EXPERIMENT

THE EXPERIMENT

ALUMNI NEWS

Benjamin Cohen, China 2010, reconnected with fellow Experimenter Federico Predazzi at his family home in Vicenta Lopez, Argentina. The two were best friends on The Experiment. Ben now works for World Learning’s Fulbright Specialist Program.

Stephen Sadlier, Group Leader Spain 2000 and SIT Graduate Institute MA in Teaching 1999, is the 2019 recipient of the Go Back, Give Back award with English Language Fellowship. He will train and supervise local scholars at international conferences and provide in-service seminars for professional language teachers with the Azerbaijan State Examination Center. Stephen was also a Fulbright Core U.S. scholar to Chile in 2013-14 with the State Department.

Jason Dyett, Mexico 1988, says his life working and living outside the U.S. has been the result of his first solo experience abroad in Mexico. The Experiment opened a new world for him and had a lifelong impact on him and his family, some of whom are from Brazil.

Timothy Levin, France 1988, recently found his old journal from his Experiment in 1988, and it brought back many memories. He has stayed in touch with his homestay family for the past 30 years. This year, he took a trip to Paris and visited his host-brother, his wife and daughter, and his host-sister. They celebrated a birthday and Tim even stayed the night in the same room he stayed in as an Experimenter. For Tim, The Experiment not only cultivated a love of French language and culture, but lifelong friends and an extended family. Tim now has an apartment in Paris.


Roberts Bass, Germany 1975, connected with his German host-brother two years ago and is hoping to meet in the upcoming year. Roberts’ summer in West Germany influenced many attitudes, interests, and aspects of his life.

ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT

The experiences of Experiment alumni are always exciting to hear about. I had a lovely conversation with L. Jeff Gaskin, Sri Lanka 1974, in which he recounted his experience and shared his many opportunities to stay connected to the country. He spent 25 years on dental service in the U.S. Public Health Service. Jeff continues to explore the world, providing volunteer dental services and says it all started with The Experiment!

Pamela (Nottage) Mueller, Denmark 1963, sent in her scrapbook. What a treasure! And so much fun to look at the postcards, tickets, and notes from her experience! The best is meeting alumni in person and seeing all the emotions and memories in your eyes. Since the last newsletter, I was lucky enough to have dinner with Dunia Rikein and Sheldon Ogabourne, both from the group I led to Italy in 2002. Dunia is a lawyer and Sheldon is teaching music.

As you will see in the upcoming events section, we will be hosting more alumni gatherings around the country this year and I look forward to meeting some of you in my travels. Remember that invitations to gatherings are by email only, so please do reach out for more information or share your email at alumni@worldliving.org.

Carla Lineback


THE EXPERIMENT

A NOTE FROM
CARLA LINEBACK
DIRECTOR OF ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT

David H. Taylor, Switzerland 1978, returned to Switzerland with some of his kids over the summer to celebrate his host-sister’s 60th birthday. He has had ongoing contact with his host family but was his first time visiting in 40 years.

Michael Shelley, Norway 1972, remains in contact with his host-mother. She is now in her 90s but was able to visit Michael and his parents in Florida a few years ago. Michael re-connected with his host-brother, Trond, who is now a musician in Norway via Facebook.

Jane (Sinberg) Brauer, France 1970 and Mexico 1971, says her life has been shaped by the cultures and people she met during her Experiment. Jane sits on the board of Under the Same Moon, an organization that supports a school in Guatemala for students whose families can’t afford public school. Her dream is to start an ESL program at the school. Jane has authored two children’s series and dual language programs that promote peace.

Kathleen Sherwood, United Kingdom 1969, and her family hosted Experimenters from Kuwait, Turkey, Southern Rhodesia, and Kenya. Kate kept in contact with her Turkish host-brother until he passed away and is still close with his wife and two daughters, who live in Ohio. Her younger brother, Doug, went on The Experiment in 1974 to Mexico. He is now facilities coordinator for Portland Public Schools in Maine.

Mary Ann (Kane) Dellinger, Guatemala 1966 and Spain 1967, reunited with her Spanish host-brothers and -sisters two years ago during their 50th reunion in Aranjuez. They met again in October 2019. Mary Ann earned her BA in Spanish, and moved to Spain 1975 where she lived for 18 years. When she moved back to the U.S., she earned an MAEd in bilingual education and a PhD in Spanish from Arizona State University. She is a newly retired professor of Spanish Language and Cultures at the Virginia Military Institute. Mary Ann says her accomplishments and personal joys in life are a result of The Experiment.

