WHICH PLAY’S THE THING? The year is 1973 and the place is Todd Union. But what’s the performance and who are these actors? Share your recollections with us at rochrev@rochester.edu.

College

ARTS, SCIENCES & ENGINEERING

1941 John Manhold and his wife, Kit, recently traveled from their home in Florida to South America. “We flew to San Francisco and then cruised down the west coast of South America, around the horn, and back up to Buenos Aires, visiting penguins, sea lions, and seals in some sun and rain, wind and cold, and saw whales and huge sea turtles as well as the usual dolphins and a couple of hammerhead sharks,” he writes. “The trip perhaps is not for everyone. However, I long have been intrigued by tales of the rugged seamen who ‘rounded the Horn’ and of the wild Tierra del Fuego, desolate Patagonia, and the wild life of the area.” John adds, “I also have my gold earring, which one traditionally earns the right to wear by ‘Rounding the Horn.’”

1952 Chesley Kahmann sings with the Interludes and her son, trumpeter Ames Parsons, on Call Me a Dreamer (Orbiting Clef Productions), the eighth volume in her Kahmann Touch recordings series.

1957 Last October, Bob Mumford visited South Georgia Island. He writes that the island stretches 100 miles long and sits about 1,000 miles east of Argentina. “It is the home of some 20 permanent human residents and millions of penguins, albatrosses, and elephant and fur seals during breeding season. Sir Ernest Shackleton landed here after his historic 800-mile escape in a small boat from Elephant Island in the Antarctic in 1916.” Bob took about 5,000 photos and includes an image of himself pouring the remains of a drink on Shackleton’s grave, after the traditional toast.

1959 David Sutliff writes: “Judy Rector and I cruised our boat, the Puffin, 600 miles this summer to the Hudson River south of Albany. In 2011, we cruised from our home at the southern end of Lake Michigan, up the lake and through the Mackinaw straits, and then meandered along the North Channel to Georgian Bay in Ontario. This year we motored through the Trent-Severn Canal system to Lake Ontario, and then across the lake to Oswego to enter the Erie Canal, and thence to the
Hudson. Midway in the trip we were joined by David Linderman and his wife, Jean. We parked the boat on the St. Lawrence and our foursome toured the Maritime Provinces by car for two weeks, including observing the famous Bay of Fundy tides from several vantage points. We all agreed that the best lobster in the world comes from these waters."

1960 Michael Blumenfield and his wife, Susan, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary last July in Woodland Hills, Calif. Michael's cousin, Rebecca Kanter '05, '06 (TS), attended. Michael has a part-time psychiatry practice and Rebecca is living in Guatemala, where she's working on a postdoc in public health and nutrition. . . . Patricia (Patsy) Runk Sweeney writes: "I've been living since April 2011 at the Tacoma Lutheran Retirement Community in Tacoma, Wash. My husband, Harold, and I, although not Lutherans, are enjoying the many activities open to residents of all faiths. A new neighbor turned out to be Evangeline Rimbach '67E (PhD), who graduated from Eastman in musicology. I continue to write and publish short stories, memoirs, and letters to the editor. I'm also being treated for cancer for the fifth time. I welcome email from old friends at patswee2006@yahoo.com."


1965 Sharon Cornell Rose writes, "Three generations of Rose women gathered at a recent family celebration." Pictured are granddaughter Jessica Rose '16, Sharon, and Sharon's daughter-in-law, Beth Brenner Rose '95.

1966 Lew Kaplan, a U.S. District Court judge in Manhattan since 1994, was appointed by U.S. Supreme Court Chief Justice John Roberts to the Judicial Panel on Multidistrict Litigation. Lew writes: "The principal job of the panel is to determine whether civil actions pending in different federal districts that involve one or more common questions of fact should be transferred to one federal district for coordinated or consolidated pretrial proceedings. It deals primarily with complex litigation such as securities fraud, patent, and product liability cases."

1967 Wendy Everett has been named by Massachusetts Gov. Deval Patrick to the Massachusetts Health Policy Commission, an 11-member commission charged with leading the statewide effort to control health care costs. Wendy is president of the New England Healthcare Institute, a health policy research organization.

