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FEATURES

8 THINKING GLOBALLY: SYLVANA FOA '67
The former United Nations spokesman discusses the state of the world governing body.
BY HAGAR SCHER

12 ARTIFACTS OF THE IMAGINATION: WRITING A PARENT'S LIFE
Three writers discuss their memoirs of their parents.
BY DEBORAH SCHUPACK

16 WALKING ALONE
Excerpt from a memoir about two American Communists.
BY GINA LURIA WALKER '64

18 MY BRILLIANT NEW CAREER
A look at alumnae pursuing careers that did not exist when they were in college.
BY JESSICA RAJMI '73
INTRODUCTION BY JANE CELWYN

24 A WOMAN'S WORK IS NEVER DONE
A history of women in the workplace.
BY LOUISE BERNIKOW '61

DEPARTMENTS

2 LETTERS
4 UP FRONT
28 EX LIBRIS
31 CLASS NOTES
55 AACBC NEWS
56 LAST WORD
Dear Diary
BY MARY DENTON WILSON '22

COVER PHOTOGRAPH:
JANA LEON
Words of Strength

I have known the power of Jami Bernard’s words and journalistic eloquence for years; I now know the power of her personal strength, courage, and resolute character (“Cancer World,” Fall 1996). I wish her the best.

Alison McParlin Davis ’83
New York

Millennium, Coming and Going

“Millennium Approaches: Barnard’s First 21st-Century Class Arrives” (Fall 1996) may look and sound exciting, but it’s a case of two clauses in conflict, as one of them is just plain wrong. “Millennium” is defined in my dictionary as “a 1000th anniversary or its celebration.” How can one year be both the end of one era and the beginning of another? Barnard’s second millennial class has arrived; the Class of 2001 will be Barnard’s first 21st-century class.

(Otherwise, the issue was terrific!)

Alice Finkelstein Alekman ’62
East Brunswick, New Jersey

Too Postmodern?

The Barnard alumnae magazine follows a number of trendy publications in the use of headers to articles in a style that is loosely described as postmodern. The Fall 1996 cover includes two such lines—“millennium/approaches”—and successive articles repeat the format. Postmodern typefaces are typically sans serif fonts and the layout is arranged with little or no white space between lines so that the top line pushes down on the one below. Typefaces, their sizes, leading (space between lines), and kerning (horizontal spacing) are varied within each article. In Wired magazine, insets continue off the edges of the pages and onto the next page, so that the reader has to interrupt the article and keep turning pages to finish the thought.

In cutting-edge cases of postmodern layout—on display at a recent design exhibit in Chicago—the language accompanying each mounted item was almost unreadable. The point of much of the text was lost on the viewer. But in a design exhibit, the visual content challenges and satisfies without defeating.

Alas, the Barnard Magazine Fall 1996 issue has defeated me. Please rethink this unfortunate choice of layout design.

Deborah M. Rosenberg Roach ’66
Chicago

Seeking Suffragists’ Stories

I am writing for your assistance in producing a documentary on the American women’s suffrage movement. I hope to interview or correspond with alumnae interested in helping an independent film company tell the stories of women active in the militant suffrage movement, in particular the Congressional Union and the National Woman’s Party. We are especially interested in talking to women who knew or were relatives of the suffragists, such as Beulah Amidon ’15 and Margaret Peck ’14.

Please e-mail TinaAlex@aol.com, call (800) 794-1306, or write Tina Alexander c/o Steve and Linda Horn, 435 E. 83rd St., New York, NY 10028.

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AN OPEN LETTER

ton alumnae and friends of Barnard College

After twenty-four years at Barnard, and nineteen years as Director of Alumnae Affairs, Irma Socci Moore '50 is retiring. Irma's service to the College has been extraordinary, and the Board of Directors of the Associate Alumnae of Barnard College announces her decision with great regret. Her understanding of the needs of the College and her personal sensitivity are particularly noteworthy, and we have all come to rely upon her unflagging warmth, dedication, and good humor. Volunteers and staff alike—those who have worked with her for decades and those who have known her for a matter of months—are devoted to Irma and will miss her enormously. We are very grateful to Irma for her exceptional service and wish her the happiest and healthiest of retirements.

A Search Committee has been formed to review candidates for this position and make a recommendation to the College. The Committee will begin accepting applications immediately with the aim of making an appointment to take effect in the 1997-98 academic year.

The Director is responsible for developing and implementing all alumnae programs; for recruiting volunteer leadership; for planning and overseeing reunions, regional alumnae activities, young alumnae programs, career and affinity networks, special events on campus and throughout the U.S. and abroad; and for supervising the publication of the alumnae magazine and other communications to alumnae. The Director works closely with the Board of Directors of the AABC and with other alumnae volunteers and alumnae committees.

A senior level manager, the Director reports to the Vice President for Development and Alumnae Affairs and works with members of the College's fundraising, admissions, and career development staffs as well as with students and faculty to promote programs that encourage alumnae participation.

Applicants should have leadership and supervisory experience. The ideal candidate will have had relevant programmatic responsibilities and will be interested in developing new and creative programs for alumnae to help them maintain their ties to the College and to each other. The position requires strong written and oral communications skills, management experience, and the ability to relate well to alumnae of all ages and diverse perspectives. The Director must be willing to travel and to work on evenings and weekends.

The Search Committee welcomes nominations as well as applications. Please submit these to Charles Gadsden, Associate Director of Personnel, Barnard College, 3009 Broadway, New York, NY 10027.

Carol Herman Cohen '59, President,
Associate Alumnae of Barnard College

SEARCH COMMITTEE
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WHAT NOW? This fall, the Barnard community heard a firsthand account of the birth of the modern feminist movement when founding members of the National Organization for Women (NOW) gathered on campus to celebrate the group’s thirtieth anniversary. At the November 21 forum, which kicked off two days of tributes and celebrations, Betty Friedan, Mary Eastwood, Dorothy Haenner, and Muriel Fox ’48 lauded the movement’s past accomplishments while urging continued vigilance for the future.

Cosponsored by the Veteran Feminists of America and the Barnard Center for Research on Women, the high-spirited forum also provided an opportunity for feminist leaders to share behind-the-scenes glimpses of the movement’s early days. NOW’s first press release, for example, was prepared for mailing in the public bathroom of a Washington hotel. Eastwood admitted to committing a fashion faux pas with the “hideous” black wig she often wore for NOW demonstrations (so as not to be recognized as a government employee), and Friedan confessed her youthful naiveté in once suggesting that the group sue President Lyndon Johnson.

In introducing the four featured speakers, President Judith Shapiro emphasized their significance not only as important figures in the history of the women’s movement but also as role models for younger feminists. “We look forward to rolling up our sleeves tomorrow and continuing the important work that will be needed to uncover the fortune that still awaits us,” Shapiro said, “a fortune that will be found in the future achievements and lives of women, including the graduates of this College, for years to come.”

The following are excerpts from the forum, which took place thirty years to the day after NOW’s first press conference:

Betty Friedan, author, “The Feminine Mystique” and “The Fountain of Age”

We started an incredible movement that has been the most life-affirming, world-changing revolution of the last half of this century. We started it with no money and with no experience. Everyone blanched when I started calling it an “underground” [movement], but we had just come out of McCarthyism. The idea of organizing for anything—much less for women—was something over which anybody could lose her job.

I came along not exactly directed from heaven, but I was the answer in a way because I had no job to lose. I had a certain amount of fame, notoriety, or whatever you want to call it, by breaking through the “feminine mystique,” which had to be done. You had to break through the definition of women that prevailed in the years after World War II. Women had been sent back home again and were defined only in relation to men—as wife, mother, sex object, housewife, server of physical needs—not as people defining themselves by their own actions in society. “Career woman” was a dirty word, women’s rights were not spoken of, and we had to say, “Women are people—no more, no less. Women do demand our voices be heard in the decisions of our society; [we demand] our human and American birthright of equal opportunity.”

This was like a movement waiting to be born, and midwives from the underground, like Catherine East [who died last year], maneuvered me into place to help give it birth. I could do publicly what they were doing underground. You can’t believe the chutzpah it took for us to do what we did.

Muriel Fox, cofounder and former head, NOW Legal Defense and Education Fund

The press at that time was indifferent, hostile, and ridiculing—sometimes all three at the same time. I kept a scrapbook of [articles] from that time and some of them were insulting.

Times have changed, but one thing we’ve learned is that you do need the media; they really helped us put the women’s movement on the map. They didn’t always make us feel good about it, but people began spelling our name right. The press has helped us greatly through the years.

One thing we have to keep in mind, though, is that our opponents have learned a lot of the techniques that we Left: NOW then—an early gathering of the founders of “a new movement toward true equality for all women in America.”
used. They are very well-financed, well-organized. They have very, very skillful right-wing people who are trying very hard—sometimes successfully—to manipulate the media into putting down the women's movement. Our opponents say it's something of the past, or it didn't help women, or you don't need it anymore—affirmative action isn't necessary. So we really have to continue to be vigilant.

Dorothy Haener, lifelong activist with the United Auto Workers Union

I really started in the women's movement when I helped organize and negotiate a first contract for a group of office and engineering employees. One of my demands was that a secretary certainly ought to make as much money as a sweeper. Not only did management have difficulties dealing with such a suggestion, but my coworkers on the committee also had difficulties. I never succeeded in accomplishing that. I went on to build up a full steam of anger—fairly well-contained most of the time.

I'm proud of much of what we've accomplished, but we still have a long way to go. All of us need to recognize that and go to work on it. During my sixty years, I have seen great changes, but let's be honest, we are in danger of losing many of those gains right now. There were beautiful laws on the books that had been there for hundreds of years but were never enforced and so disappeared. That can happen to us, too.

So while we're working on the future, let's think of the fact that organized women in this country make thirty percent more on average than their unorganized sisters. Maybe one of the issues that the women's movement ought to think about is why aren't more women in this country organized?

Mary Eastwood, former Justice Department attorney

In 1962, I was assigned to work on the President's Commission on the Status of Women. The EEOC was not doing its job on the sex-discrimination provision [of the Civil Rights Act]. We were urging Betty to start some kind of organization outside the government. We needed a civil-rights-for-women organization—an outside group—that could press the government to enforce the law. That's how NOW got started.

The changes in the status of women over the past thirty years were accomplished largely—almost one hundred percent—by the women's movement. My advice to [young women] is never to be passive. If you believe that there's something wrong, organize and do something about it....You should organize both within the government and outside of it....Work for what you believe in because you can change the world if you really try. I believe we did change the world.

WOMEN'S COLLEGES UNITE

BARNARD'S LEADERS ARE among those calling on the Clinton administration to step up its commitment to and funding of women's education.

This fall, President Judith Shapiro and Michelle Katz '97, president of the Student Government Association, traveled to Washington to join other leaders of women's colleges for a roundtable discussion of women and education. At the conclusion of the conference, which was sponsored by the Women's College Coalition, the participants drafted policy recommendations for the Clinton Administration.

The recommendations included calling for the federal government to: expand such programs as AmeriCorps, the Peace Corps, and Teach for America; increase funding to educate women in the sciences; fund research on college women's health issues, such as eating disorders and stress; offer incentives to businesses that support education and training; and follow up on the 1995 United Nations World Conference on Women in Beijing.

"If only one of these comes to fruition in terms of policy, it would be such an accomplishment—for women and also for the government," says Katz.

In addition to discussing educational issues, the student leaders shared stories about their student bodies and campus programs—discovering in the process a sense of community. "What was most striking to me was that we were all so similar," says Katz, a political science major. "I realized that going to a women's college is a real gift. Women have more opportunity than ever before, and more support."

A memorable sidelight of Katz's trip, she notes, was traveling with President Shapiro—and finding that certain things bridge generations. On the drive back to New York, Katz relates with a smile, Shapiro dialed the car phone, explaining, "Every time I come back from a trip, I have to call my mother." Katz replied, "Oh, so do I."

FACULTY NEWSBRIEFS

ISOLINA BALLESTEROS, Spanish and Latin American Culture, gave a paper at a Conference on Foreign Film and Literature, Villanova University, November.


KAREN FAIRBANKS, Architecture, received an AIA Design Award for a proposal for the Kansai-kan of the National Diet Library International Design Competition in Japan.

HELENE FOLEY, Classics, has been elected President of the American Philological Association and appointed Senior Fellow at the Center for Hellenic Studies in Washington. She published an essay, "Antigone as Moral Agent," in an anthology, Tragedy and the Tragic" (Oxford, 1996).


MARY GORDON, English, spoke on the theme, "A Lesson," at a benefit for the P.E.N. Faulkner Award, Washington, October. She also appeared on PBS's "Genesis" series October 16, commenting on Cain and Abel. Her story, "Intertextuality," was chosen for Best American Short Stories of 1996 (Houghton Mifflin).

RICHARD GUSTAFSON, Slavic Studies, chaired a panel, "Russian Orthodoxy in Unexpected Places," and gave a paper, "Veselostvo," at the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies meeting, Boston, November.


NATALIE KAMPEN, Women's Studies, gave the Lansdowne Lectures in Greek and Roman Studies at the University of Victoria, Canada. Her essay, "Theorizing Gender for Roman Art," appeared in the September catalog for "T. Claudia: Women in Roman Art," an exhibition mounted by Yale University Art Gallery.


MARINA LEDKOVSKY, Slavic, presented a paper, "Memoirs of the Nabokov Sisters," at the Women of the Silver Age in Russia and

1997 WINTER  BARNARD  5
A CELEBRATION OF WRITING

Brooks and Reid Halls were the venues for a star-studded gala this fall as best-selling author Erica Jong ’63 invited friends and family to celebrate Barnard’s contribution to the writing community.

Thanks to Jong, the celebration also honored the writing community’s contribution to Barnard: $100,000 in gifts and pledges to support the College’s writing program and peer tutors. Known as The Erica Mann Jong ’63 Writing Fellows Fund, the newly established endowment will pay the stipends of several student writing counselors each year.

“I’m thrilled to be involved with the writing program because it is Barnard writers empowering other Barnard writers,” Jong said at the October 1 reception. “I love the fact that students are helping students.” She went on to invoke the long line of acclaimed writers that Barnard has produced, from Margaret Mead ’23 to Edwidge Danticat ’90.

Jong’s recent gift supplements an already successful writing-across-the-curriculum program, which began in 1990 and has trained some ninety students as writing tutors. The program’s basic tenet is that writing requires many drafts and specially trained students can help peers through the revision process.

Jong delighted the crowd by recalling the humble origins of her own writing career—a story that begins at Barnard with the award-winning author as a pre-med hopeful. “We were dissecting fetal pigs, and I was making a mess of it, cutting holes in all the organs,” she recalled. She ran to her poetry professor, Robert Pack, and lamented her dimming dream of becoming a doctor. “That’s okay, Erica,” he replied. “You’re a poet.”

“Women were expected to be excellent at Barnard, and that was that,” said Jong, who has written more than a dozen novels and books of poetry. “Barnard is where I first found my vocation as a writer. The basic rule I live by is pass it on.”

The $100,000, composed of contributions and pledges from Jong, her family, friends, and professional associates, comes on the wings of her enthusiasm about both Barnard and the art of writing.

A portion of the money has already been used to renovate the writing room in Reid Hall (which, now that a wall has been added, can no longer be called the “writing room,” joked Nancy Kline Piore ’64, director of the newly named Erica Mann Jong Writing Center).

Jokes aside, Piore explained the program’s approach to writing: “Writing is a process that happens with time, in a series of drafts, in a series of different stages. It is crucial to find someone with a dispassionate eye to look at your work. Every writer needs a reader.”

In introducing the guest of honor, President Shapiro emphasized Barnard’s longstanding commitment to writing—not as an isolated art but as a necessary skill that crosses all disciplines. “Ideally,” said Shapiro, “you are what you write. No one understands this better than Erica Jong.”

Says Jong, “Writing is saying yes to the universe.”
GET OUT THE VOTE

THIS PAST ELECTION season, Bill Clinton and Bob Dole may have been the two busiest people in America. But Barnard sophomore Leora Hanser was a close third.

In October, Hanser single-handedly initiated a two-day, citywide voter registration drive—Register New York—which involved over sixty groups from all five boroughs, including Greenwich Village’s Gay Men’s Health Crisis Action, a Baptist church in Brooklyn, and Harlem’s City College. During the event, she and her 77 Barnard, Columbia, and Morningside Heights volunteers registered 509 voters in the neighborhood—in the course of one afternoon. In addition, Hanser convinced MTV to bring its “Choose or Lose” bus to College Walk in September for four hours of music, food, and, of course, voter education. Through it all, the aspiring political science major also studied for midterms and began hunting for a summer internship on Capitol Hill.

“My friends call me the Energizer Bunny,” says the five-foot-tall Hanser, adding that she slept about four hours a night between April and October while organizing her ambitious pre-election projects. (She stayed in New York for the summer to continue her work.)

Her involvement in voter registration began last spring in the offices of Community Impact, the Columbia-based umbrella organization of community service groups, when a fellow volunteer made an offhand comment about the lack of voting-related initiatives on campus. That observation was enough to get the Energizer Bunny hopping.

On April 27, she launched a “teeny” voter registration drive around 125th Street. But Hanser—whose organizing experience dates back to the eighth grade, when she spearheaded a massive food drive at her school—was uncomfortable with the notion of privileged college students “educating” neighborhood residents about the importance of voting.

“We don’t come from the area, and we have virtually no rapport with the community,” says Hanser, who is from Palo Alto, California. “So I envisioned students working side-by-side with community activists. That makes it a true community service and not charity.”

Over the summer, Hanser telephoned more than a hundred nonprofit organizations and local community centers. Despite some initially cold responses, thirty groups showed up at Hanser’s introductory meeting in July. By the citywide drive on October 4-5, sixty groups had committed to the project, setting up registration tables in their neighborhoods using Hanser’s bright blue “Register New York” posters, as well as pens and clipboards donated to Community Impact.

“Nothing that I’ve ever done has been as fulfilling,” says Hanser. “I followed the project through the whole evolutionary process.”

Hanser wasn’t the only impressed with the project’s success. During Parents’ Weekend last fall, President Shapiro cited the “Voter Empowerment Project” as an example of student excellence and civic responsibility.

—Hagar Scher
SYLVANA FOA '67, UNTIL VERY RECENTLY THE SPOKESMAN FOR
the United Nations, seems to get more comfortable as the going gets tougher. Which stood her
in good stead during the last year, when she held the difficult position of representing the emb-
battled Boutros Boutros-Ghali, former Secretary-General of the world's largest global organiza-
tion. On a daily basis—from nine in the morning to nine at night—Foa faced ardent critics of
the United Nations. But that didn't intimidate the upstate New York native whose life story
would make a nail-biter of a movie, replete with forbidding locations, military conflicts, and ro-
mantic intrigue. Her favorite assignment during her twenty-year career as a journalist, for exam-
ple, was her stint in war-torn Cambodia, replete with dodging bullets. There was also that drive
to the Phnom Penh airport, she recalls: a missile trailed her car and landed just shy of the trunk.
Even love does not come easy. The man in her life—whom she enticed at a Cannes dinner party
with a lie regarding her out-of-this-world vegetable soup—lives thousands of miles away, in Is-
rael. And, in the span of an hour-plus interview in the fall, she smoked at least a dozen Marlboro
Reds, flying in the face of common medical wisdom. “I'm a troublemaker,” says Foa, adding
that her journalism-spawned candor and headstrong behavior rubbed some people in the United
Nations the wrong way. Nonetheless, she captured the respect and imagination of the press,
convinced journalists to cover U.N.-sponsored missions, and eloquently defended the U.N.'s ac-
tive role in shaping the new world order. It was precisely her “previous life” as a bulldog reporter
and her status as an outsider among diplomats and policymakers that made Foa such an effective
spokesman (always one to flout convention, she refused to go by the politically correct
“spokesperson”). “My role is to shake things up a little, change the mentality,” she explained in an October inter-
view, two months before she began a yearlong leave from
the U.N., coinciding with Boutros-Ghali's departure. “People here [at the U.N.] don’t realize the
importance of public opinion, but I believe that without public support you can’t do anything.
We need to see ourselves as the friends of journalists, something that has been lacking here. The
media are the natural advocates of an organization like this, our most important allies.”

PHOTOGRAPH BY ROBERT LEWIS
Foà's belief in the power of the media to influence world events was bolstered by recent events in Rwanda. In her view, television was the principal reason that the developed world stepped in to help combat Rwanda's refugee crisis. After one million people were killed in four days of fighting in that country, she explains, world leaders could not avoid involvement, even though there was no political gain to be had. Governments took action, she says, because television lenses were trained on the crisis.

"Live coverage has changed things," she says. "Before, people would have said, 'I'm sure somebody's fed them by now.' But now we see them die before our very eyes. So people speak up, and the U.N. is asked to get involved."

Foà believes that the United Nations has a mandate to become even more active in promoting justice around the world and must overcome its longstanding tradition of "quiet diplomacy."

"During the Cold War," she explains, "the superpowers had their spheres of influence and the United Nations couldn't say, 'Hey you're a bunch of crooks and a corrupt regime.' But [the organization] is getting better—it sass[es] back members. Nobody respects the 90-pound weakling, and the U.N. has begun pumping iron. You gain people's respect by being tough on them."

She would like to see the organization's leaders get tougher on governments that commit human rights violations. She applauds, for example, the United Nations' current stance regarding the ruling fundamentalist party in Afghanistan. Before he left office, Boutros-Ghali promised to cut off financial aid to that country if its oppressive restrictions on women and girls were not lifted.

Foà herself has never hesitated to speak her mind. While a student at Barnard in the late 1960s, she went to jail for participating in civil rights demonstrations in New York. Later, during her years as foreign correspondent for United Press International in such places as Phnom Penh, Hong Kong, New Delhi, Rome, Beirut, Tehran, and Vienna, she prided herself on telling the unvarnished truth, no matter how controversial the story.

In fact, her convictions ended up costing her her job after fifteen years at UPI. She was the newswire's top foreign editor in 1986 when it was bought by a Mexican tycoon who ordered her to dismiss a Mexico City editor writing scathing critiques of the city's ruling class. "He asked me if I was going to learn to say, 'Sí, señor,' and I said no," Foà recalls. She was promptly fired.

Being headstrong was also what landed her at Barnard in the mid-1960s. Her mother did not want her to go there—which only added to Barnard's draw. "She didn't want me to come to New York, that hellhole of degradation," Foà recounts. "That to me was the allure of moving to the city."

Her Barnard years, she admits, were trying. "I came from a rinky-dink public school in Troy," she says. "It was a rude awakening; all the other girls were better educated than I was." But she stayed in New York after graduation, pursuing a combined graduate degree in East Asian studies and journalism at Columbia.

While on a research trip to Asia in 1971, Foà landed her first reporting assignment—assisting Newsweek's correspondent in Saigon—and quickly abandoned her plans to teach. "At that point, my dream of leading a nice life on campus, wearing a tweed skirt, and having students over for salons where we'd discuss Chinese policy went out the window," she remembers with a laugh.

Soon afterwards, she became UPI's Saigon correspondent, and once again, she was a fish out of water—a lone woman in the men's club of international reporters. That did not prevent her from rising up the ladder, becoming UPI's news editor for all of Asia and the Pacific in 1982. Three years later, she was promoted to top foreign editor in UPI's Washington, D.C., bureau—one of the highest profile positions in global journalism.

Although she and others have no doubts about her prowess as a journalist, Foà attributes her fast-track professional ascent, in part, to being a woman. As an example, she recalls quickly being assigned a seat on a helicopter in Vietnam that could only carry four journalists, while sixty men had to elbow for a spot: "The pilot said, 'Okay, Sylvana, you come with us. The rest of you fight it out amongst yourselves.'"

She also admits to having pandered to sexist expectations in order to get a scoop. "Men felt more confident in confessing to a woman," she explains. "I'd say, 'But Colonel, I really don't understand,' and he'd say, 'Come here little girl, let me explain it to you.' I got a lot of stories that way."

In the long run, however, it was Foà's powerful writing and her commitment to political justice and world peace—not the batting of her eyelashes—that earned her the respect of her peers. She has written regularly about the ravages of war and the plight of refugees. "As a Jew, I've always been interested in the rights of refugees and the right to asylum," says Foà, whose father immigrated to the United States from fascist Italy. "I grew up with the story [of World War II] and the hauntings."

