

**United States Senate Youth
Alumni Association**
Post Office Box 1779
Washington, D.C. 20013-1779
(www.ussyaa.org)

December 15, 2000

Dear Senate Youth Alumnus,

Welcome to the inaugural issue of the United States Senate Youth Alumni Association newsletter! With the love and support of Mrs. George Randolph "Mom" Hearst, Sr., a group of alums began the process of forming an association in March 1999. The articles of incorporation were approved on September 29, 2000, and the process of obtaining 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status is almost complete. The board of directors welcomes and encourages your participation in USSYAA.

As you may know, Mom Hearst passed away peacefully in her Palm Springs, California, home on October 22, 1999. Alums will sorely miss her, especially those who maintained contact with her over the years. A number of alums experienced the privilege of visiting Mom Hearst in her Palm Springs home. The obituary in *The Desert Sun* newspaper described her as "den mother to the nation's youth" because of her commitment to the U.S. Senate Youth Program.

During the final years of her life, Mom Hearst championed the formation of a Senate Youth alumni association. She wanted the assurance that alums would continue her legacy of support for and camaraderie among USSYP delegates. After almost two years of planning and filing legal documents, the USSYAA board of directors is proud to announce the fulfillment of Mom Hearst's dream. However, the board must have your help to continue her legacy.

The lines of communication are open. You noted the alumni association's address above. ***Please continue to communicate with alums through the alumni association just as you did through Mom Hearst.*** Address your letters to "Dear Senate Youth Alums." ***We want to hear from you!*** Send us information about your family, your community service, your job—whatever you want to share with fellow alums. We will include as much information as possible in future newsletters. For the time being, the alumni association will continue to produce an annual holiday newsletter. A web site is under construction (www.ussyaa.org). The board is discussing ways to use technology to facilitate communication in the immediate future. Visit the web site for updates and information.

The board of directors crafted the alumni association's mission statement specifically to continue Mom Hearst's work. The USSYAA has three basic purposes:

1. Building and maintaining avenues of communication among program alumni;
2. Providing financial assistance for professional educational needs of program alumni;
and
3. Supporting the William Randolph Hearst Foundation's United States Senate Youth Program when called upon to do so by program officials.

At the association's annual meeting in March 2000, eighteen former delegates from around the country met at the Washington, D.C., law firm of Williams & Connolly. Among other business,

the alumni elected the first slate of officers, who will serve two-year terms. The ten charter board members are listed at the conclusion of this letter. James T. Molloy, close friend of the Senate Youth Program and last doorkeeper of the U.S. House of Representatives (1974-1994), serves as executive director of the alumni association. Gladys S. Hundley, Mom Hearst's dear friend and personal assistant for 32 years, serves in an advisory capacity. The board is extremely grateful to these two individuals for their ongoing interest in Senate Youth alumni.

One of the most important ways in which you can participate in USSYAA is by attending the annual membership meeting in Washington, D.C. As the presidential election has reminded us, every vote counts. Each Senate Youth alumnus who attends the annual membership meeting has a vote. The board encourages your attendance and participation as USSYAA takes shape.

If you haven't returned for hospitality day at the Senate Youth Program, consider reacquainting yourself with the nation's capital and your fellow alums. On August 29, 2000, Rita Almon, program director for the U.S. Senate Youth Program, mailed a letter and alumni edition of the 2000 yearbook to alums for whom she had active addresses. (If you haven't done so already, be sure to register on the alumni contact page of the USSYP web site. This is the official web site of the USSYP. The address is www.ussenateyouth.org.) Rita invited alums to greet the new kids on hospitality day, Saturday, March 3, 2001 between noon and 8:00 p.m. in the Colonial Room of the Renaissance Mayflower Hotel, 1127 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., in Washington, D.C. Anyone who plans to participate should contact Rita per her letter.

In order to encourage alumni participation on hospitality day, the USSYAA board of directors has scheduled the annual membership meeting for Saturday, March 3, 2001, 9:30 a.m. – 12:00 noon at the law offices of Williams & Connolly, 725 Twelfth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. (If you are taking the Metro, the stop is Metro Center station. Use the 12th and G streets escalator.) After the membership meeting, alums are encouraged to join in welcoming the new kids during hospitality day at the Mayflower Hotel.

