

## INSIDE:

Vermont Tech Team  
Finalists in Cornell Cup

Alumni Spotlight:  
Jeremy Spencer,  
Google Test Driver

Student Chad Weber  
Takes First in Cyber  
Quests and SANS  
2012 Competitions

Professional Pilot  
Technology Program

Athletic Hall of Fame



Five Vermont Tech students vied for the national prize at the Cornell Cup, a college-level, systems engineering competition. Pictured: Thomas "TJ" Manton.

# Year in Review

I just completed my first full academic year as president of Vermont Tech, and what a year it's been. This is an institution on the move, with exciting developments on many, many fronts. Here, I highlight a few.

We began the year with a collaborative strategic planning process. Led by Business Professor Greg Hughes, the college hosted listening events around the state — drawing more than 500 people — to gain perspective on the challenges and opportunities facing the state and the region, and the college's role in meeting those needs. The resulting plan sets eight strategic directions to guide the college over the next five years.

Our academic programs are also flourishing. We have expanded our presence in southern Vermont, increasing offerings in Bennington and Brattleboro, and just started a Professional Pilot Technology Program. We also launched the Institute of Applied Agriculture, which will make us the leading institution of higher education in northern New England for applied agriculture and food systems.

No summary of the year would be complete without mentioning Hurricane Irene — which brought the worst flooding the state has seen in 83 years. The college was front-and-center in response. We opened a shelter the first night of the storm, which remained operational for three months. Students were amazing: forming a community service club to help residents deal with the storm's aftermath, tending to flood victims in area clinics, and afterwards, hosting a Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) certification program.

There's so much underway at Vermont Tech, as evidenced by this newsletter. As we ramp up our external relations you can look for more good news in the coming months.



President Philip A. Conroy, Jr.

## STRATEGIC PLAN

### Charting the Course

The college's new strategic plan, adopted in November 2011, sets the following strategic goals:

#### 1. Financial Sustainability

To enhance the quality and value of the education Vermont Tech provides, the college must be financially sustainable. To evolve into a great institution of higher education, Vermont Tech must enhance revenue streams and allocate resources consistent with the college's needs and priorities.

#### 2. Enrollment Management

Vermont Tech will expand its role in meeting the educational and training needs of students and businesses at the state, regional, national, and international levels.

#### 3. Academic Programs and Standards

Vermont Tech will be a cutting-edge leader in applied education, providing an increasingly high-quality educational experience for all students, and meeting the evolving needs of the Vermont and regional workforce.

#### 4. Social & Cultural Development of Students

Vermont Tech will ensure students have a positive college-life experience by providing co-curricular activities that give each student opportunity to develop as a total person.

#### 5. College Climate

Vermont Tech will attract and support students and employees by sustaining a welcoming and supportive environment for personal and professional growth.

#### 6. Physical Plant & Facilities

Vermont Tech will upgrade and maintain the college's physical plant to accommodate the academic, athletic, social, and residential programs expected of a well-developed public baccalaureate college.

#### 7. Professional Development

Vermont Tech will commit to developing the professional abilities of all staff and faculty within the means and reflective of the college's aspirational goals.

#### 8. External Relations

Vermont Tech will improve its reputation as an integral entity in higher education as related to its mission, with particular focus on workforce development, diversified agriculture, applied science and technology, nursing and allied health, business management, and sustainability in New England.



## President Conroy in the News

This spring brought honors and accolades to Vermont Technical College President **Philip A. Conroy, Jr.** In April, his alma mater, Bridgewater State University in Massachusetts, singled Conroy out for the Nicholas P. Tillinghast Award for



Achievement in the Field of Education. The Tillinghast Award is bestowed annually on a

“graduate who has demonstrated the qualities of outstanding leadership, excellence in performance and personal achievement in the field of public education at the state, regional, or national level.”

In May, Vermont Business Magazine published an article Conroy authored, “Applied Learning and the New Economy.” In the piece, President Conroy articulates the need for and benefit of Vermont Tech's educational model:

*“Applied learning involves the actual integration of theory and practice, the opportunity to incorporate both knowledge and skills.”*

# Vermont Tech Team Finalist in Cornell Cup

A team of five Vermont Tech students competed this spring in the finals of the inaugural Cornell Cup, USA, a college-level systems engineering competition, created to empower students to become inventors of the newest innovative applications of embedded technology. Only 24 teams were selected as finalists from colleges and universities nationwide, including MIT, the University of Pennsylvania, the University of California at Berkeley, and Worcester Polytechnic Institute.

“The Cornell Cup was an outstanding opportunity — both for these students and for Vermont Tech — to compete in engineering on a national level,” said team advisor **Lauri Sybel**, Vermont Tech’s director of career services. “As finalists, they were able to spread the word about Vermont Tech while enhancing their resumes and demonstrating their professional design skills.”

The Vermont Tech team, which called itself the “Knights of the Workbench,” was made up of four second-year students: team leader and Electromechanical Engineering Technology major **Ben Holleran**, and Computer Engineering majors **Charles Hathaway**, **Mike Collins**, and **Forest Immel**, as well as first-year student **Thomas Manton**, an Electromechanical Engineering major.

