

Two of our classmates have been honored in 2008 by the Alumni Association for their contributions. *Edward Hoyt is one of the recipients of the Henry B. Kane '24 Award which recognizes exceptional service and accomplishment in the area of fund raising for the Institute and/or the Alumni Association. *Lester Gimpelson is one of the recipients of the George B. Morgan '20 Award, which recognizes sustained excellence in all aspects of Educational Council activity including dedication to MIT and concern for prospective students.

*Jack Safirstein reports: Not a lot of new stuff over the past year if you don't count my new hip. It works pretty well even if the operation resulted in two more trips back to the hospital after my adrenal glands shut down and then my kidneys stopped functioning. But all is OK now and only the normal complaints – bad ankle, sore shoulder, and terrible season for the Yankees. I continue to sing with the local chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Association, although there is too much emphasis on competing at the regional and national levels. But the music is fun, the guys are great, and the audiences like us. The synagogue we helped found some 42 years ago is finally moving towards establishing an endowment fund. It seems like I have been working to get it going forever.

*Vic Klemens retired in 2006 from the University of Delaware where he was professor and co-director of the Center for Remote Sensing in the College of Marine and Earth Studies. He says he is more active than ever, organizing international conferences, writing several books, and still teaching his favorite courses here and overseas. He and his wife, Vida, have adopted their two year old grandson, which keeps them on their toes. Vic and Vida spent six weeks in Lithuania where Vic was on a Fullbright assignment to teach a course on “Remote Sensing of Environment” at Klaipeda University. They had the opportunity to do some sightseeing, especially along the Baltic Sea coast which is very attractive. They also traveled to Riga, Latvia, where they enjoyed cultural events such as operas and plays.

From *John Varela comes word that he and his wife, Carole, will be celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary on April 19, 2009 (Patriots Day). Their fifth grandchild was born in the fall of 2007. John was pleased to take advantage of the first cool day of the coming autumn to carry his bag for 18 holes. He clearly recalled marveling years ago at 70-somethings who could do that, and now he is one. But he says that one member of his regular foursome is 89.

*Don Aucamp played tennis with *Martin Gerson and *Martin Zombeck in Naples, FL, and reports that both are in good health and doing well. Don had dinner with *Tony Ryan who still lives in his beach mansion and does a lot of traveling.

Marian and *Hal Smith spent two weeks in July cruising on the Dnieper River and the Black Sea where Hal lectured on “Cooperative Threat Reduction in Ukraine”, and on “European Missile Defense” to an audience of alumni of the universities of California, Stanford, North Carolina, Georgia, and the military academies. Recent events in Ossetia have only heightened his appreciation for what they learned while traveling.

When *Paul Carr prepared this his daughter-in-law and her family were in bumper-to-bumper traffic, evacuating their New Orleans home ahead of Hurricane Gustav. He said he and his wife Ginny were encouraging moving closer to them in New Hampshire. Paul was preparing a presentation titled “Free Energy Forever: Confronting Oil Price Increases and Climate Change” to be delivered at an IEEE/Sigma Xi meeting at MIT Lincoln Lab. It is based on Chapter 9, “The Intrinsic Beauty of Nature versus Its Utility: The Environmental Challenge” of Paul’s book, “Beauty in Science and Spirit”. A summary of the book and related information can be found at www.MirrorofNature.org.

*Lewis Smith was back at the Institute in June for the graduation of his eldest grandchild, Allison Brown, who received BS degrees from courses I and XII. He regrets that Evie, his wife of 50 years, could not have been there. She passed away in March 2008, only three weeks after being diagnosed with cancer. While at MIT, Lew met with *Ranata Cathou and *Marty Forsberg. Lew will be back in June 2009 for the graduation of his second oldest granddaughter, Susannah Brown, who will receive a BS from course VIII.

*Bill Salmon provided me with a copy of the text of the Alumni Achievement Award presented to *Julian Cherubini by Thayer Academy, Braintree, MA, at its convocation in May 2008. The following is summarized from the presentation. A proud son of Quincy, MA, Julian entered Thayer Academy as a freshman in 1949. His math teacher wrote “a very brilliant mind, but ... he makes the teacher feel he is sitting on a potentially explosive volcano.” After receiving his undergraduate degree in metallurgy from MIT, Julian earned a masters degree in material and radio chemistry from the University of Tennessee. By the early 1960s Julian was back in Boston. He met and married Barbara Agbay (some would say this was his best achievement ever) and they moved to Boston’s South End as urban pioneers. Julian understood that real estate in Boston’s South End was a good investment when not many others would have agreed.

In the early 1970s Julian sensed a need in the growing health care sector. Julian and Barbara founded Alimed in their Boston living room. From there the company moved to the North End and then to Chinatown. In May 1985 the company relocated to Dedham in order to expand its operation and warehouse. Alimed now operates out of a nineteenth century mill in Dedham. The company currently employs 180, and is a leading manufacturer and distributor of orthopedic, rehabilitation, operating room, diagnostic imaging, and ergonomic products. To keep pace with the dynamic healthcare industry, Alimed is constantly analyzing new technologies, business trends, and directions of the health care marketplace.

Julian and Barbara’s daughters are also high achievers. Nicole is an accomplished sculptor who lives in New York. Alexandra is an equestrian, entrepreneur, and designer of high tech shock-absorbing horse gear. She also owns and runs the Samson Projects Art Gallery in Boston’s South End.

Julian has been a strong supporter of the arts. He is the former president of Boston’s Copley Society, a patron of the Museum of Fine Arts, a lover of good music, and an avid photographer. In 1995 Julian established the Julian Chreubini Prize, given to the top

academic junior at Thayer, for achievements in the arts, sciences, or humanities. Since then, 13 students have been recognized by the Cherubini Prize. The presentation concludes with recognition of Julian's lifetime achievements, his personal pursuit of excellence, and thanks for his efforts to instill a love of learning and a desire to excel in a new generation of students.

-*Don Roellke, secretary, 4870 Carriagepark Road, Fairfax, VA 22032; tel: 703-978-7370; e-mail: daruellke@alum.mit.edu.