

Chemistry Newsletter No. 40

January 27, 2007

Here we go with a new edition of the newsletter. Actually starting last Thursday, the 25th, the Kansas City Section of the American Chemical Society honored me at their monthly meeting. This was for my 50th+ years of teaching. It was very nice. In fact, several of the older alums showed up, for which I was duly impressed. More recently was Buck Haney ('92), then Tom Barket ('65) and least but certainly not least was Dick Koch ('66). I had not seen Dick probably since he graduated. Surprise! He has now retired and moved back to Kansas City. He was in charge of water analysis for the city of New Orleans for many years. He got his Ph.D. from Vanderbilt.

The other ol' timer from that era was Tom Barket. Tom returned to KC about 3 or 4 years ago from South Dakota where he taught in Huron for a good long time. Tom got his Ph.D. from Duke. He has been teaching at Johnson County Community College since he has returned. And Buck Haney got his Ph.D. from Missouri-U-Columbia. He is working at MRI.

And then, of course, were our "local" alums, Annie Lee Stanislav ('95) and Philip Colombo ('91). Both of them are on our Rockhurst University chemistry faculty, and both got their PhDs from Kansas University.

And today, we had the annual Science Knowledge Bowl for high school students. We had 87 teams of 5 or 6 students, or maybe one or two "observers" plus their teachers and coaches. Among these were some old friends, teachers at Rockhurst High, Ron Geledhof ('69), Paul Winkeler ('97), and Steve Ryan. Ron and Paul are both teaching chemistry and Steve teaches biology. In fact Steve is thinking of retiring in the next year or so. Rockhurst High had 4 teams in the competition, and one team just barely came out in second place. And then, last but not least were two regulars, Mark Costaldi ('98) and Robbie Fennewald ('98). These two have been regulars for SKB since they graduated from here. Mark is now an MD from St. Louis U and is doing his residency in pathology at Case Western Reserve Hospital in Cleveland, OH. Robbie is working in St. Louis. The competition is sponsored by Honeywell and the U. S. Department of Energy as well as Rockhurst University.

January 29, 2007

And today's mail brought the notice of the arrival of a new little girl to Belinda and Rich Heck ('97). She has two older sisters. Rich practices family medicine in North Little Rock, AR.

February 10, 2007

A couple of days ago, I got an email from Sara (Weilert) Gillette ('01). She says she will be coming to KC for her father's (Carl ('74)) wedding. Her mother died a year or so ago. She and Clay are both lawyers in St. Louis. In fact Clay has just gotten an article in the St. Louis Law Journal. Sara is with Senniger Powers, and her email address there is below.

February 14, 2007

A bit of a sad note: This morning is the funeral of Dr. Jim Ragan who taught English here back a good many moons ago. I know he was here when I arrived in the mid '50s and he was here some 10 or more years after that.

I got a note from Frank Galiano ('56) this morning with a note that he has a new email address which is below. Frank is retired in Beaumont, TX.

And a note from Rob Hamilton in our dean's office told me that he took his boys to the doctor the other day, and the doctor turned out to be Steve Nelson ('94). Steve got his MD from Creighton and did his residency here at Baptist Hospital (which, by the way has recently closed as a regular hospital). He is at Northland Family Care in Liberty, MO.

February 17, 2007

Yesterday morning, I got an email from Dan Casey ('91). He is director of the Family Practice Residency Program at John Peter Smith Hospital in Fort Worth, TX. They have been given one of 14 large grants, nationwide, from the American Academy of Family Practice to help participate in an initiative aimed at changing the way Family Practice residency programs train new physicians.

And yesterday afternoon we had the competitive scholarship interviews of high school seniors. We had about 110 students here for interviews. Most were from around the Midwest. But at the reception afterwards, Pete Skidmore ('90) came up with his oldest daughter. Pete is head of the Internal Medicine Residency Program at the Army's Eisenhower Medical Center in Augusta, GA.

February 24, 2007

Yesterday, Joe Vilain ('00) dropped in and we went to lunch courtesy of Philip Colombo ('91). Joe has just come back to Kansas City. He just finished a post-doc at the Army munitions plant in China Lake, CA. He got his Ph.D. in Inorganic Chemistry at Kansas U in Lawrence.



March 7, 2007

On a sad note, Dr. Pete Nugent died last weekend from complications brought on by pneumonia. His funeral will be tomorrow, March 8.