Foà's work on refugees led to her first job with the United Nations. In 1991, she was on sabbatical—having
abandoned her brief stint in television news—trying to write her memoirs, when she was approached by Sadako Ogata, head of the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR). Ogata, a dynamic Japanese scholar, was trying to reinvent the agency—often criticized as weak—into a trailblazing force in the fight against mass displacement and starvation. She sought help from Foa, the seasoned journalist.

In many ways, the job offer was a godsend. For Foa, working at home on her memoirs had been too safe, too calm. “I discovered I couldn’t do anything without people screaming around me,” she told the New York Times about that chapter in her life. And despite her initial fears that working for the United Nations would constitute selling out, she quickly discovered that instead, her work at the global organization was an ideal venue for her lifelong political and ideological interests.

From 1991 to 1995, Foa worked with Ogata in Geneva, badgering journalists to put refugees in the headlines, lobbying U.N. member states to contribute money and personnel to alleviate hunger and suffering, and forging a bolder image for UNHCR. “It was an exciting time,” she remembers. “We just started chartering planes and buying blankets. It was a whole different mentality than before, when the agency was afraid donors would accuse [it] of buying one blanket too many.”

Foa’s role in the successful turnaround at UNHCR led to a similar job at the World Food Program in Rome, and—at the beginning of last year—to an offer of employment from Boutros-Ghali, who was looking for a new spokesman. She took the job and soon found herself in what has become a familiar position to her: in the line of fire. Anti-U.N. sentiment reached a fever pitch during last year’s political campaigns, in which the concept of “global government” was held up as antithetical to all values American. Congress has refused to allocate funds for United Nations membership dues, and the United States is now $1.4 billion in arrears ($900,000 of which is money earmarked for peacekeeping operations). In addition, the United States delegation to the U.N. vetoed Boutros-Ghali’s bid for reelection, and the Egyptian leader was replaced January 1 by Kofi Annan.

“Americans like cowboy movies and, in the past, Republicans got incredible mileage out of the Evil Empire,” says Foa, adding that today’s Republicans—particularly former presidential candidate Bob Dole—made a new enemy out of the United Nations and American participation in U.N.-led missions into the new enemy.

“This is seriously endangering America’s standing with other countries,” she continues. “In the United Nations, the United States used to be like a big brother. Now it’s seen as a big bully. America is demoralizing other member countries by dumping on Boutros Boutros-Ghali, not paying its fees, bombing Iraq, and so forth.”

In the waning days of Boutros-Ghali’s term (and her own), Foa often found herself being asked perhaps the most fundamental question of all for the world governing body: Should the United Nations even exist? Her answer, in today’s global society, was always a resounding yes.

“Globalization has some good aspects, but it also has some really dangerous ones,” she explains. “Problems like health epidemics, international terrorism, and drug trafficking are global. We can’t close the border on them. We need a way to share information, coordinate problem-solving efforts. Most important, you need a place where countries can let off steam at each other. The United Nations never gets credits for the conflicts it helps diffuse, at a rate of about one a day.

“If the U.N. went belly-up tomorrow,” she concludes, “we’d need to create something like it anyway.”

In some respects, it seems that Foa’s pro-U.N. stance is a far cry from the days when she used to criticize the organization for its neutrality and passivity. But really, the varied paths of her life have worked toward a common end: her deep-seated passion for international affairs and human rights. Foa the journalist—and then Foa the spokesman—always worked under the assumption that political leaders needed to be closely monitored and held accountable for their actions. The globalization of the economy, for instance, means that “friendly” governments can strike multi-billion-dollar deals without much environmental, social, or legal concern. She believes today’s post-Cold War world, so different from the one she reported on in the 1960s, ’70s, and ’80s, demands an international watchdog group more than ever.

“The U.N. can embody the value of public outrage,” she says. “Governments don’t do as many horrible things if they know the world is watching.”

Although Foa’s six years at the United Nations were challenging and rewarding, she is looking forward to a leave of absence, during which she might move to Israel to be with her partner, start writing a book—an espionage thriller—and relax a little.

Then again, maybe that would make life too simple.

Hagar Scher is a contributing writer for Barnard Magazine.
When Mary Gordon '71 was a little girl in Queens, storytelling was the currency between her and the father she treasured. "We told each other stories," she says. "We'd make up whole lives for the characters we encountered."

One of the characters for whom David Gordon made up a whole life, it turns out, was himself. He was a Jew who converted to Catholicism—the religion in which he raised his daughter—and then became a fierce anti-Semite. He was not Harvard-educated, but rather a high-school drop-out, and he was born half a world away from where he claimed: not Ohio, but Russia. The magazine he edited, The Hot Dog Annual, was in fact a girlie magazine that his grown daughter found deeply offensive. He had had a previous marriage and a sister he never mentioned. His real name was not even David, but Israel.

Such discomfitting revelations fill The Shadow Man (Random House, 1996), Mary Gordon's recent memoir chronicling her literal and metaphoric search for her father, who died when she was seven. The book, she says, is "the biography of a relationship," exploring issues of family, creation and re-creation, connection and disconnection, memory's truths and falsehoods. The journey through his life, via documents, family interviews, and an imagined story she hears her father tell, is a private journey with a universal resonance.

"It's a story about, How do we know the dead?" Gordon says. "How do we have a conversation with those who can't answer us? I felt I had an obligation to all the people who were trying to understand their dead. It was a journey in my name."

Photograph by Jana Leon
Here was the battle she had and desired, prepared for with all the might
He was caught, and well
ly, in the tightest of nets, offered a
bargain in the eyes of a few
concurrents, fighting a bloodless war
that left a trail of anguish
She might yearn, for a hia
at which he could cry out the
ords burning inside him
Sons was another brand of hero,
a silent, interior kind, whose satisfi
In the middle of the memoir, after conceding “I have come to the end of memory,” Gordon turns to a native tongue of sorts, using fiction—her stock-in-trade—to address palimpsests in the life of a man she loved profoundly but, it turned out, did not know. A section called “I Am My Father,” set in italics, tells her father’s fictive first-person account of growing up as a Jewish boy in Vilna. “I kept saying, ‘Tell me what it was like when you were a boy,’” she recalls. “I would actually hear him answer me.”

Unlike her father’s fictions, however, the brushstrokes she uses in The Shadow Man reveal rather than conceal. “With the fiction, I was filling in what I couldn’t prove but what I knew,” says Gordon, the Millicent C. McIntosh Professor of English at Barnard.

The Shadow Man differs greatly from the last book Gordon wrote about her father, which began, “My father is the greatest man I have ever known”—written when she was ten. She wonders why it took her so long to return to the subject in a memoir. “I’ve been a writer for as long as I have conscious memory,” she writes. “Now I am forty-six. Why did I wait so long to write this book?”

The answer is not easy; the subject of her father, it seems, kept sneaking up on her. “It has to do with when you stop blaming your parents,” says Gordon. “When you can look at your parents, and rather than saying ‘Those shirts, look at what they did to me,’ you feel an enormous sympathy. When you look at them and they seem heroic to you—in just getting through their lives.”

In her case, it also had to do with when the pedestal she had placed under her father began to crack. “Idealization turned to pity,” she says. “I had to deconstruct the idealization. It was not pretty. There was horror, almost revulsion.”

In the end, fiction could offer no salve. “This was a horrible, anguished time in my life,” she remembers. “I was writing about real things, and I couldn’t make them different.”

But she refused to look away. As Michiko Kakutani wrote in the New York Times, “Writing in precise, lyrical prose, Ms. Gordon is brutally honest about her parents’ lives and her own life as their daughter, as unsparing about her own feelings and rationalizations as she is about her mother’s and father’s evasions.”

Gordon feels satisfied with the book, but still, she notes, “There’s always a gap between vision and reality.” The only way to close the gap, she muses, would be if her father were to walk in the door and say, Well, you’ve brought me to life now. “There are always so many more images than you can get down,” she expands. “It’s like [Samuel] Beckett says: Fail. Fail again. Fail better.”

Just as it addresses the complexities of fact and fiction, The Shadow Man also examines the interplay of the literal and the metaphoric. After unearthing new discoveries about her father, she decided to actually unearth him as well, moving his body from one cemetery to another and holding another memorial service. “There is a madness in what I want to do: a confusion of the symbolic and the actual,” she confesses in the book.

“It was something I’d fantasized for years,” she elaborates. “There was a threshold moment when I realized I could actually do it. It was very important to me to make the symbolic real with that grave. The world of the symbolic is so murky, imponderable. Action is not so endlessly mutable. When it’s done, it’s done. After using words like death, life, and soul, I was now using words like notary public and affidavit.”

The book also yielded other “extra-literary” results. For one, she has connected with her father’s extended family, which she discovered only in writing the book. “I have the family I’ve always wanted,” she says. “I feel less alone in the world—genetically. I can now look at real faces instead of ghost faces.”

As for literary results, “I’m no longer writing from the position of a daughter,” says Gordon, whose first novel, Final Payments, portrayed a grown daughter ushered into the life of the living following the death of her all-consuming father. “The father-daughter subject is over for me. That particular monster seems fed. He had to know that I knew what he was really like. Then I stopped being his little girl.”

When Nancy K. Miller ’61 noticed she was reading her father’s diary as a literary critic would, she realized she had found an entry into the one story she had long resisted decoding—the story of her parents.

“I pore over his [diary] entries, looking for answers,” she writes in her new book, “I’m a literary critic and my father’s life lies before me as a text. The author is dead, we know—I’ve explained this to my students—and you can’t know the author’s intentions. It’s up to me to tease meaning out of fragments, to come up with an interpretation.”

That quest for meaning produced Bequest and Betrayal (Oxford, 1996), a unique hybrid of memoir and literary criticism. Miller interweaves a personal story of an uneasy life with her aging parents and analysis of other books about parents, including the works of Philip Roth, Art Spiegelman, Susan Cheever, and Simone de Beauvoir.

Miller, Distinguished Professor of English at the City University of New York, was first drawn to what she describes as an emerging genre when her father was ill with Parkinson’s disease. “I was completely unprepared for it,” she says of the toll the disease would take on her father and herself. “I was distraught in ways I didn’t have language
People have been writing about parent-child relationships from way back, says Miller, adding that the mother-daughter theme has long been a subject of feminist writing. But recently, she notes, memoirs of parents seem to be emerging into a genre of their own, due to several factors: the recent proliferation of memoirs in general; a growing interest in what she calls “the survivor’s testimony,” which takes its popular form in the self-help movement; and the increase in human longevity, extending relationships between parents and children. “Elements of telling the parent’s story have always been there,” she says. “Now they’re being pulled into a form of their own, achieving a critical mass at the end of the twentieth century.”

Miller finds the genre to be giving rise to a sense of community. She recounts watching a well-known literary critic break down in tears at one of Miller’s readings; the woman’s mother, it turned out, had just died. “When this first happened to my father, I felt very lonely; I didn’t know what to read,” Miller says. “Now there are lots of things to read. As with any social change, when it becomes visible, it becomes a bond.”

She felt a visceral connection, she says, with Roth’s Patrimony, which contains a graphic description of the author’s cleaning up after his sick father. “I thought, ‘I’ve done that,’” Miller relates. She wanted to capture that personal response in her book, so she combined her literary-critical text with her own story, threaded in italics through the academic exegesis.

“Shocking or unexpected, traumatic or uneventful, the death of a parent in the end sends us back to ourselves. If they are mortal, so are we,” she writes as the objective critic. She then describes the personal scene of her own father’s death: “When I arrived...heart pounding, my father had already started to turn a waxy yellow.”

The critical analysis allowed Miller to assert her adult persona while writing about her relationship with her parents, who have both died. “You need some way of distancing yourself, so you create yourself as a character in the family,” explains Miller, who taught women’s studies at Barnard from 1981-1987. “You wind up creating a person who can get through the experience. When I see the book in the window, with a picture of me on the cover, I think, ‘What did I do? What I’ve done is create this figure of the daughter who writes. That’s who I put out there.”

Writing about parents is particularly difficult, Miller notes, because—whether you call it biography or autobiography—the subject of family is always rife with blurred identity. “With the family, it’s impossible to draw the line between your story and the story of another,” she says. “You’re always telling your version of the truth, of how it was in the family.” When she began therapy as an adult, Miller remembers with a laugh, her mother wanted to see the therapist as well—to tell him “what really happened.”

With both resignation and hope, Miller goes on to imagine her mother’s reaction to the book. “First there would be horror,” she surmises. “The bourgeois values of privacy. Her second reaction would be wanting to correct the record. But third, I hope that she would understand, that she would see I have a greater goal than just telling family secrets.”

Her goal, she writes, is realization, which she believes exists between the poles of resentment and forgiveness. Forgiveness, she claims, is too easy, and resentment is paralyzing. She is fond of quoting Susan Cheever’s line, “Resentment is like taking poison and waiting for the other person to die.”

Although writing about a parent may be essentially a betrayal, as Miller argues in Bequest and Betrayal, it is also humbling and, ultimately, empathic. “My curiosity came too late,” she laments. “I thought I had the story, but in a way, I didn’t know. There are many things I’ll never know, and that makes me suspicious of what I think I know. I’m more humble now.”

With that humility comes a better understanding of a mother with whom she was always at odds, from whom she was always trying to break away while finding herself drawn back again and again. After revisiting this ground in the book, Miller admits: “I feel closer now to her purchase on the world. I feel more sympathy. I see it more historically now, too. She was in this generation of women who were stuck.”

Miller’s next project—to which Bequest and Betrayal led her, if indirectly—will tackle that subject. She is now researching a book about the end of the 1950s, the beginning of the so-called youth culture, a loss of America’s innocence, and a time “when women were experimenting but there was as yet no language for it.” Her new project, which will also include a personal memoir (here her parents figure in, as well; they saved the letters she sent them when she was a teenager traveling in Europe), seems a natural segue, picking up where Bequest and Betrayal left off: with Miller just beginning to understand parents whom she had spent much of her life resisting.

“I wrote this book in order to create light, not darkness,” she concludes. “I began to see that my parents had a story—not only in relation to me, but in a much broader context. It’s a gesture towards understanding.”

People have been writing about parent-child relationships from way back, says Miller, adding that the mother-daughter theme has long been a subject of feminist writing. But recently memoirs of parents seem to be emerging into a genre of their own, “achieving a critical mass at the end of the twentieth century.”
Walking Alone
BY GINA LURIA WALKER ’64

AN EXCERPT

In the early 1950s, government officials in New York City and across the country were investigating and removing Communist teachers from the public schools. In September 1953, Sam Lourie, the author’s father, received a summons from Saul Moskoff, head of the New York City investigation, to appear at “an inquiry to determine whether certain employees of the Board of Education have been or are presently engaged in subversive activities.” Lourie, a teacher at Alexander Hamilton Vocational High School in Brooklyn, was an active member of the Communist Party of the United States and the Teacher’s Union, Local 555 of the United Public Workers.

When Moskoff summoned a suspect for an “interview,” union leadership informally encouraged the “doomed teacher” to find a way to secure a quiet retirement rather than a public dismissal. There was less personal and political satisfaction in such a decision, but it offered more security for the teacher and protective coloring for both the individual and the union. The retired teacher could retain pension rights, so that when the regular Board of Education salary checks stopped, he or she had some income, however meager.

Here was the battle he had dreaded and desired, prepared for and resisted with all his might. He was caught, even willingly, in the tightest of nets, offered no glory except in the eyes of a few comrades, fighting a bloodless war that left a trail of anguish and pain. He might yearn for a hearing at which he could cry out the words burning inside him, but Sam’s was another brand of heroism, a silent, interior kind, whose satisfaction must be private.

Sam’s strategy, his sacrifice, was to inflame the incipient phlebitis in his right leg—a vestige of the extended bed rest during his earlier pneumonia—so that a physician would recommend an early retirement for a medical disability. As Moskoff had warned, it was necessary to have the examining doctor complete the confidential Board of Education medical form. If Sam could carry this off, he could avoid a public hearing and the attendant notoriety as well as retain at least some of his meager pension. In this quagmire, such a solution made a perverse kind of sense. By Sam’s reckoning, all he had to bargain with now was his health. More important to him than his well-being—even his life itself—was to protect his family, his colleagues, and his principles. To execute this triple feat, he made a silent pact to walk by himself.

Ultimately, of course, each person was alone. To know anything about anyone else was to be at risk. Sam and Zyra never told the family or even their closest friends and colleagues the specifics of Sam’s plan. Once his decision was made, effecting it was simple. Beginning September 21, Sam went out walking every night. He waited until nearly midnight, when my sister Madeleine and I were asleep and the streets empty. Then he walked for an hour or two. He walked until the veins in his leg began to throb with pain. By the time he returned to the apartment, he could feel the leg swelling. During the day he kept ace bandages wound loosely around the inflammation. He took care not to alleviate the edema in the leg by wrapping the bandages too tightly. He nurtured, he groomed the phebitis until it was ready for public inspection. At the time, I could not understand why my father trailed ace-bandage material from underneath his trousers, tripping it ragged. He looked as though he were unraveling.

If he was continuously absent from school beginning on September 22, the day after he received Moskoff’s letter, I never knew it. Each morning, he got up as usual, put on starched shirt, jacket, tie, and left the apartment. This was a matter of policy. He was in terror of what Moskoff’s next move might be. It was common knowledge that FBI agents were covertly interrogating accused teachers’ children. The appearance of normalcy, even in front of Madeleine and me, was a caution against greater aggression. Though frightened, he was not paranoid.

Zyra lived in a terrible bind. She could not bear to see Sam mutilate himself, but she could not avoid it. She could live with public shame, but she could not force Sam to endure it. She could not desert her principles, but she could not act on them. When faced with the risks of the terrible choice Sam had made, she refused to accept that self-destruction was the only alternative. Exposure, public shame, and the loss of all income were better than to watch Sam silently humiliate his body, threaten its existence. She was willing to sacrifice privacy and the appearance, at least, of family harmony to guarantee that he would live. Zyra remembered the uncertainty early in their marriage when Sam had pneumonia. But this time he was no passive victim. Rather, he was the willing agent of risk. Now there was the chance that a sudden blood clot in his leg might kill him. Should he survive the punishment, there was no assurance that he would not be permanently disabled. With a Herculean effort of will, Zyra summoned the courage she had always feared she lacked. “There are other ways,” she said as she tried to bar his way out the door. “There are no other ways,” he answered.

In this one moment, she was willing to risk public exposure and all that went with it. I witnessed her life’s great act of valor, but could not honor or even mark it.

For Sam, walking was the solution to his dilemma. Though Zyra tried to close the door against his self-abuse, he gave her no choice. In overriding her he acknowledged the pull of kinship—protecting the family—over politics, ideology, a saint’s shriven glory. Whatever his deepest philosophical commitments, Zyra was the cherished object of his self-defense.

My parents were reenacting an ancient tangle of love. It was a Gift of the Magi: Sam walked so that Zyra would be safe, Zyra barred his way to save him. To their child’s keen yet unseeing eye, their strife appeared to tear them asunder. I could not know, then, that what I was seeing was the tortuous twisting of the invisible cord that bound all else in their lives bound them together.

There were other considerations as well. Sam was doing what he believed was in the best interests of the teachers’ union, its causes, and his comrades. His was a solitary act of solidarity. Besides Zyra, no one knew for sure what he had done, what kind of deal he had made, whether he had capitulated in some way to Moskoff. Among his colleagues there was even conjecture—although those who knew him best rejected this suggestion—that perhaps Sam had turned informer....Contrary to the lessons about teamwork he had learned playing baseball, running track, waiting tables, strumming his banjo with the band, reading Marx, supporting the fight against the Fascists in Spain, joining in the efforts of the Party and the union to improve the lives of others, dedicating his life to the collective, Sam chose to walk his conscience, alone, silent, with no explanation, no matter the consequences. This time struggle was his brother because there was no one else.
Gina Luria Walker ’64 says that the memoir she has written about her parents’ lives is a hymn to her father. But, she says, Sam and Zya has also turned out to be a song for herself.

“The book is the way in which I was able to create a context for the life of my family, which I never had when I was growing up because we were so different,” Walker explains of the memoir that chronicles her parents’ lives as American Communists during the Red Scare of the 1940s and 1950s. “I did what women are particularly good at, which is creating context. That’s why I think there is an avalanche of memoirs by women today. We want to write ourselves into the context of our lives.”

Walker’s memoir, which has been excerpted in the Women’s Review of Books and is currently seeking a publisher, tells the story of her parents, Sam and Zya Lourie, who held steadfastly to their Communist beliefs even though doing so cost Sam his job as a public school teacher in New York City. Sam and Zya also tells a broader story of a community of American leftists and of family life in the 1940s and 1950s.

“My parents’ story poses questions that confront us today,” Walker explains. “Whose America is it? Can we make room for differing kinds of Americans? Sam and Zya is my attempt to trace some of the origins of the current cultural fragmentation, the turning against each other, that now stains American political life.”

Like Gordon and Miller, Walker—a social historian—used her trade to help put her life into context. “I think the way I figured out how to understand myself, where I came from, was to make a history of it,” says Walker, acting chair of Social Sciences at The New School. “I knew it was history we were living. I knew I was taking a series of still photos that I would some day make a story of. In writing, I went back to the mental files, pulled out moments like individual photos.”

She also pored through records of Communist and anti-Communist activity during the 1950s, now stored at Columbia’s Teachers College, and telephoned numbers from her father’s old address books. Slowly, she pieced together the story of a family and a community both brought together and torn apart by secrecy and struggle. “When I was shown those dusty files with all the names, I remember almost gagging with emotion,” Walker recalls. “Those were people who had disappeared. I had despaired of ever finding a way to remember what I didn’t remember.”

Although her father beseeched her to write his story, she was at first reluctant, fearful of the story’s potential outcome. “I was terrified of what I might find—that they were just fools,” she says. “Or were they complicit in some ways?” Most frightening was the threat of forever changing her close, loving relationship with her father, who died in 1989. “Sam had sent me on this mission. I was going to have to speak the things that had been unspeakable. I didn’t know what they would be. I didn’t know if in the end I would have to renounce Sam—which terrified me.”

Through her research, Walker was able to put her fears to rest. “When I went to the documents—which as a scholar I’m trained to do—then I was able to steady myself. What I realized then was it’s not good enough to say that these people were young, idealistic, romantic, gullible, foolish, manipulated. They really all shared a passion about human life.

“It went beyond what I cared about,” she concludes. “This had the weight of history. My father was part of history.”

Walker began to write from the perspective of an adult looking back, but she quickly realized the story should be told from a child’s point of view. “What suddenly insisted itself to me,” she explains, “was that my mother sang me German anti-fascist songs when I was two—when we were at war with the Germans. What was behind that? The memory is so visceral: lying in my little bed was where I understood that this was history. I didn’t know, of course, but I knew. I needed the immediacy of the child’s still-fresh eye. I decided to be that child again, to hear that awful voice, to have those terrible feelings.”

Walker still remembers writing a scene that describes her father’s decision to inflame his incipient phlebitis in order to leave his teaching job on disability rather than to be forced out as a Communist, which would have meant sacrificing friends and family in the process [excerpted on p. 16]. “Six months after starting to write, I remembered the walking scene,” she says. “I understood then what it was about. I was so frightened, all I could do was catch it.”

Like Gordon and Miller, Walker discusses the distance a writer needs to see her parents as subject. “I think it has to do with when you have enough distance to begin creating artifacts of the imagination out of your parents,” she says. “Sam is much more mine now. He’s apprehensible.”

Walker has found liberty in this new relationship with her father. For one, she is reviving a long-stalled manuscript called Penelope’s Loom, about women’s stories throughout history. “I couldn’t go on and write my own books because he was in the way,” she says. “I had been trying to write Penelope’s Loom for twenty years, and I couldn’t. Now I can.”

WALKER’S PARENTS, SAM AND ZYA

Although her father beseeched her to write his story, she was fearful of the story’s potential outcome.

“I didn’t know if in the end I would have to renounce Sam—which terrified me.”
MY BRILLIANT NEW CAREER

PROFILES BY JESSICA RAIMI '73

PHOTOGRAPHS BY KEN SHUNG

NEARLY A HALF CENTURY AGO, television, then a dawning industry, marked a bold new career frontier. In the 1960s, when computer mainframes took up whole rooms, basic work in programming—now an integral part of most workplaces—represented the path less taken. Nowadays, many of the pioneering careers loom out in cyberspace, with new opportunities in multimedia and on the World Wide Web.

“We are all cowboys,” Maryam Banikarim ’89, the New York director of marketing for Citysearch, said at a recent panel on new career paths. “There are no role models for what we are doing.” While Banikarim was speaking specifically about today’s cutting-edge technologies, her words also apply to previous generations of once-new careers.

