

Stevens

WINTER 2019 ISSUE NO. 3

SOCIETY

PAGES

For Members of Giving Societies
at Stevens Institute of Technology



**Making friends with
Michael Cahill '15**

**Society members
gather for a
Celebration of
Philanthropy**

See pictures from the event



**A Family
Affair**

BETH PALLONE '88

**on Deep
Ties to
Stevens**



STEVENS
INSTITUTE of TECHNOLOGY
THE INNOVATION UNIVERSITY®

Enjoy this third issue of Stevens Society Pages!

The four giving societies are thriving, especially the Stevens Legacy Society, which has added 20 new members over the past year, and 12 new members joined the Lifetime Giving Societies while another 12 reached a new level.

Society members are responsible for much of the success of *The Power of Stevens* campaign, which has showered almost \$170 million on the priorities of *student success, faculty excellence, and building a vibrant campus*. Society members also set the scene for many of the wonderful events at Castle Point, like Alumni Weekend or the annual Celebration of Philanthropy.

As we turn from '18 to '19, we are thankful for our society members for another wonderful year, with best wishes to them – thank you!



The **Gear Society** celebrates alumni who give at any level to Stevens year after year. Through their loyalty, Gear Society members are to Stevens what gears are to machines: they generate power.



Named for the university's co-founder, the **EAS Society** is the annual gift club for alumni and others who provide leadership support to Stevens. Spot members when they wear their John Bull pin showing the famed Stevens family locomotive.



The six **Lifetime Giving Societies (LGS)** honor alumni and others whose total lifetime giving to Stevens tops \$100,000, a special group of people who transform Stevens with their generosity. LGS members reach new levels as they increase their giving during their lifetime.



Just like Edwin's enduring gift, members of the **Stevens Legacy Society** have planned gifts for the university in their financial or estate plans, ensuring their legacy will have an impact far into the future.

Making Friends with Michael

When **Michael Cahill '15** thinks of his time at Stevens, he remembers acting with the Dramatic Society, rushing with his brothers in Sigma Nu, and debating in the Student Government Association. He's kept in touch with many of the friends he made along the way.

"The first person I met at Stevens is one of my best friends, and this summer I was the man of honor at her wedding. I met another of my closest friends when we served as RAs. I don't think there's a single day during the past four or five years where we haven't spoken to each other. I wouldn't trade the friends I made at Stevens for anything."

He's also making new friends as a committee leader in the Stevens Alumni Association, following his service as an alumni trustee. "I've met some great people in the SAA I never would have met otherwise. It's nice to come back to campus and be reminded of why I enjoyed Stevens so much."

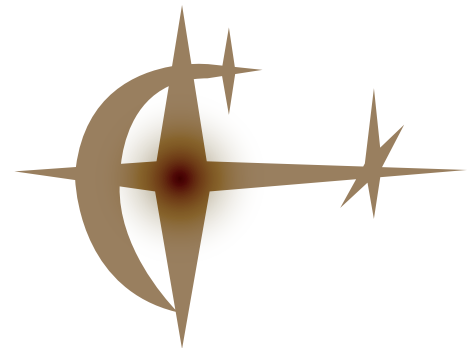
Michael attended Stevens with the help of scholarships, which is one of the reasons he gives back every year, making him a rising member of the Gear Society. He's also been busy encouraging his many friends to make their own annual gifts.



Michael Cahill '15

"I preach to my friends all the time about giving even a small amount. When more alumni participate, they improve the university's rankings, which improves the value of a Stevens degree, further attracting top students and improving the quality of our research because we're perceived better for grants. I want us to be part of the group that makes Stevens even better."

Introducing the Calder Star



In the entertainment biz, there's the EGOT, the name for performers who've earned an Emmy, Grammy, Oscar and Tony, a rare group that includes Mel Brooks, Audrey Hepburn, Whoopi Goldberg and a few others.

