

OCCUPATIONS AND AVOCATIONS

UPDATED IN 2008

In December 1999, Fred Short, an active member of the [Dwarfism List](#), asked short-statured members of the list to post some information about their lives. What follows is the result. The purpose of this is two-fold: to give members of the list a chance to catch up on what everyone is up to; and to give new parents of dwarf children an opportunity to see the enormous range of opportunities that are open to them. What follows is Fred's final posting, complete with part of his introduction. The list itself is pretty much unedited, including Fred's Britishisms.

Date: Sun, 26 Dec 1999 12:37:45 -0000

Subject: [dwarfism] Congratulations! YOU, did it!!!!!!!!!!!!!! The Century of Success for the Millennium!

From: "Fred Short" <Fred@erickshort.fsnet.co.uk >

You did it!

We now have something really positive to show the world that there really is "Good Stuff in Little Bundles!"

We prove that the future really IS Bright for all LPs and especially for parents of brand new LP bundles of joy:-)

So please, this is YOUR list! There is NO copyright on it. This is YOUR Century of Success for the beginning of the new Millennium. Please, pass it on, show ANYONE and everyone who may be interested. Especially show it to those who can benefit from the re-assurance that LP's do add a tremendous amount of positive contributions to the society in which they live!

Thank you very much for your support in helping to compile this beautiful picture of achievement.

Your comments on how you think it can be improved would be appreciated.

Merry Christmas, and a bright future to you all.

Fred

2008 Update

Somehow I got the inspiration to try to update this fantastic list of occupations. I thought that those who are already on the list would like the chance to bring their listing up to date with any changes that have occurred in their life over the last 8 years. I also realised that there would be people in employment now, who were probably still at school then.

So, what with updates and newcomers, I am happy to see that the List of a Hundred, is now the List of over TWO Hundred.

I hope reading it gives you as much pleasure as it gave me helping in its creation.

Fred

Aaron – aged 28 - Achondroplasia - Candidate for a Master of Fine Arts Degree at the University of Georgia (only 9 students selected to attend every 3 years)

Adelaide, my type of dwarfism is presently still undiagnosed.

I have a Masters Of Fine Arts degree; worked as a Theatre Set Designer for thirty years in various theatres in several states before retiring.

Alan G. - teacher, psychologist.

Alex Kenderdine – aged 19 - Achondroplasia - working as a DJ during weekend nights, and I'm just starting to work for HAZCO, at a weigh station.

Alise S. - psychiatric rehab assessor.

Alison T. - cookie factory worker.

Alyce Williams - technical writer/editor/secretary, BA English, MTS Theological Studies, currently working for the Purchasing Department, Jefferson County, TX **2008** Human Resources Technician., Jefferson County, Texas. I am a certified lay speaker of The United Methodist Church.

Amy Bowers -Kniest Dysplasia- 3.8 GPA, Talented and Gifted program, 11 years old. **2008** I'm currently enrolled in the Clark Honors College at the University of Oregon with a full scholarship, majoring in English and minoring in French. I'm 19 years old and I'll be 20 in April.

Amy Rusak - I am a marketing student and a volunteer clown

Angel Shields - I'm Diastrophic. I am a CADD (Computer Aided Drafting and Design) Tech.

Angie Tweet- Age 27 - Achondroplasia - Office Manager

Anna- aged 18 – Larsen’s Syndrome (I just found out on the internet that it was a form of dwarfism). After struggling through my first 2 years of high school I decided to get my GED instead. Then I plan on taking a computer class with my mother. I have taken 2 Chinese classes and 1 medical terminology class. I also am on a pediatric family advisory committee at the hospital as well as a volunteer on the pediatric floor and for an out patient clinic.

April Brazier - I am 23 years old and just graduated from college. I went to school for communications and Computer End-User Technology. I currently work for the University of Wisconsin-Madison Hospitals and Clinics. I work there part time doing computer work and other executive-assistant-like things. I also have another part time job as a technology assistant for a local school district. I go around and fix computers. I've worked both these jobs to get my butt through school. **2008** Clinical Applications Specialist

Aucott - Twenty-two years of employment as a casino executive who exclusively oversees high limit table game action from the gaming pit. "Licensed professional card dealer and instructor of blackjack, baccarat, mini-baccarat, poker, paigow poker, let it ride, red dog, roulette, big wheel, Caribbean stud poker, Keno, Sic Bo, mah jong -- all table games."

