

**United States Senate Youth
Alumni Association**
Post Office Box 1798
Washington, D.C. 20013-1798
www.ussyaa.org

December 1, 2001

Dear Senate Youth Alumnus,

The board of directors is pleased to present the second annual USSYAA holiday newsletter. Continuing the tradition of the late Mrs. George Randolph "Mom" Hearst, Sr., the board seeks to sustain camaraderie among past participants of the U.S. Senate Youth Program. As you will discover in the pages that follow, our young organization is gaining momentum rapidly. In three short years, the alumni association has established an event-filled weekend to coincide with the start of the U.S. Senate Youth Program. This year, Mr. Tom Eastham, western director of The William Randolph Hearst Foundations, has invited alumni to staff "mentoring tables" on "Hospitality Day" at the program. **Mike Sundermeyer (MO '69)**, USSYAA's liaison officer with the Hearst foundations, is coordinating the effort. The board particularly is pleased to announce the establishment of the *Rosalie Wynn and George Randolph Hearst, Sr., Alumni Scholarship*. **Nathan Humphrey (CA '90)**, USSYAA's director of alumni programs, chairs the scholarship selection committee. Information on applying for and contributing to the scholarship is included below.

Many thanks to all who provided updates on their professional, educational, and personal activities. The board encourages alumni to send news to USSYAA's director of communications, **Randy Brantley (NC '81)**, at rlbrantl@email.uncc.edu. You also may choose to send a letter to the address above. Please note the *new* post office box number in Washington, D.C. Thanks to **Dan Brown (MS '87)**, USSYAA's director of technology, you may update your contact information on the official web site, www.ussyaa.org, at any time.

09/11/01

As one might expect in this unique association, a number of alumni and friends of the Senate Youth Program were affected directly by the tragic events of September 11. **Karl Rove (UT '69)**, senior advisor to President George Bush, works daily on the frontlines of the fight against terrorism. Another frontline official is **Steve Rice (WY '85)**, who serves as the U.S. State Department's political-military officer in the Office of Israel and Palestinian Affairs. **Christine Drager (AK '88)**, counsel to the Senate Energy Committee, is displaced temporarily from her office located in the Hart Senate Building. **John Blakley's (MI '76)** office was located on the 59th floor of the World Trade Center, tower two. Thankfully, he was late for work that fateful morning. Read more about their experiences under "News, Etc."

Many alumni will recall two special friends of the program, Jim Molloy and Ann Thornburg. Jim served as doorkeeper of the U.S. House of Representatives for twenty years. Ann worked alongside Jim as administrative assistant. The two often arranged for Senate Youth delegates to experience the floor of the House. Jim retired in 1994. A native New Yorker, Jim was a personal friend of the priest and many of the firefighters who died attempting to save others in the World Trade Center. Ann went on to take a position on the personal staff of the secretary of the army. As she viewed the television special coverage of New York from her Pentagon office during the early hours of September 11, Ann suddenly heard and felt the explosion of yet another aircraft. She grabbed her purse and ran for her life, literally. Fortunately, Ann was not injured.

The date 09/11/01 is etched forever in our nation's collective memory. Taking time to grieve and remember is important. During this holiday season, especially, remember those affected by the tragedy. Also, remember leaders around the world who work for peace. Yes, we may disagree on the means, but the common end must be peace—however temporary, however fragile. As our own country moves forward, we must have faith in the resilience of the American people. Part of that resilience, indeed, is preparing young leaders for public service. May all of us who were fortunate to experience the U.S. Senate Youth Program do our parts to heal and strengthen our nation and our world.

ALUMNI WEEKEND 2002

Alumni weekend is scheduled for March 1-2, 2002. Each year, alumni weekend coincides with "Hospitality Day" at the U.S. Senate Youth Program. The weekend consists of a Friday night dinner, the annual membership meet on Saturday morning, and "Hospitality Day" at the Mayflower Hotel. Rita Almon, program director for the U.S. Senate Youth Program, graciously invites alumni to help welcome the 104 students who comprise the newest class of delegates. Meeting and greeting the young leaders truly is the highlight of alumni weekend.

Alumni Dinner

The alumni dinner is scheduled for Friday, March 1, 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m., at the stately home of Kay Weber on Capitol Hill. The address is 218 Maryland Avenue, N.E. The cost is \$ 40.00 per person, and ***advance payment is required by February 15, 2002.*** Use the enclosed reply form to make reservations.

