Destined for Greatness

Debbie Hecht Stephens ’70 and her horses accomplish international stardom together

Breaking Ground on Turf Field
Students Teach Adult Learners
A Touch of Caz at Magnus Ridge
Wildcats Launch New Website
Investing in Your Future

Does a college education cost too much?

As student debt hovers close to one trillion dollars in the United States, there has been debate in our society about the cost of higher education.

Dan Kadlec, in TIME Magazine’s Moneyland section on educational financing wrote, “Student loans can quickly become a drag on a new grad’s life, and on the economy too, as these young people struggle to pay interest bills when they might instead be buying cars and furniture.”

But consider this: the average student debt burden for a Cazenovia College graduate is $31,835, about the cost of a well-equipped Ford Taurus. I believe graduate is $31,835, about the cost of average student interest on student loans. I’m one of many due to student loans. I am one of many who have achieved success thanks to their availability. Even in these difficult times, it is better to have a baccalaureate degree. The November 2011 unemployment rates reported by the U.S. Department of Labor’s Bureau of Labor Statistics are proof of that. Of high school graduates, 8.8 percent are unemployed, while of those with at least a bachelor’s degree, only 4.4 percent are without jobs.

Derek Bok, of Harvard, famously said, “If you think education is expensive, try ignorance.” President Emeritus and Professor Stephen Joel Trachtenberg, of George Washington University, agreed, writing, “Education makes possible a population essential to the proper functioning of a democracy.”

There are many ways to limit borrowing to pay for higher education, but it has been noted that young people are not taught financial literacy in primary and secondary schools, and are thus unprepared to negotiate the maze of loans, grants and other ways to pay for college. This lack may have something to do with the current state of affairs.

Regardless of the methods of paying, higher education is a wise investment. Colleges and universities are as much a part of the economy as auto and furniture manufacturers. Pamela Burdman, educational policy analyst and education reporter at The San Francisco Chronicle, wrote, “All signs suggest that the need for a strong education system will continue to grow as employers increasingly demand workers with strong analytical, interpersonal and communication skills.

Thirty thousand dollars worth of automobile begins depreciating the moment you drive it home. A baccalaureate degree is worth many times its original cost long after the loan is paid. Your education is an investment in yourself and in your future, and it will last the rest of your life. Instead of trading it in and starting life. Instead of trading it in and starting

*Cover Story*

World-renowned Grand Prix rider and owner and operator of Centennial Farm, Debbie Hecht Stephens ’70 has accomplished international stardom with the help of her four-legged friends.

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Destined for Greatness

Alumna and her horses accomplish international stardom together

World-renowned Grand Prix rider Debbie Hecht Stephens ’70 says it’s not about the individual accomplishments along her four-decade career as the show jumping circuit. For this Cazenovia alumna, it has been more about the connection with her four-legged friends, her love and care of horses, and developing them to be international superstars.

Today, owner of a top show jumping operation, Centennial Farm, Stephens combines her ability in selecting and developing talented horses and riders with her high energy, strong work ethic, and keen business management skills. And if that was not enough, she still finds the time to continue competing at the highest level of her sport.

Stephens competes just as much today as she has over the years, proudly pointing out that she competes in 30-35 events annually. “In our sport, you either go full-tilt or you don’t go at all,” states Stephens, who spends more days on the road than she does at home, competing, scouting horses, going to symposiums, and attending sponsor’s events.

Born in Chicago, Illinois, Stephens moved to Syracuse as a young age, where she began to develop a love affair with horses and riding. At five years old, she was asking her parents for riding lessons. Years later, her parents built a stable just outside of Cazenovia in support of their young rider, who was competing in numerous events and in some cases outperforming more experienced riders.

A Jamesville-DeWitt high school graduate, Stephens selected Cazenovia College “because it allowed me to remain near my parents and it was close to where I could still ride at a familiar stable.” She added, “Getting a college degree was important to me but meant everything to my father. I cared more about academics for him, but everything else centered on riding. I knew it was what I wanted to do.”

Her father died during her first year at Cazenovia, before she could share with him the joy of earning a college degree. This seemed to charge Stephens to work even harder. Despite financial hardship that she and her mother would face, she graduated from Cazenovia College with an associate in arts degree in liberal arts and continued her studies at Syracuse University, where she graduated with a degree in sociology.

Stephens moved to the Buffalo, NY area after graduation and it was there that she bonded with a special horse, Abdallah. She was approached by the horse’s owners who were just down the road from the stable where she rode. They asked her if she thought he had any foreseeable talent in show jumping. It didn’t take Stephens long to realize this horse had more than just talent; Abdallah was unbelievable and would soon help open doors for her that she had only imagined.

Participating as a U.S. Equestrian Team member riding Abdallah, Stephens went to the World Cup finals in Geneva, Sweden, qualifying as one of the ten top American qualifiers. She competed at and won the CSI3* event in Ronce, Italy – her first competition in Europe. This win catapulted her onto the international scene, and resulted in international clients who wanted her to ride their horses for them. This higher level of competition and stature also opened the door for large sponsorships that afforded her the ability to compete on the largest of stages.

Stephens was on a direct path to the Olympics. But a year before the Games were to begin, she was replaced as the rider atop Abdallah. “The owners desired a more experienced rider to go to the Olympics,” recalls Stephens, who points out that it was probably the right decision since “they won gold and silver medals.”

Other horses would soon enter her life. After she moved to Philadelphia, she formed Centennial Farm, where she began to buy, develop and sell horses, and work with student riders. She continued to compete as a full-time international jumper, remained focused as a member of the U.S. team, and experienced victories and memorable moments along her climb to the top of the Grand Prix circuit, including that magical record-breaking night in 1982 when she, on Rocky Raccoon, cleared a 7’8” wall in the Greater Cincinnati Horse Show. Other career highlights include the American Invitational: 1983; the AGA Championships: 1988, 1989; the 1991 Pan-American games in Cuba (bronze medal) at which she became the second-ranked world show jumping female; and the 1995 Pan-American games in Buenos Aires (bronze medal).

Meeting challenges and clearing obstacles along the way have been the norm for Stephens, but nothing more serious than in 2003. When competing at a Winter Equestrian Festival in Florida, she was thrown from a horse and sustained a broken neck and sustained for eight hours. “I remember asking myself at the time if I would ever do this again,” she said. Yet, her love for the sport and determination to compete had her back in the very same ring where she was injured – incredibly just 90 days after this serious injury.

Stephens points out that she could never have returned on her own and that it was thanks to Cosequin’s CEO, a horse she bred and raised from a foal. He was the perfect horse for her comeback as the two shared an incredible bond with one another. She had worked with him for years even though others claimed he was too big and not a show jumping horse. Following her injury, he provided the comfort and security she needed in order to make a successful comeback. Unfortunately, several years later, Cosequin would pass away, which led Stephens to once again question if she would ever ride again. But she decided to dedicate the rest of her career in honor of what she calls “her once-in-a-lifetime horse.”

“Her bond with her horses is unparalleled,” shares husband, Steve, a life-long rider and U.S. Grand Prix competitor, who is an accomplished show jumping course designer best known for his work at the 2008 Summer Olympic Games in Beijing, China. “She loves her horses more than the cares about winning. They respond to her voice, her presence and the safe haven she has created for them,” says Steve, who added that it is no surprise she has aligned herself as a dedicated board member of Human Equine Aid and Rapid Transport (HEART), an organization that provides emergency transportation services for injured or ill horses that need urgent care.

In discussing Centennial Farm, Stephens says the riding and teaching is the easiest thing she does. She refers to herself as a “problem solver,” managing all aspects of the operation from the financial and business side, to the staff and payroll, to the care and management of the 19 horses she is currently developing.

When asked what advice she would give to today’s students, Stephens recalls the remarks delivered by Steve Jobs in his 2005 Commencement speech at Stanford University: “What do you believe is great work ... and the only way to do great work is to love what you do.” Stephens feels this is the mantra she has lived by and urged young people to “follow your passion and really pursue what you want to do in life even if it doesn’t make sense to others.”