Yesterday afternoon some old friends showed up, Mary (Graveman) and Sam Losapio (both '74), and Mary's parents. Her stepmother is Agnes (Enright) Graveman. As you may remember, Agnes Enright taught biology here in the early '70s. Email addresses for Mary and Sam Losapio as well as for Agnes and Don Graveman are below.

Zac O'Neill ('05) and Brian Odum ('05) frequently come over here to study, since it is close and quiet. Brian told me the other evening that he has been chosen for a Post Sophomore year Fellowship at St. Louis University Hospital for next year in Pathology. He is currently finishing his second year at KCUMB, and will take off next year for the fellowship. He will be working as one of the residents at the hospital.

March 9, 2007

Yesterday, Jackie Riedel ('05) dropped in. She is in third year at KCUMB (she was a pre-med scholar, along with Tim Lawler ('05)). She is currently doing a rotation in psychiatry in Smithville. She tells me Tim is doing a rotation in Hoisington, Kansas.

And Scott Koerber ('07) stopped in to check on what forms he needs to fill out to graduate this spring. Scott is finishing his first year at KCUMB. He too started medical school as a pre-med scholar.

March 20, 2007

Our spring break is all over, and so back to "catch up." Kim Roberts, our Science Division secretary whom many of you know, took off a week during spring break and went to Las Vegas to get married. She is now Mrs. Jim Felemonski. Congratulations! It was really no surprise since she has been engaged since last summer – just that she didn't tell us about the wedding until after the fact.

And yesterday afternoon J.P. Armilio ('05) stopped in. He is on spring break from St. Louis U. Medical School. As he is finishing his second year, he has the National Board exam on his mind (in June).

March 23, 2007

Yesterday another St. Louis U. Med student dropped in during spring break, Colby Parks ('06). As usual, Colby is leading the class.

March 28, 2007

This afternoon I was shocked by a call from our Advancement Office telling me that Reva Servoss has passed away. She was

working in her garden in Salt Lake City, UT, when she fell and hit her head. This led to 5 or 6 days in the hospital, and then she died on Monday, March 26th. The funeral is to be a very small family affair. They asked that memorials should be contributions to the Reva Servoss Scholarship fund here at Rockhurst. When she retired in 1996 she left an endowment for scholarships for junior and senior chemistry students, primarily women. It is regularly given to one junior and to one senior at the Honors Convocation in the spring. Her email address is still below. I think her husband; Dr. Bill Servoss, may still use this email. He is still in Salt Lake.

And today I also got a note from Andrew Silver ('06) who is about to finish his first year at St. Louis U. Medical School. Instead of an hour's drive from his home in west county, he has moved to a loft nearer school, so he has more time to study. His email is below.

March 29, 2007

I think I mentioned before that Bill Oulvey ('74) has been assigned to our (Jesuit) headquarters in Rome. He lives there and his new email address is below.

March 30, 2007

This afternoon as I was grading biochem papers, I walked Kerry McGonigle ('02) Kreidel. She is about to graduate from St. Louis U. Med School. She and husband Joe are getting ready to move to Connecticut where she will be doing a one year internship and then again next year move to Tucson, AZ, where she will do her residency in anesthesiology. They have a 2-year old and about to welcome another.

And this evening, I got a short email from Tom ('69) and Anne Hutton. They have two daughters all grown up and at least one is married. They live in Jefferson City, MO. Tom is a biologist with the USDA. Their email address is below.


April 4, 2007

In the last couple of days, I have gotten a couple of short emails. The first came from Charlie Himmelberg ('52) who has been in the Mathematics Department at the University of Kansas in Lawrence. He is now retired from teaching, but is still living in Lawrence with a new email address, which is below.

The second came as a correction of what I seemed to say in the last newsletter. In spite of what I said, Allen Thiel ('56) is not at all retired, very much hard at work with his allergy and immunology practice at St. John's Medical Center in St. Louis, as well as Associate Clinical Professor at Washington U. Medical School. I don't have an email address for him.

April 5, 2007

I got a note today from Lindy Huntington ('01). The big news



is that she got married to Mark Landzaat (RU '01 business) last Saturday, March 31. She got her DO from KCUMB a couple of years ago, and is doing her residency (internal medicine) at St. Mary's Health Center in St. Louis. She also has a new email address which is below.

