In This Issue

FEATURES

5 Free at Last
After nine years languishing in the Soviet Union—without work, desperately ill, and separated from family—refusnik/scholar Benjamin Charny was released to the United States. Read about Pitzer’s role, and the work of student David Straus, in securing his dramatic release.

8 Pitzer at 25: When the Past Meets the Present
After 23 years, poet/novelist James Dickey returned to Pitzer to address the graduates of 1988. Nicole Busen, one of the three 1965 graduates, recalls Dickey’s role in that special first Commencement. Excerpts from both thought-provoking addresses are featured.

12 Ellsworth: Education ’88
Examining educational issues is a constant and ongoing process at Pitzer. President Frank L. Ellsworth discusses why such examination should be a priority for every voter in an election year.

13 The Many Lives of Laud Humphreys
Sociologist, award-winning author, newsmen, Episcopal priest, public relations director, psychotherapist, college professor, and criminologist: Laud Humphreys did it all.

14 Welcome to the Real World
Does a Pitzer education have “real world” relevance? Leslie Dashew Isaacs ’70 shares her thoughts in a letter to Pitzer.

15 Rebel with a Cause
With her May election to the Board of Trustees, Rebecca Sokol-Smith will bring the perspective of physician, medical researcher, professor—and Pitzer alum from the Class of 1970—to the Board of Trustees. Meet this self-described rebel as she undertakes her new challenge.

29 Honor Roll of Donors
Peter Gold, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, presents the 1987-88 Honor Roll of Donors.

IN EVERY ISSUE

2 Inside Story
4 Ink Spot
18 Alumni Update/Photo Album
24 The Scoop
Inside Story

'Of This Time, Of That Place'

Commencement exercises last August for the Graduate Institute in Liberal Education of St. John's College in Santa Fe, New Mexico, featured Pitzer professor of political studies Lucian Marquis as the principal speaker. Speaking of arrivals and departures in his address, "Of This Time, Of That Place," Marquis recalled the Italian renaissance historian Francesco Guicciardini, who suggested that birth is cause for weeping—the journey is so uncertain, after all—and death is cause for rejoicing, for the voyage has been completed.

"I would like to suggest that matriculation—the word derives from matrix [or] womb—is a little bit like being born—and that graduation, with its last preceptorial papers and the last rites, is a little bit like dying or at least a rite de passage, dying and being born again. In any event, this should be a time of rejoicing at the completion of the voyage," Marquis said.

The Graduate Institute in Liberal Education is a four-summer M.A. program. Its students are primarily teachers, many of them from inner-city schools.

Marquis has taught in the program eight times over the last 17 years. Last summer's topics included Alexis de Tocqueville's Democracy in America and a literature seminar covering such ancient works as Homer's Iliad and Euripides' Medea.

Hertel Takes the Road to Bali

Carl Hertel, professor of art and environmental studies, spent July and part of June and August in Bali, Java, and Japan, researching the relationship between landscape and art. The trip was in preparation for a course he will team-teach with anthropologist Sheryl Miller, "Art and the Land."

While in Bali, Hertel had the opportunity to visit with I.B. Ari Ratna Bawa '87. Bawa and his family, who live in the village of Mas, are artists, dancers, and religious leaders. Since his graduation, Bawa continues to carve masks and has had exhibitions and guest artist workshops in the U.S. He has also been the subject of television productions by a Japanese network.

Bawa has seen several Pitzer students and alums in Bali, including Anna Clausen '89 and Sheila Freehill '89, who were in Bali on one of the College's External Studies programs, "Experiment for International Living."

Joan Karlin '72 visited Bali in August for a stay at the Gandhi Ashram (a retreat dedicated to the Mahatma Gandhi) in Candidasa. Hertel and Bawa travelled through Bali and Java visiting artists and religious leaders. In Java, they visited the Buddhist monument at Borobudur and the 9th century Hindu temple, Prambanan, in central Java.

In Tokyo, Hertel visited Charles Breer '85. Breer, who is employed by Fuji bank, says there are a number of Pitzer and Claremont Colleges alums who meet periodically in Tokyo.

Hertel also visited the Asian Rural Institute (ARI), a program which trains rural leaders in the Third World. He has extended an invitation to ARI Director Dr. Toshihiro Takami to come to Pitzer next semester to lead a seminar for faculty of Pitzer's International and Intercultural Studies Program.

Sigma Xi Honors Albert

Bob Albert, professor of psychology, has been elected to Sigma Xi, the national honorary scientific research society. Albert came to Pitzer in 1965. His areas of expertise include creative behavior, giftedness, and eminence; cultural and historical background of psychoanalysis; family dynamics and child development.

Seymour Awarded Fulbright Fellowship

Susan Seymour, professor of anthropology, was recently awarded a Senior Scholar Fulbright fellowship. Seymour will travel to India in January to continue her longitudinal study of children and families in Bhubesawar, Orissa, India. This time she'll interview three generations of women, focussing on the changing role of women in India.

Seymour spent part of the summer in Salatiga, Indonesia, attending a meeting of the Asian Women's Institute (AWI), a consortium of women's colleges and universities in Asia. She presented the results of a six-year, cross-cultural study on the impact of maternal employment on students from eight participating AWI institutions.

In Search of the Disappearing Ozone

Professor of chemistry Anthony Fucaloro has big plans for his upcoming sabbatical. Fucaloro will use his recently awarded grant from the President's Fund of the California Institute of Technology to work at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory next year. The project is entitled "Mass Spectrometric Study of the HC1/H2O and HNO3/H2O Systems and their Role in Antarctic Ozone Depletion."

Using simulated polar clouds, Fucaloro will test models of ozone depletion.

Selk on Enrollment Management

Vicke Selk, vice president and treasurer at Pitzer, presented a paper, "Enrollment Management in Higher Education," last April for the Western Regional Roundtable sponsored by accounting firm Peat, Marwick, and Main.

The annual professional seminar, given for partners in the firm and professionals in education and other non-profit organizations, was held in Newport Beach, California.

Sullivan Goes Back to School

Professor of political studies Jack Sullivan, who served as acting dean of students for the spring 1988 semester, returned to full-time teaching this fall.

Sullivan stepped in to replace Jane Holcombe, vice president for
student affairs and dean of students, who resigned to complete her Ph.D. studies at The Claremont Graduate School.

Pitzer’s new dean of students is Jack Tak Fok Ling.

And Now, a Word From the Dean...

Jack Ling is excited about Pitzer. Ling, assistant professor of psychology and counseling at Boston University until his appointment as Pitzer’s dean of students, arrived in Claremont in August.

Ling has taught at Clarke University in Worcester, Massachusetts; the University of Massachusetts; Boston College; and Brookline, Massachusetts, public schools; and practiced in family psychological counseling. He received a B.A. from Indiana University, and M.A. and Ph.D. degrees, both in psychology, from Duquesne University in Pittsburgh.

Ling believes he’ll bring a “fresh perspective” to Pitzer. He says he looks forward to getting to know the students and working with them in governance and residential life. “It’s always been important to me to be active in student organizations. I’m looking forward to learning how to connect with the student groups here,” he said.

Wachtel and Joyce Travel the Globe

Last June, Albert Wachtel, professor of English, traveled to Venice, Italy, to chair a panel and deliver a paper, “Fictional History in ‘The Sisters’,” at the Eleventh International James Joyce Symposium.

Wachtel also participated in a conference on the author held in Miami, Florida, last February.

It’s a Living

Tom Ilgen has the right idea. The Jones Foundation Professor of Political Studies will be spending his fall sabbatical semester in London as visiting professor at the London School of Economics.

The research project will examine political economy aspects of the Strategic Defense Initiative and their impact on the Western Alliance. Research will take him to London, Paris, Bonn, and Brussels.

We the People

Professor of mathematics Barbara J. Becchler and professor of political studies Jack Sullivan attended a workshop entitled “Elections, Voting, and Social Choice” held last July in New York at Union College.

Directed by Steven J. Brams of New York University’s department of politics and Allan Taylor of Union College’s department of mathematics, the conference explored how tools from game theory, decision theory, and social choice theory can be applied to the study of contemporary political institutions and democratic processes, particularly voting and elections.

Becchler and Sullivan team-teach an interdisciplinary seminar on public choice. In this presidential election year, they plan to apply models and theory discussed in the workshop to the political competition and public debate this fall.

Cajun Conference

Glenn Goodwin travels to New Orleans this November to attend the annual meeting of the Association for Humanist Sociology. Goodwin will speak on “Humanistic Social Theory: Where We’ve Been, Where We Are, Where We’re Going.”

Pitzer alumni are welcome to attend the meeting—and Goodwin says he’ll treat for dinner. But try to be kind, alums.

“I shaved my beard and no one recognizes me—alums and others I have known for over 20 years just pass me by,” Goodwin laments.

And Now for Something Completely Different

Stephen Edelson and Alan Jones, both assistant professors of psychology, are researching biochemical correlates of self-abusive behavior in the mentally retarded autistic.

Edelson and Jones believe that individuals who exhibit self-abuse will have higher levels of epinephrine, norepinephrine, and cortisol present in the body. The two researchers will use behavioral observations and physical analyses to test their hypotheses. They hope that the study will lead to methods of therapeutic intervention in the future.

