

# DEEP SPRINGS


ALUMNI NEWSLETTER - FALL 2016

One Hundred  
Years of Solitude

1917-2017

Ari Dubow DS16 feeding the chickens at dawn.



A large, leafy tree with a thick trunk and many green leaves dominates the foreground. In the background, a person is walking on a path, and there are some buildings and other trees. The scene is bright and sunny.

# WELCOME,

Deep Springs Alumni. Deep Springs College is about to enter its one hundredth year of solitude in this isolated desert valley. Since its inception in 1917, Deep Springs has undergone significant changes - yet much remains the same. The three pillars remain at the heart of the institution, SB meetings are still fascinating displays of the human condition, and the college continues to be a rare institution in higher education. I hope you enjoy discovering through this newsletter what has and hasn't changed in the valley since 1917, and how Deep Springs is moving forward into its second century.

Tim Olsen DS16 - Student Publisher

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Special thanks to editors Shelby MacLeish, Niki Frishman, David Welle DS80, and David Neidorf.

Thanks also to our writers: Jango McCormick DS16, Isaac Monroe DS16, Jesus Munoz DS15, Robert Gunn DS16, Martin Dolsky DS15, Hussain Taymuree DS16, Jonathan Zisk DS16, Pete MacDonald DS43, Tim Olsen DS16, and David Welle DS80.



# ACADEMICS

Deep Springs is offering ten classes this Fall semester (Terms II and III), taught by four faculty members, two visiting professors, and a staff member.

## THE GOOD LIFE (Jenny Smith)

This course considers and evaluates contemporary political theories that claim a *foundational good* as the basis of a desirable political community. These foundational goods include Liberty, Justice, and Democracy, provided by authors such as Hobbes, Locke, Bentham, Arendt, Berlin, and Rawls.

## PARTIES AND ELECTIONS (Jenny Smith)

This class studies the history, purpose, and nature of political parties and election processes. The class also gives attention to themes of populism and what R. Hofstadter has called the “paranoid style” in American party politics.

## OUTDOOR SKILLS

(Noah Beyeler DS03)

*Outdoor Skills* focuses on the equipment, etiquette, and knowledge that safe hiking and backpacking practices demand. Students benefit from classroom discussion and practical experience, with periodic trips into the Whites and Sierras. The class will culminate in a student-lead trip to Zion National Park.



## LAW & SOCIETY

Emma LeBlanc is a Rhodes Scholar and PhD candidate at Oxford. As one of our two visiting professors, Emma has come to the valley to teach Law and Society, a class that examines the nature of law through detailed ethnographic and historical case studies.

## PLATO, PHILOSOPHY, AND RHETORIC

(David McNeil)

David's Plato seminar is a close reading of four Platonic dialogues: the Apology, Meno, Gorgias, and Phaedrus. The course looks closely at the relationship between philosophy and rhetoric, and more broadly introduces students to ancient Western philosophy.

## MAGICAL REALISM

(David McNeil)

This class focuses on the writings of Jorge Luis Borges and Gabriel Garcia Marquez's *One Hundred Years of Solitude*. Students examine how the synthesis of magical and realist elements in these works reflect on time, history, and individual/collective self-consciousness.

## ASTRONOMY & COSMOLOGY (Michele Lanan)

In this course, Michele's students are tracking and studying the history of cosmic theory and scientific discovery. They are investigating concepts including relativity, quantum mechanics, black holes, supernovae, rays, and multiverse theories.

## EUSOCIALITY & THE SUPERORGANISM (Michele Lanan)

Michele's class examines the evolution, ecology, and self-organization of eusocial insects, especially ants and bees. The class also studies the complex networks of the brain, and will culminate in a class submission to a scientific journal on the relations of these networks.

## STEWARDSHIP AND LAND CONSERVATION (Amity Wilczek)

A combination of conservation biology, geography, and land management history, this course is an interdisciplinary study that will provide students with a greater understanding of their ecological situation in the American West. The work is split between the classroom and field study of the russian thistle (tumbleweed) infestation around the South Oasis windmill in Fish Lake Valley.

## MODERNISM THROUGH MODERN ART

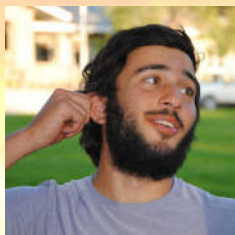
Former Dean Justin Kim is a time-honored favorite of Deep Springs, having first taught here in 1997. His class this semester will witness the evolution of modern cultural history through modern art, studying the shifts in humanity's understanding of and relation to the world.