And a few minutes ago, Sister Mary O'Rourke stopped in my office to tell me she is retiring from here (and Penn Valley) at the end of the semester and moving back to the Motherhouse at St. Mary University, Leavenworth, KS. She has been teaching our Nursing Chemistry labs for the past 10 years.

April 9, 2007

Over the weekend, I had a nice visit with Bill Bickell ('76) and his wife Beverly, and their two sons and daughter. They came up to KC to help celebrate his uncle's 90th birthday. Bill is in charge of emergency room services at St. Francis Hospital one of the largest hospitals in Tulsa, OK. Bill got his MD from Georgetown U in Washington.

This morning I got a call from Bryce Emo to tell me that his father, John ('68) was killed in an automobile accident in Nevada last Friday morning. John and Carrie have been living in Cedar City, Utah, for the last several years. He has been doing part time practice in a medical office in Nevada, as well as in Cedar City, and driving back and forth. John got his MD from St. Louis U Medical School after he graduated from here. He and Carrie have two sons and two daughters, all grown.

And this afternoon, I got an email from Kelly Thornburg ('84) in Longmont, CO. He had noted Reva's death. He is with Amgen. Officially his title is Executive Director, QAL. His email address is below.

April 12, 2007

I got a newsy email from Ed McKee ('66) yesterday. He has been at George Washington U for the last 21 years in public relations for the athletic department. He tells me Dave Fitzpatrick ('66) has now retired and traveling around enjoying the time. Dave has been at Howard U. Both email addresses are below.

April 23, 2007

A couple of days ago, I got an email from Rob Borsheski ('99). He has been a flight surgeon in the Air Force, and will be finishing up his payback next summer and will then do his residency in Anesthesiology at Loyola in Chicago. Rob and Betsy got their DO degrees from what is now called KCUMB. Betsy finishes her residency in Emergency Medicine also next summer. They now have a daughter born in April. His email address is below.

Also few days ago I got a nice long email from John Wintrol ('63). He is a lawyer in Washington, DC. He says he

was recently at a Moot Court at George Washington U. and ran into John Waller ('59) as he was leaving. They were both planning to attend the DC Alumni gathering. I have been there for the last several years, but I cannot go this year – it is tomorrow evening.

Dr. Chapman got a big email from Kristin Woo ('02) with all the pictures of her wedding and reception in Las Vegas on March 24. She is now Mrs. Kristin Aillon (pronounced Ion). She says she is still going by Kristin Woo around the lab. She is still at Kansas U. Husband Daniel is a Biochem major at KU and working for Pinnacle Technologies, a biosensor company in Lawrence. One of his instruments is in competition with one of the ones she uses for her research. She expects to defend her dissertation by early July.

April 26, 2007

I got an email from Mike Phillips ('98) yesterday telling me that he is headed back to Iraq for another trip. This will be his second trip there and hopefully the last. It is scheduled to last for 12 months.

And this afternoon I got a nice note from Pat McCarville ('84). He and Pam have three young ones and live in Valley, NE, outside of Omaha. Pat is in family practice there.

May 1, 2007


Now it is May already, and today was the last day of class. And I got an email from Cliff Spitzer ('66), actually three emails today. He has retired from Colgate-Palmolive in New York as of last August. He and his wife, Colleen, live in Fanwood, NJ. They now have their first grandchild as of 3/7, so they can now drive to Brooklyn to "help." His new email address is below. Cliff also asks if I ever hear from Kurt Strobach. Actually, the answer to this last is "not recently," but maybe Kurt will take a hint!

May 15, 2007

Last weekend we had graduation. This time it was at Municipal Auditorium downtown. The baccalaureate Mass was Saturday afternoon as usual with a reception in Massman Hall after. Jennie (Losapio) Iverson ('99) was there with Scott (also '99) her husband and parents, Mary (Graveman) and Sam Losapio (both '74) for her sister Juliette's graduation.

May 18, 2007

School's out and here I am quietly trying to catch up, and this afternoon Fred Nobrega ('56) stopped in for a nice visit. He is now retired from practice, but is still living in Rochester, MN, where he has been at the Mayo Clinic for many years. He got his MD from KU. He says the most exciting thing now in his life is that he is now a grandfather!