The Knights of the Workbench stood out in the competition as the only team that developed its concept into a functional model — a sophisticated device to combat binge drinking and drunk driving: a fully automated drink-mixing machine that monitors the blood alcohol content using an RFID card reader to scan the magnetic strip on the back of a patron’s license. Comparing a customer’s height and weight to a relational database, the computer enters limits on how many alcoholic beverages the patron can legally consume. Once that limit is reached, the computer automatically switches to a soft-drink only menu.



“Knights of the Workbench” Ben Holleran, Forest Immel, Thomas Manton. Not pictured: Charles Hathaway and Mike Collins.

*“As finalists, they were able to spread the word about Vermont Tech while enhancing their resumes and demonstrating their professional design skills.”*

LAURI SYBEL, Vermont Tech’s director of career services

# Commencement '12



Graduates David Livingston and Mindy Ellis ELM '12.

Memories were made and diplomas were earned by more than 600 Vermont Tech students this spring, comprising the largest in the college’s history. On May 5, **Rick Cochran**, CEO of

International Corporation (MMIC), delivered the commencement speech. A month earlier, **Governor Peter Shumlin** addressed the 81 graduates in the Electrical and Plumbing Apprenticeship Program. On June 16, Academic Dean **Patricia Menchini** gave the keynote address at the Practical Nursing graduation, during which 166 students graduated with their certificates, ready to join the network of healthcare providers in Vermont and beyond.

A stellar group of 38 high school seniors — who simultaneously graduated from high school and completed their first year of college — were celebrated during Vermont Tech’s Vermont Academy of Science and Technology (VAST) commencement on May 15. Half of the VAST class of 2012 will continue as sophomores at Vermont Tech, and 55 percent obtained a 3.5 GPA or higher.



Vermont Governor Peter Shumlin spoke at the Electrical and Plumbing Apprenticeship Graduation on April 14, 2012. He was later quoted in the Randolph Herald, “This College knows how to give degrees that will help our young people find jobs here so they can live and stay in this state.”

### SPRING 2012 FACTS

613	Graduates	38	VAST Graduates
47	On the President’s List	81	Electrical & Plumbing Apprenticeship Graduates
303	On the Dean’s List	17	FairPoint Telecommunications Technology Graduates

### Community Leaders and Faculty Honored

Three individuals who represent the highest standards of Vermont character were honored for their outstanding contributions at commencement.



**Sam ('96) and Ashley Lincoln**, Randolph farmers and business owners, received Vermont Tech’s Green Knight Award, presented to those who inspire others to overcome the challenges they face as leaders in their communities.

In the aftermath of Hurricane Irene, the Lincolns, along with Sam’s brother, **Buster Olney**, organized a fundraiser, “Going to Bat for Vermont Farmers,” for the Vermont Farm Disaster Relief Fund which raised more than \$200,000.



In that same spirit of excellence, grace, and giving, the college remembered **Dr. Matthew H. Zimet** with the Harold G. Wirtz Master Teacher Award. Professor Zimet, who passed away in March after a courageous battle against cancer, taught in the science and veterinary technology departments for 27 years. He was a gifted teacher and illustrator, who was renowned for his wit.

*In honor of Dr. Zimet, the faculty have started “The Matthew Zimet Scholar Fund” for New England students studying Veterinary Technology or any degree in engineering technology and have a 3.0 GPA or better. Contributions can be sent to Ingrid Van Steamburg, Vermont Tech, PO Box 500, Randolph Center, VT 05061.*

# Campus News

## Professional Pilot Technology Program Takes Flight

A new Professional Pilot Technology Program will enroll more than a dozen students this fall at Vermont Tech. The program will provide graduates with a comprehensive understanding of the sciences and technologies involved in aviation and the communication skills necessary to perform and compete in the aviation industry in addition to comprehensive flight training.

Graduates will hold multiple Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) pilot certificates and ratings and will be well prepared for a wide range of careers in aviation, including as professional pilots. **Douglas Smith**, a 30-year career airline pilot, is heading this exciting new venture.

## Vermont Tech Joins American College & University Presidents' Climate Commitment

In step with its commitment to environmental sustainability, Vermont Tech has joined the American College & University Presidents' Climate Commitment (ACUPCC), a high-visibility effort to address global climate disruption.

"We strongly support ACUPCC's mission to accelerate progress towards climate neutrality and sustainability," said President **Philip A. Conroy, Jr.**, who signed the ACUPCC in May. Through the commitment, the college pledges to eliminate net greenhouse gas emissions and promote research and education efforts to re-stabilize the earth's climate. Almost 700 college and university presidents or chancellors have become signatories since the ACUPCC was founded in 2006. "Our focus will be on educating students, creating solutions, and providing leadership-by-example."



New Center for Sustainable Practices Fellows: Michelle Girouard and Dan Aubin.

## Center for Sustainable Practices Welcomes First Fellows

A new fellowship program in the Center for Sustainable Practices gives Vermont Tech alumni the opportunity to work for the college on strategic and special initiatives. The first fellows are **Michelle Girouard '05** and **'11**, who earned an associates degree in Landscape Development and Ornamental Horticulture and then went on to earn a bachelor's in Sustainable Design and Technology, and **Dan Aubin '11**, who earned two bachelors degrees during his four years at Vermont Tech in Architectural Engineering Technology and Sustainable Design and Technology.