Brenneis Selected to Southwestern Board

Donald Brenneis, professor of anthropology, was recently appointed to the Board of Visitors of Southwestern University School of Law in Los Angeles.

The Board serves as an advisory group to the law school, and is composed of about 60 alumni and friends who represent a broad spectrum of the legal, business, and public service communities.

Brenneis has taught at Pitzer since 1974. His areas of specialization include law and society, sociolinguistics, ethnomusicology, and child language. And he’s not the only Pitzer associate of Southwestern; Pitzer President Frank L. Ellsworth is a trustee and Vice Chairman of the Board.

Sullivan to Receive Counseling Certificate

Jack Sullivan, professor of political studies, will shortly complete a University of California Los Angeles Extension Program leading to a certificate in alcohol and drug abuse counseling.

For the past six months, Sullivan has been working with local clinicians in family services counseling the chemically dependent. Sullivan also directs a workshop on the topic for Pitzer student resident advisors and mentors. The program is one in a series designed to train the residence hall staff in crisis intervention.

Beverle Houston: In Memoriam

A memorial fund has been established in the name of Beverle Houston, member of the Pitzer faculty from 1970 to 1983, who passed away last February after a long illness.

A member of the English field group, and more recently chair of the University of Southern California’s department of film criticism, Houston taught courses in film criticism, 18th century British literature, satire, popular media, and poetry analysis. Her research included topics in history and aesthetics of film, images of women in film, and film criticism.
She was the author of Close-Up: A Critical Perspective on Film (with Marsha Kinder, 1972).

Of her former colleague, professor of English Ellin Ringer-Henderson says, “Beverle was one of the funniest and most brilliant of teachers. She had a great deal of energy and very high standards. The students loved her; they were stunned by her—a little in awe, I think. She was a very beautiful person and a leader among her colleagues as well. She was a wonderful friend.”

Barry Sanders, also a member of the English field group, remembers Houston as “...wonderfully warm, well-spoken, and outspoken. She was an incredibly smart and loyal friend. She’s the reason I came to Pitzer. We were both arrested on the same day, January 1, 1970 [for protesting the war in Vietnam]. I had left teaching at the time and was running a restaurant. She thought I should go back to teaching.”

Houston’s former students have fond and vivid memories of her as well. “She was an extraordinary teacher and a fine person for whom I had enormous respect,” Terri Miller-Shulman ’79 wrote recently. “I did an independent study with Beverle... I am a writer (film and television) and in terms of an educator influencing a student’s life her input was invaluable...”

Contributions to the Beverle Houston Memorial Fund may be made to the Pitzer College Development Office, 714-621-8130. The fund will award prizes to students for outstanding achievement in film and video criticism and film and video production.

Theoretically Speaking

It Doesn’t Surprise Us
Pitzer is probably one of the few colleges where faculty members and Board of Trustee members are scholastic collaborators.

In that department, Allen Greenberger, professor of history, and Edith Pines, a member of Pitzer’s Board of Trustees, recently completed editing a special issue of the Indo-British Review.

The special issue, containing articles on religion and nationalism in India, appeared in August.

The Importance of Reading Grabiner
An upcoming edition of Mathematics Magazine will feature an article by professor of mathematics Judith Grabiner which has been called “remarkable...one that all...students should read.”

The article, “The Centrality of Mathematics in the History of Western Thought,” was previously an address at the International Congress of Mathematicians held at Berkeley in 1986.

Grabiner’s talk-cum-article addresses major developments in the history of ideas in which mathematics has played a central role. She writes, “When I speak of the centrality of mathematics in Western thought...I want to...claim the context of mathematics from the hardware store and the rest of the tools and bring it back to the university.”

Grabiner advocates “...that we teach mathematics not just to teach quantitative reasoning, not just as the language of science—though these are very important—but that we teach mathematics to let people know that one cannot fully understand the humanities, the sciences, the world of work...without understanding mathematics in its central role in the history of Western thought.”

Segal on Nationalism
Assistant professor of anthropology Dan Segal’s latest article, “Nationalism, Comparatively Speaking,” was published recently in the Journal of Historical Sociology (Vol. 1, No.3).

The article offers a cross-cultural examination of nationalist ideology, focussing in particular on the emergence of nationalism in France and the Austro-Hungarian Empire.

Segal, who along with professor of political studies Lucian Marquis and professor of English Barry Sanders team-taught last semester’s “Black Danube: Vienna, Prague, and Budapest,” says the article is a result of his research for the course.

Tools of the Trade—Anthropology, That Is
An article by professor of anthropology Sheryl Miller has just been published in a new book edited by John Bower and David Lubell, Prehistoric Cultures and Environments in the Late Quaternary of Africa.

“Patterns of Environmental Utilization by Late Prehistoric Cultures in the Southern Congo Basin” explores resource utilization techniques—as reflected in artifacts which were once the “tool kits” of the local cultures—employed in the different environments of the southern Congo Basin.
Refusenik on Pitzer Staff, but Soviets Won’t Let Him Out

"Benjamin Charny, visiting fellow in mathematics, Ph.D. Moscow University, U.S.S.R.," says a new listing in Pitzer College’s fall handbook, as if the Russian professor’s presence at the Claremont College were an established fact.

Although Charny accepted a teaching fellowship at Pitzer during an emotional telephone conversation with college officials and students in May, he is still awaiting documents that will allow him to leave the Soviet Union.

During the past nine years he has become a well-known refusenik among the thousands of Soviet Jews seeking refuge in the United States.

Kathleen Lang, human rights officer for the U.S. State Department, said Soviet officials have indicated that Charny may be permitted to emigrate in the middle of the month.

The mathematician, who is 51, will be given immediate medical treatment for a heart condition and skin cancer, a family spokesman said. Then plans call for him to begin his fellowship at Pitzer.

“We’re just overjoyed,” said Alfred Bloom, Pitzer’s vice president for academic affairs, who officially offered Charny the fellowship.

The College’s action, Bloom said, was instigated by Pitzer student, David S. Straus, 20, of Encino. Bloom and Jewish leaders credit Straus with interest in the students in Charny’s case and urging the college to make its offer.

“David’s role was absolutely central,” said Bloom, who called the job offer to Charny “a symbolic act of educational value. We are a school devoted to international understanding, and we can help him.”

“Pitzer is the only college we know of to take this kind of action, stemming from students,” said Bill Livingston, press secretary for Sen. Pete Wilson, who has worked on behalf of many refuseniks.

Bloom said Charny will be given an office and use of the College’s facilities and staff, and will probably be asked to lecture.

Straus, who is majoring in psychology, said his interest in Soviet Jewry began when he was in high school in Sherman Oaks.

He said he became aware that Jews in the Soviet Union have been denied the right to study their culture and their ancestral language. After learning of refuseniks who were imprisoned for trying to leave, he said he became convinced that the Soviet Union could be pressured into changing its policies.

Soon after he entered Pitzer in 1986, he and another student, John Rudnick, organized Students Concerned for Soviet Jewry, which he said now includes several hundred students from all five of The Claremont Colleges.

In his second year, Straus said, “my goal was to get the school to invite a refusenik to actually come here to teach.”

Straus said he and Rudnick learned of Charny from Victor Kipnis, Soviet mathematician and former refusenik who joined the USC faculty in 1986. Kipnis said Charny’s poor health was an important factor in trying to get him out of the Soviet Union.

“He’s dying because he can’t get proper treatment in Russia, but he can here,” Straus said. “The way I feel is that if we do not make an uproar, people will forget them [the refuseniks], and they will continue to be persecuted.”

After the students focused on Charny, Straus said, the Pitzer Faculty Executive Committee and College Council approved Charny’s hiring.

The College telephoned its offer to Charny on May 12, making the call in a faculty office filled with cheering students.

“I am really excited and moved,” Charny said during the conversation, which was amplified so that everyone could hear. “But first, two things are necessary. The first is to get out, and the second is medical treatment. I am delighted to accept your invitation. Thank you, thank you,” he said, in slightly accented English.

Anna Charny Blank, the mathematician’s daughter, who lives in Boston, said: “David Straus has displayed tremendous involvement in helping my father.
He has amazed me with his dedication. We have never met, but I think he must be a wonderful man.”
Ellen Rabin, director of the Commission on Soviet Jewry of the Jewish Federation Council of Greater Los Angeles, called Straus “an example of grass-roots activism who deserves a great deal of credit.” She added, “We hope he will act as an example for other students.”
“Charny is loved greatly by the refuseniks. People who were out of Russia couldn’t help but think of him and work on his behalf.”
Charny, according to a “Refusenik Profile” provided by the Soviet Jewry Research Bureau, applied to emigrate in 1979 with his brother, Leon. Leon was permitted to leave and is a graduate student at Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Anna Charny, also a mathematician, her husband, Yuri Blank, and their baby daughter, Simcha, were allowed to leave in August, 1987. Charny and his wife, Yadviga, a metallurgical engineer, were never told why their application to emigrate was refused, Blank said. Both lost their jobs at the University of Moscow after their application for visas, which happens to about 90% of the refuseniks, Rabin said.
She said her organization is excited about what Pitzer is planning. “Those are special people, who impress us with their caring for someone they’ve never met.”
Mary Barber, Times Staff Writer
July 7, 1988

David Straus and Senator Ted Kennedy await arrival of Charny at Boston Airport.

