Celebrating Alumni Community Service: Report and Resource Guide

2010

Princeton University Alumni Council
Committee on Community Service

When all is said, it is not learning but the spirit of service that will give a college place in the public annals of the nation.

– Woodrow Wilson, 1896
Note from the Alumni Council

This report and resource guide grew out of a conversation within the leadership of the Alumni Council about a possible new community service initiative for Princeton alumni. As we discussed the merits of the idea before us, we found ourselves repeatedly referring to the innovative and profoundly influential programs that have been developed by Princeton alumni, as exemplified by: Princeton Project 55 (now known as the Princeton AlumniCorps), founded by members of the Class of 1955 in 1990; Princeton Internships in Civic Service (PICS), established by the Class of 1969 fifteen years ago; the Princeton Prize in Race Relations, created in 2003 and supported by a wide spectrum of alumni; and Teach for America, a national service project that began as the senior thesis of Wendy Kopp ’89 and grew far beyond the boundaries of Old Nassau. We all knew of other service activities organized by classes, regional associations and groups like the Association of Princeton Graduate Alumni, but we realized that there was no single source of information about, much less a comprehensive listing of, these projects.

Out of that conversation emerged the idea of a report, to be available in print and online, that would celebrate the efforts of Princeton alumni to improve their communities, our nation and all nations. The report is also intended to serve as a source of information and inspiration for alumni who are contemplating starting community service projects or who are looking for existing programs in which to get involved. The Alumni Council’s Committee on Community Service, under the leadership of Mary Sweeney Koger ’86 and Illa Brown ’76, enthusiastically embraced this endeavor and spent the past year compiling and organizing the information you will find in these pages and on our website. We think you will agree that the quality and breadth of Princeton alumni-related projects is truly extraordinary. We commend the committee for its dedication, resourcefulness and creativity, and we commend the legions of Princetonians who place service to their communities at the forefront of their lives. Keep up the good work!

Anne C. Sherrerd *87 h52
President, Alumni Association of Princeton University
Chair, Alumni Council

Henry Von Kohorn ’66
Vice President, Alumni Association of Princeton University
Vice Chair, Alumni Council

From the Community Service Committee

Tradition:
The alumni of Princeton University have valued and delivered service for the public good from the very beginning of the University and the nation. From its start as an incubator of clergymen and Founding Fathers, Princeton has produced men and, later, women, who have adopted Woodrow Wilson’s charge of 1896: that Princetonians should use their intellect and extraordinary educational opportunity “In the Nation’s Service.” In 1996, under the leadership of President Harold T. Shapiro *64, Princeton broadened that vision to “In the Nation’s Service and in the Service of All Nations.”

Mission:
The mission of the Alumni Council Committee on Community Service is to strengthen Princeton’s tradition of “In the Nation’s Service and in the Service of All Nations.” We affirm the value of community service, and encourage and recognize participation by Princeton regional associations, classes and affiliated groups. We envision a society wherein community service is recognized as invaluable to the general welfare and a meaningful educational experience for all students and alumni.

Celebration:
We are pleased to institute the practice of periodically celebrating the community service innovation and accomplishment that has taken place in the Princeton alumni community. We have sought the input of all the classes and regions, as well as other dynamic groups of Princetonians working together.

Aspiration:
Our goal is to create a complete view of the current Princeton alumni community service world. If despite our best efforts, we have missed word of other active projects, we welcome the chance to add them to the record—both online and in subsequent printed reports.

Participation:
We hope that additional groups of alumni will be inspired to take part in existing projects or create new ones—both for the chance to make positive changes in our local communities and throughout the world and to enjoy the friendships that naturally develop when Princetonians of all ages and backgrounds join together. There are many resources collected here to get you started—and our committee is standing by to help.

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Community Service Today

Trends in Alumni Community Service:

• **Summer Civic Engagement Internships and Break Trips** for Princeton students all around the country and the world are being sponsored by classes and regional associations through partnerships with the Pace Center for Civic Engagement, which handles the on-campus student recruitment, and the PICS Program (Princeton Internships in Civic Service), founded by the class of 1969, which coordinates with non-profit organizations wishing to have interns and provides alumni mentors for the students.

• **Supporting or Creating Service Projects With On-Campus Student Groups**, alumni add value to student-led service projects by participating directly, supplying materials, and/or sharing academic and career development expertise with current Princeton students. Examples include:
  - Engineers Without Borders with Arial Homes
  - Princeton Environmental Institute with the classes of 1979 and 1976
  - Princeton in Asia with the Class of 1948 and the Association of Princeton Graduate Alumni (APGA)
  - The Summer Journalism Program with Daily Princetonian alumni from the Class of 2001 and others

• **Promoting Social Entrepreneurship** among Princeton students by running business plan competitions to generate seed money for start-up ventures:
  - Spirit of Service ’76 Green Business Plan Competition
  - ReachOut 56-81 Social Entrepreneurship Contest

• **One-Day Projects** that allow Princetonians to come together with multi-age family groups and participate at various levels of involvement from showing up, to making a financial contribution, to envisioning and organizing the entire event.
  - Mount Princeton Trail Maintenance in Colorado
  - Coastal Cleanup in Connecticut
  - Adopt-A-Family Program in Washington, DC

• **Regional Princeton Prize in Race Relations Committees**, starting with two pilot regions, Washington, DC and Boston in 2004, the program has grown to 24 regions as of 2010-11, adding in 2008 an annual on-campus Symposium sponsored by members of the Class of 1966 to bring all the winners together to discuss race relations in greater depth.