Bob Middleton, USSYAA's second vice president, serves as an administrative law judge in Washington, D.C. Over the next few weeks, he will be planning the annual membership dinner, scheduled for Friday, March 2. In order to complete his plans, Bob needs a count of attendees. The time and location will be sent to each respondent and posted on the USSYAA web site (address listed above). The board anticipates a very special guest speaker. Please join us for this meaningful occasion. We must have your reply by January 15.

Gladys Hundley continued to collect your letters as Mom Hearst's health declined. In keeping with Mom's desire for continued communication among alums, we have included summaries of letters mailed prior to her passing. Some of the information may be dated, so a parenthetical date is included at the conclusion of each. Thanks to USSYAA, we will continue to read about the accomplishments and experiences of fellow alums. Please enjoy these news bits presented in random order – just the way Mom Hearst would have prepared her holiday letter!

NEWS, ETC.

MELISSA MILLER (OH '88) reestablished contact with Mom Hearst after several years. In 1992, Melissa completed the master's in public policy at Harvard and then spent two years working as a political consultant/pollster in New York. At the time of her letter, she was completing her Ph.D. at Northwestern while teaching part-time at Muhlenberg College in Allentown, Pennsylvania (see also "Newly Weds"). (01/99)

TODD OSBECK (MI '79) completed his first year as an information analyst with Priority Health, a West Michigan HMO. Todd helps hospitals and physicians find ways to provide efficient and cost-effective quality healthcare. The company's mission is to provide affordable healthcare to all families in West Michigan. His wife, Paula, continues to sing with Opera Grand Rapids, where she serves as chorus coordinator. Along with other OGR chorus members, the couple dressed in Dickens-period costumes and sang at local holiday events. (12/98)

JENNIFER TABOLA (NV ' 84) wrote Mom Hearst from Quito, Ecuador, where she and her brand new husband (see also "Newly Weds") were serving as Peace Corps volunteers. Jennifer wrote, "The need for basic health education and access to affordable healthcare is immense." The couple started by giving health talks (*charlas*) on topics such as nutrition, hygiene, and family planning. They established a health program in a school with over 90 students, ages 6 – 12 years, and two teachers. Rural school lasted four hours, with one hour being recess. Jennifer and her husband were investigating community garden/nutrition projects, small business projects, volunteer service projects, and possibly a low-income housing program. (02/99)

TARUN CHHABRA (LA ' 98) is enrolled at Stanford University. In June 1998, she studied Afro-Cuban religions and Cuban literature in Havana. Tarun witnessed first hand the effects of the U.S. embargo on Cuba. She planned to intern at the Cuban Affairs desk of the State Department's Bureau of Inter-American Affairs during summer 1999. For internship application information, Tarun contacted the State Department recruitment officer who provided tours of the diplomatic reception rooms during the Senate Youth Program! (10/98)

JOHN BICKERS (KY '81) and his family (see "Our Babies") moved to Charlottesville, Virginia, where he participated in a year-long course at the Judge Advocate General's School. Upon completion of the course, John was assigned as officer-in-charge of the legal office in Darmstadt, Germany. (12/98)

MELANIE O'QUINN (LA '93) is employed as an engineer with Exxon Pipeline in Houston, Texas. In September 1998, she traveled to Hawaii, where she met Jamie Conway, who served as Melanie's military escort during the '93 USSYP. Shortly after the visit, Jamie moved to Korea for her latest military assignment. (date unknown)

KELLI A. WALTON (MI '77) wrote Mom Hearst in July 1996. Her letter was misplaced, which Mom acknowledged in a letter to Kelli. Earlier, Kelli worked as a metallurgical engineer for the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program. Beginning in 1989, however, Kelli took a different path: teaching. She has taught math at Washborne Middle School in Winnetka, Illinois. (07/96)

JIM BROWN (MN '86) and his family reside in Woodbury, Minnesota. He supervises the custom products group for Colder Products Company. Jim wrote, "I enjoy it because I deal with customers daily, use my technical background, and have the opportunity to be involved in all aspects of the business. . . . We've been growing rapidly and our group has generated much of the growth. It's fun to work with that kind of group." In summer 1999, Jim and his wife, Sara, enjoyed two weeks in the British Isles and Paris. They particularly enjoyed the midnight walks along the Seine River. (12/99)