David Straus holds refusnik profile of Benjamin Charny.
Student’s Efforts to Free Refusenik End With Hug

A 20-year-old Pitzer College student watched his dreams become reality Saturday when Benjamin and Yadviga Charny landed in Boston after nine years of trying to leave the Soviet Union.

David Straus of Encino had set a goal of getting a Soviet refusenik on the faculty when he entered Pitzer two years ago. He had spent hundreds of hours building a movement to support his cause that included students from all five of the Claremont Colleges and persuading Pitzer officials to offer Charny a position.

But he did not envision Saturday’s drama when the private jet of Armand Hammer, head of Occidental Petroleum, landed at Logan International Airport in Boston. Hammer, who has close ties with the Soviet government, had escorted the Charnys on their 10-hour flight from Moscow.

Nor could he have foreseen that Kitty Dukakis, whose husband Michael was just nominated as the Democratic Party’s candidate for President, and Sens. Edward Kennedy and John Kerry of Massachusetts would be in attendance, making the Charnys’ arrival a major media event.

“[T]o see the wonderful people who helped us when we needed it most,” Blank said. “But now he may still live long years. Doctors are optimistic.”

If treatment is successful, she said, the family will visit Pitzer College as soon as possible “to see the wonderful people who helped us when we needed it most.”

Blank said Straus’ efforts on her parents’ behalf and the offer of a position at Pitzer had been “very important from several points of view.”

First, she said, “was what it did for my father’s morale. He thinks work is the most important thing in life. He is a brilliant mathematician but was unable to continue his work—partly because he was so ill, and because he lost his job nine years ago when he applied for permission to emigrate. “And it’s important to him now, to know that people value his skills,” said Blank.

Rabbi Bernard H. Mehlman of Temple Israel in Boston, who said he has worked for the release of several hundred refuseniks, including Charny, said he had “never heard of a college doing this.” [Straus] and [Pitzer College] in fact galvanized an entire community [The Claremont Colleges] and raised the issue of Charny’s release to a much higher degree of visibility” than it would have otherwise received, Mehlman said in a telephone interview. “They made a great contribution in the Charnys’ ultimate release.”

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Dear Mr. Dickey,

What a fine idea, that you and Pitzer join to celebrate Pitzer's 25th anniversary! I wish I could join you, but the ocean between us is indeed a serious hurdle! My thoughts will be with all of you, along with the wish that this commencement will be as exciting and personal an affair as it was for me 25 years ago. It's hard to believe it's been that long, but my salt and pepper hair attests to it!

What I remember most about our commencement, and your part in it, is the spirit! It was personal, lively and full of hope and vision. I'm not disappointed at what became of my visions. You spoke of my wish to go out and effect social change. At the time I thought that meant graduate school and work with juvenile delinquents. Graduate school, for me, turned out to be critically grappling with European culture—specifically, seeking an active place for myself as an American living in Germany.

My deepest values, encouraged and strengthened at Pitzer, have held and are still my deepest values—individual responsibility and involvement in the search for a full and meaningful life.

My social concern has centered on peace and disarmament—I'm sitting in one of the first areas that would be attacked and flattened! But I have also the conviction that any change which can be effected will have to first change our religious values—and so I'm very active in "alternative" church work—and in feminist theology.

At the moment my activities are hitting a peak. Basel, Switzerland, is only ten minutes away by bicycle (my usual mode of transportation). Basel will host a European coalition for "peace and justice" in the spring of 1989. So for the next year our regional peace groups, as well as many church groups, will all be working to try and activate as many people as possible, to be a part of the discussions about how peace and justice can be effected for the world. How much change is honestly possible is a question of faith, but if I feel that even the plain, ordinary person next door is critically thinking and honestly discussing with others—then I'm optimistic.

My wish for Pitzer for the next 25 years is that she continue to stimulate such involvement in life! Have a wonderful commencement.

Peace,

Nicole Busen

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Editor's Note:

In his 1963 commencement address, James Dickey, poet/novelist/critic, reflected on the dreams and aspirations of Pitzer's first three graduates. Whatever did become of those daring young women? Nicole, "the serious and witty traveler," is our letter writer from Germany. Marlene Bates, "the quiet and profound young wife and mother dreaming of farms," chairs the English Department at Harbor Beach Community School in Harbor Beach, Michigan. And Katherine Gibbs Gengoux, "the ebullient young artist and intellectual," received a degree Doctorat en Etudes Urbaines from the University of Grenoble, France, and is a self-employed "urbaniste," or city planner, living in France.
On this mortal afternoon, we are here, really, to honor the graduating class of Pitzer College. But more importantly, we are here to honor these graduates. We have an unusual chance to do this, for there are only three of them. The first thing to note about them is that these are girls who took it upon themselves to invite, as commencement speaker, not a retired bank president or an educator or J. Edgar Hoover, but the kind of man Santayana once characterized himself as being: "an ignorant man, almost a poet."

These are, plainly, extraordinary girls, and they have, now, in their keeping, as they sit here, the kind of qualities I am talking about: they are my best instances and examples of what must be protected and confirmed.

There is first the girl who is gravitating, seriously and with great dignity, toward a quiet farm life. Poets like to describe things, and I could describe that kind of life for a long time, for I know it well. A farm is something like a kind of practical Eden, and though I may never see this girl again, it will do me good to imagine her very womanly hands doing farm things and woman things, and of her watching the different greens at the different parts of the day and of the seasons, and the intimate and infinitely rewarding work with animals, and the constellations arranging themselves, each night, in the patterns they have always had, as the great silent evening of farms comes over another warm and hard-working isolated human house.

Another of these girls wants to go to India and teach. She has been there before, and has connected in deep and creative ways with the land and its people. I see those enormous masses of people, and I see also this frail, snapping-eyed witty girl humorously and patiently and lovingly doing whatever she can, wherever she is, and that is a good thing to see.

Then there is the girl who will be going into the creative world, the world of the architect, the musician, the intellectual, the life of the mind, the frustration and the soaring joy beside which the soaring of these mountains is nothing: of the three this one is the one most capable of the savage wildness of ecstasy and creation, the occasional certitude that she has made a thing that could not have existed if it had not first happened, tentatively and delicately, in one out of all those human minds: if it had not first secretly happened to her.

Here they are, then, the quiet and profound young wife and mother dreaming of farms, the serious and witty traveler and teacher among far peoples, and the ebullient young artist and intellectual. Let us for a long moment honor them as they sit here for the last time together before going where they have to go—where they will go—with their own strategies for defending those things they are, what they were intended to be.

This is a lovely, frail moment, and if, in it, I could say one thing to them, it would be this: remember that the sense of imperilment, the sense of danger, the sense of your values and your best selves being threatened at every moment by indifference, by coarseness, by apathy and necessity, is in fact your greatest stimulant and your greatest ally. It is against these forces, the great multitudinous, anonymous modern abyss, that your personal values are defined as what they are: it is at the edge, on the brink, that your essence shows itself as it must be. So I say, develop your private brinksmanship, your strategies, your ruses, your delightful and desperate games of inner survival. What I most hope for is that these strategies will work for you: that you will come up with some good ones, ones that will enable you to live perpetually at the edge, but there very much on your own ground, and to live there with personal style, with dash and verve and a distinct and exhilarating sense of existing on your own terms as they develop, or as they become, with time, more and more what they have always been. This is what is meant by "having something to give," by "having a self to give." It is exactly on these terms, and no others, that one can say, when the time comes to say it, "My life belongs to the world. I have done what I could."

—James Dickey, May 1965
I am here at the end of a kind of leap: this location, where we are today, is the landing-place I have come to after jumping a gap of 23 years. I don’t know whether my predictions for the three graduates came true, but I am sure they did not come true in the ways that either I or the girls believed they would. As in all human affairs, accuracy of prediction is impossible, and I imagine that the three first graduates of Pitzer found themselves in situations that led to other situations beyond their imaginings, and certainly far beyond mine. But I believed in those three girls very strongly, and still do, wherever they may be, and whatever their lives might be like. Each in her different way embodied the characteristics of enthusiasm, intelligence, resourcefulness, and what Henry James called “accessibility to experience”: those qualities which in turn surely endowed them with the ability to preserve the individual inner self from which personality flowers and remarkable things are done. Reading, once more, what I said then, I find that my emphasis on the preservation of the individual self is the subject I should have chosen. What I said

self—or what used to be called the soul—are stronger than they were then, and at the same time more forthright and insidious.

Since that time, for example, the computer has moved in on all fronts, to mention only one such force. I have nothing against computers, and I realize, as the rest of us do, that many things are implemented, are made possible by the use of the computer: all kinds of statistical researches, hospital and health-care data, high-tech weaponry, space flights, as well as the contemplation of many different share-of-market ratios in the form of innumerable pie charts.

A tool used as extensively as the computer cannot help but influence how we think, as the movie image also establishes for us a kind of reality other than the reality given us by the world. Though I have made films, and am making one now, I am under no illusion that the image on the screen, no matter how powerful or how striking visually it may be, is in any way a substitute for the image in the private imagination. I have always been suspicious of the kind of “officialdom” that the screen image imposes, say, on the elements of a story. One has only
The commencement crowd had grown to nearly 2000.

John Huston's version of *Moby Dick* to feel a certain consternation, followed by indignation, and to retreat with relief into one's own inner visualization of the Whale given by means of words, and the mytho-poetic imagination of Herman Melville.