Kay worked as a staff assistant in the office of Senator Thad Cochran of Mississippi for over twenty years. For at least ten of those years, Kay took vacation plus time off to work in the office of the Senate Youth Program. She worked behind the scenes scheduling public rooms, planning menus, arranging pomp and circumstance, and ordering flowers. She "retired" from the program four years ago.

Kay's residence is an 1878 brick Victorian home featuring classic high ceilings, stained glass windows, and working fireplaces. The house is exquisitely furnished with period antiques and oriental rugs. Alumni will be pleased to discover that several items from "Mom" Hearst's estate are displayed proudly on the property. Recently featured on the Capitol Hill House and Garden Tour, the home's large bay windows offer a close-up view of the U.S. Capitol and the Supreme Court. The private rear and side decks lead to a waterfall, fishpond, and vine trellised covered garden. ***Bob Middleton (D.C. '66)***, USSYAA second vice president, has outdone himself on the arrangements for this year's alumni dinner. Without question, this is one gathering you do not want to miss!

During the catered stand-up buffet dinner, the alumni association will present service awards to two special people, Millicent Hearst Boudjakdji and James T. Molloy. Mrs. Boudjakdji, a devoted supporter of the program, serves as president of the William Randolph Hearst Foundation. Mr. Molloy, a dear friend to both alumni and the late "Mom" Hearst, served as the last doorkeeper of the U.S. House of Representatives (1974-1994).

The Metro stop closest to Kay's residence is Union Station (Red Line). Exit the front of Union Station and proceed south on First Street, N.E., for three blocks. You will walk generally toward the Capitol. The Russell Senate Office Building will be on your right and the Dirksen Senate Office Building on your left. Turn left at the corner of Constitution Avenue and First Street, N.E., and walk along Constitution one block past the Hart Senate Office Building to Second Street, N.E., where Constitution Avenue turns into Maryland Avenue. Kay's home is the third building on the left. You will see a large memorial building on the corner, Veterans of Foreign Wars, which is the beginning of Maryland Avenue. The next building is the Presidential Arms, followed by 218 Maryland Avenue, N.E. The estimated walking time from Union Station is ten minutes.

Annual Membership Meeting

The USSYAA annual membership meeting is scheduled for Saturday, March 2, 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. ***There is no cost for attendance.*** Last year, the board of directors was heartened by the participation of a number of new, younger alumni. No matter what an alumnus's age or occupation, everyone is invited and encouraged to participate in shaping the future of our young organization. Please make plans to attend and actively participate in the business of USSYAA. Immediately following the membership meeting, we will proceed to the Mayflower Hotel for the highlight of the weekend.

Mentoring Tables for "Hospitality Day" at the U.S. Senate Youth Program

Next year's "Hospitality Day" at the U.S. Senate Youth Program—scheduled for Saturday, March 2—will offer a new and special opportunity for alumni. Mr. Tom Eastham, western director of The William Randolph Hearst Foundations, has invited interested alumni to staff mentoring tables. Alumni-volunteers will make themselves available to speak with the 2002 delegates concerning four broad career fields: government and law, education, medicine, and business. Alumni already are jumping at the opportunity to help, and more experts are needed! ***Mike Sundermeyer (MO '69)***, USSYAA's liaison officer with the Hearst foundations, is coordinating the effort. He is enlisting alumni of various ages to bring different perspectives to the discussions about educational preparation and career experiences. Mike tentatively plans to staff the tables in two shifts, one early in the afternoon and another during late afternoon. The exact schedule will be determined closer to the time of the event. ***If you can help with this very important project, please contact Mike at msundermeyer@wc.com.***

ALUMNI WEEKEND 2001

Since USSYAA was established in March 1999, attendance for alumni weekend in Washington, D.C., has grown considerably. The following is a partial listing of alumni who attended either the alumni dinner, annual membership meeting, and/or "Hospitality Day" at the U.S. Senate Youth Program during March 2-3, 2001.