Barb – severe form of O.I. – aged 20 – just got my first job working at Walmart.

Barbara Spiegel – aged 29 – Achondroplasia – Pre-school Teacher

Beth Reeves - I am an office manager for a trucking company. I know the road construction from the inside out.

Bill Bob Brower - Supermarket controller, retired, & Real estate Broker.

Billie Elaine Edge -Metaphyseal Chondrodysplasia, Schmid – Fashion designer

Bob M. - retired actor.

Brad – Achondroplasia - Motorcycle mechanic

Brad Clark - age 14. All honours classes, manager of the 8th grade basketball team, and President of Student Council (voted into this position by the student body - over 1200 students!!!!)

Brenda Prather – Age 46 – Achondroplasia - Information Center Manager (Librarian)

Butch Carlisle - I've worked for NBD/ BANK ONE for 20 years. I worked in the INDIRECT LOAN DEPARTMENT. I am now working for the FINTECH BOARD OF EDUCATION as a TEACHER AIDE. **2008** a school bus aide for a special needs school. I help to get kids who are chair users and the like on and off the school bus

Candy H. - High School Senior and working in the box office of local theatres selling tickets.

Carol C. - undiagnosed short stature - teacher. **2008** -- ex-radio journalist/newsreader; qualified ESOL and speech/drama teacher; writer & director of plays for children; semi-professional actor; two Bachelor degrees.

Carole H- achondroplasia - accounting technician for the US Dept of Agriculture

Carolyn Strange Boursse - aged 59 –Pseudoachondroplasia -French/Spanish High School teacher
(Retirement date: Friday, June 13, 2003 after 36 years of teaching)

Casey Hubelbank – aged 26 - Cartilage Hair HypoPlasia – Educator

Charity H. – age 5 – pseudoachondroplasia -Kindergarten student

Charles Cravens - BS Education, MEd Education, currently working as a computer consultant.

Christopher Horndt - I'm an accounting student, but will be taking 2 or 3 semesters off to pursue some other interests. I wish to get an accounting position with an airline or hotel.

Christopher Hermon – Achondroplasia - Qualifications: BSc.(Hons) Life Sciences, MSc. Medical Molecular Biology. Career: 5 years working in Medical Research. Followed by 10 years approx in various positions in Charities, social services, advertising sales, photography. Last 5 1/2 years have been spent in Magistrates Court administration in South East London Magistrates Courts - last 3 years of this I have been the Case Progression Officer at Bromley Magistrates Court (Civil Service)

Colin Lane - 30, bartender.

Corey T. - disc jockey.

Corinne R. - plant nursery hand.

Craig Peak – aged 43 – Diastrophic – Civil Servant.

Crystal – aged 26 – Achondroplasia - Attorney with the Georgia Advocacy Office, Inc. (non-profit, private organization that works for and with individuals with disabilities per federal mandates)

Curtis Reynolds - I am the manager of a quality assurance team for Seattle-based RealNetworks I went to college at the University of Washington and got a degree in mathematics with a computer science option. I'm proud to be the person I've become and haven't let my disability stop me from achieving my goals.

Cyndi Demitruk - I have worked as a mortgage loan processor for 20 years. I went to college to be a paralegal - but there appeared to be discrimination among the attorneys so I went into banking - and when I got to the highest level - non supervisory just Sr Mortgage Processor - I experienced the glass ceiling. So now I work as a production co-ordinator for a TV studio and making more money than I ever had and I love what I do very much and there are no glass ceilings. I co-ordinate the TV crew to go to different parts of the country and shoot the shows.

Dallas Olsen, -pseudo achondroplasia - Office Manager for an Insurance-Mortgage Brokerage. Auckland New Zealand

Dan Alonza – aged 44 - Achondroplasia – Cook

Danette Baker - Counsellor specialising in Disability issues and especially Morquio Syndrome.

Danny Black – aged 49, Achondroplasia, actor and entertainer.

Danny Smith - Achondroplasia-. My occupation was a wastewater Treatment Plant Operator for 21 years until 2003. Also I was a union Steward and on the executive Board for the Union I was in for over 15 years.

Darrel Montzingo - Physical Education Teacher at a High School , Head of the PE Dept, Golf Coach and former basketball, softball and tennis coach.

David Bradford - age 40 - Diastrophic -Systems Analyst, Information Technologist

David D'Avia - Customer Services Rep for Toro, manufacturers of lawn mower, snow blowers and other lawn and garden equipment.