As a writer—and also as a reader, a kind of private "beholder"—I am completely in favor of what the individual brings to the work of literary art: a radically different thing, a different kind of encounter than that which takes place on contemplating a work of visual art, such as a painting, which is also "official," but in a different sense. In reading, the reader's entire life enters into the act: his life, her life; my life. The reader brings his intelligence and his memory, but also his unconscious and his dream and fantasy life. This is the great—the greatest—quality of words.

But if the reader—the "beholder"—has had his sensibility blunted by too much electronic information, too much abstraction, too much officialdom of image, and has come to accept his own laziness proceeding from the belief that mechanical means, electronic means, can and will do precious possession, the ability to imagine for himself, to make and inhabit an inner world. He has lost his ability to be amazed, which is to say that his essential innocence had gone from him.

This innocence is crucial to the preservation of our humanity. One may ask: by what means are we to preserve it, considering the kind of situation we have created for ourselves, and in which we must live?

For me, the solution is still wonder: amazement, mystery. Believe me, we can hold on to our innocence, the innocence that is crucial to our humanity. We can find ways to hold on to it, and we can hold on to it. The endless statistical analyses, the need to quantify, by exact measuring devices, is with us, and will be with us more and more. But, as Lewis Thomas reminds us, "the question about human feeling is another matter, not yet set aside for any scientific specialty, perhaps never to be approached by any version of scientific method. The quickly indrawn breath at the sight of the earliest spring flower is not a problem, nor is the poet's account of the moment. What would be a problem, beyond solving, is the failure of that indrawn breath..."
In recent years, Pitzer has explored anew our place in American higher education—what is to be our distinctive contribution, our academic focus, our particular educational mission? During an election year, those questions and Pitzer's quest for the answers seem particularly relevant.

International events that bear directly on our daily lives point to the need for greater international and cross-cultural understanding. At the same time, we seem, as a nation, to be revisiting pressing domestic issues with an urgency and vitality reminiscent of the days which, 25 years ago, encouraged the founding of Pitzer.

It seems appropriate, at this moment, to reiterate the educational objectives adopted by Pitzer College last year:

- Breadth of knowledge
- Understanding in depth
- Critical thinking, formal analysis, and effective expression
- Interdisciplinary perspective
- Intercultural understanding
- Concern with the social consequences and ethical implications of knowledge and action

Ambitious objectives to be sure, but Pitzer has historically been a College that has challenged itself to face tough issues and to ask tough questions. Our exploration of our role has meant examination inside our community, as well as in the greater outside community, for meaningful questions and thoughtful solutions.

This fall, the nation will be facing a similar challenge. Through the presidential election, the country will be examining educational issues on the national level. Destructive policies and rhetoric may soon be behind us as eight years draw to a close, years which have revealed the negative possibilities and realities of unenlightened federal leadership and educational policies.

The presidential candidates, taking advantage of the poor record of the current administration, stated education as high on their national priorities. Meanwhile, particulars were slow to emerge.

Regardless of one's political leanings, the decline in support of education must be a major non-political concern in a country that since the Second World War has congratulated itself on offering educational opportunities which, in quantity and quality, were once our pride and our strength.

I suggest that what is needed on the national level is the kind of examination that Pitzer conducts regularly. That is, the critical examination of what an educated citizen needs to know, including what questions to ask, the evaluation of educational programs that speak to a world community which is getting smaller, increasingly complex, and in need of analysis and understanding.

My point, finally, is to remind each of us that, in this election year, we must play our respective roles, to become active and critical examiners, if we are to help restore our nation's ability to function effectively as a federal entity in supporting education at all levels in our society.

I hope Pitzer friends will participate in this quest. Surely there is no more urgent issue facing us than providing appropriate educational opportunities for the young people who will need to ask the right questions and provide understanding and compassion in the world community of tomorrow.
The Many Lives of Laud Humphreys

If there were to be a book published on the life of sociologist Laud Humphreys, the working title would probably include the phrase “The many lives of...”

To the community of Pitzer College, Humphreys has always been a sociology professor. This past spring, he retired from 16 years in Pitzer classrooms and assumed the title Laud Humphreys, professor emeritus.

Humphreys’ courses in field research, the sociology of sexual interaction, criminology, violence, stigmatized behavior, gender roles, subcultures and occupations, and more, have always been taught in his characteristically exciting and flamboyant style.

What’s known to few, however, is that before coming to Pitzer, Humphreys wore many different hats and travelled a career path that can best be described as a crooked road, with twists and turns that became a sort of graduate school of living. Not bad training for a sociologist.

In the early 1950s Humphreys was a newsman, working for various newspapers in a variety of capacities before leaving the position of editor-in-chief of The Nugget in Colorado to become an assistant public relations director in New York.

From there Humphreys made a small career hop, accepting a job as public relations director at Seabury-Western Seminary in Evanston, Illinois. It was there that he prepared for his next career, earning a Master’s of Divinity. By the late 1950s, he was back in Colorado—this time as Rector of St. Andrew’s Church in Cripple Creek.

Finally in 1965, it was time to veer in another direction as Humphreys left a position as Associate Rector of St. James’ Church in Wichita, Kansas, and accepted a position as research assistant at the Medical Care Research Center in St. Louis, Missouri. At the same time, he was working on another degree, in an entirely new direction. By 1968 he had completed his Ph.D. in sociology at Washington University.

As the 1960s drew to a close, Humphreys was assistant professor of sociology at Southern Illinois University in Edwardsville. From there he taught at the School of Criminal Justice at the State University of New York in Albany before making the change, in 1972, to California and a young Pitzer College. And that brings us back to the Humphreys we know best. How he came to Pitzer, though, is an interesting story in itself.

It’s a strange fact of Pitzer history that when sociologist Humphreys was sent a contract to teach at Pitzer College, his home address was the State Penitentiary in Albany. And when the contract was negotiated, it was from a pay phone at that same address.

What was Humphreys doing there? Research maybe? Well... kind of, sort of. Whatever it was, it was definitely of a participatory nature since Humphreys was, indeed, incarcerated for what might loosely be termed an act of civil disobedience.

It was, after all, the early 1970s. Lots of people were ending up in jail for following the dictates of their conscience. Humphreys directed him to protest the war in Vietnam and, times and emotions being what they were, to remove the visage of Richard Nixon from its place on the wall of a draft office and tear it into several pieces. Charged with and convicted of destroying public property, Humphreys served his time and, in the process, found Pitzer College.

For all his varied experience, it is as a sociologist that Humphreys really found his niche. His research and published works earned him a prominent place in the field. His book Tearoom Trade: Impersonal Sex in Public Places, first published in 1970, was awarded the C. Wright Mills Award of the Society for the Study of Social Problems as “the best published book on a critical social issue in the tradition of the late C. Wright Mills.” Re-issued in 1975, in an enlarged edition with a retrospective on ethical issues of sociological research, it continues to be an important and controversial work. Humphreys also authored Out of the Closets: The Sociology of Homosexuality.

Liberation, first published in 1972. Humphreys’ research experience includes, among others, serving as a consultant for the Research Program in Family Behavior and Social Policy of the Harvard/M.I.T. Joint Center for Urban Studies; serving as an investigator of a National Science Foundation Project on the Nature and Causes of Politicized Criminal Identity in Prisons; and serving as the principal evaluator for two major juvenile diversion projects in the San Gabriel Valley, concerned with the success and impact of different treatment modalities in preventing recidivism.

However engaged his Pitzer activities might have kept him, Humphreys continued to branch out, accepting a joint position with Pitzer and The Claremont Graduate School where he was professor of Criminal Justice. In 1980, he added another moniker to his many as he became a California licensed psychotherapist with a private counseling practice in Los Angeles.

Looking back at Humphreys’ many interests, options, challenges, and choices, it seems a lucky happenstance that one of those sharp turns in the road landed him in the classrooms of Pitzer College.

Editor’s Note:
Laud Humphreys died on Tuesday, August 23, after a brave bout with cancer. Contributions in his memory may be sent to:
Laud Humphreys Memorial Fund
Pitzer College
1050 N. Mills Avenue
Claremont, CA 91711
I read with great pleasure and much nostalgia the article on Lew Ellenhorn in the Spring, 1988 Participant (“Sign up and Learn”). It is comforting to know that some things do not change in 20 years! Although Lew was not teaching the exact same course when I was at Pitzer, the methods sound very familiar ... and I am here to say, they are indeed effective in the real world.

I chuckled when I read of some students’ discomfort with the ambiguity of Lew’s class structure. How vividly I recall the course Lew taught on group dynamics (in the days of T-groups and sensitivity training). We EXPERIENCED a T-group in vivo and suffered through the silences wondering when our leader and teacher would provide guidance for what we were supposed to do in that group. We waded through the frustration, worked hard to discover purpose and eventually evolved our own form of structure and leadership.

How relevant is this to the “real world”? Very. To begin with, we learned about our discomfort with ambiguity and what to do with it: an important lesson in a world where the rules are changing very quickly. Personally, that lesson has helped me to develop new mental health programs, legislation where advocacy has been needed, and to create my own management consulting firm and private clinical practice where structure was nonexistent and I had to learn to thrive without it.

