

# MiddPoints

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## David Dorman, Mathematics: Teaching and Playing at Middlebury for 25 Years

Students and fellow Mathematics faculty are familiar with seeing David Dorman in the classroom or his office, but the rest of the College community probably recognizes him as the guy who is always outside doing

something active, usually with his dog. “Most people would recognize Char before they would me!” David jokes.

Char, a six year old lab-border collie mix does everything with David; she runs, hikes, swims, skis, plays lacrosse, jumps off the cliffs at

the gorge, and in the water can retrieve five sticks simultaneously, routinely fetching two at a time because she gets bored if swimming after only one.

But enough about Char – back to David, whose interests and pursuits are more diverse. Academically, David describes himself as being trained in arithmetic algebraic geometry (the study of the basic arithmetic and geometric structures of

mathematics) and since that overlaps with two other professors in his department, he says “I’m retooling myself into mathematical ecology.” It is an integration of mathematics into biology curricula; through mathematical ecology one can

model populations (distribution of animals, humans, plant-life), determine how far and quickly diseases will spread, and plan the best places to reintroduce animal species to a region, among many other applications. During his last leave, David developed the

curriculum for a mathematical ecology course that he hopes he will get to teach soon. Prior to going to graduate school for mathematics at Brown University, David was an environmental engineer, so his current focus on mathematical ecology is like coming full-circle with his younger professional self.

David calls his fellow Mathematics faculty the most congenial department on campus because “even when there are differences in opinion, they are expressed in a supportive way.” Of his least favorite aspect of his work here David says, “The students are great, the faculty and staff are great. I would teach and run office hours for free. It’s the grading that’s expensive.” Having taught just about every mathematics course over these 25 years, abstract algebra ranks as one of his favorites. “You can look at geometry through a number of different lenses, and abstract algebra is one of them, using the tools of algebra to

*(Article continues on page 2)*



**Staff Council Elected Officers**  
Staff Council is pleased to announce the elected officers for 2009-2010 year:

**Patricia McCaffrey**, Dining Services Representative: President  
**Mack Roark**, Library and Information Services Representative: Vice President  
**Suzanne Cota**, Athletics, District D Representative: Co-secretary  
**Julie Rheacume**, Registrar’s Office, Member-at-large: Co-secretary

Please join us at our next monthly meeting on Wednesday, August 12. More details to follow.

### 51 Main Open for Lunch

51 Main at the Bridge is now open for lunch starting at 11:00 a.m. Tuesday through Saturday, with wonderful quiche and soup du jour as well as an evolving series of savory and sweet crepes, made entirely in-house from the finest ingredients. The featured homemade confectionaries and desserts run the gamut from cheesecakes to meringues to chocolate truffles.

Want to know what is happening at 51 Main this summer? Be sure to check out their new Web presence at [www.go51main.com](http://www.go51main.com).

51 Main is able to provide special menus for receptions, events and parties. If you are planning a gathering, please consider having it at 51 Main at the Bridge. Call Carl Roesch, manager, at 388.8209 to plan the event.

### In this Issue

- College to replace the Worth Mtn. Chair Lift
- BLSE Celebrates 90th
- New voice mail system to go live August 20
- This Month in Midd. Hist.



MiddPoints is online!  
Go to Human Resources,  
then click on MiddPoints.

# WORTH MOUNTAIN CHAIR LIFT TO BE REPLACED

In late spring the College learned that the 40-year-old Worth Mountain double chair lift at the Snow Bowl no longer meets the state's licensing requirements.

Faced with the decision of repairing the lift, replacing it, or closing the Snow Bowl, President Liebowitz and the Board of Trustees decided to replace the lift and launch a special fund-raising effort to cover the \$1.7 million cost.

The president weighed the recreational value of the Bowl and its economic importance to the region against the replacement cost of the ski lift at a time when the College is making significant budget cuts due to harsh economic conditions.

"Since 1934," the president said, "the Snow Bowl has been an integral part of our students' and our community's winter recreational experience. Countless children, students, faculty, staff, and townspeople have learned to ski at the Bowl and enjoyed the thrill of winter sports over the decades."

The new lift will be a fixed-grip triple-chair transport system engineered and manufactured by Doppelmayr CTEC, and the per-hour capacity to the top of the Allen trail will be the same as the existing double-chair Poma lift.

Generous donors have already pledged \$600,000 toward the project



*A young skier in 2007 getting on the soon-to-be-replaced chair lift.*

and, in seeking additional contributions, the College will be selling a limited number of lifetime passes to the Snow Bowl and offering some new naming opportunities at the 75-year old ski area. To learn more about the fund-raising for the Worth Mountain chair lift, go to <http://go.middlebury.edu/worthmtchair>.

