



Deep Springs College

Alumni Newsletter • Fall 2014





Staff Departures and Arrivals

by Nick Jones DS13

We are sad to announce that many beloved staff members have said goodbye, as they continue their careers elsewhere. With technical expertise and enthusiasm for pedagogy, each one of them exemplified why the staff is such an important part of a Deep Springs education.

In her two years as BH Manager, **Donna Blagdan** selflessly devoted herself to working with students. She taught students how even dish-washing can be an opportunity to practice living a life of service. Outside the kitchen, her weekly meditation group helped students to broaden their own sense of compassion and conscientiousness. She recently finished her studies to become a chaplain of Zen Buddhism and has moved to Florida, where she is now the spiritual counselor at a hospice.

This fall, **Adam Nyborg DS97** and **Jill Brewer** have also left their positions as Farm Manager and Development Assistant, respectively. Students have long been impressed by Adam and Jill's

superlative work ethic, patience, and parenting skills. In addition to their two daughters, Wenonah, age 4, and Montana, age 2, they are expecting a third child in the spring. To the whole family, we would like to offer congratulations and well-wishes for their future. They are returning to New Hampshire to be closer to their extensive network of friends and family.

Another devoted and adept staff member, **Jill Lawrence** has moved back to Boulder, Colorado after serving as Director of Operations for two years. Her intimate understanding of the great outdoors inspired students to follow her on hiking, backpacking, and rock climbing trips. Within the Main Circle, she was always available to provide support or to act as diplomat during emotionally difficult times. Her considerable gifts in this regard also allowed her to be an empathetic yet level-headed presence on RCom.

Padraic Macleish DS99 is stepping out of the shop to be the new Director of Operations.



New BH Manager: Marc Mora

Marc Mora comes into the position intensely passionate and knowledgeable about food. Hailing from Los Angeles, his past experience has included working as an executive chef for the Staples Center and, more recently, overseeing several of the most popular restaurants at Mammoth Mountain. Marc has made it his goal for the kitchen to use as much Deep Springs produce, meat, and dairy as possible.

Academic Update

by Nick Barton and Nick Jones, DS13

Katie Peterson has returned this fall as a distinguished professor of the humanities. A perennial figure at Deep Springs, Katie has previously held the position of Robert Aird Chair of the Humanities, visited as a writer in residence, and taught last year's Summer Seminar alongside **David Neidorf**. Students regard her with high esteem, for her poetry, her rigorous approach to literature, and her often pointed sense of humor. Katie is teaching two courses: one on Jane Austen, focusing on themes of narrative, philosophy, beauty, and money; the other on the epic poems of Homer, co-taught by David, with a particular eye toward human psychology.

Alum and former Telluride president **Tom Miller DS03** is leading a seminar on The Republic of Plato. He is currently completing his dissertation on Plato at Princeton. With his help, students have been learning how to closely read the text and explore the subtle shades of meaning within each paragraph. Tom is also leading Public Speaking this semester, and advising an independent study of Greek and another of Heidegger. Still, Tom finds time to bedeck himself in running shorts and sweat-bands to work out daily.

While teaching at Cornell, **Brían Hanrahan** lived for a time at Telluride House and is now at

Deep Springs to see another side of Nunnian education. His class, Weimar Cinema, delves into the rich aesthetics and history of film in interwar Germany. In screening films such as *Nosferatu* and *Metropolis*, Brian provokes students to critically evaluate films as art and as artifacts of a larger culture.

Jennifer Smith, interim chair of the Social Sciences, has had an impressive first semester at Deep Springs. Her background is in Political Science which she previously taught at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. Students have appreciated her ability to stimulate spirited discussion while retaining a "hands-off" approach to facilitation.

In Introduction to Political Science, Jennifer is guiding students through a survey of political philosophy, American politics, comparative politics, and international relations. What Went Wrong?, Jennifer's other class, is more idiosyncratic and macabre. The syllabus charts its way through plane crashes, nuclear meltdowns, wars, epidemics, and many more case-studies of infamous disasters. To better understand these events, students apply various theories about risk and human error.

Michele Lanau has become the new Herbert Reich Chair of the Natural Sciences. Having done both her doctoral and post-doctoral research at the University of Arizona, Michele is no stranger to the desert Southwest.

Indeed, the landscape provides the perfect laboratory for her chosen discipline: myrmecology, the study of ants. One of her classes this fall, Eusociality and Superorganisms, aims to use this laboratory to its full potential, as she guides students through gathering first-hand data on the interactions within colonies of ants and honeybees.

Visual Communication of Complex Data, Michele's other class, positions itself at the intersection of art and science. Not only do students design studies and collect data in this class, but they are also challenged to present their results in charts, graphs, and images that are both effective and visually appealing. Unsurprisingly, visual art is one of Michele's many diverse interests, and she has taken to leading a weekly ArtCom.



New Students

by Andrew Kim and Thomas Thongmee, DS14



Deep Springs Class of 2014, top row from left to right: Thomas Thongmee, Sebastian Hart, Matthew Zianni, Andrew Kim, Ethan Reichsman, Isaac Price-Slade, Bryce Snyder, William Ehlers, Aaron Ziemer, and Joseph Messer. Bottom row from left to right: Pranav Bhatnagar, Rango Peng, Hamza Hassan, and Harry Choe.

Pranav Bhatnagar joins us from Scarsdale, New York. Thanks to his varied experiences and thoughtful nature, everybody can find some way to relate to him. He is a fan of Miyazaki films, an avid music lover, and most recently, a free-style rapper. Neither snow nor rain nor heat nor gloom of night are able to keep him from the smoking porch, where you can find him discussing romance, fashion, and the differences between “grit” and “twee”.