Stephens is proud of what she has and continues to accomplish. “I was destined to do all this – for decades I’ve been competing, training, developing and loving the moments, all the great horses, the people and experiences I’ve had.” She points out that the one thing that has escaped her is competing in the Olympics. But her accomplishments and experiences leave her more than satisfied. “I have competed on a peer level with people who have mutual respect for me as a horsewoman, and I am someone who has discovered and taken multiple horses to a top international level on a frequent basis.”

Debbie Stephens stands tall knowing she has made a substantial difference in the sport and to every single horse she has encountered. “I have brought out the best in them and made them the best they can be … that’s my defining moment.”
Athletics’ Field of Dreams

Cazenovia College breaks ground on $1 million turf field

Dreams became reality in October 2011 when Cazenovia College broke ground on a new $1 million synthetic turf field. The former undeveloped grass field behind the Schuerman Athletics Complex has been transformed into a more sustainable, viable venue for the College’s student athletes, campus organizations and surrounding community.

After fundraising efforts exceeded half the total cost of the new 240’ x 360’ field—a goal set forth by the College’s Board of Trustees—the long-awaited project was given the green light. Clark Companies was poised and eager to install a high-quality, all-weather field for the College and its constituents, thus marking a new chapter in the Cazenovia College athletics story. For the first time in the College’s history, all practices and games will now be held in its own backyard.

The College is pleased to expand opportunities for both varsity and intramural student-athletes and to experience a much anticipated feeling—our season; make us more competitive at the Division III level; allow us to recruit and retain quality students; and provide better opportunities for community programming,” said President Mark J. Tierno.

A groundbreaking ceremony held on Oct. 21, celebrated the deeply shared commitment that generous contributors and supporters have toward the success of the College. Former and current athletes, trustees, students, alumni, faculty, staff and friends of the College joined local dignitaries and Cazenovia community members at the construction site to commemorate the significant milestone. “I can guarantee that the new field will not only help with recruiting and retention, but it will awaken school spirit,” said senior Alex Iannicello, men’s lacrosse team goalie, to the enthusiastic crowd.

The College will host a ribbon cutting ceremony in 2012. To provide a gift in support of the field project and/or for more information, visit: www.cazenovia.edu/athleticfield.

“The new field will extend our season; make us more competitive at the Division III level; allow us to recruit and retain quality students; and provide better opportunities for community programming,” said President Mark J. Tierno.

Gone are the days of practicing on the home field advantage! Student-athletes will finally get to experience a much anticipated feeling—our season; make us more competitive at the Division III level; allow us to recruit and retain quality students; and provide better opportunities for community programming,” said President Mark J. Tierno.

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Our Backpacks, ‘Gazintas’ and a Company Man

Tenth Annual Wheler Family Conference on World Affairs: On Education

Aspects of education were the focus of Cazenovia College’s 10th Annual Wheler Family Conference on World Affairs this past September, from innovative ideas to time-tested practices, and many areas between.

The College is pleased to expand opportunities for both varsity and intramural student-athletes, campus organizations and surrounding community.

“Gone are the days of practicing on the home field advantage! Student-athletes will finally get to experience a much anticipated feeling—our season; make us more competitive at the Division III level; allow us to recruit and retain quality students; and provide better opportunities for community programming,” said President Mark J. Tierno.

After citing some “truly frightening statistics,” about the state of education in the United States, he said, “It’s critical not just for our nation internationally, but for our individual citizens, that they be far more advanced than they are, in grasping the principles of science and technology.”

DeBaun noted the imperative need for excellent science and math teachers, and shared his own ideas for improvements to contemporary education. He stressed the importance of basic grounding in economics and finance education, and suggested separating students by ability, natural talent, and by gender.

He concluded by urging students “to take advantage of every moment here…devour all you can of great philosophy, science, economics, music, art, the whole incredible web of human achievement, human aspiration, human imagination.”

Dr. Mark J. Tierno, president of Cazenovia College, says, “This continued recognition sends the message to students and their families that they can rest assured they have made a sound decision when selecting Cazenovia as an educational investment.”

For the eighth straight year, Cazenovia College has ranked among the top baccalaureate colleges in U.S. News & World Report’s Best Colleges publication. In the 2012 edition, Cazenovia is 21st among top tier regional colleges in the North. Maryland, Delaware, New Jersey, New York, and the New England states.

Cazenovia College is also listed in the magazine’s Top Ten Best Value Regional colleges in the North. Dr. Mark J. Tierno, president of Cazenovia College, says, “This continued recognition sends the message to students and their families that they can rest assured they have made a sound decision when selecting Cazenovia as an educational investment.”
Strengthening Programs in Education and the Sciences

Cazenovia College has two education programs. Inclusive Elementary Education (IEE) prepares students to work with children in grades one to six, and has included special education certification since its inception in 2001. Inclusive Early Childhood Education (IECE) prepares students to work with children from birth to grade two. Last spring, New York State approved the addition of special education certification to the IECE program, giving its graduates certification to work with very young children with disabilities.

Dr. Kim Wiecekore, director of the Education and Child Studies Program, says, "Our education programs are distinctive because students get into the classroom beginning in their first semester; both programs now have dual certification focused on inclusive education; and students get a good deal of one-on-one attention from full-time faculty."

Wiecekore says, "Our graduates qualify for initial certification and need to obtain three years of teaching experience, with one of those years mentored; and a master’s degree, in order to obtain the professional level of certification."

Most graduates of Cazenovia’s inclusive programs and dual certifications plan to work in special or inclusive classrooms. The qualifications signal to hiring principals that Cazenovia College graduates can work with students from diverse backgrounds at all levels.

Dr. Donald McCrimmon, vice president for academic affairs, notes that "In the last 30 years, both the breadth and depth of biological information have grown enormously. From molecular biology to ecology, vast amounts of new knowledge are providing unprecedented opportunities to cure disease, understand evolution, and steward the earth." According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment of biological scientists is projected to grow much faster than the average for all occupations.

"Cazenovia College also will prepare the biology teachers of tomorrow," McCrimmon says, "helping to improve our country’s dismal ranking in science instruction, while inspiring up-and-coming high school students to seek careers in biology and the biologically-based sciences. Strengthening basic science education, neglected for decades, is essential for the nation to remain an economic and technological leader in the 21st century."

Author Diana Abu-Jaber Talks about Memoir

"The Language of Baklava" is her life, with recipes

Diana Abu-Jaber came from a family of storytellers, and became a storyteller "as a way to insert my voice into a family of big personalities." Her memoir, "The Language of Baklava," was the summer reading choice for the First Year Seminar of the Cazenovia College Class of 2015. She came to Cazenovia to talk about the book and the craft of writing memoirs.

The book is a culinary memoir of Abu-Jaber’s experiences growing up in a food-obsessed Arab-American family; each chapter is developed around one of her father’s traditional Middle Eastern recipes. Tim McLaughlin, professor of history and dean of the First Year Program, says, "The book was chosen because of its direct relevance to students’ lives, such as concepts of family and pursuit of higher education."

Emily Demarest, a freshman interior design major in Professor Betty Moore’s Home Sweet Home seminar, was interested in the way Abu-Jaber portrayed food in her memoir. "The food in Abu-Jaber’s story was an outlet, as well as a way of describing each character’s personality. I really appreciated her unique take on food and its role in family life."

Abu-Jaber was born in Syracuse, New York, to an American mother and a Jordanian father.

She was seven when her family moved to Jordan for two years, and since then she has divided her life between the two countries.

The act of writing a memoir is “finding ways of seeing, claiming and expressing experience,” Abu-Jaber said. She spoke about her fears of angering people by telling their secrets in the book. “You can’t be afraid to do that,” she says. “We want to know the blood and the guts – the true things. My story was full of fights, of cultural collisions, and I had to decide to take the lumps for telling it, because this is where the truth resides.”

Demarest noted that the author’s visit changed her preconceived notions. Reading the book made her believe that Abu-Jaber was more serious and rather resentful of her family. "At the lecture, she had me laughing; she seemed just like everyone else, a very down-to-earth person. This surprise made me like her even more because I could relate to her more.”