1969 John Martin sends an update. Since graduation, he's worked at several vocations, including as a teamster, roofer, printer, and machinist, as well as an editor at McGraw Hill. He established the John Martin Agency in Ithaca, N.Y., offering marketing communications services. He's published his first novel, Lost Source (iUniverse), an adventure story in which a strike against the outsourcing of American jobs leads to a confrontation between the United States and China.

1971 Paul Henle was elected in November to the New Hampshire House of Representatives. He lives in Concord.

1972 Steve Bloom writes that he's the editor of Critical Insights: Eugene O'Neill (EBSCO/Sale Press). Steve is a professor of English, dean of undergraduate abbreviations

Abbreviations

E Eastman School of Music
M School of Medicine and Dentistry
N School of Nursing
S William E. Simon Graduate School of Business
W Margaret Warner Graduate School of Education and Human Development
Mas Master’s degree
RC River Campus
Res Medical Center residency
Flw Postdoctoral fellowship
Pdc Postdoctoral certificate
education, and associate vice president of academic affairs at Lasell College in Newton, Mass. . . . Lester (Les) Ezrati writes that he’s retired from his position as a senior vice president for Hewlett-Packard. “I was with HP for over 32 years. I’ll now spend time with my wife, Carol, our two children and their spouses, and our two grandchildren, Grace and Arthur.”

Sandra Bloch has been named general counsel to the Philadelphia-based law firm Cozen O’Connor. Sandra has been a member of the firm’s corporate practice group since 1995.

Ellen Rosen has been named director of Rochester Institute of Technology’s University News Service. Previously, Ellen was the vice president of marketing, communication, and membership at the Rochester Business Alliance.

Andrew Artenstein, an infectious disease specialist, has been named chair of the Department of Medicine at Baystate Health, which serves western Massachusetts. Previously, Andrew was physician-in-chief of the Department of Medicine at Memorial Hospital of Rhode Island and founding director of the Center for Biodefense and Emerging Pathogens. He has also written a new book, In the Blink of an Eye: The Deadly Story of Epidemic Meningitis (Springer).

Rob Friedberg has been named president of Delnor Hospital in Geneva, Ill., a western suburb of Chicago. He’s also been named vice president of Cadence Health, which operates the hospital.

Tom and Christine Joor Mitchell and Kimberly Dio Date Shamah are running the Boston Marathon in April for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society Team in Training program. Christine writes: “Tom and I will run the marathon in memory of Nancy Melvin Taylor, who died of breast cancer in 2006, and in honor of Doreen Gostin Massie, who donated stem cells and bone marrow in October 2012.” Kim is running in honor of Dawn Magaletta-FitzGerald, who is undergoing cancer treatment. Christine includes a picture of herself, Tom, and Kim after the Boston Athletic Association’s half marathon last October. She adds that her fundraising page is at http://bit.ly/26K2jm. . . .

Diana Powell has been named senior legal advisor at the Rochester fiduciary advising firm of Westminster Consulting. She’ll be responsible for ensuring that clients comply with the Employee Retirement Income Security Act, or ERISA.

Tony Vengrove sends a photo. “As part of a fundraiser for Special Olympics Virginia,” he writes, “I rappelled down the side of a 400-foot building. The event was a lot of fun and raised over $120,000 for a great cause. I decided to wear a U of R T-shirt knowing I’d get a great picture to share!” . . . Joseph Wyant writes that he was appointed to the Juvenile Court of the Coweta Judicial Circuit, near Atlanta. “I’ve been a magistrate judge since 2001, have served in the Superior Court on a pro temo re basis since 2006, and have been a judge in the Adult Felony Drug Court since 2010.”

Benjamin Anastas, a novelist and essayist, has published his third book, the memoir Too Good to Be True (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2012). . . .

David Kemp has been promoted to the rank of captain in the U.S. Navy. David is the chief of human resources for the U.S. Africa Command in Stuttgart, Germany.