David ebarb - achon - pro poker player

David Murn – Spondyloepiphyseal Dysplasia. - started my worklife in an office job as a computer programmer, but have since moved on to become a pizza delivery driver.

David Stewart - General Manager and Owner of Monroe Broadcasting Company. He's the "Big Guy" who runs the local AM & FM Country Radio Station in Monroeville, AL. They have had just as many characters at his station as they had on WKRP. Sadly for David, there are no Jennifer Marloe types.

Dawn G - I have been working in veterinarian clinics since April 1988 as a technician, veterinarian assistant, and receptionist.

Dea Orendi (was Dea Allen) –achondroplasia- from Alberta, Canada. Type of Work: Mom, wife, and we homeschool our 5 & 6 yr old girls.

Deb Hecht- Achondroplasia- I have been a household goods dispatcher and driver drug screener for a major US moving company for the past 20 years. It is an office job.

Dianna Mailman - I am the Personnel Assistant to the Recruiter for the Drug Enforcement Administration for a five state area.

Donna - I have been in the IT (information technology) field now for almost 10 years. I am a Programmer Analyst with the New York Times in (of all places) Virginia. Donna's husband has the really cool job. He is Director of Promotion for the Paramount Stations Group (UPN). He is solely responsible for the marketing of 21 TV stations.

Donna Rae – aged 39 – pseudo-achon - My occupation is working for the Internal Revenue Service as an Audit Accounting Aide.

Dwayne Farris- Diastrophic Austin Tx Fire Dispatcher 18 years

Elaina .i have schmid metaphyseal condrodyplasia and studying to be a fashion designer. I help my mom and dad with his business

Ellen F. - Webmaster for a daily newspaper. I have an M.B.A.

Ellen Goodman – aged 42 – Achondroplasia – Investment Banker.

Erin Thomas - I am a second year College Student. I am studying to be a Social Worker or a Child Psychologist. I Attend Abilene Christian University, in Abilene Texas.

Erica - Dwarfism: Spondyloepiphyseal Dysplasia Congenita, (SEDc) Occupation: Information & Referral Specialist for a Disability Organization; now studying to become a Paralegal

Ernie Lee – Achondroplastic since 1969 - General Manager and Partner Rimrock AutoGroup New and Used Vehicle Sales and Service

Eugene Owens,- Achondroplasia –aged 30 -Reference Librarian - Oberlin College, ,

Evelyn Bell - worked for the Federal Government of Canada for 28 years. She worked her way up from a Telephone Operator/ receptionist, to a Personnel Clerk. Before that she worked as a Rehabilitation Clerk for the Province of New Brunswick. She is now retired.

Faye Thomas, Achondroplasia, Houston Tx, Photographer :)

Frank G. - sign maker.

Frederick Short –achondroplasia - Retired teacher. Now a writer, artist and photographer. Well, gotta keep busy☺))

Frieda Valuckas - I just want to add that I'm am a 58 year old Achon, retired school teacher of 30 years in the public schools.

Gabrielle Bartholomew - I'm an Administrative Assistant for a computer manufacturer in my area..... (suburbs of Philadelphia, PA). I also help them with any website and graphic designs that they have need of. I help schedule the technicians when they go out on service calls and co-ordinate with the Office and Store Managers.

Gareth J. - occupational therapist.

Gary Arnold - Achondroplasia - Occupation: Public Relations Coordinator with Access Living of Metropolitan Chicago -- A disability service and advocacy organization serving people with disabilities in Chicago, Illinois.

Gillian Mueller – Achondroplasia - United States Senate staffer.

Gretchen Deitze – aged 24 – Diastrophic Displasia - BA in History (European) and a minor in Art History (medieval -modern).

Heather Bullock – aged 43 – Metatropic Dysplasia -Information Technology Specialist working for the Federal Government (US Department of ED) in Washington, DC in the USA. I have a BS degree in Psychology too.

Heather Hutson, I am 29 years old, I have achondroplasia and I work for an event planning company, TBA Global. The main event I work on is as a Finance Manager for a race that benefits a well known breast cancer foundation.

Helen - My occupation is Administrative Specialist. I have been doing office work for 19 years. Currently, I have been working as an Office Temporary being assigned to various companies and I have been called back on assignment at a particular company who think I do excellent work and likes my personality.

Helene Whitaker - two Masters' degrees. Job: Vice President for Administration Northampton College.

Jennie G. - genetic counsellor.