Writing "The Language of Baklava" was a learning experience for Abu-Jaber, just as reading it was for students in the First Year Program. Abu-Jaber told her audience, "Cultural expectations affect your life experience, and food has been a big part of mine. Get your audience to live with you. One perfect, fluent sentence is the entrance into a conversation."
Bringing it Home: The Power of Design

By Laurie Gilmore Selleck

The heat was intense. The dust was blinding. The sound of the bullets hitting the tanks filled the air — but the tanks continued forward. The last shot I saw was incoming missiles. I was unable to watch.

I found myself vowing to teach visual communications in a way that could empower students to initiate action, to sway opinion, and to reveal truth. As designer Victor Papaneck said in Design for the Real World, “Design can and must become a way in which young people can participate in changing society.”

I became a student of graphic design for social change. I studied war propaganda, design theory, the history of social movements, and education for empowerment. I wrote a new course called Power to the People for the First Year Seminar program. This course, broader in nature, demonstrates how poetry, film, graffiti mural art, visual art, graphic art, theater, television, fashion, and music have been used to raise awareness and transform society. At the same time, and whenever I could, I also added projects with a social element in many of my other courses. The results have been some of the most rewarding moments of my teaching career.

My students have stenciled protest graffiti and displayed it around campus. Each year these projects have been “lifted” from their locations — to be found in dorm rooms and offices, enabling the conversations they started to continue long after they disappear from the College’s public spaces. My students have held visual debates on immigration and healthcare, and addressed the presidential election in the form of an Informed Voters postcard campaign. They have formed design collectives, teams of designers creating for a specific cause, to fight for human rights, world peace, environmental issues, and an end to illegal music downloading.

They have written protest songs and designed music videos on topics such as objectifying women, censorship, recycling, and date rape. They have created advertising campaigns to counter Big Tobacco’s covert advertising tactics. For a corporate social conscience project, they created new flavors of Ben and Jerry’s ice cream that addressed social issues, such as Endangered Rees’, Child Neglect, Sexual Harass-Mint, and Sustainabl-Tea.

Probably the most poignant project so far has been for the 10th Anniversary of 9/11. The Protest & Propaganda and the Power to the People classes combined to research, visualize, and construct a memorial to those events ten years ago. Most of the students had only experienced that day as children. They had never really comprehended the horror or the impact. Their reflective essays on the project indicated that the majority of them were particularly moved by their role in creating this memorial that so spoke to their professors and classmates. This project not only showed my students the power of design; it put that power in their hands.

Perhaps in the future, if and when my students find world events intruding upon their lives as they did on 9/11, and into their living rooms as I did during the Iraq war, they will have the knowledge, perspective, and tools to dedicate themselves to affecting a positive outcome.

About the Author:

Professor Laurie Gilmore Selleck, director of Cazenovia’s College’s Visual Communications Program, studied at the Art Institute of Boston, and earned her Master of Fine Arts degree in illustration from Syracuse University. She was a graphic designer and art director for Stickley, Audi & Co., before joining the faculty in 2000.

Selleck’s primary research interest is design activism, exploring topics such as cause-related marketing, mothers and war, and protest politics. She has received several research grants and her work has been displayed at the Center for the Study of Political Graphics in Los Angeles, and the Powerhouse Arena in Brooklyn.

She has produced graphic and web design work for non-profit organizations such as the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network and Native Planet. Recent publications include projects for the Syracuse Cultural Workers, the Syracuse Peace Council, and the Norfolk Journal of English Studies. She is chair of the Marketing/Website Committee of the board of the HOPE for Ariang Foundation; serves on the board of directors of ArtStage Gallery in Syracuse; and is an area chair for the Mid-Atlantic Popular American Culture Association.

Rise from the Ashes: Reflections of 9/11

This past September, Professor Laurie Selleck’s Protest and Propaganda class, and her First Year Seminars: Power to the People, created a memorial, Rise from the Ashes: Reflections on 9/11, to recognize the 10th anniversary of the September 11 terrorist attacks.

The memorial is aREC O L L E C T I O N OF THE DAY in words and images, with quotes from victims and survivors. Viewers were invited to write on the towers, sharing their own memories of the tragedies. The project also included a panel discussion about the creation of the piece and its significance to the artists and the public during the Whaler Family Conference.

M y life became a marathon of 24-hour television news. Since there was an embedded reporter with my son’s unit of the Third Infantry Division, I spent every waking moment when I was not in the classroom watching to see if I could get a glimpse of him from the images being sent home from the battlefield. I set up a chat at my house and followed the troop’s daily progress. I took screen shots of the vehicles and showed them to friends as if they were family photos. I even set up my computer to receive live feed television so I could record it when I was unable to watch.

At one point Walter Rogers, the embedded reporter with my son’s unit, was interviewing a member of the Third Infantry Division, when a terrible look came over the lieutenant. They cut out from the interview to take cover and the last shot I saw was incoming missiles. I paced for forty-five minutes not knowing if the “weapons of mass destruction” I had heard so much about were raining down on my son and his comrades. Horrific images filled my mind until I finally learned otherwise.

A few years later, I wrote a course called Power to the People for the First Year Seminar program. This course, broader in nature, demonstrates how poetry, film, graffiti mural art, visual art, graphic art, theater, television, fashion, and music have been used to raise awareness and transform society. At the same time, and whenever I could, I also added projects with a social element in many of my other courses. The results have been some of the most rewarding moments of my teaching career.

By Laurie Gilmore Selleck
The Promise of a Better Tomorrow

Volunteer teachers from Cazenovia’s education programs learn from their students.

The volunteer program began in 2010, spearheaded by former Cazenovia College assistant professor, Mona Ivey-Soto. The program has continued under the guidance of Dr. Kim Wiczkorek, associate professor of education. “This is a wonderful opportunity for our students,” she says. “The teachers at the West Side Learning Center welcome the assistance.”

A typical session at the learning center teams two student teachers and one instructor with a group of four to six adult learners. They read together, helping each other with pronunciation and meaning of words and phrases, then discuss the reading and write about it in journals.

“These people have so much knowledge from their cultures, but don’t know how to express it here in the United States,” says senior Ashlea Osborne. “Working with adult learners opened my eyes to aspects of education, language, culture, and the promise of a better tomorrow for them.”

Osborne’s thoughts are echoed by senior Katherine E. Hueblot, who says that teaching adult English language learners is very different from teaching children. “Most of the people we teach have had important jobs — some were teachers and doctors in their home countries. It’s a great feeling knowing that helping to teach them English is helping them achieve their dreams here.”

“I can’t imagine coming to a country and not knowing the language,” says senior Amy L. Quackenbush. “Many of these students have lived hard lives, and I am glad that they have a place like the West Side Learning Center to start fresh.”

The students come from countries including Bosnia, Puerto Rico and Cuba. Many are refugees from the Middle East. One of these is Alaa Aziz, who came to the United States from Iraq. Aziz says, “The Cazenovia College students connected with us and made us feel more comfortable. They encourage us as students and give us hope in learning.”

Hope is what these English language learners have for their lives in the United States. In turn, says junior Renee R. Adame, “Every day we have the opportunity to experience something or someone new, and to learn about people from all around our world.”

Top Students Tapped for Washburn Fellowships

One research fellow is chosen from each division

In the Washburn Junior Fellowships Program has taken a new turn this year. Thanks to the generosity of Trustee and Professor Emerita Margery Pinet, the program includes four research fellows, one representing each division, in addition to the one teaching fellowship.

Jasmyne B. Cole, of Marathon, NY, a senior majoring in social science, with minors in history, sociology and international studies, is the Washburn Junior Teaching Fellow.

Elizabeth A. DeLuca, of Galway, NY, a senior majoring in equine business management, with a minor in international studies, is the fellow for the Division of Business and Management.

Robert H. Dufek, of Schenevadx, NY, a senior majoring in criminal justice and homeland security studies, is the fellow for the Division of Social and Behavioral Sciences.

Kimberly Norton of Mexico, NY, a senior majoring in communication studies, with a minor in journalism, is the fellow for the Division of Humanities and Natural Sciences.

Carissa S. Wheeler of Aurora, NY, a senior majoring in communication studies, with a minor in photography, is the fellow for the Division of Art and Design.

Conceived and funded by Professor Pinet, and named for her parents, the fellowship allows selected students, chosen on the basis of their Senior Capstone Project proposals, a funded opportunity for research within their chosen academic fields.