### Roger Allbee Named Senior Scholar in Residence

Former Vermont Secretary of Agriculture, Food, and Markets Roger Allbee has been appointed consultant and advisor to the President and the College. Allbee will assist Vermont Tech in addressing the technical and applied knowledge skills important to students interested in agriculture and related food systems.



## PERSONNEL

### New Administrators Bring Expertise to Vermont Tech

A number of recent appointments bring professionals to Vermont Tech. This summer, **Eric Braun** (pictured right) joins the community as Dean of Students and **Sarah Levin** takes over as Registrar. **Kelly Rue Riso** was recently hired as the Director of Payroll and Employee Benefits, **Anne Smeglin** was promoted to Site Director of Putnam/Bennington and **Chris Leazier** was promoted to Head Men's Basketball Coach.



**Geoffrey Lindemer** was appointed Dean of Administration and **Christopher Beattie**, who has served in multiple capacities at Vermont Tech over the past eight years, steps up as Associate Dean of Administration.

**Martha Trombley Oakes** (pictured right) joined Vermont Tech in the newly created position of Associate Dean for Institutional Advancement, responsible for grant development, philanthropy, government relations, alumni relations, marketing and constituent relations. **Michelle Barber** joins Trombley Oakes in Institutional Advancement as the Director of Marketing and Constituent Relations.



**Carol Chase**, a 20-year Vermont Tech veteran, is now the Executive Assistant to the President. If you call the College, you're likely to be greeted by Carol!

### Retirements

**Michael Dempsey**, Registrar

**Dwight Cross**, Assistant Dean of Enrollment Management

**Jack Daniels**, Dean of Administration

**Ann Gnagey**, Science

**Pamelia Smith**, Landscape Design and Sustainable Horticulture

**Richard Warren**, Computer Engineering Technology

Members of the media, aviation professionals, and community leaders gather in the Vermont Tech hangar. Vermont Tech launched the Professional Pilot Technology Program with a press conference in February.



*"Our focus will be on educating students, creating solutions, and providing leadership-by-example."* PHILIP A. CONROY, JR., President

## Baby You Can't Drive My Car

### SPOTLIGHT: Jeremy Spencer

For Google employee **Jeremy Spencer '06**, an officer in the Vermont National Guard, the road to Silicon Valley was more rollercoaster ride than Sunday drive. Between 2004 and 2010, Spencer served three tours of duty: in Iraq, Louisiana (Hurricane Katrina relief), and Afghanistan. Along the way, he managed to graduate from Vermont Tech and earn an industrial engineering degree from East Carolina University.

"In 2011, I decided to take some time to travel, so I headed across country to California," said the Fayston, VT native. "A friend of a friend introduced me to a program manager at Google who was hiring test drivers for cars using artificial intelligence software." Spencer so impressed the program manager that he was hired on the spot.

Now, Spencer spends his days in the passenger seat of a Toyota Prius that drives itself. "Driving is far more complex than most people realize," says Spencer. "When we are driving down the road, we make hundreds of unconscious decisions. My job is to act as the rational, average driver, giving feedback about the car's behavior, how it takes turns, how it accelerates and brakes. The engineers and programmers are geniuses at taking the feedback and writing it into programs that guide the cars."



Jeremy Spencer '06 with a Google self-driving car. Spencer now works with Google engineers to test and improve self-driving technology.

### MEET ALAN CURLER

#### New Alumni Association Executive Board President

Some of you may already know me as I have been on the alumni association board for the past 30 years serving as Alumni Treasurer. I decided this past year to pursue the office of Alumni President. I look forward to serving you as your alumni president for the next two years.

Upon graduating from Vermont Tech in Dairy Farm Management in 1970, I furthered my education by attending UVM and obtaining my bachelor's degree in agriculture. Little did I know, but in three years I would be back at Vermont Tech as the herd manager, a position I held for 7 years. After leaving Vermont Tech, I was a field representative for a local feed company for two years. In 1984, I started working for the Farmers Home Administration as a farm loan officer. In 1999, I went to work for the Chittenden Bank as their agricultural loan officer. For the past eight years I have been an agricultural financial consultant and real estate appraiser.

I live in New Haven, VT with my wife Betsy (who is also a Vermont Tech graduate of 1975 and 1978) one barn cat, a border collie named Sara and four Lippitt Morgan Horses. We have three grown children. Our



daughter, Heather (Vermont Tech graduate 2005 and Cornell 2008) is currently a grad student at Vanderbilt in Nashville, TN. Our oldest son, Matthew is a Cornell graduate and a practicing Veterinarian in Alberta, Canada and our youngest son, Jesse, works in construction.

Our new President, Philip A. Conroy, Jr., is very supportive of our alumni association and we hope you can join us for Alumni Day on September 29, 2012. We would like to hear from you and hope everyone has a great year.

### Stay in Touch on the Web:



[vtc.edu/alumni](http://vtc.edu/alumni)

[facebook.com/VermontTechnicalCollegeAlumni](https://facebook.com/VermontTechnicalCollegeAlumni)

# Faculty News

## Matteson Recognized for Excellence in Clinical Training

Professor **Leah Matteson** is the 2012 recipient of the Vermont Organization of Nurse Leaders (VONL) Award for Excellence in Clinical Teaching. Matteson was lauded for her passion for the nursing profession and teaching, encouraging students to grow as critical thinkers and for her innovative approach to applied learning at the award ceremony during VONL's Annual Summit in April.