Jonathan Lee Morton (AL '90)
 Craig W. Hulvey (ID '68)
 Dan Brown (MS '87)
 Robert R. Middleton (D.C. '66)
 Christine Drager (AK '88)
 Christopher Trott (FL '99)
 Sue Snediker-Newman (OH '75)
 Jen Tutak (FL '98)
 Jason B. Legg (KY '99)
 Connie Britner (MI '66)
 Scott Shapiro (WA '88)
 Margo Jackson (D.C. '70)
 James Cory Tull (DE '00)
 Jamie R. Harrison (SC '94)
 Elizabeth LeBlanc (LA '00)
 Mike Jackson (GA '00)
 Joshua Roberts (TN '00)

Norman L. Fortenberry (LA '79)
 Michael S. Sundermeyer (MO '69)
 David Zavadsky (WI '90)
 Chandini Margaret Bachman (AZ '70)
 Nathan J. A. Humphrey (CA '90)
 John Selmon Blakley, Sr. (MI '76)
 Sean Farrell (MA '96)
 Nathan Brunette (WI '99)
 Christian Weeks (NH '99)
 Thena Poteat (SC '84)
 C. Keith Ozaki (FL '80)
 Blaire Elizabeth Nuzum (WV '00)
 David Bruno (AZ '00)
 Eric J. S. Townsend (DE '97)
 Jennifer Gilmore (TX '00)
 Steven C. Rice (WY '85)
 Randy L. Brantley (NC '81)

During the annual membership meeting and at other times throughout the weekend, alumni were joined by Gladys S. Hundley, former personal assistant to "Mom" Hearst; James T. Molloy, last doorkeeper of the U.S. House of Representatives; and John Spisak, assistant treasurer of the Hearst foundations.

**ROSALIE WYNN AND GEORGE RANDOLPH HEARST, SR.,
ALUMNI SCHOLARSHIP**

When USSYAA was formed almost three years ago, the founding alumni committed themselves to the establishment of the *Rosalie Wynn and George Randolph Hearst, Sr., Alumni Scholarship*. The scholarship was established to honor and forever memorialize "Mom" Hearst and her beloved husband. Prior to her death in October 1999—and unbeknownst to most alumni—"Mom" Hearst quietly assisted a number of alumni who struggled with unmet educational expenses. She did so from her own resources. To those alumni who knew her personally, she represented the highest and purest form of philanthropy. She gave of her heart, time, and treasure, expecting nothing in return other than pleasure in "her children's" educational and personal achievements.

"Mom" Hearst contributed generously to the start-up costs of USSYAA. The board has used the initial gift for expenses related to the holiday newsletter and alumni weekend in Washington, D.C. At the March 2001 USSYAA board meeting, the directors voted to award the first alumni scholarships in fall 2002. The scholarships will be funded by contributions from alumni. In so doing, we will continue "Mom" Hearst's tradition of assisting worthy alumni who face pressing educational expenses.

Please understand clearly that USSYAA does not charge a membership fee nor require a contribution to the scholarship fund. Membership in USSYAA is automatic by virtue of participation in the U.S. Senate Youth Program. The USSYAA scholarship fund is a project of the alumni association and is not affiliated with nor endorsed by the Hearst foundations. The scholarship is solely an initiative of the USSYAA board of directors to memorialize Rosalie and George Hearst, Sr., for the expressed purpose of assisting worthy alumni with their educational expenses.

For application information, please see the enclosed flyer. To make a tax-deductible contribution to the scholarship fund, please use the enclosed reply form. USSYAA is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization chartered under the laws of the District of Columbia. *Scott Shapiro (WA '88)*, USSYAA's treasurer, will provide all contributors with a receipt.

NEWS, ETC.

U.S. Senator **SUSAN COLLINS (ME '71)** will serve, along with U.S. Senator John Breaux, as co-chairperson of the 40th United States Senate Youth Program in March 2002.

KARL ROVE (UT '69) is senior advisor and assistant to *President George W. Bush*. Karl oversees the strategic planning, political affairs, and public liaison efforts of the White House. He previously served as chief strategist for the *Bush for President Campaign* and, for 18 years before that, president of Karl Rove & Company, an Austin, Texas-based public affairs firm that worked for Republican candidates, non-partisan causes, and non-profit groups. His clients have included over 75 Republican U.S. Senate, congressional, and gubernatorial candidates in 24 states, as well as the Moderate Party of Sweden. The Colorado native attended the University of Utah, the University of Texas at Austin, and George Mason University. He has taught at the LBJ School of Public Affairs and the journalism department at the University of Texas at Austin and was also a faculty member at the Salzburg Seminar. He was a member of the Board of International Broadcasting, which oversaw operations for Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty, and served on the board of the McDonald Observatory before entering government. Karl and his wife, Darby, have one son, Andrew. By the way, Karl made a special appearance at last year's Senate luncheon and was a big hit with the delegates. We understand he also encouraged President Bush to

schedule time for the group. Not only did the delegates meet the president, but they also posed with him for a group photograph on the south lawn steps of the White House.