Seniors Set Class Gift Record

Class of 2012 lights the way for future class gifts

This group of seniors represents the first class in many years to determine their class gift as freshmen. During their Orientation, these first year students learned about old and new traditions of student philanthropy at Cazenovia. After reviewing several proposals, an overwhelming vote for Quad lighting improvements was selected by the new students.

With their goal set in stone before they even began their first college class, many class members have contributed to their “campus project” each year. To date, more than half of the $2,500 class giving goal has been achieved. “Leaving our mark as a class is important to show future classes that giving back strengthens the College,” says senior Kimberly Norton.

Participating class donors, now known as Junior 1824 Society members, celebrated their achievements at the 200 Nights to Graduation event in October.

The Promise of a Better Tomorrow

Have you ever tried explaining Groundhog Day to someone who has never heard of it? asks Renee R. Adame, an education major at Cazenovia College.

Kara Handerhan, an education major at Cazenovia College,可谓 is one of 3 education students who assisted with English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) classes at Syracuse’s West Side Learning Center. Part of the teaching routine is discussion of American culture and customs, and the dreams held by the ESOL students for their lives in the United States.
Alumni Events

Summer and fall were busy with several gatherings held throughout New York State that brought together alumni, faculty, staff, students and friends of the College for a variety of activities.

The Cazenovia College Golf Open was held on August 8, 2011 at the Cazenovia Country Club. A record number of 19 foursomes teed off for a fun day of golf. The tournament raised more than $13,000 to benefit Cazenovia College students.

Golf committee members included Kaleb Wilson ’07, tournament chair; Michael Brooks ’01, assistant director of athletics; Bette Brown Carpenter ’48; Jessica Hanley Johnson ’07; John Lehmann, director of dining, conferences and catering; and Rob Kenna, director of athletics.

The members of the Cazenovia College Alumni Association and Department of Athletics extend their thanks to everyone who helped make this annual event a great success.

Alumni, faculty and friends of the College enjoyed a summer luncheon during the Walnut Hill Driving Competition.

Alumni and Fashion Design faculty and students enjoyed lunch and a tour of the “Wedded Perfection: Two Centuries of Wedding Gowns” exhibit at the Munson Williams Proctor Arts Institute.

Current students who attended the event included:
(Seated L-R) Kamille Allen, Alexandra Santiago, Victoria Holton, Izzy Dennison
(Standing L-R) Tiffany Pierce, Ariel Ransom, Erin O’Malley and Kathryn Mitchell

Alumni, faculty and friends of the College enjoyed a summer luncheon during the Walnut Hill Driving Competition.
The Office of Alumni Relations hosted a reception prior to a performance of the Broadway Musical The Lion King.

Alumni athletes gathered during Homecoming/Family Weekend for scrimmages against current student-athletes.

The first ever “Third Thursday” Young Alumni gathering was held on November 17. Guests enjoyed refreshments and the chance to visit with fellow Cazenovia College alumni.

The Alumni Board of Directors hosted a holiday reception on campus in the Witherill Common Room. Cazenovia area alumni and friends visited while enjoying refreshments and live seasonal music.

The Office of Alumni Relations and alumna Sue Agnew Elliott ’48 hosted a holiday luncheon at the Locust Hill Country Club in Pittsford.

Alumni, past parents and staff gathered for an autumn luncheon at the Galleria Mall in Buffalo.

Alumni gathered during Homecoming/Family Weekend for scrimmages against current student-athletes.

The Office of Alumni Relations and alumna Sue Agnew Elliott ’48 hosted a holiday luncheon at the Locust Hill Country Club in Pittsford.
The Sherwood Inn in Skaneateles. Alumni and friends of the College gathered to celebrate the holidays.

**ALUMNI NEWS**

**SKANEATELES, NEW YORK**

**DECEMBER 2011**

**CLASS NOTES**

**Share Your News for Class Notes!**

Please help keep our office and friends up-to-date by sharing recent information. Have you moved? Changed jobs? Been promoted? Received an award? Said, “I do”? Welcomed a new baby? If so, please send us the details and include your name, address, the year you graduated, telephone number and email address. Please identify individuals in photographs.

Photographs will not be returned. Electronic photos must be in high resolution (jpg, PDF or tiff format, no smaller than 300 dpi and 3 x 3 inches or larger in size. Class Notes will be edited for length and style. Notes are recommended to be 80 words or less in order to accommodate the growing number of alumni submissions. Class Notes does not publish information relative to promoting your business. If you’d like to share information about your company, please spread the word at http://alumnicommunity.cazenovia.edu.

Send the information to: Marcia Neumiller, Alumni Relations, 22 Sullivan Street, Cazenovia, NY 13035. Or email mmneumiller@cazenovia.edu. Thank you!

**1946**

Doris Eversfield Webster ’46 writes, “The Class of 1946 Scholarship has been a very worthwhile project for our class. We raised about $2,500 this past year. One student wrote, ‘I am a studio art major and plan on being an art teacher. I help to guide young people to become familiar with the art world.’ Yours truly did receive the Distinguished Service Award of 2011 at the One Hundred Eighty-Sixth Commencement, Saturday, May 14, 2011. It was a very wonderful honor! 1946 seems like a long time ago! What do you think?”

**1949**

Joyce Gleason MacClay ’49 writes, “My husband, Bob, and I visited Suzanne Luderer Gray ’48 at her home in Williamsburg, VA, in late September. We had a great visit, as you can imagine, after not having seen each other since graduation; and we hadn’t changed a bit!”

**1953**

Teresa Izzo Swenson ’53 writes that she has four married children and 13 grandchildren. “We are a very close family who are all together often! I’m retired but volunteer on the executive boards of a charity organization, a retired teachers organization and a travel club.”

**1959**

Sharon Bush Molthen ’59 shares, “I have returned to Cazenovia twice in the last two years and feel very much back in touch with old friends and beautiful Cazenovia College and environs. In 2009, I attended the 50-year Reunion, and last year again visited with classmates for a few days following a trip to New York City. Our fun included waterfront lunch and the Glimmerglass Opera, a ride in the famous Thompson party boat at dusk on Cazenovia Lake and dinner at Breat Loch. The highlight of both Cazen visits was time spent with Winifred Coleman, our beloved dean of women in 1959. She is probably number one on my list of the most respected women in my life. Most of the time I just keep up with a part-time job, my children and five grandchildren. Two of the girls are grown. The other three are 14, 10, and 5 and all beautiful and brilliant of course! I’m still working on the younger ones to choose Cazenovia, but New York seems far away to them!”

**1960**

Linda Gilmer Schmitz ’60 writes that she just had her 72nd birthday and New York seems far away to them!”

**1961**

Linda Gilmer Schmitz ’60 writes that she just had her 72nd birthday and is enjoying retirement, her children and grandchildren. She and her husband, Hugo, have been in St. Louis for more than 30 years. Linda also stays in close contact with classmate, Maria Gagas Vamvas ’60, who has been in St. Louis for about a year.

**1963**

50th Year

Martha Dyer Hooper ’62 writes, “Cole Joseph Hammel, our 5th grandson, was born Sept. 6, 2011! He joins our other grandchildren ages 21, 16, 14 and 9. Tom and I have been married for 49 years and are now living in our summer home on the ocean in Anissquam, MA. Life is happy and healthy!”

**1968**

Anne Fritz Bautzenberger ’68 writes, “My husband of 41 years and I have now retired. We spend half of our time in Florida, near Stuart, and the other half of our time near the Jersey Shore. We have three grandchildren and are enjoying life each day.”

**1969**

Bettee Wallace Taber ’69 writes, “I am still living in Lakewood Ranch, FL ( Sarasota area). I now have two grandchildren, both living in the Buffalo, NY, area. John Wallace Marshall was born 13 months ago and I adore him as well as four-year old Emma. This August I went back to my 45th high school reunion. We had lost a good number of classmates. Life is short; enjoy every minute of it. Email me at BetteeTaber@KVCom.”

**1971**

Janice “Lolly” Clarke ’69 shares that she gets together once a year with Chris Conners Jacobs ’69, and they “always have a good time together.”