“Entrepreneurship” is the darling of the ’80s and requires a fair amount of ingenuity—not compliance with orderly systems. Oh, and that reminds me of SYNERGY... a concept I first learned in Lew’s classes... brainstorming... Theory X and Theory Y... The Myers-Brigg Type Indicator... all concepts that are still in use today, and helpful to me in my day-to-day practice.

Lew Ellenhorn and Pitzer created a wonderful tradition of applying “book learning to the real world.” I’m happy to see it is alive still. As an action-oriented learner, I recall advocating for a senior field placement in my sophomore year... enabling me to try out the psychology lessons in the field. In my junior year, Lew arranged for me to help facilitate some T-groups at Cal Tech with some of the outstanding leaders in the field of organizational development. When I went on to graduate school, students and professors alike were in awe of an undergraduate school providing such opportunities. Today, this experiential (or laboratory) learning is the model for my successful management consultation training firm.

As I read of the experience of the students creating their own organizations and learning from that PROCESS, I hoped that the students understood how very real their experiences were: the very dilemmas my client companies face day-in and day-out. Further, the running commentary which Lew offers helps them understand and develop the very essential ability to maintain an observing ego as we strive to be active, effective participants in any organization in which we become involved.

Finally, as a “child of the ’60s” I am delighted to see that Pitzer—through Lew’s efforts and others—is maintaining a special consciousness of our responsibility to our community. I have been blessed with a supportive family, an education at Pitzer that taught me how to take responsibility for my own development and many outstanding opportunities in my career. As success comes, it is very easy to become caught up in the materialism and power trips of business and political leaders. All too readily we can forget to “fertilize and cultivate” the fields from whence we came.

Thanks, Lew. You helped prepare me to thrive and contribute in the real world. Keep up the good work!

— Leslie Dashew Isaacs ’70
Rebel With a Cause

It's tempting to believe that somehow, in some way, every student who comes to Pitzer is going to wind up leaving a mark on the place; maybe sooner, maybe later.

Or maybe sooner and later.

"I was attracted to Pitzer because I was a rebel. I thought of myself as avant garde, and knew I wanted that kind of college experience, and compared to the other Claremont Colleges, Pitzer was avant garde!"

So says Rebecca Sokol Smith, the self-described rebel.

Today Rebecca Sokol Smith, M.D., is associate director of the University of California Los Angeles Male Reproductive Research Center, assistant professor of medicine at UCLA Medical School, and a wife and mother of two. And now she has a new role—she was elected last May to the Pitzer College Board of Trustees.

Since leaving Pitzer in 1970, Sokol has moved quickly in her chosen profession, first receiving an M.D. from the University of Southern California's Medical School (1975) and later becoming an assistant clinical professor of medicine at USC before moving to UCLA.

At UCLA, Sokol has served various administrative positions in the Male Reproductive Research Center at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center in Torrance, while continuing both her teaching and her research into male infertility.

Her office, in a brand new building at the UCLA Medical Center compound in Torrance, is crowded with books, papers, calendars, photographs—and cows. Cows of many kinds. Ceramic cows depicted in varied occupations and poses, paper cows on greeting cards and posters, stuffed toy cows. "I can't explain it. I've always liked them," she says simply.

This is uncharacteristic from an articulate, thoughtful woman who seemingly has never had any trouble communicating strong—and sometimes unpopular—opinions. Why was she asked to serve on the Board?

"I was extremely active at Pitzer. I did a lot there and I was well-known. I think Frank [President Ellsworth] looks for people who know Pitzer, and have gone out, are successful, who can represent Pitzer in a positive light, and also have insight into Pitzer."
Sokol majored in human biology and English at Pitzer. She was a resident advisor, chair of the Community Council, and a member of the 1969-70 Presidential Search Committee that selected Robert Artwell as the second president of the College.

She remembers her college years as filled with controversy and opportunity. "Pitzer was a students' rights college," she says. "It's one of the reasons I went there." In a decade which often seems infatuated with the passion of 1960s, it's not hard to imagine Pitzer then. Sokol remembers those years as tumultuous, a time of demonstrations against the war in Vietnam and the invasion of Cambodia.

And there was a big collegiate issue: Should Pitzer be coeducational? "I was vehemently opposed to that one," she said. "I remember standing up in meetings making speeches against admitting men to Pitzer.

"I felt that women, because of their place in society, don't have the opportunity to rise to positions of influence and power in most institutions, and women's colleges could give them that. But I would never go to Smith, or Wellesley, [both women's colleges] where women were too isolated from men. I thought that Pitzer, in the middle of the Claremont Colleges, would have the best of both worlds." Sokol couldn't turn the tide that time; Pitzer went coed in 1970.

Sokol knew all along she wanted to become a medical doctor. "I was driven," she said. "I had a single-minded determination to become a doctor. But I also liked English. I felt a physician should be a renaissance person, be multidimensional, have other interests and insights to bring to medicine.

"My favorite professor was Esther Wagner, who taught English. She was outstanding, inspirational. I'll never forget her.

"She didn't want me to go to medical school, she wanted me to get a Ph.D. in English and tried hard to change my mind. She would say, 'Rebecca, we'll send you to Smith, or to Columbia.' I was tempted. I learned a lot from her. I read a lot, she gave me a lot to think about. I think that duality, of combining [the liberal arts with science], makes me more human.'"

She also believes it makes her more successful. "I learned to write well, and I have creative ideas which I can bring to research."

Medical school was ... everything they say medical school is. Tough. All-consuming. Her rare free time might be spent rooting for the football team, also an occupation at Pitzer. (Right hand in an upraised claw, Sokol shows off the Sagehen "Caw! Caw! Caw!" at this recollection.)

"And now, even though I am on the UCLA faculty, I still root for USC—once a Trojan, always a Trojan," she says, gleefully.

"The medical school was smaller than Pitzer, about 100 students. It was an intense experience. It seems all we did was go to class and study. It wasn't like college—I couldn't do all the things I had done in college, because I didn't have the time."

She did have time, in 1973, to marry her college sweetheart, Jeffrey P. Smith, Pomona '69. Smith graduated from the USC School of Law in 1976 and is now a law partner with Adams, Duque, and Hazeltine in Los Angeles. The couple have two children, Jeremy, 8, and Jacqueline, 6.

Sokol and her future husband met at a "Hub-Dinger," a dance at Claremont McKenna College's Hub, or student center. Today it's not quite the meeting place it used to be—there's a wide-screen television there now. "He asked me to dance and I told him I couldn't, that I had to study for biology. He talked me out of that. He was a philosophy major."

After medical school, life sped up again. She completed a residency in internal medicine at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center and a fellowship in endocrinology at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center, became an instructor at USC, then attending physician and assistant clinical professor of medicine, and then went to UCLA's Male Reproductive Research Center in 1981. She seems to have found her métier there, although she claims she went into male reproductive research more or less by default.

"I was the first American trained woman M.D. to specialize in male reproduction," she said. "I didn't want to be a pioneer. It happened by accident. I thought reproductive endocrinology was a stimulating field and I wanted to do research. I assumed it would be in female reproduction. When I applied for a fellowship, though, I was excluded because I was a board-certified internist, and not from obstetrics-gynecology. I switched because the last thing I wanted to do was deliver babies."

Others evidently found her career choice as unforeseen as she herself—and at times the situation was not without its absurdities. "Once, a well-known internist in New York, where I was giving a paper, said to me afterwards, 'I'm so excited, I wanted to meet you. I heard there was woman who went into this field,' but I don't think twice about that now. Now there are more women M.D.s in this field, and women Ph.D.s, too."

In any event, acceptance of women in this particular area wasn't always the case.

"When I was finishing my residency, I took a survey of all the males in my class. I asked them, if they had infertility, would they go to a women specialist? About one-third said no, one-third said they would prefer to go to a woman—they would be less embarrassed because they didn't have to feel competitive towards a woman, and one-third didn't care—they wanted the best in the field.

"The goal is for [a doctor's gender] never to be the issue."

Sokol points with pride at the work the Center is doing today.

"The researchers here are interested in many different aspects of infertility. We have people studying groups of hormones, brain control, the behavior and psychology of reproduction and sex differences, and heredity. We have Ph.D.s, M.D.s, research fellows, research assistants, research nurses, statisticians, and others working here."

Since research is not her only responsibility, Sokol also spends considerable time lecturing, teaching students and faculty, and travelling "too much" in support of all her activities.

She devotes quite a bit of time to making rounds with interns and residents from the hospital. As
supervising physician to new doctors, she likens her job to the one George C. Scott performed in the movie “The Hospital,” although, she says, “I’m not as pompous as he was bedside!”

As part of her specialty in male infertility Sokol sees private patients as well. It’s work that brings a keen awareness of suffering in addition to the excitement that may accompany some aspects of the research. Dealing with the emotional aspects of infertility requires additional skills from the physician.

“Nothing is more poignant than a couple who wants to have kids and can’t. I think I am good under those circumstances because I am sympathetic, and in a sense I have been [helpless] myself—I was in a car accident and could not go to school for a year.

“When I was well enough I studied child psychology at the Thalian Clinic at Cedars Sinai Medical Center, which is helpful to me now in many ways. The people there are wonderful therapists, I would take my children there if necessary. They really helped me understand how to interact with people. They influenced me in ways I still feel today, in things I use in everyday life with my children, and in what I bring to my patients,” she says.