Helen McGuirk, -Achondroplasia - Admissions and Marketing Assistant, Aston University.

Hillary M. - achondroplasia – currently not working but previously held the following positions: 1. Director of Programs @ a local non-profit organization that advocated for the rights of people with disabilities. 2. Information and Referral Specialist at the organization listed in #1. 3. Coordinator of Employment Services @ a local non-profit organization which assisted people with developmental and/or cognitive disabilities to participate in the general community. 4. Job Consultant at the organization listed in #3. 5. Tenant Organizer @ the St. Louis Tenants Union.

Hollie Elaine King Edge-Metaphyseal Chondrodysplasia, Schmid – Fashion designer

Howard Bell - was a Stockroom Clerk for 22 years with the Province of Manitoba. Before that he was a small appliance repairman. He also worked for an Automotive Wholesaler in his early years. He is now retired.

Irene Yuan - Achondroplasia - Graphic Designer and student. BFA Graphic Design with honors, Art Center College of Design. Companies and clients include: Bosch and Siemens Home Appliances, Jaguar, Purina, Nokia. Currently pursuing Graduate School for MBA degree in 2009. Past California Democratic Party 69th AD Delegate.

Irwin Royes-Osteogenesis Imperfecta - Professional Magician

Jacqueline Clipsham – achondroplasia – “Artist who works in clay, bronze, and who makes “artists books”.” My work is in several museums. I taught ceramics. I have worked as an ADA and 503 consultant and enforcer, specializing in arts institutions. I worked in this capacity with the National Endowment for the Arts.

James C. - architect.

James F. - actor.

Jane Stewart - SEDc - BA Hons Social Policy (1st class) occupations since leaving University - MENCAP - Project Coordinator Queen's University Belfast - Disability Officer University of Ulster - Disability Adviser (current job)

Jeana C. - Senior in College (I've studied abroad for a semester in Bulgaria) Editor of College newspaper, hoping to work at a magazine after graduation.

Jennie G. – morquio -genetic counsellor.

Jennifer S. (aka Vivian) - Achondroplasia - Current Job; Corp. Administrator for Allergan Headquarters in the Operations Dept...Previous employment includes, Senior Secretary for 3 VP's at Downey Savings Corp. Hdqtrs.. and Contracts Admin. for Wonderware Corp.**2008** Organic Chemistry Assistant, Allergan.

Jim – Achon aged 48 – Achondroplasia - Real Estate Sales

Jim - aged 50 –Achondroplasia - Administrator Special Education

Jim Mitchell - Hair Stylist.

J. L. - High-schooler who worked at a Cinema and baby-sits.

Jo - Achondroplasia. MA (Cambridge). Previously Customer Support Manager for knowledge-management company and then a self-employed consultant. Now working in the voluntary sector to support people with emotional difficulties, including those experiencing suicidal feelings.

Joe Stramondo - Microlmelic Dysplasia -After studying part time for 3 years and earning a masters degree in May 2007,I left my full time job as a college career adviser at Trinity College in Hartford Connecticut in August 2007 to move to East Lansing Michigan, take a fellowship offer, and begin studying full time toward a doctorate in philosophy. My area of specialization is bioethics and I am building areas of competency in social/political philosophy and philosophy of science.

Joanne G. - data bank processor.

Jody Yarborough – short stature due to a muscular/skeletal disease -freelance graphic designer and editor of LPA Today

Joe White - I used to be Little Oscar of Oscar Mayer fame with the Weiner truck. I retired. A few years later, I was in the show at Excalibur Casino in Vegas. Retired in '92. Am now a Senior Commissioner for the city of Cypress.

John N. - house painter.

John Young - Age 37- Achondroplasia - High School (Secondary) Math Teacher **2008** high school mathematics teacher living in Massachusetts. Taught for 9 years in Canada, 4 years in Hong Kong and currently in my 5th year teaching in Massachusetts.

John Cunningham - Age: 38 – Achondroplasia - Dad of 2 amazing children, College student, Computer Technologies Advisor

John Dybala – aged 28 – S.E.D. - Medical billing clerk (weekdays), staff supervisor for a Real-Estate office (weekends)

Jon: SED, Vice President - Moody's Investors Service. Municipal bond analyst.

Jonathon T. - grocery store clerk.

Jorge Garcia-Herreros - I received my BA in anthropology from the University of Houston in 1995 and my Masters in 1998, again in anthropology. I plan to continue my education and get my Ph.D. sometime in the future, although I currently enjoy my position as an archaeologist for an environmental firm.