Matteson, who holds undergraduate and graduate degrees in nursing, is currently leading a Vermont Tech pilot study using mobile access devices, applications, and social media in the curriculum to understand the impact of nursing students' learning through the use of social media, case study assignments, and simulation.

"Our goal is to create an interactive learning environment in the classroom using these technologies, and then to assess the outcomes for our students and patients at the point of care," said Matteson, who has taught at Vermont's leading academic institutions as well as previously serving as an educator with the Vermont State Department of Mental Health and New York State Department of Health.



Matteson is the recipient of numerous honors, including a "Leadership in Nursing Award" from Russell Sage College, which she attended as an undergraduate and graduate student and where she is currently a DNS (Doctorate of Nursing Science) candidate, and a "Legislative Advocate of the Year" award from the Vermont chapter of the National Alliance on Mental Illness, where she was previously a board member.

## Vermont Tech Takes the Lead in Simulation-Based Learning

Vermont Tech's leadership in simulation-based learning for nursing students was recognized at the International Human Patient Simulation Network (HPSN) conference in Tampa, FL, at the end of February. The College was honored for being at the forefront of health care simulation, which allows nursing students, who practice in small rural communities across the state, to experience life-like medical situations.

In 2011, Vermont Tech opened simulation labs in Williston, Randolph, and Brattleboro, all within a month. This accomplishment, along with an outstanding video on the simulation program and the launch of a newsletter, were instrumental in HPSN's decision to honor the nursing program.

**Michelle Stearns**, Site Director for the Fanny Allen/Williston campus, and **Clifford LaPlante**, Site Director for the Thompson/Brattleboro campus, accepted the award and made a presentation: "A SIM Lab of Your Own: Lessons Learned at One Technical College in Setting Up SIM Labs at Six Sites."

"Simulation technology allows us to use very high-tech, life-like mannequins designed to do just about everything a real person can do, including breathe, talk, and give birth," said LaPlante. "In our labs, we can train nursing students to handle just about any situation."

*"Simulation technology allows us to use very high-tech, life-like mannequins designed to do just about everything a real person can do, including breathe, talk, and give birth"*

CLIFFORD LAPLANTE, Site Director  
Thompson/Brattleboro campus

# Student News

SPOTLIGHT: Chad Weber

## Vermont Tech Student Takes First Place in Cyber Quests and Sans Competitions

**Chad Weber**, a Software Engineering major, soared to first place in two national computer skills competitions this year. In September, Weber bested more than 500 competitors for the top spot at Cyber Quests III, a national online competition of information security disciplines. As the winner, he received a trip to the SANS 2012 NetWars, sponsored by The SANS (SysAdmin, Audit, Network, Security) Institute, founding sponsor of Cyber Quests.

SANS 2012 NetWars presented a hacking contest: a computer and network security challenge designed to represent real-world security issues, their flaws, and resolutions. Each player followed an independent path based on individual problem solving skills, technical skills, aptitude, and creativity. The challenge was played in a fun but safe environment using everyday technology. Again, Weber took first place.

"It's all like a big puzzle to me," said Weber, a North Bennington, VT native, who worked as a technical support specialist before attending Vermont Tech. "You really challenge yourself and you learn what you need to learn."



Chad Weber, left, with other SANS 2012 competitors.

## Student Selected for Prestigious German Exchange Program

**Stephanie Bodensieck**, a junior on track to earn degrees in Mechanical Engineering Technology and Sustainable Design and Technology, has been selected to participate in the Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange for Young Professionals (CBYX), a yearlong, federally funded fellowship for study and work in Germany.

Bodensieck was tapped to be one of 75 participants (among more than 500 applicants) for this program.



Bodensieck will attend a two-month intensive German language course, study at a German university or professional school for four months, and complete a five-month internship with a German company. Participants come from nearly every career field from all over the United States.

Since 1984, more than 1,600 Americans have participated in the CBYX program. Including Bodensieck, 11 Vermont Tech students have participated in the CBYX program, and Vermont Tech has welcomed 15 German students to its campus as part of the exchange.

## Student News

### Students First in Regional ASHRAE Design Competition

A team of Vermont Tech Architectural Engineering Technology seniors was awarded first place in the region as part of a 2011 national student competition for the American Society of Heating, Refrigeration, and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE).

Team members were **Catherine Dumont** of Boulder, CO, and **Dustin Cressman** and **Conor McManus** of Randolph, VT. Their work was supervised by **Mark Vincello**, P.E., of WV Engineering Associates of Keene, NH, and Professor **Scott A. Sabol**, P.E.

The students competed in the “system design” category, investigating heating and cooling loads, air exchange requirements, and other energy and human comfort issues for the renovation and renewal design of the Drake Well Museum in Titusville, PA. Their design focused on energy efficiency and sustainable engineering concepts.

### List of “Most Successful Entrepreneurs” Features Vermont Tech Student

What to do with the millions — even billions — of jugs, shampoo bottles, and other plastics that most often end up in the trash? **Tyler McNaney**, a freshman from Milton, VT, has invented the answer. The Filabot Reclaimer is a desktop device that grinds up and melts those plastic throw-aways, turning them into spools of filament that can be used with desktop 3-D printers. The 3-D printers can then make a wide range of plastic parts, from cups to door-knobs.