• **Significant Involvement in Local Public Education**
  - A partnership with a single school: Snowden HS Mentoring Program, Princeton Association of New England
  - An umbrella organization of alumni associations adopting several schools: Alumni for the Public Schools, Chicago
  - A collaboration between multiple classes to provide college awareness for urban high schoolers: ReachOut 56-81

• **Celebrating Major Reunions by Logging Individual Classmates’ Hours of Work in their Own Local Communities**
  - 1979 total hours of Community Service by the Class of 1979 for their 30th Reunion
  - Class of 2000’s “Hangs 10” Reunion asking each classmate for 10 hours of community service prior to Reunions
Recent Community

Classes

1939 ● Fred Fox ’39 Fund ● supports undergraduate student projects including volunteer work for recognized organizations ●

B.J. Katen-Narvell ’78

1948 ● Princeton in Asia Summer of Service Program ● supports the efforts of Princeton students to teach a summer English course in rural China ● Everard K. Pinneo ’48

1950 ● Habitat for Humanity ● with the class of ’05, donations and hands-on construction of a new home in Trenton ● 60th Reunion project, 2010 ● David McAlpin ’50

1952 ● Class of 1952 Enduring Mark ● support of the Sustained Dialogue Campus Network ● systematic dialogues on 14 college campuses to mitigate racial and ethnic tensions ● co-sponsor of the Tenth Anniversary SDCN Annual Conference in March 2010 ● Hal Saunders ’52

1955 ● Princeton AlumnCorps (formerly Princeton Project 55) ● fellowship program placing alumni at non-profits ● founded 1989 ● Kenly Webster ’55 and Bill Leahy ’66

1956 ● ReachOut 56-81 ● one-year fellowships to graduating seniors for projects of social significance ● college awareness program at schools in Trenton and Brooklyn ● ReachOut 56, founded 1991, became ReachOut 56-81 in 2008 ● Daniel Gardiner ’56

1962 ● Eagle Rock School ● contributions of time and ideas to an innovative Colorado alternative school, including sponsoring a Princeton student summer intern ● Robert Burkhardt ’62

1966 ● Princeton Prize Symposium on Race ● sponsors the on-campus culminating event of the national Princeton Prize in Race Relations Program ● founded 2008 ● Brian Breuel ’66 and Henry Von Kohorn ’66

1967 ● Student Volunteers Council ● annual donation to SVC for student placements in summer community service internships ● founded 1996 ● Peter Holzer ’67

1969 ● Princeton Internships in Civic Service (PICS) ● sponsors internships for Princeton undergraduates and alumni ● major support from classes of ’70 and ’77 ● founded 1995 ● Chuck Freyer ’69

1970 ● Support of Interns through PICS ● support of nine summer student internships at eight non-profits ● presentation at Reunions about class involvement with PICS ● 40th Reunion project, 2010 ● Ralph Binder ’70

1971 ● The 71 Legacy Initiative (71LI) ● nonprofit corporation to help alumni find meaningful ways to give back ● Bill Lewis ’71

1972 ● Princeton in Africa Fellowship ● Jim Robinson ’72

1974 ● Anchor House Book Drive ● collection of books for teens in Trenton emergency shelter ● 35th Reunion project, 2009 ● Kristin DeKuiper ’74 and Ginny Corson ’74

1975 ● Class of 1975 Fund ● endowment fund to sponsor undergraduate internships with Class of 1975 members, in partnership with the Pace Center ● Diane Weeks ’75 (2000-2010) ● Maureen Scott ’75 ● Donation to Womanspace ● collection of cell phones for recycling with the proceeds donated to shelter for abused women and children ● 35th Reunion project, 2010 ● Steward Levin ’75

1976 ● Spirit of Service ’76 (SOS ’76) ● three-part environmental initiative: green business plan competition, educational activities, speaker series ● founded 2006 ● Illa Brown ’76 and Mimi Murley ’76

1977 ● Class of 1977 Wheelchair Program ● donation of 560 wheelchairs to people in need in Guatemala and Thailand ● 25th (2002) and 30th (2007) Reunion projects ● Bill Farrell ’77 ● support of seven summer internships through PICS ● Eve Lesser ’77

1978 ● Class of 1978 Foundation ● supports students’ direct involvement in hands-on community service with summer stipends ● Jesse Milan ’78

1979 ● 1979 Hours in the Nation’s Service ● individual community service ● 30th Reunion project, 2009 ● Martha Kramer ’79

1980 ● Pace Center Breakout Princeton Projects ● donation to Pace Center for midterm break trips for 40 undergraduates to perform community service ● 30th Reunion project, 2010 ● Kim Ritrievi ’80