So how does a college train potential workers for careers whose contours are still developing—or may not even exist yet? In a marketplace where change is the only constant, the strength of a liberal arts education continues to be its development of transferable skills, regardless of the major course of study.

Today’s employers are looking for workers who are flexible, able to weather periods of change and ambiguity, quick to learn new skills, and are good communicators and effective team players. Through their liberal arts education, Barnard women are taught to synthesize complex material, analyze and solve problems, think clearly and critically, write well, see the “big picture,” and be thoughtful communicators. They are trained in research and quantitative skills, and most have used the computer for a variety of projects, including statistical calculations, word processing, electronic transmission of course papers, and “surfing” the internet. In addition, Barnard students learn to apply their academic skills outside the classroom long before graduation, through participation in internships, community service projects, and campus activities.

The liberal arts by definition encourage experimentation and exploration of new disciplines. Fundamentally, Barnard women learn how to learn—a way to make a living and make a life.

—Jane Celwyn, Director of Career Development

Gertrude Rosenstein ’48

Some people know from an early age that they will be violinists, entomologists or physicians. For others—in a world where markets and technologies are constantly changing—chance and contingency shape a career.

Gertrude Rosenstein, who became the first woman director of a network series, never planned to go into television. She entered the industry in the mid-1950s, when the medium was just inventing itself, borrowing the techniques and audiences of radio and motion pictures, and changing from a curiosity enjoyed by the few to an essential amenity of the American home.

“I was fascinated by my work,” says Rosenstein. “I just focused on doing the best job I could without worrying about the competition or about being a pioneer.”

It was Rosenstein’s love of opera and theater that led her to television. A native New Yorker who had always loved theater, she majored in French at Barnard, where there was no drama major (although a few years later, Rosenstein would organize such a program at the request of President Millicent McIntosh). She did some acting with Wigs & Cues, the drama club, and began to find that her strengths lay in producing and directing.

She also organized productions outside the theater department, such as charity drives and campus events. When Dean Virginia Gildersleeve retired, Rosenstein was asked to produce a farewell tea, but instead she staged an extravaganza with every student group at Barnard, from the chorus to the Bulletin. “That one experience prepared me for all the work I’ve done in theater and television,” she says. “I had to deal with people with conflicting interests and sentiments. That’s what I’ve been doing my whole professional life.”

She had learned to be organized from her mother, a champion basketball player who had once supervised physical training for disabled students in New York City. “She taught me from childhood up how to divide things into categories, how to time tasks,” Rosenstein remembers. “To this day, I think of her when I come home with a stack of materials.”

On graduating, she joined the Neighborhood Playhouse School of the Theater, where she took classes with Martha Graham and acted and directed in summer stock. Before long, her organizational talents were discovered, and she spent two years as executive assis-
gertrude rosenstein ’48

Her love of theater led her to television.

“I focused on doing the best job I could without worrying about the competition or being a pioneer.”
susan bilenker '72

"The people who are involved with the web are all smart and motivated. It's a new frontier. Everyone's getting up to speed together."
tant to Lincoln Kirstein and George Balanchine, the founders of the New York City Ballet.

When Rosenstein joined the production staff of NBC Opera Theatre in the 1950s, commercial television was welcoming artistic experimentation to a degree difficult to imagine in the networks today. The critically acclaimed series, which brought live productions in English to an unprecedented number of people, drew Rosenstein to NBC, where she became an associate director, working on news, soap operas, and commercials, as well as the opera broadcasts. A highlight of her career was persuading Balanchine and Kirstein to stage The Magic Flute in a production designed for television by Rouben Ter-Arutunian, with a libretto translated by W.H. Auden and Chester Kallman.

When Rosenstein took over as director of the television quiz show “Concentration” in the early 1960s, she broke through a ceiling that was more concrete than glass. She had been the show’s associate director for a number of years when the director left, so she naturally thought she was in line for the job. But her superiors told her frankly that they could not have a woman director. For weeks afterward, she recalls, “I really went through hell.” In the end, she prevailed, becoming the first woman to direct a network series.

“I hope I’m paving a path for other women,” she told the Hackensack Record in 1965.

To illustrate the welcome given to women in the early days of television, she recounts her battle to work on the news team covering the inauguration of President Kennedy in 1960. No, she was told—because you had to climb a ladder to get into the news department’s mobile unit, and a woman couldn’t climb a ladder. When she protested, she was told there would be no other women crew members for her to share a hotel room with. When she said a friend would put her up, she won her point and went to Washington. The NBC team spent the day before the inauguration rehearsing; that evening, the city was paralyzed by snow. By the time Rosenstein managed to get to her friend’s home in Georgetown, it was almost time to turn around and go back to work. But she was at the White House by five a.m. to meet the production team. She had the flu when she arrived back in New York, but she reported to the studio anyway, not wanting anyone to say, “See, you give a woman a break.”

Today, Rosenstein observes, it is still rare to find a female director; women, she notes, are more prevalent in the behind-the-scenes producer spot. “In directing, you face a crew of forty or more men,” she says, “and men still don’t like to take orders from a woman.”

After a dozen years at NBC, she went freelance, to produce and direct the artistic productions she loves, such as a special about American ballet she made with Robert Joffrey for an international audience, and a recent program about the American musical hosted by orchestra leader Skitch Henderson, which she created for the United Nations. In addition, she is active in the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences and has served on its board of governors and the Emmy Awards Committee.

For most of her career, Rosenstein’s devotion to her work left little time for anything else—“I had blinders on. I broke more dates!” she says. That has changed, along with her name: in November, she became Mrs. Nelson R. Moore.

susan bilenker ’72

Susan Bilenker has always had an entrepreneurial spirit and a creative mind. “I’ve always enjoyed things I came up with myself,” she says. “I sewed all my clothes from ages ten to thirty. I was a weaver.”

Today, Bilenker is making a 1990s-style living doing a number of new things, most of which did not exist when she was in college. She maintains a World Wide Web site, produces an online magazine, and runs a marketing consultancy for architects and designers.

“For most of my adult life, people were confused when I said I did more than one thing,” she says. “They wanted you to be a doctor, or a lawyer, or something like that. Now, in the ’90s, being able to do many things at once is an absolutely essential thing. I’ve come into my moment.”

Bilenker’s website, DesignSite (http://www.atsrc.com/des-site), offers products, services, and other information on architecture, interior design, real estate, construction, and engineering. Launched in July 1995, DesignSite was receiving more than 12,400 “hits” (visits) a month as of September.

Although she has sacrificed for her ventures—“I’ve given up money, I’ve given up having a family”—she has also known the thrill of discovery. “The people I meet who are involved with the web have a range of backgrounds, but they’re all smart and motivated, and excited about the web,” she says. “It’s a new frontier. Everyone’s getting up to speed together.”

And in some ways, the more things change, the more they stay the same. “There’s a 1960s-redux feeling—wanting to give value for money, wanting to share resources,” she notes.

In college, Bilenker majored in art and architectural history but did not have the single-minded passion of an architect or a scholar, she says. She wanted to be an architecture editor at a magazine until she was told that she had to wait for an editor to die or retire—or else she had to start as a secretary. Instead—true to form—she pursued her own path: she recently founded Provocations, an online architecture journal.

Bilenker got her start in architecture during her Barnard days, while speaking with an architect for research on her senior thesis. During the interview, his model-maker quit. “I said, ‘I can do this,’” she recalls. “I’d never built a model in my life.” She got the job, and went on to learn drafting and design.

She soon gravitated to the marketing side of the profession—“I was always good at explaining things to non-techies”—and in 1990 she founded Susan Bilenker Communications, a company that helps architects and design firms market themselves through new technologies such as the internet. (Marketing for architects, she points out, is a relatively new field in itself, having developed during the recession of the 1970s.)

Bilenker, who splits her time between Aspen, Colorado, and Hastings, New York, has also had many other businesses. In 1981 she co-founded Fox & Fowle Interiors and ran an art gallery in the firm’s lobby. She was once an artists’ representative, an ill-timed venture that coincided with the crash of the New York art market in the early 1990s. In addition, she has designed and licensed a line of fine china and published limited-edition prints of her own paintings.

“I don’t need to know how things will play out to take a risk,” she says. “All I need is the positives to be stronger than the negatives.”
susan levenson pringle ’62 Like most people in the late ’50s, Susan Levenson Pringle gave little thought to computers and certainly did not foresee making a career out of them. A government major at Barnard and the daughter of a lawyer, she was thinking vaguely of law school.

But she received a post-graduate fellowship for the one-year Harvard-Radcliffe Program in Business Administration, and then, on a lark, took an aptitude test for computer programming. “This flyer from IBM said, ‘Do you like classical music? Do you like puzzles? Do you like bridge?’ And I was nodding my head—that was me,” says Pringle. It seems IBM had discovered that a taste for music and puzzles could accompany a gift for programming—which in Pringle’s case proved true.

She became a software specialist at the dawn of the software era, working on the IBM System 360, the first real mainframe, which came out in 1964. Although today’s computers can connect to worldwide networks, perform at high speeds, and even fit in the average briefcase, Pringle remembers the early technology with affection—in particular, one machine called the 602 calculating punch.

“The original work was down and dirty,” she explains. “Computers had plug boards, and you moved the plugs to do different calculations. Today, languages mask the machine from you. With the plugs, though, creating a program was a sensual experience. It was like having a small sailboat and you’re doing everything, instead of a large one with instruments to do the navigation.”

In those days, she notes, IBM hired as many women as men, although men with families were often paid more for the same work. Women, however, were not hired for sales positions. “The joke about that was, ‘If she’s strong enough to carry a typewriter, she’ll look terrible, and if she can’t carry a typewriter she can’t do the work,” Pringle recalls.

Pringle spent twenty-eight years at IBM in various positions, beginning as a systems engineer, working principally with brokerage firms at a time when that burgeoning industry was “desperate to have that kind of computing power,” she says. “In my area of Wall Street, there was so much business coming through the front door, we joked that the salesmen could just sit with their feet up on the desk and answer the phones.

“When I was starting out,” she continues, “15 million shares was a big day on Wall Street. Nowadays it’s hundreds of millions of shares. So that part was exciting in its own right.” In her last seven years with IBM, she was an office-systems consultant, recommending computer systems to Fortune 500 clients.

Pringle took an early retirement from IBM and now lives half the year in Arizona, returning to New York to get her fill of museums and concerts. She has her own company, Green River Group, and does some consulting, specializing in the popular groupware product Lotus Notes.

Today, she reflects, with no discernible regret, “Had I been more career-oriented I might have gone further, but I planned just to work until I got married and had kids.” As it turned out, she didn’t get married until she was forty-seven.

But she was happy at Big Blue. Once, she says, her young niece came to visit her office, and, standing amid fancy computers, the girl asked her aunt, “Do you have to pay to work here?”

eva szlak wisnik ’85 The era before the stock market crash of 1987 is now fondly recalled as a time when companies rewarded their white-collar workers with raises, hefty pensions, and doughnuts. But the go-go eighties have given way to the no-no nineties, and upward mobility is no longer a sure thing, even for the highly skilled and expensively educated.

Eva Wisnik, a career consultant and executive coach, has found a niche helping people navigate their careers. “Executive coaching didn’t exist three years ago,” says Wisnik. “I work with people who do well but want to do better. I think of myself as a career strategist—if you want to be a vice president in five years, what do you need to learn? Who do you need to meet?”

Wisnik’s various counseling strategies include videotaping clients at work (one client, for example, noticed on tape her annoying habit of slapping the table to underscore a point), and asking both bosses and subordinates of a client to complete a detailed questionnaire about the client’s work personality. Most of her clients are lawyers, although she has also worked with bankers, designers, and public relations specialists, among others.

“I get a charge out of wondering, What if this is the first person I can’t help?” she says. “Each time it’s as if I’m standing on the edge. I think: I won’t take the check if I can’t help the person.”

Wisnik spent nine years as a recruiter of M.B.A. and legal talent, most recently for Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft, a top New York law firm. “Being good was no longer a guarantee of becoming a partner,” she observed. “You had to bring in business, but that wasn’t taught in law school, and here were all these lawyers who never thought they’d need to know how to sell. So I started doing seminars on rainmaking.”

At the same time, she was also thinking of her own career, taking lessons from a book she was reading, The Age of Unreason by Charles Handy. “He said the whole world of work would change,” she explains. “Corporations were going to outsource and not pay benefits, people would be self-employed, and the way to be employable would be to have a portfolio of skills and be your own salesperson. It made a lot of sense to me. So I thought, what skills can I add to my portfolio?”

To supplement her B.A. in psychology and M.B.A. in marketing from Fordham, she became certified to administer the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator, a test of career skills. She began counseling clients about career planning and is now working for herself full time. Wisnik Career Strategies, which employs four people, shares a Union Square suite with Wisnik’s husband, a lawyer (the couple has a three-year-old son).

She finds most of her clients through her frequent speaking engagements to bar association groups and alumni clubs. In addition, her video, “How to Succeed at Your First Legal Job,” is to be distributed to law schools nationwide, and her first book, on career planning, will be published soon.

In this ever-changing job market, Wisnik has some bottom-line advice for all her clients: “Whether you’re self-employed or not, you are self-employed,” she says. “You are your own product.”

Jessica Raimi has recently served as president of Barnard Business & Professional Women.
eva szlak wisnik ’85

She learned that "corporations were going to outsource, people would be self-employed," and **the only way to get ahead was to “be your own salesperson.”**
a woman's work

BY LOUISE BERNIKOW '61
IN EARLY AMERICA, everyone’s work kept both the colonists and the Native Americans alive. Women did whatever it took: laundry, butter churning, clothesmaking, herb growing, logging, mill grinding, and carpentry. Their work supported every war. At Valley Forge, women cooked, laundered, and scavenged food from the countryside. Still, in the first decades of the new republic, only seven professions were available to women who needed or wanted money: teacher, seamstress, tailor, milliner, dressmaker, household servant, and factory operative.

Female slaves worked, unpaid, full time, from age nine or ten until death. During the Civil War, women nursed and doctored, clothed and fed troops on both sides. While the war, like all subsequent wars, brought new opportunities for some women, it devastated others. The catastrophic loss of male lives left large numbers of women who had been economic consumers suddenly needing work. The fight for women’s education was a direct result of the need to earn money. In spite of an ideology that said tender “ladies” would be “coarsened” by labor, nearly a million women were wage earners in the post-Civil War period, many in a constant fight with starvation and pauperism. The available work was limited in a culture whose favorite proverb was, “Every man to his trade, but every woman to the wash tub.”

The West could not have been settled without the Native American women who acted as guides and the white women who hitched, drove, and shod oxen and horses, mined for California gold and Colorado silver, rode the range, broke and trained horses, and worked homesteads and ranches. In the professions—among actresses, authors, lawyers, doctors, and journalists—women from the West are represented out of all proportion to the population.

The 1900 census showed that most women earned money doing domestic work. Of 1.5 million domestic workers, almost all were female. But the fringes are as interesting as the majority: There were also 1,365 female miners and quarriers; 8,246 hunters, trappers, guides and scouts; and 3,000 women in the Chicago stockyards. The labor of farmers’ wives and miners’ wives, of poor women taking in boarders, sewing, and washing, was not counted by the census-takers. Nor, often, by women themselves. As one textile worker said in 1929, “Some girls think that as long as mother takes in washings, keeps ten or twelve boarders or perhaps takes in sewing, she isn’t working.”

The insistence that motherhood was a woman’s real job persisted in spite of reality. While marriage and motherhood might offer an escape from wage-earning for some white women, it offered nothing of the kind for everyone else. Nursing and teaching were acceptable jobs because they extended cultural definitions of woman’s nurturing role. Choosing work over mothering was perverse; doing both, unthinkable.

The motherhood issue faded when women’s labor was needed—usually in wartime—but out it came when the economy contracted. Antagonism to working wives was strong during the Depression. Between 1932 and 1937, the federal government prohibited more than one member of a family from working in the civil service, which amounted to full-scale discrimination against women. In a 1936 survey, 82 percent of those polled said no when asked if women with employed husbands should work.

But women had always fought the rules and public opinion. In the 1830s, female militancy hit the Lowell, Massachusetts, textile factory. In the 1840s, “lady shoebinders” formed a union and marched. The early twentieth century saw a large-scale struggle for decency, democracy, and safety in the workplace, a struggle thrown center stage by the gruesome Triangle factory fire in 1911.

Anatomy class dissecting cadavers at the Women’s Medical College of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, 1900.
Garment workers, mostly Italian and Jewish immigrants, were among the most heroic women in American history. Beaten on picket lines and thrown in jail, their courage inspired other workers beyond the sweatshops. Years later, activist Pauline Newman would say she could still see the brave strikers, "young people, mostly women, walking down and not caring what might happen. The spirit, I think, the spirit of a conqueror led them on."

More heroines emerged from the bloody labor battles of the 1920s and 1930s in Appalachia. In the agricultural work of the Southwest, Mexicana laid the groundwork for a history of labor militancy that reached full flower in the United Farm Workers movement in the 1960s.

Less violently, somewhat less dramatically, women pushed their way into medicine and law in the last half of the nineteenth century and built institutions to enable other women to follow them. The women's movement won women's right to keep their earnings, criticized the exclusion of females from ministry and the law, the country's most important professions, and supported the pioneers in those and other fields. Many movement newspapers carried free classified ads for poor women looking for work.

Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Susan B. Anthony, and their peers were the first flashpoint for the erratic history of cooperation across class lines. By the 1890s and into the twentieth century, some women with access to power and money used it on behalf of working women. "Society ladies" not only fought for the vote but also joined picket lines and handed out leaflets about the conditions of women workers. Josephine Shaw Lowell and her friends in the Consumers' League used their status and buying power to create a "white list" of shops that actually allowed vendors to sit down in the course of a day or spend more than five minutes on rest room breaks. Garment workers, initially mistrustful of the "helpful" ladies in the Women's Trade Union League, called them "the mink brigade." At Hull House in Chicago, Jane Addams provided meeting space for working-class women trying to organize, no small provision in a time when most male unions met in smoky rooms above saloons at dinnertime.

Male unions of a different kind were keeping women out of medicine. Male medical students and doctors actively discouraged a growing number of women who wanted medical educations all through the 1850s. The Civil War made nursing a serious profession and raised the possibility of female doctors. In 1860, there were fewer than 200; by 1900, more than 7,000. The rise paralleled the rise of obstetrics and gynecology. Medicine was something a married women could do and something women knew they needed. In the throes of Victorian modesty, one woman with an ulcerated breast had described it to her male doctor as a pain in the stomach.

Even with training, women doctors had a hard time. Landlords refused to rent office space to them, fearing the stigma it would bring. Hazing and undermining by male

In a 1936 survey, 82 if women with

THE TOOLS OF WOMEN'S WORK

The Circular Saw
Invented by an anonymous Shaker woman in a community near Boston, the new saw revolutionized the nineteenth-century building industry. Before that, lumber was sawed and hewn by hand.

The Cotton Gin
The claim that a woman invented the machine that made cotton a valuable commercial product has been around a long time. In the 1870s, the feminist newspaper Revolution said that Katherine Green of Rhode Island had dreamed it up in the 1700s while visiting her Georgia plantations. She allegedly let Eli Whitney claim the patent "through fear of the ridicule of her friends and loss of social position recognition of her work might have entailed." Whoever invented it, the cotton gin, which could clean 300 pounds of cotton a day, reinvigorated the dying institution of slavery and gave women wage-earning work in cotton factories in the North.

Liquid Paper
Bette Graham, a high school dropout, had worked her way up to an executive secretary's job. Always a messy typist, she was frustrated by the new IBM electric typewriters, whose carbon ribbons smeared when she tried to erase mistakes. Inspired by watching an artist paint over his errors as he lettered office windows, she started using white paint and a watercolor brush at her desk. When coworkers asked for the magic formula, she bottled it, labeling it Mistake Out. In 1956, she offered her cover-up fluid to IBM. They declined. She marketed it herself, at home, and took more than a decade to become profitable. Eventually, the Gillette Company bought Liquid Paper for $47.5 million, plus a royalty. When she died in 1980, Graham's fortune went to her son, Michael, a member of the singing group The Monkees, who used it to produce some of the first music videos.
percent of those polled said no when asked employed husbands should work.

peers was relentless: one doctor was persuaded that it was her duty to extract hospital patients' teeth; another's first lecture as a professor at a medical college was boycotted.

The American Medical Association finally admitted women in 1876. The early black women doctors went to practice in the South, to "help the race," like the schoolmarm's a generation before. The number of female doctors peaked in 1910, then declined. Women's medical colleges closed, since coeducational schools took women. But there were limitations; most had a quota system, often as low as 5 percent.

Women were first admitted to law schools at the same time as medical schools, but resistance to them was stronger. It was impossible to contrive law as a nurturing thing or pretend that female lawyers were not going entirely against the cultural grain by intruding on the public sphere. By 1910, there were 9,000 woman doctors and 1,500 female lawyers. By 1920, although 47 percent of college students were female, only 3 percent of lawyers were.

In 1896, Ellen Spenser Mussey and Emma M. Gillet tutored six young women in law, but when the local college refused their students admission because "women did not have the mentality for law," the two opened their own law school in Washington, D.C.

The 1920s and 1930s were dominated by something new—women in aviation, small in number but very visible. Amelia Earhart wasn't the most accomplished, only the most famous of the women in the air. Aviation jobs were offered to women after World War I because airplane manufacturers were eager to demolish the macho association lingering from the reputations of Flying Aces during the war. What better way to reassure the public of the safety and simplicity of flying than to recruit women? By the 1930s, jobs for women in the air were shifting to newly hired stewardesses, attractive women with nursing training who were recruited to care for passengers. By 1940, the female aviators were gone.

Second-wave feminists addressed head-on all the arbitrary and superstitious ideas about working women inherited from our history. Old battles over mothers in the workforce reignited in the late 1960s. The question of women's capabilities returned. In factories, women's jobs fit what employers determined to be "feminine skills": manual dexterity and the ability to stand repetition. Modern feminists proved that women had or could develop the "masculine skills" of physical strength and problem-solving. This perhaps accounts for the defiant machismo of the period.

The separation of women's work and men's work was abolished in theory by civil rights legislation. In 1963, when Congress passed the Equal Pay Act, working women earned 59 percent of the average male income. Title VII of the 1964 Civil Rights Act made race and sex discrimination by employers and labor unions illegal. Want ads were no longer classified by gender after 1970. But ending gender discrimination in practice is a different task, one that has occupied lawyers, activists, and other groups for the past two and a half decades.

It is clear that women have worked because they were told to, asked to, or wanted to. To support parents, siblings, children, lovers, husbands, and themselves. When a man made money or not, died, was drunk, walked out, or when the woman preferred his absence. For independence. To buy extras like clothes, radios, movie tickets, educations, visits to Paris. To be socially useful. To grow. To escape oppressive families. To meet challenges. "When a great adventure is offered," said Amelia Earhart, "you don't refuse it."

While the reasons make sense, the rules have had Alice in Wonderland logic. Married women couldn't be teachers, but single women were distracting. Looking attractive was important for some jobs, but looking too attractive was dangerous. Act like a lady, women were told, work harder, speak up, keep quiet. Don't talk to other women.

Working women encountered men's rules and defied them, overthrew them, altered them, bent them, or ignored them, as they did in all other areas of American life.

From The American Women's Almanac: An Inspiring and Irreverent Women's History. © 1997 by The Philip Lief Group, Inc., and Louise Bernikow; reprinted with permission of Berkley Books, Berkley Publishing Group Inc.