Also today I got a couple of emails. One is from Larry Padberg ('67) in Alexandria, VA. He is director of development for a housing group for the poor, a United Way group.

Another email came from Peter Simone ('04). Peter has just finished his first year of his MD/Ph.D. work at U. Nebraska in Omaha. He is working in an X-ray crystallography lab and trying to decide whether to do that or pancreatic cancer research for his Ph.D. He has just bought a house and will get married in Napa Valley in June.

An email came from Derek Henley ('96) who has just moved to Kansas City. He is working for GlaxoSmithKline as a medical scientist in the oncology division. He got his Ph.D. in medical sciences from St. Louis U. Med School. He has just finished his post-doc with the NIEHS (NIH) in North Carolina. His email address is below.

May 21, 2007

Joe Nguyen ('04) stopped in this afternoon. He has just graduated from St. Louis U. with his M.P.H. degree with a major in epidemiology and infectious diseases. He has a job with the New York City Health Department in infectious diseases.

May 25, 2007

Yesterday I got an email from John Hervert ('05). John has just finished his first year at West Virginia School of Medicine, as of June 1. His email address is below.

May 30, 2007

I got a long email from Ed Mangold ('59) this morning. Ed got his MS from Maryland and worked with Weather Bureau satellite instruments. He then got his Ph.D. in Physics from Oklahoma State in 1968 in Stellar Spectral Analysis. And then he worked for contractors to the Air Force, and living in Colorado Springs. He and his wife have 4 children and 7 grandchildren, including an adopted Vietnamese girl. He says his oldest grandsons are playing football this year. He keeps busy with volunteering for the US Geological Survey, the Sierra club, and teaching some at a community college and statistics at Regis U. His children are all around the country from Phoenix to North Carolina.

I also got an email from Rina Hiratsuka. Rina was in out post-baccalaureate program a couple of years ago, and then she went back to Japan. She is planning to apply to Medical School in Japan and wants a letter of recommendation. Her email address is below.

June 1, 2007

I got a nice email from Andrew Silver ('06) this afternoon. He has now finished his first year at St. Louis U. Med School and got honors in every class but one (near honors, instead). He is

hoping to get into a research project for the summer, besides playing some softball (not quite baseball).

June 6, 2007

A couple of days ago I was walking down the campus walk (used to be 53rd Street), and there was Laurie Kertz ('99) with Ryann (Nee) Kuykendall. Laurie was staying with Ryann on her way to Austin, TX, where she is going to take up a new job in Physical Therapy.

And I got a note from Joe Devine ('67). He notes that he doesn't believe that it has been 40 years since his graduation from here. He got his Ph.D. in Biochemistry from Southern Mississippi State and has now been a supervisor with Quest Diagnostics in St. Louis. Right now he is just vacationing for a week or so. His email address is below.

And this noon Sirini Iyengar ('00) came by and we had lunch together. He has one more year of his residency in ophthalmology at Kansas U Medical Center. After that he is thinking seriously about joining an international group of eye doctors and going to Tanzania for at least a year. Their equipment includes a plane equipped with a classroom and an operating room on board.

June 9, 2007

A couple of days ago I got a nice note from Kim (Manthei) Carter ('98). She and her husband Chad and their two little boys are in Sapulpa, OK. Kim is finishing her second year of residency in OB/Gyn in Tulsa. Chad got his MBA in Healthcare Leadership and is an Air Force Flight Surgeon stationed in Oklahoma City. Her email address is below.

June 22, 2007

It looks like I have a bit more catching up than I thought. First, we have quite a number of the faculty retiring that many of you know. Both Merrill Goldberg and John Koelzer are retiring. Well, John isn't quite retiring – he will be teaching a course or two this fall, and in the spring, too, I think. The computer science program has not been too popular, and so that is closing which means John Cigas and Kevin Burger are leaving. The same is true of the Sociology Department, and so Dr. Marilyn Carroll and Fr. Bob Mahoney are retiring. Two non-faculty have decided to retire. Frank Diskin is retiring, but will be taking on a nursing home in Independence. And Nan Evanson is moving to the UMKC Dental School as director of Advancement (i.e., collecting money!).

Dr. Jane Lampo has recently taken on the job of Vice-President for Advancement, anticipating Nan Evanson's leaving.