1981 ● ReachOut 56-81 ● one-year fellowships to graduating seniors at NGOs ● college awareness program in urban high schools ● social entrepreneurship contest for current students ● founded 2008 ● Marty Johnson ’81

1984 ● Trenton’s River City Community School ● paint, repair, clean-up & plant ● 25th Reunion project, 2009 ● John Hatch ’84


1986 ● Carbon Footprint Project ● online tracking of household conservation efforts ● Mike Cragg ’86

1988 ● UrbanPromise ● gather, organize and deliver instruments, art supplies, special insulated sleeping bags for Camden youth ● 20th Reunion project, 2008 ● Holly and Chris Bornmann ’88

1989 ● collection of gift cards and food for Crisis Ministry Food Pantry, Trenton ● 20th Reunion project, 2009 ● Sandra Tsang Cohen ’89

1990 ● Housing Initiatives of Princeton ● donations of resources and time for property beautification and maintenance to benefit homeless families ● 20th Reunion project, 2010 ● Howie Slomka ’90

1991 ● Class of 1991 Fund ● supports senior thesis, junior paper, and other undergraduate research and community service summer internships ● Sean Osborne ’91

1994 ● Aerial Homes Project ● sponsorship of undergraduates for trip to Mexico to build Aerial homes, in cooperation with Princeton in Latin America (PiLA) ● 15th Reunion project, 2009 ● Claire Brown ’94

1995 ● School Supply Donations ● collection of educational items for donation to Spoede Elementary School, St. Louis ● 15th Reunion project, 2010 ● Caryn Siegel Moss ’95 ● Summer Service Fund ● funding for summer public or community endeavors ● Dan Marcus ’95

1997 ● Public Service Fund ● summer internship funding for students who would otherwise receive no salary at public policy, nonprofit or government organizations ● Graham Doran ’97


2000 ● Individual Service: River Clean-Up ● classmates pledged 10 hours of service totaling 2000 hours prior to Reunions; river clean-up with Princeton Water Watch ● 10th Reunion project, 2010 ● Jamie Crapanzano ’00

Recent Community
Service Projects

2001 ● Service Redefined ● poster display, at Pace Center and on class website, highlighting classmate service and ways to get involved ● 5th Reunion project, 2006 ● Robin Stennet ’01

2003 ● Princeton in Latin America (PILA) ● class donation
Maura Bolger ’03 ● Donate for Life ● an awareness and registration program for organ and tissue donation ● Jessica Melore ’03

2004 ● City Smiles ● collecting art supplies for Trenton children ● 5th Reunion project, 2009 ● Varanya Chaubey ’04 and Eli Goldsmith ’04

2005 ● Habitat for Humanity ● with the class of ’50, donations and hands-on construction of a new home in Trenton ● 5th Reunion project, 2010 ● Joanne Coupet ’05 and Carolyn Cross ’05

Graduate Alumni

Association of Princeton Graduate Alumni (APGA)
Musical Instrument Donation ● collection of instruments for donation to NJ schools, in spirit of “PrinceTunes” Reunion theme ● Reunion project, 2010 ● Volunteer Day at Trenton Rescue Mission ● painting, staffing store, interacting with residents ● Reunion project, 2010

Regional Clubs and Associations

California
Princeton Club of Northern California ● Annual Projects ● supports five community organizations with events throughout the year on behalf of veterans, youth, zoo, environment ● Scott Duncan ’96 ● Coastal Cleanup with Save the Bay ● Michele Bateman ’97

Princeton Club of Orange County ● Service Award ● Chris Looney ’95

Colorado
Rocky Mountain Princeton Club ● Mount Princeton Trail Maintenance ● Adopt-a-Tiger at Wild Animal Sanctuary ● College Awareness at Aurora Middle School ● Stewart Levin ’75

Connecticut
Princeton Alumni Association of Fairfield County ● International Coastal Clean Up Day ● Jackie Alexander ’84

Georgia
Princeton Club of Georgia ● Woodrow Wilson Community Service Award ● service award to HS juniors ● founded 1985 ● Tizgel High ’00

Illinois
Princeton Club of Chicago ● Princeton in Chicago’s Schools ● tutoring, college prep, science and history fairs, career days ● founded 1990 ● one-day community service projects ● Special Olympics, soup kitchens ● Carl Judell ’75

Massachusetts
Princeton Association of New England ● Snowden HS/Princeton & Friends Mentoring Project ● academic and social mentoring of Boston Public HS students ● founded 1990 ● Mary Sweeney Koger ’86 ● Summer internships through PICS ● Susan Meng ’06 ● PANE Community Involvement Fund through the Pace Center for Civic Engagement

Minnesota
Princeton Club of Minnesota ● Mississippi River Clean-Up ● Stephanie Roberts-Braman ’96

Missouri
Princeton Club of St. Louis ● two PICS summer internships ● John Brightman ’55

New Jersey
Princeton Area Alumni Association ● one-day community service projects ● construction, playground builds, Special Olympics, etc. ● tutoring in cooperation with Pace Center and Trenton Rescue Mission ● founded 2008 ● Arlen Hastings ’80

New York
PANYC ● New York Cares Day ● one-day community service projects ● playground improvement project ● Laura Bartels ’98