**1971**

Jo Beth Serling Lehrer ’71 writes, “I reunited with third floor Shove classmates Patricia Brueckner Filenbaum ’71, Ellen Great Young ’71 and Mary Beth Yates McGrath ’71 on campus for their 40th Reunion in June 2011. Scottie O’Toole ’71 writes, “Those of us who attended our 40th Reunion in June had a wonderful weekend with several classmates. Everyone looked great and we tried hard to party like we did 40 years ago! It just takes longer to recover these days. On September 1, 2011, I received my certification as a professional co-active coach through Coaches Training Institute. In addition to my human resources role, I now have a private coaching practice where I work with people in transition or those wanting to make a change. Some clients are contemplating what to do in retirement. This work is I am passionate about, and it is a joy to help others move forward in their lives.”

**1972**

40th Year

Robyn Berger Perry ’72 writes, “Hi class, it certainly has been a long time since we graduated. I have my own business called A-I Solutions LLC.”

**1973**

Marion Miezl Goss ’73 shares that she graduated in July with a master of arts degree in social policy from Empire State College, “Hello to Kathy, Liz and Betty!”

**1975**

Paula Stec Fenger ’75 writes that she and her husband, Chris, have moved to Bucks County, PA. Paula serves on the Cazenovia College Board of Trustees.

**1978**

Karen Colizzi Noonan ’78 writes, “I am now the office manager for the Finger Lakes Tourism Alliance. After nine years as an executive assistant for a senior New York State senator, I decided to step off the political roller coaster and spend my energy promoting one of the most...”
1957 55th Year
If you are interested in helping reach out to your class or if you have lost touch with a classmate and would like to reconnect, please contact Shari Whitaker, director of alumni relations, at 315.655.7332 or owshwhitaker@cazenovia.edu. The most successful Reunions are the result of classmates contacting each other in advance to plan, so we are happy to assist you in any way we can. We welcome your participation and any suggestions you may have to help your 55th Reunion be the best for your class!

1962 50th Year
It’s hard to believe fifty years have passed since we were at Cazenovia. It seems like just yesterday we were walking the halls and campus. The years have flown by and now we will be celebrating another Reunion. But this one is special as it’s our 50th year since graduation, a milestone in our lives. I hope you will plan to attend Reunion in June to celebrate this momentous occasion with your classmates. Please call your friends and make plans to meet them in Cazenovia June 8 – 10. Hope you all have a wonderful winter and spring!
Margot Burgheimer

1967 45th Year
If you are interested in helping reach out to your class or if you have lost touch with a classmate and would like to reconnect, please contact Shari Whitaker, director of alumni relations, at 315.655.7332 or owshwhitaker@cazenovia.edu.

1992 30th Year
Class of ’82, it’s our 30th reunion and you just have to come! You don’t want to miss this opportunity to see old friends and remember old times (well, not that old). Plans are under-way to make Reunion 2012 the best ever. If it’s been ages since you’ve been back to Caz, don’t waste another moment...contact your classmates and mark your calendars for June 8-10, 2012. See you there!
Karen Doyle Kreutzer and Terry Neff Thurley

1972 40th Year
Class of 1972! Have you all got my letter about our 40th Reunion next June? It is going to be a WONDERFUL time. plan on attending! Be sure to pull out those bell bottom jeans and a tie-dyed t-shirt to wear Saturday night. Wendy Dibble Carter-Smith came up with the idea of getting a yellow t-shirt and dying it. Love it! So mark your calendars for the 2nd weekend in June. Call all your Caz friends and get them to come and have a fun-loving time! Feel free to email me at mwinkle3@ochester.edu.com if you have any questions.
Mary MJ Kilian Walker

1977 35th Year
Hello Class of 1977! If you’ve never attended a Caz Reunion, now is the time because it’s our 35th year Reunion! Can you believe it? The campus has grown, buildings, flowers and gardens have been added. It’s as beautiful as ever! A new athletic turf field is even being built. Let’s see what domino will have the biggest turnout at Reunion. Come on Farber, you can do it!
Karen Doyle Kreutzer and Terry Neff Thurley

2002 10th Year
Class of 2002, can you believe it’s been 10 years? Mark your calendars for Reunion 2012, June 8-10, and start making plans to reconnect with friends. I hope to see you all there!
Monica Everdyke

2007 5th Year
Class of 2007! Believe it or not, this coming May will mark five years since graduation! It’s hard to believe how fast the time has flown. Within those five years, many of us have started our careers, continued on to graduate school, gotten married and even bought houses. The class of 2007 is an honored year at the annual Reunion Weekend this coming June! There will be some great events that will allow us to relive our time at Caz. Mark your calendars for June 8-10! Spread the word to fellow alumni. We look forward to seeing you there!
Jessica Hanley Johnson and Kristin Burger

1972 20th Year
SAVE THE DATE! Reunion 2012 is June 8 – 10. Mark your calendars and plan on attending our 20th Reunion. A number of events are planned that will give you the opportunity to reconnect with friends so NOW is the time to contact classmates and encourage them to attend along with you. It would be awesome to have a strong turn-out from our class. I look forward to seeing you in June!
Dacia Banks

1977 15th Year
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1979 Elaine Doremus ’79 writes that she is interested in a full-time job as an employment specialist or administrative assistant and has taken all updated computer classes within the past year. Elaine has her own business (Resumes Written) as a career consultant and resume writer. She has been trained by the National Resume Writers’ Association. Elaine also wrote a book “How to Be on Time for Everything.”

1980 Kim Cole Wethington ’81 writes, “Hello to the class of 1981. I hope everyone is well. I am working for a law firm in the purchasing department. Our firm was just named in the top 150 largest law firms in the country. I have been very busy this year with my girlfriend’s horse. Yes, I am still riding at the ripe old age of 50+. On my 50th birthday, I rode 50 trees, jumped 10 fences in 7 below zero weather. I hope all my equine friends are still working with the horses. Hello to Sara Lee, CeeCee, Sandy and Valoria. Stay in touch. My email is kcole22@comcast.net.”

1982 30th Year
Alice Berke ’82 writes, “I recently opened a store. New-ish, in Guilderland, NY—a radical change for me, having grown up in the 150 largest law firms in the country. I have been very busy this year with my girlfriend’s horse. Yes, I am still riding at the ripe old age of 50+. On my 50th birthday, I rode 50 trees, jumped 10 fences in 7 below zero weather. I hope all my equine friends are still working with the horses. Hello to Sara Lee, CeeCee, Sandy and Valoria. Stay in touch. My email is kcole22@comcast.net.”

1987 25th Year
What’s up, Class of 1987? It’s going to be a Caz Reunion, now is the time because it’s our 25th year Reunion! SAVE THE DATE: June 8 – 10. Let’s make it the best Reunion ever.
Johnny Brundell

1992 20th Year
beautiful tourist regions in America— the Finger Lakes!”

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1994 Myra Jane Stack ’84 says, “Hi from Florida, where I haven’t moved in 26 years. Unfortunately, time has not
Going on vacation? Heading to a major sporting event? Climbing a mountain?

In whatever interesting location you find yourself, why not take along an issue of the Cazenovia College Magazine? Pose with your alma mater’s magazine and you could someday find yourself among the pages. Please send your photo(s), a caption and any photo credit to communications@cazenovia.edu or Office of Communications, 22 Sullivan St., Cazenovia, NY 13035. Let’s see where you’ve been!

CLASS NOTES - continued

1990
Michelle Marks-Hook ’90 writes that she has accepted a new position at the University of Rochester as assistant director of alumni and parent relations career programs.

Jennifer Tanner McConnell ’90 writes, “After graduation I worked in retail for 10 years, then I went into the medical field. I worked in an orthopedic doctor’s office (billing department), and then I went to River Hospital in Alexandria Bay. I was married in 1992 and have since had two beautiful boys, Carson (2000) and Kaden (2002). They along with my husband of 19 years, Todd, and our dog, Phoebe, have kept me busy. But not too busy to launch a chocolate business with my Mom/partner.”

1995
Amy Galloway Gill ’95 writes, “I have moved to Roanoke, VA, and this past May I bought an existing Mobile dog grooming business. Hello to all my past buddies. Some of you I have already touched base with, but would love to hear what others are up to.”