LEIGH KIRKPATRICK PROM (MT '80) has seen a good bit of the good ol' USA in recent years. Since 1995, the Prom family has celebrated Christmas from their home in Washington state, on the Canadian border in International Falls, Minnesota, and now near Roanoke, Virginia. Leigh wrote, "As we travel down the path God leads us, we can't help but think how many twists

and turns He has led us through. To coin a car commercial ad, 'Life's a journey, so enjoy the ride.'" Leigh loves the location of their present home a few miles below the Blue Ridge Parkway in Virginia. She keeps busy home schooling her four children. (12/98)

ANN CAMPBELL FLANNERY (KS '75) left the U.S. Attorney's office after ten years to spend more time with her kids. She serves as an adjunct professor at Temple Law School. Teaching at Temple gives Ann "another basketball team to cheer for when Duke or St. Joe's is not involved." Ann and her mother traveled to London and Paris while her husband enjoyed a much-deserved golf outing in Ireland. (12/98)

LISA NAAKTGEBOREN (MN '85) and her two daughters are doing very well . . . busy with work, daycare, church, etc. Lisa is an employment services executive with Twin Cities Rise!, a non-profit that assists adults from minority populations with skills training, career development, and job placement. (12/98)

MICHAEL GIBBS (MI '91) completed his master of science in management of public service at DePaul University in 1997. He serves as special assistant to the president of DePaul, assisting with numerous aspects of university administration along with serving as the president's liaison to several external boards and nonprofit organizations. Michael commented, "The opportunity to assist in shaping the future direction of our nation's largest Catholic college/university and interact with so many talented students is very rewarding." He added, "I always keep my eyes open for Senate Youth alumni." As a university employee, Michael anticipated pursuing DePaul's master of arts in communications on a part-time basis. (01/99)

SUSAN SNEDIKER NEWMAN (OH '79) is employed as secretary general of FIABCI-USA, the International Real Estate Federation's American chapter. Susan expressed great satisfaction in the progress made by her organization, especially with only two people on staff. She was concluding her tenure as PTA president and looking forward to spending more time in the kids' classrooms as a volunteer once a month. The newest addition to the Newman family is Dusty, a Lhasa Apso. (01/98)

JEAN DELANEY NELSON (MN '76) was promoted to vice president, information services, at Minnesota Life, formerly Minnesota Mutual. She and her husband work with HOPE, Helping Oncology Parents with Encouragement at a nearby hospital. (12/98)

KRIS ZEY EMMITT (NJ '66), like most pre-1968 alums, has passed the big "5" "0" mark in life. She has remained committed to her golf game, winning a few prizes along the way, including a second place finish in a parent/child tournament. Her creations from the sewing room continue to be legendary, including some special editions of Raggedy Ann and Andy. Kris, along with her husband and bearded collie, Reilly, participated in their first Crop Walk to raise money for the hungry. Reilly raised over \$300 of his own with sponsors of the four-legged variety. The family enjoyed Thanksgiving 1998 in Spain. (12/98)

D. J. MORROW (KS '74) is a lobbyist with Sunoco. In June 1998, her duties were expanded to include and focus on state government relations for the company in Oklahoma, Texas, Louisiana, and New Mexico. D. J. spends about 70 percent of her time traveling. In April 1999, however, she did stop long enough to get married (see "Newly Weds"). (12/98)

KATHY LESTER (IN '89) had a fabulous year clerking for a federal judge in the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals. Kathy enthused, "It is challenging but incredibly rewarding work. I can't believe they pay me to do this job. It is only a one-year appointment, so I need to figure out

what I am doing once it ends next fall. It will be difficult to find a position that lives up to this one!" (12/98)

FRED GRINDLE (TX '73) is employed as teacher and coach at Ryan High School in Denton, Texas. He proudly reported that his son was selected as a scholar of the month and earned a varsity letter in football. Like father, like son. (12/98)

LILLIAN de VALCOURT (LA '91) earned the master of international affairs at Georgetown School of Foreign Service in May 1998. After graduating, she worked as assistant to the education attaché for the Embassy of Japan. At the time of her letter, Lillian was preparing to enter the U.S. Foreign Service as junior officer for public diplomacy. (12/98)