Janine Jurkowski, associate professor of health policy, management, and behavior at the University of Albany’s School of Public Health, has been recognized by the American Public Health Association’s Community-Based Health Caucus. Janine received the caucus’s Tom Bruce Award for her work with Communities for Healthy Living, a community-based research project in Albany designed to reduce obesity and promote healthy living among children enrolled in Head Start. . . . Beth Brenner Rose (see ’65).

Joe Brown has been named a partner at the Buffalo law firm of Hodgson Russ. Joe is a member of the firm’s business litigation practice group.

Melanie Driver-Milow lives in Denver, where she’s the founder and artistic CEO of the dance production company, M*shaka*fusion. She completed a master of fine arts degree at SUNY Brockport in 2004, and her thesis was titled “The Spirit of a People: The Cultural Identity of the African American Community Through Dance.” She is a traumatic brain injury survivor and is chronicling her journey to healing through holistic methods, including dance.

John Cirella has been named business banking relationship manager at ESL Federal Credit Union in Rochester.

Jeffrey and Alyse Behrman Sabina send a photo and an update. Alyse writes: “We
welcomed our son, Zachary Caleb, in March 2011, and this past July we were doubly blessed with twin girls, Abigail Brinn and Isabelle Miral.” They live in Hamden, Conn., where Jeff is a senior staff scientist at Ion Torrent Systems, a genome sequencing biotech company, and Alyse is a program officer at the Aetna Foundation. . . Laura Kelley Wagner, who’s been serving as assistant counsel for the Niagara County (N.Y.) Department of Social Services, writes: “After a grueling campaigning season that began in June, I am pleased to announce that on November 6, I was elected as the Town of Royalton’s new-est town justice. As a first-time

2003

Y ork Business Journal

Central New

Management and the Syracuse’s Whitman School of

40" award presented yearly by

2000

is marketing senior manager for the Allied Jewish Federation of Colorado.

2005

Tom Hayes writes that he graduated last June from Stanford’s joint MBA and master of arts in education program. Since graduation, he’s founded Haystack EDU, an online service to match teachers and schools. . . . Rebecca Kanter ’06 (T5) (see ’60).

2006

Rebecca Kanter (T5) (see ’60).

2008

Eric Janosko and Kristen DeCarlo ’09 were married last September in Buffalo. Pictured from left to right are Caitlin Povalski ’08, ‘11M (MPH), David Maystroyky ’10, William Chesbro ’08, ‘10W (MS), Anthony Visconti ’09, Lynn Carrier ’08, Brittany Celeste ’09, ‘11N, Ailx Davidson ’08, Mindy Altomare ’09, Megan Winn Wendell ’09, Lindsay Macaluso ’11, Andrea LaRocque ’08, Kaitlyn Goreznak ’08, Eric, Kristen, Carly Hoffend ’08, Jonathan Gasior ’08, Sharon Barney ’08, Rachel Skellie ’08, Theodore Chelis ’08, Matthew Majarian ’08, and Nadia Byrnes ’09.

2009

Ed Kahovec has been named head baseball coach at Bard College. For the past three seasons, Ed has been assistant coach of the Yellowjackets baseball team, where he’s coached hitting and infield and developed the team’s offseason strength and conditioning program. After graduating from Rochester, Ed played a season of professional baseball in Germany for the Erbach Grasshoppers. . . . Anne Eshenour married Michael Mack in October. Pictured at the reception (left to right) are Teresa Trout, Ben Primack, Maryalice Wolfe, Evan Bilheimer, Dawn Ryan, Anne, Claudio DiMarco, Brendan O’Brien, Derek Pomento, Adrian Flanders, and Andrew Flack.

Graduate

ARTS, SCIENCES & ENGINEERING

1966

Larry Klein (MS) has published Sensor and Data Fusion: A Tool for Information Assessment and Decision Making (Second Edition) (SPIE). An electrical engineer and private consultant in Southern California, Larry has consulted on traffic management and other issues.

1970

Madeline Hubbard Schmitt (MA) (see ’65 nursing).