Harry Choe often emulates a wise sage, staring out into the Valley in search of enlightenment. Before coming to Deep Springs, he worked with City Year in Brooklyn tutoring underprivileged middle school students. His goal here is to form meaningful relationships with the entire community. He can often be found reclining with his headphones on, shifting his weight

to the rhythm of his music.

William Ehlers comes originally from Germany and more recently from the Maastrich branch of the United World College system. His good attitude never falters, even when being ribbed for his uniquely European mannerisms or his long phone conversations. Inquisitive, he is known to ruminate about how the desert climate affects the flavor of Deep Springs vegetables, or why the appeal of “name brand” colleges can be misleading.

With an ever-energetic personality, **Sebastian Hart** is excited for any challenge. His Pasadena fashion sense ranges from comfortable hoodies and sweatpants to torn jean shorts, and even hospital scrubs from the Bonepile. In addition to his fascination with the classical worlds of Rome and Greece, his

boundless enthusiasm for learning carries him through broad and adventurous academic odysseys. He is always eager to sit down with other members of the community to share funny anecdotes or deep revelations.

Hamza Hassan joins Deep Springs all the way from Somaliland, by way of the African Leadership Academy in South Africa. Curiously, he prefers non-sunny weather, and looks forward to the occasional rain shower. The unfamiliar environment does not stop him from exploring the Valley on bike or instigating soccer matches so that he can show off his dribbling and juggling skills. He is interested in studying education systems across the world, and dreams of one day building his own school.

For his first few weeks in the valley, **Andrew Kim** was nearly blind, having lost his glasses to the depths of the Upper Reservoir. Despite his loss of vision, Andrew demonstrated the impressive cultural and culinary sensibilities that he has picked-up from growing up in faraway lands like England and South Korea. Also formative were the four years he spent at Phillips Exeter Academy, and the summer that he participated in TASP. To relax, Andrew spends late nights in the kitchen making pasta and pies.

Book-devouring **Joseph Messer** is one of the few members of the Student Body from the Deep South: Carriere, Mississippi to be exact. He came here to “learn to love better,” both humans and nature alike. Don’t let his calm expression and laid-back demeanor fool you; he can be fierce when analyzing a film in Weimar Cinema or playing basketball behind the BH. Already published in the Atlantic, he hopes one day to become either a writer or a neuroscientist.

From mainland China, **Rango Peng** is probably the most famous student to ever bless the Main Circle. Rango is not here to attract more cameras, though – no, it is his deadpan humor and insightful analytical abilities that have earned him a soft spot in the hearts of every Student Body member. His homesickness and love for noodles have inspired him to establish RamCom(RamenCom), a near-nightly symposium on the best way

to prepare instant noodles and their garnishes.

With his piercing eyes and unkempt black hair, **Isaac Price-Slade** could be straight out of a Hemingway novel. From Northampton, Massachusetts, Isaac can be found on the rocking chairs of the Main Building porch enveloped in a book or frantically penning a letter. He has made a name for himself as a top-notch irrigator on Farm Team and an enthusiastic tanner of cowhides. Nothing is impervious to his curiosity, leading him to frequently ask, “How does this work?” or, “Can I take it apart?”

A proud native of Marlboro, Vermont, **Ethan Reichsman** does not always look it; instead, he is often wearing traditional North African robes or chatting in Arabic to nobody in particular, vestiges from his year spent in Morocco. Other times, he dons overalls and a contented grin to ride the lawnmower around campus or wash pots in the BH. His boisterous humor and huge pocketknife make him a visible presence in any setting.

Bryce Snyder’s soft-spoken Bay Area personality hides an intimidating artistic ability that puts everyone else to shame. He creates art, both visually and musically, with seeming effortlessness, often leaving elaborate but ephemeral sketches on whiteboards around campus. When not engulfed in his masterpieces, his lanky denim-covered frame can be seen adjusting to the battlefield of Main Circle soc-

cer games or enjoying the natural beauty of the Valley.

A masterful combination of brain and brawn, **Thomas Thongmee** is Deep Springs’ resident football coach and master of chess. His creativity and strong sense of leadership have found outlet at Deep Springs, in planning Thanksgiving as chair of TurkeyCom and in working diligently as a member of ComCom. He is a notorious multitasker, typically spreading out at a desk to do homework while watching “Friday Night Lights”.

With his wild beard and long hair, **Matthew Zianni** is often confused with **Laughlin McKinnon DS13** from a distance. Matthew’s dedication, attention to detail, and responsibility serve him well both in complex classroom discussions and as dairy boy. He has taken up residence in the Jonathan Deborst Hay House in order to be as close to the cows as possible. When something strikes him as funny, which is often, his hearty laugh fills every corner of campus.

Aaron Ziemer’s toothy grin and flush visage stand out in the DS14 class picture just as his optimism sticks out among the first years. It is a rare creature indeed that can maintain such a smile while cleaning food-encrusted dishes or while weeding garden beds, but Aaron manages to do so with the help of today’s finest preteen pop music. He found his hometown of Williamstown, MA to be too small for his taste, not surprising given his towering height.



Worlds Away from Deep Springs: How returning students spent their time off

by Nick Jones DS13

When someone leaves Deep Springs during the summer months, their time away can rarely be considered a “summer vacation”. Students chose a variety of summertime occupations this year, but little time was spent sunbathing or water-skiing.

I spent my own summer in Detroit, working at an urban garden. Those two months furthered my interest in food production, and also allowed me a window into the economic, social, and political realities of Detroit. Upon returning to Deep Springs, I realized that the intensity of my experience was not unique; one of the most exciting parts of coming back was hearing the new stories which members of DS13 brought into the Valley.