“I had fine training, but not many choose a clinical aspect. It’s easier to do research than to treat patients. But I guess a renaissance person wants the challenge of both.”

The challenge is very real; male infertility treatment lags decades behind that for female infertility. “Our job [at the Center] is to help understand why a man is infertile, then discover the options, and then what to do. We’re the final stop, the end of the train ride. Unfortunately, with most, we have to say we have no idea,” she says.

The UCLA Male Reproductive Research Center is world-renowned in the field. And progress is coming now, Sokol says. “It’s not unreasonable to believe that in 20 years, we will have made significant moves forward.”

On a tour of the facilities, Sokol talks about the innovations made when the new building was constructed and the Center moved in.

“These are fabulous labs,” she said. “We’ve made these labs twice the size of the old ones, and settled for smaller offices, because the labs are the nitty gritty of what we do here. We also have lots of open space and common use equipment—a very different idea in this area,” she explains.

The tour continues to the heart of Sokol’s operation, the Sperm Lab. Here the movement patterns of sperm are tracked by a computer program analyzing sperm motility. The images, as viewed through a microscope, are recorded on video tape, analyzed by computer, and may be replayed later for further study. She will also soon study, with the help of a National Institute of Health grant, the effect of certain toxins such as lead and cocaine on sperm movement and the ability to conceive.

“Teaching and rounds do not allow her the lab time she would like. “My body isn’t always in the lab. It’s usually in the office,” she says wistfully. With the help of research associate Helen Okuda, though, Sokol maintains a rigorous research program, studying, lecturing, and publishing, in addition to her work in the lab.

It’s a gruelling pace. “Sometimes I agree with Erica Jong, who said the women’s movement has guaranteed that women now have the right to be tired all the time,” she admits.

Motherhood also holds its joys and responsibilities, and Sokol takes those as seriously. She’s found what works for her family; live in help and a “be number two” philosophy.

“First, I have a relatively flexible schedule. That helps. And I make sure I’m always the assistant. I’ll be the assistant team mom, or the assistant room mother, but not the one in charge. I make a tremendous effort to do all I can. My career suffers in some ways, I suppose. Maybe I see one or two fewer patients.”

The photographer asks her to put on a lab coat—then hesitates; is that too corny? “I won’t wear a lab coat,” Sokol says firmly, in another small deed of everyday rebellion. “It’s my act of civil disobedience. I feel it separates the doctor from the patient.”

The conversation turns again to what membership on Pitzer’s Board might mean. Sokol will serve on the budget and finance committee, and she’s anxious to “bring a professor’s perspective” to the committee’s deliberations.

“Pitzer was unique in facilitating so much interaction between students and faculty,” she said. “It gave you the opportunity to truly show your excellence.”

It may also teach students to keep a little bit of the rebel alive always. When Pitzer was considering making an education concentration, Sokol wrote the College in opposition—“You’ve got to be kidding!”

“And that’s a sure sign of a Pitzer education, when alums write back worried because the school is becoming too normal,” she says, laughing.

In Sokol’s lab, there is a large sign, given to her by her sister, proclaiming “Take time to smell the flowers.”

Is there time to do all that she wants to do and still see flowers, never mind smelling them? Yes, according to Sokol. And she relishes it all. “I’m enthusiastic about all I do. In my mind I’m still 23.”
A Message From the New President of the Alumni Council, Sandra Segal '78

As I begin my term, I am excited to be working with the dedicated members of the Alumni Council and the creative and supportive staff of the Alumni Office.

As individuals, we reflect the diversity of backgrounds and talents one expects in any Pitzer group. Together, we share a resolve to keep alumni in touch with each other and with Pitzer, and to make the College even better than it was when we attended (each of us being certain that our own class was the best in Pitzer's history!).

We have several goals:

- To enhance the relationship between alumni and the College community in order to support the faculty, administration, and staff, encourage current students, and identify qualified applicants for future classes;
- To strengthen the ties between alumni across the country, recognizing that we are a resource for each other as well as for Pitzer;
- To encourage commitment to the Alumni Annual Fund, ensuring the quality of the Pitzer education for all our students.

You, as a member of the Alumni Association, have something to contribute to our goals. We encourage your participation, and welcome your feedback any time!

Announcing the New Alumni Council Members

The results of the elections for the offices of the Alumni Association were announced at the Alumni Council's May 7, 1988, meeting. Sandra Segal '78 will leave her post as vice president/Programs to become the president of the Alumni Council.

Joining the Alumni Council next year is Isabel Halty '84, vice president/Annual Giving, and three members-at-large: Elena Maitre '83, Martha Quintana '83, and Sheri Rapaport '78.

Other continuing members of the Council are: vice president/Programs Anita Ortega-Oei '75; treasurer Chuck Diaz '75; secretary Camille Lombardo '70; and members-at-large Joel Fields '85, James Harnagel '77, and John Landgraf '84.

Faculty representatives for the coming year are Lucian Marquis and Sharon Snowiss, both of the political studies field group. Next year's student representative to the Council is Naomi Weiss '90, a sociology/psychology major.

The Alumni Council has a very busy year planned for all of you; look for events in New York, Chicago, Boston, San Francisco, and the Pacific Northwest.

Reunion Weekend: You Can Go Home Again

Members of the classes of 1968, 1973, 1978, and 1983—more than 120 Pitzer alumni—returned to Claremont last May from all corners of the country in order to celebrate Alumni Reunion Weekend at Pitzer.

The weekend got off to a sociable start on Friday with a bar-be-que at President Frank L. Ellsworth's house. The party moved on to Scripps College's Balch Auditorium and cabaret acts featuring Pitzer philosophy professor Jim Bogen, who kept the audience foot tappin' with some fancy work on the clarinet with the Real Time Jazz Band, Professor of sociology Peter Nardi ("Nardini the Great"), and Pitzer student David Strauss '90, displayed their sleight of hand with some amazing acts of prestidigitation.
There were several fine faculty presentations over the course of the weekend. Professors Ellin Ringler-Henderson, English field group, and Betty Farrell, sociology field group, led a panel on “Personal Perspectives on Feminism”; Barry Sanders of the English field group expounded on “Laughter and Literacy: Writing Is a Joking Matter,” while classicalist Steve Glass offered his view on “How the Greeks Sported: An Archaeological Perspective of the Olympic Games.”

President Ellsworth gave a rousing state of the College address, and dean of faculty Al Bloom spoke on the ways in which Pitzer is meeting its new educational objectives.

Later in the afternoon, alumni adjourned to Claremont McKenna College to hear Roy Durnal ’86 and “The Hot Pecans,” the second appearance by the jazz band at a Pitzer reunion. Class pictures were also taken—don’t forget to look through the Alumni Reunion photo album in this issue of the Participant.

Musician Barbara Senn, wife of professor of French Harry Senn, and her chamber music group played throughout the cocktail hour in McConnell Atrium.

Dinner that night was a class affair. Thirty-seven members of Pitzer’s first four-year class, the Class of 1968, held its 20th reunion dinner in McConnell Center. Gathered from points far and wide, they were joined by Steve Glass, Sandy Glass (formerly professor of English), Ruth Monroe, and Lee Monroe—all original members of the faculty—to hear moving testimonials of the early Pitzer days.

Meanwhile, other dinners were held for the Classes of ’73 and ’78 (combined) and the Class of 1983, with faculty guests and plenty of alumni family members and friends joining them.

For the truly hearty, the night was rounded out by some late-night chatting at the Grove House.

And after that? Reunion Weekend came to a close with brunch in McConnell Center. Overheard: “I wish more people had come,” “It was interesting to see how little the faces had changed and how much the campus had,” “Let’s do it again soon,” “It was great hearing about Pitzer present,” “It was one of the best times I’ve had at Pitzer,” “I saw a lot of old Democrats espousing Republican views,” “It’s a treat that you can go home again, at least for 24-36 hours, and relive the camaraderie,” “Stay in the dorms no matter how close you live to Pitzer,” “Having a 20-year perspective on my life was a real eye-opener.”

So, a special appeal to members of the Classes of 1969, 1974, 1979, and 1984: Let’s get started with plans for your Reunion Weekend May 19-21, 1989. Call the Alumni Office now at 714-621-8130 to find out how you can help your Reunion Committee! That’s 714-621-8130.

If you can’t drop in, then call! The Office of Alumni Programs has installed an answering machine in order to record your messages at any time of the day or night. And, as always, we are available during normal business hours as well.

Remember, that’s 714-621-8130.

Boston Tea Party—Pitzer Style

You’ve read about Pitzer student David Straus and the success of Pitzer’s movement to bring a Soviet refusenik to campus (story page 5). Right in on the big event were Boston area alumni as they met with Pitzer representatives who had flown out to greet industrialist Armand Hammer’s private jet, bringing Dr. Benjamin Charny out of the Soviet Union.

Earlier in the day, Straus, along with dean of faculty Alfred Bloom; his wife, Peggy Bloom; then-director of Admission Jon Parro; and Josephine Deloung, director of Public Affairs, were on site at Logan Airport to greet Dr. Charny on behalf of Pitzer. They shared the excitement of the day at a wine and cheese reception at the Logan Hilton. In attendance were Katherine Ann Weiss ’80, Debra Feiven Kerble ’79, Jennifer Cano ’88, Carol Hecker Davis ’73, Shari E. Brenner ’81, and Carla Bollak ’79, along with several incoming students and their parents.