DAVINDER SINGH GROVER (CA '96) graduated from Wuerzburg American High School in Germany after participation in the Senate Youth Program. In June 2000, Davinder graduated from the University of California at Davis with "highest honors possible." He completed a bachelor's degree in neurobiology, physiology, and behavior, and a minor in English. While a UC Davis student, Davinder was nominated by the president of the National Parent Teacher Association (PTA) to serve as one of two youth members on the PTA National Board of Directors. In that capacity, he traveled throughout the United States training fellow students in leadership skills, speaking skills, and PTA involvement. Davinder also attended national conventions during which he presented workshops on student involvement, television violence, and sex education. In September 2000, he entered the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine in Baltimore. After completing the first year, Davinder and 14 fellow medical students traveled to Peru, where they observed health care in a developing country. This past August, he worked for a professor in the Johns Hopkins School of Public Health, studying childhood health as the subject pertains to socioeconomic gradients and inequalities.

KIMBERLY HOSLEY (FL '97) enjoyed an extended stay in Guanajuato, Mexico, during summer 1999, where she studied culture, history, and the Spanish language. During the fall, she participated in the Peace and Conflict Resolution semester-program at American University in Washington, D.C. The program focused on the Middle East conflict between Israeli Jews and Palestinians. Participants traveled to Israel, Egypt, and the Palestinian territory. Kimberly's AU semester also included an internship with the Robert F. Kennedy Memorial Center for Human Rights, where she studied Latin American human rights issues and assisted with the center's special events. She also volunteered in Washington, D.C., as an after-school tutor. In spring 2000, Kimberly spent a semester studying at the University of Madrid, Spain. While in Europe, she traveled to Italy and France. After a year of globetrotting, Kimberly settled down to complete a degree at Stetson University in Deland, Florida. During her spare time, she served as captain of Stetson's cheer leading squad, secretary of the economics honor fraternity, and a tutor in the economics department. After graduation, Kimberly traveled to Villaguay, Argentina, for a summer internship with the local government. Kimberly's future plans include law school, where she plans to study—you guessed it—international law.

SEAN FARRELL (MA '96) graduated *summa cum laude* with a bachelor of arts in political science from American University in May 2001. In August, he traveled to Kyoto, Hiroshima, and Nagasaki, Japan, through AU's Nuclear Studies Institute. This fall, Sean began pursuing the master's in political science with a concentration in applied politics at AU. He also is a graduate assistant in the university's Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies. Sean currently lives in downtown Washington, D.C.

ADISA MUSE (VA '93) currently serves as special projects director for Congressman Bobby Rush in his Chicago office.

ANN MCGOWAN BRAY (NV '90) completed a master's in education with a focus on literacy at the University of Nevada in Reno. Ann and her husband, Rob, operate a literacy program, The W.O.L.F. Club (Working on Literacy Foundations), at the elementary school where Ann has taught for over four years. The program is based on developmental philosophy and some of the new literacy programs taught at UN Reno. Ann exclaimed, "This has been a rewarding experience watching the students begin to see reading, writing, and spelling in a new light as they experience success!" Ann and Rob have been married for eight years. They are the proud parents of two wonderful boys, Jacob and Joseph.

ANNMARIE JENNINGS HARRIS (DE '87) discovered her U.S. Senate Youth Program medallion while packing several months ago. Although she has shared memories of the program with her husband many times, rediscovering the medallion prompted an update letter. Annmarie completed a bachelor of arts degree at Oberlin College. After working in industry for several years, she decided to join the academic community. Annmarie currently works as a laboratory coordinator at Widener University in

Pennsylvania. She and her husband devote many hours each month to their church. The couple has studied Spanish in order to minister to Hispanic populations.

JOHN S. BLAKLEY, SR. (MI '76), president of the USSYAA Board of Directors, experienced a profound blessing on September 11. John is an attorney with Morgan Stanley in New York. His office was on the 59th floor of the World Trade Center, tower two. John normally arrives for work at 8:30 a.m. but was late that fateful morning. He missed his commuter train into the city after being delayed by a neighbor's car across his driveway and stopping to vote in a local election. When John exited the subway onto Wall Street at 9:15 a.m., both buildings were on fire in front of him. All but 14 of his 3,500 Morgan Stanley co-workers were evacuated safely.