During their term-off, **Lewis Ho** and **Nick Barton** traveled to Lewis’ home in Hong Kong, before proceeding to Beijing, where the two worked with a documentary filmmaker.

In Alaska, **Will Hunt** worked aboard a commercial fishing boat, though he says that both the salmon and pay-outs were disappointingly scarce. Luckily, the beauty of his natural surroundings made it all worthwhile. **Peter Daniels** also immersed himself in nature, using his summer as an opportunity to hike the John Muir Trail.

Other students looked for ways to do service while away from Deep Springs. During a visit to rural Mississippi, **Kai Mateo** used his dance repertoire to help his sister lead a performing arts workshop for underprivileged students.

Beginning the new year, these experiences and the many others gained over the summer have enriched the community’s intellectual life, serving as inspiration for speeches and fodder for academic discussions. And, of course, new stories to tell on the Smoking Porch are always a welcome commodity.



iNerde

One of the most impressive term-off projects, iNerde was founded last winter with the lofty goal of improving math and science education in Africa. The organization was initially made up of only a few international students, including our own **Abdramane Diabate DS12** and **Christian Vlček DS13**. Working with collaborators all over the world, Abdramane and Christian spent hours on conference calls to work out plans for an educational summer-camp in Abdramane’s native Mali. They also recruited **Michael Leventhal DS78** to serve as their Director of Development.

Thanks to the dedication of the leadership team, the inaugural camp was a success, hosting 30 schoolchildren from the 4th and 5th grades. Abdramane was kept busy as cowboy in the White Mountains, but Christian was able to spend his term-off in Mali, working to implement the project. He says that the experience taught him about international development, and “how to approach a situation where the challenge is not finding an effective solution to a problem but convincing others that a solution exists.”

Do you know of a term-off opportunity for Deep Springs students? The Communications Committee is compiling an index of summer jobs, internships, and apprenticeships among the extended college community. We can be contacted at comcom@deepsprings.edu.



Broadened Geography: How Deep Springs is becoming international

by Thomas Thongmee DS14

Historically, student recruitment for Deep Springs has rarely extended beyond our relatively small community of alumni. With time, however, awareness of Deep Springs has spread throughout the world and ApCom now receives more applications from abroad with each successive year. Today's Student Body represents not only a geographic eclecticism but also a shift in perspective; Deep Springers must consider their education and future lives of service within a global context.

Part of this growing internationalism can be attributed to the network of international schools that form United World Colleges(UWC). Founded in 1962, the philosophy of the 14 preparatory academies is to "offer an educational experience based on shared learning, collaboration and understanding so that the students [will] act as champions of peace."

With three UWC alumni currently in the Student Body — **William Ehlers DS14**, **Will Hunt**

DS13 and **Laughlin McKinnon DS13** — coming from UWC branches in India, British Columbia, and the Netherlands, it seems that the UWC mission integrates well with Nunn's vision. Laughlin says, "The movement from worlds I knew so well to ones entirely new and strange led me, eventually, to the Valley. Deep Springs caught my eye as a place where I could begin to understand the complexities of a future for someone with such a varied past."

Other international schools have also produced multiple Deep Springers in recent years, such as the African Leadership Academy (ALA). The ALA, a pan-African boarding school located in Johannesburg, seeks to transform Africa by "identifying, developing, and connecting the next generation of African leaders." **Hamza Hassan DS14** of Somaliland and **Abdramane Diabate DS12** of Mali, who both graduated from ALA, note that the school's dedication to rigorous academics, public service,

and entrepreneurship have helped them succeed at Deep Springs. Both have long-term goals of doing service in their home countries.

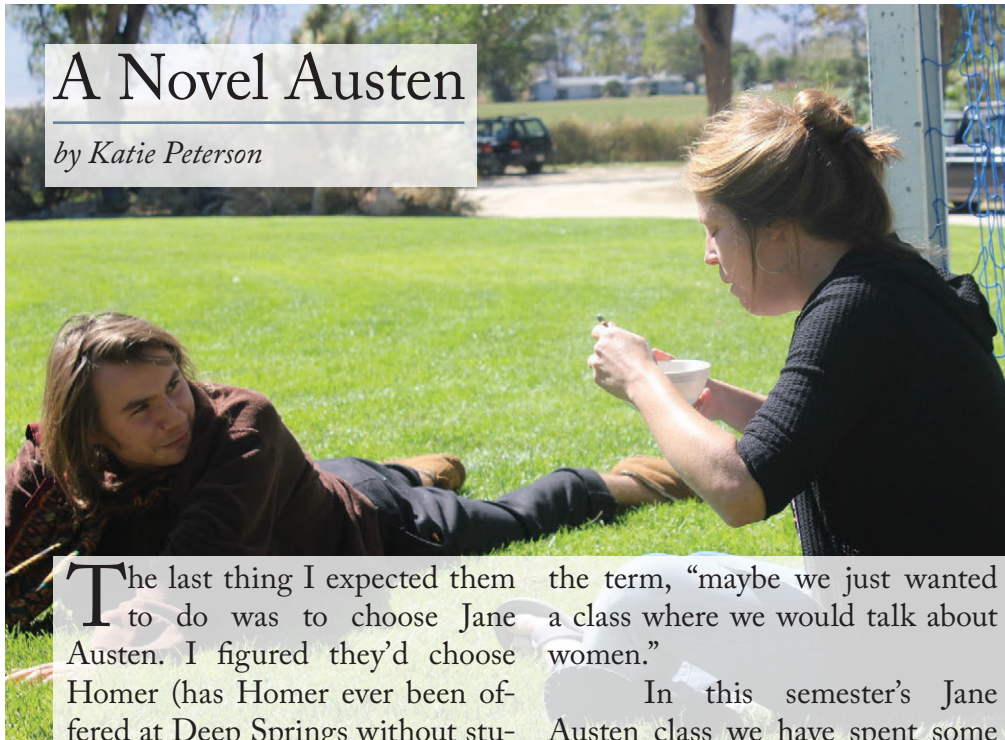
The Hong-Kong based Chinese International School(CIS), from which **Lewis Ho DS13** and **Lucas Tse DS12** graduated, has, according to Lewis, inspired a "drastic desire to change one's worldview." Lucas and Lewis both wish to explore service opportunities in Hong Kong and China.