# DS16

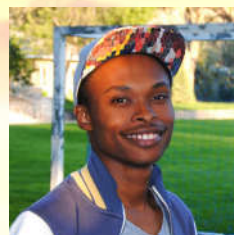
## FIRST YEARS



Arman



Ari



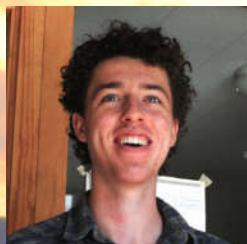
Bonga



Robert



Michael



Jango



John

Coming from Canada, India, Australia, South Africa, and all over the United States, these students were selected to form the 100th class of the Deep Springs student body. Interestingly, around one quarter of these students are New Yorkers, and exactly one fifth of the class is from Booklyn.

Coming to us from “The Athenian School” in Danville, California, ARMAN AFIFI is a rare synthesis of sincerity and high spirits. He serves the Student Body conscientiously as our trusted Treasurer, and spends his down time in large and small bodies of water. His recognizable laugh, ability to experience wonder, and concern for others make him a lifting force of the SB.

ARI DUBOW, from Brooklyn, NY, is the King of Irrigation and Supererogation. Unlike other students, Ari is hard to find because he is in a perpetual state of labor. You might think he would join a union or go on strike sometime, but he doesn’t believe in plebeian revolts. In fact, and I quote: “I don’t believe anything exists”. In his free time, Ari might be in the BH cracking some eggs, in his room cracking open David Foster Wallace, or at dinner cracking satire with infinite jest.

BONGA GUMEDE possesses quick wit and a euphony laugh, whether he is laughing at you or with you. After receiving an education from the African Leadership Academy in South Africa, Bonga flew to Shanghai to develop his Chinese language skills before arriving in the valley. While the South African divides his talents well between rapping and spoken word poetry, he is especially cherished here for his devotion to friendships and ability to detect authenticity.

ROBERT GUNN is a human encyclopedia, with the ability to intertwine concepts from fields such as neuroscience, philosophy, and physics in cohesive ways. Robert is himself a coalescence of cultures, spending a year at Villanova and a year in Japan before arriving in the desert. He spends his free time cooking, being existential, and foraging for the fattest books he can find. After graduating, Robert aspires to a career in hastening the Artificial Intelligence apocalypse.

Hailing from Fredericton, New Brunswick, MICHAEL LEGER is a softhearted farm boy who “misses the ocean, but is learning to love the desert”. Michael is the latest installment in the United World College ancestral line, recently spending two years at Pearson College in Victoria, British Columbia. He is an unwavering vegetarian, talented musician, and amateur wizard, recently resurrecting Phoenix, his newly acquired Labrador, in the ashes of the Big Pine pound.

Lover of all things birdlike, JANGO McCORMICK is Deep Springs’ resident show-fowl specialist. Besides his strangely proficient taxidermy skills, Jango is a strong laborer and quick thinker, nurturing at all times a repository of eccentric facts, insights, and good humor. Originating in Mosier, Oregon, Jango offers DS16 a particular type of conversational wit centered on irony, the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge, yurts, or all three combined.

From a long line of people with the same name, JOHN McDONALD transferred to Deep Springs from the University of Texas, remembering the Alamo the whole way here. Within the mountainous walls of Deep Springs, John is known for his skilled burrito wrapping and unskilled concealment of softening produce. On dark and stormy nights, John likes to relax with the most morbid stories of Roberto Bolaño, gazing off into the middle distance and sipping something dark and mug-based all the while.

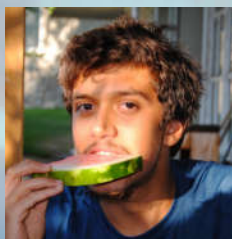




Akash



Isaac



Tyler



Tim



Josh



Hussain



Jeremy



Jonathan

A utilitarian liberal and eager academic, AKASH MEHTA is in many ways the embodiment of our Term One Summer Seminar, The Beginning of Political Life. Arriving from Saint Ann's School in Brooklyn, Akash is an amiable and energetic member of DS16 who adds important vigor to our valley life. During labor, he is often found moving irrigation lines on the North-East field - the field geographically closest to The White House.

ISAAC MONROE may labor in overalls on a desert farm, but he calls the inner city of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania his home. While generally down-to-earth, Isaac's unconventional political perspectives are invaluable to SB dialogue. Isaac values his personal space significantly, and has accordingly taken to squatting in the dormitory closet.

TYLER NADASEN-GLADSTONE, occasionally known as TNG, is a passionate and unabashed Deep Springer. During one SB meeting, after his motion to go to the Bishop Fair did not gain enough votes, Tyler simply announced the motion again. Beyond his Bronx nonchalance, Tyler is an insightful and radically invested member of DS16. He is particularly nocturnal, known for frequent night treks to the sauna, upper reservoir, or his mattress, which is often situated under the stars.

TIM OLSEN's presence is unmistakably Australian. The brogue, the uncouth phrases that you don't understand - Tim has it all. His lack of typically Australian references (koala bears, 'roos, Sydney Opera House) might be explained by his recent stint at St. John's College, Santa Fe, but he's a Perth boy at heart. When not being carried in a stretcher or leading the Communications Committee, Tim makes sure to ask plenty of questions, some of them good.