Princeton Club of Rochester ● Community Service Internship Program ● grants to local students for internships at not-for-profits in Rochester area ● founded 2004 ● Scott Forsyth ’73

Ohio
Princeton Club of Central Ohio ● volunteer nights at a food bank ● food drive at alumni reception ● Karen Gould MacGilvray ’93

Pennsylvania
Princeton Club of Philadelphia ● Summer Internship Program ● manages and contributes to three Pace Center public service internships in Philadelphia region ● founded 2007 ● Neil Desnoyers ’89

Texas
Princeton Club of Austin ● work in a soup kitchen ● Coats for Kids ● Emily Somerville ’06

Washington
Princeton Club of Western Washington ● Seattle Works Day ● Ben Farrow ’98

Washington, DC
Princeton Club of Washington ● Adopt-a-Family Project ● assistance to struggling families at Thanksgiving and Christmas ● SEED School Library Project ● book donations for charter boarding school ● Jessica Nickel ’98 ● Miriam’s Kitchen ● monthly volunteering at DC soup kitchen ● Joe Kochan ’02 ● Haitian Relief Fundraising Event ● Lee Dudka ’77

International
Princeton Club of Southeast Asia ● supporting underfinanced schools & orphanages ● fundraising events to purchase supplies ● John Evans ’91

Princeton Association of the United Kingdom ● cancer research 10K run ● painting at the Passages Homeless Shelter ● Great Ormond St. Hospital Holiday Party ● Nancy Curtin ’79, Ross Mandeville ’05, Raj Hathiramani ’07

Interest Groups

Daily Princetonian Alumni
Princeton University Summer Journalism Program ● on-campus program for high school students ● Richard Just ’01

Engineers Without Borders and Princeton in Latin America
collaborations with Arial Homes ● construction of low-cost housing for people in need all over the world ● Tom Pirelli ’69

Princeton Women’s Network of New York City ● making welcome kits for the women and children of the Sanctuary for Families Shelter ● Alisa Matlovsky ’76

Learn More: The TigerNet alumni directory can be used to contact the point person for each project

Get Started:
Name a community service chair for your class or region.

Apply for Seed Grants:
Seed Grant funding is available from the Alumni Council.
The Citation:
The Alumni Council Award for Community Service recognizes outstanding contributions by groups of Princetonians in their efforts to address critical social, economic, and environmental needs throughout our society and particularly in our local communities. Winning projects have a long-term impact in serving the neediest areas, enjoy broad membership and community support and are replicable and effectively administered. In establishing the award, the Alumni Council seeks to underscore the importance of the variety of ways in which alumni contribute to the University and to encourage more associations of Princetonians to serve their communities.

2009 Community Service Award Winner: Princeton Club of Chicago

The Princeton Club of Chicago won the Community Service Award in 1994 in recognition of the vibrant partnership between Chicago Princetonians and the Theodore Roosevelt High School, where alumni currently tutor on Saturdays, judge the science fair, and provide guest speakers. The PCC won the Community Service Award a second time in 2009—in recognition of the continuing Roosevelt HS partnership as well as the club’s various one-day community service opportunities for alumni, including helping at Special Olympics events and soup kitchens. The club gives its own community service award to local alumni and has an active Princeton Prize in Race Relations Committee. In 2010, the Club awarded its first Princeton in Chicago Schools Scholarships for Roosevelt High School students (see photo). In 2001, Chicago alumni broke new ground in support of urban education by founding Alumni for Public Schools (APS), an umbrella organization that promotes the adoption of individual public schools by Chicago alumni associations from colleges across the nation. This bold venture by alumni from Princeton and Harvard, including Princeton Project 55 members, sought to create synergy among small groups of alumni by sharing training and resources and providing a central coordination point with the Chicago Public Schools. Several school partnerships founded at the height of APS’s success are still flourishing, although the umbrella group has fallen prey to budget cuts on both the school and the alumni sides. Support for urban education, as challenging as it can be to coordinate, is one of the most obvious and rewarding services that alumni groups can bring to their communities.

2010 Community Service Award Winner: Spirit of Service ’76

Spirit of Service ’76 (SOS ’76), sponsored by the Class of 1976, began as a symposium on service during the Class’s 30th Reunion. Four years later, it has evolved into an initiative focused on the environment with three components: educational activities in environmental and social entrepreneurship, the Class of ’76 Green Business Plan Competition, and the Speaker Series showcasing ’76ers dedicated to environmental causes who are trailblazers in their fields.

To achieve maximum impact, the Class of 1976 forged on-campus partnerships with Princeton Environmental Institute, the Keller Center for Innovation in Engineering Education, and the Pace Center for Civic Engagement. SOS ’76 has raised over $60,000 and involved 200 classmates since its inception. Classmates have participated in a variety of roles, from judging the Green Business Plan Competition, to delivering presentations on their pioneering environmental achievements, to making donations.

The green business plans presented this year spanned the globe across different industries and sectors, with proposals ranging from converting landfill waste into energy and income in Pakistan, to a wine bottle recovery and redistribution company in Oregon.