MICHELLE ONDAKO CONNELL (PA '91), like Lillian above, was part of the USSYP group that did not travel to Washington, D.C., because of the Gulf War. In December 1998, Mrs. Ondako, Michelle's mother, wrote these words to Mom Hearst: *Each year I read your correspondence to the 'children' of the Senate Youth and then I mail it along to my daughter, Michele Ondako Connell (PA '91) and I wish so much that she could have met you. You sound so warm, so intelligent, and so sincere! Unfortunately, hers was the class that did not get to go to Washington because of the Gulf War, and it sounds as though they really missed out on a tremendous community of U.S. students, all of whom are so well represented, according to your letter. Well, I'll mail this letter to Warsaw, Poland, where my daughter is a Foreign Service officer for the U.S. State Department. I wish you the best of holidays and hope some day to meet you.* (12/98)

TRASA ROBERTSON COBERN (DODDS '93) graduated from Texas A&M University in December 1997 with University and Foundation honors. She was accepted to law school but deferred for a year (see "New Babies"). Trasa planned to enter Southern Methodist University Law School in fall 1999, with a prestigious scholarship. (12/98)

ROBERT PIPKIN (CA '94) graduated from the University of California, Berkeley, with honors. He took two degrees, a B.S. in business administration and a B.A. in political science. Robert deferred his job with KPMG's San Francisco Consulting Group in order to work for the Lungren for Governor campaign. He wrote, "I learned more about politics in four months on the campaign trail than I did in four years in school." At the conclusion of the campaign, Robert began working with a KPMG division that focuses exclusively on consulting for telecommunications companies such as Pacific Bell, AT&T, and MCI. Not surprisingly, Robert plans to pursue a graduate degree at some point in time, perhaps law or business, or both. (12/98)

SUBODH CHANDRA (OK '85) left Thompson Hine & Flory LLP in Cleveland, Ohio, to join the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Ohio as a federal prosecutor. Subodh's 1997 wedding turned into a mini-Senate Youth reunion (see "Newly Weds"). (04/99)

RACHEL A. VIELLEUX (MN '67) fulfilled a 25-year wish: she participated in Montana's annual winter Audubon bird count. A seemingly simple project proved to be a bit harrowing. Rachel explained, "Tromping around a river bottom in zero degree weather with an unknown but certain chill factor tends to remove one's enthusiasm for counting birds! However, there were lots of birds to count, and I decided, if those little balls of fluff could endure, so could I." Having survived the bird count, Rachel ran unopposed for another term in the Montana legislature. Montana's legislature meets every other year, and then for only 90 days. Rachel adds, "Sometimes that is too long! This year, many of the legislators are hitting their term limits so

they will be introducing all those bills that were their 'pet projects' when they were first elected." Rachel, we hope you survived the Montana legislature as well! (12/98)

AMY WHITMIRE (GA '94) graduated from Davidson College in North Carolina with a major in history and a minor in Spanish. Having studied piano for 16 years, Amy decided to defer her acceptance to the Medical College of Georgia for one year. She was accepted to the master's program in piano performance at the University of Georgia. Amy was pleasantly surprised to discover fellow USSYP delegate **PHILLIP SHOULTZ (GA '94)** pursuing a master's in choral conducting at UGA. (12/98)

MARY CONYERS MURRAY (NE '77) continues to enjoy her work as a middle school teacher. In fact, Mary had the opportunity to open a new school in fall 1998. In addition to her regular class load, she teaches and coordinates a program called AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination). The program assists students in the middle by giving them skills and support necessary to attend a four-year college or university. Many of the students will be the first in their families to attend college. Mary hopes to establish a scholarship fund for the students so that several will have funds set aside for college when they leave middle school. (12/98)

JOHN S. ZAKHEM (DODDS '89) attended the School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University, where he graduated *cum laude* in 1993. Thereafter, he returned home to Colorado and earned the juris doctorate from the University of Denver, College of Law. After graduation, John decided that the big law firm atmosphere was not appealing, so he formed a law firm with another attorney, Doyle & Zakhem L.L.C., Attorneys at Law. The partners are enjoying much success and striving for excellence on behalf of their clients. John has been heavily involved in Colorado politics. He managed two state-wide political campaigns and one congressional campaign in the '90s. John serves as chairman of the Colorado State Republican Party Speakers' Bureau. In that capacity, he directs the outreach and recruiting program for the state party. John enjoys visiting area high schools, along with his Democratic counterpart, to make presentations on the importance of civic involvement and voting to Colorado's future leaders. (12/98)