Larry Koch, Switzerland 1965, and his wife Eve visited Switzerland in 2008 and stayed with Larry’s homestay family. He has so many stories from his 11-member Experiment group’s journey through the St. Gotthard pass and backpacking in the Swiss Alps. A year after Larry returned home from his Experiment, his homestay family asked him to be godfather to their new baby girl, Marianne. Larry’s trip was a life-changing experience filled with great memories and stories.

Maryann McKay, Mexico 1965, lived overseas for almost 30 years as a Foreign Service Officer serving in Latin America, Africa, and Europe. Her husband was also a Foreign Service Officer and while stationed in Mexico City, they adopted two baby girls. For about 10 years, Maryann returned to her homestay each summer. Influenced by her homestay family and The Experiment, she graduated from the University of California with a BA in Latin American Studies in 1968; from Stanford University with a master’s degree; one in education and the other in teaching Spanish; and a PhD in Education.

Theodore Wagner, India 1962, reconnected with his homestay family after 50 years. Ted had been teaching in Bangladesh when he searched for them.

Gale (Anthony) Clifford, United Kingdom 1956, still remains in touch with her homestay family after 63 years. Her son has even met with her homestay family’s great-grandchildren. Gale and her husband have hosted Experimenters from Japan, Italy, Poland, and Holland, beginning in 1961. Gale tries to keep in touch with as many Experimenters as she can. She says her experiences have been so enriching and broadening; they are gifts that keep giving across generations.


Courtney “Court” Haight, France 1953, is a farmer in Maine. He retired from a career in international banking in 1990, a career sparked by a lifelong interest in international affairs after going on The Experiment.

James Maynard, France 1953 and France Group Leader 1957, credits his lifetime career in the medical field to The Experiment. James used to consult on health care programs with the World Health Organization, traveling to many different countries. He fondly remembers cycling through the French countryside with his host family and learning French, eventually becoming fluent.

Julian Thomas, France 1950, has been working for IBM most of his career. He works with people in several IBM France locations as well as from the UK and Germany. Julian continues to practice French.
UPCOMING EVENTS
We’re organizing a number of alumni gatherings in the coming months. Invitations to gatherings are sent by email, so make sure we have your correct email address! You may also register on the alumni community directory at experimentconnect.org.

- February 20 – Boston
- February 26 – Washington, DC
- March 25 – Seattle
- March 26 – San Francisco or Oakland
- April 1 – Denver
- April 21 – Chicago
- April 22 – Minneapolis
- May 28 – St. Louis

JORDAN AND ISRAEL FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS
World Learning is launching its inaugural Global Leadership Exchange (GLEX) program in May 2020. This exciting opportunity is available to all alumni and friends of World Learning. The program, designed by and for alumni will provide participants the opportunity to engage with World Learning’s mission, connect with our partners and projects overseas, and most importantly share the experience with like-minded community-focused leaders.

The program will run from June 16-25, 2020. There is a limit of 20 participants and the registration deadline is March 6, 2020. For details about GLEX and this summer’s program, visit www.worldlearning.org/GLEX.

OTHER PROGRAMS
SIT Study Abroad provides academically rich undergraduate semester and summer programs, most with field research or internships, and International Honors Program comparative study. Experiment alumni or immediate family members of alumni who are interested in studying abroad in college, can receive an automatic scholarship of up to $1,000. Visit studyabroad.sit.edu.

SIT Graduate Institute offers internationally focused full-time and low-residency master’s degrees, certificates, and professional development programs. Alumni of The Experiment or SIT Study Abroad and IHP programs receive a $2,000 discount for graduate degree programs. Visit graduate.sit.edu.

World Learning’s Global Programs work to create a more peaceful and just world through education, sustainable development, and exchange. Our programs advance leadership in more than 150 countries. Visit worldlearning.org.

H ave news to share? Send news about a new job, a publication, an accomplishment, or just a general update to alumni@worldlearning.org.

ABOUT WORLD LEARNING INC.
World Learning Inc., the nonprofit parent organization of The Experiment in International Living, offers high school, undergraduate, graduate, and professional programs. World Learning Inc.’s SIT Study Abroad offers semester- and summer-long undergraduate programs that address critical global issues on all seven continents. SIT Graduate Institute offers graduate degrees in low-residency and global formats. The global nonprofit, World Learning is working to create a more peaceful and just world through education, sustainable development, and exchange. Founded in 1932 as The Experiment in International Living, the organization that later became World Learning Inc. was inspired by Dr. Donald Watt’s simple idea to improve understanding across cultures and nations by sending U.S. students abroad to expand their worldviews.