The Class of 1976 sought to engage the class broadly while also attracting ’76ers who were previously uninvolved. To this end, the class created Office Hours, a conference call specifically organized for classmates with a Princeton faculty member who could provide valuable guidance for ’76ers who wanted to launch their own green business ventures. A key to the success of the initiative has been the steadfast support of the ’76 class officers. The Class of ’76 is more convinced than ever that it can inspire others to tackle societal problems through entrepreneurship, vision, and collaboration.
Service Award

Pantheon of Award Winners

2010  Class of 1976 for Spirit of Service ‘76
2009  Princeton Club of Chicago
2008  Princeton Prize in Race Relations
2007  Princeton University Summer Journalism Program
2006  Class of 1955 for Princeton Project 55
2005  Princeton Club of Southern California for the Beautiful Minds Project
2004  Class of 1956 for Princeton ReachOut 56 (PROF)
2003  Class of 1977 for the Wheelchairs for Guatemala Project
2002  Princeton Club of Washington for the Adopt-a-Family Project and Miriam’s Kitchen
2001  Princeton Club of San Diego for its work with the Colegio la Esperanza and various one-day projects
2000  Class of 1942 for its Class of ’42 Horton-Elmer Fund
1999  Class of 1939 for its Fred Fox ’39 Fund
1998  Class of 1969 for its Community Service Fund
1997  Class of 1977 for Habitat for Humanity and Harvest America
1996  Princeton Club of New York for The Princeton Service Project
1995  Princeton Association of New England for the Snowden HS/Princeton and Friends Mentoring Program
1994  Princeton Club of Chicago for Princeton in the Chicago Schools
1993  Class of 1955 for Princeton Project 55

Best Practices for Starting Projects

Name a Community Service Chair

Make strategic alliances with on-campus groups and with non-profits

Work closely with the Office of the Alumni Association

Bridge generations by partnering with other classes and regions

Reach out for broad participation and creative input

Use multiple channels of communication to give updates and report progress

PP55 Becomes Princeton AlumniCorps

Princeton Project 55, celebrating its 20th anniversary this year, and henceforward doing business as Princeton AlumniCorps, represents the standard of idealism, organization, and fellowship that all alumni community service efforts hope to achieve.

“Our name of Princeton Project 55 served us well for 20 years,” said Board Chair Kenly Webster ’55. “It honors the legacy of our founders, as indeed it should. Now, looking forward to our next 20 years, we will be able to grow and broaden our impact with a name that both reaches out to Princetonians of all ages and compellingly characterizes what we do.”

“The [communications] committee and others kept coming back to the concept of a ‘corps,’” said former committee chair, Lanny Jones ’66. “With the existence of the Peace Corps, AmeriCorps, Service Corps, and City Corps, the term has evolved to connote innovative service. ‘Corps,’ also of course, conjures the image of a volunteer or unified team. Hence Princeton AlumniCorps: a cadre of alumni, shoulder to shoulder, working together for systemic social change.”

Princeton Project 55 has placed more than 1250 interns and fellows in positions at non-profits and has provided national leadership in guiding other institutions to create public interest opportunities. There are currently 27 affiliate institutions enrolled in The Alumni Network (TAN). Other successful PP55 ventures include the Tuberculosis Initiative and the Civic Values Initiative. Princeton AlumniCorps’ newest initiative, Community Volunteers, seeks to engage alumni from the ’60s, ’70s and ’80s in the public interest.

Princeton AlumniCorps’ decision to recruit members of younger classes to serve on its Board has insured vibrant continuity. There are currently 18 directors from the classes of 1966 through 2009 who continue to steward and shape this dynamic institution, a two-time winner of the Community Service Award.
Featured Projects

Princeton Club of Washington

Adopt a Family: PCW’s signature program, founded in 1999, pairs up to 200 alumni with needy families each holiday season. In a typical year, they “adopt” about 100 children and provide toys, gifts, and food to them and their families during the holidays. PCW community service chair Jessica Nickel ’98 explains the program’s popularity and longevity: “PCW is able to tell the story about how the project has made the lives of these children much better… [W]e have streamlined the selection – choose from the wishlist, donate dollars, volunteer time…” Adopt-A-Family helped PCW win “Volunteer of the Year” in Montgomery County for 2009.

Miriam’s Kitchen: At 6:00 a.m. on the first Friday and third Wednesday of every month, project coordinator Joe Kochan ’02 and fellow alumni meet in a church basement in Foggy Bottom to prepare and serve breakfast for 200. Recently voted “best place to volunteer” by the Washington City Paper, Miriam’s Kitchen has attracted such notables as First Lady Michelle Obama ’85.

SEED School: PCW has collected over 1,500 books for this urban boarding school founded by Raj Vinnakota ’93. Since its start in 2000, the project has attracted up to 50 alumni participants a year.

Recent additions to the PCW community service portfolio include a Haiti earthquake relief fundraiser that raised $2,500, and a veterans’ career assistance program, focused on Iraq and Afghanistan vets. The latter initiative is expected to grow significantly in the coming months.