Beyond these examples, many more current students have spent time abroad to study, work, or visit family.

The growing map of Deep Springers is not merely beneficial to our pedagogical community but also provides a wider base of backgrounds through which the mission of a life of service may resonate. Service means many different things to many different people, and the widening of Deep Springs' global footprint means a widening of its potential impact through service.

A Novel Austen

by Katie Peterson



The last thing I expected them to do was to choose Jane Austen. I figured they'd choose Homer (has Homer ever been offered at Deep Springs without students choosing it?) and suspected they'd choose the course on poet William Carlos Williams and photographer Robert Frank (American Modernism) over the lyric poetry course (lyric poetry on its own is a hard sell anywhere in this country, now including Deep Springs). I had it all figured out. But when I got the email in August, it clearly read JANE AUSTEN and HOMER. How had this happened? Austen had been my also-ran, my dark horse, (and I confess) my "decoy" course. But the truth was that the more I worked on the course proposal the more I got into it. And when I went to describe the classes I was going to offer to the Student Body at the end of the summer, well, I got into that too.

I felt defensive of Jane. I am told I claimed that "of the best ten novels ever written, Austen had written four," but I confess I have no memory of that. I may have called her Socratic, referencing conversations in the novel whose subject may seem trivial but whose manner is philosophical. And as a few students said to me at the start of

the term, "maybe we just wanted a class where we would talk about women."

In this semester's Jane Austen class we have spent some time talking about women's inner lives, decisions, and feelings. But the power of the novels remains in their ability to compel identification from any gender. Indeed, why is Austen's world less "heroic" than Homer's? Why should a male student in 2014 relate more to Greek warriors wielding ash-spears than ladies wielding wit? The drawing-room wit-warriors of Austen's novels may bear more resemblance to the desert orators of Deep Springs than the Greeks do. Students in the course have, at least, responded this way, challenging the books to live up not just to the expectations of entertainment but those of veracity and conviction.

Austen's famous for her happy endings and love troubles, and we've talked about those, too, accompanying our reading with good movies and movies of dubious quality that adapt the novels for the 20th and 21st century. But she's so much more than chick lit. In the course, we've examined her groundbreaking use of free indirect speech, that omniscient view into a character's thoughts that enables

the reader to see, hear, and feel a person's private self.

We've talked about empathy, and about awkward social situations, and about having your feelings hurt, and about the actual importance of material resources to any marriage, and we've talked about how devoting yourself to a life of service, personally (as Fanny Price from *Mansfield Park* does) can make you confused about your own needs and judgments, and we've talked about how intelligent men and women can relate to each other in the conditions of courtship and matrimony, and we've talked about whether individuals can achieve authenticity of expression inside culture at all.

We've talked about communities and what they want from you and what you may think they want from you and why those things are different sometimes and why it's hard in any case. We've attuned ourselves to everything transmitted in the invisible – judgment, love, forgiveness, friendship – and we've grown so used to happy endings we're even tired of being slightly disappointed by them.

I've even detected, at times, a widening of the vocabulary of members of the class – I heard someone use the word "alacrity" as if they owned it last week and where could that come from but Jane?

Jane, Jane, we recover you this semester at Deep Springs not as some "representative of femininity" but as a great observer of human nature, sociological wit, and philosopher of language, and on your birthday, 16 December (which is also mine, actually) maybe we will celebrate you with the famous Deep Springs Big Pink Cake.



Death Valley or Bust

by Dave Webb, Larry White, and Steve Birdlebough, DS 53

Just over 60 years ago the three of us (half the class of '53) determined to hike cross-country to Death Valley. We bet that Thanksgiving break would give us moderate weather; and we calculated from our topographic maps that we could make it in three days, averaging about 20 miles per day.

Our biggest concern was water. We each carried a half-gallon hip canteen, and we trusted that the springs indicated on the maps still existed. If the first night's water did not materialize, we would hike back all night. If the second night's water failed, we would hike forward all night. As it turned out we nearly had to enact this fail-safe plan.

On the first day, well fortified in the Boarding House, and relishing a fine fall day, we marched south past the lower ranch and eastward over the crest. We took a slight detour south to find Horsethief Canyon, a box-like defile with a

small spring and broken-down corral. Then we pushed long and hard to reach the Eureka Valley Dunes by dusk.

That is where hydrophobia struck. The map showed Big Sand Spring as a stabilizing corner of a fairly large dune. We found the spot, but it was a small stagnant pool filled by a decayed bighorn sheep. Fortunately when we stumbled around the next dune to Little Sand Spring, it was larger and flowed a nice trickle of potable water.

On our second day we pressed southeastward across broken canyon country, admiring the Last Chance Range off to our north. In the early afternoon we encountered flash floods and had to skirt some drainages. Nonetheless we knew that eventually we would enter the northern edge of Death Valley, specifically Grapevine Canyon. At last we bedded down by a string of small springs along the northeastern scarp

of that canyon.

