November 2
Let’s Talk about Turning 50!

It’s a known fact that those of us in the Class of 1976 have turned 50 or will within the next few months. Everyone has their own way of dealing with/and or celebrating this landmark date.

Let us know how you’ve experienced 50, or how you’re planning to experience 50!

Some friends and I decided to celebrate 50 by traveling to New York City for a long weekend. It was great fun with many activities and renewed friendships from long ago. We hope all goes well for your special birthday. We’d love to hear from you!

Saturday, Nov. 15 is the date for “A Royal Affair” at the Radisson South Hotel. This is a fund-raiser for the Gustavus Library Associates. If you’re a KARE-11 television fan, this could be your last chance to see Paul Magers. He’s the Master of Ceremonies. It’s a very fun and exciting evening!

Phonorama was held in October. It was fun to talk with many of you. If we didn’t reach you personally, we hope you’ll still consider giving a pledge to Gustavus when contacted by mail or by a Gustavus student. One important current goal is to increase participation by alumni. The dollar amount is not as important as is your willingness to donate. Thanks for considering this valuable gift!
Class News

Cathy Brown Bahls is a copy chief at Provell, Inc., a marketing company in Minnetonka, MN. Her husband is employed as a sales rep. for SS Design in Shakopee.

Dave Adney is now principal at Minnetonka High School. 
LaVonne Carlson Moore says she is STILL teaching German in the Belle Plaine Public Schools!

Jill Ulrich Steeves of Stillwater, MN is enjoying her two teenage kids (she adds “Yikes!”) and had a full summer of horse shows.

Diane Moen Jungbluth is working as a parish nurse at Trinity Lutheran Church in Owatonna.

Mark Eskola and his wife, Sharon (Dahl ’77), are both still teaching in Duluth. Mark is building a recording studio. Their son, Luke, was married in August. He was the last “to go” but they add: “The nest isn’t empty ‘till they take all their boxes out of the basement.”

A. Scott Lynch writes that he is still enjoying the short winters in picturesque Peachtree City, GA. He is marketing for Gardner Denver --tradeshows, literature, website, ad space and public relations.

Jenny Steiner Tongen is teaching special education in Waconia, MN. She and husband, Galen, have a daughter, Emily, attending Gustavus.

Deb Cairns Walker says she is thrilled to announce that her daughter, Katie, just joined the freshman class at Gustavus.

Mary Raber lives in Odessa, Ukraine, where she edits the English language edition of a theological journal called Theological Reflections. This provides a scholarly forum for theologians, pastors, and students in the countries of the former Soviet Union.

Eric and Kathy (Bush ’77) Larson are living in Lakeville, MN.

Mary Kingbay Stubstad lives in Encinitas, CA. Her kids are now 19 and 17 years old.

Bruce Olson presented a paper to the Acoustical Society of America on using 3D modeling for the design of stereo systems for performing arts centers. This will be published in the JASA science journal.

Allan Sorenson lives in Cokato, MN, works for Cross Roads Technology and has a daughter, Sara ’01, who was recently married.
Carl Seamon's son, Mathew, is now at Gustavus. Carl and his wife, Solvejg (Borlaug '78), celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary.

A segment of Charley Walters' column in the Pioneer Press reported on June 26, 2003 that Chicago White Sox TV analyst Ken "Hawk" Harrelson shot par 72 at Somerset. "He played with former Gustavus Adolphus hockey All-American Gary Hansen."

Beth Mastin-Kiefaber's consulting business, MasComm Associates LLC, works with public television and radio stations nationally, helping broadcasters create partnerships with community organizations.

Robert Russell has opened his own law office in Fergus Falls, MN. He practices in the areas of real estate, trust, estate planning, and many others.

Last spring, nine Gustavus nursing students accompanied by Barb Mattson Zust, now a faculty RN, traveled to Guatemala. They brought medical supplies, school and cleaning supplies, and quilts! They volunteered their time to villagers in remote clinic settings. Very rewarding!

Have a terrific Thanksgiving and holiday season, all of you 50 year olds! It would be great to hear from you.

It is common in many Gustie class letters to have a "guest" letter writer in January. I would welcome any contributions or news items for the next time around. Contact me at jerryleppart@cs.com

The college will attach Campus News to the end of this letter. Enjoy, and please stay in touch!

Ginny Kirkegaard Leppart

Campus News

College opens 142nd Academic Year - More than 700 new students, including transfer students and international students, joined the Gustavus community this fall, keeping the total student population around 2,515. The retention rate of students from the first to second year remains at 90 percent. These students will be taught by 198 full-time and 55 part-time faculty. Gustavus was again ranked in the top third of the 214 national liberal arts colleges by the U.S. News and World Report.