Dean Bloom gave an exciting talk about Pitzer today, bringing the Boston crew up-to-date on Pitzer’s newly-formulated educational objectives and some of the ways the College is trying to meet them. (New/old ways— inventive curriculum; creatively taught...you remember.)

This was the first time Pitzies gathered together in Boston. Boston-area alumni take note: don’t expect it to be the last. Next time, join in!

All in a Day’s Work

Alumni Career Day ’88 was a great success, thanks to the efforts of dedicated alumni who returned to the campus last February to lead panel discussions and counsel current students on their career choices.

They hail from education, law, and public service; from entertainment, the arts, and community services; medicine, health care, and social services; and banking, finance, and marketing. They are employed in big and little companies, in firms, practices, and partnerships; in government, in industry, and in business.

Whatever the circumstances, together the more than 20 alumni who returned to the campus for the day presented a fascinating range of experiences to Pitzer’s students.

A reception for the alumni, students, and faculty followed the day’s sessions.

Show ’Em What You Know

Count on the Alumni Office and the Career Resources Center to stay closely involved with a variety of programs.

Do you have space for a Pitzer student in an internship program? Will you talk to a student who wants to know what it’s really like to work in your profession? Better yet, why don’t you come to campus and talk to a group of students about your line of work?
Pitzer’s newly appointed director of Career Resources, Anna Garza, will be happy to bring your expertise to our current students. To reach her, phone 714-621-8000, extension 2858.

News from the Southern California Alumni Association

Last March, trustee Elinor Nathan hosted a reception and program for Los Angeles area alumni featuring professors Jack Sullivan, Peter Nardi, Alan Jones, and Bob Albert.

The four faculty members, who together teach an interdisciplinary course cluster entitled “Individual and Social Aspects of Chemical Dependency,” each gave his perspective—political, sociological, physiological, and psychological—on chemical dependency today. More than 60 alums attended.

Trustee Helen Juda opened her home last April to host the Alumni Association’s special evening in honor of professor of sociology Laud Humphreys, who retired in May.

Alumni from throughout the College’s history attended to pay tribute to Laud. Professors Ron Macaulay, Peter Nardi, Al Schwartz, Jill Benton, and Anne Stromberg were also on hand for the festivities. (Laud Humphreys is featured on page 13.)

Everything’s Up-to-Date in Kansas City

Last April, Barbara and Peter Gattermeir, parents of Laura Gattermeir ’91, hosted a reception for alumni, parents of current students, and parents of alumni at their home in Kansas City, Missouri.

President Frank L. Ellsworth’s update on Pitzer was the highlight of the evening. Also in attendance from Claremont was vice president of Development and Alumni Relations Carl Bandelin and director of Alumni Programs Suzanne Zetterberg.

They Met Them in St. Louis, Louis

Trustee Patty Hecker, whose Pitzer connection includes her President Ellsworth and vice president of Development and Alumni Relations Carl Bandelin were also present. Best of all, many alumni faces—some not seen since their Claremont days—were in attendance. Let’s continue that alumni enthusiasm in St. Louis with other activities throughout the year!

Don’t Be Left Out!

This time we really mean it—we want to hear from you!

Since this is Pitzer’s 25th anniversary, we are publishing a special edition of Participant. One that will show just how far Pitzer has come in 25 years. We could think of only one way to demonstrate that—through the accomplishments of our alumni!

The special 25th edition will feature alums, and alums only. That’s why we need to hear from you.

If you’ve published anything, we want to put it in “Inkspot.” If you’ve started a business, are enjoying your career, have any thoughts on what part Pitzer played in who you are or where you are today, please share it with us.

After all, what better way to say that Pitzer has made a contribution than to show the ways our alums are contributing to the world outside?

Help us honor Pitzer. Send us a letter (you can use the enclosed envelope).

We hope to hear from you soon!
Big turnout from the women of '68. They came from all over the country!

Alumni from '73 with class mascot.

Can't they be serious for just one minute? It's the laughing Class of '78.

No hams in the Class of '83 either!
Bart Rollert '83 relaxes at the Grove House reception.

Susie Warren '78 brought the newest little Warren along.

Kit McKercher Gardes '68 with the brunch bunch.
Maggie Vizio '68—where did she get that T-shirt?

More conversation at the Grove House reception.

Carl Hertel, professor of Art, and members of the Class of '68 whoop it up at the Senior Party.

Linda Enlenaka '88, Caroline DeWitt '88, Rick Kemp '88, and Marcia East '88, with Michelle Scott, Mead Hall director, get chummy at the Senior Party.
BIRTHS

JOANN COPPERUD GILS '73 (Berkeley, California) announced to Pitzer during a recent phonathon the birth of her daughter, Ingrid Marie Gils. Ingrid weighed 8 pounds, 4 ounces, and was born February 3, 1988. JoAnn is director of Compensation at Alta Bates Hospital in Berkeley.

MADELINE PINSKY WALKER '73 (Los Angeles, California) gave birth to a daughter, Arianna, on January 18, 1988. Arianna weighed 8 pounds, 1½ ounces, and measured 20 inches long. Madeline plans to return to work shortly.

CLASS OF 1969

KATHERINE STOVER HOLIAN (Omaha, Nebraska) is currently working at a community college in Omaha as the coordinator of a Title III federal grant.

SETHA M. LOW (Baltimore, Maryland) will be working for the Graduate School, City University of New York, in the Center for Human Environments during 1988/89. She reports, "I’m studying plazas now from Costa Rica to Spain and Northern Italy."

SUSAN C. ROBERTSON (Rockville, Maryland), who is assistant director of the continuing education division at the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA), was named to the Roster of Fellows of the AOTA at that organization’s 68th Annual Conference in Phoenix. Membership in the Roster of Fellows is one of the highest honors given to members of the occupational therapy profession. Congratulations, Susan!!

Calling all members of the Class of 1969: Your reunion weekend is May 19-21. Phone 714-621-8130 for more details.

CLASS OF 1970

EUGENIE RICHARDSON YARYAN (San Rafael, California) reports “Thanks to Ellin Ringer-Henderson I’ve become an inspirational and effective composition instructor.” His new position is teaching English full-time at Marin Community College after eight years of administrative work at the College. He also sends thanks to “another wonderful teacher, Bob Albem.”

KAREN WALDRON HIATT (Washington, D.C.) says she and John are getting ready to return to California after a two-year stay in D.C. Karen will be assuming a new job in September as director of commercial operations for the Pacific region for the U.S. Customs Service. “My niece, Kimberly, daughter of my twin and Pitzer alumna JEAN WALDRON MILLER ’70, is spending the summer with us in Washington. She hopes to get a summer intern job, then attend UC Santa Barbara next year as a junior. Hello to Werner Warmbrunn and Allen Greenberger!”

VIRGINIA MORITZ ALLEN (San Luis Obispo, California) is currently an arts coordinator for a local high school. She sells her paintings and sculptures and is doing restoration work for pre-Columbian pottery. She has remarried, to Robert Griffin, an administrator at California Polytechnic University, and now has 4 children: 3 teenage boys and a 4-year-old girl. She sends a hello to Carl Hertel.

CLASS OF 1973

CAROL CURINGA (Sacramento, California) is a school psychologist for Elk Grove School District. Carol graduated in January from California State University, Sacramento, with a double master’s degree in school psychology and family counseling. She has 2 children, ages 3 and 5.

CATE BANGS (Los Angeles, California) reported during a spring phonathon that she works as an independent art director in the motion picture industry. She just finished the season with the television show “Crime Story.” In the past she has been art director for feature and television films such as “Beverly Hills Cop II” and “Amerika.” Cate also worked on the TV pilot for “A Day in the Life.” She is married to Steve Bangs.

SANDRA D. MITCHELL (London, England) received a Ph.D. from Pittsburgh's history and philosophy of science program, and was given a new contract in the Ohio State philosophy department this year. She has published a number of papers, and given a number of papers, and given a number of talks on the philosophy of biology, and will spend next semester on a research leave at Stanford.

CLASS OF 1974

KEN LEVY (Encino, California) married Mona Field last June. Congratulations!!

Calling all members of the Class of 1974: Your reunion weekend is May 19-21. Phone 714-621-8130 for more details.

CLASS OF 1975

ELLEN ALPERSTEIN (Santa Monica, California) continues to indulge in occasional globe-trotting adventures as an independent writer and editor. She and Australian husband (some trips yield happier results than others) Mike Keer are renovating an old house in Santa Monica, “...a process that drags me kicking and screaming into adulthood,” she writes. ANNE TURLEY (Oakland, California), that award-winning producer/editor, has just been elected vice president of Northern California Women in Film and Television. The organization schedules events ranging from directing and screenwriting workshops to a yearly film festival which showcases works of women from all over the world. “It’s a wonderful organization and I am proud to be of service,” says Anne. She has been freelancing since late 1986, after a four-year staff position producing and editing for Kaiser, and three years’ editing and teaching at One Pas.

CLASS OF 1976

LYNN GALLAGHER TANNER (Ventura, California) informed us that she had married Todd Tanner on June 18 in Santa Barbara. Lynn is teaching music and special education in the...
Goleta School District and is active in theater groups; she also plays piano and guitar, and dances. She sends greetings to Dorothea Yale! SUSAN OBBROW (Los Angeles, California) reports she has written and directed an educational film about remarkable Jewish women called The Fruit of Her Hand. She also produced the 4th annual AIDS project, a Los Angeles musical theater benefit, at Variety Arts Theater.