HEATHER WOODRUFF (NE '99) is enjoying her junior year at Harvard University, where she is studying economics. Heather worked as a White House intern during summer 2001. She hopes to engage in private sector business or consulting work next summer, before "jumping out into the real world." Heather remains politically active, chairing the Institute of Politics Projects Committee within the Kennedy School of Government. Among other things, the committee organizes the New Mayors' Conference every other year. The conference offers a weekend of training for newly elected mayors from around the country. Heather reports that she has reduced some of her other activities in order to "enjoy a bit more of college life, get involved in my church, and get a bit more sleep."

NATHAN HUMPHREY (CA '90) was ordained a transitional deacon in the Episcopal Church on the Feast of All Saints, November 1, 2001, at the Cathedral of the Incarnation in Baltimore. He anticipates being ordained a priest in May 2002. In 2000, a collection of essays he edited was published by Morehouse Press entitled *Gathering the NeXt Generation: Essays on the Formation and Ministry of GenX Priests*. Nathan also serves as director of alumni programs for USSYAA.

CHRISTIAN WEEKS (NH '99) is studying at Dartmouth College after working in inner city Washington, D.C., for a year. He worked for Community Family Life Services, which provides assistance to the homeless and low-income individuals in the district. Christian tutored middle school children in southeast Washington and taught a structured job search class for people on welfare. Following the D.C. experience, Christian spent a much-deserved month backpacking with a friend in England, Ireland, Scotland, France, Germany, and Greece. He reports, "From hitchhiking in Ireland to camping on a beach on the island of Serifos, Greece, I had a wonderful time. I highly recommend making time to travel and look forward to doing more myself in the years to come." Now at Dartmouth, Christian is glad to "be back in an academic environment among a new group of friends and new opportunities."

BRENT LEGG (KY '99) is a junior political science major and international affairs minor at Transylvania University in Lexington, Kentucky. He had the privilege of working for six weeks as a legislative intern in the Washington office of U.S. Senator Mitch McConnell. During the internship, Brent redesigned the senator's official web site, which is located at mccconnell.senate.gov. After reviewing Brent's work, the Senate sergeant at arms employed him as a temporary staff member in the Intranet/Internet Research Services branch. Brent helped redesign the Senate's intranet site, webster.senate.gov, and was assigned to design an educational site for children, which eventually will be located at kids.senate.gov. On January 12, he will move to London to participate in the Hansard Scholars Programme at the London School of Economics and Political Science. For the duration of the program, Brent will work as an intern in the British Parliament. During next year's U.S. Senate campaign in Kentucky—beginning in January and continuing through November—he will serve as Senator McConnell's campaign web site administrator.

STEVE RICE (WY '85) experienced a considerable amount of change in his life during 2001. Steve serves as the U.S. State Department's political-military officer in the Office of Israel and Palestinian Affairs. Following evacuation of the State Department on September 11, Steve spent more than three hours attempting to travel home. Always fond of the Mayflower Hotel, Steve stopped there at one point to call his new wife, Rita, and tell her he was safe. (The cell phone network was overloaded.) That

evening, Steve was called to work the first shift of the task force that the State Department had formed to deal with the crisis. In the days that followed, Rita, who is Syrian, twice had to evacuate her place of temporary employment due to bomb threats. When she began taking a Spanish review course (Rita speaks Spanish, French, English, and Arabic), one of the students refused to speak to her because she was Arab. While the rhythm of life in Washington has returned to a steady pace for the couple, the pace is by no means relaxed. Steve has spent many weekends on-call or otherwise engaged in the campaign against terrorism. In fact, the leadership of the Near East Affairs Bureau tasked Steve—in addition to his regular duties—with tracking the progress of all Middle Eastern countries in meeting U.S. requests for assistance in the campaign. While life is not dull for a moment, Rita and Steve are very grateful for all that they have. On September 11, Rita's sister called from Syria to check on their well being. Thankfully, both are coping—like other Americans—as best they can with the enhanced security and other concerns post-September 11. The birth of their first nephew in late September reminded them both how precious is the gift of life.

ALAN ALDINGER (OH '77) is now assistant director of the news bureau at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center Health System.