McNaney, a Mechanical Engineering major, has already raised more than \$30,000 for the Filabot Reclaimer on the entrepreneurial website Kickstarter, a funding platform for creative upstarts. He was featured on MSNBC News in January and named to the list, “Most Successful Entrepreneurs of the Next Ten Years,” by the World Future Society (WFS). The WFS will feature McNaney’s work at World Future 2012, the organization’s conference that takes place this summer in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. The conference brings together world-renowned researchers, up-and-coming thought leaders, innovators, and trendsetters who will focus on a wide range of foresight techniques and global trends that will influence the future.

“I hit the ground running with the Filabot idea at the end of last year,” explains McNaney, who expects the Filabot Reclaimer will retail for approximately \$800. “I think it’s going to be something really, really big. It allows anyone to make something useful with plastic. The possibilities for what 3-D printers can make are endless.”

## ATHLETICS ROLLS OUT HALL OF FAME



Vermont Tech bids farewell to **John Dyer**, who served as Head Basketball Coach for nine seasons. Dyer, who left the college this spring to pursue his interest in dragonboats, led the men’s basketball team to 155 wins, five bids to the USCAA (United States Collegiate Athletic Association) Men’s National Basketball Tournament, and three YSCC (Yankee Small College Conference) Regular Season Championships, among many other victories.

Vermont Tech is establishing a new Athletics Hall of Fame to recognize athletes, coaches, administrators, and contributors for their commitment, sacrifice, and dedication. Nominees must exemplify the highest standards of sportsmanship, ethical conduct, and character. All candidates will be judged on their significant and/or long-term contributions to Vermont Tech athletics.

### Nomination Procedures

Any graduate, staff member, or friend of the college may make nominations. Self-nominations are not allowed, although an individual may nominate a team of which s/he was a member. Nominations are due by August 31.

All entries must be submitted to the Athletics Department. The following materials are required:

- A letter of recommendation and other letters of support from individuals who can validate or substantiate related information.
- Supporting materials, such as newspaper articles, certificates, historical records, letters, film footage, etc.

Submission forms can be found online at [www.vtc.edu/athletics](http://www.vtc.edu/athletics).

## THE ANNUAL FUND 2011

The Annual Fund is critical to the operation of the College. It is our greatest source of unrestricted support and support designated for departments and academic divisions. Annual Fund gifts are expended in the year received and are applied to those areas of greatest need and opportunity.

The Annual Fund Honor Roll lists contributions by club level. Gifts made by local businesses, corporate matching gifts, and honor and memorial gifts are listed here as well.

### President’s Club

Gifts of \$500 and above.

### Dean’s Club

Gifts of \$250 to \$499.

### Century Club

Gifts of \$100 to \$249.

### Green & White Club

Gifts up to \$99.

Vermont Tech regrets any omissions or errors in the listing. Please bring corrections to the attention of the Alumni & Development Office at (802) 728-1513 [alumni@vtc.edu](mailto:alumni@vtc.edu).

## Honor Roll of Donors

### President’s Club

Dr. Albert Soforenko '49  
James Fayette '85  
Dr. Carl Brandon  
Dr. Philip A. Conroy, Jr.  
Timothy Donovan  
Elizabeth Lindsey  
Patricia Menchini  
Ottawaquechee Health Foundation  
E. Miles Prentice  
Dr. Brent Sargent

### Dean’s Club

Alfred Key '82  
Terrance Stanley '10  
Dr. Christopher Dutton  
Roger Howes  
Mary Kathryn Juskiewicz  
John Paterson  
Nvidia  
Albert Robitaille  
Scott Sabol  
David Sturges  
Lauri Sybel  
Martha Trombley Oakes  
Joyce Twing  
Vermont Wireform  
Michael Wooden

### Century Club

John Page '42  
Thomas Roughton '46  
John Audsley '49  
Howard Bemis '50  
Lee Cassidy '50  
Royce Hunt '50  
Orin Adams '59  
A. Douglas Nadeau '60  
Roland Mayo '61  
Ronald Perron '61  
Eric Bowers '69  
George Shortsleeves '69  
Fay Bashaw '70  
Gary Evans '70  
Benjamin Nutter '73  
Steven Dwyer '77  
Philip Watson '77  
Karl Winchester '77  
Kathleen Fletcher '78  
Timothy Ellsworth '79

Ronald Piro '79  
Charles Waterman '79  
Russell Bragg '81  
Rosemary Distel '81  
Robert Lalancette '81  
Frank Perry '81  
Steven Spadaccini '82  
Hobart Guion '83  
James Bouffard '92  
Allan Forward '93  
Mark Gambero '93  
Susan Fredette '95  
Mark Moyer '96  
Nathan Strong '97  
James Smith '01 & '03  
Nicholas Digiovanni '02  
Robert Fredricksen '03  
Christopher Morgan '05  
Amanda Vumbaco '09  
Byron Angell  
Christine Black  
Carol Buchdahl  
Donna Barlow Casey  
Dwight Cross  
Ralph Esposito  
Matthew Gallagher  
Robin Goodall  
Dr. Ellen Grimes  
Benjamin Johnson  
Geoffrey Lindemer  
George Longenecker  
Mary O’Leary  
Rachel Repstad  
Laurie Sabens  
IBM Corporation