1972

Theresa Coletti (PhD), professor of English at the University of Maryland–College Park, has been named a Distinguished Scholar-Teacher by the school. The honor, sponsored by the University of Maryland’s Office of Academic Affairs, recognizes “a small number of faculty members each year who have demonstrated notable success in both scholarship and teaching.” A specialist in medieval
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<td>November 2013</td>
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Class Notes

1976
Jonathan Post (PhD) has edited and introduced The Selected Letters of Anthony Hecht (Johns Hopkins University). Jonathan, who took courses with Hecht at Rochester and remained in contact with the Pulitzer Prize–winning poet until Hecht’s death in 2004, holds the title of Distinguished Professor of English at UCLA.

1981
Mary Huth (MA) is co-editor, with Rochester City Historian Christine Ridarsky, of Susan B. Anthony and the Struggle for Equal Rights (University of Rochester). Mary is the retired assistant director of Rush Rhees Library’s Department of Rare Books, Special Collections, and Preservation.

1995
Sheryl Drobny Sawin (PhD) has been elected to the Moorestown (N.J.) Board of Education. Sheryl has three children and has taught literature and study skills at the University of North Carolina at Asheville and St. Joseph’s University, as well as at Rochester.

1996
Yu-Hsiang (Bennett) Fu (MA), assistant professor in the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures at the National Taiwan University, has published Transgressive Transcripts: Gender and Sexuality in Contemporary Chinese Canadian Women’s Writing (Rodopi Press). . . .

2000
Antonio Williams, director of the marking elements and integration laboratory at Xerox, has won the company’s 2013 Black Engineer of the Year award.

2009
Kelly Evanovich McNells (PhD) is a wellness coach in Pittsburgh and has founded New Leaf Wellness. She’s published an e-cookbook, 15-Minute Freezer Recipes: The Healthy Meal Solution for Busy Moms and Moms-to-Be, distributed through her company’s website. She adds: “I live in the South Hills of Pittsburgh with my husband, Andy, and two daughters, Cameron, 3, and Isla, 1.” . . .

Eastman School of Music

1967
Evangeline Rimbach (PhD) (see ’60 College).

1976
John Ferguson (DMA) has received the F. Melius Christiansen Lifetime Achievement Award from the University of Minnesota.

Lost and Found
“I have a strange request,” said Terry Bigler into the telephone, to Karen Thering in the Office of Alumni Relations.

Bigler wasn’t an alumnus. But he was from the area and had once worked at Genesee Hospital. Later, he’d worked as a truck driver, and near a rest stop in Columbus, Ohio, he’d found a watch. The watch had the University of Rochester insignia on the front, and on the back was the inscription D.B.S. May 1979. Could she help him find the owner?

Within a short time, Thering and her colleague, Francine Lynch, did just that. Thering placed a call to Del Benjamin Salmon ’79 of Schenectady, N.Y., and left a lengthy voicemail that began with, well, a strange question. A gentleman had found a University of Rochester watch in Columbus, Ohio, with Salmon’s initials and class year on it. Was it his?

Yes, it was. And it was a prized possession, given to him by his late parents. He’d worn it every day until the day it disappeared in a University of Vermont library when he was a law student nearly 25 years ago.

“I’m the beneficiary of the kindness of strangers,” Salmon said, as he, his wife, Randie Rudin Salmon ’80, and Bigler met over lunch at the Alumni and Advancement Center in January. Following lunch was a walk around River Campus, offering a chance for Del and Randie to reminisce about their wedding at the Interfaith Chapel and reception in Wilson Commons.

This had been Bigler’s second attempt to return the watch. He’d found it in 1995, glistening in the dirt underneath a bush he’d approached in order to photograph a flock of turkeys roaming just beyond it.

“I was on my hands and knees,” said Bigler, who’d stopped at the rest stop for coffee, but was also an avid photographer. He’d called the University then, but the switchboard operator had been unable to help him. This past fall, as he was cleaning his attic, Bigler thought he’d give it another try.

Neither man would hazard any guesses as to how the watch made it from a library in Vermont to a bush in Ohio. Salmon simply noted that the watch, which Bigler found dirty and corroded, was cleaned, polished, and “keeps perfect time.” —Karen McCally
A Chartered INVESTMENT

“The University of Rochester has served as a ‘True North’ for us over the years—both literally and metaphorically. We joined the George Eastman Circle, as Charter Members, to give back and make a difference for others, as the University has played a significant role in our lives and careers.”