KIMBERLY BURNELL (CO '99) is a junior print journalism major and English minor at Ithaca College in New York. She is attending on a Park Scholar Award, a journalism scholarship that covers all expenses. Kimberly's campus activities include Hall Council president, Society of Professional Journalists treasurer, Student Government Association member, and news staff writer and copy editor for the campus paper. In addition, she volunteers at a local elementary school as a tutor. Last summer, Kimberly interned at a Colorado newspaper; next summer, she will intern in London. She plans to graduate in May 2003.

DICK VARNER (MT '73) is employed as rates and budget manager with the Eugene Water & Electric Board in Oregon. Last year, he gained the additional responsibility of power risk manager. In the added role, Dick is responsible for risk management of the company's power trading operation. He has two daughters, Ann and Robyn. Ann took the SAT as a 7th grader and scored about average for a high school senior. Robyn took the Plus Test for Academic Achievement and placed in the top one percent on the verbal section and top three percent on the math section. Dick spends his free time as a youth group leader, golfer, and elk hunter.

CAROL D. FROST (AK '75) attended Dartmouth College ('79) and the University of Cambridge, U.K. (Ph.D., earth sciences, '84) following participation in the Senate Youth Program. She is a professor in the University of Wyoming's Department of Geology and Geophysics, where she has taught since 1983. Carol's specialty is isotope geology. Her research focuses on the evolution of the continental crust through Earth history, with a subsidiary interest in using naturally occurring isotopes as tracers of natural waters, fossil fuels, and magmas.

DAN BROWN (MS '87) struck out on his own a few years ago and founded a web-design firm in Washington, D.C. The firm, *db interactive*, has built sites for a variety of clients, including four U.S. senators. Dan also serves as USSYAA's director of technology. Outside of work, Dan and his partner, Bob Payn, are slowly renovating a 130-year-old townhouse they purchased in downtown Washington.

CONN P. McKELVEY (MT '94) graduated from the University of Notre Dame with a degree in engineering and environmental sciences. During his stint with the Irish, the Air Force paid for Conn's tuition. He presently is completing his service with the Air Force as an ICBM operations instructor stationed at Malmstrom AFB, Montana—luckily close to home and family. Conn writes, "The work isn't as exciting as some people might think, but it certainly has given me a different view of our nation's defense." During his free time, he is completing a master's degree in management and international management. Conn hopes the graduate degree will provide a boost into the civilian job market when the right time arrives.

KIRSTEN JOHNSON PAUST (WA '94) and **NATHANIEL PAUST (AK '94)** earned undergraduate degrees from Whitman College in Walla Walla, Washington. Kirsten studied mathematics and economics; Nathaniel earned his degree in physics and astronomy. In summer 2000, Nathaniel completed a master's in astronomy at New Mexico State University. The couple lives in Seattle, where Kirsten is a consultant with Deloitte Consulting. Nathaniel is a college instructor in astronomy and physics. Both returned to graduate school this fall: Nathaniel for a Ph.D. and Kirsten, an MBA.

LEIGH KIRKPATRICK PROM (MT '80) continues to serve as principal and teacher in the "Prom Home School" in Callaway, Virginia. Leigh and her four children have experienced many field trips related to early American history. The family learned much about Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, Booker T. Washington, and George Washington Carver. They visited early American settlements and experienced what life in the New World was like. Outside of school, the children participate in community soccer, sandlot football, and piano lessons. The Prom family is very active in Franklin Heights Baptist Church in Rocky Mount, Virginia. On top of all that, Leigh recently served as president of a Toastmasters Club that she helped establish.

PETER WOLANIN (DC '90) graduated *cum laude* from Princeton in 1994 with an A.B. in physics. Six years later, he took the Ph.D. in physics with a biophysics dissertation from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. Peter returned to Princeton to complete a post-doc in the Department of Molecular Biology. While a student at Michigan, he was an active member of the Graduate Employees Organization (American Federation of Teachers/AFL-CIO local 3550) and helped negotiate a three-year contract between the university and the graduate student instructors.

CHRISTINE DRAGER (AK '88), USSYAA's board secretary, has a new job. On September 20, the Alaska native took a position as counsel on the Senate Energy Committee. Christine writes, "Although I will dearly miss my job on the appropriations committee, I am excited about this new opportunity, which will open new doors and opportunities and provide interesting challenges." About a month later, unfortunately, she was summarily locked out of the Hart Senate Office Building because of the anthrax scare. Christine is uncertain as to when she will be allowed to re-enter the office building.