June 24, 2007

This evening I got a real nice email from Paul Zinn ('01). Paul is just finishing up a post-doc at U. Michigan. He got his Ph.D. from KU and is now ready for a job as senior chemist with Nalco in Naperville, IL, doing R&D in Water and Core Technologies doing "all kinds of chemistry." He and wife Kimberly Richmiller-Zinn ('00 & '01) are moving in July. His email address is below.

One more thing I guess I should mention is that Philip Colombo ('91) has moved his belongings back into the department office from the dean's office suite – he finished his stint (two years) as assistant dean and will be teaching chemistry as usual this fall.

June 27, 2007

Yesterday afternoon, Tim Lawler ('05) stopped in to say hello. He is leaving today for San Diego for his next rotation, Ob/Gyn. This is the beginning of his fourth year at KCUMB. Then when he comes back from that, he will be getting ready for the national board exams.

A sad note of news, Dr. Bill Koehler passed away over this past weekend. He was a dentist here in KC for a good many years.

July 9, 2007

Ramon Garcia ('93) called the other day and told me that he and Angie (Edmiston) ('94) have a new daughter as of this spring. Ramon is a project manager for Abbott Laboratories in North Chicago, IL. They live in Evanston. His email address is below.

Mike Weilert stopped in for a few minutes last week. He is a pathologist in California. He was here in town for his father's funeral. Also I spoke with Rich Kramer ('76), (wife: Barb Weilert ('77)) as they were in town from Minneapolis.

And I guess I will add a word about myself before I get castigated for leaving it out. Several weeks ago I had colon polyp surgery which turned out to be benign, and then, last week I had a hernia repair. I am now about all mended, I hope, for good.

August 25, 2007

At this point I have a lot of catching up to do, so, without any time connections, let me start. All this is what I think I have gotten during the summer.

A note from Eddy ('97) and Sara ([Hoagland] BSN '98) Hart tells me that they have been blessed with a daughter in April. Eddy is in KU Medical School.

And more recently a short email from Ellen Niece ('06) tells me that she has gotten married as of July.

At the Mass for the new freshmen and their parents, a couple of old faces showed up. One was Mike Thompson ('81). Mike is an anesthesiologist here in North Kansas City. The

other was Pete ('90) Skidmore. Pete is still an Army doc at Eisenhower Medical Center in Augusta, GA. Both of them have daughters starting here this fall.

August 26, 2007

I did not realize how many folks I have seen and heard from that I have to catch up on. So here goes for a few more.

At Pat ('92) Mitchell's wedding, I saw his uncle, Richard Kuckelman ('69). Dick is living outside Chicago and working in Detroit with a health services outfit. His wife Kathy (Mitchell) works in suburban Chicago. Pat married a girl he met while he was living in Japan. The wedding was part in Japanese and part in English. And of course Pat's brothers, Brendan ('86) and Dan ('90) and sister Maggie, and sister in law Mary Kay (Koehler) Mitchell ('87) (Mrs. John Mitchell) all had a part in the affair.

I got a long email from Sara (Hund) Kohler ('01) a while back. She is doing a post doc at Medical College of Wisconsin in Milwaukee. This is where husband Eric ('00) is attending medical school. Sarah got her Ph.D. from Loyola Med School in Chicago last spring. She will also be teaching some 80 non-science majors, mostly nursing, at a local college.

August 27, 2007

Still catching up! I got a nice email from Jason Gordon ('00) the other day. He is finishes his post-doc at Notre Dame, teaching part time. He has taken a position here in KC at Midwest Research starting the first of the year.

And a short note came from Tom Hutton ('69) in Jefferson City, MO, giving his new email address, which is below.

We started school last Wednesday, August 22. The regular General Chem class is full at 96 students in two sections, taught by Annie (Lee) Stanislav ('95) and Philip Colombo ('91).

August 31, 2007

This afternoon, I walked an old friend, Bob ('70) Haake and his wife Debbie. They came into town to watch son Steve play baseball against the Kansas City minor league team, the T-Bones. Bob is a DO (from KCUMB) and a critical care doc in Belleville, IL.

September 6, 2007

Last Sunday we had the baptism for the new daughter of Ramon ('93) and Angie (Edmiston '94) Garcia-Ferrer. They are living in Chicago and Ramon is working for Abbott Labs. They also have a boy about 2. Ramon's sister Josephine was there. She is doing a post-doc at Washington U. in St. Louis. Sister Cira ('81) and Joe Danda were there. They are both physicians here in KC. Carmen and Noe Garcia-Rodriguez came up from Houston, TX, actually they live down near

NASA. Frank ('88) was touring the Mediterranean.