Known for his adventures in China, training as an EMT, and wilderness expertise, JOSHUA O'NEIL is the true nature boy of DS16. Tall and gifted with the vocal chords of an Operatic Baritone, Josh reads with dangerously soothing intonation - students listening have been known to fall into trancelike states. Josh also likes to go on solitary walks under stars not too far from his previous Californian home, experiencing the world with tranquil humility.

HUSSAIN TAYMUREE is from the Bay Area, but his true home lies much further away, in the arid and beautiful landscapes of Afghanistan. Hussain combines efficient and analytic thinking skills with philosophical and spiritual ponderings, and enjoys working as the Deep Springs Archivist just as much as he relishes ruining opponents during main lawn soccer matches. Little understood by members of the SB, Hussain's true nature continues to be a subject of keen interest around campus (updates to follow).

JEREMY UYS, the mechanic's assistant, is a delightful strawberry blonde hunk of Americana. Deep voiced, resilient, excitable, and funny, Jeremy navigates the valley with the same vigor with which his Dutch ancestors sailed across vast oceans to new territories. Over his time here, Jeremy has distinguished himself by his ability to find the silver lining in anything, including inside the sewage pipes he occasionally fixes during labor.

JONATHAN ZISK, also known as Jay Z for his likeness to the musician, transferred to Deep Springs from Reed College in Portland, Oregon. Jonathan is an avid mountaineer, Lord of the Dairy Barn, geography enthusiast, and prolific pen pal. When he is not writing to the whole population of his home city, Washington D.C., one might find Jonathan in the BH mastering colloquial American English ("dude, dude"), or reading James Joyce and Jane Jacobs simultaneously in his room.



# DS INITIATIVES

## Boarding House / Analysis of Self-Governance / Diversity

This year the community has decided to add three strategic initiatives to the overall Strategic Plan. They include analyses of the functioning of the Boarding House, Self-Governance, and Diversity at Deep Springs.

-Jonathan Zisk DS16

### 1. Boarding House

While a plan for remodeling the BH building is currently in the works, the strategic initiative is intended to address operational concerns of the Boarding House. The approach is boiled down into three separate initiatives:

- 1) Maintenance of the BH as a space open to, used by, and taken care of by the community.
- 2) Continued use of student labor and utilization of Deep Springs produce and meat.
- 3) Careful control of food costs in order to maximize efficiency on a limited budget.

Long a focal point of Deep Springs, the great importance of the BH lies in its fostering of communal connection and sustenance (physical and social), as well as providing a workspace for student laborers. With this plan in the works, we hope to maintain the centrality of the BH for life at Deep Springs, improving the existing facilities for future generations of staff and students.

### 2. Analysis of Self Governance

Since 1917, the Self-Governance pillar has grown substantially in scope and practice. However, it has been left with few structural systems for guidance and analysis.

This strategic initiative will approach the task of examining, defining, and reviewing the expediency of self-governance at Deep Springs. Both staff and students will work on the initiative, relying heavily on the SB historian for use of the archives and the current SB for a structural review of self-governance as it currently stands.

As the initiative progresses, additional ad-hoc committees may be added to the mix. These will focus on specific aspects of self-governance that require further study or revision.

### 3. Supporting Diversity

Deep Springs may change slowly relative to the outside world, yet the college has made leaps and bounds in diversifying the composition of the student body in recent decades. While these changes are significant, the Diversity strategic initiative aims to consolidate past efforts, examine trends, and make coherent plans for how diversity at Deep Springs will be approached in the coming years.

While strategies for future outreach to underrepresented groups are addressed, the initiative also focuses on the importance of diversity throughout the three pillars, aiming to build a community that challenges people to think, to converse, to change, and to grow while at Deep Springs.

This desire to explore diversity at Deep Springs is based on the assertion that exposing the community to a broad range of backgrounds will better prepare students for a life of service. The Diversity Committee (DiveCom), composed of members of the other three standing committees, will spearhead discussion of these topics in bi-monthly meetings.

The initiative pays notice to the push for diversity in higher education around the country, but is more concerned with the immediate effects of diversity in how it affects daily life and the educational experience at Deep Springs.



# AMONG THE ALFALFA

## Farm Team Looking Forward

Isaac Monroe DS16

Nearly 100 years into the experiment of Deep Springs, there is speculation on how the college has changed, for better or worse, since its founding, and what to look forward to in the coming 100 years. The history of farm team, specifically, situates the school's project in relation to the unfolding history of the outside, non-isolated world, providing a fascinating angle on Deep Springs' pedagogy. I experienced this by virtue of how central farm team was for my introduction to life in the valley.