ROBERT PIPKIN (CA '94) is pursuing an M.Phil in historical studies at Cambridge University in the U.K. His studies focus on the effects of television on post-war British politics. He is attending on a Rotary International Foundation scholarship. Before enrolling at Cambridge, Robert left his job with KPMG Consulting to work in press relations for Senator John McCain's presidential campaign. He also worked in several other smaller races after the primary.

JON GATHJE (NE '00) is currently attending the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, where he is majoring in music education with a concentration in vocal performance.

MARCIA K. HORN (CA '73) earned two degrees from Stanford University, an undergraduate degree in political science and a law degree. She was employed for 16 years as a commercial litigator and appellate lawyer in Phoenix. Marcia currently is working overtime as CEO of the International Foundation for Anticancer Drug Discovery, a new research organization based in Phoenix. IFADD's mission is to expedite the pipeline of anticancer drugs at the pre-clinical stage of development. Marcia has a 5 year old son, Jonathan, who is happily ensconced in kindergarten and piano lessons.

BRIAN HAILE (TN '92) recently completed graduate studies at the University of California at Berkeley, during which time he spent two years conducting HIV economic research in Cape Town, South Africa. Brian presently works for the District of Columbia Department of Health assisting with coordination of HIV/AIDS initiatives within the Medicaid program.

WENDY JO POND PETERSON (WA '78), USSYAA's first vice president, has been promoted to director of admissions at Washington State University. She supervises a team of 40+ full-time staff, including admissions officers around the state who assist high school students, parents, and counselors

with the college admissions process. The office processes nearly 8000 undergraduate applications per year, responds to an average of 400 phone calls per day, conducts campus tours, and coordinates the visitation and orientation programs. When she can spare the time, Wendy is helping her husband renovate their new country home. She reports that the location is "quiet and relaxing after the craziness of the day."

JENNIFER TABOLA (NV '84) and her husband Ted Adams have returned from their "Most Excellent Ecu-Honeymoon Peace Corps Adventure." On their last day in Ecuador, the couple awoke at 4:48 a.m. to prepare for the journey home. Over the next 15 hours, Jennifer single handedly packed their entire first two years of marriage into four duffel bags. Never one for waste, she distributed everything from blankets and used furniture to kitchen utensils and toothpaste to friends, neighbors, and organizations that could best use the supplies. Thirty colleagues from both urban and rural communities attended Jennifer and Ted's two-hour farewell meal, complete with tears and laughter following roasts and toasts from the past two years. The guests gave the couple clear marching orders: take Ecuador home in your hearts and return soon—with babies. The couple, along with their two cats and bags, traveled in the back of a priest's old pick-up to catch an 11:00 p.m. flight. To their surprise, 12 more neighbors packed into the back of the truck for the farewell trip. The most direct route "home" took two months, as they traveled through D.C., New York, Syracuse, Chicago, Las Vegas, Portland, Sedona, and Minnesota. The couple reports that returning to the U.S. felt like Disney World, so clean and fresh—and a trash can on every corner. Jennifer and Ted had to readjust to the strange sensation of what they thought were people talking to themselves while waiting in lines, swerving into driving lanes with phone in hand, or taking a "crucial call" at a restaurant during a meal. The pervasiveness of technology in general—beeps, flashes, and cyber speed—was somewhat of a readjustment to them. The hot showers, however, were not. The couple misses their neighbors and friends in Ecuador who offered daily greetings that, for better or worse, were rarely made on the telephone but rather by passing an open door and yelling, *Buenos dias vecino!* Saying goodbye to the school children was a soggy heartbreak. Thanks to the generosity of American supporters, Jennifer and Ted's last day with the kids was spent on a spectacular field trip to the Quito Zoo. All 120 children, plus their teachers and many parents, were treated to a rare trip out of their community to see all the amazing animals of Ecuador and to participate in a dramatic puppet show about exotic animal trafficking. The couple trades emails with three of their Ecuadorian godchildren whom they brought to the Internet Café in Quito and trained them to set up and use email accounts. Jennifer and Ted left two fully staffed mobile health clinics that continue critical work in the marginal urban barrios of Quito; a new library with over 50 new books for the 120 students; a new environmental youth program, which is expanding thanks to Jennifer's commitment and training talents; and a new playground, complete with a "Tire-saurus Rex", which proudly keeps watch in front of the school house. Ted was admitted to the Carlson School of Management to pursue the M.B.A. He is excited about continued cross-cultural learning, as the small class of 140 students includes members from 23 countries. Presently, Jennifer is exploring opportunities in philanthropy and corporate community relations—and obtaining some computer skills.