I got a note from John Hervert ('05) in West Virginia. He is starting his second year at the W. Va. Osteopathic School. He just took his cardiovascular exam with "tons of pharmacology."

And Greg Hobson ('07) sent me a note the other day to ask for letters of recommendation for medical school. He is currently working at Aptuit here in KC doing stability testing on active pharmaceutical ingredients (HPLC and KF tests), as well as in process and release testing (again HPLC and KF) for pharmaceuticals.

A short note from Sara Oberhelman ('04) says she is studying hard for step 2 of the National Boards which comes up this fall. She is starting her last year at K.U. Medical School.

And that reminds me, Tim Lawler has been around here (where it's quiet) studying for his National Boards, too. I think that by this time he has taken them. He is fourth year at KCUMB.

Josh Nast ('06) stopped me in the hall the other day. He was here to ask for recommendations to medical school. He is currently working as a pharmacy tech. His email is below.

An email came this morning from Dan Simpson ('01) telling me he has taken a position with one of the big law firms in St. Louis, Gallop, Johnson & Neuman, in the intellectual property group. His first patent brought him to another Rockhurst alum, John Walsh ('01). Dan's email addresses are below.

While I was typing the above, I walked Jon Chambers ('03). He is working at Midwest Research, but is thinking of medical school. And he sent me a note saying that My-Lin Trinh ('03), who graduated from Creighton Med School last spring, is doing a pediatrics residency in Phoenix.

September 21, 2007

A couple of days ago, I got an email from Bill ('76) and Beverly Bickell. Bill is an emergency room physician in Tulsa, OK, and doing as much research as time will allow. They have three children, their daughter is married and so Beverly and Bill are now grandparents, and one son is going to China as an exchange student for a few weeks. Their email address is below.

And this morning I got a short email from Rina Hiratsuka from Japan. She is still studying and applying to medical school in Japan.

As you may have heard, Mary Landers is our new director of the Alumni Office. Deb Flores has taken a job in St. Louis with Fontbonne.

September 25, 2007

I am about to send this off to the printer, but this morning I got two emails. The first is from Dick Wilson with his new email address, which is below.

The other is from Mary (Graveman) Losapio ('74). She tells me Anacia Henleben ('74) passed away last Sunday (9/16/07) from a rather rare form of cancer. She had been a respiratory therapist in Madison, WI.

September 26, 2007

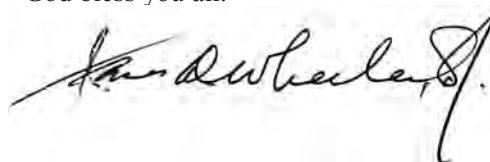
Here is one last note before I send this off to the printer. One of my students in the Honors General Chemistry from Kirkwood, MO, had Doug Barton ('98) for her high school chemistry teacher (Lindbergh High). She thinks "he's the coolest, most erudite teacher in the world." She is a pretty good student in my class, and in thinking of becoming a chemist! It is nice to hear things like that about our alumni.

You might also want to check your email address below. Some of them I have had a number of years, and I suspect some are definitely outdated. Let me know, and I will fix it for you for the next issue. Remember, the email addresses appear here in the printed edition, but not in the web edition (www.rockhurst.edu).

One more point is that there are several other folks less connected with the Chemistry Department and the Science Division who have asked to be included in this mailing list. So you may see a few of them mentioned from time to time. They are all good friends and Rockhurst alums.

I encourage you to let me know what goes on with you, and I'll pass the word along. And if you know of anyone who does not get this newsletter and would like to, let me know, either by regular mail, or by email. My email address is James.Wheeler@Rockhurst.edu and below and on the web site if you are reading this on the Rockhurst web site. So,

God bless you all.



James D. Wheeler, S. J.



Keep Fr. Wheeler and your classmates up to date. If you'd like to change your address or share your news, please return this form to: Rockhurst University Chemistry Department, attn: Fr. Wheeler, 1100 Rockhurst Road, Kansas City, MO 64110.

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Home Phone _____

Business Phone _____

E-Mail Address _____

Employer & Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Family, Friends, Comments, etc. _____
