, working on such shows as "Solid Gold", "The Jeffersons", "Private Benjamin", "We Got It Made" and more... 1977 Film graduate JANIS WOLF is kept busy operating Portfolio, a custom art and design service for home and business, and raising daughter Jennifer born in November 1982...CHRISTINE VERSTRAETE, Journalism '79, is a staff writer for the *Highland Park News*...PAMELA HANSON, Photography/Art 1975, resides in San Francisco where she's a floor broker with Coast Options on the Pacific Stock Exchange and also teaches photo silkscreen at the University of California/Berkeley. Recently married to Stephen Skilling, Pamela received an MFA in printmaking from California State University...An Advertising '71 graduate, HOWARD BRESNIK, is owner of the Chicago Fur Outlet at 445 W. Diversey Parkway...JOHN BIELENBERG, Class of 1971, is President of Bolotin, a company supplying cleaning materials to industry, and a Director of the National Family Business Council...And EUGENE NEAT, JR., a 1975 graduate, lives in Venice, California where he's self-employed as a photographer and also serves in the Marine Corps Reserve in that capacity.

### 1980's

NANCY MITZEN, Art '83, is employed as a designer/production coordinator for Technical Advertising Service in suburban Philadelphia and is enrolled in a masters program in computer graphics...1982 Advertising grad ORLETT W. PEARSON is in the market research department of World Book, Inc. in Chicago...THOMAS DANZ, Journalism '81, is a news reporter for the *Southwest News-Herald* and co-authored *Night Soldier*, a biography of World War II spy Peter Janssen, published by Todd and Honeywell...AEMMP '83 graduate KATHY SLADEK FIELDHAMMER is public relations director and box office manager for Light Opera Works in Evanston...SUSAN BASS MARCUS, M.A. '83, is an arts educator/puppeteer with Emmes Productions, Inc. who performed at MoMing Dance & Arts Center in February of this year...Class of '82 grad CHERYL L. BATTS has been promoted to National Sales Director for Alexis Home Parties...KEVIN J. MILLER, Film '82, is a tutor at Triton College and has his fingers crossed that his original film script, currently being marketed in California, gets picked up... "Chicago Murals", a slide tape by 1983 graduate GINNY KARP, was recently purchased by the Art Institute of Chicago as part of their permanent collection. "Chicago Murals" was

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Address Correction Requested

Columbia College  
ALUMNI RELATIONS OFFICE  
600 South Michigan Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois 60605

#### CLASS NOTES

produced as a project of the Weisman Scholarship program...DEBORAH LEIGH WOOD, a 1983 Interdisciplinary Arts graduate, presented "Good Things Coming in Turning 30/Window Shopping" at MoMing in March... 1983 Dance graduate DEBBIE SIEGAL will perform at The Dance Center of

Columbia College on May 11, 12, 18, and 19.

#### Columbia Happenings

BUZZ HIRSCH, executive producer of "Silkwood", lectured at Columbia on January 6 and showed a film he made while a student here...Photographer

BRUCE DAVIDSON will speak in Columbia's Ferguson Theater on Friday, May 4 at 7:30 p.m., concluding the four-part "Photojournalism and the Documentary Image" series; admission is \$5...The Broadcast Communications department is organizing a 10-day "Broadcasting in Britain" tour departing Chicago on July 24 and returning August 1; \$895 per person covers round-trip airfare and accommodations. For more information, call Chuck Rowell 663-1600, extension 414 ...NICHOLAS SHUMAN, formerly foreign affairs editorial writer with the Sun-Times has joined the full-time journalism faculty...JEFFREY BENTLEY has been named general manager of The Dance Center; he was most recently managing director of North Light Repertory Company in Evanston...Mark your calendar (tentatively!) for Sunday, June 3 when Columbia alumni will challenge the Class of 1984 in a softball game with a barbeque to follow in Lincoln Park; details will be sent to you at a later date.

### WHAT'S NEWS WITH YOU?

Your former classmates and teachers are interested in knowing what's happening in your life and career, so drop us a line today! Photos are welcome—black and white reproduces best. Use this coupon for change of address, too.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Business Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Degree/Year \_\_\_\_\_  
Current position/Employer \_\_\_\_\_  
Daytime phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Evening phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
News (personal, promotions, community activities, elected offices, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_  
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