The next day early we marched down canyon toward Scotty's Castle. Our weatherworn condition piqued the curiosity of several tourists who moved with us. And then our constellation met another constellation, at the center of which was Death Valley Scotty himself. He immediately confronted the three of us asking "Where are you boys from?" Hearing our reply, he proudly trumpeted "If it weren't for me, you boys wouldn't be there." In this view, at least, Mr. Nunn had learned of Deep Springs from Albert Johnson who in turn was led there by Scotty (aka Walter E. Scott).

We were soon met by Dr. Richard M. Straw, our much-revered biology professor, and returned in triumph to the ranch. About two months later we learned of the death of Scotty.

-Submitted by David Webb DS53



All-School Reunion

by Nick Jones DS13

Not limited to a specific era, this October's reunion featured alumni and friends of the college from across the last 60 years. More than 40 guests were in attendance to catch up with old friends, hear about the current state of the College, and, of course, spend time in the desert valley that has been so influential on all of our lives. The fall weather was chilly, but not so cold that many guests did not enjoy camping out around the Main Circle. Among a number of events, including alumni Public Speaking and a Deep Springs marathon, especially well received were historical presentations given by **Denis Clark DS69**, **Bob Gatje DS44**,

and **Jack Newell DS56**.

Guests displayed a great amount of gratitude for how well the event had been organized by Director of Development **David Welle DS80**. By the close of the weekend, everyone left excited for the upcoming centennial celebration in 2017. The event showed that the connections formed through Deep Springs do not disappear upon leaving. As one alumnus said, "Reunions are a continuation of the Deep Springs experience, if just for a few days, and a reminder and renewal of values that brought us all here as students and again as alumni."

Alumni News

Dave Hitz DS80 is sponsoring a project to translate Shakespeare into Modern American English. The first work translated, *Timon of Athens* debuted to enthusiastic acclaim this spring at the Alabama Shakespeare Festival.

After graduating from Stanford Law in June, **Jeremy Bearer-Friend DS01** has accepted a junior associate position at Ivins, Phillips, & Barker, a firm in Washington,

DC specializing in estate planning, employee benefits, and corporate tax matters.

Eric Schneidewind DS65 has been sworn in as President-Elect of the AARP. The organization has a membership of 37 million nationwide. Eric's term as President will last two years beginning in 2016. In the meantime, he is serving as chair of the AARP National Policy Council.



Top left: Ranch Manager Janice Hunter leads a tour of the farm.

Top right: Jonathan Pease DS85(left) and Jacob Dickinson DS76(right) return from a hike to the Druid.

Bottom: At the Gilbert Pass, cowboy John Stuart DS12 takes questions about current grazing operations.



Alumni Events

1980s Alumni Reunion –Memorial Day weekend, May 23-25, 2015

1970s Alumni Reunion –Labor Day weekend, September 5-7, 2015



Alumni News, cont.

Phil Hanawalt DS49 was honored by Stanford University when he was awarded the 2014 Alvin V. Cox medal for Faculty Excellence Fostering Undergraduate Research. Phil has taught at Stanford since 1961. He currently holds The Dr. Morris Herzstein Professorship in Biology and directs the Hanawalt Lab. He reports spending September of this year in Argentina, attending a photobiology congress, and teaching a course at Universidad Nacional del Litoral in Santa Fe. His lifelong ambition to be an instructor in biophysics began while he was at Deep Springs. Phil says he owes much to the College for developing his confidence and commitment to a career in academia.

Eric Abrahamsen DS96 recently completed the English translation of *Running Through Beijing* by Chinese novelist Xu Zechen. The novel's story concerns a young man recently out of jail amidst the struggles of the economic upheavals in modern China. The translation was published by Two Lines Press. Eric lives and works in Beijing. You can find the book online at twolinespress.com.

One of only four alumni residing in the Southern Hemisphere, **Arjen Maarleveld DS77** has accepted a new position as CEO of Vega, a small marine navigation technology firm in Wellington, New Zealand. Arjen and his wife Caroline are soon relocating from Christchurch, on the South Island to Wellington, on the North Is-

land.

A 2014 Rhodes Scholar, **Tim McGinnis DS09** embarked for England this fall, where he will begin studies in Economic & Social History at Oxford University. Over the summer, Tim joined **Brad Edmondson DS76** and his wife Tania for a rafting trip through the Grand Canyon along with thirteen other travelers. Tim piloted one of the six boats.

Nathan Deuel DS97 has joined the full-time faculty of the Writing Programs at University of California, Los Angeles. He will also teach at UCLA Extension and the Master of Fine Arts Program at Mount St. Mary's College. He lives with his family in Venice, California.

In Memoriam



A young John Sinning at Deep Springs

Dr. John Sinning DS48 passed away on August 22, 2014 at his home in Davenport, Iowa. He was born in 1932 in Oberlin, Kansas, the son of Dr. John and Helen Sinning. He grew up in Marshalltown, Iowa and came to Deep Springs in the summer of 1948. In his application, John expressed his desire that “the knowledge assimilated at Deep Springs would enable me to best benefit humanity in the field of medicine or chemistry.” After two years, he transferred to Cornell University and ultimately received his medical degree from Cornell University Medical School in New York City. He completed his rotating internship at University of Oregon Medical School in Portland, Oregon, where he met and married Beverly Reinhardt in 1957.

He then served two years in the US Army in Karachi, Pakistan, as a captain in the Army Medical Corps. He was the first military medical officer deployed to Pakistan for the purpose of establishing a medical outpatient clinic for The

Headquarters Military Assistance Advisory Group and their families. He also made periodic field trips to outlying isolated areas in the Sub-Continent to attend and care for military personnel and their dependents. He was awarded an Army commendation for meritorious service.