1996
Amy McGrath ’96 writes, “I couldn’t have asked for anyone more healthy, happy and beautiful baby, and I couldn’t have asked for anyone more perfect.”

2000
Sarah Price ’00 won the Thomas Goodyear Prize for Humorous Art at the 76th Annual Cooperstown Art Association National Juried Exhibition for her digital art “The Magic Umbrella.” There were 471 entries from throughout the United States and only 103 pieces were selected. Sarah also had a solo exhibition at the Rome Art and Community Center in Rome, NY; that ran from August 5 through September 16, 2011.”

2001
Nicole Caron ’01 announces her engagement to Tom St. Pierre. A 2012 wedding is planned.

2005
Kara Eschler ’05 writes, “I am currently living in Gloversville, NY, and I am extremely happy to announce and introduce the newest addition to my family, Hailey Beth Sinsini. She was born May 10, 2011 @ 7:12 a.m., weighing 8 lbs. and was 22 inches long. She is a beautiful, happy and healthy baby, and I couldn’t have asked for anyone more perfect.”

2007
Kathie Moore Johnson ’07 writes, “My husband, Randy, and I are proud to announce the birth of our son, Kyle Scott, on September 16, 2011. Kyle is growing fast and discovering new things every day. We were lucky to complete most of the renovations on our new home prior to his birth.”

2008
Susanna Toledo ’08 writes that, after living in Hudson, NY, for a year and a half, she and husband, Quentincoast, moved to Buffalo in October 2009. They welcomed their daughter, Zoe, on March 30, 2010. Zoe loves horses almost as much as her mommy. Susanna still loves horses, but spends less time with them since starting to work for United Healthcare in January 2011 as an insurance claims processor.

2009
Amanda Wruck Kubiak ’09 was married on October 1, 2011 to Michael Kubiak, and shares a photo that was taken by her photographer, Monica Everlyke ’92. Sharing her special day were fellow Cazenovia College graduates, Laura Jones Schweitzer ’09 and her husband Jon; Sarah Almekinder ’09, Melissa DeLeon ’09; Amy McGrath ’10 and Danielle King Suydam ’09 and her husband Daniel.
Partnership by Design

Students and faculty help bring a unique, creative flair to Magnus Ridge Winery

Situated along the southwestern edge of Seneca Lake, the Rock Stream, New York winery is a new business operation in the Finger Lakes Region, a thriving destination with a touch of Cazenovia College scattered throughout.

Acting on the recommendation of a good friend, Cazenovia College Professor of Art Kim Waale, Sandy reached out to Cazenovia College in 2010 seeking to work with students to design some of the signature focal points of the winery’s tasting building.

“Our goal for the winery is to create an environment for people to enjoy and experience a true travel experience,” shared Sandy, who is quick to point out how instrumental Cazenovia College students have been to the evolution of the winery from the beginning. Having attended the College’s fashion events over the years the got Matt and Sandy thinking about the ideal opportunity available to them … working with and benefiting from talented students who could assist in designing unique clothing line, wine labels, and glasswork, including a massive 9-foot-diameter chandelier for the main entrance/tasting room, chandeliers for the three other tasting rooms, and two wine bottle windows, to name just a few design initiatives.

“I asked Kim if she knew of any students at the College who would be interested in designing fashions for our winery. We were in the design stage of our tasting room and sales floor and were exploring the types of products that Magnus Ridge would be marketing,” said Sandy. Waale was quick to respond, telling Sandy that she had just the right students in mind.

Now a proud alumnus, Craig Couture ’11 of Lincoln, Rhode Island, was a senior interior design major/ studio art minor when selected by Waale to contribute to the project as part of his advanced sculpture course. “I wanted to design glass windows and chandeliers that had meaning and related to the rustic qualities of Magnus Ridge,” said Couture.

Couture, who met with the Downeys and the architects from Rainbow Architectural Design, and discussed the construction of the main chandelier with the builder, Meyda Tiffany, is grateful for the professional experience to which he was exposed. “It was a rewarding opportunity to design a product for a real-client, to deal with actual budget guidelines, and to incorporate a variety of internal and external factors into what I ultimately designed.”

In addition to the wine labels and t-shirt designs created by recent fashion design graduate Katherine Mahoney ’11, of Fishers Landing, New York, Professors Kim Waale, Jo Buffalo, and studio art major Melissa Schleifer launched an exciting project this past summer with the Downeys. They prototyped and produced a variety of ‘green’ products, all made from recycled wine bottles, for the winery’s gift shop. Titled sm.ART, the collaboration between students and faculty includes the design and production of cheese platters, vines, tumblers, bells, water bottles, coasters, dishes and more.

“Sandy came to the glass studio at South Campus to see our work and loved everything! She placed a large order and told us that we have the exclusive rights to sell in her gift shop,” shared Waale, who added that the Downeys’ purchase includes plans to donate 50 percent of the sm.ART proceeds back to the Studio Art program at the College for the purchase of tools, equipment and supplies and to help support interested students. “We are proud of what we have developed and envision this initiative to eventually become an entirely student-run project, one that will be ongoing with Magnus Ridge for years to come.”

Sandy added, “The students and faculty have not only created many designs, all of which we have for sale, but have also come up with accessories for their products. Our customers love their works of art! It makes for some fantastic conversation when a customer enters the building.”

Establishing close ties between business and education is important to Matt and Sandy Downey. “Programs like FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) and Project Legos help to inspire and develop our youth in middle and high schools,” said Matt, who also believes strongly that colleges like Cazenovia help facilitate the flow of ideas in solving real world challenges. “The numerous innovative solutions offered from the vast diversity of students is something very difficult to achieve within the traditional business community. Hopefully the act of going beyond textbooks; tackling real world business challenges; and seeing those ideas developed and brought to the marketplace is as beneficial to the students as it has been for us at Magnus Ridge.”

The partnership has been mutually advantageous for both parties. According to Sandy, “It has been such fun working with Cazenovia College staff and students. We hope that the experiences they are gaining help them as much as they have helped us to bring a unique, creative flair to our business. They should all be very proud of what they have created.”

Waale praised the Downeys for enthusiastically involving the College in Magnus Ridge in many positive ways. “I can’t put into words what Sandy and Matt’s patronage has meant to us. Their unfaltering faith in our students and faculty is incredible and has led to invaluable opportunities,” said Waale.

While the Finger Lakes-grounded winery is not physically located in Cazenovia, it is a refreshing thought knowing that the budding operation has strong ties to the Village of Cazenovia and Cazenovia College. The ongoing partnership is on full display and one for which we can all be proud.

Matt and Sandy expect Magnus Ridge Winery to always be a work in progress and expect it to grow indefinitely. “We think that getting to create and work at something you love is the ultimate accomplishment and wherever that process leads is fine with us.”

Craig Couture ’11 visited Magnus Ridge in May to get a glimpse of the main entrance/tasting room where his chandelier (design above) now hangs.

Village of Cazenovia residents Sandy and Matt Downey’s dreams to build their own winery became a reality this past fall when Magnus Ridge Winery opened to the public.
One Link in the Caz Chain of Giving

Jessica Hanley Johnson believes in giving back to her alma mater

“Cazenovia College has played a large role in my life,” says Jessica Hanley Johnson ’07. “I know that I wouldn’t be where I am today if it wasn’t for the education and experience that I received from the College.”

Johnson has stayed involved long after her graduation, as a class agent and a member of the alumni board of directors.

She speaks at Cazenovia College Open Houses about her college experience and to new students during Orientations about the value of giving back to the College. She works every year at the Alumni Golf Tournament. She assists with fundraising and other projects on campus. And she is involved with planning the next alumni reunion, where her class will be one of the honored years. She says, “I want to keep exploring where the College can go and how it can continue giving its students the best experiences possible.”

Students, both past and present, give many reasons for choosing Cazenovia. Johnson laughs, “Cazenovia College kind of chose me! I wanted to go to a particular university because of its photography program, but I was also accepted at Cazenovia. I fell in love with CAz.”