The new lift system will be operational in time for this winter's ski season.

David Dorman, ctd. from pg. 1

study geometry," David explains.

Around 15 years ago, David began taking pottery classes at Frog Hollow. It sparked an artistic side of him that he didn't know he had. David became a studio assistant there, mixing clay and glazes, and he learned a lot and had fun doing it. This artistic pursuit has led to his winter term pottery course called "Trial by Fire." A potter just for fun, David gives his pieces to friends, and he also gives much of it away for auctions to support area non-profits like Habitat for Humanity and the North Branch School.

David enjoys many athletic endeavors. He is a biker, swimmer, runner, and hiker. The bike is David's way to really enjoy the Vermont scenery. He has competed in the past with the Middlebury Muffintops master's swim team, a group he enjoys because "they do not take themselves too seriously." In June David ran his seventh Mt. Washington road race—yes, it's running the toll road 7+ miles uphill to the summit. "I'm not built for running, but going uphill evens the field for people like me with short legs because no one can take long strides," says David, explaining his love of mountain running adding, "I do Mt. Washington for the fun of being outside and getting exercise. I'm not going to run if I'm not having fun." Right after the spring semester ended, David traveled west to Yosemite and Muir Woods for hiking with a group of friends.

When asked if he has a favorite place on campus, David lists, "Running the trail around the golf course, the Class of '97 trail, the pond behind the CFA that Char dives in. . . . I like being outside all year." David truly loves this campus and says, "My backyard is a park which, fortunately, someone else takes care of. I live in a postcard!" When he is out playing with Char on the fields, David sees and gets to talk to the many College staff members who do take care of that backyard. "They are great, fabulous people, the people who make the College run on a day-to-day basis, and I really appreciate them and want to thank them," David says.

~ Liz Hammel

## ● Middlebury History

**This month in 25 years ago** ● Reginald L. Cook, professor emeritus of American literature and director emeritus of the Bread Loaf School of English, passed away at the age of 80. Gubernatorial candidate Madeleine M. Kunin called for tougher state laws to regulate property development.

**10 years ago** ● "If I were the czar of baseball," wrote Addison Independent columnist and assistant professor Karl Lindholm, "I would be diplomat, scholar, negotiator, fan. I would embarrass no one." The College applied for an Act 250 permit to install five modular residential units west of Ridgeline Woods. "Middle East: People and Perspectives" was on exhibit at the Museum of Art.

**5 years ago** ● Ted Conover spoke on "Borrowed vs. Stolen: Plagiarism and Prose, with a Firsthand Anecdote" at the Bread Loaf Writers' Conference. The Middlebury Select Board urged the Vermont Agency of Transportation to construct a roundabout at the corner of Route 7 and Exchange Street. Edward Djerejian, former ambassador to Israel and Syria, gave the Language Schools Commencement Address.



## Telephone Services to replace voice mail system

Peggy Fischel, Telecommunications Manager, announced that on August 20, 2009, the voice mail system will be replaced. Installed in 1996, the current system is no longer supported by the manufacturer. The new system has the ability to emulate the touch-tone features of the current system, so most users will find the transition easy since phone keys will continue to perform the same familiar functions. Online reference guides and tutorials will be available for those who want to learn more about additional features. One of the new features allows users to record a separate out-of-office greeting. Saved and new messages, recorded greetings, and existing security codes cannot be transferred from one system to the other; everyone will need to record their greeting and name when the system goes live. Telephone Services plans to use the same access phone number to make this change as smooth as possible. The current voice mail system will be available with a new access phone number until November 1, so users can listen to old messages. Telephone Services staff will be in touch with those who use voice mail menus (telephone trees) to discuss transition plans. Check your e-mail for more details in early August and specific instructions just prior to the changeover on August 20. If you have questions or concerns, please contact Peggy Fischel at [fischel@middlebury.edu](mailto:fischel@middlebury.edu).

## Bread Loaf School of English Celebrates 90 Years



photo by Ed Brown

Cindy Damon-Bach ('89), left, and former faculty member Courtney Cazden in Andrea Lunsford's reunion course on the graphic novel.