JOHN PROBASCO (NM '98) competed in the Southwestern New Mexico Science and Engineering Fair where he was awarded first prize overall and the opportunity to exhibit his experiment at the International Science and Engineering Fair in Fort Worth, Texas. At the international fair, John competed in the zoology category and was awarded third prize in the category and an internship at the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center in Lubbock. A week after high school graduation, he traveled to Washington, D.C., for an internship in the National Institute of Neurological Disorder and Stroke at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Maryland. As a result of his work, John was awarded the Exceptional Summer Student Award from the institute, the only non-undergraduate to receive the distinction. He completed his first semester at the University of New Mexico with enough credits to be considered a sophomore. John is pursuing a B.S. in biochemistry and a B.S. in political science. During the spring 1999 semester, he conducted cancer research in the UNM Medical School Cancer Center and ran for election to the university senate. (01/99)

CAMILLA REESE SABERHAGEN (MD '84) completed an infectious diseases fellowship in 1997 and took a position in private practice in a suburb of Kansas City, practicing both infectious diseases and general medicine. Her husband completed his internal medicine/pediatrics residency in July 1999. The couple took positions in Billings, Montana, with a large multi-specialty clinic. Camilla was looking forward to the move and the return to a more outdoor lifestyle. (12/98)

ROD D. MARTIN (AR '88) won a number of scholarships after the 1988 USSYP, including a Sturgis Fellowship at the University of Arkansas, an award which allowed him to complete his education at Cambridge University. At Cambridge, he studied eighteenth century political economy, with a focus on the drafting and ratification of the U.S. Constitution. A number of Ivy League law schools accepted Rod; however, he chose to attend Baylor Law School, one of the premiere trial law schools in the country. He served as president of the law school's student body. Today, Rod is an attorney in Little Rock, in addition to his duties with the Eagle Forum. He worked his way up the ranks of the Arkansas Republican Party, having served as state chairman of the Arkansas Youth for Bush (George H. W.), state chairman of College Republicans in America, and vice chairman of the state party platform committee. Arkansas Governor Mike Huckabee appointed Rod as director of policy planning and research, a position he held until November 1998. Rod is now executive director of Eagle Forum of Arkansas, the pre-eminent conservative group in the state. Rod indicated that he was a likely candidate for the U.S. House of Representatives in the year 2000. Rod, we look forward to an update! (See also "Newly Weds") (01/99)

LT. SEAN D. GASS, USN (AZ '89) graduated from the Cornell University ROTC program with a bachelor's in political science and economics. His program included a year in Paris. Sean recently served as nuclear engineering officer lead instructor at the Pacific Naval Submarine Training Center, Pearl Harbor. (date unknown)

ROBERT McDONALD (CT '88) completed the B.A. at the University of Virginia, M.A. at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, a second master's at Oxford, and the Ph.D. at UNC-CH. He secured a job as a civilian assistant professor in the West Point history department. He learned from one of Mom Hearst's letters that **CPT CHARLES HARTFORD (CA '85)** would be joining him in the American history division. Robert's position is a permanent one, where he plans to continue writing and teaching for as long as possible. At the time of his letter, Robert was revising and expanding his dissertation for publication as a book. The tentative title was *Thomas Jefferson: The Life of an Image, 1776-1826*. The topic is the evolution of Jefferson's public reputation between the authorship of the Declaration of Independence and his death, fifty years later, on July 6, 1825. Some time earlier, Mom Hearst mailed Robert a copy of Jack McLaughlin's *To His Excellency, Thomas Jefferson: Letters to a President*, published by one of the Hearst presses. Robert described the helpful book as "dog-eared and heavily underlined." Robert had recently returned from a whirlwind journey to Guam, Australia, and Tokyo, where his good friend **CHARLES DUNCAN (GA '92)** works as a revenue management analyst in the Continental Airlines Japan office. In the two and a half years since his graduation from UNC-CH, Charles has received three promotions. Charles planned to live in Japan until summer 2000, when he planned to return to the U.S. to pursue an M.B.A. The two USSYP alums and friends snorkeled the Great Barrier Reef, dodged kangaroos on the gravel roads of Australia's outback, and stayed up until 6:30 a.m. on New Year's morning. (01/98)

SCOTT N. BOYLE (ID '95) turned down three full scholarships (Brigham Young, Utah State, and University of Utah) to attend a wonderful junior college in his hometown. Scott loved the small classes taught by capable and inspiring teachers. He graduated in two semesters in the top one percent of his class of 2500. A scholarship awaited him at Brigham Young. At the time of his letter, Scott was completing a two-year mission in London for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. (12/98)