It wasn't long ago that the Farm received its current wheel-line irrigation system. Walking around some of the alfalfa fields you can still see the trenches that were used for the flood irrigation of times past, and there is talk of the days when all the equipment we had were hand lines—a pipe-sprinkler system that needed to be laid out manually, twice a day. I imagine that the introduction of the wheel lines, colossal straight lines of sprinkler and pipe on wheels that need only be moved by turning on a motor, must have felt disconcerting for those Deep Springers that worked through the transition. Surely some nasty-meanie students had revolted against the perceived luxuriousness of the new system, making an appeal to the innate virtue of the toilsome hand lines. Surely some others, farm-teams even, were relieved.

Looking forward, the question of whether or not the farm will continue to embrace new irrigation technologies remains open. Wheel lines themselves are becoming increasingly obsolete in a world of the pivot, the fully automated autonomous irrigation system that requires little to no human labor in order to function. If the farm were to take on the pivot system then there would effectively be no farm team, and the SB would be freed up to find more to do with their labor power. This problem becomes increasingly pertinent in the 21st century context with autonomous technologies and AI promising to liberate the human race from still more forms of work.

Aside from the obvious financial question, the decision on whether or not to cyberneticize the farm operations is a question of the value and virtue of work that should be seriously considered by the student body. Thinking back to the challenge of being on farm team—the early mornings and the overtime, the perpetual crisis of malfunctioning equipment and occasionally mind-numbing repetition, the awareness that everything that can go wrong will—I have to tell myself that there was something innately positive and virtuous about my labor beyond its clear pedagogical function. This becomes a philosophical

crisis for me, for if I were to say that my toil was virtuous in itself, then I risk glamorizing some forms of labor over others, with the obvious consequence of devaluing and sidelining other forms of work, both at Deep Springs and in the world.

I've found that the pleasure I derive from my work, and the virtue I extract from it, is highly individual. True to Nunn's vision of a (at least partially) practical, labor-based pedagogy, I've found the time I spend among the alfalfa to be a time for contemplation on what it is I want my labor to mean for my life, both now and in the future. The unique conditions of the labor element of the Deep Springs program are suited for this type of contemplation. Additionally, through my labor I allow my peers to do the same by, as the saying goes, making sure "the trains run on time".

This contemplation of individual meaning, and the knowledge of a contribution to a collective project (which is always involved in labor to some extent), may not have been possible without the responsibilities I felt as a member of farm team. I think that this is something unique about the role labor plays in the Deep Springs community, and something that will ultimately be lost—or significantly impaired in a way that is untrue to the mission of Deep Springs—if farm team were to be rendered obsolete.

Carter Wilkinson DS15 moving irrigation pipes.



# FAREWELL JANICE HUNTER

Martin Dolsky DS15

*This month an immensely valued member of the Deep Springs community, Janice Hunter, departed from the valley for her home, Olancho, CA. As our ranch manager since January of 2012, Janice proved to be an incredibly hard-working leader with a strong vision. In addition to her work, her warm spirit has changed this place, making horsemanship classes and student cattle drives true community-bonding experiences. Any expression of gratitude for her time here will be insufficient, so let me say thank you by letting her own words speak for themselves.*

## **When you first came here, what surprised you?**

I knew very little about the place, so it was a pleasant surprise to come here and find out that at a college with bright young intellectual men, the guys are just really regular guys, very friendly, very unassuming. They have their hidden talents, but they never feel the need to come out and talk about them. That was a very nice thing to discover.

## **What wisdom can you impart on those who are left behind?**

The one thing I would say is just a greater respect for property. Whether it's tiny little pieces of hardware or big items like farm equipment, I think guys don't really have an appreciation of the costs of all the supplies that are involved in the operation - but that is not a bad lesson to teach a bunch of young men going into the world. It's a rather trivial thing in the big scheme of what happens here, but it's something all the staff deals with. On a more upbeat and enjoyable note; there are all these students I dealt with here, those working as cowboys, those who have shown a lot of interest in horsemanship. You find these talents that you didn't know you had when you came here and you do all these different labor positions and learn various skills. So perceive them and go for them. I see a lot of natural talent moving through here that would be very exciting to watch continue to grow.

## **What is it that you think other people should take away from this place?**

First and foremost, an appreciation of the people that they spend time with here. The selection of people here is just phenomenal. And it's by far the hardest thing to leave here. So, take advantage of them.

Towards the end of their two years, I heard a lot of students start saying: "Oh my gosh, I'm gonna be out of here soon and need to really start taking advantage of the activities, the people and all the opportunities around me." And that is so true. A very unique and rare situation here.

## **What are your plans for the future?**

My priority is on the family. I'd like to take some pressure off other people who are with them, carrying a heavy load. It's been a long time since I've been able to focus there.





