



Alumni Corner – Winter 2005/2006

Robin Long
Student Services Coordinator

Julie Blake Gidley (B.S. Environmental Science '99) and Matt Gidley were married on October 8th at the Desert Botanical Garden in Phoenix where she currently manages the children's programs. Julie completed her Masters in Liberal Studies from NAU earlier this year and wrote her thesis on "Cultivating connections: Understanding good practice environmental education in Arizona and New Zealand Schools." Congratulations to Julie and Matt!



Jane Dobbie (B.S. Forestry '04) is working on the Naches Ranger District in the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest -- say that fast three times! She writes that she's busy with an environmental assessment for an upcoming restoration project/timber sale on a project area of ~11,000 acres. She also just became a first-time homeowner, purchasing a 1938 home in the West Valley of Yakima and is busy planting trees, shrubs and bulbs.

Victor Alm (B.S. Biology '00) enjoys his job working with fruit bats and otters at The Oakland Zoo at Knowland Park. Though he admits that nothing will ever be as good as the wild, the new bat exhibit center where he works is a fantastic educational experience for teaching kids and adults about bat conservation issues. The center is very large and designed to showcase the bats' flying abilities. Victor is a Keeper II with the zoo and also manages their intern program. He and his fiancée, Olivia, live with their cat Nutmeg and dog Marty in Walnut Creek, California.

Brandon Oberhardt (B.S. Photography '03) will be showing an exhibit of his photographs *Fire and the Kaibab Plateau* starting January 10th at the ERI's Art Gallery located in Rm 35 of the NAU Forestry Building. Brandon works for the Black Hills Fire Use Module in Custer, South Dakota. While here in Flagstaff over the holidays, his photography was also on display at Brandy's Restaurant. For the Arizona Daily Sun article about the ERI showing, click here. Want to see some great pictures? Go to: www.brophotography.com or check out the Arizona Daily Sun article at: <https://library.eri.nau.edu:8443/handle/2019/273>

Finally, we're delighted to welcome several new babies to the ERI family:

Aaron Green (B.S. Forestry '02) and his wife, Dani, are delighted to announce the birth of their daughter, Kate May. Aaron works for the Arizona State Lands Department in Flagstaff as a Natural Resources Manager II. A loyal alum, Aaron returned to campus this fall to conduct mock interviews with Forestry semester A students and was overheard asking them some tough questions. Way to go, Aaron!



NORTHERN ARIZONA UNIVERSITY

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Peter Friederici and Michelle James (M. Liberal Studies '03) welcomed Liam James into the world October 5th. Peter works as an Associate Editor at the ERI. Michelle and Peter submitted this picture of young Liam, already a budding naturalist, checking out wildlife.



And finally, there's a new rasc(k)al in town! **Kristina Fernandez Rask** (B.S. Forestry '05) and her husband, Gregg, are the proud parents of Croydon Cedar born October 1st. After graduating in May, Kristina worked for the ERI administrative team until Croydon arrived. Already at 15 lbs, Croydon is following in his parents' footsteps and looks to be a promising athlete.



Have alumni news to share? Please send your news to Robin Long at [robin.long\[at\]nau.edu](mailto:robin.long[at]nau.edu) or call (928) 523-7187.