Past PCW President Lee Dudka ’77 on the club’s ingenuity and success in community service: “It’s mostly a function of having it done regularly…I see it as project management: When good project managers are on hand, the work gets done.” Maybe so, but he also notes, “The idea of giving back is a staple of our thinking.” In other words: We’re Princeton. That’s what we do. Bold, transformative, innovative—PCW is a national model in community service for regional associations.

Class of 1994 Reunion Projects

The Class of 1994 has committed to community service projects for each of its three major reunions, working with the San Francisco AIDS Foundation for its 5th Reunion and collecting baby supplies for the Community Action Service Center (CASC) in Hightstown, NJ in honor of its 10th.

In 2009, for their 15th reunion, the Class of 1994 crafted an ambitious pilot collaboration with its parent class of 1969, Class of 1968, Princeton in Latin America (PiLA) students, and Arial Homes for a service trip to Ensenada, Mexico. Classmates had the opportunity to sponsor this project (along with 1969 and 1968) and join the team that traveled to Mexico to build an Arial home and provide other services.

Arial Homes, founded by Tom Pirelli ’69, is a non-profit that enables volunteers to build sustainable and low-cost homes. A team of 12 volunteers can typically assemble an Arial Home in one day because the parts are prefabricated in a local factory so there is no on-site sawing or cutting. The highly insulated steel panels fit together like Legos and cost about $10,000.

Alumni support for and participation in ongoing spring break and summer service trips through Princeton in Latin America can evolve over the years as relationships develop with the target sites in Mexico, and students propose new and creative projects to better the lives of those in need. By tapping into several interconnected Princeton webs—parent classes 1969 and 1968, their own Claire Brown ’94, director of Princeton in Latin America, and Tom Pirelli ’69’s Arial Homes, which has also connected with Princeton’s Engineers without Borders group, Class of 1994 has stayed on the cutting edge of alumni community service.
The Rocky Mountain Princeton Club

The Rocky Mountain Princeton Club—with around 1,400 alumni spread over Colorado and Wyoming—has shown great energy and interest in community service over the years through family projects in the great outdoors and commitment to supporting local schools. Their efforts have created great Princeton karma at the highest altitudes!

Mount Princeton, a Collegiate Peak of the Sawatch Range of the Rockies, at 14,204 ft, has come under the care of the Rocky Mountain Princeton Club through the efforts of the Colorado Fourteeners Adopt-a-Peak Initiative. Since 2002, the RMPC has been sponsoring an annual hike up the mountain. Every other year they add a day of service that has done significant trail maintenance including marking the trail with cairns and creating a “staircase” out of boulders to keep people on the trail and lessen erosion. The Fourteeners envision a time when all four Ivy alumni groups (Harvard, Yale, Princeton and Columbia) would “compete lightheartedly” to maintain their namesake peaks, but so far, Princeton and Yale are out in front. August 21, 2010 was the big day this year, with the Princeton Club rallying the troops and providing lots of water, breakfast, and snacks.

Another family project is the adoption of Jack the Tiger at the Wild Animal Sanctuary in Keenesburg, CO. Field trips to the sanctuary a couple of times per year include Princeton families of all ages who love the chance to view rescued exotic animals roaming wild from the safety of an elevated viewing platform from which you can see a half mile in all directions. Organizer Stew Levin ’75 likes to have some fun freebie gadgets from conferences and conventions that he shares with child participants.

The Rocky Mountain Princeton Club has a long history of involvement in the local schools. The Princeton in the Denver Schools Program, started in 2000, adopted the Bradley Elementary School for needed tutoring help. The Club is currently connected to the Aurora Prairie Middle School to staff a booth at the annual College Day along with local Stanford alumni, where they provide information and inspiration about the world of higher education for a socio-economically and ethnically diverse student population. Alumni mentors provide information about choosing colleges, finding financial aid, and succeeding in their first year of college.

In addition, the RMPC established a Princeton Prize in Race Relations Committee in 2009, attracting local alumni from classes ranging from 1972 to 2000, to support this new endeavor.

Association of Princeton Graduate Alumni

The Association of Princeton Graduate Alumni (APGA) has engaged its members in an array of community service projects during Reunions weekends over the past several years. Each year, APGA has organized both a collection drive and a hands-on outing in a nearby community. Whereas other reunion classes gear up only once every five years, APGA’s community service projects are an annual event.

APGA had wonderful success in its 2008 Reunion drive, collecting 150 pairs of used prescription glasses, which Princeton in Asia Summer of Service teachers distributed to their young students in rural China. At the 2010 Reunions, APGA collected used musical instruments for donation to a middle school in East Windsor. This project was cleverly tied to the APGA “Prince-Tunes” reunion theme.

APGA members have also coordinated a hands-on service project each Reunion weekend. These projects have included serving meals at the Rescue Mission of Trenton, working on a Habitat House in Trenton, and making improvements at Trenton’s Martin House, an organization that provides access to homeownership to some of Trenton’s most needy residents. Usually, these service projects have been scheduled for the Thursday of Reunions weekend; APGA has found that the timing of a project on Sunday of Reunions weekend did not yield as many participants.