Josephine – hypochondroplasia – cleaner

Joy Wyler - for the last ten years I have been attorney for the regional children's hospital in Kansas City, Before that I was a family and juvenile law attorney and before that I was a medical technologist. I also am a teacher, serving on the faculty of facility based education programs and Sunday School at our church. I also do some grief counselling on a peer support basis and have helped facilitate training for that. In my spare time I am Chapter President for the LPA Central Star Chapter, Adoption Co-ordinator for LPA, and president of the Kansas City Society of Healthcare Attorneys.

Judi - I'm a certified teacher of music, speech and drama. I also am a professional actress, singer, I am historian and archivist. Last but not least, I do stunt work for children in television, stage and movies.

Judy Badner - Psychiatrist, Geneticist, and Assistant Professor.

Julie Weiss – aged 44 – Hypo pituitary - preschool teacher/ student- soon to be elementary school teacher in January 2004

Kate Pew Wolters I'm a DD, born in 1957. Masters in Social Work degree. In the past 25 years have practiced clinical social work for several years, directed non profit disability advocacy organization, directed a corporate philanthropy program for 10 years, currently managing private foundation and serving as board member of several non profits, one corporation and one university.

Kathie Blain. My husband, Danny and I live in Seattle, WA. Our dwarfism type is achondroplasia. I have worked as a secretary forever (I'm 56 - old) and now am doing medical transcription for many hospitals out of my home.

Danny (57 - also old) is a plumbing engineer (not a plumber - we actually have to call one for problems at home) for very large buildings, stadiums, hospitals, apartments and condos. Both jobs keep us busy and out of trouble - most of the time.

Kathleen Summers – Hypochondroplasia - Accounting Assistant Senior

Katherine Koos – aged 36 – Achondroplasia -Sculptor, I have a BFA from Parsons School of Design in NYC.

Kathy D'Avia –Achondroplasia - Retired from General Mills after twenty three years of service. Worked in Accounts Receivable as data entry, cash applier, supervisor, support person for A/R. Returned to work after becoming blind 8½ years ago. Currently volunteer at Vision Loss Resources teaching other blind people to use a computer. Also a peer councillor and on the Advocacy Committee.

Katrina - fully qualified ONLY achondroplastic nurse in New Zealand.

Kay R. - Air New Zealand clerk

Kelly McClintock - I've been in the telecommunications field for almost 10 years!! I will be leaving my current position, Billing and Provisioning Manager for Picus here in Virginia Beach next week. I have accepted a position as Business Analyst with Connect.com in Little Rock, Arkansas.

Keltie Ziccardi i am a proportioned dwarf 4 9 and I am an Exec Admin.

Kendra H. - High School Senior and working in the box office of local theatres selling tickets.

Kenneth Rodgers. I am Achondroplastic and 45 yrs. old. I live in San Antonio,Texas. I am a Restuarant Manager for Chuck E. Cheese's.

Kevin K. - gasket maker.

Kimberley Dean - Achondroplasia – Physiotherapist

Laurie Benz - work I've been able to do with animals. I've worked in retail, pet supply sales, animal shelter/welfare, portrait photography and painting/drawing, etc. I've been a semi-professional singer-musician, playing guitar (was a semi-finalist in a Chicago contest), I have also had an article that I co-authored published in a women's music & culture magazine.

Leigh Ann Breen, 23, - achondroplasia - bachelor's degree, Certified Child Life Specialist at Children's Memorial Hermann Hospital, Houston, TX!

Leslie Mc Kenzie – aged 50 – Turner Syndrome - (British Columbia, Canada) Hospitals admissions officer

Liane, Achon, work for the German government

Linda Short - Retired Manager of a Day Centre for retired people. Now spend my time doing all manner of craft activity especially patchwork and quilting.

Linda Smeltzer –SEDC-(Spondyloepiphyseal dysplasia congenital) I was a special education teacher for 26 years and retired 9 years ago on disability.

Lisa Garvin - I am not working at the moment, except for motherhood. (one of the hardest and most rewarding jobs around).

Loren, - Achondroplasia - I am a Youth Group Coordinator. Working with youth who have disabilities such as downs syndrome, running a Youth Group where they (the youth) can hang out. In my job it is to organise events, managing finances, and everything else related to the Youth Group.