The Alumni Fund Turns 50 - On June 30, 1954, the first Alumni Fund officially closed with 1,204 donors (32 percent) and $26,013. The Alumni Fund has had a strong tradition at Gustavus exceeding 50% participation for many years, making Gustavus a national leader recognized with 17 national awards. Help return the Alumni Fund to reach over 50% participation by contributing before May 31, 2004, or responding with a pledge to a Gustavus student volunteer caller during Student Phonorama October 26-November 13.
Do your best to participate in the Alumni Fund to continue the Gustavus tradition of strong alumni support and return the College to national recognition.

Sculptor Paul Granlund ’52 dies – Paul Granlund died on September 15, 2003, the same day his exhibit Retrospective opened as scheduled in the Hillstrom Museum of Art on the Gustavus campus. He was sculptor-in-residence at Gustavus from 1971-1996. His figurative bronze sculptures are found in private collections and public installations nationally and internationally, including 30 bronze works on the Gustavus campus. Retrospective will be displayed until November 9.

Alumni Board members selected – Seven alumni have been selected to serve a three-year term on the Alumni Board. They are Liesl Batz ’90, Minneapolis, senior vice president and director of marketing, Lakeside Investment Partners; Jan Eiffert Hoomani ’62, Raleigh, NC, Realtor, JB Realty; Jim Malmquist ’53, Scandia, MN, retired athletics director, Gustavus; Jan Ledin Michaletz ’74, Edina, volunteer/homemaker. Incumbents to serve a second term include Vivian Foyou ’02, Mankato, graduate student, Minnesota State University, Mankato; Jason Sawyer ’93, Plymouth, vice president, Cronin & Co.; and Dan Currell ’94, Alexandria, VA, director of corporate leadership council, Corporate Executive Board.

2003 Hall of Fame inductees -- Nine individuals were inducted into the Athletics Hall of Fame on September 27. Inductees are: Val Flom Ashland ’87 (volleyball), Wendy Ericksen Bachman ’87 (soccer), Karen Ahlstrom Bishop ’86 (gymnastics), Jay Coatta ’87 (basketball and golf), Marv Gunderson ’53 (football), Jim Hearn ’81 (tennis), Dave Najarian ’82 (football), Betty Wannarka Ringeisen ’84 (basketball and track and field), and Larry Shelhamer ’76 (soccer).

Gustavus Finishes sixth in Director's Cup – Gustavus finished sixth out of 395 Division III institutions for the 2002-03 Director's Cup announced recently by the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics. The only all-sports competition in intercollegiate athletics, the award honors four-year institutions with the best overall athletic programs. Last year Gustavus placed 10th.

Chapel Program – The Gustavus Chapel program is one of the strongest in higher education averaging 350 students attending Daily Chapel. In addition, there are many student-led programs including: Apprentice - students who are interested in being part of ministry and open to see where the Spirit might be leading; Christ Chapel Volunteers - assist in the ministry of Christ Chapel by ushering, carrying the cross and candles, ading lessons, writing and/or reading prayers, and serving as assisting ministers; Community Service Center Programs - one-time and on-going service programs; Fellowship of Christian Athletes - athlete or not, time for fellowship, worship, speakers, service projects and mission trips; Gustavus
Youth Outreach - committed to sharing the Gospel and providing opportunities to serve by participating in off-campus youth ministry; Habitat For Humanity/Spring Break Work Trips - Habitat works locally and Spring Break Work Trip nationally to fundraise for and build affordable housing; Jewish Organization of Gustavus - for students, faculty and staff who were either Jewish or interested in the Jewish faith; Newman Center - dedicated to building a deeper understanding of the Catholic faith; Prepare - build a new generation of believers through mentors, mission trips, Bible study, prayer and worship; Proclaim - Bible-based contemporary worship and teaching; Taizé - a contemplative worship service of music, prayer, readings and silence; Wednesday Friends - visits St. Peter Regional Treatment Center residents weekly.

Don't miss A Royal Affair . . . pa rum pum pum pum - Gustavus Library Associates is presenting their biennial benefit for our College’s Folke Bernadotte Memorial Library on Saturday, November 15, at the Radisson Hotel South in Bloomington, Minnesota. If you have names for invitations (reservations are due by October 31), an auction item to donate (no later than October 15 please), volunteer time to offer, or if you wish to contribute financially to help defray expenses, we welcome your call today: Marty Penkhus, 507/388.5474 and Susan Wilcox, 952/944.5972, Co-Chairs.

Upcoming Events - call the Alumni Office at 800/487-8437

JFK Assassination 40 Years Later, presented by David Jones ‘83 and Political Science Professor Chris Gilbert at Minnesota Valley Country Club, Bloomington-- November 4

A Royal Affair, benefit sponsored by Gustavus Library Associates in the Twin Cities -- November 15

Alumni Chapter Events:  Washington DC - February 6; Atlanta - February 26; Tampa Bay - February 27; Naples - February 28; Sun City - March 19; Phoenix - March 20; Tucson - March 21