ERIC JAMES AUFDENGARTEN (KS '93) graduated from Manhattan Christian College with a B.S. in Bible and Christian ministry and from Kansas State University with a B.S. in political science. (date unknown)

BONNIE K. SMITH (TN '93) taught two sections of introductory writing at the University of Tennessee while completing her M.A. in English. She wrote, "Teaching has been such an amazing experience – exactly the kind of social activism and civic responsibility I've been looking for in a career." Bonnie was applying to Ph.D. programs at the time of her letter. (12/98)

DAVE FOREMAN (WY '74) is employed with A.G. Edwards in Cheyenne, Wyoming. His work evolved toward comprehensive financial, estate, and tax planning. During summer 1998, Dave rafted the chilly clear waters of the Colorado Mountains in the Poudre, Arkansas, Eagle, and Roaring Fork rivers. A highlight of the summer was rafting the Colorado River's Gore Canyon, which is the river's most notorious stretch of white water. Dave commented, "For years I have yearned to run this famous stretch of the white water; I am glad to have done it – once." In November 1998, he took a three-week trip to New Zealand, where he enjoyed class IV river rafting, mountain biking, fly fishing, jet boating, para-gliding, and heli-hiking on the glaciers. Dave even mustered the nerve to bungee jump at the site of the world's first bungee jump, Kawarau River Bridge southeast of Queenstown, New Zealand. His three-acre prairie hacienda in Cheyenne is home to generations of rabbits, some stray antelope, and a few sharp-tailed grouse. Anyone else want to hang out with Dave? (12/98)

KENT KNUTSON (ND '85) and **KAREN YETKA KNUTSON (AK '85)**, our very own Senate Youth husband and wife team, have been active on Capitol Hill. Karen works for Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison and manages the senator's energy and appropriations issues. You may have seen Karen's handiwork on NBC's "Fleecing of America" for her efforts to save struggling stripper oil well owners millions of dollars in royalties the government was wrongly trying to collect. In October 1998, Microsoft hired Kent away from Clark & Weinstock. He is responsible for Microsoft's lobbying efforts in the U.S. Senate. Kent wrote, "The company is at the forefront of technology in the world; the pace of innovation and new products is incredible. It's like drinking out of a fire hose every day. With the government suing Microsoft (wrongly!), things are especially busy." Yes, Karen and Kent have spent time with Bill Gates. (12/98)

MAJOR BRETT MORRIS (ID '77, ESCORT OFFICER '92) attended the Air Force Air Command and Staff College. He spent much of the school day in "seminar" with 12 other officers, including an Army engineer, Navy administrative officer, and a New Zealand C-130 pilot. Brett described his colleagues as "probably one of the most positive groups of folks with which I've ever gotten to work." He also was involved in an Officer's Christian Fellowship group that conducted a great deal of outreach. (12/99)

OUR "NEWLY WEDS"

MELISSA MILLER (OH '88) married Neil Englehart, whom she met in graduate school at Northwestern. The couple resides in Easton, Pennsylvania, where Neil teaches political science at Lafayette College. (01/99)

JENNIFER TABOLA (NV '84) wed Ted Adams in July 1998 under somewhat unusual circumstances. The couple staged a three-day nuptial gathering eight days before leaving the country for two years as Peace Corps volunteers. A day after the wedding, Jennifer and Ted ventured from Minnesota to rugged Idaho for some honeymoon blitz . . . or was it bliss? Upon

their return, they packed their bags in 24-hours and flew to Ecuador with 40 other Peace Corps aspirants on July 28, 1998. The couple convinced themselves that the Peace Corps could be viewed as a unique two-year honeymoon of sorts. They soon realized the first three months of training would be short on romance and long on endurance. No later than 36 hours after their descent into the highest capital city in South America, Jennifer and Ted tested for Spanish placement, offered their arms up for the first batch of seven vaccinations, sat wide-eyed and nervous through several hours of emergency safety information, felt the tremors of a major earthquake that hit the coast of Ecuador, and were unceremoniously dumped off at their host family's casa. And who says romance is dead? Now that two years have passed, we look forward to learning more about Jennifer and Ted's newly wed adventure in Ecuador. (02/99)

D. J. MORROW (KS '74) married Dr. Carl Ingram, a doctor/lawyer, on April 3, 1999, in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Like D. J., Carl enjoys travel. Prior to saying "I do," they visited Carlsbad Caverns, Boston, Niagara Falls, Gatlinburg, Las Vegas, and Jackson Hole. (12/98)