# STUDENTS TAKE OVER THE BH

Robert Gunn DS16

*Upon the recent resignation of Deep Springs' BH manager Mark Mora, the Deep Springs community was confronted with a challenge - how do we feed 50 people three times a day? Two solutions were proposed - hiring a temporary cook, or having students take on all kitchen responsibilities until the next permanent manager was hired. The student body chose to take on these responsibilities and manage the kitchen during the interim period. A cooking crew was formed, set in rotation, and the most recent senior cook, Robert Gunn DS16, was charged with ordering food and managing the temporary operation. This management was a lot to ask of a student, but Robert was eager and capable - below are a few of his reflections on the whole experience.*

## Cooking is fun.

Cooking for 50 while attempting to manage committee and self-governance work, a heavy course load, many of the responsibilities generally belonging to a BH manager, and living a generally healthy lifestyle? Not so fun. But that doesn't change the truth: cooking is fun.

Term 2 has been a blast. Unequivocally, being senior cook without a BH manager has presented a set of responsibilities that aren't usually offered to students here. The absence of an authoritative BH presence has offered me almost complete autonomy, so long as I stay under budget and get something edible out at the right times every day. While Term 2 has certainly been an incredible experience, the lack of sleep and occasional stress that accompanies trying to do more than anticipated and, at times, more than I'm equipped to do, has made Term 2 also a terrifying one. This has placed me in the uncomfortable position of wanting it just to end, while simultaneously hoping it never does - but alas - all things must end at Deep Springs (we might actually become proficient at our labor positions if that wasn't the case), and so too must my time as cook.

The kitchen has become my new-found omphalos, a gravitational center for the rest of my time as senior cook. Everything I do on campus has come to orbit the BH in some way, whether it be walking around the BH to get to class, back around it to get to my room, or lying on the floor of the Nunn room grabbing a bit of sleep after finishing my nightly reading and before beginning breakfast.

With that gravitational center comes a pull, both anxious and excited—dread-filled and brimming with possibility—to make the bell at 6:00pm something that excites the community day-in and day-out (and it's a nice excuse to have an intensive independent study in cooking). Thankfully there have been two other cooks—Carter Wilkinson DS'15 (a one-time senior cook) and Sam Shzu DS'15 who, when our cooking schedules have overlapped, have been a pleasure to cook with and who have provided vital knowledge and inspiration in the kitchen, not to mention our beloved baker Kieran Driskall DS'15 and our savior, Laurie Munger, who not only prepares one fantastic lunch a week, but also helps prevent our mess from getting out of hand.

So even on those weekend days when I worry whether the weekend cooks will do what they're supposed to, or when I spend far too long planning and thinking up new menus for the week ahead, or even an hour from the final bell when I realize I don't know what I'm doing, I recognize that there are few other experiences that can provide this kind of sense of place - the kind that only arrives when great expectations push us beyond the comfortable.



# ALUMNI NEWS

## DAVID GALBRAITH DS90 IN MYANMAR

David Galbraith, DS90, heads the 11-person political unit at the U.S. Embassy in Yangon, Myanmar. His team helped coordinate U.S. support for Myanmar's 2015 general elections, which resulted in a resounding victory for then-opposition leader San Suu Kyi's party. The Embassy's work now focuses on helping further Myanmar's democratic transition, including by supporting the new government's efforts to achieve peace and reconciliation and inclusive economic growth. David joined the Foreign Service in 2002. Previous overseas stints include Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Iraq, and Venezuela; while in Washington, he did details at the National Security Council and as a fellow at Georgetown University. He is married to Alyce Abdalla, also a Foreign Service Officer. They have three young children who enjoy jumping around outside in Myanmar's monsoon season.

## FROM ERIK HOOVER DS86

Lizabeth Cain has joined the Education Department at SUNY New Paltz, and so our entire family has moved to Beacon, in New York's Hudson Valley, to be with her. Please let us know if you are in, or might be coming to, our vicinity! Complete contact info is in the online alumni directory.

## DOCUMENTARY FILM: THEO WHO LIVED

David Schisgall DS86 has just released his latest documentary: *Theo Who Lived*. Theo Padnos, is an American journalist who was kidnapped by Al Qaeda while attempting to report from Syria in 2012. He was released nearly two years later. The film follows Theo as he returns to the Middle East and retraces his physical and emotional journey through the experience. The film is opening in limited release across several U.S. cities this fall, distributed by Zeitgeist Films. David is a filmmaker and writer based in Brooklyn. Byron Estep DS86 composed music for the film.

## SPACE, CYBER, AND NUCLEAR SECURITY IN INDIA

Raymond Jeanloz DS70 recently returned from India: "As part of ongoing international discussions sponsored through the US National Academy of Sciences (NAS), I led a team of experts to discuss matters related to space security, cyber security and nuclear safety with counterparts from the technical, policy and military communities in India. NAS was chartered by Congress to serve and advise the nation as an independent body, and our activities supported that mandate."