### Green & White Club

Robert Hughes '46  
George Kingsbury '47  
Kermit Spaulding '55  
Ronald Frascoia '62  
Bruce Lippens '62  
Allen Kieslich '63  
David Lathrop '63  
Robert Payeur '63  
William Pellerin '63  
Donald Randall '63  
Robert Bragg '64  
Ronald Greenwood '64  
James Forest '65  
David Silloway '66

Robert Tracy '66  
Dale Briggs '67  
Lynford Wheatley '67  
David Russell '68  
H. Douglas Hoes '69  
Norman Potvin '70  
Gary Hodgdon '75  
Mark Klebauskas '75  
William Sawyer '75  
Pierre Vaillancourt '76  
David Socinski '79  
Russell Glen '80  
Mark Milazzo '80  
Richard Spies '80  
Linda LaFrance '81  
Nicolaas Garbacik '93  
James Gates '95  
Karl Marchessault '95  
Brian Picotte '97  
Joel Wenzel '98  
Dana Bathalon '99  
Mary Jo Berube '00  
Thomas Larose '01  
William Atkinson '02  
Karry Booska '03 & '05  
Sandra Katz '05  
Philip Baldyga '07  
Katherine Beltaire  
Scott Brown  
Nancy Budd  
Carol Chase  
Jack Daniels  
Deborah Dunklee  
Jill Ely  
Jean Hakim  
Katrin Helgason  
Marjorie Hennessy  
Jeffrey Higgins  
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Justin Martin  
Louise Maynard  
Diana Mellar  
Terrence Murphy  
Alex Northern  
Philip Petty  
John Reilly  
Gordon Reynolds  
Carolyn Stannard-Carlo  
Mary Jeanne Taylor  
Michael Taylor  
The Xerox Foundation

# Class Notes

## In Memoriam

**Sherward Farnsworth, AG '43**, passed away on April 21, 2011 in Mayo Health Care in Northfield. He was born Oct. 28, 1924 in Randolph, the son of Leonard O. and Ruie E. (Angell) Farnsworth of East Brookfield. He attended grammar school with his twin brother, Durward, in a one room schoolhouse in East Brookfield taught by their mother, Williamstown High School, and then the Vermont Agricultural School (now known as Vermont Technical College). He served with the 5th Marine Division 13th Artillery during World War II for three years, including combat on Iwo Jima and then on the Japanese mainland. After the war, he returned to Vermont. On June 29, 1946 he married Mary Downs of Williamstown. Following their marriage, they made their first home in Williamstown, where they raised four sons as he worked as a carpenter and then as superintendent at Norwich University for Consolidated Construction. He lived in Essex Junction, where he eventually operated the Farnsworth Construction Company with his wife and sons until 1989. He enjoyed playing bridge, bowling, hunting, golfing, and cross country skiing and was very active in the Masons.

**Carl Fuller, AG '43**, died November 26, 2010 at Bennington Health and Rehabilitation Center. He was born in Windsor December 23, 1924, the son of Carl E. and Minnie (Kinerson) Fuller Sr. Mr. Fuller married the former Vera Barr in Woodstock October 2, 1945. He was a lifelong dairy farmer, owning and operating Twin Brooks Farm in West Shaftsbury for many years, and was known for his dairy farming accomplishments. He was a member and served on the boards of various farm organizations including the Farm Bureau. He enjoyed restoring and collecting antique tractors, antique gas engines, farm tools, and lanterns, as well as snowmobiling and traveling.

**George Dodge, AG '44**, died peacefully February 14, at Woodridge Nursing Home in Berlin. Born December 22, 1925 at the Barre City Hospital, he was the son of Harvey J. and Clara E. (Hawes) Dodge. He grew up in Berlin, where he attended elementary school and graduated from Spaulding High School in Barre in 1943. He went on to earn an agricultural degree from Vermont

Technical College in 1944. After his education, George worked with his father for two years on the family dairy farm on Scott Hill Road before buying it in 1946. He farmed on his own until 1985, providing milk to the Booth Brothers Dairy in South Barre. Over the years, he was known for having the best Jersey herd in the area, both for his production and quality of milk. After 1985, George rented the farm to Gordon Booth and later to Waller Morse but continued to sugar and cut cedar fence posts until 2006 when he sold the farm. The farm is now owned by the Dodge Farm Community. Dodge Farm and a portion of the land is in the Vermont Land Trust. George was able to continue living on the property until his death. An avid walker and snowshoer, George walked two to three miles a day to stay in shape. He stayed current on local government, never missing a vote on Town Meeting Day. He was a Red Sox fan and enjoyed listening to baseball games on the radio. George didn't say much unless you asked him a question. He grew his own vegetables including corn, beets, and potatoes. Sweet corn was his prize crop.

**Robert Steiner, AG '47**, passed away June 24, 2012 after a long illness. He was born November 8, 1928 in Bridgeport, Conn. and was the son of Ruth and Gilbert Steiner. He served as a member of the Counterintelligence Corps in the U.S. Army during the Korean War and was recently recognized by General Robert Cone for his 35 years of dedicated work with students seeking admission to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, N.Y.