The Bread Loaf School of English celebrated its 90th anniversary by hosting an all-classes reunion at the Bread Loaf mountain campus in Vermont over the weekend of June 19-21. Bread Loaf students, faculty, and staff representing six decades—from Jean Miller, M.A. '53 to Charles Byrne, who receives his M.Litt. this summer—returned to the mountain and had a wonderful weekend catching up with old friends, visiting favorite spots, and trading stories across the decades. The Bread Loaf Acting Ensemble performed scenes from Shakespeare and alums told stories from their student days at the “Bread Loaf Remembered” panels. One of the biggest hits of the weekend (Bread Loaf alumni are mostly English

teachers, after all!) were the dozen mini-classes offered by the Bread Loaf faculty on subjects as varied as the graphic novel, Ovid's *Metamorphosis*, and the poetry of Robert Frost. All who attended agreed that Bread Loaf is still a magical place.

## Classifieds, ctd. from page 4

**For Rent:** 3 BR house, newly renovated, in the country on Rt. 30 in Sudbury. 1st, last & deposit required at \$1,250 per month. Call to inquire at 802.558.1069. Would like at least one-year lease.

**For Rent:** 2 chalets avail. on Lake Dunmore, Salisbury. Each chalet has 2 BR, sleeps 6 on water. Walking dist. to store, snack bar, laundry mat. No pets/smoking. \$750 weekly. Summer rentals Saturday to Saturday until Sept. 1. Monthly rentals Sept. 1 to June 1. Call Dolly at 989.3693 after 4 p.m. or 352.4378.

**For Rent w/ Option to Buy:** Twin Circles, Middlebury, available September 1, 2009. This 3 BR, 2-1/2 BA condo has been beautifully updated. Unit has colors & features that are charming & fun! The Otter Creek room and terrific extra palladium window provide very nice light. Comes w/ a garage & a partially finished basement. A warm, inviting condo. Rental price: \$ 1,200/mo. Reduced sale price: \$209,500. Contact [kmurti@middlebury.edu](mailto:kmurti@middlebury.edu).

## Wanted

**Wanted:** One Stokke Tripp Trapp high chair. Please contact [kguttent@middlebury.edu](mailto:kguttent@middlebury.edu); x2024.

**Wanted:** A Feb (09.5) who is sticking around after graduation and working for the College is looking for a cheap housing option (house-sitting or sublet) for spring 2010. Recommendations avail. upon request. Contact [eeglite@middlebury.edu](mailto:eeglite@middlebury.edu) or call 802.989.8669.

where on  
**CAMPUS?** Linda Ross,  
Dan Celik, &  
Marion Davis  
were the only  
three readers who knew that last  
issue's "Where on Campus?" photo  
was taken in the Performance Space  
in the basement of Le Chateau!

Human Resources • Service Building, 2nd floor • 802.443.5465 • [hr@middlebury.edu](mailto:hr@middlebury.edu)

MiddPoints is published approximately twice per month by Human Resources for the faculty and staff of Middlebury College. The issue schedule and deadlines are listed on the Human Resources Web site. MiddPoints is mailed without charge to regular full time and part-time employees. MiddPoints is Human Resources' primary communication vehicle on policy changes, upcoming events, news, and other items of interest to employees. Entities outside the campus may not advertise in MiddPoints.

# • • • • Classifieds • • • •

Classified ads are free for members of the staff, faculty, student body and alumni of Middlebury College. Ads must be submitted seven days prior to the publication date. Guidelines for ads can be found on the MiddPoints section of the HR Website. Please send ads to Classifieds, MiddPoints, HR, Service Building, or e-mail to [middpoints@middlebury.edu](mailto:middpoints@middlebury.edu) (electronic submissions preferred).

## Auto

**For Sale:** 2005 Chevy Equinox (AWD). Charcoal gray w/ many extras including air, power windows & locks, keyless entry, CD player, tinted rear windows, Michelin tires, trailer hitch. Great condition. Good all-year round vehicle, great winter car. Under 57K miles. \$8,800. E-mail [jquesnel@middlebury.edu](mailto:jquesnel@middlebury.edu) for more details/pics or call x5185.

**For Sale:** 2003 Toyota Matrix XR 4WD. Silver with dark interior. 76K miles. Bought w/ only 6K miles as Toyota Certified Vehicle. Excellent in all weather. New brakes. \$9,000. [ewhitake@middlebury.edu](mailto:ewhitake@middlebury.edu) or 802.989.1318.

**For Sale:** 4 used, studded, Winterforce snow tires. 195/60 R15. \$15 each, 2 for \$25, 4 for \$45. Call x5570.

## Other

**For Sale:** Baldwin spinet piano. 19 inch Quasar TV with built in VCR player. 388.4427.

**For Sale:** Roper brand washer & electric dryer. Heavy-duty, x-large capacity. Washer 27" wide; dryer 29". Inherited from my mother -- they both work fine. \$150 each (sell for around \$350 each new), & I prefer to sell the pair instead of 1 at a time. Contact [adolber@middlebury.edu](mailto:adolber@middlebury.edu).