APGA has gotten the word out about its community service projects in the PAW, through the APGA website and through e-mails to graduate alumni. They even made a how-to video about starting a Reunions service project that can be viewed online at: http://youtube.com/watch?v=uFMDNKxHDR0
Princeton Prize in Race Relations

Symposium on Race

The mission of the Princeton Prize in Race Relations is “to promote harmony, understanding, and respect among people of different races by identifying and recognizing high school age students whose efforts have had a significant, positive effect on race relations in their schools or communities.”

From the inception of the Princeton Prize in Race Relations, its governing board had envisioned holding a gathering of Prize winners on the Princeton campus for the purpose of discussing issues of race, sharing ideas, and providing recognition to the honorees. Having grown to over 20 locations and having recognized several hundred students in its first few years of existence, the Princeton Prize board determined that the time was ripe to hold its first such event, entitled the Princeton Prize Symposium on Race, in the spring of 2008. Funding would be needed to support the effort, so Henry Von Kohorn ’66, founder of the Prize program, turned to his classmates for help.

The leadership of the Class of 1966 had already determined that the Princeton Prize would be a class service project and agreed that the Symposium was highly worthy of support. The first Symposium, consisting of presentations by Princeton faculty members, community leaders, and by the Prize winners themselves, was a highly successful, spirit-filled occasion, and it has since become an annual event. Over 60 Prize winners have attended the three Symposia held thus far, and all costs, including transportation, have been underwritten by members of the Class of 1966. Attendees, both members of the Princeton community and the Prize winners themselves, have been universally enthusiastic about their experiences. Brian Breuel ’66, president of the class says “The Prize program and the Symposium reflect the ‘heart’ of Princeton University and speak volumes about what Princeton stands for.”

Members of the Class of 1966 are involved with the Princeton Prize in other ways as well. Several class members serve on Princeton Prize local committees and four are members of its national board. Each year more classmates get involved. As Von Kohorn says, “Many Princetonians have a fundamental desire to get involved in their communities, and this opportunity to work with other Princetonians on such an important issue has broad appeal. The Class of 1966 believes that the Princeton Prize is an activity truly ‘in the nation’s service.’”

Michigan
PC of Michigan ● Jason Michener ’03

Missouri
PC of St. Louis ● Leonore Carlson ’08

New Jersey
PC of Northwestern New Jersey ● Dan Joa ’77
Princeton Area Alumni Association ● David Tukey ’02
PAA of Essex County ● Hector Gonzalez ’78

New York
PA of New York City ● Janella Hinds ’93, Hue Rhodes ’94
PC of Rochester ● Timothy Cottrell *93,
Jocelyn Goldberg-Schaible ’74, Leslie Knox *71

Ohio
PA of Northern Ohio ● Sandhya Gupta ’98

Pennsylvania
PC of Philadelphia ● Dora Lee ’76, Soyoung Oh ’03
PAA of Western Pennsylvania ● Mary Ellen Dye ’76

Tennessee
PC of Memphis ● Buck Brown ’85, Robert Fockler ’81
PAA of Nashville & Middle Tennessee ● Eugenia Harris ’97, Carol White *84

Texas
PAA of Dallas-Ft. Worth ● Edmundo De La Fuente ’02, Mario Perez
Dolan ’03
PAA of Houston ● Lillian Johnson ’82, German Lara ’90

Washington
PC of Western Washington ● Steve Crane ’63,
John Siegler ’77

Washington, D.C.
PC of Washington, D.C. ● Jackie Bruce ’99

Princeton Prize in Race Relations

Regional Chairs

Contact Board Chair Bob Martinez ’75 and Vice Chair Debbie Scott Williams ’84 if you are interested in starting a new Princeton Prize committee in your region.

Contact the local chairs listed below to get involved in an existing Local Committee.

California
PC of Northern California ● John Jenkins ’97
PC of Southern California ● Chuck Cummings ’80

Colorado
Rocky Mountain PC ● Carlos King ’72

Connecticut
PAA of Eastern Connecticut ● Alan Rosner ’76
PAA of Fairfield County ● Ivy McKinney ’77

Florida
PC of South Florida ● Jonathan Colan ’92

Georgia
PC of Georgia ● Katherine Brokaw ’82, Darryle Merlette ’89, Debbie Scott Williams ’84

Illinois
PC of Chicago ● Susan Conger-Austin *83, Erica Jones ’06

Maryland
PAA of Maryland ● Crystal Edwards ’97

Massachusetts
PA of New England ● Jim Parmentier ’66,
Fred Dashiell ’76, Murph Shapiro ’64
Support for Your Project

The Alumni Council Standing Committee on Community Service is a working group of Princeton’s Alumni Council with members from a variety of classes and regions who have championed alumni community service efforts themselves and are interested in promoting new projects and greater involvement throughout the Princeton community. The committee meets three times a year in September, January, and April and has frequent conference calls in between. Its purpose is to make helpful connections, brainstorm ideas, guide potential new community service projects, and serve as a clearinghouse for the most up-to-date activity and contact information for alumni community service projects. The committee promotes and celebrates active projects and collects best practices and lessons learned. Through the Alumni Council, the committee awards Seed Grants to help alumni groups start new projects. The application can be found on our webpage. Interested alumni are invited to join the community service discussion group on TigerNet. Livia W. McCarthy, Senior Associate Director, lmccarth@princeton.edu, 609-258-7705.