Luthien Golden - is an acting mother for her nieces, and has been for years. She has taken many college courses, and worked for an airline a few years back. **2008** former customer service manager at a major airline, now retired and a great-auntie. raised her nieces thru their formative years, both now in college.

Mandy Hoggan - I play an elf at Christmas for children and I like it. People don't like it when we dress up as elves but I do. I like making people happy.

Marc Reed - Member of town council planning team.

Marge Carlisle - I am a Special Education teacher of the "mildly" Mentally Impaired, Educable Mentally Impaired / Retarded is the technical term. I worked 10 years with students in grades 7-9 and then got bounced to Elementary where I have been for 12 years. Because of teaming and mainstreaming of my students for the last two years I have taught Science to 3rd-5th graders. **2008** Still as above, but dreaming of retirement.

Maria - McDonalds server

Maria Hecht – Achondroplasia –I graduated from an American high school with a basic diploma, not a Core 40 program or high academics. I am going to a community college, Ivy Tech, and work at a discount clothing retail chain called T. J. Maxx. part time while going to school.

Maria Telesca – Achondroplasia - Diversity Employment, ABILITY Awareness Training, Fair Housing Consultant, Radio Talk Show Host

Maria Perez Spondyloepiphyseal Dysplasia (SED) Director Center for Professional Development NJ University (USA)

Marilyn - I have one more year in the School of Social Work before I become a Social Worker. A few days after Hurricane Fran left NC looking hopeless, most of us had to apply for some type of assistance. Some who applied didn't receive all that was promised to them. I jokingly said to a few people " Would you like for me to go to school so I can take their job?" It wasn't long afterwards that I enrolled into the University.

Mark E. - warehouse stock manager

Mark McGimsey - is a bat biologist. He earned a M.S. in Biology studying (irony of all ironies) small mammals (shrews & bats) in the Smoky Mountains (Tennessee).

Martha Holland - I am a high school theatre teacher!!! Was a middle school drama teacher for four years. I also taught Social Studies (History) to 7th graders one year (I was not trained in History- quite a challenge!)

Martha J. Undercoffer – achondroplasia - a Non-Profit Specialist with Clark, Schaefer, Hackett & Co., specialises in all aspects of not-for-profit administration. **2007** Manager of the Proposal Department for General Revenue a division of Sallie Mae a fortune 500 company. **2008** I am the Grants Manager for Cincinnati Metro, the public transit system for Southwest Ohio.

Marty Davis-Merritts - I am Research Secretary at the University of Michigan Comprehensive Cancer Center.**2008** SEMD-Strudwick, Research Administrator, University of Michigan School of Nursing. Nursing research on helping cancer patients and, in particular, their family caregivers better deal with the cancer journey.

Mary Ann Meyer - Achon mom to unique set of twins, (one LP and the other average) and part time student majoring in Computer Information Systems and Technology and I hope to eventually be gainfully employed, as a Technical Assistant or in the field of selling computer software. Aside from studying computers, I also plan on studying music next semester, with singing being my no. 1 love!

Mary Aucott - Full-time mother of two children. Previous work experience in atomic energy at the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Plant, MA; and Oyster Creek Nuclear Power Plant, NJ. Onsite positions included administrative support in the Control Room, Health Physics, Quality Assurance, and Nuclear Operator Training.

Mary Beth Elley – Achondroplasia – retired teacher, now enjoying the fruits of her labours in retirement.

Matt Dean - Achondroplasia - Studying for A levels but partying too hard ;)

Matthew Roloff –aged 41 - Diastrophic - Software Sales, Farmer, Land Developer

Matthew W. - plant nursery hand.

Maurice Shackelford. – Achondroplasia -Self employed Destination, Cruise and Vacation Planner Expert.

Megan - Age – 27 - Achondroplasia - teacher

Megan Greenlee, SED, Administrative Secretary by day and graduate student by night at University of Dayton. :)

Melinda: Pseudo, Licensed Veterinary Technician

Melanie Anton, achon, I have a degree in French/Italian and History. I am an administrative specialist in the department of Medicine-Infectious Diseases at the University of Minnesota. I am the assistant to the division director and education coordinator.

Michael Hughes, - achondroplasia - 15 years old and hold several volunteer positions, LPA District 3 Teen Coordinator, Team manager of Green Hope High School Swim Team, Men's Varsity Basketball and Men's Varsity Baseball ...and all around sports fan. MAY 2008 I was elected for Sergeant at Arms for my Beta Club.