**For Sale:** Queen size Ethan Allen sofa bed: beautiful condit., asking \$300. Heavy duty black plastic work box: like new, w/ locking lids, last used in back of Tacoma pickup, \$50. Ariens rototiller: some rust, five hp, 18" till, \$35. Call Cris Butler x5643.

**Yard Sale:** Lots of girl's clothes, for all seasons, sizes 7, 8, 10/12, in excel. condit., gymnastic suits, skating dresses, adult clothes, books, games, toys, household items, & more. Saturday, August 8, 9:00 – 4:00 and Sunday, August 9, 9:00 – 1:00 at 988 Lower Plains Road, Salisbury. [tdegray@middlebury.edu](mailto:tdegray@middlebury.edu).

**Yard Sale:** Bridport town-wide yard sales August 15 and 16, 9:00 - 4:00. Maps available at all sales and Pratt's Store.

## Real Estate

**For Sale:** 4 BR, 2,900 sq. foot, in-town Middlebury house with established gardens, old house charm, walking dist. to schools & stores. Newly painted, family neighborhood, sellers' principal home for over 20 years. \$325,000. Contact x5262.

**For Sale:** Middlebury. Very well maintained 3 BR, 1-1/2 BA home at end of cul-de-sac in a lovely nbrhd. w/ great play area for children. Spacious screened porch off kitchen/dining area, newer 1 car garage, paved driveway, carpeted full bsmnt., hrdwd. floors in LR & DR. Wonderful home for a very affordable price of \$194,000. Contact Bob, 453.5110 or [rjansen@middlebury.edu](mailto:rjansen@middlebury.edu).

**For Sale:** Condo in Middlebury at Woodbridge Lane. This wonderful condo is the one you've been waiting for. Recently renovated, 2 BR, 1-1/2 BA w/ room in the basement for an office or game room. Only 1.5 miles to Middlebury College. \$128,000. Call 349.4327.

**For Sale:** Weybridge home on 12 acres w/ Green Mtn. views. Open floor plan, spacious kitchen, 3 BR, 2 BA, large workroom/office, sunroom & screened porch, deck & terrace. Energy effic., solar hot water, Vt. Hearthstone wood stove. Dry, walkout bsmnt., attached garage, 16x24' barn. Close to Otter Cr. & Lemon Fair, Snake Mtn. 6 mi. to Midd. Great community, schools. Contact [wolfson@middlebury.edu](mailto:wolfson@middlebury.edu).

**For Sale:** House for sale in very desirable Weybridge nbrhd. Walking dist. to College & dwntwn. 4 BR, 2-1/2 BA, screened porch, open front porch. New Buderus furnace, new windows. \$419,000. [sharris@middlebury.edu](mailto:sharris@middlebury.edu) or 545.2664.

**For Sale or Rent:** Lake Dunmore house. 3 BR, 2 BA, amazing views in Leicester. Yr. lease required, avail. now. Rent \$1,500/mo., sale price \$585,000. Please contact 802.238.3865 or email [cometovt@gmail.com](mailto:cometovt@gmail.com).

**For Rent:** Marbleworks condo. Amazing downtown Middlebury location. 2 BR, 2 BA, hardwood floors, gas fireplace, laundry room, 2 parking spaces, storage unit. View of falls & farmer's market. \$1,600/mo. includes air/heat, gas for stove & fireplace, water, trash pickup. Available September. 1 year lease minimum. 802.462.2162.

**For Rent:** House in Middlebury on Washington St. Extension, w/in walking distance of town. 4 BR, 2 BA, and a garage. Available Sept 1, \$1,300/mo. Contact Emina at [emahmulj@middlebury.edu](mailto:emahmulj@middlebury.edu) or call 802.388.1145.

**For Rent:** Room for rent for school year (August - May) in Lake Bomoseen home (25 miles south of campus). Large room, lots of light; shared bath, laundry, kitchen, & most of house w/ owners, one of whom works at Midd. \$450 per month, inclusive: but we are a conserving household, and if utilities rise dramatically the rent may go up. Description & photo of house avail. at [adolber@middlebury.edu](mailto:adolber@middlebury.edu).

(Classifieds continue on page 3)

## COLLEGE BOOK STORE

STOP IN  
AND CHECK OUT  
OUR SUMMER SALE!