—LIZZIE PADRO ’82, P’05 and RUSSELL BEYER ’81S (MBA), P’05
Miami, Florida

SUPPORT: Simon School of Business

Members of the George Eastman Circle, the University of Rochester’s leadership annual giving society, commit at least $1,500 annually in unrestricted funds to areas they care about most, for a minimum of five years. To learn more about joining, visit www.GeorgeEastmanCircle.com or call (800) 598-1330.
American Choral Directors Association of Minnesota. John retired last year after 29 years as the Elliot and Klara Stockdal Johnson Professor of Organ and Church Music and cantor to the student congregation at St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minn.

1980 New York City–based singer Moira Danis has released Some People’s Lives (self-published), a compilation of songs from new and established writers. The CD is her third.

1982 Los Angeles jazz keyboardist Scott Healy has released Hudson City Suite (Hudson City Records). The recording features nine original tracks, performed by an 11-piece ensemble that includes trumpeter Tim Hagans.

1999 James Ripley (DMA) has received the Carlo A. Sperati Award from Luther College, from which he received a bachelor of arts degree in music education in 1981. James is a professor of music and the director of instrumental activities at Carthage College in Kenosha, Wis. The award, named after a 1888 Luther College graduate and founder of the school’s concert band, recognizes outstanding service in instrumental music education.

2000 Kiyokaki (Kiy) Kojima (see ’00 College).

2006 Horn player J. Greg (J. G.) Miller performed with the Who during the group’s 2012–13 “Quadrophenia and More Tour,” which began last November and ended in February, as well as at “12-12-12: The Concert for Sandy Relief,” held last December to benefit victims of Hurricane Sandy.

2009 Trombonist and composer Nick Finzer has released his debut recording, Exposition (Outside in Music). Bassist David Baron ’10E also performs on the CD.

2010 David Baron (see ’09).

2012 Lo-An Lin (MM) won the gold medal at the San Antonio International Piano Competition last October. The award included a cash prize and an invitation to perform a solo recital with the San Antonio Symphony.

ALUMNI RELATIONS

Rocky Around the World

Rocky, the University’s mascot, keeps popping up in all sorts of places.

His complete travel album can be found at www.facebook.com/URAlumniRelations, along with instructions about how you might take Rocky with you on a trip of your own.

Here are some highlights of his recent travels.

. . . and scaling Alabama’s highest point, as part of a 2,500-mile road trip across the South with Steve ’78S (MBA) and Barbara Shepard.

. . . helping out Laura Zimmerman ’11, a volunteer at the National Mall on the morning of the 2013 presidential inauguration . . .

. . . with Anupa Gewali ’12 and Sorcha Dundas ’12 in Kathmandu, Nepal . . .

. . . onboard the Space Shuttle Endeavour with Dan Koharski ’85 . . .

. . . and helping out Laura Zimmerman ’11, a volunteer at the National Mall on the morning of the 2013 presidential inauguration . . .

. . . and scaling Alabama’s highest point, as part of a 2,500-mile road trip across the South with Steve ’78S (MBA) and Barbara Shepard.
Class Notes

School of Medicine and Dentistry

1971 Armando Filomeno (Res), a neurologist in private practice at Instituto Medico Miraflores in Lima, Peru, has released a second volume of Archives of Memory, stories based on his experiences in both the United States and Peru.

1990 Ann Maine (PhD) has been elected president of the Lake County (Ill.) Forest Preserves Board of Commissioners, a position she's held since 2010. She's also been reelected as a member of the Lake County Board, a position she's held since 2002. Ann also serves as a lecturer in the biology department of Lake Forest College.

2000 David Wormuth (Flw) has been elected president of the New York state chapter of the American College of Surgeons. David is chief of thoracic surgery at Upstate University Hospital in Syracuse.

School of Nursing

1965 Madeline Hubbard Schmitt '70 (MA) was a keynote speaker at the first annual Signe Skott Cooper Symposium at the University of Wisconsin–Madison in January. The symposium, “Building a Foundation for Interprofessional Education,” was designed to further efforts for collaborative learning among various types of health care professionals. Madeline was the Independence Foundation Chair in Nursing and Interprofessional Education at Rochester until her retirement in 2005. A founding member of the American Interprofessional Health Collaborative, she remains active in efforts to develop models of interprofessional education.