Steiner served Manchester as a member of the School Board, and as Clerk of the School Board through the 1970s. He was a Trustee of the Eastern States Exposition and served as a judge at the Martha's Vineyard Agricultural Fair for twenty five years. He is a lifelong member of the Southport, Conn. volunteer fire department and was an avid collector of both American Flyer Trains and milk bottles. Locally, Steiner was also active in the Friends of Stark Park Association; Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, the Leather Helmets Society and was a member of the Hooksett Conservation Commission.

A native New Englander, Bob was raised in Southport, Conn. and had fond memories of his work at Nuala Farm as a young child. Steiner received his Bachelor's Degree in Agriculture from the University of Connecticut. He also served as the trainer for the UCONN Husky Dog. Steiner received his Master's Degree in Education from the University of Rhode Island.

Steiner spent a career working in the field of

education. He began by teaching high school in Moodus, Conn., served as an Agricultural Editor at the University of Rhode Island, in New Hampshire he worked for the University of New Hampshire and transferred to Manchester to help start the Merrimack Valley Branch, which is now known as the University of New Hampshire – Manchester. He later served as the Director of the Extension Division for Hawthorne College, served as the Chairman of the Animal Science Department for Essex Agricultural and Technical Institute and served as an instructor in veterinary technology at Alvirne High School. Steiner was later appointed by President George Bush to serve as the Northeast Regional Director of the U.S. Department of Agriculture Farmers Home Administration.

**Ronald Perron, HT '61**, passed away on May 20, 2012 in Middletown, Connecticut. Born on September 6, 1941, he was the son of Almy (Shatney) Perron and the late Rene Perron. Mr. Perron worked for the Connecticut Highway Department for 35 years and was also a licensed real estate broker and a landlord. He was an original member of the Haddam Neck Volunteer Fire Department and a former deacon at the Haddam Neck Congregational Church.

Mr. Perron traveled extensively and was a great sports enthusiast and an avid hunter. He loved visiting with people, sharing stories, and telling jokes.

**Richard Walker, HT '61**, died December 3, 2010 after a courageous 12-year battle with Multiple Myeloma. He was the son of Dr. David A. and Lucy Walker and was born March 29, 1940 in Morrisville. Dick graduated from People's Academy class of 1958. He met his wife, Marie Frost of Brattleboro, on a blind date and they were married on September 2, 1961. She predeceased him in 2004. Dick enjoyed working with his hands and liked to work on projects around the house. Dick's sense of humor was known far and wide. He loved people, talking with them and exchanging news, telling stories and jokes, and he always had a quip at the ready. He loved his family and friends. During his illness, he enjoyed studying about the Civil War and became an avid and enthusiastic hockey fan.

**Theodore Midurski, MT '67**, passed away on January 9, 2011 following a brief illness. Ted, a former resident of North Bennington, was born on September 26, 1946, the son of Edward and Nell Midurski. He attended North Bennington Elementary School and graduated from North Bennington High School in 1964. He received

degrees from Vermont Technical College and Northeastern University and was employed by the Massachusetts State Department of Capital Asset Management. Ted joined the Massachusetts National Guard in the 1960s and retired in 1994, achieving the rank of Lieutenant Colonel 94th U.S. Army Reserve Command. He was very involved in athletics throughout life, played varsity soccer at NBHS and later coached his sons' soccer teams. Though his work, he travelled extensively throughout the United States and abroad.

**Thomas Leach, EM '69**, passed away on March 13, 2011 at Fletcher Allen Health Care. He was born March 23, 1949 in Bennington, VT. He graduated from South Burlington High School in 1967. Tom was loved for his upbeat and cheerful manner despite health challenges he faced in recent years. His jovial manner will be missed. He was fond of Jazz music and enjoyed the disassembling and assembling of electronic components for the sheer fun of getting the throw away item working again. One of his biggest joys was visiting people in the nursing home. As a Jehovah's Witness, he enjoyed sharing his hope to all those who would listen.

**Gary Raymond, HT '69**, lost his battle with cancer at his home on December 25, 2010. He was born on September 6, 1949 in Hanover, NH and was a lifetime resident of Sharon, Vermont. Gary graduated from South Royalton High School in 1967. He was a Vietnam War veteran, proud of his service in the Navy Seabees in Vietnam and Diego Garcia from 1969 to 1972. He was a dedicated volunteer for the Sharon Fire Department for over 31 years. Gary enjoyed crossword puzzles, hunting, and woodworking. He was always working on a building project; whether it was a large project like his home, hunting camp, and woodshop or small gifts like cutting boards, picture frames, and wooden puzzles. Gary was always quick to help a friend or neighbor in need.

**James Riddell, MT '76**, passed away on December 15, 2010 at Fletcher-Allen Health Care. Born December 4, 1947 in Barre, he was the son of James Grant and Ruth Marjorie (Owen) Riddell. He attended Williamstown Elementary School and graduated from Williamstown High School in 1965. On June 25, 1988 he married Linda Spooner Smith in Williamstown where they made their home. Stuart was an auto parts salesman for Bailey Brothers and Bond Auto Parts and later was a partner in Barre Auto Parts. He had served as town auditor in Williamstown.