The Pace Center for Civic Engagement supports efforts by undergraduates, graduate students, faculty, staff, and alumni to identify and address issues of public concern, to be actively engaged citizens, and to practice effective public leadership for the purpose of building stronger communities and societies throughout the world. Its mission is to make the University’s unofficial motto, “In the nation’s service and in the service of all nations” meaningful and tangible and achievable for all its constituents. Pace connects individuals and groups with opportunities to thoughtfully address civic problems and have an impact through activities including direct volunteer service, civic action break trips, social entrepreneurship, political action, public service internships and fellowships, volunteer teaching and tutoring. Pace connects alumni with key University and community partners and other alumni aligned with their interests, goals, and target audiences. (See features in this Report on APGA, Spirit of Service ’76, and PICS for examples of successful alumni/Pace Center collaborations.). Pace is often in search of alumni guest speakers and career mentors for students passionate about civic service. Pace maintains a database of individual alumni involved with nonprofit work and would appreciate hearing about alumni career paths in this area. Pace works closely with the Alumni Council Standing Committee on Community Service and asks that alumni interested in pursuing their civic engagement and service ideas be in touch with the Pace Center, Elsie Sheidler, Associate Director, sheidler@princeton.edu or pace@princeton.edu, 609-258-7783.

Princeton Internships in Civic Service (PICS), the largest program of community service internships for Princeton students, has been operating successfully for 15 years. Starting with a first group of 13 interns, the program has now placed over 500 students in summer internships, which in many cases have resulted in the students choosing lives of service to others. Demand for these internships far outstrips the supply. This year, 417 students applied for the 63 internships offered. PICS recently launched a partnership with the Pace Center which is likely to increase student interest even further. Begun by the Class of 1969, the PICS board now includes members of several other classes including 1970 and 1977 and is actively seeking partnerships with other classes and regional associations. PICS has experience working with alumni in developing and mentoring internships, as well as assisting the organizations offering the internships to structure experiences that provide the most benefit to both them and the students. PICS is able to offer a “plug and play” capability that will accommodate any level of involvement the class or association may wish. If you are interested, please contact Executive Director, Seva Kramer, at skramer@69csf.org or 609-924-2890.

Princeton AlumniCorps is an independent alumni-led 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization (formerly known as Princeton Project 55) and was the first college alumni group organized specifically to promote alumni civic engagement in the public interest. Project 55 fellows place recent Princeton graduates in nonprofits for one year while providing them with alumni mentors, networking opportunities, and educational seminars. Over its lifetime, PP55 has placed more than 1250 interns and fellows in cities from Boston to San Francisco. Princeton AlumniCorps’ focus has shifted in recent years to public interest opportunities for Princeton alumni of all ages and alumni from other institutions. Among the other initiatives that it has developed, AlumniCorps formed The Alumni Network in 1999 to foster alumni-driven public interest organizations in other Princeton classes and regional associations as well as at other colleges and universities; the Alumni Network today has more than 25 affiliates. In 2010, AlumniCorps launched its newest program, Community Volunteers, which will engage alumni from the ’60s, ’70s, and ’80s in meaningful volunteer opportunities. This dynamic organization has been widely recognized for its efforts both by Princeton and in the media. For further information, please contact Executive Director Kathleen Reilly at kreilly@alumnicorps.org at 609-921-8808.

The Princeton Alumni Weekly has created a listing of nonprofit groups that alumni have founded or in which they have held leadership positions; a link can be found on the home page of the PAW website (paw.princeton.edu). To add your group, send the organization’s name, web address, purpose, and the name of the founder/office to paw@princeton.edu.
Brought to you by the Alumni Council Committee on Community Service

Cover Photos (clockwise from top left):

**Class of 2000:**
Classmates participating in the Water Watch River Cleanup at Turning Basin Park during their 10th Reunion in May. In advance of Reunions, the ’00 Hangs Ten community service project asked class members to pledge to perform 10 hours of community service in their local communities. About 100 people took the pledge, completing over 3,000 hours of service.

**Class of 1955:**
Princeton Project 55 members and alumni celebrating PP55’s 20th anniversary in Chicago, one of several regional celebrations that culminated in an anniversary gala in Princeton on Thursday of Reunions weekend, with Newark Mayor Corey Booker as keynote speaker.

**Class of 1975:**
Class of 1975 Summer Interns in the Chambers of Judge Cheryl Pollak ’75, a federal magistrate judge for the United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York. The Class of 1975 has run a summer internship program for Princeton students since 2001, setting up internships in New York City and London as a grassroots class effort with the recent addition of recruiting and administrative help from the Pace Center for Civic Engagement.

**Class of 1985:**
The starting line of the first-ever Class of 1985 PURR (Princeton University Reunions Run). With 300 participants raising $20,000 for the Princeton Young Achievers and the World Food Program, the run was a fun and community-building addition to the Saturday morning of Reunions.


Diane Weeks ’75

Design
AJ Koger’13