SUBODH CHANDRA (OK '85) wed Meena Morey (now Chandra) on September 13, 1997, in Cleveland Heights, Ohio. Subodh experienced a mini-Senate Youth reunion. The guest list included **MICHAEL BUCKLEY (MA '85)** and **FATHER LEO KOSCH (NE '85)**. (04/99)

OUR BABIES

DR. KELLY SKELLY KUEHN (IA '84) and her husband, Dave, gave their daughter, Molly, a sister. Jennifer Ann was born on October 16, 1997. Molly dubbed her sister "heavy baby." Prior to the birth, Kelly traveled to Disney World under the influence of morning sickness. She commented, "I know everyone is nauseated after riding *It's a Small World*, but no one should be sick visiting *Cinderella's Castle*—it doesn't even move." After an extended maternity leave, Kelly returned to doctoring without missing a beat. Dave was keeping busy in radiology. (01/98)

MICHAEL GONZALES (NM '73) and his wife, Christine, welcomed Gabrielle Angelique on November 29, 1998, at 5:14 a.m. She weighed 7 lbs., 8 oz., and was 19 ¾ inches long. (date unknown)

KELA LYONS FEE (KY '83) and her husband, Kirk, welcomed their first child, James Alexander (Alex), on December 16, 1998. Alex was 4 ½ weeks early but weighed in at 7 lbs., 4 ½ oz., and was 22 inches long. Kela wrote, "I expected a big baby but not before Christmas. He's doing great, and I feel terrific. I'm taking eight weeks off from my OG/GYN practice and my expectant patients seem to be thrilled that their doctor has experienced labor! They think I'll be much more generous with the anesthetic!" Kela's husband was in his second year of practice in orthopaedic surgery. Thrilled to be out of residency, the couple was enjoying their new home in Bowling Green. Kela planned to become involved with teenage pregnancy prevention and smoking cessation programs. (01/99)

JOHN BICKERS (KY '81) and his wife, Jill, gave their son, Brian, a special gift in 1998. The family welcomed a baby girl, Claire. (12/98)

JOHN VOGT (TN '77) and his wife, Lisa, became parents in October 1998. They are the proud parents of twins, Jack and Allison. Thanks to fellow alum **MARY CONYERS MURRAY (NE '77)** for the announcement. (12/98)

We hope you have enjoyed reading about the experiences of your fellow alums. Obviously, we come from all walks of life, but the one special bond we hold dear is our shared memories of the United States Senate Youth Program. The letters to Mom Hearst clearly convey the profound effect of that one-week experience on our lives.

Please help us continue the special tradition of Mom Hearst's annual holiday letter. You may contribute news in one of two ways, either by writing to the address above or by e-mailing the director of communications, Randy Brantley, at brantr@chowan.edu. In addition to news, Randy would appreciate any contact information you are willing to provide (permanent address, e-mail address, phone numbers, FAX number, etc.).

Also, we strongly encourage you to join your fellow alums in Washington, D.C., on March 2-3, 2001, for the USSYAA alumni dinner and annual meeting. The past two dinners have provided a special opportunity for reminiscing and networking. Once the place, time, and cost for the dinner are set, the director of communications will notify you by letter or e-mail. After the board meeting on Saturday, March 3, we will travel to the Mayflower Hotel to help welcome the USSYP class of 2001! As indicated above, Bob Middleton must have a count for dinner. Please return the enclosed reply form by January 15, 2001.

All of us on the USSYAA Board of Directors wish you and yours happy holidays and a peaceful and prosperous 2001. We look forward to hearing from you!

John S. Blakley, **President**, MI '76 (john_blakley@msdw.com)

Wendy Jo Pond Peterson, **First Vice President**, WA '78 (edgardog@completebbs.com)

Robert R. Middleton, **Second Vice President**, D.C. '66 (bossbob2@hotmail.com)

Scott Shapiro, **Treasurer**, WA '88 (sshapiro99@alumni.gsb.columbia.edu)

Christine Drager, **Secretary**, AL '88 (christine_drager@appro.senate.gov)

Craig W. Hulvey, **Parliamentarian**, ID '68 (craigh@mnsinc.com)

Michael S. Sundermeyer, **Liaison Officer**, MO '69 (msundermeyer@wc.com)

Nathan J. A. Humphrey, **Director of Alumni Programs**, CA '90

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