CLASS OF 1977

LEORA J. BRITVAN (Santa Monica, California) has just graduated from the University of Southern California School of Medicine with an M.D. and will be pursuing a residency in internal medicine at Harbor University of California Los Angeles Medical Center. ANN BROADBENT LIGHTON (Kapa'a, Kauai, Hawaii) no longer manages the Lauilima Restaurant. She and her husband own the “Two Wheels” motorcycle shops. They represent Honda motorcycles in their Kapa'a location, and they are selling Yamaha motorcycles out of their Kalaeheo store. “Business is quite good,” she says. “Kauai is enjoying a period of prosperity as it’s become an important visitor destination point in the state of Hawaii.” She would enjoy hearing from classmates from ‘77 or anybody who wants to either write, talk, or visit the Garden Island! She can be reached at 808-822-3040 or her address is: P.O. Box 298 Kapa'a, Kauai, Hawaii 96746.

JEAN PRINVALE (Sacramento, California) reports “It’s been an exciting 2 years. In June, 1987, I graduated from UC Davis with my M.A. in education, emphasis: higher education and strategic planning. The latter was the subject of my thesis and an excerpt of that was the subject of a paper I was invited to present at a conference for college deans in February. In the midst of all that I was busy preparing applications, which now means an exciting step as in September I will begin a doctoral program in education/sociology at Stanford. I’ll be quitting work and moving from Sacramento after 10 years! Oh, an amazing coincidence—another Pitze, JEA (Iacob) ADAMS ’78 (married to LEslIE WITThERsPooN ’78) is also starting at Stanford this fall! Two of 40 Ph.D. students from Pitzer! Does anyone have an address for LARRY MODJESTIC ’76! (Pitzer would like his address too!!)

CLASS OF 1978

LORI BROOKS (San Francisco, California) reports “Last month I was elected assistant secretary of CATESOL (California Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages). It’s a 2-year term, where the 1st year I’m assistant secretary and the 2nd year I’m secretary. CATESOL is the statewide organization for ESL teachers, so this is really an honor. I’d like to send a warm hello to TANYA WILLIAMS-BENZINGER ’78.” SAM RUSSO (Los Angeles, California) is still working at the Von Kleinsmid Library at the University of Southern California. Through the fall, Sam will be teaching two courses in logical fallacies at Cypress College. BURT ISENSTEIN (Chicago, Illinois) reported during a fall phonothon that he was married in October, 1987. Burt is currently self-employed as an artist and sculptor and will be returning to Pitzer in the spring to teach ceramics. His wife, Nancy, is also an artist. WILLIAM SIAW (West Covina, California) writes that after graduation from Pitzer he went to law school at UC Los Angeles. “There was a tremendous transition and very substantial reading assignments. In a very real fashion, I succeeded because of my education at Pitzer. In particular, I was prepared and confident because of professor Sharon Snowiss, in the political studies department. She would always have very demanding reading assignments. It was my exposure to that particular professor that I remember most fondly—although there are many others.” Bill is deputy public defender for Los Angeles County.

CLASS OF 1979

CINDI TANNER MARTIN (Littleton, Colorado) opened her practice in obstetrics and gynecology in Littleton, a suburb of Denver, on August 1. She and husband Phil are expecting their first child, due Thanksgiving Day. SUSAN HALE (Chapel Hill, North Carolina) was granted her Ph.D. in philosophy from the University of North Carolina, and will begin teaching at Texas A&M in the fall. She has published a paper on abstract objects. Calling all members of the Class of 1979: Your reunion weekend is May 19-21. Phone 714-621-8130 for more details.

CLASS OF 1980

MELISSA CATES (New York, New York) and LISA ZHIITO ’83 (Brentwood, Tennessee) reunited for a fun weekend in New York City. Lisa was visiting from Nashville, Tennessee, where she is a reporter and editor for Amusement Business, an entertainment trade paper. Melissa, an attorney, has just started a new job with an entertainment law firm in the Big Apple. They send their hello’s to all of their friends from Pitzer.

JOHN STANLEY (Dana Point, California) is working for Ontek Corporation, a small software development company that is currently developing a prototype system for intelligent manufacturing management automation. “I enjoy living in Dana Point a lot. Overall, everything is going quite well; what could I be doing wrong? If anybody knows where DANIEL BROWN or JIM ARFELGER are, I’d like to hear from either of them. Sorry to hear Bev Houston died. She will be sorely missed. Tell Carl Hertel I am still keeping everyone guessing!”
SHERYL COOPERMAN
STIEFEL (Bothell, Washington) is involved at the county and state level for Washington State's Centennial Celebration in 1989. Stiefel is associate curator for a traveling exhibition, "Peoples of Washington," in addition to several projects at Seattle's Museum of History and Industry where Stiefel is chief curator. "There's lots of work to be done in very little time. Washington State will be a great place to visit in '89. Moreover, the American Association for State and Local History will meet in Seattle in September 1989. I've also been in contact with BARBARA BIERMAN FERRIER '81, who is also now living in Seattle. (Barbara, we need your address too!)

BARBARA E. HARTZ (Upland, California) just graduated with an M.B.A. from the Claremont Graduate School in May. She also received an M.A. in psychology from CGS. Barbara is currently the manager of Claremont Tea Company in Claremont.

NOAH REIFKIN (Washington, D.C.) sends this update on his activities. In October, 1987, he married Roberta Goldstein. ADI LIBERMAN '79 performed duties as best man. "In terms of my work, after completing the Presidential Management Internship Program at NASA, I continued working there for another year as a full-fledged civil servant. However, I recently left NASA to work for a consulting firm called The Egan Group. This is a very small, but talented group of people who do private and government consulting work in a very narrow field: the commercial development of outer space. Our clients include several federal agencies." Best wishes to you both, Noah and Roberta!

LISA BRIDGES (Rochester, New York) moved to Riverside, California, in August, to take an assistant professor position in the department of psychology at UC Riverside.

TIMOTHY SCHIFTER (New York, New York) was married to Helen Elizabeth Lee in March of this year. STEVEN LINDSETH served as best man. Helen is a fashion writer for Vogue Magazine and Tim is vice president of LeSportsac, a handbag and luggage company in New York. Good luck and best wishes to them!

SARAH ELIZABETH BROTHERTON (Chicago, Illinois) recently graduated from Loyola University of Chicago with the degree Doctor of Philosophy. A recent letter to President Ellsworth from the graduate school says, "The graduate school and the entire academic community at Loyola are proud of Dr. Brotherton's efforts in attaining this highest academic degree. We are also delighted that one of your students should have chosen to continue studies at Loyola. It is our hope that Pitzer College will continue to provide the caliber of student so necessary to the future of American higher education."

TOM LOWERY (San Pedro, California) is now working as development coordinator for KCRW 89.9 FM, national public radio flagship station for Southern California. Tom says, "Hey all you alums out there, tune in!"

CLASS OF 1981

KAREN CLARK (Fairfax, California) is living in Marin County in a house in the woods. She has just completed an M.A. program in clinical psychology and is working in private practice in Marin. She says, "One day I'll be a licensed M.F.C.C. (3000 hours later). Hello to everyone!"

JOSEPHINE RAZO ALVAREZ (Claremont, California) was married to Rafael Alvarez (HMC '86). Josephine is assistant director of Admissions at Scripps and Rafael is a systems engineer for TRW. Congratulations and best wishes!

CLASS OF 1982

BRUCE BADER (Miami, Florida) is currently living in Florida and working for The Miami Herald.

JOHN J. WYATT (New York, New York) writes, "I'm alive and doing well working for the IRS. When I am in California I'll try to look you all up! [Editor's note: Don't do us any favors!] Everything's fine."

VALERIE KRIEGER JAHAN (Los Angeles, California) states "I'm living in Los Angeles while I am a pediatric resident at Los Angeles Childrens Hospital, and my husband is a resident at Cedars-Sinai in internal medicine. I recently saw KIAMARA LUDWIG WEISMAN '81 and her almost 1-year-old daughter at a surprise baby shower for ANDREA MACK WOLF '82. All are doing well."

MARK J. BORIGINI (Long Beach, California) recently received a Doctor of Medicine degree from the Hahnemann University School of Medicine, Philadelphia. He will complete an internal medicine residency at the University of California Irvine Medical Center. While at Hahnemann, Mark was the recipient of the Meaney Scholarship, was a member of the Alpha Omega Alpha medical student honor society, and published a research paper done in the Department of Oncology and Hematology.

LYNDA BREWER (Pomona, California) says "Thanks to Fitz's anthropology department, I have finally found a way to make a living, i.e., striving to enhance the quality of life among parents and children." Lynda is currently executive director for the educational non-profit corporation "Mothers and Daughters Against Drug Abuse."

DARCEL DETERING DILLARD (Milford, Connecticut) sends all her best wishes to Ann Stromberg, Katie, and Rudi. She is living in Milford, working in sales of capital medical equipment and married to Robert Dillard.

S.COT GORDON BARENBLAT (San Antonio, Texas) married Anne Elise Urrutia of Austin, Texas, last July. Congratulations! Elise is a freelance graphic designer.