2008 Alexa Bergstrom LaDuke (see ’12).

2012 Kenneth and Alexa Bergstrom LaDuke welcomed a daughter, Kinsley Emma, in November.

Simon School of Business

1983 Diane Fisher O'Connor (MBA) was named vice president of environment, health, safety, and sustainability for Xerox last May. A chemist, she has served in management positions at Xerox in engineering, quality, purchasing, and supply chain operations.

1990 Tim Cost (MBA) has been named president of Jacksonville University in Florida. A 1981 graduate of the school, Tim begins his term on July 1. He's been a senior executive at several major corporations, including Kodak, Bristol-Myers Squibb, and Aramark, as well as a consultant for PepsiCo.

2006 Paul Mayer (MBA) has been promoted from manager to principal in the Rochester office of the Bonadio Group.

Warner School of Education

2011 Carol Pallas (EdD), chief academic officer at Greece Central School District near Rochester, has been elected superintendent of the Schalmont Central School District in Schenectady. Carol’s appointment comes after a six-month search by the Schalmont Board of Education.

In Memoriam

ALUMNI

Esther Allen Cotton ’36, November 2012
Eleanor Alexander Drake ’37, January 2013
Karl J. Poppe ’37M (MD), November 2012
Hazel Sue Bastian ’38, January 2013
Josephine Conklin Sutton Harby ’39, November 2012
Dorothy Storm Hintz ’39N, March 2012
Willis H. Page ’39E, January 2013
Elizabeth Husband ’40, November 2012
Doris Hubbard Crouch ’41N, December 2012
Joan Reed Saunders ’41, December 2012
Jane Morgan Bruckel ’42N, December 2012
Jean Cardinale Giambone ’42, January 2013
Jane Ladd Gilman ’42N, January 2013
John Leland Goltz ’42E, ’47E (MM), September 2012
Elizabeth Stroh Marr ’42, ’43N, October 2012
Ferdinand D. Pranzatelli ’42E, December 2012
Jesse Church Spies ’42, December 2012
Robert M. Stevensen ’42E (PhD), December 2012
Virginia Forquer Worner ’42, October 2012
Francis E. Fox ’43, January 2013
Muriel Straetz ’45M (MD), January 2013
Charles L. Nixon ’46, December 2012
Robert E. Nye ’46M (MD), ’51M (Flw), October 2012
Arthur B. Chapin ’47, January 2013
Sheldon Phillips ’48, January 2013
Molly Abramow Rutzen ’48, ’69W (MA), December 2012
Lida Vosburg Secor ’48N, November 2012
Margaret Webb Sinclaire ’48, November 2012
Emilie Amlund Fowler ’48 (MA), January 2013
John E. Beiter ’49, January 2013
William P. Myers ’49, November 2012

Mildred Behrens ’50, January 2013
A. Leonard Bloch ’50, January 2013
Lewis E. Mile ’50, August 2012
Betsy Cohen ’51, September 2011
Barbara Henderson Cope ’51, December 2012
Paul T. Schaefer ’51, ’56 (MA), December 2012
Ernest P. Mennillo ’52M (MD), January 2013
Sally Lou Jarvis Norem ’53E, January 2012
James G. Smith ’53, January 2013
Kirk R. Stetson ’53M (MD), November 2012
Lucille Gewinner Van der Wyk ’53E (MA), November 2012
Joseph W. Wahl ’53, December 2012
James B. MacWhinney ’54M (MD), January 2013
Theodore E. Morton ’54, November 2012
Clifford F. Peistrup ’54 (MS), January 2013
Claire Adams Sterling ’54, January 2013
Marc B. Francis ’55, January 2013
Lawrence L. Sherman ’55, January 2012
William J. Wilkin ’55, January 2013
Raymond R. Fischer ’56, November 2011
Betty Lou Freeman ’56, January 2013
John B. Randall ’56, September 2012
Marilyn Burns ’57, January 2012
E. Claire Peacock ’57 (Mas), October 2012
John J. Dziak ’58, August 2012
Hans J. Schultz ’58, ’61S (MS), December 2012
Dorothy McEwen Whittingham ’58 (MS), January 2013
Robert T. LeBlanc ’58E (MM), December 2012
Stanford Perry ’59 (MS), January 2013
Kathleen Schueler ’59W (Mas), December 2012
Wilma Pinkerton Steele ’59W, December 2012
Robert R. Vehar ’59E (MM), January 2013
Bryce E. Bayer ’60 (MS), November 2012
Lawrence P. Chase ’60D (Pdc), ’62D (Res), November 2012
TRIBUTE