Stevens has an EGOT club of its own – 33 alumni who are members of all four giving societies. These distinguished givers, like Dick Magee '63, are represented by the Calder Star, named for the famous artist Alexander Calder, Stevens Class of 1919.

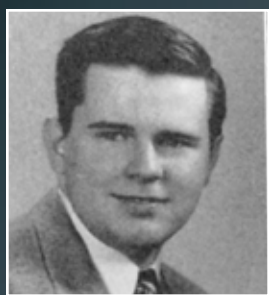
We love our Calder Stars! And if any of them can tap dance...



Dick Magee '63 M.S. '64 Sc.D. '68

Guess the Gears...

Do you recognize these three Gear Society members who each graduated in a year ending in 9? See them now on page 7!



Donald Farrell '50

Like the grand family at the center of a sweeping epic,

Beth Pallone '88

sees the story of her family intertwined with Stevens.

The story starts with her father, Donald Farrell, who graduated with degrees in mechanical and industrial engineering in 1950 and 1958. Beth's sisters Marion and Louise followed in '84 and '87, as did her brother Harry '93, and all three also earned graduate degrees from Stevens (Beth earned her MBA from NYU). Marion also later married John Schmitt '82. Beth's niece Meaghan will graduate in 2020, and Beth and her husband Dan saw their son Daniel graduate with two degrees in 2018.

"I'm a proud mother," Beth says about Daniel. As she tells it, her son chose Stevens over several other top colleges because they lack the strong quantitative finance program he found at Castle Point, he could pursue both a bachelor's degree and a master's degree together, and he'd have quick trips to internships on Wall Street. After befriending a graduate student who was working at a prominent financial firm, and parlaying the skills he learned in his classes, Daniel was able to secure a full-time job in sales and trading even before his senior year. "I can't see that happening at any other university," Beth says.

Beth, who works in data and analytics, currently as a digital director at the United States Tennis Association, has supported her family's alma mater by serving on the Parents Council (now as an emeritus member) and currently as an alumni member of the Board of Trustees, and she and her husband Dan are members of the EAS and Gear societies.



Beth Pallone '88 with husband Dan and son Daniel '18

"It's clear that Stevens is providing opportunities to students and paving the way for their future success. I support Stevens to give back and to help students thrive and pursue their dreams."

- Beth Pallone '88

Meet the Parents

Like Beth Pallone, several society members are also on the Parents Council, a group of engaged parents who provide volunteer and other support and serve as ambassadors to the Stevens community and beyond. Parents Council members gather on campus twice a year, including to hear guest lectures from professors and other campus leaders.





▲ A classmate gathering: Dawn Ortell '77, Debra and Jeff Iapicco '77 M.Eng. '79, and Shari and Carmine Cacciavillani '77

▼ Olivia Schreiber '18 served as emcee, and she also currently fills an alumni seat on the Board of Trustees

CELEBRATION OF PHILANTHROPY 2018

The Celebration of Philanthropy was packed this year with alumni, friends, faculty and staff representing all four societies, members who mixed and mingled and shared stories of supporting Stevens. Emcee Olivia Schreiber '18 roused the crowd, guest speaker Kelland Thomas showed the impact philanthropy has on the College of Arts and Letters, and Steve Boswell, chairman of the Board of Trustees, envisioned a bright future for Stevens.



▼ EAS Society members Eileen and Phil Apruzzese '70 M.S. '93



▼ Husband and wife EAS Society members Ashley Greenberg '15 and Chase Greenberg '15 have started early in supporting Stevens.



▲ Everyone applauded Brodie Remington, who is retiring as vice president of the Development Office. Remington is also a member of the Lifetime Giving Societies.