## JOHNNY JOHNSON'S SADDLE

Jack Newell DS56 sent the college a gift from Johnny Johnson of Harrisburg, Utah. Not to be confused with Elmer Johnson, this Johnny Johnson worked briefly as a hired cowboy at Deep Springs in 1954 and on occasion again in the 1960s. A self-declared "buckaroo", he spent most of his life working cattle in Oregon, Nevada and California. He retired from the cowboy life in the 1990s and started a successful heavy equipment business, but kept riding for fun. Johnny thought very highly of Louis Azevedo and said that Deep Springs made such an impression on him that he wanted to donate his hand-made saddle, bridle, rope, and blankets to the ranch. This month, David Welle delivered the gift to new ranch manager Tim Gipson who was happy to place the beautiful saddle alongside the others in the SB cowboy's tack room.



## SB WISHLIST

- boxing headgear/equipment
- christmas lights
- cereal
- sleeping pads/bags
- hammocks
- pottery wheel
- D-ring snaffle bit
- VHS tapes
- BonePile winter clothing



## Shep Smith DS88

Promoted to Admiral

Pete MacDonald DS43

Shepard M. "Shep" Smith (DS 1988) became Deep Springs' first admiral when he was promoted to Rear Admiral (NOAA) August 26. Shep, who holds a B.S. in mechanical engineering from Cornell and an M.S. in ocean engineering from the University of New Hampshire, was commissioned ensign in the NOAA corps in 1993. Formed in 1970, The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration became the first science agency of the U.S. Government; it is a conglomeration of the U.S. Coast and Geodetic survey, the Weather Bureau, and the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries. The agency's products cover a very wide range: weather forecasts, climate monitoring, oceanic mapping, fisheries management, and support of marine commerce. It uses its resources for advanced scientific research to provide government and private users with reliable information.

Shep's assignments at NOAA, all of which have combined to qualify him for his new assignment, have covered a surprisingly wide range. They include marine surveying in Alaska, Chesapeake Bay and other locations, and participation in major searches for downed aircraft. He was skipper of the Thomas Jefferson, one of the world's most advanced hydrographic ships (crewed by 35 scientists and mariners), in its response to the Gulf of Mexico oil spill. His job has called for many months of sea time over a ten year period.

Shore assignments included service as chief of the Marine Chart Division and deputy hydrographer, senior advisor to the assistant secretary of environmental observation and prediction, and as a member of the U.S. delegation to the International Hydrographic Organization. Along the way he picked up a number of awards and commendations. The Newsletter's Washington correspondent reports that he is enjoying his demanding new job -- he just returned from a session of the Arctic Regional Hydrographic Commission attended by representatives from Canada, Russia, Denmark, and Norway.

## Tim Gipson

Welcoming a New Ranch Manager

It is an honor for the Deep Springs community to welcome the new ranch manager Tim Gipson and his wife Kathryn Gipson to the valley. Tim and Kathryn are coming to Deep Springs from Dewey, Arizona. Tim has worked for many years in the cattle industry in the West. He has cowboyed for the ILO, Padlock, and other ranches, and has managed cattle operations in Wyoming and Texas. More recently, he was the operator of a roping cattle leasing operation in Arizona, renting animals for use in rodeos. Kathryn is an accomplished painter and is also interested in other visual arts and ceramics.

One of the things that Tim is most interested in doing at Deep Springs is working with young people. Recently arriving in September, Tim is looking forward to sharing his experience with the students. Besides offering the usual horsemanship classes for the new students, he plans on teaching other skills such as horseshoeing and roping for those especially interested in the ranch.

Jesus Munoz DS15



Tim and Kathryn Gipson

For Tim, making sacrifices for the well-being of others is one of the main values of a life of service. Recently, he has done humanitarian work in post-earthquake Haiti on behalf of the Samaritan's Purse International Relief Organization. He maintains that humanitarian service, especially in foreign countries, requires an intentional willingness to understand the place and its people. This willingness should go beyond simply cultivating the ability to speak the language of the place, moving towards "being able to make sure that people in that place know why you are doing" the service.

Tim and Kathryn are still learning about Deep Springs and are excited about their new role here. They both are looking forward to enjoying the company of the entire community.



# 1917



1917: First SB trip in Deep Spring's history - Students heave the 3-ton truck out of mud on their way to Death Valley.

# 1917 -

1917: Class of 1917-1918 at an SB meeting in the library.



# 20's

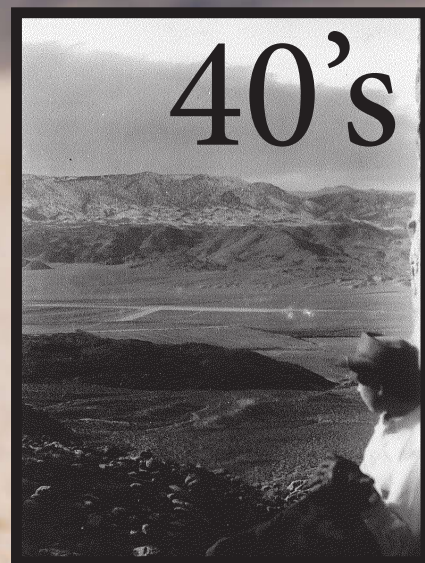


1928: THE BH.