M. Parker Givens: Gentleman and Scholar

It was after 4 o’clock on Thursday afternoon, and in the darkened room on the fourth floor of Dewey Hall, the students in the optics teaching lab were frustrated that the interferometer that looked so simple in theory proved so impossible to align in reality. After all, they were seniors in the premier optics program in the country. How could they spend all afternoon trying, without success, to align the apparatus?

Finally, they called on Professor Givens. He walked over—perhaps not as steadily as he had 53 years before, when he joined the optics faculty at the University—scanned the set up, and adjusted one of the many knobs just slightly. The experiment worked.

“You almost had it,” he said. “It just needed a little tweak.”

Another generation of students had learned that the gray-haired gentleman with a slightly soft accent that betrayed his Virginia roots was an incredibly capable optical scientist.

M. Parker Givens was born in Richmond in 1916. After graduating from the University of Richmond in 1937, he went north to study physics at Cornell. He received a doctorate in 1942 and, after brief stints at the Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Laboratory and Penn State, joined the Institute of Optics as an assistant professor in 1947. Although he spent the rest of his life in upstate New York, he remained a southern gentleman, in the best sense of the term. When his wife of more than 50 years, Gene, died, he buried her in Virginia, and when he died this past January, he was buried next to her.

A specialist on the spectroscopy of metal surfaces, over the years he worked in many areas, including holography, photogrammetry, and physical optics generally. He was involved in early balloon flights in the 1940s to study the ozone layer of the atmosphere and in the development of the Todd-AO widescreen movie camera and projection system. He and other institute faculty members went to Manhattan to join Michael Todd, the director of Oklahoma!, and his wife, Elizabeth Taylor, at the film’s opening.

In the early 1960s, just after the laser was invented, he and Bob Hopkins, the institute’s then director, traveled to universities to demonstrate the new device.

M. Parker Givens was a kind, wise, and caring mentor. He was involved in general optometry, and physical optics generally. He was involved in early balloon flights in the 1940s to study the ozone layer of the atmosphere and in the development of the Todd-AO widescreen movie camera and projection system. He and other institute faculty members went to Manhattan to join Michael Todd, the director of Oklahoma!, and his wife, Elizabeth Taylor, at the film’s opening.

In the early 1960s, just after the laser was invented, he and Bob Hopkins, the institute’s then director, traveled to universities to demonstrate the new device.

MENTOR: Givens influenced generations of optics students at Rochester, where he began teaching in 1947.

Out of that came the “Optics Road Show,” a collection of demonstrations that have gone out to colleges, high schools, and even elementary schools. Parker and Gene raised a family in a cobblestone house in Williamson, N.Y. The long daily commute allowed them to indulge in his favorite hobby, beekeeping, and hers, raising prize-winning Afghan hounds. He kept his friends and colleagues supplied with honey and even taught a class in beekeeping at the University once or twice.

One of his doctoral students, James Wyant ’69 (PhD), a University trustee, paid him a rare honor in endowing the M. Parker Givens Chair in Optics while Parker was still an active member of the teaching faculty. In 1981, when Parker turned 65, there was still mandatory retirement, but he remained on the adjunct teaching faculty for 22 more years. All of us who knew him will fondly remember a kind, wise, and caring mentor who was always a gentleman.

—Per Adamson and Carlos Stroud

Adamson is director of the Optics Teaching Laboratory, and Stroud is a professor of optics at Rochester.