Michael Lee Gogin - I am a Stage, Film, & Tv Actor plus I am a Producer of Music and Film/Tv. I currently work with about 12 multi-talented musicians in a variety of music projects. I also represent 7 different artists as a personal manager.

Michelle G. - taxi dispatcher.

Michael Patton – achondroplasia - I'm a Business Analyst at Chase Bank where I have been employed for over 24 years.

Mitzi Evans – aged 26 – Achondroplasia – Entertainer and actress.

Mona Perry - age 64, Achondroplasia - worked taking estimate assignments, cashiered at a café, worked as a cashier at a waterworks co., answered the phone and took messages at one co

Monique Conley – aged 24 – pseudo achondroplasia - I have just graduated with a Bachelors in International Studies.

Monica Pratt - I am 2' 8" - Hold two college degrees. One of which is a Bachelor's in Business Management. Gainfully employed. Am currently making history as LPA, Inc.'s first employee.

Namatovu Asher Ajroush. Born Uganda 25/4/1984. I have a bachelor's degree in Quantitative Economics. Currently not working because of a non healing fracture. Don't know my exact type of dwarfism. I have a bone condition called osteopetrosis.

Nancy Stewart - I work at the Monroe County Dept. of Human Resources as an (Intake) Service Social Worker. This means I take Child and Adult Abuse/Neglect Reports. In my spare time, ha, ha, snort, chortle, I teach Tae Know Do Classes at the local YMCA. (Tae Kwon Do is a Korean style of Martial Art). My most challenging job is keeping up with my 14 year old daughter, Ryanne.

Nichola Dean - Achondroplasia - BBC Researcher

Pam H. - civil servant.

Patrick Keane - senior manufacturing systems facilitator and manufacturing systems administrator.

Patti Bell - I am a Sign Language Interpreter. I have been an interpreter for about 20 years, but have only had my certificate since 1983. I work for the California school district. I mainly interpret for elementary school kids, but have interpreted all the way up through college age. Right now I am interpreting for a second grader who is mainstreamed in with a class of 20 hearing students.

Peter Valuckas - aged 60 – Diastrophic - Retired Social Worker

Raewyn F. - Captain, Salvation Army..

Randy Bradford - I am a chemical process control engineer - BSChE from Oregon State University, Class of '85, that specialises in chemical plant automation and controls. I am also a licensed pilot with close to 1000 hours in single-engine Cessna's. Unlike Katrina - the only short-statured registered nurse in New Zealand - I am NOT the only dwarf pilot. Lee Kitchens provided the inspiration almost 30 years ago when he flew his Piper Tri-Pacer to the 1970 Portland, OR convention from West Texas.

Reba H. - I worked for Federal Civil Service for 7 1/2 years. For the past 11 years I have been (primarily) a wife, mother, teacher, and bookkeeper.

Rebecca K. - security monitor.

Ray W. - I am a teacher/Athletic Trainer for a high school in the great state of Texas. I have been doing this for the past 13 years and thoroughly enjoy it. (most of the time).

Ricardo Gil - age 51 - Cartilage Hair Hypoplasia AKAMetaphyseal chondrodysplasia Occupation: Fine artist and actor

Rich Cohen - Currently Vice President of the largest privately owned metal building fastener manufacturer in the US. Formerly musician and producer of Philadelphia punk band "Sickidz," internationally known, records and CDs still available to collectors worldwide.

Robert Crumly, Sr. – Achondroplasia - Quality Assurance Technician, RandMcNally.

Robert Tille - Age 47 – Achon - Medically Retired From The Department of Defense. I had worked 17 years as a AutoCAD/ Space Management Technician for the United States Navy, in Public Works Departments, in Plan Engineering.

Robin Snider - I work for the General Services Administration (U.S. Govt) as a Traffic Management Specialist.

Ron M. - tax advisor.

Rose Justice - achondroplasia - sign language interpreter. **2008** BA in psychology, MA in school & guidance counselling with an emphasis in mental health. Currently working in a community mental health setting specializing in adolescent substance abuse/dependence. Fluent in ASL.

Rose Cunningham - Age: 30+ - Achondroplasia - Full-time Mom to 2 beautiful children, who share our dwarfism, & full time student, on the Dean's List w/ a 3.93GPA, soon to be entering Graduate school

Rotha - acromesomelic - Radio announcer

Ryanne Stewart - is a 9th grader at Monroe Co. High School and is heavily involved in school and church activities.