John completed a general surgery residency at the University of Indiana Medical School in Indianapolis in 1965, whereupon he and his family settled in Davenport. He practiced orthopedics there until his retirement in 1998. He was a fellow of the American Association of Orthopaedic Surgeons, the American Orthopaedic Foot and Ankle Society. He also was a member of the American Medical Association, Iowa Medical Association, and the Iowa Orthopaedic Association. John’s lifelong passion for learning led him to serve on the Davenport School Board for 11 years. As president of the Iowa QC Blood Bank, he facilitated the merger of the Iowa and Illinois Blood Banks into the Mississippi Valley Blood Bank.

John was an ardent supporter of Deep Springs during his life, and he and his wife Beverly enjoyed several visits to the Valley through the years. As a long-time member of the First Presbyterian Church of Davenport, he served as an Elder and Deacon and taught Sunday School. He is survived by his loving wife of 56 years, Beverly, their children Alicia, John III, Andrew and James (all married) and their eight grandchildren.

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Dennis Farr DS68 died November 24, 2013 at his home in Tennessee. He was 63 years old. Dennis was born in West Virginia.

Following his acceptance to Deep Springs, he turned down Princeton and came to the Valley in the summer of 1968, right out of high school from Ohio. He received a National Merit Scholarship Award during his SB days and was noted by the office staff for being particularly accomplished at the position of post office/bookstore/officeman, and for being a labor hero in the Boarding House.

Following his two years at Deep Springs, Dennis subsequently served a stint in the US Air Force before completing his MS in math and science in Ohio. Like his father before him, Dennis followed a career in computer engineering. He enjoyed solving mathematical problems, and received a patent for an alphanumeric keyboard that he constructed. He retired from his job as a software engineer for Cisco Systems in his late fifties to pursue personal interests; among them, long-distance bike touring and “taking things apart and sometimes getting them back together.”

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Joel Hayden Jr. DS39 passed away on March 22, 2014 in Farmington, Maine. He was 92 years old. He came to Deep Springs from Western Reserve Academy in Ohio (along with his good friend, fellow WRA classmate and future DS President **John “Buzz” Anderson DS39**). Already interested in pursuing music as a career, during his summer off from two years at Deep Springs, Joel studied at the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, New York.

Following Deep Springs, Joel graduated Phi Beta Kappa from Oberlin College with a degree in music. He served in the U.S.

Navy from 1944-1946, holding the rank of Lieutenant. He completed graduate studies in Russian languages at Middlebury College and ultimately received his PhD in history – specializing in Russia – from Harvard in 1958. He began teaching in Berkeley, Missouri in the early 1950s, and taught both history and Russian at Antioch College. He was a cofounder of the Meeting School, a secondary level Quaker boarding school in Rindge, NH, where he taught from 1957 to 1973. Joel went on to be a professor of music at University of Maine at Farmington from 1981 until his retirement as Professor Emeritus in 1993.

His chief avocation throughout his life was musical composition. He was always writing for specific groups or occasions. His compositions include cantatas for chorus and orchestra (which he directed), chamber music, works for piano and organ (for his wife Patricia), and songs and rounds to be used at schools and retreats where he led the singing. For many years he gave private instruction in music theory, piano and Russian language. He was the founding director for community choruses in Middlebury, Vermont, Peterborough, New Hampshire, Springvale, Portland, and Farmington, Maine.

A major focus of his attention was prayer and devotions. He participated in prayer groups and numerous church committees, and cofounded a small group in Farmington called the Peacemakers. As a Quaker educator, Joel made several trips to the Soviet Union in the 1960's; for the American

Friends Service Committee, for Earlham College, and leading a private group of college students on a camping trip behind the Iron Curtain.

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William Allen DS42, a deeply devoted Deep Springer, died Oct. 11, 2014 of pulmonary fibrosis. He is one of the presumably rare members of any class to get elected as labor commissioner and, years later, serve as chairman of the board of trustees in an eight year term. He also returned to the College several times to teach a course on Constitutional Law – and join many a late-night chat with students in the BH. His and his wife Joan's home in Arlington, Va., was for many years the base for Washington-area alumni gatherings.

Born in 1926 in Palo Alto, California, Bill left Deep Springs for Stanford in 1944 but was drafted into the Army in 1945 where he served in the Korean occupation forces and attained the rank of staff sergeant. He returned to Stanford in 1946 and graduated in 1948. He reported for the Associated Press for the next five years, working in Fresno, and then as a legislative correspondent in Sacramento. In 1953 he entered Stanford Law School where he was president of the law review. Graduating in 1956, he served during the 1956-57 Supreme Court term as the chief law clerk to Chief Justice Earl Warren.

In 1957 he joined the Washington law firm of Covington and Burling, where he charted a wide-ranging practice in appellate litigation and administrative law over a career spanning 45 years. He led the Judicial Review Committee on the Administrative Conference of

the United States, a public-private board that is the chief policy-writing arm of the administrative part of the federal court system. He also served in the early 1980s as the chairman of the Administrative Law Section of the American Bar Association. He led a number of the firm's groundbreaking pro bono matters, including the first open housing act to be enacted south of the Mason-Dixon Line; it was for many years the model for any such act in the South. In the 1980s his pro bono work centered on death penalty cases, including several appeals to the Supreme Court; he argued four cases before the Court. He also taught administrative law at Stanford Law School, Cornell Law School, and Howard Law School.

Following his death, a spokesman for his firm--with reference to his pro bono activities – credited Bill with a deep commitment to public service and, in the opinion of his colleagues, with “legendary” qualities of creativity and decency.