For over 20 years, he was a volunteer with the Williamstown Fire Department, where he had been an assistant chief, was one of the fire department's first EMT's, and served on the prudential committee. He also worked for Simon Operations as a water and wastewater system operator. In earlier years, he was a member of the Williamstown United Federated (Congregational) Church and sang in the choir. He enjoyed antique cars, was in the process of restoring one, and was a member of the Plymouth Antique Car Club. Stuart's other interests were motorcycling, renovating his home, and his puppy, "Bella." In earlier years, he enjoyed snowmobiling.

**Chris Matthew Leclerc, MT '79**, passed away on May 6, 2011, surrounded by his loving family. He was born in Burlington on May 19, 1959, the son of Leonard and Shirley (McNasser) Leclerc. Chris married Donna (Belanger) on June 25, 1983. He attended Colchester High School, Class of 1977. He loved sports, camping, playing cards, reading, going for long drives, and spending time with his family. He had an amazing sense of humor and brought laughter to all those around him.

**Irving Shurtleff, AD '79**, died unexpectedly at his home on February 8, 2011. He was born September 26, 1929, son of Frank and Amy (Gilbert) Shurtleff. He attended Woodstock High School and Vermont Technical College. He served in the US Army and was stationed in Germany from 1954 to 1957, where he was a platoon leader and received numerous commendations for his marksmanship, athletic achievements, and mechanical skills. Upon completion of his military service, he returned to North Bridge-water, where he took possession of his family's dairy farm. His life from beginning to end was measured by the changing seasons: sugaring, planting, haying, and harvesting. He enjoyed jeep rides, country fairs, picnics, and sharing stories around the dinner table. Irving was a kind, thoughtful man who loved animals, his land, and spending time with family and friends. He always put others ahead of himself, never turning away a stray animal or hesitating to help anyone in need. As a local historian and storyteller, he added his dry Vermont humor to almost every remembrance.

**James Rocheleau, ET '84**, passed away December 26, 2010 at his home in West Lebanon, NH from a long illness. He was born September 11, 1958 in Burlington, the son of George A. and Jeannette Alice (Bedard) Rocheleau. James

graduated from high school in Burlington and later from Vermont Technical College. He served in the Air Force from 1976-1981. He was married to Lisa Langevin (Botala) on Jan. 10, 1987 in Swanton. They resided in Fairfax and he worked at several plants including Novellus, Varian, and Tokyo Electrons as a field service engineer in Burlington for several years. After their divorce, he moved to Florida before residing in the Upper Valley and had worked at Timken Aerospace for several years. James was predeceased by his parents. He is survived by his children, Shawn, Jeremy and Deanna Rocheleau, all of Fairfax.

## 1900s

**Timothy Chatterton, AET '97**, recently became a licensed Professional Engineer. Tim, his wife **Beth (Osborne), BUS '98**, and their three daughters live in Maryland.

**Jamie Hatcher, CPE '99 & EET '00**, married Kathryn Shugrue on September 18, 2010. The morning ceremony was held at The Chapel at West Parish in Andover, Massachusetts. The reception was held at the Haverhill Country Club. Best man was Larry White and groomsmen were Jamie Easterbrooks, **Bill Wesley, EET '01**, and David Martin. Maid of honor was Allison Ciampa and bridesmaids were Mia Wilder, Kristen Richard, Otilie Dean, and Melissa Godfrey. Jamie is an engineer at Texas Instruments in Manchester, NH, while Kathryn is a Registered Nurse at Riverbend in Concord, NH. They took a 10-day honeymoon in Europe and now live in Hooksett, NH.

## 2000s

**Michael Anastasi, CPM '01**, has announced his engagement to Lela Sciortino. The future bride is employed as an account associate at Athena Health and the future groom is employed by the town of Watertown as a firefighter.

**Dennis Shockro, CPM '06**, has recently announced his engagement to Holly Ovitt. Dennis and Holly own Dry Brook Stables and Dennis is also employed by Valley Concrete & Construction. An August 2012 wedding is planned.

**Jamie Campbell, AET '09**, recently became engaged to Ryan Jarvis. Jamie is an office manager and technician at a soils engineering firm in White River Junction and Ryan is a police officer for the North Haverhill Police Department. A September 2012 wedding is planned.



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**Upcoming Events**

The alumni office is in the process of planning several upcoming events.

**Look for us at:**

July 11

**Voltage Soccer Club**

**Vermont Tech Night**

St. Albans, VT

August 8

**Allen House Open House**

Randolph Center, VT 5:00-7:00 pm

August 10-12

**Stowe Car Show**

Stowe, VT

September 15

**Tunbridge World's Fair**

Tunbridge, VT

September 29

**Alumni Homecoming Day**

Randolph Center, VT



**Save the Date!**

Alumni Homecoming Day is Saturday, September 29.

Watch your mailbox for more details.

**Nominate the Alumnus/ Alumna of the Year!**

They go the extra mile. They stand out for their contributions to the College, to the community, to their profession. This is your opportunity to tell us who deserves this year's award for contributing in any or all of the above ways. The nominee must be a graduate of VSA, VATI, or Vermont Tech, and must be at least 10 years out (Class of 2002 or earlier).

**Send your nomination letter** to the Vermont Tech Alumni Association, Vermont Technical College, Randolph Center, Vermont 05061 (or email [alumni@vtc.edu](mailto:alumni@vtc.edu)). The nomination should explain why the candidate should be selected and offer background information, an enumeration of achievements or contributions, and any other related information. The deadline for nominations is August 31.