LOUISE BERNIKOW WILL DISCUSS HER BOOK MARCH 31 AT 5 O'CLOCK, SULZBERGER PARLOR, THIRD FLOOR OF BARNARD HALL.
FICTION

Drafts 15-XXX, The Fold (poetry)
by Rachel Blau DuPlessis ’63
Potes & Poets Press, 1997, $12.95

Hunger Point
by Jillian Medoff ’85

MINNESOTA IMPRESSIONISTS
by Rena Neumann Coen ’46
Afton Historical Society Press, 1996, $35

Will I ever be Somebody?: The 1918 diary
of May Frances Denton
by May Frances Denton ’22
Goose Pasture Publishing, 1996, $14.95
Available from the publisher at 451 Pleasant Valley
Road, Alfred Station, NY 14803; add $2.00 for
shipping, plus sales tax
[See Last Word, p. 56]

Whirling Around the Sun (poetry)
by Suzanne Nougere ’69
Midmarch Arts press, 1996, $12
Winner of the 1996 “Discovery”/The Nation
Prize

GENERAL NONFICTION

Hard Lessons: Public Schools and
Privatization
by Carol (Bergman) Ascher ’63, Norm
Fruchter, Robert Berne
The Twentieth Century Fund Press, 1996,
$9.95

Childhood and Children: a compendium of
customs, superstitions, theories, profiles and
facts
by Joan bel Geddes ’37
Oryx Press, 1996, $59.95

A History of Lake Waramaug
by Mary Rindfoos Harwood ’44
Design to Printing, 1996, $40/24

Butter and Guns: America’s Cold War and
Economic Diplomacy
by Diane (Bernstein) Kunz ’73
Free Press, 1997, $30

Gender and Scientific Authority
edited by Helen Longino ’66 et al.
The University of Chicago Press, 1996,
$30/19.95

The Perfect Wedding
by Maria McBride-Mellinger ’81
Collins, 1996, $40

The Language of Names
by Justin Kaplan and Anne Bernays ’52
Simon & Schuster, 1997, $25

Gender and Scientific Authority
edited by Helen Longino ’66 et al.
The University of Chicago Press, 1996,
$30/19.95

The Sex Revolts: Gender Rebellion and
Rock & Roll
by Simon Reynolds and Joy Press ’88
Harvard University Press, 1995/96,
$24.95/15.95

Career Planning for Psychiatrists
edited by Kathleen Mero Mogul, M.D. ’48 and
Leah J. Dickstein, M.D.
Greening Cities: Building Just and Sustainable Communities
by Joan (Goldhirsch) Roelofs ’57
The Bootstrap Press, 1996, $18.95

Stay Tuned!: Raising Media-Savvy Kids in the Age of the Channel-Surfing Couch Potato
by Jane Murphy and Karen Tucker ’71
Doubleday, 1996, $11.95

Credibility in Court: Communicative Practices in the Camorra Trials
by Marco Jacquemont, assistant professor of anthropology

Performance Anxieties: Staging Psychoanalysis, Staging Race
by Ann Pellegrini, assistant professor of women’s studies
Routledge, 1996, $17.95

BOOKS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

What’s So Terrible About Swallowing an Apple Seed
by Harriet Lerner and Susan Goldhor ’60
HarperCollins, 1996, $14.95

EXCERPT

The Language Of Names
by Justin Kaplan and Anne Bernays ’52

In the mid-nineteenth century some women began to open their eyes, stir, and cry out on the matter of names. A few articulate stalwarts, like Lucy Stone and Elizabeth Cady Stanton, challenged the notion that to marry meant to discard your surname as routinely as you do your jacket in the heat. Since Stone and Stanton were radical feminists, the subject of names folded neatly into their omnibus crusade for women’s rights civil, domestic, financial; all its parts made up one grand iconoclastic adventure. Lucy Stone was born in 1818 to a New England mother who believed that a husband ruled his family by divine right. Rejecting her inferior status as a woman, Lucy earned enough money teaching school to enroll, at the age of 25, at Oberlin College in Ohio. At Oberlin she read somewhere that “women are more sunk by marriage than men,” and when she asked a teacher to please explain what this meant, he told her, deliberately oversimplifying the matter, that the reason men are the dominant partners in marriage was that they didn’t have to give up their names. His explanation triggered a lifelong mission.

Married to businessman/abolitionist Henry Browne Blackwell, she kept her own name, although, in an odd courtesy to custom, she signed herself Mrs. Stone. Many years later, in 1921, she became an icon for fifty professional women who founded the Lucy Stone League in order to spread the gospel of maiden-namism. Their credo: “My name is the symbol of my identity and must not be lost.” These early activists did not notice the retrograde implications of the word “maiden” in “maiden name,” and it wasn’t until the late 1980’s that feminists decided the offending sexist term should be dropped in favor of “name,” “own name,” or “birth name.”

Peasant Rebels Under Stalin: Collectivization and the Culture of Peasant Resistance
by Lynne Viola ’78
Oxford University Press, 1996, $49.95

Women and Aging: A Guide to the Literature
by Helen Ripper Wheeler ’50
Lynne Rienner Publishers, 1997, $65

FACULTY BOOKS

Religious Diversity and Human Rights
edited by Irene Bloom, associate professor of Asian and Middle Eastern cultures, J. Paul Martin, and Wayne L. Proudfoot
Columbia University Press, 1996, $49.50/18.50

Lady Wisdom, Jesus, and the Sages: Metaphor and Social Context in Matthew’s Gospel
by Celia Deutsch, senior lecturer in religion
Trinity Press International, 1996, $19.95

India’s Gupta Dynasty
by Kathryn Fernquist Hinds ’84
Benchmark Books, 1995, $19.95

George Westinghouse: A Genius for Invention
by Barbara (Kelman) Ravage ’67
Raintree Steck-Vaughn, 1996, $18.98 (libraries)

Rachel Carson: Protecting Our Environment
by Barbara (Kelman) Ravage ’67
Raintree Steck-Vaughn, 1996, $18.98 (libraries)

OTHER

Nine Objects of Desire
by Suzanne Vega ’81
A&M Records, 1996, $16.98
Throughout the year, the Office of Alumnae Affairs is asked any number of questions about services available to alumnae at Barnard, privileges they enjoy on campus, and some of the "nuts and bolts" of College business. Answers to some of these questions are given below.
The address for all Barnard College offices is 3009 Broadway, New York, NY 10027-6598. Unless otherwise noted, all telephone area codes are 212. The Office of Alumnae Affairs is located in Room 224 Milbank Hall and is open Monday to Friday from 9 to 5; the telephone number is 854-2005.

I would like to use the Barnard Library even though I am not taking courses at Barnard or Columbia. Is this permitted?
Yes. All alumnae have access to and may borrow books from Barnard's Wollman Library, in Lehman Hall, with an alumnae identification card. To obtain a card, come to the Office of Alumnae Affairs. There is no fee for borrowing privileges; alumnae are subject to the same library policies as students. The library is open seven days a week except legal holidays and during College vacation periods. For more information, call the Circulation Desk (854-3846).

The alumnae card can also be used to obtain a Columbia University library card, which grants access to reading rooms and stacks free of charge. Borrowing privileges at Columbia libraries are available for a fee. For details, call the Library Information Office (854-2271).

Are there computers on the Barnard campus that I may use?
Yes. Alumnae may use the Academic Computer Center on the ground floor of Lehman Hall. You will need to show an alumnae card and pay a maintenance fee of $50 per year. All computers connect to the Internet and to the Columbia University library database. For more information, call the Computer Center (854-8477).

I understand that alumnae may audit courses. Is there a fee? How do I sign up?
Most courses taught by Barnard faculty members are open to alumnae for no credit at no charge. The permission of the instructor is the only requirement. (Laboratory and studio courses, seminars, and courses in foreign languages, architecture, education, and writing are generally not open to auditors.) Catalogues and other information are available from the Office of Alumnae Affairs.

Some courses at Columbia are also open for auditing, for a fee of $275 per course ($175 for people in their retirement years). For further information, call the Division of Continuing Education, 854-2820.

I am planning to enter/re-enter/make a move within the working world. Can I get help from Barnard?
Absolutely. The Office of Career Development offers counseling for alumnae at every stage of their careers (by appointment only). It also houses the Alumnae Contact File and an extensive library of vocational literature, sends out a Jobseekers Newsletter, reviews resumes and cover letters, and handles employer recommendations. For a small fee, the Office administers the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator and the Campbell Interest and Skill Survey. It can also help you locate alumnae to fill positions in your organization and identify students for internships. For appointments or more information, call the Office of Career Development, 111 Milbank Hall (854-2033).

Q: I have heard that some colleges have on-line access to job listings. Does Barnard have this service?
Yes, Barnard has joined JOBTRAK, an on-line job listing service. Call the Office of Career Development for a three-month subscription ($25) for password access to full-time job listings through the Internet. You may use your credit card to subscribe by phone.

Is the Barnard pool or gym available for alumnae use?
Yes. Alumnae may use campus sports facilities, including lockers, during intramural and recreation hours throughout the academic year. There is an annual fee of $40. In addition, physical education classes are open to alumnae auditors free of charge, space permitting. For more information, call the Physical Education Department, 209 Barnard Hall (854-2085).

For information about the use of Columbia University facilities, call 854-2546.

How can I order a replacement for my class ring?
The traditional gold and onyx Barnard rings in various shapes are available through Josten's. For information about prices and styles, call 800-424-1492.

How can I get a copy of my Barnard transcript?
An official copy of a transcript bearing the seal of the College and the signature of the Registrar can be sent only to another institution, business concern, or government office, and only when requested in writing by the alumna. Requests should be sent to the Registrar, Room 107 Milbank; include your name while at Barnard, dates of attendance, and complete address instructions. Your signature must appear on the letter. The fee is $3 per copy (payable to Barnard College), except that there is no fee for transcripts being sent to Columbia.

I would like to stay near Barnard when I visit New York. Are there rooms available in the area?
Guest housing is not available at Barnard during the academic year but alumnae may use the Landmark Guest Rooms at Union Theological Seminary, Broadway and 121st St. (280-1313), or the East Campus Hotel at Columbia (854-2946). A limited number of rooms will be available for alumnae use during June and July; for further information, call the Office of Summer Programs (854-8021).

I know a young woman who is interested in attending Barnard. Is it possible for her to get a guided tour of the campus?
Yes. Tours are led by student guides and are available throughout the year. Individuals or groups are shown every part of the Barnard campus and get an overview of Columbia University. Appointments are recommended and can be made through the Office of Admissions (854-2014).

Can I purchase group insurance through Barnard?
There is no alumnae insurance program at Barnard but excess major medical, term life, long-term disability, and accidental death and dismemberment insurance are available through the Alumni Federation of Columbia University, Box 400 Central Mall Room (870-2535).
ALUMNAE OFFICE

75TH REUNION - FRIDAY, MAY 30

We regret to report the death of JEAN MCDOUGALL POOLE this past April, at the age of 96. A resident of England, she had made her home in recent years with her daughter in Surrey.

Additional sad news came from JUDITH HANAUER GABBE '56, telling us of the death of her mother, RUTH STRAUSS HANAUER, on January 1. A devoted alumna, Ruth was a dedicated class officer and a regular attendee at Reunions and other College events until she moved from NYC to Navesink House in Red Bank a few years ago. Our sympathy goes to her family.

ADELE BAZINET McCORMICK
207 WESTMINSTER MANOR
1224 EAST LAS OLAS BLVD.
FORT LAUDERDALE, FL 33301

ALUMNAE OFFICE

It was a pleasure to hear from ADELE EPSTEIN STEIN, who says she is “doing quite well.” During 1996 she traveled to Turkey and Greece and also to Ireland and Hawaii. “I think I’m going to have to cut down on my travel,” she writes, “but I’m 91 and I’m still here.”

LOUISE GOTTSCHALL FEUER
270 WEST END AVENUE
NEW YORK, NY 10023

70TH REUNION - FRIDAY, MAY 30

An early letter to our classmates about Reunion has already brought several responses. JULIA (JUDY) CAUFFMAN DRISCOLL expects to come to our luncheon, and JANICE MOSES SULLIVAN is hoping to join us. Janice writes from Delray Beach, FL: “Nothing has changed very much. My walking is not as good as it was but, as my doctor says, ‘You haven’t changed from your neck up.’ I read, play duplicate and party bridge, go to theatre, etc. It will be wonderful to see old friends.”

HARRIET WILINSKY GOODMAN writes: “Assuming that the inevitable insults of old age can still be handled, I’ll join the galt survivors of the Class of ’27. There may no longer be a dance in this old girl but there is still a heartbeat and a joyous willingness to claim that I’m feeling fine. May 30th is a few days away so we’ll have to have a few muscle tone counts and bone density figures before we finally connect but let’s try.”

Others sent regrets that they will not be able to attend but sent good wishes to us all. BEATRICE TAUB KLEPPNER is one of these. She lives in a retirement center near her daughter and son-in-law in San Mateo, CA.

Also too far away to join us is MARION JOY MURRAY, who came to Barnard from Fremont, Nebraska, and now lives in an apartment in Rapid City, South Dakota (the Black Hills area); she celebrated her 92nd birthday on November 2. And a note from WINNIFRED LITTLE, in Wilton, CT, says that she is fine but cannot make it to Reunion.

MARIE KONOVA HOLECEK sent a lovely note from Pinellas, Florida; “I am alive and well and keep busy, enjoying my extended family of a son and a daughter, three grandsons and three granddaughters, two great-grandsons and two great-granddaughters. I am still able to live alone and take care of my needs. However, I do not believe that I shall be able to come to the Reunion. It is too far away and I don’t plan that far ahead.”

ELIZABETH MERR WILLIAMS wrote: “I do not have the energy to attend the Reunion. I limit my driving to two miles to shop and to church. I am still limping from a broken femur in March 1995. I spend a lot of time sewing for the homeless and I work two mornings at the Research Center, putting cemetery records into the computer. Evenings I read and knit while watching TV.”

Among the notes received for this issue there is also sad news, including an announcement of the death of ROWENA RIPIN ANSBACHER, a distinguished psychologist who had lived in Burlington, Vermont, since 1946, when her husband joined the faculty of the University there. The couple enjoyed a long professional collaboration and their book on the psychology of Alfred Adler remains the basic reference in its field. In 1980 they received honorary degrees from the U of VT. Rowena was also an active contributor to her community and an ardent supporter of the cause of world peace. She is survived by her husband, four sons and seven grandchildren.

RUTH RICHARDS EISENSTEIN
419 EAST 57TH ST.
NEW YORK, NY 10022

In the nick of time for this issue, the latest roster of our class arrived from the Office of Alumnae Records. Given this source, what better way to begin than with some mini-demographics? As of this writing, our class is at least 57 strong, an impressive figure. The reservation “at least” is attached because we are in the dark about some 26 additional “28ers, who appear on the list with the notation “Mail Return” or “Requests No Mail” or with no information at all. Thus we have an element of mystery mixed in with our demographics. Any clues?

Lists are handy, but conversations are livelier, and it was a pleasure to talk with HELEN STOKES BUSH, at home in Bedford Hills, NY, in mid-December. In tones untouched by time, Helen spoke glowingly of the joys of grandmotherhood and great-grandmotherhood, chuckling in particular over the antics of a four-year-old who has a passion for computers though he can’t yet properly pronounce the word. A special circumstance that Helen rejoices in is that her second daughter teaches in a school that is only five minutes away. An important, if silent, participant in this conversation was a trusted canine member of the household, name of Tara.

We also had a note from ROSE BLEIMAYER PALMER, who celebrated her 90th birthday on August 24th with 117 friends and family. Her oldest grandson is a pilot for Continental Express Airlines and he and his wife live in Connecticut. Her youngest grandson is engaged to be married next year. Rose lives with her daughter Margaret and her husband, Jim, in WANTAGH, NY. Margaret is a student in the Doctor of Nursing Science program at Columbia.

ANNE BIRNBAUM BRIEGER
120 EAST 81ST ST., BOX 45
NEW YORK, NY 10028

ELIZABETH GAY PIERCE divides her time between Maine and New York City. She writes that she has had three strokes but is happy to be accompanied by so many classmates in her 90th year.

We extend deepest sympathy to RUTH ROSEBERG WISE, who lost her husband, Leo, last October.

CAROLINE (BETH) RELYE BROWN has created a happy, partly sedentary life for herself at her retirement home in Latham, NY. She writes: “If the body can no longer go on trips to exciting places, the mind can.” Besides reading constantly, studying catalogues, shopping by mail, and maintaining her own financial affairs, she has delved into art and is studying watercolor painting. Caroline sent me a copy of a humorous sketch with comments from the animal world (in a park) staring at a man—leg in a cast—wondering what this could be. She also draws humorous greeting cards for family occasions. KATHRYN HUBER FLETCHER visits Beth from time to time.

HELEN SAVORY HUNGERFORD, an outstanding dancer, is now involved in writing and art. She writes: “My main interest now is an art group I initiated. We draw from life/models once a week, pursue assignments during the week. I love to see their growth and enthusiasm. We are planning an exhibit in February. We are never too old to dream and create!” She lives in a Quaker retirement community near Penn State U where she and her husband taught. We heard from HYRA (MIRIAM) KANTER BUXBAUM that she is well and happy in Baltimore.

ANNUAL REPORT OF GIFTS AND GRANTS


Names omitted from class listings:

President’s Circle Councillors
Anny Birnbaum Brieger ’29 •
Jennie Reich Coral ’29 •
Madeline Russell Robinton ’29 •

Donors
Lorraine Abel Lee ’30 •
Gertrude Epstein Halpern ’34 •
Linda Muller Smith ’63 •

• (indicating five or more years of consecutive giving) was omitted after the name of Mabel Campbell ’42.

We sincerely apologize for these errors and thank the donors once again for their generous support.
A charming restaurant, La Mediterranea, on the east side of Manhattan, was the setting for a delightful luncheon for Alice Harper Feuerstein, Francine Alessi Dunlay, and Ruth Goldstein Fribourg. Whether Alice is in New York or Florida, she swims and plays tennis. She is pursuing a course in French and it was her professor who recommended the restaurant. Francine and her husband Al are in North Carolina during the winter, to be with their daughter, a college professor, and her family. New York weather permitting, Ruth is out daily, finding doormen and taxi drivers very obliging. She has excellent household help.

A generous bequest from the estate of Mary Johnson Kelly has been left to Barnard.

Our most important news is still concerned with our beloved president, Else Zorn Taylor, who died in August. Several classmates were joined by members of the Barnard administration, including President Judith Shapiro, at a gathering at the College on November 13 to honor her memory. Among the messages that were read was one from Corinellia Merchant Hagenau, whose friendship with Else began in high school in 1924 and included their being bridesmaids for each other. She was my daughter's godmother and has been a true aunt...My two year old great-granddaughter is named Taylor.... A few years ago, when my family arranged a big birthday party for the two of us, my granddaughter exclaimed, "It's so-o-o cool for high school friends to celebrate their 80th birthdays together!" Toni Coffin '56, one of Else's students and advisees at Curtis High School, reported that a memorial service was held on Staten Island on November 23, where Else's students over four decades spoke of her special qualities. We hope she knew how much they loved and valued her.

We are still catching up with the wonderful letters received in response to our request for recollections of "memorable moments." Rita Elbaum Winkler wrote that her first real memory is a night when she was 4 and she and her family, Belgian refugees, watched German zeppelins drop bombs on London. They then spent two weeks in a small ship that threaded its way through u-boat lanes across the Atlantic. "We hardly ever undressed and had boat drills every day. At night not a speck of light could show through the portholes." Once the family reached America, "our ambition was to be completely assimilated and when my mother spoke French to me in a public place I made believe I didn't understand her." After Barnard Rita worked as a research assistant until she and her husband moved to Great Neck and she, in a sense, did nothing: "Some nothing. I ran a fairly big house. I took care of a husband and two boys. I was a cub scout den mother for four years, and so on, plus that base of suburban living, the car pool...Now that I am, as they say, physically challenged, I have had to give up practically all my activities. My husband and my second son have died but I have my wonderful and affectionate children and four grandchildren to keep me going. I still read a great deal, mostly biographies, and a new interest, comparative religions...I am determined to live until the year 2000, mainly to see into what kind of a mess the world can still get itself."

Edith Gutman Socolow lives near her daughter, Joan Bayliss, in Eugene, OR. Her granddaughter is a Barnard senior.

With sadness we report the death of Carolyn Agius Fortas. An obituary appears on page 54. We extend our sympathy to Carol Kohler Pforzheimer on the death of her husband in November.

Dora Breitwieser Stoukenberg 1 Stream Court P.O. Box 1225 Farmington, CT 06032

65th Reunion - May 30-31

Completed questionnaires for our Class Profile have been coming in well but we would like to hear from even more of you; if you have not yet returned your questionnaire, please send it to me now. Copies of the Profile will be sent to everyone after Reunion.

The announcement and reservation form for the Reunion weekend will be coming to you from the College in a few weeks. As you saw in Virginia Burman's November letter, we are invited for sherry and the Annual Luncheon on May 30 as guests of the College and will be seated at our own table. Each of us must make a reservation, however, and anyone who is bringing a guest must pay for that person. Surely many of us will want to make a special effort to attend in order to applaud for our own Madeleine Stern, who will be honored as a "Distinguished Alumna" at the luncheon. A well-deserved honor!

Vera Joseph Peterson writes that she and eleven classmates attended the 60th reunion of her class at FBS. "We were 'wearing well' and still fully engaged in interesting activities." Her husband died in 1987. Of her daughters, she writes that Jane is a nurse anthropologist and professor at Seattle U School of Nursing; Donna, an anesthesiologist, is a professor and dean for minority students at U-Mass medical school in Worcester; and Carla, who is a professor of English and comparative literature at U-Maryland, has published Doors of the Word, about ten African-American women speakers and writers in the North American tradition.

We note with sorrow the loss of another classmate, Emily Chervenik, a resident of California, who died in June.

Eileen Kelly Hughes 7 Westwood Ave., Apt. C-202 Tequesta, FL 33469

Muriel Kelly Major 5111 Monroe Village Jamesburg, NJ 08831

Lots of news about '33 classmates in various Barnard publications recently: a picture of Elinor Coleman Guggenheimer in the Barnard Reporter, describing the Women in Politics conference held last March. Also a photo of Margaret Leatherwood Bourgeois in a recent newsletter on Planned Giving, with an article on the ease and advantages for you and for Barnard of transferring a long-held asset to the College. And there was a note in "Bear Outlines," the newsletter for alumnae volunteers, about the Viola Wichern Shedd '33 Scholarship Fund sponsored by the Barnard Club of Monmouth County, NJ.

Olga Bendix received a nice note of appreciation from our second scholarship recipient, Sasha Watson. As you will have seen in the Annual Report of Gifts and Grants in the last issue of this magazine, 62% of our 122 members contributed $30,434 to the scholarship fund.

Mildred Pearson Horowitz is again attending classes at Barnard as an auditor. "It is a wonderful experience both intellectually and socially. The students are warm and welcoming. The vitality on campus is exhilarating."

Alfonsoina Albini Grimaldi is still teaching Italian and French at the Academy of the Sacred Heart in Hoboken. Her "very fond hope," she writes, "is that a very special student of mine will gain admission to next year's freshman class."

Laura Smith Loomis has moved to a retirement community in Goshen, NY.

News sent to us by Gena Tenney Phenix: Mireia Rosenthal Chiaromonte is still active, editing and teaching in Rome. Ann Bossert Kenny, despite replaced hips and now a big steel brace, is a real Barnard Girl, competing in table tennis and spincasting in the North Carolina Senior Games, and hopes to go to the Nationals in Tucson. She also gardens, plays bridge, and follows a Great Books course.

Also from Gena, word that Berenice Gottfried de Aenlle is awaiting a visit in California from her world traveler journalist son.

We note with sadness the death of Lillian Hurwitz Ash in September in Boca Raton, FL. A graduate of Juilliard School of Music, she earned an EdD from Columbia and was for many years on the faculty of Wisconsin State U. She is survived by two daughters, several grandchildren, and two great-granddaughters.

Jane Stein Aberg 2004 Granada, Apt. 1-H Wynmoor Village Coconut Creek, FL 33066 Tel: 954-974-4149

Rita Breerton Simms has three sons and six grandchildren. She retired from the Social Security Administration and has lived in Little Neck, NY, for the past 19 years. Rita's husband Fred passed away in 1974 and unfortunately she has been in ill health for the past several years with dementia. Anyone wishing to be remembered to her can call her son James at 718-225-5659.

Vivian White Darling 15 Jefferson Avenue Kingston, NY 12401

Gertrude McKinnon Heitmiller wrote from St. Paul, MN, that "it was a pleasure last August to meet President Shapiro and to spend a happy supper get-together with alumnae of the Upper Midwest. I love my Barnard diploma!"

This past fall brought a fundraising event for the Cancer Society in the Hudson Valley, a walk-or-rideathon. Kay Heavey made her contribution with a four-mile walk. A great article about Kay appeared in the local paper with a picture of her trophies. When the walk began 25 years ago, she won a trophy for being the oldest woman to enter, and today at 84 she is still walking for the Cancer Society. She used to
ride on her Hydra three-speed bike. Now she uses walking shoes.