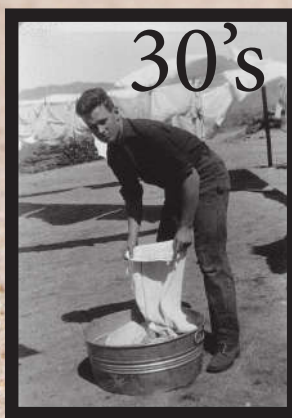
1922: (Above) Huntington Sharp DS22 milking Dolly  
1932: (Below) Earl Henley DS32 washing clothes by hand.

# 40's



1940's: (Above) Deep Springs Valley.  
1960's: (Below) Blanket Toss.

# 30's

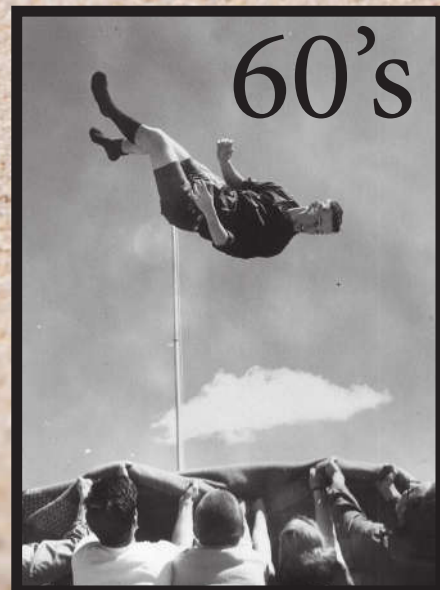


# 50's



1951-52 The Dean (Mr. Howard) takes a big hit-and-miss.

# 60's



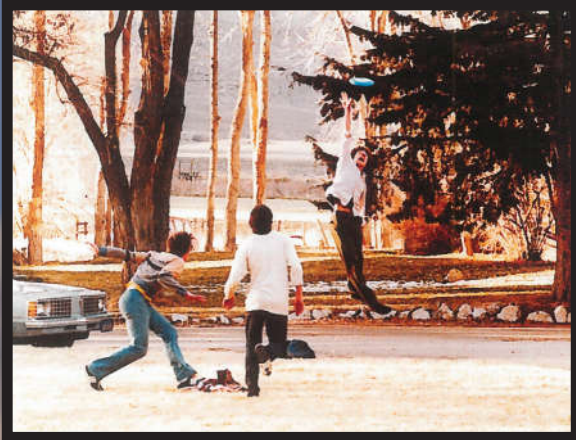
1961: Brendon Bass, flood irrigating on Field 4.





# 2017 THEN & NOW

BY HUSSAIN TAYMUREE DS16



1981: Ultimate Frisbee, Vince Delaney DS81, Joe Gibson DS81, and Doug Smith DS81.



1975: Dairy:  
Left: Nat  
Borenstein  
DS75, Right:  
Peter Reynaud  
DS75.



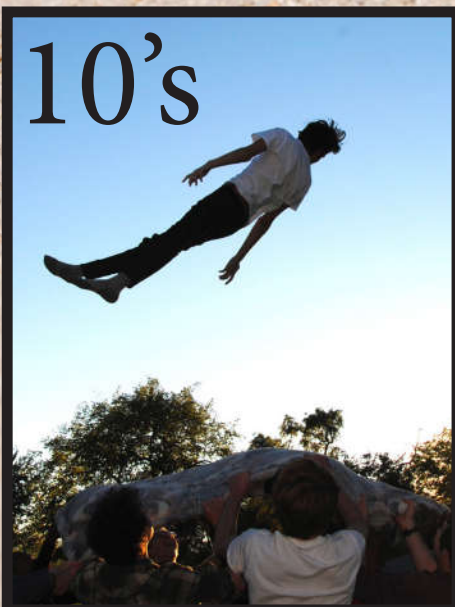
1987: DSPAC, performance by students  
and Geoff Pope.