Sabrena Roddy Dwarfism type: Hallermann-Streif Syndrome (Bet THAT is a rare one in LPA)
Occupation: Stay-at-home-mom

Sandra Scott – Achondroplasia - Further Educational lecturer in Community education and life long learning
And Disability Equality Trainer

Sarah Maria Quick - age 5, achon. Occupation-kindergarten student and light of her parents' life. **2008** - age 13, Occupation-middle school student and light of her parents' life.

Sally and Havan (Havan is my successor service dog who goes on most jobs with me.) Osteogenesis Imperfecta on U.S. disability. Owner of Custom Clergy, I do wedding ceremonies. Owner of Silver Dark Sky's Tarot Readings (Mostly Online) Writing forth Novel and various non fiction articles. While these activities supplement my Social Security, I do not make enough profit to raise Uncle Sam's eyebrow. Bozeman, MT

Selwyn C. - dairy farmer.

Simon Minty, MSc BSc Cert CIB - Self employed journalist, consultant and trainer, to the media and business on diversity and disability. UK Travel Writer of the Year 1999 (Best Television Feature - Beijing). Associate to several Media and Employers committees.

Stefan Garde Nielsen - Achondroplasia - IT Graduate Consultant

Stefan Gagne - A B.S. in computer science, computer specialist for the Food and Drug Administration. Also a video game maker and science-fiction writer.

Stephanie Finlay – aged 19 - Mesomelic dysplasia - College Student studying fashion design

Stephanie-Hypo Achondroplasia-Elementary School Special Ed Teacher

Steven Cotoia – age 21 – Achondroplasia - Junior Accountant for The Knot Inc.

Sue Casey - Age 36 –Achondroplasia - Mom - Last job was as Teacher's Assistant

Susan Coleman - I work for a large pharmaceutical company in the Diabetic Care division. My company manufactures blood glucose monitors and I work as a Customer Care Specialist providing technical support.

Susie Campbell-achondroplastic - Stay At Home Mom to two wonderful children: Joshua-10 yrs., Suscha-7 yrs.

Tami K - hypochondroplasia - bookkeeper and office manager for CPA office

Tammee - I am a 30 year old female I am a High School graduate. I also have an Associates Degree in Administrative. I now have 7 years government service and I am utilizing my degree as an Executive Administrative Assistant.

Tania C. - day care worker.

Tanyalee Davis - 1st woman to make it to the finals in the Seattle Comedy Competition in 10 years and I placed 2nd overall.

Tekki Lomniki - I am a freelance copywriter in advertising to make my major living. I have such clients as Diners Club, Anheuser-Busch, Dayton/Hudson/Marshall Field's and more. I have had my own freelance business for 12 years. Before that I was deeply entrenched in the corporate world of advertising at the Spiegel Catalog and Montgomery Ward corporate headquarters. I am also the Artistic Director of a not-for-profit theatre company called Tellin' Tales Theatre.

Theresa Brix – achondroplasia-I have recently been accepted to the University of Minnesota graduate school for my PhD in the Molecular, Cellular, and Structural Biology program. I will start sometime this summer, and it will take 5-6 years to complete.

Tommy Valuckas - age 51 – Diastrophic - Newspaper Editor for a local weekly paper

Tricia Mason - I just graduated in December of 1999 from the University of Wyoming with a Bachelor of Science in Textiles Merchandising. My goal is to be an Interior Designer specializing in Universal Design and making historic properties ADA compliant. Some may have seen a jacket I designed as well as material boards for a local airport at the Dwarf Artist Coalition exhibit in Portland. Served as LPA District 10 Director from 2000-2003 and elected to the Senior Vice President position in 2004, then moved into the President role in 2005. Currently serves as one of LPA's delegate to the ICC/ANSI A117.1 Committee on Usable and Accessible Buildings and Facilities. **2008** I currently serve as a Presidential Appointee to the United States Access Board and work part-time while I am pursuing my Masters of Arts in Interior Design from Marymount University in Arlington, Virginia.

V.P. - Mom of 3, PTA, LPA and Church Volunteer

William Bradford, born 1964. Diastrophic Dysplasia - Freelance writer and editor. I was recently admitted to Harvard Divinity School, where I will pursue a doctorate in theology (what I will do with that, heaven knows).

W.P. Cawthon - He was a clown with a travelling carnival, a watch repairman, and a 25 year NASA employee.

W.S. Cawthon - an L.P., was a telegraph operator.