It is sad to report the death of KATHLEEN BUR-NEET McCANN of Providence, RI, on September 8. She is survived by her son and daughter, and a brother and sister, to all of whom we send condolences.

Many of us have been and still may be active in many things or may have started on a new lifestyle; your Barnard friends would love to hear what they are. This column is a good way to spread the word—write and let your friends hear from and about you.

NORA LOURIE PERSIVAL 478 GREEN LANE VILAS, NC 28692 E-MAIL: NORALP@SKYBEST.COM

Quite a lot of news this time, but much of it is sad. I heard from ELEANOR BRINKMANN HERLING just too late for the Fall issue. She writes: "This is to let you know that MORITIA-LEAH HAUPT FRED-ERICK died on July 1...Her housekeeper found her in her bath in her NYC apartment. She had retired on the previous Friday, for the second time, from the staff of the New York Public Library." Four of her former colleagues at NYPL, including Eleanor, participated in her burial in the Haupt family plot at Pinelawn. Eleanor adds a postscript: "I need to report that, contrary to the article in the Class Notes in the Summer issue,...I was not present at our 60th Reunion, although I had registered for it. I did not want to cross the picket line set up in front of Barnard Hall by striking clerical workers."

ELIZABETH MCNEIL notified the college of the death of SALLY PREAS ANDERSON on July 29th. Sally is survived by her husband, Louis J. Anderson. And Jane Aberlin '34 reported that ALICE CORNELL CARDOZO's husband Peter has died. Our deep sympathy goes to all the bereaved families.

On a happier note, SONYA TURITZ SCHOPICK was named a "Woman of Substance" by the Connecticut Past of Bridgeport. The news story details a life devoted to music, family, and community. After raising her five children, Sonya taught music for 19 years at an elementary school in Easton, CT, until retiring in 1986, gave private lessons on the harpsichord, piano, and recorder for more than 20 years, and wrote "Meet the Fipple Flute" for recorder students in 1974. For 23 years she has been a member of the Quapaw Consort, a trio which plays early music on traditional instruments. Sonya plays the harpsichord, virginal, organ, piano and recorders. Her own harpsichord is a copy of a 17th-century instrument, and her virginal was built for her by her son. In this busy life Sonya found time to serve her community in a variety of ways. A founder of the Bridgeport League of Women Voters in 1938, and currently a vice president, she also serves on the boards of the Fairfield City Civil Liberties Union and Opera New England, which brings opera to the public schools. She helped found the Bridgeport Symphony and is a past president of its Women's Guild, as well as a past dean of the local chapter of the American Guild of Organists. Now she serves on committees in her retirement community and presents lectures in the Eldersteam program. How did she do it all? "The way to juggle it all is having good committees, the key to my success," Sonya says. Truly a woman of substance!

FRANCES SCHELHAMMER OBERRST celebrated her 80th birthday in 1995 with a "fabulous surprise party" given by her two daughters, with 80 guests, dinner, and great dance music. She swims twice a week, does aerobics, goes bike riding, and was planning to go skiing again with her family in December. "Should be fun for all," she wrote.

According to my plan to see and do what I can while I'm still standing. I survived a three-week trip to China this fall. I'm having a hard time sorting out my impressions. How does one reconcile the most vibrant (state) economy I have ever seen (Shanghai beats New York for skyscrapers, new building, and traffic) with the abject poverty and registration visible in the countryside? Standing on the Great Wall knowing that thousands of construction workers were buried in it as they fell, and looking at the 6,000 or more life-sized terracotta soldiers interred 2,000 years ago by the emperor Qin Shihuang to celebrate his majesty and mercy, brought home the realization that this ancient culture has a collective soul not known in the West. I have long been mad about Oriental art, and watching workers in a cloisonné "factory" apply each copper wire by hand and carry each object through the rest of the process, all by hand, overwhelmed me with admiration and sadness: wages are miniscule, hours long, living conditions deplorable, detailed work intensive, and the product magnificent. I pray that someday the rewards for such labor will match its worth. And those scrolls and watercolors showing a mythic landscape—it is not mythic at all! I am grateful to have seen the incredible Liang River valley with its fantastic cliffs and wooded hills lining the tranquil meandering stream. The metaphor of a sleeping dragon comes readily to mind.

BARBARA LAKE DOLGIN 150 WEST END AVENUE, APT. 18D NEW YORK, NY 10023

We continue to hear from classmates who were saddened by the death of our beloved BOBBY MEYER MANTELL. A memorial tribute to her appeared on the In Memoriam page of the Fall issue; if you did not notice it and still have your copy, you may want to read it now (page 55 of the last issue). In a very moving eulogy at Bobby's funeral, EDNA HOLTMAN SENDEROFF described her record of community and family achievements and said that "Bobby, especially lately, would bemoan the fact that she was an only child, but she filled that void by turning to her Barnard schoolmates to proclaim, 'You are truly my sisters.' Gladly we took on that role."

I am grateful to ANN COTTRELL FREE for following up on her letter quoted in the last issue. She noted the deaths of three classmates in that issue and in a very meaningful note, she reports that she has been asked to write several entries for the Eleanor Roosevelt Encyclopedia. She was also asked
PRISCILLA AUCHINCLOSS PEDERSEN lives in Collington Episcopal Life Care Community, a retirement home in Maryland, where MARGARET MARTIN '33 is a very active resident. Priscilla writes that she has happy memories of Barnard: "Most of the good things in my life have come from it, directly or indirectly."

We were sorry to learn that JANE WILLIAMS WISE died in 1981. Jane's sister, MARY ANN WILLIAMS PETICOLAS '42, lives in New Jersey. PEGGY DYKES DAYTON died October 10 and 13. Peggy worked as associate director of admissions for many, many years under HELEN MCCANN '40 and then under Chris Royer. She had been ill for the last few years. She is survived by her daughter, Brenda Dayton Hamilton, 52 Leicester Way, Chesapeake City, MD 21915.

FLORA EHRSAM DUDLEY 437 MELBOURNE AVENUE MAMARONECK, NY 10543

Most of our news this issue is related to our mini reunions—the one we had and the one to come. In October, ten of us met at the New-York Historical Society, where an excellent docent took us through an exhibit of Eleanor Roosevelt's early years, and then enjoyed lunch at the Museum Café. Attending were Agnes Cassidy Serbaroli, Nanette Hodgman Hayes and husband Julian, Constance Flora, Peggy Pardee Bates, Phyllis Margolies Gilman, Ann Landau Kwitman and two friends, and Joan Shalit Swee.

We were reminded of Eleanor Roosevelt again when we received a clipping about a ceremony at Val-Kill, ER's home near Hyde Park, where FRANCES STEVENS REESE was honored for her leadership in the environmental movement in the Hudson Valley. And when a beautiful statue of Eleanor Roosevelt was unveiled on NY's Riverside Drive, the NY Times quoted JUNE BINGHAM BIRGE as saying, "She's going to last forever as a symbol of the Democratic Party caring about the less privileged." An Actors Circle production of June's play, Eleanor and Alice, about ER's tense relationship with the daughter of President Theodore Roosevelt, was presented at the N-Y Historical Society, at Lehman College of CUNY, and at the Corcoran Gallery in Washington, DC.

DOROTHY CLARK LEE sent us her new address in Cepppersburg, PA, along with good news: "I was classified as 'terminal' in 1991 when I had surgery for pancreatic cancer. Two operations later, I feel well and am capable of normal activity. I am teaching a class at cane chairs, quilt at my church one day a week, and drive myself about the county.

MARION BROMILLOW MENDELSON '43 has moved to Doylestown and I am constant touch with her. Three grandsons are in university. My youngest daughter, Claudia, is on the way to a master's in occupational therapy at Thomas Jefferson U in Phila. My husband died of a coronary in 1993. He was a past president of the Bucks County Bar Assn. In 1994 I had three weeks in Italy. My Barnard course in medieval art was still fresh and made the trip an exceptional experience. I can't make the trip to NYC alone and so have had to forego Reunions. Best wishes, classmates: Hang in there—we're still needed!"

Those attending the mini-reunion had such a good time that plans were immediately begun for another. If you live in the NYC area or are thinking of visiting there, mark your calendars for Wednesday, April 16; we will meet at the Frick museum at 11 am, walk through the beautiful gardens, view the Collection, and have lunch nearby. If you can be there, please write or call Ann Kwitman, 7 Canterbury Road, Scarsdale, NY 10583, (914) 723-8918.

Since these mini-reunions are such a good way to keep up Barnard friendships, some of you in other parts of the country might want to arrange something in your area. Write to me for the names and addresses of classmates who live near you, choose a date and place for getting together, and spread the word. If you plan far enough in advance, you can use this column to announce your plans. And please let me know all about it afterwards!

One sad note: we learned of the death in October of MARY MALONEY SARGENT's husband, Jack. We send deepest sympathy to Mary and her family.

Your correspondent recently returned from a trip to New Mexico, Arizona, and Utah which fans of Tony Hillerman's books would surely have enjoyed. We visited ancient pueblos and Navajo villages and talked to tribal policemen just like Joe Leaphorn and Jim Chee.

ATHENA CAPRARO WARNER 21 VILLAGE HILL ROAD WILLIAMSBURG, MA 01096

Let's start off with an apology to Marian Wright, whose name no doubt gets misspelled all the time. It is MARIAN LINN WRIGHT, of course. We don't make that "Lynn" mistake again.

DOROTHY SHARLEY RILEY was at our Reunion but somehow her name slipped through the cracks. Sorry, Dorothy.

It was a shock to hear that ELIZABETH THROOP WELLS died from heart problems on September 24, just a few months after our happy gathering in New York. Our class sends affectionate wishes to all who were close to her.

And there is more sad news: BABETTE JACOBSON SOMMER's husband, Murray, died suddenly on November 1. He, too, had come to our Reunion and several of us enjoyed very lively conversations with him. Our class offers Babette all its support. We are terribly sorry.

News of ETHEL STONE LEFRAK was misplaced in the last issue, in the Class of 1946 column, so we shall mention here that she received an honorary degree in Play from Seton Hill College, in Latrobe, PA. "In recognition of her work on behalf of cultural and educational institutions." At Barnard it was recently announced that Ethel and her husband, Sam, have made a gift of $2 million to refurbish the gymnasium and main lobby of Barnard Hall (remember "Jake") and to endow a scholarship fund. It is a wonderful gift, one that future generations of Barnard students will appreciate every day.

BEATRICE CARSON COLLINS and husband Robert have moved from Rome to Oxford, CT. "Our new home was built in 1795," she writes, "guaranteed to outlast a goodly number of years."

Bea's husband, Stanley, is "still out of the laboratory," but he is "busy as a beaver in科协." Bea asks us to "tell her that she needs to warm up her voice a bit when talking to me."

One of my first calls was to ALICE DRURY MULLINS since she and her husband, John, have moved up my way. If any of you are around this area (western Massachusetts), I'd love to stop by—

we have a big house (413-268-7515).
55th Reunion - May 30-31/June 1
We are receiving more and more responses to our requests for information for the Reunion booklet. Please keep them coming as we would enjoy hearing from all our classmates, whether or not they are coming to Reunion.

Members of our class who are in good health have itchy feet and do a great deal of traveling. Edith Herbst Cannon, who has been to China, Greece, and Turkey in the past few years, was heading for Ecuador in January, to a tropical forest reserve, under the direction of the botanist son of Betty Smith Neill '41. Edith was featured in the November issue of Prime Time, the monthly magazine published by the Cape Cod Times, as one of three women veterans who are now involved in peace work.

Evelyn Baswell Ross and her husband plan two interesting trips a year and are now off to Bali.

Nancy Lenkeith Hornefter returned recently from an extensive China tour and plans to travel to Bali later this year (popular spot). Clytie Capraro Chambers is another traveler in China. She highly recommends Elderhostel tours.

Your officers are always on the go: Barbara Heinzgen Colby went to Hong Kong in December to visit daughter, son-in-law, and two-year-old girl-and-boy twin grandchildren. Virginia Rogers Cushing and her husband celebrated their 50th anniversary with a 40-day Elderhostel trip on the Russian ship Alla Tarasova, sailing from Freeport with stops in the Caribbean, through the Panama Canal, and down the west coast of South America to Ushuaia, the southernmost town in the world; back by air to Miami with a stopover in Buenos Aires. The study topics included pre-Columbian civilizations in Mexico and South America, the Conquistadores, and bird life in the southern hemisphere.

Eleanor Webb-Carr and her husband have moved from Florida to Black Mountain, NC.

Lucy Pollard Guthe is planning to move to Medford, NJ, from her home of many years in Ann Arbor, MI.

We hear that Marie Wood Faye and Charlotte Gordon Kirschner also celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversaries recently.

In November, some of your class officers met in Manhattan with Reunion volunteers for further planning for our 55th. Those present, in addition to your Correspondents, were Joan Brown Wettingfield, Lois Volter Silbersman, Kay Bruns Swingle, Evelyn Baswell Ross, Elaine Grimm, and Helen Baker Cushman. At Joan's suggestion, Virginia and Barbara visited St. Paul's Chapel at Columbia to see the Nakashima Peace Altar, a beautiful wooden table given by Professor Theodore and Fanny Brett de Bary '43, to honor Columbia alumni who died in service to our country. Our wartime class includes many women who served in the military and it would be fitting for us to visit the Peace Altar during Reunion.

We were sorry to learn that Rebecca Allinson Immanuel died several years ago. And we were extremely saddened to learn of the death of Ana del Valle Totti on October 11 in Puerto Rico. She had Lou Gehrig's disease. Her daughter Annette Roteti Rodriguez '75 is a teacher at Nightingale-Bamford and lives at 5 East 91st St, New York 10128.

Another loss was that of Zenia Sachs Goodman, who died in September. A member of the WAVES and graduate of the U of Chicago law school, she was head of the Illinois Arbitrators' Assn and served on the board of the Women's Bar Assn of Illinois. She was also a trustee of the Village of Glencoe, IL. She is survived by her husband of 50 years, Lawrence "Bus" Goodman, and three children.

Martha Livesay Whiteside 380 Hart Road
Lexington, KY 40502

Roma Morgan wrote that she has moved into a studio apartment at Carol Woods, a retirement community in Chapel Hill, NC. Where there is an indoor pool, an exercise room, a health facility, handsome common rooms, and glassed-in walkways connecting all the major buildings. Sounds wonderful!

Mel and Pat Condon Fenichell have always been intrigued with the Africa of Cecil Rhodes, Livingstone and Papa Hemingway, but for their 50th anniversary this past fall they decided to take their family to Africa. "Peter had just moved from Indonesia to Ecuador, Chris was in London, and of course we were in Connecticut (so) we met in London. Peter was accompanied by his son Nicholas 6...From Harare to Victoria Falls we were amazed and delighted with the courtesy and friendliness of all the people we encountered. Riding in an open top Land Rover for game drives, beginning at 6 am, was not as exhausting as it sounds, but, of course, this was the time when the lions, elephants, and zebras were most active. All the bugs and insects we were expecting must have been hibernating. The food and drinks were much too good at the tree houses and lodges, and the anachronistic Victoria Falls Hotel was just as elegant and not as stuffy as the Connaught in London. White-water rafting on the Zambezi was wet and exhilarating. Something must have been working properly when Nicholas inquired, 'When is our next trip?'

For Freddie Thiele Kelso, "learning experiences never end. Spring '96 took me to the former USSR to visit museums, etc., in Moscow and St.
Petersburg. More recently the smaller museums in the Boston area captured my interest. Travel with curator and docent made for a very rewarding experience." Freddie hoped the Barnard travel program for this year would be announced before her own plans were complete.

Our sympathy goes to HELENE DRESNER COLE whose husband, Louis, died in April.

MARTHA MESSLER ZEPF 974 TUXFORD ROAD RICHMOND, VA 23236

What a pleasure to bring you news of EUGENIA ALTER PROPP. In 1996 sixteen of her fabric collages were exhibited at the Macculloch Hall Historical Museum in Morristown, NJ. Using lace, embroidery, sequins, textiles, beads, feathers, you name it, she forms elaborate compositions which, one reviewer felt, were not only pleasing to the eye and a mastery of design and detail but "an exploration and delight with the materials for their own sake." Entitled Silk, Satin and Sensuous, the exhibition was acclaimed as "very striking and highly imaginative from a talented artist/craftsperson." In earlier years, Eugenia and her husband helped establish a private school in Mamaroneck (NY) and she writes, "were very much involved in the development of Israel (I lost my family in the Holocaust)." These days she is preparing collages for a show in Florida whenever her toddler granddaughter is not scattering her pins and laces.

From JUDITH PAUL ELSER came the unhappy news that her husband, Henry, died in June. She has found solace in working in the vegetable garden they planted together and in knitting and reading. In addition, she keeps up with news from the literacy office where she volunteered for ten years.

The October mini-reunion at the Staten Island (NY) home of DOROTHY KATZENBORN EBERTHART was a non-stop talkfest for Shirley Sexauer Harrison, Jeanne Walsh Singer, Edna Fredericks Engoron, Virginia Meyer Cram, and Carol Ruskin Fehr. Also there was ELIZABETH CREIGHTON MURRAY, who probably mentioned that she has continued giving "readings" of her poetry throughout NYC as well as on cable-TV. While doing so at a Manhattan library she looked up to find ASTRID DEYRUP in the audience. That was only fair, she commented, since she has attended Astrid's fine arts exhibits several times.

Also on hand was INA CAMPBELL, who told us that we will be having another mini-reunion, a luncheon at Barnard, on April 15. Those who responded to our initial mailing will get details in the mail. If you did not respond previously but would like to come, please call Doris Landre at 201-848-1790.

Returns from the class mailing also brought newsy notes from classmates who could not attend—some reported here, some to be held over next time.

ALLIS MARTIN REID doesn’t seem to be slowing down, as she claims, since she tells of a family reunion in Oregon in August '95, followed by another last summer in New Orleans, arranged by her three children. With three generations represented and a grandson and his fiancée coming from Barcelona, the rented house where everyone pitched in to help was "ideal." The highlight for Allis might have been the family gathering in her bedroom to make music via guitar, banjo, and voice until 4 am. Shades of a Barnard undergraduate!

MARIAN LA FOUNTAIN STARK toured Scotland and Wales last summer with a group of 30. Imagine her surprise when at dinner one evening she caught the name "Dean Gildersleeve." You can imagine what followed. "MARY KOURI '46 (and I) had a great time for the rest of the trip."

URSULA PRICE ROBERTS and MARY DAVIS WILLIAMS and spouses dined together in New Mexico last summer. The Roberts lived in Ethiopia and Hogholt for many years before arriving in Albuquerque. While Ursula’s husband taught at UNM medical school, Ursula developed a UNM journal and continued to write for a Hong Kong magazine, Arts of Asia.

SIBYL HERZOG GRUBSTEIN went to Italy to celebrate a wedding anniversary with a couple for whom she was an attendant 55 years ago. She’s also motored through the southwest and has been dividing her time and loving thoughts between pre-school grandchildren in California and college-age grandchildren on the east coast. And she still walks at least three miles a day. Way to go, Sibyl!

DAISY FORNACCA KOUSEL 112 WEST 72ND STREET APT. 4B NEW YORK, NY 10023

After several tries, I finally got results! Classmates call me persistent, et pour causer. I heard from three very dear ones just after I mailed the previous column.

MARIA BARSHISHAN PAULEN was unable to meet my summer deadline for an excellent and very upbeat reason: the date, August 20, coincided with the golden anniversary of her marriage to Arnold. He retired from his dental practice ten years ago and Marcia, who had been working with him, has been teaching English as a volunteer to South American immigrants in New York. Spanish, and writing letters for Amnesty International (as a long-standing member of the latter), I say more power to Marcia. Their extensive travels in which Barnard art history studies were of great value have taken them to southeast Asia, South America, and lately Myanmar (formerly Burma), all having begun “with the black and white slides of the Ajanta caves near Aurangabad.” I trotted out my atlas and found that said caves are in India. And I thought I was well traveled! What are my acquaintances from afar come to visit, they enjoy reversing the roles of guides and tourists. With all the bounties of the past half-century, Marcia feels that there is much yet in store.

I had to work very hard on HELENE DESANCITIS RUDKIN but she finally wrote. When she and George were first married we were living in the same apartment building near Barnard and she often told me how she was looking forward to a large family. Now, four daughters, one son, and ten grandchildren later, she still presents to my eyes the picture of domestic bliss, culminating in the recent marriage of George Jr. and embellished by her work as a guide at the Winterthur Museum in Delaware, along with MARJORIE CORSON ANDRENN.

The third very welcome letter came from DAHRIL GREENHILL, who lives “very quietly” in Scottsdale, outside of Phoenix, playing lots of duplicate bridge. Of her six daughters, only one is unmarried, and only one childless; still and all, there are arid grandchildren—one girl and eight boys—ranging from college to toddler age. One daughter lives in Germany, one in Dubai (United Arab Emirates), and one is all over the map (Latvia, Armenia, the Ukraine) working for the World Bank. Dahril loves living in Arizona: aside from being a very scenic state, air conditioning takes care of the summer heat, and “the rest of the year is heavily “I found that to be the case when I went to spend time with Alfred, who was working there long ago and the cartoonist Bil Keane, of “Family Circus.”

We also received a note through the Annual Fund office from ELAINE ENGELSON (SKIPPY) SCHLANGER, in Longboat Key, FL. She and Bob welcomed a new granddaughter in June, their fourth, and had another delightful Elderhostel in Spain.

BERNICE LINDEMBERG LEICHER and husband Seymour marked their 50th anniversary on Dec 22, but, "in order to avoid bad weather and the exodus of friends and family," celebrated on Nov 3. They are spending February in California. Granddaughter Leila, daughter of FERN LEICHER NESSON ’68, is a student at Columbia College.

Here is an item for which there was not space in previous issues. RHODA OXENBERG MILLER is very involved in the cause of organ donation for transplantsations, for which there is a tremendous need. Organ and tissue transportation has become a routine practice that can dramatically improve or even save the lives of those suffering from vital organ failure or from burns or blindness. She hopes more people, including Barnard alumnae, will request a brochure, which gives more information and includes a donor card, by calling 1-800-355-SHARE.

I saw Rhoda at our spring mini-reunion; we frequently talk on the phone, and she recently inquired whether we are planning another such event, which she greatly enjoyed. She also enjoyed, I am happy to say, my Miriam starring off-Broadway in a play she co-wrote with two fellow Northwesterners: laughter was continuous at the Jewish Repertory Theater and I felt very proud.

On that cheerful note I close, looking forward to a bumper crop of news!

SUSAN WEAVER BEAVER MEADOW ROAD PLAINFIELD, VT 05676 (802) 426-3371

I am sorry to begin our class record with the passing of JEANNE LEWIS FITZGERALD, who died on Sept 27th, in Poughkeepsie, NY. We send sympathy to her husband, John, to their son Michael, and all the family. Jeanne had published her third book of poetry, Akin to Fire, in 1994; it is now in the Alumnae Authors collection in the Barnard library.

Nice good news from DORIS CLARK TUCHER: "Al and I are both retired. He was a high school choral director and fine arts chairman. I was a high school librarian. Our youngest child, Fred, is a commander in the Coast Guard and was stationed in Hawaii for three years. This gave us the motivation to visit him and wife three times. Our biggest trip last year was to New Brunswick, Canada, where our fourth child, Carol, was paying an extended visit. Rob, number three in the family, is an archival photographer who specializes in archaeological on-site and historical architecture documentation. Andie is the author of Froth and Scum, which won the 1991 Francis Parkman & Allan Nevins history prize. Albert is a librarian with the Newark Public Library. And we are the proud grandparents of Tina, Elin, Dora and Clark 2." News, too, from GLORIA SIFF LEVY: "I enjoyed our 50th Reunion in May, especially visiting with JOAN LEFF ABELSON and seeing other friends such as BARBARA KLAR KAIM. My activities are restricted because my husband had a disabling stroke five years ago; but I do manage to get out for a few hours each day, taking classes at NYU, going to..."
concerts, museums, and movies. We are very proud of our sons, David and Philip. The former is director of surgery at Episcopal Hospital in Philadelphia and professor of surgery at Jefferson Medical School. The latter is a high school teacher of English in Santa Barbara. We are thrilled with our five grandchildren.”

