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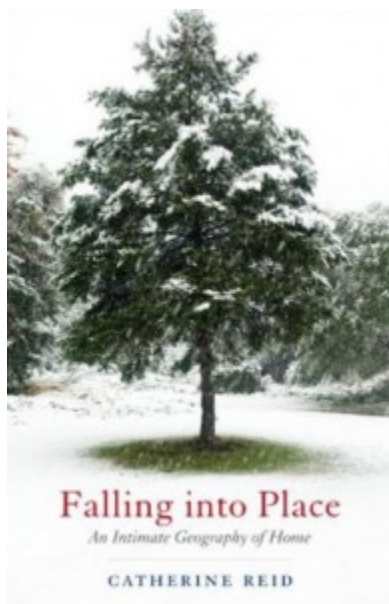
Facebook: University of Maine Class of 1989

Hello Class of '89!

There has been a changing of the guard with Class Correspondents. Kimberly White Silsby '89 passed the task on to me, and I am more than happy to continue the role. I think she is a *little* busy as principal of Cony High School in Augusta, Maine!

Please "like" the **University of Maine Class of 1989** Facebook page so you can stay connected online!

In academic news...Professor Naomi Jacobs in the UMaine English Department shares that **Catherine Reid '89**, is chair of the undergraduate writing program at Warren Wilson College in North Carolina. Catherine, an alumna of the UMaine English MA program, was recently honored with a \$25,000 NEA fellowship for creative writing for 2014. More than 1,000 applied and only 40 were chosen. Catherine is author of *Coyote*. Her essay collection, *Falling into Place* (Beacon Press) was featured on Oprah Winfrey's list of "14 Riveting Reads to Pick Up in March 2014."



Atlanta's Penfield College Associate Professor, **Dr. Karen D. Rowland '89, '93G**, has been invited to the White House by First Lady Michelle Obama to take part in a national program to improve school counseling. This program was developed in response to President Barack Obama's "North Star" goal for the U.S. to have the highest proportion of college graduates in the world by 2020, as well as the First Lady's Reach Higher initiative which supports that goal by focusing on the role of school counselor and college and career advising. Dr. Rowland has been awarded the Counselor Educator of the Year for 2012-2013 by the Georgia School Counselor's Association and has served on the GSCA leadership team in multiple roles.



Dr. Karen D. Rowland, Ph.D., LPC, NCC, Certified School Counselor (S-7)

In athletic news, three former UMaine athletes were inducted into their respective high school Athletic Halls of Fame: **Jeff Sturgeon '89**, Old Town High School, basketball; **Julia Whitney Robarts '89**, North Reading High School (Massachusetts), tennis; and **Joseph Trefethen '89**, Orono High School, football and track.

In civic news—**Alan Stearns '89G**, head of Hallowell's Council's Highway Committee, leads the city of Hallowell's efforts to rebuild Water Street. Earlier this year councilors passed an agreement with the state which will begin work years from now. **Jeff Kirlin '89, '96G**, Bangor avid photographer, brought awareness to the plight of an emaciated circus elephant, Ned, who performed at the Anah Temple Shrine Circus at the Bangor Auditorium in 2008. Animal lovers and advocates were outraged when they saw Kirlin's photographs of the underweight elephant and notified the USDA that the elephant was sick and should not be worked. The USDA seized Ned from his owner, and the owner was charged with a violation of the Animal Welfare Act. Kirlin was recently subpoenaed to testify in Washington, D.C. by the United States Department of Agriculture. More information on Ned can be found at <http://www.elephants.com/Ned/nedHistory.php>.

In professional news...Augusta attorney **Walter McKee '89**, was recently named a New England Super Lawyer for 2014. Super Lawyers is a service that rates attorneys from more than 70 practice areas who

have attained a high degree of peer recognition and professional achievement. McKee has appeared on the list since 2009.



Walter McKee, '89

In artistic news...**Rich Kimball '89, '97G**, was recently named Maine Sportscaster of the Year by the National Sportscasters and Sportswriters Association, the third time in four years he has received that honor and the fifth time overall. Rich has over three decades of broadcast experience, including stints at WABI-TV, WLBZ-TV, and WZON Radio. Rich holds a Master's degree in Educational Leadership from the University of Maine and teaches Civics at Brewer High School. Rich also leads The Focus Group, a Bangor area improvisational comedy troupe. In November the group held the Improv ME Festival at The Next Generation Theater in Brewer. Kimball hopes the inaugural Improve ME Festival can lay a foundation for future, larger events in eastern Maine for improve comedy and for comedy in general.



Rich Kimball '89, '97G

In scientific news...University of Maine Engineering professor, Dr. **Bill G. Davids '89, '91G**, along with a team of undergraduate students, is testing materials for a device called a Hypersonic Inflatable Aerodynamic Decelerator (HIAD) which slows down the nose of spacecraft, much like a reverse parachute. NASA awarded UMaine \$750,000 for the project.



Dr. William "Bill" Davids '89, '91G

The 25th Class Reunion was a lot of fun last October. Plan on coming home to UMaine sometime soon!

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