Johnson changed her major twice before finding her niche in social science. An internship at Armstrong Communications in Syracuse led her to her career in lobbying and government affairs. After a second internship at Armstrong, and part-time work during her senior year, she was offered the position of assistant project manager. Now, after five years, Johnson is Armstrong’s director of media and public affairs.

“At Cazenovia, I built close relationships with fellow students and with faculty and staff,” says Johnson. “The admissions literature talks about how once you come to Caz you become part of the Cazenovia family. That is very true for me. I met my husband, Brendt [Johnson ’06], at Cazenovia and seven members of our wedding party were Cazenovia alumni. While we were students, we introduced several of our family members to our Caz friends, and some of them ended up getting married.”

Giving back to the institution was important to Johnson while she was a student, and she loves the fact that current students are able to benefit from things she and other alumni worked to improve. “Their experiences will be even better than mine, and I hope they will continue the chain.”
“Caz was My Compass”

Successful attorney William Heitz ’85 credits his alma mater for contributing towards the person he has become.

“Attending Cazenovia College was instrumental in making me the person I am today,” shares Bill Heitz ’85, “Caz was my compass; the experiences helped me realize I had the potential to do whatever I wanted with my life.”

A principal attorney at Heitz Law Firm in Victor, New York, Heitz has enjoyed a rewarding career in law enforcement and the courts. Following his graduation from Caz with an associate’s degree in management, Heitz continued his studies at St. John Fisher College. While attending Cazenovia College, Heitz worked as a police officer in the evening, and served summer internships as a law clerk with the Monroe County District Attorney’s Office and the United States Attorney’s Office.

During his last year of law school, Heitz unexpectedly met Lenore again while visiting Rochester and the rest was history. They married in 1994 and moved to Boca Raton, Florida. Shortly after Heitz passed the Florida Bar Exam, he was appointed to serve as an Assistant State Attorney for Palm Beach County, and prosecuted an average of 350 cases at any given time. He handled numerous bench and jury trials, served as a Division Chief and enjoyed a successful career with the Office.

Following the birth of his two children, Shae and Spencer, Heitz and Lenore decided to return to New York to be closer to family, and he continued the work of the firm, which has primarily focused on corporate transactions, commercial litigation and commercial real estate. He also currently serves as General Counsel for The DiMarco Group, a full-service real estate management, development and construction company based out of Rochester, New York.

Heitz is active in the community, serving as a member of a number of professional associations. He formerly served as State Chairman for Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD); is an adjunct professor of Business Law at St. John Fisher College; and is on the Board of Directors of his local Chamber of Commerce.

Aside from the birth of his children, Heitz doesn’t hesitate when asked about his most significant accomplishment. “Being admitted to the bar and sworn into the U.S. Supreme Court by Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist – that’s it,” he proudly answers. “It doesn’t get much better than being permitted to practice in the highest court in the nation.”

His bond with Cazenovia remains strong. He recalls that as a law student he would drive out to campus to study in the Winthrop Library. “Being in a familiar place made me feel comfortable and it was easy to study there; Caz has always felt like home.”

Today Heitz finds himself offering advice to the younger generation. “I tell them what I learned at Caz – work hard and take advantage of every opportunity given to you. Respect yourself enough to be the very best person you can be.”

“Cazenovia College was instrumental in making me the person I am today. I look forward to maintaining my connection to campus in 1990, and when I saw the sculpture, I immediately thought of a way I could show my respects,” said Heitz, who made a donation to the College for upkeep to the sculpture and the surrounding garden. “Ma was a very special person; she took the first year male students under her wing. We all had a high level of respect for her and she was always available for us. I am thankful for having known her. I will continue to make donations for upkeep of the garden and hope that it will remind others what a beautiful person she was.”

For information on making gifts in honor or in memory of a classmate, professor or a loved one, please contact Joan Brooks at 315.655.7352 or gbrooks@cazenovia.edu.

In Memory of:

- Albert J. Budney
- Laura D. Croucher, Class of 2011
- William Eberhardt
- Margaret Cronk Smith ’36
- George Burnett ’40
- James Hall Punte ’42
- MaryLou Hanson Quay ’48
- Jaymes Wittman Greineder ’50
- Barbara Wemple Anna ’52
- Katherine Hallenbeck Hohle ’59
- Carol Jordan Humphry ’64
- Deborah Young ’64
- Pamela Rosenfield Levin ’65
- Dawn Valenti ’67
- Carolyn Barrett ’69
- Mary Churchill ’74
- Robin Tressler ’76
- Karen Spencer McFadden ’78
- Anthony Mirabelli Jr. ’80
- Dale Rickard ’86
- Kristie Rubino ’90
- Richard Lindsay ’01
- Joan Austin

For information on making gifts in honor or in memory of a classmate, professor or a loved one, please contact Joan Brooks at 315.655.7352 or gbrooks@cazenovia.edu.

In Honor of:

- Joan Austin
- Eleanor E. Howard
- Pamela Rosenfield Levin ’65

Cazenovia College has received gifts from alumni and friends:

- Eleanore E. Howard
- Antoine Bradberry ’90
- Dawn Valenti ’67
- Carol Jordan Humphry ’64
- Deborah Young ’64
- Karen Spencer McFadden ’78
- Kristie Rubino ’90
- Richard Lindsay ’01
- Joan Austin

In fond Memory

Cazenovia College notes the deaths of the following alumni and friends:
Family Ties

Robert Lee August returns to Cazenovia as a member of the Board of Trustees for Roberta Lee August ’58, joining the Cazenovia College Board of Trustees in 2008 after being like going home. “Cazenovia is much like my hometown in Connecticut,” she says. “I loved the town and the campus when I visited, and the College was most gracious in providing a scholarship: then called a workship, which made it possible for me to attend.”

In addition to activities on campus, August was involved with St. Peter’s Episcopal Church and Sunday school. “I made long-lasting friendships at Cazenovia,” she says. “I remember especially Dean Frederic Wheelock, who taught English and Latin, and our music teacher, Gertrude Hart, who was always in chapel, and made sure her students were too. President Rhea Eckel and Dean Winsiford Coleman sparked my interest in leadership on both the college and community levels, especially with the structure of the College itself.”

August loves being a spokesperson for faculty members on the Faculty to Board Committee, and is also happy to be involved in the current capital campaign as a member of the Building and Grounds committee. “This is very important to me,” she says. “I’m proud of what we’ve done to date, and thankful for the participation of the people and organizations involved in supporting what we’re planning for the College’s future.”

Scholarships are also very important to August, since financial assistance made it possible for her to attend Cazenovia College. She encourages alumini to keep supporting scholarship funds. “Each institution has to grapple with costs, and factor in the type of students they want to attract. I want the College to continue doing well,” August says. “My hope is that our students will have the same great experiences here that I did, and that even if they go on to other institutions, they will always remember Caz.”

New Board of Trustee Officers Elected

As the October meeting of the board, Bradford G. Wheler, chair of the board of trustees, welcomed the new slate of officers.

Chair: Bradford G. Wheler
Vice Chair: Carolyn Charles Deacon ’66
Treasurer: Thomas J. Tartaglia
Secretary: Mary L. Cotee

TRUSTEE HIGHLIGHTS

Family Ties

Robert Lee August ’58 returns to Cazenovia as a member of the Board of Trustees for Roberta Lee August ’58, joining the Cazenovia College Board of Trustees in 2008 after being like going home. “Cazenovia is much like my hometown in Connecticut,” she says. “I loved the town and the campus when I visited, and the College was most gracious in providing a scholarship: then called a workship, which made it possible for me to attend.”

In addition to activities on campus, August was involved with St. Peter’s Episcopal Church and Sunday school. “I made long-lasting friendships at Cazenovia,” she says. “I remember especially Dean Frederic Wheelock, who taught English and Latin, and our music teacher, Gertrude Hart, who was always in chapel, and made sure her students were too. President Rhea Eckel and Dean Winsiford Coleman sparked my interest in leadership on both the college and community levels, especially with the structure of the College itself.”

August loves being a spokesperson for faculty members on the Faculty to Board Committee, and is also happy to be involved in the current capital campaign as a member of the Building and Grounds committee. “This is very important to me,” she says. “I’m proud of what we’ve done to date, and thankful for the participation of the people and organizations involved in supporting what we’re planning for the College’s future.”