And Emily O’Connor Pernice writes: “I am abed recovering from foot surgery... In July we rented a cottage in Wolfeboro, NH, on Lake Winnipesaukee. While there I contacted Dorothy Reuther Schafer and she kindly had Paul and me to dinner. Paul and I have had a busy year with his retirement. In the spring we spent three weeks visiting Japan, China, S Korea, Taiwan, and Hong Kong. In October we took a two-week tour to Spain and Portugal. We do enjoy leaving North Carolina in the humid weather and long for the pines of New England.” Emily concludes her good letter saying she hopes we can see one another again “one of these summers. And please do feel welcome here, each one of you in 1946.”

Ingrid Lange Burkhart was sorry to miss the 50th. She writes that she had every intention of attending but their daughter was hospitalized for an operation and “we grandparents had to take over. Celebrated our golden anniversary with an Alaskan cruise in September. Planning a Scandinavian cruise for June. So far we are both in good health.”

Please send your news to this, on-the-back-dirt-or-snow-covered-road box. I was in my car at my mailbox a while ago when a hunter, with bow and arrow, walked up the road. I asked him please not to hunt on this land. The hunter’s eyes were almost popping out of his head and he said he had just seen the biggest bear, only about 100 yards away. I wasn’t scared and a neighbor, later on, laughed and said, “Oh, that’s probably the same bear that stole honey from our bee hives...” Please do write and send your news—travels, bears, or whatever. All thanks!

Mary Roush Baxter
5016 Finn Road
Virginia Beach, VA 23455

50th Reunion—May 30–31/June 1 From Ruth Maier Baer: I hope all of you were busy in November and December working on your class questionnaire and on the blank page for our Reunion booklet and have sent them in. Now you should begin to watch your mail for the Reunion announcement from the College, which will include the reservation form to be sent back as soon as possible for campus events and overnight rooms during Reunion weekend. We are looking forward to welcoming husbands and friends to our Thursday and Saturday cocktail parties, as well as to our Sunday brunch. Our efficient committee is working on details and you will be receiving another letter from us soon.

Dushka Howarth’s experiences at station CURC and her theatrical interests during college led her to an early career as a press agent. Later, she opened her own travel agency in Paris, where she specialized in providing services for American embassy personnel and a broad spectrum of other clients. After several years she closed the agency to develop a program of guitar-accompanied songs to perform aboard a line of cruise ships. During this period, she visited many areas of Europe, Asia, and South America; although the first two years were exciting, she began to regard the ship as “a golden prison” and returned to NYC. She continues to travel extensively in South America as a representative for an educational foundation.

Virginia’s lieutenant governor, Donald Beyer, son of Donald and Nancy Maldon Beyer, is the expected Democratic nominee for governor in 1997. He has had a consistent interest in improving educational opportunities and is organizing a conference to promote better race relations.

Florence Shepard Briesmeister wrote that she and her husband enjoyed a wonderful trip to Russia with the Barnard Travel Program last spring; also in the group were Nancy Cameron Dickinson and Georgina Rubin Mittelman and her husband Gene. In their spare time Florence and Bill spend many hours working to improve conditions for the homeless and disadvantaged.

Aline Crenshaw Desbonnet was honored in October with the award from the French government of Chevalier dans l’Ordre des Palmes Académiques “for her contribution to the teaching of the French language and culture in the US.” After these many, many years of teaching from elementary school to the university level,” she writes, “it was very exciting to receive this award, which really goes to all my colleagues who, like good soldiers in the trenches, have long battled for the survival of French in the US. I was thrilled!”

Anita Ginsburg Isakov and her husband celebrated their 50th anniversary last summer by taking a trip to Copenhagen and Norway. “The ship, Silver Wind, took us through the inland passage to view the fjords, which were beautiful 24 hours a day. I am looking forward to Reunion.”

Frances Jeffery Abramowitz
43 Berkshire Place
Hackensack, NJ 07601

“My wish is that all our students and their families are healthy and happy...”

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“With much regret,” Mai Duane Harper has resigned as class president. We thank her for all she has done on our behalf, and wish her well. Since we have almost two years until our next big Reunion, it would be good if we could maintain a full complement of officers. Volunteers, or nominations, are welcome. Please write or call Eva Oppenheim at the Office of Alumni Affairs (212-854-2005).

Several classmates participated in recent events sponsored by the Barnard Center for Research on Women. On November 21, Muriel Fox chaired a forum on the modern women’s movement, featuring Betty Friedan, May Forewood, and Dorothy Haener. As most of you know, Muriel headed NOW’s public relations efforts in its first years and served for nine years on its board, three of them as Chair. She also headed the NOW Legal Defense and Education Fund, of which she is now honorary chair. It is reassuring to know that we have a personal representative in the leadership group of these movers and shakers celebrating NOW’s 30th anniversary.

Betty Jean Kirschner Lifton is a prolific writer and frequent lecturer on adoption and in October was a speaker at Barnard’s annual Scholar and the Feminist Conference, where the theme was “Our Families.” She led a lively, well-attended session on the topic “Psychology of Adoption: Mothers and Children in Open and Closed Adoptions.” Herself an adoptee, Betty Jean is a strong supporter of open adoptions. Workshop participants ranged in age from college students to grandmothers seeking guidance in dealing with their children’s adopted children. Many adoptive parents and women hoping to adopt offered personal stories that illustrated the complexities of both open and closed adoptions.

Elsewhere in this magazine you can read about Gertrude Rosenstein Moore, who has enjoyed a wonderful career as a television producer. In this space, we want to extend our warmest wishes to Gertrude and her husband, Nelson Moore, who were married in November.

We caught up with Nora Robell, who had just returned from a month-long Elderhostel trip to Turkey. She gave rave reviews of the visits to archeological sites, museums, and Troy, and of the quality of the lecturers who were their guides.

And what about you? Professional activities, exotic travels, retirement plans? Please send us your news!

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Yvette Delabar de Felice
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Ridgefield Park, NJ 07660

Rosary Scacciaferro Gilheany
426 376, Gленside Trail
Califon, NJ 07831

Since our last Class Notes I have heard from five classmates, spoken to a couple of others, read an article by one, and read about another.

Maria Calapati Stahel moved from Montoursville, PA, to the small city of Williamsport, PA, last year. Her husband has retired and she was about to have orthopedic surgery.

Gladys Perez-Mendez retired from the Bayer Corp in Berkeley, CA, as of February 1. “Work was interfering with travel! I’ll continue as a consultant on the projects I’ve been working on, and will continue editing the site newsletter.”

Lois Soons Porro reports that her daughter Elena was married on June 29th to a fellow student in the biomedical research doctoral program at Harvard Medical School.

Barron Tait Collins wrote that she has a third grandchild, a boy, and keeps busy “fighting for open space at local and state level and for improvements at our regional animal shelter, plus refreshing the spirit (and body) through a lot of hiking (president of the Bethany Wanderers).” She and her husband hiked in the British Isles for a month last summer again.

“After much soul searching,” writes Jeanne Verleye Smith from Honolulu, “Dave and I decided to leave paradise and move to a retirement community in Williamsburg, VA, in January—pray for a mild winter! We’ll be near most of our children and grandchildren and look forward to a new life style.”

Laura Nadler Israel had an eventful summer and fall, both happy and difficult. She and Ted enjoyed a vacation in France sponsored by the Museum of Folk Art and took their grandchildren on a trip through New England. Laura then had abdominal surgery. They spent Thanksgiving with her brother-in-law and his children and grandchildren, and Laura was resuming her quilting. We wish her a complete recovery.
In the March/April issue of Archaeology magazine, there was an editorial on NANCY HATCH DUPREE and the work of her late husband, Louis Dupree. Nancy is continuing his work toward saving Afghan’s cultural heritage. She is senior consultant at the Agency Coordinating Body for Afghan Relief in Peshawar, Pakistan, and vice-chairperson of the Society for the Preservation of Afghan’s Cultural Heritage. The article is fascinating and lets us feel that revolutions and pillaging and keeping one step ahead of danger are still the plight of the archaeologist.

ANNABEL SIMONDS FIELTZ and husband Richard attended a reunion at Bayside HS, Queens. Shortly afterwards, Dick’s sister, Violet, died. Our condolences to the family.

About me: my husband, Tom, retired in October and we set off for a tour of southern Spain the next day. We had a grand time and especially enjoyed Ronda with its spectacular gorge and Moorish influences. I did not, however, appreciate the lack of support from the American Embassy when my passport was stolen in Madrid. On weekends, for any disaster short of death, they are not on duty. Would any of our diplomat classmates, or other alumnae readers of this column, care to comment? I offer a cautionary note for those going overseas: carry a photocopy of your passport. If I had not had that for identification, I would have had to get identification from home and might still be languishing in Spain.

With great sorrow, we record the death on November 14 of SYLVIA CAIDIES VAGIANOS. A tribute to her will appear in our next issue. —RSG

BARBARA DAWSON BRILLER 524 EAST DRIVE SEWICKLEY, PA 15143-1115
NANCY NICHOLSON JOLINE 7 WOODLAND DRIVE HUNTINGTON, NY 11743-1539 FAX 516-271-6476

CLAIRE RACK was with the Peace Corps in Togo for four years, helping with the construction of schools and a water tower. She can be reached c/o US Peace Corps, PO Box 4760, Harare, Zimbabwe. She teaches the organization and management of small businesses. Her son Eric Slaetel is with Gitbank in Tunisia.

MARY CARROLL NELSON founded and is active in Layerists in Multi-Media, a network of North American artists “who share a holistic world view.” The layers in their work are metaphors for connections across time and space “in an archaeology of the mind.” Mary enjoys living in Albuquerque and seeing her grandchildren.

CORNELIA KRANZ HALEY no longer writes books for profit but is busy with church work and a genealogical study of an ancestor. During a recent visit to their daughter in England, Neale and her husband researched family history.

“After two wonderful weeks in the Adirondacks with my seven grandchildren, ages six years to four months, I think of myself as Snow White and her seven dwarfs,” writes CHARLOTTE JARVIS BREWER. Charlotte was working to elect a Democratic Congressperson “who will vote for education, problems of the environment, health care, etc.”

MURIEL KILPATRICK SAFFORD and Bob took their fifteenth freighter trip, this time to South Africa. After seeing animals in a nature preserve, she writes, they are “not likely to ever enjoy a zoo again.”

CECILIA SALTHAM SMILEY continues a 33-year career in the travel business; she has led trips for the Museum of African Art since 1985 and visited collections and museums at home and abroad. She enjoys grandchildren and gardening.

ELIZABETH ASCHNER LASTER proudly announces the birth of her sixth grandchild.

MARTHA GREENE LEWIS, in Devon, PA, is thankful to have not only her eight grandkids, but her mother, in good health at 96. The Lewises have bought a winter home in Rio Verde, AZ. Similarly, EVAN STRIZER EPESTM rejoices in her five grandchildren, and having her mother hale and hearty at 92.

Right up there in the gravy sweeptakes is MIRIAM SCHARFMAN ZADEK, who recently welcomed #9. Miriam enjoyed a trip to Italy last year.

JUNE FEUER WALLACE and husband David visited Argentina and Antarctica, seeing “lots of penguins, birds, seals, and icebergs in the most fantastic colors.” A trip to China was next. June, too, enjoys her grandchildren, and her garden in Westport, Mass.

RITA KAUFTMAN ABRAMS is making “a reluctant transition into retirement,” after 24 years of teaching his English, theater, and journalism. She is the “adoring and pampering grandmother” of three, and keeps body and mind active with aerobics and bridge.

GLORIA SPAMER RENNERT still fixes in occasional as a social worker with the Manhasset (LJ) North Shore Community Hospital. Gloria joined BARTA KELLER MEYCAF ’51 last at her Reunion to hear Barbara’s daughter, ANNETTE CALF ’83, speak at a session on women in government. Last summer Gloria visited Venice, Milan, and Monte Carlo with her daughter and granddaughter.

ANNE MODR SHAFAT works part time as a publisher’s assistant at two medical journals in Westchester; she has three grandchildren.

CHRIS LAMMERS HIRSCHBORN sent a post script to her news in the last issue: she is not retired after all, but is network administrator for UCS, a company in Golden, CO, that develops software for hand-held computing devices (used by FEMA, Police Emergency Units, home health care, etc.).

FLORENCE SADOFF PEARLMAN loves retirement, with time for a book group, theater, ballet, museums, and friends. A “micro-mini” job as a field adviser for the CU School of Social Work keeps her involved in the field.

VERON POLGAR JOHN-STEINER lives in Santa Fe and teaches psycholinguistics at the U of New Mexico. A second edition of her book, Notebooks of the Mind, has been published by Oxford U Press.

BARBARA GADDY JUDD writes from Chapel Hill, NC, that her husband’s retirement (as chief of the genetics lab at the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences) has given them a “less stressful life style.” Last fall they visited #2 son in Japan, then joined a tour in China.

Another happy retiree, ADELE ESTRIN STEIN, who recently vacationed in Greece, wonders “where I found the time to work.”

MARIE NOYES MURRAY had a show of water-colors at the Cold Spring Harbor (LI) Library. “Selling your first paintings is a thrilling experience,” she writes. Daughter Bonnie also exhibited in the show.

MARIAN GULTON MALCOLM has retired from the staff of the Barnard Health Sciences.

GLORIA LITTON DEL RIO came to NY from her home in Manila in the fall for a month-long visit with her eldest daughter. Her other two daughters live in California. She and BING ESCUDA ROXAS attended the golden anniversary celebration of their high school graduation. “Our class presented a medley of Spanish and Latin dances which wasn’t bad considering so many of us are suffering from arthritis and many afflictions that come with age.” She reports that Bing has four daughters and two sons.

DIANA GRAHAM HODGINS was among those who followed the “waterways of the stars” last spring with the Barnard Travel Program, along with IRMA SOCCI MOORE. They cruised the Volga River from Moscow to St. Petersburg in the expert company of political science professor Peter Juvelir.

We regret to announce the death, on August 9, of LOUISE RUSSELL, of Cambridge, Mass, survived by her sisters, Pauline Nugent and Evelyn Hackett. And we offer condolences to ELAINE SPRINGBER BRASE, of Jamestown, NY, whose husband died last summer.

ANNEKE BAAN VERHAEVE 134 COLONIAL WAY FALMOUTH, MA 02540

In a recent letter, MARISA MACINA HAGAN wrote: “Since it would be unfair to write you without including some class news, I will add that BERNICE LIBERMAN AUSLANDER and I went on a Smithsonian study tour of the Maya. We were mostly in Guatemala but also forayed into Belize and Honduras, mostly by bus but also by small plane and boat. The Maya had an amazing culture. They were literate, had a base-20 number system and a complex calendar and knew their astronomy. Then their civilization died out but the Maya themselves are still living in Central America, speaking one of their 22 or so languages.”

DORIS ROGERS KUNNS writes that she and Will moved from Malibu, where they lost their house in a landslide, to Santa Barbara and “are enjoying this beautiful place. I’m writing for a local Montecito newspaper and working with Planned Parenthood and the Community Arts Music Assn, which brings in symphony orchestras from all over the US and world. My two daughters are involved in publicity and the law; my son is an architect. We also enjoy tennis, the beach, and the active local theatre scene.”

PAULA WELTZ SPITTLER wrote from Florida that on the way north last summer she and husband Arnold met DIANE GOULD BERKELEY in Charlottesville, VA; during Reunion they had planned to meet there for breakfast. “Diane was on her way to a cycling Ederhostel from Munich to Vienna. Very impressive...!” I hope Diane will share some of her experiences with us.

Paula continues that they met MARGERY KNOWLES OWEN and her husband at the Storm King Art Center, near Bear Mountain. They had only a few minutes of “hugs and happiness” before going on to hear the docent. Paula adds, “our two meetings were a fitting reprise to our wonderful Reunion. Once again kudos to Lucille and Carol for their labor and success.”

I agree, and hope we don’t lose the momentum of that Reunion—let me hear from all of you!

MILICENT LIBERMAN GREENBERG 165 EAST 66TH STREET NEW YORK, NY 10021

45th Reunion - May 30-31/June 1 Two more great reasons for coming to Reunion:
attending a panel discussion on Friday afternoon when one of the speakers will be ANH B. BANAYS, and making her way over to the Frangieh dinner at Six Gray last night from her own work on Saturday afternoon. I hope you saw Francine’s fascinating article on Dior and Yves Saint Laurent, “Prophets of Seduction,” in the November 4 issue of The New Yorker. She will also be at Barnard on April 7, as the keynote speaker at the “Women Over 50” conference. (Watch your mail for details, or call the Women’s Center (12) 218-854-2667.)

Marilyn Silver Lieberman was host to us at last week’s committee meeting in October. Marilyn is managing director of the Epsilon Group, a consulting organization which applies the techniques of marketing research for the benefit of nonprofit organizations. Previously she was president of Lieberman Research, Inc., a national market research company, vp for marketing services at RCA, and senior vp and market research director at Ketchum Communications. Among many professional credits and honors, she is past president of the Market Research Council, chaired the Public Affairs Council of the Advertising Research Foundation, sits on the editorial board of the Journal of Advertising Research, and is a member of the New York Women’s Association.

Norma Glaser Justin coordinates clinical trials for the ophthalmology dept at Mt Sinai Hospital in NY. Daughter Meryl Chertoff is an attorney and son Robert is a veterinarian.

Gertrud Michelson, who retired as director of social services in a homeless shelter, works part time for Contemporary Guidance Service, a vocational training school for the learning disabled. She also works part time for a homeless shelter in Pittsfield, MA. Daughter Valeria Pinsky ’75 has a PhD in anthropology at Cambridge U and works at the Smithsonian. Daughter Carol Pinsky ’79 teaches French to local students at Tuoro College in Brooklyn. Daughter Cindy has a MSW from Fordham University and does crisis intervention for Berkshire Mental Health in Pittsfield, MA.

Marilin Rich Rosenblatt, president of Charge D’Affaires, a special events company, coordinated the annual Songwriters’ Hall of Fame dinner at the Sheraton NY Hotel. Daughter Susan is a second-year student at Tufts Veterinary School, and son Muzzy is a student at the University of California at Santa Cruz. She is happily busy with four grandchildren and travels around the country.

Florence Sack Kohn held various faculty and administrative positions at Adelphi U School of Social Work over the past 25 years. Four years ago she moved from LI to Manhattan and now is adjunct field adviser for the Hunter and Fordham Schools of Social Work. She is happily busy with four grandchildren and takes courses at Barnard and Columbia.

Birgit Thibeau Morris is really having fun. She had just returned from a beautiful Greek Islands cruise and was planning a ski trip to Chamonix in January. In March she’s off on a tenting safari in the Serengeti. When at home, she has an active law practice specializing in intellectual property.

Marietta Dunston Moskin recently spoke to fourth graders in Lexington, MA, about her book, I Am Rosemary, a fictionalized account of the Holocaust used by many schools to teach about this subject. Marietta’s daughter, Linda, is a pediatrician and assistant director of medical services for the Hartford, CT, school system. Son James is a freelance in desktop publishing and graphic design.

Nancy Heffelfinger Johnson is director of the Susan B Anthony Center of the U of Rochester (NY). The Center strives to educate the university and the community about women’s achievements, contributions, concerns, and potential and works with those who share those goals.

Joyce Eichler Monaco wrote that they are retiring and “living on the eastern shore of Maryland on the water. It’s paradise (without the angels). Hope to make Reunion with spouse.” She also sent news of Ines Monaco Aull, who is retired in Florida.

Elizabeth Blake is working 1/3 time as associate director of the Fund Development at the U of Minnesota, Morris. She writes that faculty there have been very concerned by the attempts by the Bd of Regents of the U of MN to abolish tenure and limit academic freedom, which captured national headlines, damaged governance structures, and hurt collegiality, even on our small campus.

And here is a wonderful note to end this column: Margaret McVarish Bashe wrote from Melvin Village, NH. “Since my husband’s retirement in 1985, we live rather quietly here. We are members of various town organizations and enjoy visits from our six children and nine grandchildren. Though we have no great executive news to impart, we are as content as it is possible to be.”

Stephanie Lam Basch 5370 Casa Real Drive Delray Beach, FL 33484

Not much news again this time, but there will be a 1953 mini-reunion tea in the Deanery in Hewitt Hall at 4:00 on April 7, before the Women Over 50 event. I hope that information will pour in from those who cannot attend, as well as from those who can. Watch your mail for more details.

Sonya Livshin Gordon wrote that her daughter Elizabeth ’90 was married on Sept. 1 to Willem Jonckheer, Colgate ’90, her high school sweetheart from Washington, DC. Sonya wrote it was a “Barnard happening” as three of the attendants were Barnard women. The event took place in San Francisco, where the couple live. Even though Sonya was still recuperating from a thyroid cancer operation, she enjoyed the festivities and was able to do her share of dancing.

Johanna Garfield wrote that she is continuing to publish—most recently a travel piece on Vietnam and two essays and has also “unexpectedly become an agent on a small scale, having placed a friend’s journal entry about a 1960’s dinner party with the Paris Review. What made it interesting? The other guests included John, Rauschenberg, Kline, DeKooning, Castelli, and other art luminaries of the time, and even more of now. A nice bonus: I’ve been asked to write an introductory piece for the excerpt. I don’t know why, but it seemed much easier to push someone else’s work than it ever did my own!”

I regret to have to report the death of a classmate, Mary Bridgeman Payne, on October 28. A longtime resident of Martha’s Vineyard, she founded the Island Theatre Workshop, where she directed over 60 plays, and its associated summer program, The Children’s Theatre. In 1991 she earned an MSW from Boston U and in recent years she also worked as a psychotherapist and counselor for several community programs. She is survived by her daughter and two grandsons, and by her friend and companion, Nancy Luquedman.

I extend my deepest sympathy to Carmen del Rio de Piñiez on the death of her mother, Professor Amelia Agustina del Rio, who was known and loved by many of us as chairman of the Spanish department. An obituary appears on page 54.

Eva Grunewald Fremond 1631 Stradella Road Los Angeles, CA 90077

We send best wishes to Shirley Henschel who had surgery after a third malignancy in the spring. She writes that she is doing fine, and is still involved with her company, Alaska Momma, Inc. There are now four on her payroll and she has been doing a lot of business travel to Switzerland, Chicago, Dallas, etc. She has also been going to Florida when she can and hopes to retire there.

Class president Arlene Kelley Winer’s son Bill was married on September 28th. His bride, Anna Pavel, hails from St. Petersburg, Russia, where she worked at the Hermitage Museum. The couple look forward to visiting St. Petersburg this year so Bill will meet his in-laws.

Your correspondent and her husband spent a month in Europe in the fall. We visited Berlin, our original hometown, which is now the busiest construction site on the continent. We experienced superb theater in London and revisited haunts in sunny Paris and Provence.

An obituary for Judith Kaufman Hurwich, whose death we reported last time, appears at the end of the Class Notes section of this issue.

Carol Salomon Gold 57 Old Mill Lane Stamford, CT 06902-1021

Before I left for my annual excursion to the Frankfurt Book Fair in October, I conducted my quarterly perusal of our class list to identify likely candidates for Class Notes. I spoke with or left messages for quite a few ‘55ers whose last names begin with G. As I fit that description, I’ll share a bit about myself.

I work as a consultant to the publishing industry and this year in Frankfurt I was working with three clients who are major publishers of books, cd-roms, and information delivered over the Internet. My husband, Morris, joined me at the end of the fair to begin our 40th anniversary celebration. We drove to Baden-Baden, where we stayed at the beautiful and atmospheric Brenners Park Hotel & Spa on the edge of the Black Forest. We also visited Prague, Budapest, and Vienna, each of which has its own unique personality and charm. It was a wonderful trip.

Doris Joaner Griffin wrote that she was going to China in October, fulfilling a long-held wish.
She has retired after 30 years as a middle school librarian and will be traveling again in February, to Costa Rica. She is also involved in community and church activities and in exploring the historic Hudson Valley, near her home in Ramapo, N.J.

JUDITH GOLDSTEIN LEVIN sent news to the chemistry dept for its annual newsletter but only a few of us saw it there so here it again: she is still at NIH, heading a research group in the laboratory of molecular genetics. where she wrote, “one can hope that one’s research will in some way contribute to the efforts to fight AIDS.” Son Joseph received a PhD in biology from MIT and is a postdoctoral fellow at Caltech. Son Daniel is a PhD candidate in organizational behavior at Northwestern.