RANDY BRANTLEY (NC '81) was named director of corporate and foundation relations for The University of North Carolina at Charlotte on August 1. Charlotte is corporate headquarters for Bank of America, Wachovia, Duke Energy, and Nucor Steel, among other companies. The newest addition to the Charlotte skyline is Hearst Tower. Each time he drives by the construction site, Randy experiences an involuntary smile as he recalls memories of the U.S. Senate Youth Program. Prior to joining UNC Charlotte, he served as director of foundation and corporate relations for Chowan College, a small private institution in the northeastern region of the state. While there, Randy served on the boards of the Hertford County Economic Development Commission; Hertford County Committee of 100, a private economic development group; Murfreesboro Chamber of Commerce; and Murfreesboro Rotary Club.

ERIN BUTLER (FL '97) graduated from the University of Florida in May 2000. After working in elder care law for one year at a private firm in Jacksonville, Erin moved to Virginia. She presently is a first-year law student at the College of William and Mary. Erin provided updates on two of her fellow alumni. **CARRIE SHIRE (KS '97)** is enrolled in the international business M.B.A. program at the University of

Denver. **TIMOTHY KOGELMAN (WY '97)** is serving in the US Navy (Norfolk, Virginia) aboard the *USS Albany*, a fast-attack submarine.

OUR "NEWLY WEDS"

STEVE RICE (WY '85) married Rita Homsy in Our Lady of Damascus Church in Damascus, Syria in June. The bride and groom met while Steve was posted to the U.S. Embassy in Damascus. In another "end of an era" event, the pilot of the couple's British Air flight from Damascus to London—in a nice gesture to the honeymooners—offered them a seat in the cockpit for the landing at Heathrow. Steve writes, "It was a great experience, but one that others who follow us will likely never have. It was yet another reminder of how much life has changed." Rita joined Steve in Washington after the wedding and adapted quickly to life in D.C., despite the circumstances.

OUR BABIES

WENDY JO POND PETERSON (WA '78) and her husband are the proud parents of Cameron, who is now almost nine months old. Wendy exclaims, "Cameron is growing so fast, and he is keeping us on our toes for sure. . . . People told me it would go by fast, but it's almost unbelievable how fast time seems to be going. But what a JOY he is!"

JOHN S. BLAKLEY, SR. (MI '76) and his wife, Gail, are the proud parents of Samuel Joseph, who was born at 11:45 p.m. on Thursday, June 21, 2001, at the White Plains Hospital Center in New York. Samuel weighed in at 7 pounds, 1 ounce, and measured 19 ¼ inches.

We trust you have enjoyed reading this second edition of the United States Senate Youth Alumni Association holiday newsletter. Help us improve and expand future editions by providing news on your activities. Simply send an email to rlbrantl@email.uncc.edu, or drop a letter to the association's post office box in Washington, D.C. We come from all walks of life, and each person's story is important. Fellow alumni are eager to hear from you. Remember to update your contact information at www.ussyaa.org. Very important! We encourage you to join USSYAA in Washington, D.C., for an exciting weekend in March. Use the enclosed reply form to make reservations.

All of us on the USSYAA Board of Directors wish you and yours happy holidays and a peaceful and prosperous 2002. We look forward to hearing from you!

John S. Blakley, Sr., **President**, MI '76 (John.Blakley@MorganStanley.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 (scott@eaglerockventures.com)
 Christine Drager, **Secretary**, AK '88 (christine_drager@energy.senate.gov)
 Craig W. Hulvey, **Parliamentarian**, ID '68 (craigh50@email.mns.com)
 Michael S. Sundermeyer, **Liaison Officer**, MO '69 (msundermeyer@wc.com)
 Nathan J. A. Humphrey, **Director of Alumni Programs**, CA '90
 (nathan.humphrey.div.97@aya.yale.edu)
 Dan Brown, **Director of Technology**, MS '87 (db@dbinteractive.com)
 Randy L. Brantley, **Director of Communications**, NC '81 (rlbrantl@email.uncc.edu)
 James T. Molloy, **Executive Director**, Last Doorkeeper of the U.S. House of Representatives
 Gladys S. Hundley, **Special Advisor**, Former Personal Assistant to Mrs. George Randolph Hearst, Sr.
 (gladyshundley@aol.com)