Scholarships are also very important to August, since financial assistance made it possible for her to attend Cazenovia College. She encourages alumini to keep supporting scholarship funds. “Each institution has to grapple with costs, and factor in the type of students they want to attract. I want the College to continue doing well,” August says. “My hope is that our students will have the same great experiences here that I did, and that even if they go on to other institutions, they will always remember Caz.”

New Board of Trustee Officers Elected

As the October meeting of the board, Bradford G. Wheler, chair of the board of trustees, welcomed the new slate of officers.

Chair: Bradford G. Wheler
Vice Chair: Carolyn Charles Deacon ’66
Treasurer: Thomas J. Tartaglia
Secretary: Mary L. Cotee

For more information about The 1824 Society, please contact the Cazenovia College Development Office at 315.655.7369 or visit www.cazenovia.edu/1824society.
Hall of Fame Inductees Honored

Blue & Gold Dinner recognizes Class of 2011

Shawn Prievo '00 is a model of excellence and consistency for the Wildcats baseball program, exhibiting extraordinary leadership as the team captain in his final three seasons. Prievo was stellar at the plate for the Wildcats, with career totals of a .376 batting average, 102 runs scored, 135 hits, 34 doubles, 8 triples, 12 home runs and 86 RBI. He also dominated on the mound, collecting 10 career wins, 8 complete games and 127 strikeouts in addition to pitching a no-hitter in 2000. His outstanding play earned Prievo recognition as the team’s Most Valuable Player in 1998 and 1999, and the prestigious honor of being named the 2000 Cazenovia College Male Athlete of the Year.

Walter Plath ’35 was a jack of all trades for the Wildcats in the early 1930s. Plath lettered in four sports (football, track, basketball and baseball) during his time at Cazenovia. However, he was not limited to endeavors on the playing field, as he served as the president of the Student Council, and was a member of the Varsity Club, History Club, Latin Club, and the Lyceum Society.

Emily Nevil ’02 is one of, if not the most prolific pitcher in the rich history of the Wildcats softball program. She is the all-time leader in wins, saves, innings pitched and strikeouts. Nevil is also second all-time in games started, complete games and shutouts. Her coaches recognized her as team Most Valuable Player two times during her softball career.

To stay current with Wildcat athletics news, go to www.cazenovia.wildcats.com

Fall 2011 Season Review

Student-athletes complete another successful season

The fall 2011 season proved to be a successful one for Cazenovia College athletics. The women’s volleyball team set individual and team records. The men’s soccer team returned to post-season play, while the women’s soccer team narrowly missed the playoffs despite a late season resurgence. The cross country team finished second in the North Eastern Athletic Conference (NEAC) Championship.

Inductees Honored

Just two years removed from making the NCAA Championship Tournament, Head Coach Eric Bonnier led the 2011 men’s soccer program to another sensational season. The Wildcats finished the season with an overall record of 7-7-3, including an exceptional 6-1-3 mark in NEAC play. Their strong record secured an impressive number-two overall seed in the NEAC Championship Tournament. Several players were recognized as all-conference performers for Cazenovia, including Gregory Ducasse (Harrison, NY) who was voted onto the second team. Representing the Wildcats on the all-conference third team were senior Logan Spaulding (Copenhagen, NY), freshman Corey McNair (Greece, NY), and goal keeper Riley Battaglini (Endicott, NY).

On Saturday, November 12, the men’s and women’s basketball teams honored alumni by hosting alumni basketball games. The current women’s team faced off against the women’s alumni, and the current men’s team took on the men’s alumni. In between the games, the College honored its basketball alumni standouts by unveiling two “1,000 Points Scored” banners. View the complete list of 1,000-point scorers at www.cazenovia.wildcats.com

The 2011 women’s cross country team excelled on the course this year. Head Coach Erin Kelly, who leads the men’s and women’s programs, could not be more proud of both teams. The highlight of the women’s season was their second place finish at the NEAC Championships. The race also garnered individual honors for two runners. Kristen Nicole Ijals (Mahopac, NY) placed on the all-conference first team, while Kari Murray (Scituate, MA) earned a spot on the second team. Representing Cazenovia on the third team were Nastene Shehadeh (Syracuse, NY) and Amy Evans (LaFayette, NY).

1,000 Points Scored banners now on display

The 1,000-point scorers who attended the unveiling of the 1,000-point banners included (L-R) Jessica Heidt ’01, Michael Brooks ’01, Justin Stowers ’02, Stephen Harris ’09, Erik Sauer ’09, Eric Latendress ’08, and Colleen Clarke ’10.

The Athletics Department has been spearheading the creation and development of the new site with PrestoSports since early summer 2011. It was fitting to unveil the new look of the website on the eve of Homecoming/Family Weekend in late September. The new site, filled with action photos and statistics, is more interactive and dynamic, and specifically tailored to student-athletes, parents and alumni.

To stay up to date on all Wildcat news, visit the new site and sign up today to receive game recaps and interesting articles about Cazenovia athletic teams via text message or email. You can also follow the Wildcats on their official Facebook and Twitter pages.
ALUMNI EMPLOYEES

Working Where We Learned – Learning Where We Work

Alumni employees share a bond with their alma mater

Some came as students and stayed to work. Some came to work and studied at the same time. Over the years, many alumni employees have developed a special bond with Cazenovia College. At an autumn luncheon, some of the more than 30 current alumni employees celebrated their membership in this group while connecting and sharing experiences with their peers.

One benefit of working at Cazenovia College is the opportunity to take classes. A typical story is that of Sylvia Needel ’04, who started as an administrative assistant in the Campus Services Office and was eventually tapped for a position with the Communications Office. She earned a degree in liberal studies, primarily through evening classes. She says, “I was born to be a writer, and at Caz I achieved my dreams, both in the classroom and in my career.”

On the other end of the spectrum is Marlo Collette ’11, who earned a degree in English. Not sure of her next step, she applied for an opening in the Admissions Office and was hired as an assistant director. She says, “I see my job as a way of paying forward what Cazenovia has meant to me and making that experience a possibility for prospective students.”

There are some who graduated, found jobs, and then returned. Peter Way ’03 was working in Boston when he was invited to coach the College’s baseball team. “I was excited about the opportunity to help current students, and show future students that Cazenovia is a great option for a lot of different people,” he says. Today, Way is doing just that through his dual role as head baseball coach and director of the Annual Fund, recruiting and coaching student-athletes and raising funds to assure that every Cazenovia student gets the best educational possible.

Joanne “Betty” Priest Putney ’53 and Sheila Smith Marsh ’71, are two Junior College graduates who share similar paths. Putney married, had children, and then returned to Cazenovia, holding a number of positions over five decades. After retiring briefly, she returned part-time to her position as executive assistant to the chief financial officer. Marsh learned about an open position through a Caz faculty member and, over the past two decades, has served as director of alumni affairs and director of the Higher Education Opportunity Program. She says, “The most valuable part of my work is that I can help students who are at risk to achieve a college education.”

“Alumni employees know both the academic and operational aspects of Cazenovia College,” says President Mark Tierno. “Our students form close ties with the College, ties that last for many years. I’m proud that so many graduates have found their futures right here at their alma mater.”

Established by friends and family, this scholarship is awarded to junior or senior students who have demonstrated successful academic performance, are enrolled in one of the College’s education programs, and will honor Lynn’s memory by demonstrating a passion for teaching young children.

Endowed scholarships are a wonderful way for alumni and friends to support Cazenovia College. We are fortunate that close to 100 endowed scholarships—created by generous alumni, employees and friends—are awarded to deserving students each year. Endowed scholarships allow more students to experience a Cazenovia College education. That’s what “Building Futures” is all about.
JUNE 8-10

Join fellow alumni and friends for an exciting weekend back on campus. Plans are underway to make Reunion 2012 the best yet, and we hope you will be part of the fun.

What happens at Caz, stays with you!

For more information, a weekend itinerary and the ever growing list of “Who’s Coming,” please visit www.cazenovia.edu/reunion or contact Shari Whitaker, director of alumni relations, at 315.655.7332 or swhitaker@cazenovia.edu.