SIFRAH SANNEL HOLLANDER 140-34 69TH ROAD FLUSHING, NY 11367

56

CLASS OF ‘56 MINI-REUNIONS Thursday, March 13, at the Whitney Saturday, April 5, in Boston

An enjoyable mini-reunion at the Jewish Museum in Manhattan on November 19 proved to be a good source of class notes. Those attending included BERNICE RUBINSTEIN MOSKOWITZ, who works part time as coordinator of volunteers in a hospice program. LIESE KIVES WOENCKE is retired and doing volunteer PR work for several community organizations; she and her husband divide their time between homes in Irvington, NY, and Paradise Valley, AZ. GLORIA RICHARD RINDERMAN lives in Great Neck and is trading NASDAQ stocks from home; she also composes music and lyrics of pop songs. GLORIA PETTO HILL bought a studio on the east side and is having fun visiting museums, keeping up with her French, and attending Barnard functions. JANET BERSIN FINK is finding adjusting to the loss of her husband, Lee, a great challenge. She has been managing the commercial property that he built and has continued many community interests. Her first grandchild, Ethan Lee, was born last April and she now enjoys trips to Maryland, where he lives with his parents, her son Andrew and his wife. While attending an Elderhostel in Amherst, MA, she enjoyed a visit with CARRIE CUBE KAMinski and Dena FERRAN DINGMAN.

Also in the group were Ellen Baskin, Barbara Koenig Quart, Alyce Deleg Sciama, Lilly Spiegel Schwebel, Toni Crowley Coffee, and your correspondent.

For our next gathering, we have chosen March 13, at the Whitney Museum, Madison Avenue at 75th St, to see the Whitney Biennial (which opens the previous day). Be there at 11 a.m.; we will look at the exhibition and have lunch. There will be no further announcements of this event, so make a note and plan to come. No reservations necessary. For details, call Lilly Schwebel (718-441-5715), Janet Finke (201-652-7750), or me (718-544-3746).

There will also be a mini-reunion for Boston-area classmates on April 5, thanks to the hospitality of NAOMI STONE COHEN and husband Saul. All area residents will receive invitations. Any NY folks who can join in should call Diana Cohen Blumenthal (212-260-3637) or Lilly Spiegel as they both expect to make a weekend trip of it, with their husbands, and would be happy to coordinate rendezvous efforts.

Other news: REEVE COHEN TAFT is in Tel Aviv and is executive director of the US Israel Educational Foundation, which administers the Fulbright program. A good part of her time is taken up with fundraising—something new for government-sponsored programs. Renee received a PhD in middle east politics from George Washington U in 1989. She writes that “living in Israel has been fascinating—especially during the elections. The Dizengoff terrorist attack in February occurred half a block from where I live—a little too close for comfort.”

JESSICA RAKIN GUSHIN is still selling real estate in NYC and would love to hear from old friends.

ELLEN NEUMANN BRESSEL has changed jobs and moved back to NY after many years in Massachusetts. She is director of clinical research at NeuroMedical Systems Inc in Westchester.

Three classmates were listed in the Ex Libris section of the Fall issue: SYLVIA SCHOR BOORSTEN, CYNTHIA BACHNER COHEN, and ISABELLE EMERSON are authors of recently published work.

We received a letter from Leo Skir, who is working on publication of the poems and letters of ELISE COWEN, who died in 1962. For a biographical essay he would like to hear from anyone who knew her or who might have relevant materials or memories. He will return any material sent to him that is original copy (Apt M3701, 1615 S 4th St, Minneapolis, MN 55454). Elise and JOYCE GLASSMAN JOHNSON ’55 are included in a new anthology, Women of the Best Generation, published in the fall by Conari Press.

Our condolences to the husband and five sons of JUDITH RIGG HYDE, who died in October, of breast cancer. She had been living in Maine since 1978 and was well known as a horsewoman and organizer of equestrian events.

MILICENT ALTER
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57

40TH REUNION - MAY 30-31/JUNE 1
Return with us now to those thrilling days of yesteryear. From out of the cafetaria come mystery meat, powdered potatoes, glutinous gravy.

On a more serious note, this is probably the last column you’ll see before you get the Reunion mailings. Our theme for Friday evening is “Barnard Then.” Please contribute your memorabilia and anecdotes and join us in reminiscing. Reply to the College ASAP to reserve space for Friday dinner and dorm rooms (so you can be housed near the people you want to see) and take the chance to renew old friendships and memories.

Our Reunion planning committees have been meeting and would like you to know that volunteers are still welcome, and needed, to assist with the various chores. If you’d like to help, call Dorothea Ellyn (212-877-2087) or Barbara Salant (212-674-4574).

I recently spoke with ELISABETH FRIEDMAN. She’s sold her sheep ranch in Australia and moved from NY to Santa Fe but plans to come back to NY to visit family and friends. She was recently accepted by Harvard as a special student in anthropology.

SYBIL STEVENS MERVIS wrote feeling that “no one at Barnard would remember me.” Homesick for the cornfields of Illinois, she left Barnard in 1955 and earned a BS in journalism at the U of Illinois. She married a “high school crush” and taught high school English for two years, then raised a family of five. “Last November I did the ultimate in altruism—built a new public library for our town (pop 32,000) to replace a decrepit 90-year-old building.” Sybil also “dabbles” in helping young people to win scholarships to eastern boarding schools and has had six graduates, one a Rhodes scholar. “If each of us helps one minority child to improve his life, the world might become a better place. I try.” Sybil has traveled to Israel with two Illinois governors, biked in Alsace in October, and is “living a good life.”

IRENE NEUMANN MENDelsonS says, “And I am typical ‘sandwich generation’—our developmental stage, that is. We are both working, I at my counseling and consulting business, BEMW Inc, he as cardiologist. His parents are 94 and fragile. Two of our three sons are married and we have two granddaughters—the next Barnard generation.” Their youngest son, an architect, lives near them in DC. “Fortunately, one of our new grandchildren is here too—it’s a joy.”

Bill and JUDY KAPLAN SCHREIBER visited their daughter and son-in-law in Hawaii in November. “There was lots of rain and high surf,” Judy reports, “so unless you’re a meteorologist, try a different month. It was still fun.”

From Ottawa we hear that EUGENIA NOIK ZIMMERMAN, asst professor of French at Carleton College, got an early retirement offer she couldn’t refuse. She’s now confronting the economic, psychological, and other issues that this implies and would like to share experiences and concerns. Our Reunion letter asked whether you’d be interested in a discussion group on this topic on the Sunday of Reunion. To start the ball rolling, Genie would like to hear from emailers with like concerns—a kind of pre-Reunion discussion group, possibly leading to a more permanent and extensive support group. Her address is ezimzer@cs.carleton.ca.

EDITH MICRO JAYNE changed jobs in 1996 and is teaching education management at the College of St Mark & St John in Plymouth, England. Having reached the official retirement age for women in Britain, she is enjoying reduced entrance fees at art galleries and museums.

LEE ULLIAN BLUMENTHAL writes proudly of three children and six grandchildren. She continues to work as a physical therapist for a home care agency. After numerous relocations around the country, she and husband Victor, married almost 40 years, live in Falmouth, on Cape Cod.

Marilyn Melton Brooks writes that she is still with Prudential Securities in Phoenix. She was widowed last year but, as the cycle of life continues, expects her eighth grandchild this February.

FRANCOISE DEARDON BARTLETT 42 ANNANDALE DRIVE CHAPPAGA, NY 10514 E-MAIL: 76440.33111@COMUSERVE.COM

58

ELLEN WEINTROB SCHR writes from Falls Church, VA, that “life goes on in its rhythm. I still teach English as a second language and do accent modification at Languages, Inc, and the National Graduate U.” Ellen serves on the boards of the Center for Multicultural Human Services, the Northern VA Interfaith Council, and Washington’s Barnard Alumnae Club, and is liaison to the Russian Jewish community from her synagogue. Her four grandchildren bring her “lots of pleasure.”

“What am I doing—besides trying to learn e-mail?” JOYCE BIBBER asks rhetorically. “I’ve been in the history department at what is now the U of Southern Maine ever since before completing my dissertation (Stanford, 1969), handling course work in US and East Asian history.” Joyce says she has developed a major interest in domestic architecture, “thanks in part to a
fine arts course taken at Barnard, and have served on
local and state preservation commissions. I have writ-
ten one book on the Greek Revival in Maine and fol-
lowed it with three others of old photographs—
again, mostly local. Have four or five other research
projects waiting for a break from class work or per-
haps for retirement!"

Recent news in the publishing world: England’s
Penguin Group is acquiring the Putnam Berkley
Group, and PHYLISE EITINGON GRANN, CEO of
Putnam, will head the new combined company.

JUDITH CHANIN GLASS is program consultant
to the Skirball Institute on American Values of the
American Jewish Committee. She will be editing a
quarterly newsletter on values. She is also a vp of the
Southern California affiliate of the ACLU and chair of
the Jewish Feminist Center at the American Jewish
Congress.

BARBARA LESSER WEINREB continues to find
satisfaction in her work as a teacher of Grade 5 in
a middle school in Armonk, NY. Husband Hal is doing
consulting work in engineering and they are happy to
have four grandchildren, ages 6, 4, 3 and 1.

INA BROWNER BROWN and her husband enjoy
life in San Diego. Ina was a research physiologist for
UC-SD Dept of Medicine but, “due to contracting/
diminishing opportunities...I have started a new
career as a library asst at the SD Public Library. I am
also doing interesting work as a volunteer for the San
Diego Zoo. Son David and his family live in PA.”

We need to build up this column some more. Try
e-mail next time; nothing could be faster or easier!

BERNICE IDE AUGUST
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MYRIAM JARBLUM ALTMAN
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NANCY ROSENSTEIN MAYER lost her bid to be
Barnard’s first woman in the US Senate in her race
to succeed Senator Claiborne Pell (D-RI). “I am known as
a reformer who swept away corrupt practices that
made a career a quagmire of political patronage and
incompetence,” the moderate Republican and State
General Treasurer noted in her campaign literature.
The NY Times wrote, “Player has run a campaign that
has brought her praise, if not votes, and may be back
to try for other offices.”

Violinist JUDITH BASCH SHAPIRO keeps busy
in the Washington area. She is in charge of the
Johansen Competition for Young String Players (ages
13-17) sponsored by the Friday Morning Music Club
(oldest music organization in the national capital area),
is concertmaster for the Prince George
Philharmonic, teaches at American U in Washington,
and has pupils at her home. Daughter KAREN
AROESTY ’83 is the mother of Josh and Sophie; daughter
MARSHA ’93 is getting a master’s in public
health at Columbia. Judy’s husband Jay is an endocri-
nologist at Johns Hopkins.

ELFIE KANUIK ISRAEL finished her
...
Menge award to MARIANNE LOWENKOPF SUSSMANN from the Women’s Bar Assn of NYS, in recognition of “dedication and service to the objectives of the association,” which objectives are special to the cause of women and women attorneys. Thanks to Marianne for noticing the error sending us the correction.

HRL also enjoyed the company of JUDITH ROSE ALPERT and husband Herb at the wedding of son Matthew.

She would like to share the profile of CAROL MURRAY LANE which appeared in “Bear Outlines,” the newsletter sent to Barnard volunteers. Carol’s connection to Barnard has remained strong over the years. She met her husband, John, while working on her master’s at Teachers College and when she and John moved to California, the Barnard Placement Office (as it was then known) helped place her at the Bishop School in San Diego. While escorting a visitor, the president of the Associate Alumnae, on a tour of the school, she was recruited to work for the AABCC. When the Lanes returned to NY, Carol became active in alumnae affairs, eventually reaching the position of AABC president and alumnae trustee. In May she was awarded the Columbia Alumni Federation medal for Alumni Service. She is also the mother of two Barnard daughters, SUSAN LANE SCHNELL ’90 and ANDREA ’97. Carol has been the director of the Professional Children’s School and a search consultant for Independent Education Services of Princeton, NJ. She is now executive director of the National Association of Principals of Schools for Girls, some 300 institutions strong.

JUDY ROSE GREENWALD writes with the sad news of the death of EDITH ARONOWITZ GROSSE in September in Phoenix, AZ. Edith lived with arthritis from early childhood. She is survived by her son, David, and her mother, Mae Levin. Judy attended a memorial service for Edie in NYC, along with Clara Shapiro Kozoli and Shelly Schreiman Kamin. SUSAN GOLDHOR and her sister, Harriet Lerner, have had their first children’s book published. Its title is What’s So Terrible About Swallowing an Apple Seed? (see Ex Libris section in this issue). “Watching its progress has been a lot like watching glacier racing, so its emergence is particularly exciting,” says Susan. She hopes the next book (contract signed) will be out in time for Reunion 2000. We hope so too.

GAIL HARTE GREENBERG was on the five-member women’s team representing the US in the 1996 world bridge championships held on the Greek island of Rhodes in October. Gail’s team won by 79 over another highly-experienced women’s team. Harvey Cohen, husband of JANE NADLER COHEN, writes with understandable pride that two memorial scholarships have been established in her name, one at Pace U for students transferring to Pace from Rockland Community College, where Jane worked for 13 years as a transfer counselor. The second is the Jane N. Cohen Memorial Transfer Scholarship at Rockland, where a memorial service for Jane was held on September 3. Dr. Cohen would like to hear from classmates who have any reminiscences of Jane for a folder he has set up for their three young grandchildren. LORNA PRESTIN MICHAELSON has already written to us, recalling that she met Jane when they were seniors in high school. “She was tall, willowy, and brilliant (I never knew someone so bright could sew her own clothes.) She was warm and friendly to me, a newcomer...We moved around the same time and her son and my daughter were born six weeks apart...I am terribly saddened by Jane’s untimely death. I think of her very often and shall always remember with great affection and respect.”

BONNIE MUNRO NORTON retired two years ago from 24 years of pediatric practice in a community health center in Boston. Since then she has been busy as a volunteer reading tutor for first graders in the Boston public schools. She also works with first year medical students at Tufts, “trying to teach them the human side or ‘art’ of medicine.” Bonnie adds a note which I am sure will strike at the hearts of all of us: “I have suffered greatly since Nov. ‘95 when my second daughter and her husband, both 30, were killed while hiking the Pacific Crest Trail in California. The pain has lessened but life isn’t the same.”

ALTHEA RUDNICK GLICK 8 BANCROFT ROAD WELLESLEY, MA 02181

As your new class correspondent, I am in dire need of news and am grateful to those who have sent items to the Alumnae Office.

GEMMA CORRADI FIUMARA wrote that a group of Barnard alumnae of all ages has begun “happily gathering in Rome around ELEONORA MUTARELLI NATILI-BRANCA 57. Gemma still teaches hermeneutics at the U of Rome and works as a training analyst with the Italian Psychoanalytical Assn. She would be happy to meet alumnae staying in or just visiting Rome (tel. 011 396-30 6554).

SHARON BITTENSON MELTZER professor of English at the City Colleges of Chicago, has received Outstanding Teacher Awards from the U of Chicago three times in the last six years and been named to Who’s Who of American Teachers—all on the recommendations of former students. She writes that “the ‘family’ residence moved from Cleveland to Nashville last summer for Dr. Herb’s new professorship at Vanderbilt; son David, MD, PhD economics, began his career as ast prof of medicine, economics, and public policy at the U of Chicago; and daughter Danielle, JD, MA public policy, Harvard, began her career with the Chicago law firm Rudnick & Wolfe.”

As one of the worst offenders among those who have never sent news for this column, here’s my first effort: Six months after graduation I was employed by the Social Security Administration and I married Herb Glick, Columbia Law ’61. Shortly after daughters Rachel and Emily were born. Several careers later (last April), Herb sold his boating magazine to devote full time to his art magazine, New American Paintings. At the same time, after spending most of my career in the public sector, for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts...I made no changes. Both daughters have completed college and support themselves—as such aged children should. I occupy myself at times with worrying about my aging mother, as such aged daughters should. As I think about it, that’s not much news for 35 years. Please...you can do better...I’d love to hear from you. So our column can be full too.

ALICE FINKELSTEIN ALEXMAN 1 MACINTOSH COURT EAST BRUNSWICK, NJ 08816 E-MAIL: ALICEALEX@AOL.COM

35th Reunion - May 30-31/June 1 Not a whole lot of news this time, but it should come rolling in as we get closer to Reunion. We are delighted to announce the election of SANDRA RAVETZ EDLITZ to a ten-year term as Family Court Judge in Westchester County. She was challenging the incumbent, another woman, who had been appointed by Governor Pataki to fill a vacancy. Sandra has an MA from Hunter in English Literature and was a teacher. In 1981 she received a law degree from Pace and she was a hearing examiner in the Family Court.

The NY Times reported the weddings of two class daughters. HARRIET KAYE INSELBUCH’s daughter JESSICA ’92 was married to Jan Malasek, from the Czech Republic; they met as MBA students at the London Business School and are now in the corporate finance dept at Pfizer and he is a management consultant. On the following weekend, MAYA ROSENFELD FREED BROWN’s daughter Allison was married to Jay Paul Greenberg; a graduate of SUNY-Binghamton and Albany Law School, she is a law clerk with the NYC civil court; he is a sales associate with a medical supply distributor. Maya, ever the loyal class member, was at a reunion planning meeting at Harriet’s on the Thursday before the wedding.

The Times gave a glowing review to the movie Breathing, starring LINDA RUTH FUDDERMAN’s son Dan.

Having taught mathematics in NYC high schools for 26 years, JEAN SHAFFER plans to retire this year. Her son, Joshua Merlin Willis, received a degree in engineering from Drexel in June. Jean served on the board of trustees of the Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture 1984-90 and on the board of the American Ethical Union 1989-95. Her special interest was the teen youth group.

SALLY HESS is teaching at Swarthmore College and Princeton. An essay written by Sally was included in Dancing Female: Ideas and Lives of Contemporary Women Choreographers (Friedler and Glazer, editors, published by Gordon & Breach), and will be giving a concert at the Ceres Art Gallery in Soho April 11-12.

ROXANE COHEN FISHER’s son Jonathan Feldshuh, a painter who had been living in Prague, then London, has returned to NYC, “the real capital of art.”

We are saddened to report the death of VIRGINIA COURY, she lived in Milton, Mass, and is survived by two sisters and two brothers. We also send sympathy to DIANA KLABIN FINEGOLD and her two daughters on the death of her husband.

My own news is that I am moving (mid)West! After spending our whole lives no more than a few hours’ driving distance from NYC, we are off to Chicago, where Stan was offered a wonderful job as vp of quality control at SoloPak, a pharmaceutical company. At this writing I’m not sure when/well we’ll be going (he’s already there, “commuting” of sorts), as I’ve got to get past the holiday season and Sheila’s visit from Israel with the babies, so just keep writing to the NJ address and of course the e-mail address stays the same. See you at Reunion!

ELLEN O’BRIEN SAUNDERS 2205 VISTA AVE., S.E. OLYMPIA, WA 98501 E-MAIL: 747211 13076@COMUSERVE.COM

VERA WAGNER FRANCES 3712 STONEY BROOK DRIVE DURHAM, NC 27705

Greetings from the lower west side of Manhattan, where 12 of your classmates spent a blustery November afternoon on a walking tour of Tribeca.
led by architect SHIRLEY SHERAK. Shirley and husband George Harkins, an artist, live and work in a large, bright loft, where we were welcomed with delicious appetizers. She is involved in architectural projects at Columbia, Cornell, and Rockefeller Universities, is working on a small laboratory renovation at Barnard, and is duly proud of a renovation of an apartment at the Eldorado on Central Park West.

At previous mini-reunions, your correspondent was able to glean some news from the participants. HARriet DoCoR GROESCHEL continues to divide her time between their ranch in Wyoming and NYC (which is "really home"). She has been illustrating a book for children on musical theatre and finds "pure joy" in her nine-month-old granddaughter.

CAROL MILES writes of several recent trips: Ecuador and the Galapagos in June, a week-long pack trip (horseback) in Colorado; and a Memorial Day fiveneight cruise with hubby Mario De Stefano to Bermuda on the QE2 with the Ocean Liner Museum. Carol is on the museum's board, and on the cruise, with several other maritime groups, they celebrated the 60th anniversary of the maiden crossing of the Queen Mary.

ALEX HURYK RYCAR spent two weeks in the south of France last summer and found that she could certainly adopt that lifestyle permanently with an "independent income." Until then, she continues her consulting work while commuting between NYC and Woodstock.

BETTE STEINBERG TIAKO's daughter Janine "should be finishing her PhD in clinical psychology at Columbia as I hit retirement age—55." Bette is an education and training advisor for Exxon and is studying for a PhD in human & organization development at the Fielding Institute in Santa Barbara "to get ready for whatever my third career will be—something dedicated to the public good unfettered by the need to earn a living."

SUSAN WELBER YOUDOVIN's public relations firm now has five full-time employees, necessitating a move to a larger office in Montclair, NJ.

ANNA ZAGALOFF is a fully certified teacher of bridge and teaches two courses as a volunteer at a Manhattan public school (grades 6-8) and at Riverdale Country Day School (grades 9-12).

Many classmates who were unable to attend the mini-reunion sent news. JOAN BREIBART writes that she will be spending 1/4 of her time in NYC due to the expansion of her company, Physicalmind Institute (currently based in Santa Fe).

HELEN RAUCH-ELNEKAVE wrote from Shavel Zion (a small farming village on the Mediterranean shore of Israel, just 8 miles south of Lebanon) that she and her husband have set up the "first infant child psychiatry unit in northern Israel" (at Nahariya Hospital). Starting with one patient, they now have 12 beds that are always full, "despite our commitment to short-term therapy." Helen speaks of the harrowing experience of spending two weeks in a basement shelter with staff and children during warfare and bombings in the area. She invites calls at 04-9828286.

PHYLLIS KRATEN STERN married Valerian D'Souza (an "Indian, Catholic chemistry professor") in June '95 and they were planning to go to India in December, having already visited Chile, Mexico, and Cuba. Phyllis' Dad has returned to college to complete his degree in religious dilemmas at age 61!

JON GORDON RIEGEL is promotion manager at The Analytic Press (publisher of professional books in psychotherapy) and also keeps busy exercising, traveling, and tending her plants.

POLA AUBERBACH ROSEN writes that her publication, Education Update, now has a monthly distribution of 60,000 and consumes "most of her waking hours (12-16 per day)." But she loves what she's doing! Her "Presidents' Series" featured Barnard's Judith Shapiro in the October issue.

From MARTHA STEWART comes this note: "It was a very interesting year. Work has been busy and enjoyable at Martha Stewart Living magazine, and we are planning to expand the television show from one hour per week to six shows per week in 1997. [As of November] the most exciting event this year, though, has yet to happen! I will be taking a trip in December to Egypt with my godchildren, nieces, and nephews. I love seeing the world through their young and excited eyes and experiencing the joy that they discover in our travels."

LOLA LLOYD HORMITZ made a career change in the late '80s, from pianist/teacher to landscape designer, and it has been "very satisfying. It has been a challenge to reshape small Brooklyn backyards into spaces that are restful and beautiful. Now I'm working in Brooklyn's Prospect Park on the restoration of its woodland—a very exciting project."

The husband of JUDITH MACDONALD died in August—very sudden and unexpected. She has our deepest sympathy.

That is all the space we have; more news next time.—VWF

DONNA RUDNICK LEDOVITZ
1128 GREEN BAY ROAD
GLENSIDE, IL 60022

BEVERLY FEINSTEIN, a psychiatrist in Los Angeles, was the speaker at the December meeting of the Barnard College Club in that city. A former president of the Southern CA Psychiatric Society, Beverly has a PhD in psychoanalysis in addition to her MD and has done research on brain wave patterns relating to drug abuse and sleep disorders. The title of her talk was "My Brain, Your Feelings: The Biological Basis of Affect Transmission in Infancy and Adult Life."

HELEN BERNSTEIN BERMAN, who teaches chemistry at Rutgers, returned to Barnard last year to deliver a lecture to students.

HAYDEN HERRERA spoke at Sotheby's in November, in a discussion of women in Latin American Art.

CHARLOTTE GOLDESTINE KOSKOFF came very close but not quite close enough in her second attempt to unseat Congresswoman Nancy Johnson in November. The pre-election polls all indicated that Johnson, chair of the ethics committee in the House of Representatives, would have an easy victory; when all the votes were counted, however, Charlotte was only 1,587 behind, out of a total of 227,756 votes cast, and actually ran ahead of President Clinton in eight towns in her Connecticut district.

ANDREA MACHIN ROSenthal has moved back to Boston and looks forward to renewing her ties with Barnard friends there. She reminds us all that May 1999 will be our 35th Reunion.