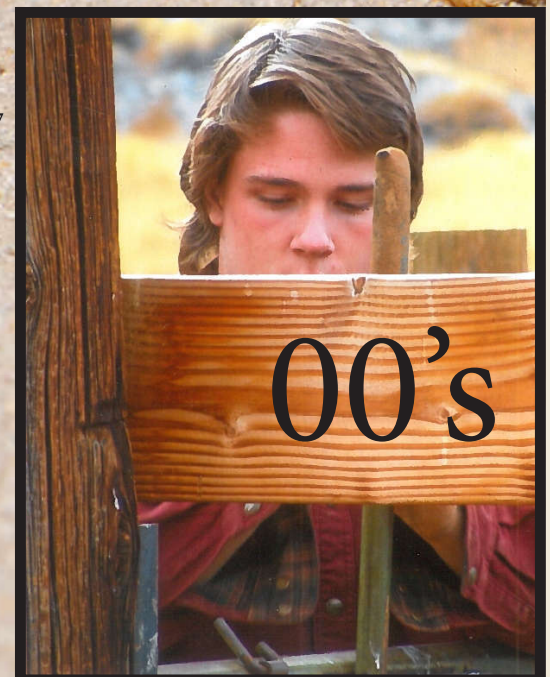
1990: Seth Merrit  
DS89 Scanning in  
the old library.



1996: (Above) Irrigation - Nik Slywka  
DS95.



2016: Hussain Taymuree DS16  
goes airborne during the blan-  
ket toss.





# In Memoriam

## Stefan Sperling DS92

We were deeply saddened to learn that Stefan died on August 10, 2016 after a brief but aggressive illness. He was 45. Stefan had only recently received his law degree from Stanford University in 2013. Among many activities while pursuing his JD, Stefan served as associate editor of the Stanford Law and Policy Review. At the time of his death, he was an attorney with the San Francisco office of Baker & McKenzie, specializing in issues of data protection and security compliance.

Stefan was born in East Germany in 1971; he escaped to West Germany at age twelve with his mother and sister. After completing compulsory service in the German army, Stefan came to Deep Springs at age 20. He was a much-loved member of the DS community; he enjoyed children and spent one summer working as an au pair for a faculty couple. Stefan completed his undergraduate degree at University of Chicago and ultimately his PhD in medical anthropology at Princeton. Stefan closely studied the tension between scientific advancement and ethics. His dissertation was published as *Reasons of Conscience: The Bioethics Debate in Germany* by University of Chicago Press in 2013.

He taught at Harvard, University of Humboldt in Berlin, and was Social Sciences Professor at Deep Springs in 2009-2010. His courses in science, culture and ethics were popular with students and he was an active participant in faculty matters and community life. Friends and colleagues from all the chapters of Stefan's adult life recall him as funny, brilliant, and warm-hearted.

## Ernest Tucker DS50

Ernest Tucker III, MD died peacefully on April 10, 2016 after a long decline following a stroke in 2011. Ernie grew up in Birmingham, Alabama and was a National Merit Scholar before attending Deep Springs. He is remembered by his classmate, Don Noel, as being hard working and committed to the ideal of student responsibility for the college. As labor commissioner in 1951, when he learned how costly it would be to have professional crews rebuild the irrigation ditch from Wyman Canyon to the campus, Ernie organized a break from the regular academic schedule and rallied the entire student body into a continuous labor crew that completed the work in a week's time at a fraction of the cost.





Ernie completed his undergraduate degree at Cornell, then attended the Medical College of Alabama where he completed his medical training, internship and residency, specializing in pathology. He enjoyed a long and distinguished career as a Board Certified Immunopathologist. He was an Army physician at the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology in Washington, D.C. In 1967 he joined the Scripps Clinic and Research Foundation as an NIH Special Fellow in Experimental Pathology, later becoming director of the Immunology Reference Laboratory and ultimately director of the Department of Pathology.

Dr. Tucker served as Chair of the Department of Pathology at California Pacific Medical Center in 1989-92. He was president of the American Society of Clinical Pathologists 1991-92 and held numerous positions that promoted continuing education and developing the field of immunopathology.

He also served as a trustee of Deep Springs from 1993-2001, helping to shepherd the college's major rebuilding effort. He loved to travel, whether on international excursions or a simple weekend camping trip. He was devoted to his family and loved to share his home with friends.

## Mayer Shevin DS67

We learned only recently that Dr. Mayer Shevin passed away on September 12, 2014. His brother David Shevin DS'69 predeceased him. Originally from Rochester, New York, he received his Ph.D. in Psycholinguistics from University of Rochester in 1976; his study focused on non-talking children and their families. He worked as a psychologist in Wisconsin, a faculty member in Special Education at Cleveland State University, and a teacher at the Grafton Development Center in North Dakota, focused on issues of non-punitive behavior management and communications.

Dr. Shevin had his own consulting practice in Syracuse, New York, for many years. He served as editor of the Digest of the Facilitated Communication Institute of Syracuse University from 1991 to 2013. Mayer devoted much of his adult life to advocating on behalf of people with disabilities. He was particularly noted for promoting the rights of non-speech communicators and creating public forums where people with speaking disabilities could be heard. He was involved in his local community as a storyteller, musician, and songwriter, and joined in actions promoting peace and justice in his home state.





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Tyler Nadeson-Gladstone DS16 enjoying Preg-Testing.