Bill was an avid track and field fan, demonstrated by his attending six Summer Olympics. He and his late wife, the former Joan Webster Emmett, were active in Arlington County Democratic politics for many years. He leaves three sons, Edwin, Neal, and Kent, and eight grandchildren. Bill was remembered by many of his friends and colleagues; we share just a few below:

Bill was a good friend for 71 years. He was a remarkably straight and upright man in a world where those values are scarce. He was usually silent, but he was possessed of a broad and tolerant mind, and he was eloquent when he had something to say. He was loyal to his family, his

In Memoriam, cont.

friends, his legal associates (who honored him recently for his legal writing) and to Deep Springs. I will remember him with affection and be sad at his absence, as will his many friends.

- **Lindsey Grant DS43**

Bill was a voice of absolute moderation and commonsense on the board. He was totally committed to the student role at Deep Springs.

- **Chris Breiseth, TA58, DS President 80-83**

Bill was a wonderful friend. I first met him as a student at DS and we kept up our connection through the years. He had the liveliest, most probing mind I have come across and it was always a treat to catch up with him. I miss him deeply.

- **Mihir Kshirsagar DS95**

Back in 1943 we new students were introduced to Deep Springs by a group of exceptionally strong seniors. Among them "Rope" Allen stood out as a thoughtful guy with an individualistic bent. We elected him our labor commissioner. Allen, Al Votaw, and some other seniors seemed miles ahead of at least some of us in intellectual and scholarly maturity – they recited verses from obscure poets, and Allen's debating skills already demonstrated the strength of mind and reasoning power that would challenge future legal adversaries (and some of his friends). It has been one of the happy parts of my life to have kept active a student friendship throughout our lives in Washington: following his professional career from the sidelines, enjoying numerous joint family occasions (our sons – contemporaries – were friends) and admiring him as he toughed out a cruel illness. Reading the record of his

life, we see a prime realization of the Nunnian legacy.

- **Pete MacDonald DS43**

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Dr. Robert Sproull DS35, CB38, TA38 died on October 9, 2014 at his home in Rochester, New York. Born in 1918 in Illinois, he spent three years in the Deep Springs Student Body. In later years he would often fondly recall the fulfilling manual accomplishments of the labor program, even including the use of horses to do much of the fieldwork around the farm. Already an accomplished student, he taught calculus to his fellow students in the Student Body. He went on to receive a bachelor's degree in English and ultimately a PhD in Physics from Cornell University in 1943.

Bob began his career as a physicist during the Second World War. His experimental thesis became classified due to its applications with microwave magnetrons. He taught physics to Navy and Marine students, and microwave theory to Navy and industrial engineers. He received an assistant professorship in physics at Cornell in 1946 and advanced quickly.

He was the first director of the Laboratory of Atomic and Solid State Physics as well as the Center for Materials Research. From 1963-1965, he was director of the Advanced Research Projects Agency (ARPA, later known as DARPA) which was established by President Eisenhower in 1958 amidst the depths of the Cold War to develop new technologies with potential military application. Bob promoted greater cooperation among academia, government and industry toward that end, and many

technologies ultimately found significant roles in the civilian world, as well.

Bob became vice-president for academic affairs at Cornell in 1965. In 1968, he moved to the University of Rochester to become provost, and subsequently served as president from 1970 to 1984, during the particularly tumultuous period extending from the campus unrest of the late 1960's through the steep inflationary period of the 1970's. He was an equal advocate for the humanities and the sciences, boosting the university's endowment and leading establishment of the Laboratory for Laser Energetics, which became a leading research lab. He also served as chairman of the Defense Science Board from 1968-1970. He retired as Chief Executive from University of Rochester and resumed teaching as a Professor of Physics in 1985.

Bob was a member of the National Academy of Sciences. He served on a variety of corporate boards, including Xerox and Bausch & Lomb, and in later years worked as an advisor for the departments of Energy and Defense. He also served as a trustee of Cornell University and Wilkes-Barre College.

Bob served two separate terms on the Deep Springs board of trustees, the first time from 1967-1975, and again 1983-1987. He was highly regarded as a constant champion of the college. Chris Breiseth, former president of both Deep Springs and Telluride Association, who knew and worked with Bob for over 50 years, described him as "A paragon of Deep Springs alumni – generous and hardworking, tough-minded and perceptive." During the

college's campus-wide reconstruction, a generous and timely gift from Bob and Mary Sproull provided the funds to build the new Student Body Dorm, where the students have lived ever since. Mary pre-deceased Bob in 2012; the two had been married for 70 years. Bob is survived by his son, Robert, daughter Nancy, and three grandchildren.

...

Park Honan DS46 passed away in Leeds, England on September 27, 2014. He was born September 17, 1928 in Utica, New York. His father had been a surgeon in Manhattan but died suddenly when Park was just eight years old. His mother worked as a journalist and the family relocated to Bronxville, where he attended public school. The full scholarship to Deep Springs proved to be his entry point to higher education.

Among other duties, Park worked as mechanic's helper, butcher, and labor commissioner while at Deep Springs. He enjoyed the desert fauna, particularly the reptiles. His extensive reading of Shakespeare while in the Valley led him to shift interest from the study of Law to English, and he transferred with another scholarship to University of Chicago, where he received both his bachelor's and master's degrees in English.

He worked briefly for a publishing firm in New York, where he met Jeannette Colin, a Fulbright

scholar from France studying in the U.S. They were married in 1952 in Manhattan. (Jeannette died in 2009.) Park was an avowed pacifist and was jailed briefly for his refusal to serve combat duty in the Korean War. He was drafted and ultimately served the U.S. Army in a non-combat role while posted in France. Upon discharge, he resumed his studies at University College of London and completed his PhD in English Literature in 1961.