▼ Ed Eichhorn '69 and Ann Dalton, wife of John Dalton '60





◀ Dawn Madak '89 and her husband Wesley Jones, members of the EAS Society

▶ Physics professor Rainer Martini and EAS Society member Drew Diskin M.S. '03



◀ Legacy members Andrea and Ron West '71

▶ Enrique Blanco '72 MMS '76 shared some laughs with EAS Society member Tiana Jiang



◀ As the dean, Kelland Thomas spoke about the eclectic College of Arts and Letters



▶ Greats from '58: Classmates Nick Mestanas, Mike Bonner, Bob Fiocco (standing) and Richard Harries (sitting)



◀ An alumni couple: Karen Stroever MMS '77 and Bruce Stroever '72

▶ President Farvardin chats with Karen and Steve Boswell C.E. '89 Ph.D. '91 Hon. D.Eng. '13

◀ Calder Star Fred Paulson '59 M.S. '62 and his guest, Norma Romero

Stevens Season's Greetings



The holidays are here! See how society members – and one special society friend – spread cheer this time of year!

Carole and John Abom '65 Welcome All

"The holidays are a special time for Carole and me," John says. "It has become a family tradition for our children, their spouses and our grandchildren to spend the week between Christmas and New Year with us here in sunny Venice, Florida. They travel in from Pennsylvania, California and Ireland. It's a wonderful opportunity for all to open presents and share stories. With 15 of us under one roof, there's never a dull moment. Special thanks go out to the engineer who invented air mattresses! In addition to relaxing on the beach, swimming, kayaking and golfing, the week wraps up with our annual scavenger hunt on Venice Island. After dinner that evening, we watch the family favorite, *It's a Wonderful Life*. Prior to heading home the next day, we have our annual family photographs taken. As we look back, we will be forever grateful for all that we have been gifted."



Terrific Tree Decorating with Holly and Marty Valerio '68

"As families grow and change, so do traditions," says Marty. "For Holly and me, our traditions revolve around our grandchildren and have changed as they have grown. Typically the weekend before Christmas, Holly and I, with our three grandchildren, set off to the local nursery to buy a live Christmas tree. As there is usually a contest on who gets to pick the tree, we try to alternate each year. Once we get the tree inside we all dig in to decorate. Holly puts on the lights and the rest of us do all the ornaments, which have also evolved over the years. The finishing touch is always the star at the top. To avoid the issue of who does this, we let each child put it on in turn with the youngest first. Once the tree is up and decorated, we make our gingerbread houses. Each child gets one to put together and decorate. Of course, lots of gumdrops are eaten along the way. But the results are all very wonderful and unique, just as each of our grandchildren is wonderful and unique. As a special end, the live tree is planted in either our yard or their yard and is dedicated to a special person or event."



A True Scottish Hogmanay

Lifetime Giving Society members know Gilian Brannan as their steadfast steward from Scotland. She shared her memories of celebrating the holidays in her homeland, plus a tasty recipe for shortbread – try it and enjoy!

"New Year's Eve, or Hogmanay as it is known in Scotland, was always a special holiday when I was growing up. Aunts, uncles and cousins from England and sometimes farther afield would visit and we would celebrate as a larger family. Earlier in the day, we would prepare for the usual meal of steak pie, as well as a "cloutie dumpling" and shortbread for the first footing later that evening. When the church bells struck at midnight, we wished each other well and sang Auld Lang Syne. Then we would send out the family member selected to be our first foot. To ensure good luck for the house and family, the first foot should be a dark-headed male who enters the house with silver coins for prosperity, coal or matches for warmth, shortbread representing food throughout the year, and whiskey representing good cheer. With that tradition over, the merriment began into the early hours of the morning, and sometimes beyond."

Scottish Shortbread:

Ingredients:

1 cup/8 ounces of softened butter
A half cup of granulated sugar
2 cups of all-purpose flour

Directions:

Heat the oven at 300F/150C

Combine the butter and sugar; cream until light and fluffy
Gradually stir flour into the creamed mixture until well-blended
Pat down the dough in the bottom of an ungreased baking pan, or roll out dough on a lightly floured surface and cut out with round or square cookie cutters; prick the dough all over with a fork

Bake for 30 - 40 minutes or until just lightly browned
Remove from oven and pierce all over with a fork; if in pan, cut into squares; cool completely before removing from the pan

Some recipe variations:

Add a half teaspoon of vanilla, or 3 tablespoons of finely-grated orange zest to the creamed mixture before adding the flour
Or, add chocolate chips

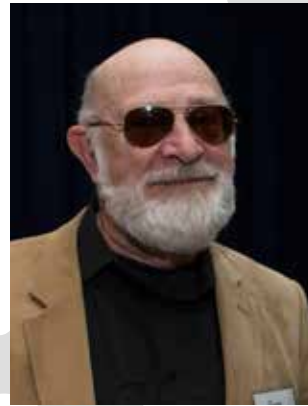


...Guess the Gears

Thanks to Leo Collins '59, Gerry Crispin '69 and Dawn Madak '89 for their annual giving, and congrats to them on celebrating reunion years in 2019!



Leo Collins '59

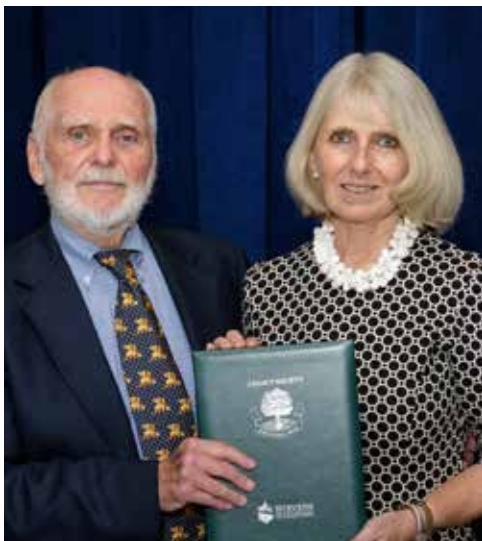


Gerry Crispin '69



Dawn Madak '89

A RECORD LEGACY



Barry Ficken '58 and his wife Gael attended the Celebration of Philanthropy in 2017 as members of the Stevens Legacy Society. Over the following year, Barry communicated with his classmates about joining the SLS, and was instrumental in adding a record 20 new members, an esteemed endorsement sure to encourage others in 2019. The Fickens are also members of the EAS Society.

A year-end send-off

December can be cold, but charitable.

It's when many society members make their annual gift to Stevens, both to renew their Gear and EAS Society memberships and to take advantage of tax benefits.

You too can make a gift at [stevens.edu/makeagift](https://www.stevens.edu/makeagift)

Thanks, and stay warm!

See you next time!

We hope you enjoyed this third edition of the **STEVENS SOCIETY PAGES!**

Beyond the personal satisfaction of giving to help deserving students and innovative faculty, alumni and others who join a Stevens society maintain a meaningful connection to the university and to their fellow society members. Plus, by attending events like the Celebration of Philanthropy, they get to make new friends across the societies, engage with current students, receive updates from university leadership and hear different perspectives on supporting Stevens.

Many Stevens alumni and friends are members of more than one society – some even all four! If you ever have any questions about renewing your annual membership or joining a new society, contact your devoted society stewards:

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201-216-5712

EAS: Desiree Burke
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Lifetime: Gilian Brannan
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Legacy: Michael Governor
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Thank you for being so generous with your support of Stevens!



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See your society friends at these upcoming events!



**STEVENS AWARDS
GALA**

*Plaza Hotel,
New York City*



**PRESIDENT'S
DISTINGUISHED
LECTURE
SERIES**

DeBaun Auditorium



**SCHOLARSHIP
LUNCHEON**

Bissinger Room



COMMENCEMENT

Location TBD



**ALUMNI
WEEKEND**

Campus

Get answers at events@stevens.edu

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STEP alumni celebrate the program's first 50 years