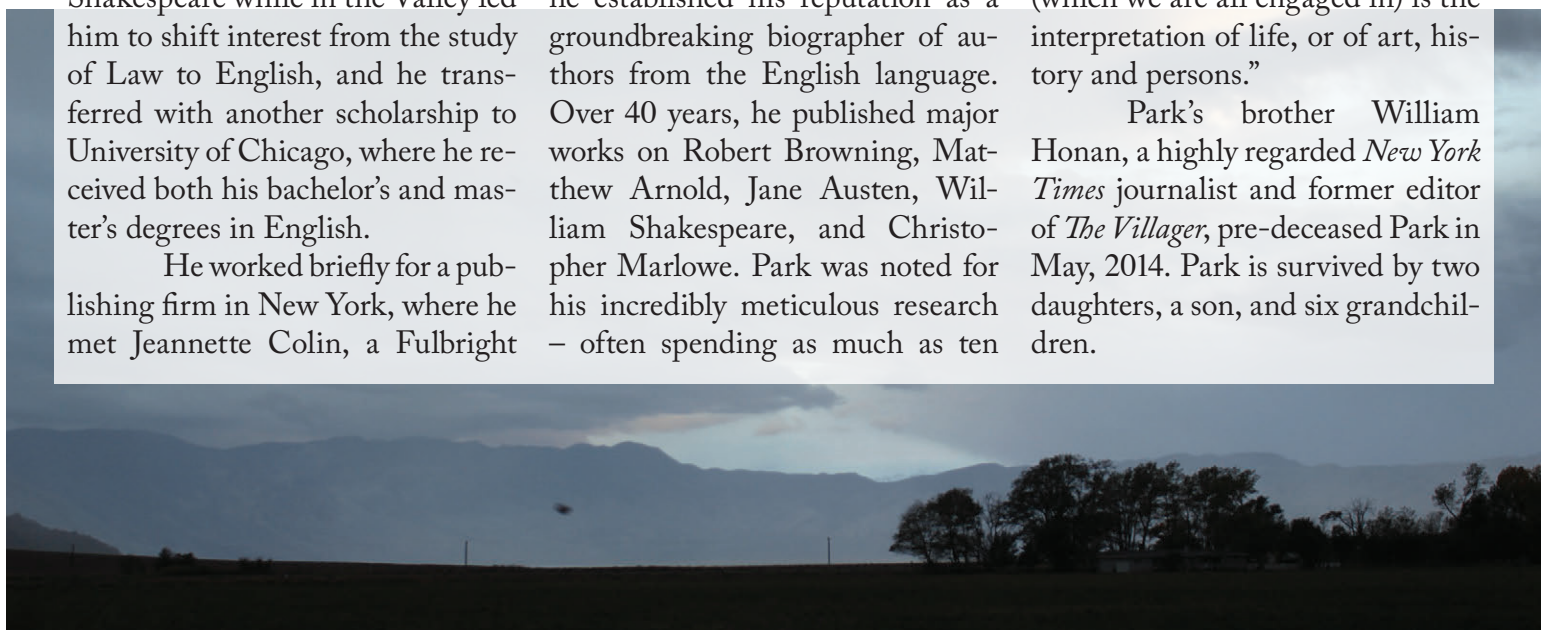
He received a Guggenheim Fellowship in 1962. Returning to the U.S., he taught initially at Connecticut College, then Brown University. In 1968 he returned for good to the U.K., accepting a Lecturer position at Birmingham University. In 1983, he relocated to Leeds University, where he was appointed Professor of English and American Literature. Park was praised by students and colleagues alike for his inspirational teaching; providing both conversational seminars and a theatrical style of lecturing. He retired from Leeds in 1998 with the title of Emeritus Professor.

During his career, Park edited several literary anthologies and wrote both plays and fiction. But he established his reputation as a groundbreaking biographer of authors from the English language. Over 40 years, he published major works on Robert Browning, Matthew Arnold, Jane Austen, William Shakespeare, and Christopher Marlowe. Park was noted for his incredibly meticulous research – often spending as much as ten

years on a subject – and for his narrative style. He believed in trying to intellectually inhabit the period in which his subjects lived, "...to write contextualized biographies attentive to feeling as well as to ideas, objective and yet close, rooted in an historical present, alive to childhood, creativity, and growth, and above all painstakingly accurate..." His *Shakespeare, A Life* was regarded by leading Shakespeare historian Stanley Wells as "the best biography in existence." He was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature in 1998. At the time of his death, he was writing a biography of T.S. Eliot.

In remarks to the Jane Austen Society of North America in 1988, Park reflected on the process of writing biographies: "More often, my blunders were simply blunders; but I enjoyed sitting up sometimes until 4 or 5 a.m. to study the history of the clergy, banking, Hampshire geology and farming, clothes, etiquette at the dance, and so on, or tramping through Kent and finding Edward Austen's Rowling House and talking with its owners...My point is, that all of that was relatively easy. The error-filled, continuing delicate thing (which we are all engaged in) is the interpretation of life, or of art, history and persons."

Park's brother William Honan, a highly regarded *New York Times* journalist and former editor of *The Villager*, pre-deceased Park in May, 2014. Park is survived by two daughters, a son, and six grandchildren.



Deep Springs College
HC 72 Box 45001
Dyer, NV 89010-9802

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Information

The Alumni Newsletter is edited by the Communications Committee. Current members are **Nick Jones DS13**(Chair), **Nick Barton DS13**, **Andrew Kim DS14**, **Thomas Thongmee DS14**, and **Shelby Macleish**(staff adviser). For this issue, photography was provided by **Bryce Snyder DS14**.

If you have feedback or suggestions for future newsletters, please contact us.

E-mail:

comcom@deepsprings.edu

Address:

Communications Committee
Deep Springs College
HC 72, Box 45001
Dyer, NV 89010-9802



Front and back cover photos: Students remove cocklebur, an invasive weed, from pasture surrounding Deep Springs Lake