LEA HAYES FISCHBACH writes: "I'm a long way from a chem lab. Lots of volunteer work keeps me energized, including a domestic violence court watch project and working with a Girl Scout troop that meets inside a women's prison, uniting girls with their mothers. 1997 promises the birth of a second grandchild and the marriage of my youngest son. I look forward to more meetings with BARBARA TONKIN MOORHEAD, who is now in Huntington, WV, just a 2-hour ride from Louisville."

JUDITH CUSHMAN announced the formation of her new company, Judith Cushman & Associates, Strategic Executive Search, with headquarters in Issaquah, a suburb of Seattle. Their focus is in corporate communications, public relations, investor relations, and similar fields. She was associated for many years with Marshall Consultants and will continue to work with that firm on specific assignments. Her web site is www.mcw.com.

RON HILLMAN's second book, Love Your Looks: How to Stop Criticizing and Start Appreciating Your Appearance, was published in 1996. A psychoanalyst and sex therapist in NYC, Carolyn hopes to teach women how to like the way they look without changing anything about their appearance. The book has been excerpted in Cosmopolitan, Self, and Beauty Handbook. Carolyn's first self-help book, Recovery of Your Self-Esteem: A Guide for Women, was published in 1992 and excerpted in several magazines in the US and elsewhere. Carolyn describes it as a "feminist self-help book which presents a step-by-step program for raising self-esteem, as well as showing how to maintain and increase self-esteem in challenging circumstances." Researching her recent book led her to using the Columbia library system, which brought back lots of college memories. Husband Steve's recent recovery from lung cancer is the happy outcome of a difficult year for them and daughters Nurelle 18 and Robyn 15. Carolyn will now return to publishing her book on radio and TV shows, and continue to help investigate and report on racism in the Teaneck public school system, work to integrate a local swim club, and campaign for local officials.
Even with this fairly full column, there are many of you from whom we have never heard. Are you busier than ever or taking it easy? Are you dealing with problems of aging, or the joys of a mature perspective? As brief a note as a postcard might shed some light on our stage of life and document its possibilities. Or e-mail me at 71267.1717@compuserve.com.

NANCY ALLEN STEINBERG
65 CORNWELL BEACH ROAD
PORT WASHINGTON, NY 11050

KENDRA STEARNS O'DONNELL has announced that she will leave her position as principal of Phillips Exeter Academy this summer. Prior to her appointment as the first woman head of Exeter in 1987, she taught at Princeton and worked with the Rockefeller Brothers Fund and other foundations. She was also head of the board of trustees of Emma Willard Academy. She told the Exeter board that she was retiring to have more time to write and paint and spend time with her family. Her husband, Patrick, is a financial research director in Boston and they have two grown children and a teenager at Groton.

JUDITH GREENBERG WILENSKY is a LAN administrator for the Girl Scouts-Tosem Council in Seattle. Daughter Ann graduated from Columbia in 1992 and is in the PhD program in neuroscience at NYU. Daughter Dena graduated from U of Rochester in 1995 and teaches chemistry. Daughter Debra is a senior in high school. Husband Alan is on the faculty of the medical school at U of Washington.

ELIZABETH FARBER BERNHARDT writes that she has been teaching part time at Fordham Law School. Her daughter Doris, a Chinese major at Oberlin, is studying in Beijing. Daughter Sophie is a high school senior.

SUSAN HALPER
201 EAST 219 ST.
NEW YORK, NY 10010
FAX: 212-473-2558

Well, friends and classmates, most of you are still awfully silent about your lives. Won’t you please share with us? Next time?

LESLIE PERLMAN GLASSBERG wrote about a special experience. For one week in August she went to a Kabbalah Retreat at Mt Madonna Center on the Monterey Peninsula in California. The purpose was to study and engage in a core of essential Kabbalistic practices. According to the literature, "one of the hidden schools of Kabbalah emphasized silent meditations, one-pointed concentration, chanting the name of God, and using active imagination through guided imagery to attain altered states of consciousness." In practical terms this meant sitting meditations (5 or 6 per day), walking meditations, early morning chanting, and downing. Yoga (with a Jewish slant) was optional. Food was vegetarian. Setting was inspirational. The Rabbi gave lectures about the mysteries of Kabbalah and philosophy. He assigned the week’s Torah portion for study and on the Sabbath, when the silence was broken, the 70 participants broke up into groups to discuss the passage and to share their feelings about the retreat. Leslie said it was an experience in which the deep soul-searching was very satisfying and, despite the restrictions on verbal communication, people developed close feelings toward one another.

JUDAICA RICHARD had a busy year in 1996, writing the exhibition catalogue for "Arts Longa, Vita Brevis: Ancient Art from the Walter I. Farmer Collection at the Miami University Art Museum" and "Zakhor and the Wedding Photograph" in American Jewish Archives Journal, an excerpt from "Feathers and Other Memories of a Child of the Shoah." Her son David is a first-year student at Denison U.

TERRY SAWYER STRAUSS continues on the faculty at the U of Chicago. She has four children, two in college. She writes that she saw HELEN POLLARD PERLMAN ’67 at the anthropological meeting in San Francisco where there was a retrospective session on Barnard.

Eileen Lewis-Lurin called to remind us that Reunion booklets are still available. If you send $15 (discounted price now) to Marsha Keyser at 404 Sleepy Hollow Road, Briarcliff Manor, NY 10510, you will receive this witty and entertaining collection of stories by and about classmates.

BARBARA JONAS CHASE
67 WESTON DRIVE
TOMS RIVER, NJ 08755
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30TH REUNION - MAY 30-31/JUNE 1
Two more reasons for coming to our 20th Reunion: SUSAN GOLDSMITH WOODRIDGE and MICHELE URVARER will be speaking at panels on Friday and Saturday.

As you have seen in our class letter, we will have a class dinner at Barnard on Friday evening, a Saturday evening cocktail party at Susan Krown’s apartment near the campus, dinner at a local restaurant, and late night desserts at Josephine Mongiardo-Cooper’s. (Both Susan and Josephine hosted similar get-togethers for our 25th Reunion, which many of us remember with pleasure.) A Sunday activity is also being planned. You should receive the brochure and reservation form from Barnard in March. Please return your reservations early so that room assignments will reflect our true attendance figures.

We now have two classmates who serve Barnard as members of the Board of Trustees. LYNN WALKER HUNTLER, program director for the Southern Education Foundation in Atlanta, joined the board a few years ago, and FRANK SUSSNER RODGERS, who has been featured in this magazine in her capacity as founder and ceo of Work/Family Directions, was elected a trustee in December.

Congratulations to AdReinne AaRON RULNICK and husband, Rabbi Arthur Runick, on the marriage of their son Aaron last August.

A short time ago we received a note from MADELEINE SWARZBACH GOODMAN bringing news of her family and of her own enjoyment of her new position as dean of the College of Arts and Science at Vanderbilt University. It was with special sadness, therefore, that we learned that she was ill and then, in October, that she had died. Madeleine received her PhD in genetics from the U of Hawaii in 1973 and served on that faculty, reaching the position of asst vp of academic affairs, until her appointment to the Vanderbilt post in 1994. She had helped found the U of H Women’s Studies Program and served as its director for seven years; among her many honors was the university’s Distinguished Alumni Award, which she received in 1995. She is survived by her husband, Lenn, a professor of philosophy at Vanderbilt, and her daughters, Allega and Paula, both residents of Cambridge, Mass.

We learned about two classmates through the annual newsletter of the Barnard chemistry dept. TOBY BERGER HOLTZ is an associate in that department and JUDITH HERZFELD is chair of the chemistry dept at Brandeis.

See you at Reunion!

KAREN KAPLOWITZ
2049 CENTURY PARK EAST,
39TH FLOOR,
LOS ANGELES, CA 90067-3213

Two of our classmates now serve on the Barnard Board of Trustees. KAREN MANDELL FLEISS was elected to the board at its December meeting, and PATRICIA HARRIGAN NADSOY, who is in her second year as an alumnae trustee, chairs the committee on student life.

About the rest of you there is no news, which makes no sense at all. Please write!

JOANNE TUMINSKI KABAK
5 BROAD STREET
WESTPORT, CT 06880

LINDSAY STAMM SHAPIRO was the principal curator and research associate for "Designing the Democratic City," a show at the Cooper Hewitt National Design Museum last year. She is an adjunct professor of art at William Paterson College in Wayne, NJ, where she presented the opening lecture in a series on "The American Experience: The ‘60s." She is also the author of an exhibition catalogue with the architect William Leszczak and served for many years as a visiting professor at the NY Institute of Technology. A clipping from her local newspaper told us that PEGGY BREDOV LINKE recently joined the staff of Princeton (NJ) Friends School, where she is sharing the responsibilities for a combined first and second grade classroom. She previously worked at Bell Labs and for the past six years had taught at Princeton Junior School. Her son entered college this fall.

JANINE PALMER
P.O. BOX 723
HOBOKEN, NJ 07030-4912

DARCY KELLEY, professor of biological sciences at Columbia, has been named a Phi Beta Kappa Visiting Scholar for the current academic year. In this capacity, she is traveling to eight universities and colleges throughout the country, meeting students and faculty members and giving lectures on such topics as “Darwin’s Dilemma” and “Generating Male and Female Brains.” She has won the Javits Neuroscience Investigator Award twice, was chosen a Special Lecturer by the Society for Neuroscience in 1995, and is editor of the Journal of Neurobiology.

JUDITH GINGER GRUMAN writes that she is "still editorial supervisor at The Guilford Press. Husband Robert (Columbia Law ’73) is an attorney. Daughter Pnina is a tenth-grader at Ramaz and is being encouraged to apply to Barnard in two years. Son Jesse is a freshman at Yale, having spent a year after high school studying in Israel."

SOCHING TSAI writes that "after a six-month intensive course in French, I moved from Washington to Geneva, Switzerland, to work at the US Mission on issues related to the UN’s Economic Commission for Europe. Husband David Kornbluth is on a one-year detail from the State Dept to an international immigration agency in Geneva. Son Andrew has begun high school at the International School here. Unlike my previous postings, where I dealt with one foreign
government (the host government). Diplomacy as practiced in Geneva is on a multilateral basis."

A not-your-everyday request from NORMA GARREN PRESSMAN: "Two years ago, my house was burglarized. Thankfully, we were away so no one was hurt. Though all my jewelry was taken, I find that the piece I miss the most is my Barnard ring. I've made several attempts to replace it, but without success." If you would be willing to part with your 1970 class ring, please call Norma at 302-655-8240.

BARBARA BALLINGER BUCHHOLZ 399 W. FULLERTON PARKWAY, SW CHICAGO, IL 60614 71

ANNETTE ADAMS, who received a JD from Vanderbilt and an LM from Harvard, is now general counsel for Latin America and the Caribbean at the US Agency for International Law of the US Agency for International Development in Washington, DC. She describes her job as counsel on international law and foreign assistance statutes and regulations governing US aid programs and operations in 21 countries in Central America, South America, the Caribbean and Mexico.

ROSE SPITZ FIFE’s daughter Jennifer has been accepted for the Barnard class of 2001 under the Early Decision admissions plan. LYNN FORBERG JULIAN lives in Rowayton, CT, with her daughter Claire 10. A selection of her paintings was shown in Old Greenwich in October-November.

SANDRA WILLNER HOROWITZ has been promoted to clinical associate professor of radiology at Loyola University Medical Center and has achieved a certificate of added qualification (CAQ) in radiology. Daughter Jeanne is a sophomore at Northwestern U.

We wish we knew more about these people, and about the rest of you as well. Won't you start this new year with a new habit: sending news for this column, so that we can share the developments in our lives after 25 years...

KITA MCCAY GREENE 2711 DEAN PARKWAY MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55416 FAX: 612 927-7596 72

25th Reunion - May 30-31/June 1

More reasons to come to our 25th Reunion: On Saturday morning STEPHANIE WANGER GUEST, co-owner of the Brighton Grill Restaurant in NYC, will be speaking on a panel on "Living for Food...and Food for a Living." At the same time, a panel of speakers, including JOANNA CROCKER, JOAN LICHT MANTEL, and DIANA RUSSELL, will be speaking on "Environmental Conservation/Economic Growth: A Delicate Balance." And on Saturday afternoon, two of our writer-classmates, REBECCA NEWBERGER GOLDSMID and SIGRID NUNEZ, will be reading from their works.

Watch your mail for announcements of Reunion events, and send in your reservations as soon as you possibly can so that planning can proceed smoothly. Thanks!

STEPHANIE BARRON, senior curator of 20th century art at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, has been given additional responsibilities and an added title as vice president of education and public programs.

DEBORAH PLACHTA graduated from NY Psychoanalytic Institute in 1994 and is an assistant professor of psychiatry at Albert Einstein College of Medicine; she is also on staff at Lenox Hill Hospital, with a practice on Park Ave., and in January she married Dr. Alan Diner, an internist.

LYDIA HERNANDEZ-VELEZ now holds the position of executive vice-president and corporate secretary, with responsibility for legal affairs and compliance, at CoreStates Financial Corp in Philadelphia. She was recently the keynote speaker at the annual meeting of the Capital Area Minority Development Coalition in Harrisburg.

We are extremely sorry to have to report the death on October 5 of ROSALIA ENNIS. Friends may wish to write to her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Ennis, 50 Fort Place, Staten Island, NY 10301.

SHERRY KZT-BARNOT 82 SCENIC DRIVE HASTINGS-ON-HUDSON, NY 10706 73

CATHERINE DWYER wrote to me just after I sent in the column for the Fall issue: "After seven years as VP and general counsel of the BISYS Group, a company in NJ, I will be spending a year in Odessa, as a participant in the Rule of Law Program in the Ukraine. My sponsoring organization is Civic Education Project (CEP), for which I will be teaching law courses (in English) at Odessa State U. I will also be working on projects with the Central and Eastern European Law Initiative." Kate described the difficulty of the decision and her excitement in working it out. Husband Terence Blackburn (Columbia Law ’73) will be holding down the fort in the USA for daughter Angira Blackburn-Dwyer (Barnard 2000—hooray for her!). Son Brandon will accompany his mother to Odessa and attend a combination of summer study, home study, and some study at a Ukrainian high school to complete his 8th grade requirements. What an exciting year for everyone in the family.

ELLEN THOLSFEN SCHMIDT visited us briefly this summer, as part of a whirlwind tour through the USA visiting family members. She sent me an "Official" statement for these pages: "Since and I moved a year ago to our fifth German city since moving to Europe in 1978. We are in Munich, where he is head coach at the Bavarian State Opera and I work for a singers agency. Our children, all in German schools, manage to visit their grandparents in the US on a regular basis. Christina is 17, David is 15, Peter is 12. Good schools and beautiful mountains and lakes make the Munich area a pleasant place to live." The less official news is that the kids eat up the sports news from the US, particularly baseball, and the boys participate in a baseball league. The language spoken on the field is very interesting—all baseball terms ("good hit," "bunt," "slice," "double play") are in English and everything else is in German.

MYRA ALPERSON sent an adoption update, including some fascinating information about the inner workings of the reorganization of the ministries handling adoptions in China because of the vast increase in the numbers of adoptions. She is delighted to have her own little girl now and hopes her experiences will be helpful to others—she has written a handbook on international adoption which will be published by Holt (Owl paperback) in March.

DINAH MERKIN MENDES sent a CV, letting us know she earned her PhD in clinical psychology from Yeshiva U in 1985 and has been in private practice since then, as well as being a consulting psychologist at Gracie Square Hospital and a staff psychotherapist at the Center for the Study of Anorexia and Bulimia (a division of the Institute for Contemporary Psychotherapy). She is the author of several book review essays about the major biographies of psychoanalytic pioneers that have emerged from the scholarship made possible over the last decade by the release of papers from the Freud Archives.

Marquette U sent us a press release announcing that KATHLEEN ZUCKER GOMEZ has earned her doctorate in education, with a specialization in administration and supervision. The title of her dissertation is "Rufus King: Civic and Political Leader in the Development of the City of Milwaukee," where she is a principal in the public schools.

MARJORIE SPITZ has been appointed director of development for Americans United, a Washington-based organization committed to the strict separation of church and state and defense of the First Amendment. Previously she was a consultant on development issues and director of development for the Trial Lawyers for Public Justice Foundation.

BARBARA ZIV reports from Metairie, LA, that her daughter, Esther Greenbaum, is a member of this year’s freshman class and "loves both Barnard and NYC."

I hit the floor running this September. My three children are all enjoying school and their various extra-curriculars. Having my first Adolescents in the house is, um, challenging (that’s the PC word, right?). My major disappointment is that my tap dance teacher didn’t offer an adult class this year, but I’m trying tennis for the first time. I’m making this my “athletic” decade. Write when you can.
Catherine Blank Mermelstein, 8 Patriot Court, East Brunswick, N.J. 08816

Diane Cooperman Wunder received her Ed.D from the U of Miami in reading and learning disabilities. She is director of admissions for Hillel Community Day School in N Miami Beach. Her fourth and youngest child was bat mitzvahed in November.

Jacqueline Shado, who lives in Burlington, CA, has been appointed dean of the City College of San Francisco School of Liberal Arts and dean of its Castro/Valencia campus. Previously she was vice president for academic affairs at Woodbury U in Burbank.

Linda Kartozi-Doochin sends “greetings from Nashville, TN, where my husband Michael and I are busying working and raising Arielle, 13, Jonathan, 15, and Jeremy, 9. My work has changed from business to home, school, and community as I have chosen to focus full time on family for the time being. (This has also enabled me to revive my interests in music and songwriting.)

Georganne Chapin has just finished her ninth year as CEO of a health maintenance organization that serves Medicaid and low-income patients in Westchester and Rockland (NY) counties. Son Ernesto Echeverria is 16 and she is “trying to diversify my life as a reward for reaching middle age!”

Marilyn Steinberg Lauer lives in Lawrence, NY, with husband Eliot, a NY lawyer, and their four children. She is an attorney in private practice and a consultant to Slim Fast Foods Co.

Marcy Cohen is an administrator in the Center for International Faculty and Student Services at Rutgers U, a position she has held for ten years.

Kerri Ann Jones, 5023 Sentinel Drive, #123, Bethesda, MD 20816

Melissa Kahn Rockman, 9 Campden Road, Scarsdale, NY 10583

Dr. Eileen Colmenares Santiago has been named principal at the Thomas A Edison School in Port Chester, NY. She has been involved in education for almost 20 years, holding various positions. She is married to George, a fellow educator, and has a son Matthew, 20. The family lives in Somers.

Nancy Brewster Friedland lives in Sherman Oaks, CA, with husband Robert and son Sam 2 1/2. She works part time as a nurse educator in psychiatry at a local hospital. She would also like to hear from classmates, especially former roommates; her address is 5350 Sepulveda #5, Sherman Oaks, CA 91411.

Linda Savasta Mancia is a new member of the social studies teaching staff at Pelham (NY) Middle School. She lives in Pelham Manor and has been a teaching assistant in the Pelham Manor schools.

Vera Weinberg Katz is an attorney in the litigation dept of Greenblum & Bernstein in Reston, VA. Husband Menachen is an economist at the International Monetary Fund. Vera is active in the Charles E Smith Jewish Day School, where her daughters Avelet and Daphne are enrolled.

Courtney Howland is a scholar-in-residence and a senior fellow at the International Rule of Law Center. She is working on a project which focuses on the conflicts between international law and women’s international rights of religious freedom and women’s international rights of liberty and equality. The first part of the project, “The Challenge of Religious Fundamentalism to the Liberty and Equality Rights of Women: An Analysis under the UN Charter,” is being published in the current issue of the Columbia Journal of Transnational Law.

Uyey Tran is “happy to say that I’ve made great strides in composing contemporary classical music—for chamber ensemble and solo piano. Little has been written about women composers over the centuries, and few works by women are performed in concert halls in the US, Europe, and North America; although more are beginning to be featured, it is still not enough. In addition to my day job as a project manager in medical research administration, I’m constantly challenged by juggling my two worlds. I’ve just completed two trio works that I hope will be premiered in New York this spring. The kinds of music I write—chamber music of various kinds—have been very well received, both in the US and Europe. I’m looking forward to spending the summer in New York City and in Europe.”

We have received the sad news of the death of Celeste Bu, a resident of Albany, NY, for many years. She is survived by her sister and other family members as well as many cherished friends.

Pat Tinto, 47 Nursery St, Norwalk, CT 06850

As a new suburbanite, I now have to make a daily trek across the road to my mail box. The trip seems even longer when there is no mail and especially no news from classmates. To compensate for the dearth of letters, I called several people to garner some interesting tidbits.

Our class president, Lisa Phillips Davis, was able to furnish the following e-mail from Robyn Greene Hagar: “It’s been a roller coaster year for me and my family. We moved from southern California to Rochester, NY, arriving just in time to see it snow on Mother’s Day! Because of the move, I was unable to make it to our 20th Reunion, but my husband and I attended Columbia’s reunion a few weeks later. What a treat! We shared a suite with Lisa and her husband, Steve (CC ’76, Law ’79), in Garmen Hall. How did we ever live like that? The rooms were stuffy, the beds were very narrow, the bathrooms well, they did clean them for us old folks! It was great seeing some familiar faces and I had a renewed appreciation for the place I’d called home for so many years. As for my new home, I love Rochester. I truly missed the change of the seasons and being close to my family. My children, Justin and Sara, enjoyed the early snows and Justin takes great delight in deckling me with a snowball whenever possible. I’m already involved in the PTS— making new friends as well as checking out the school—and am slowly resuming my freelance work, which has taken a back seat in the past few months to getting the family settled.”

Lisa also reports that, while attending a mother-daughter book club at the Chappaqua Public Library, she discovered that one of the other mothers in the group was Jill Wollman Frankel. Although they did not know one another at Barnard, they discovered they have a great deal in common, now that they live in the same town and have pre-adolescent daughters. They recommend the “mother-daughter” book club as a great way to share literature and discuss themes such as relationships with pre-teens.

Lisa reminded me that our class still does not have a Fund Chair. If you are interested in serving in this important position, or sharing it with someone else, please get in touch with Lisa or me or call Eva Oppenheim at the Office of Alumnae Affairs.

Although Andrea Katz Stimmel and I played phone tag and never quite got to speak directly to one another, she did leave a bubbly message for me. Andrea reports that her children, Samantha and Harry, are thriving, leading her to consider a return to full-time work. Andrea and husband Todd (CC ’76) live on Manhattan’s upper east side.

Jean Grosser has been teaching math at Coker College in South Carolina since 1985. She is an associate professor and this semester is teaching in Trujillo, Spain, in the college’s Study Abroad program.

Deborah Kroll invites all entrepreneurial Barnard alumnae to the Women Business Owners message board on America Online’s Women’s Network.

Kathleen Keen will be bringing out a 1997-98 edition of Keen on NY, a compilation of tradesmen and services in Manhattan, with ratings by consumers.

Elizabeth Saenger writes that she is working on a book, The Edible Moral Lesson, “which addresses questions about the way literature might impart values. I will focus on delectable narratives—that provide food for thought as they help us set priorities, shape our identities, or inspire us. I will take advantage of my perspectives as a storyteller, bookworm, and humanistic psychologist to study an elephant rather than a trunk, a tail, or a leg. I do not yet have a publisher, so if you can help—or if you just want to know more—please let me know (PO Box 282, Key West, FL 33041 or 305-292-0395).”

Jacqueline Laks Gorman, 111 Regal Drive, Dekalb, IL 60015

20th Reunion - May 30-31/June 1

Two more reasons to come to Reunion: our own Susan Weber Soros will receive an award as Woman of Achievement at the luncheon on Saturday. Susan is an art historian, specializing in the decorative arts, and is founder and director of the Barnes Graduate Center for Studies in the Decorative Arts. And on Friday, Ellen Kushner will be one of the speakers on a panel on “Writing for Your Life: The Power of the Word.”

When we last left Deborah Aschheim, she’d been downsized at Chase Manhattan. She has since landed as special counsel in the corporate dept of Rosenman & Colin LLP, where her primary responsibilities, she writes, “will be to service and expand the firm’s finance, banking, and transactional practice. Coaching me through this transition was Eva Wissink ’85, of Wissink Career Strategies, Inc. I met her at a fundraiser, and with her guidance and assistance, I was able to achieve my goal of returning to private practice.”

Margaret Konecky Osher has continued to compose music for competitive races. She composed pieces played in April 1996 at the 100th anniversary of the Boston Marathon and at the 1996 Sur Marathon in Carmel, CA. The ITU World Championship Triathlon Committee asked Margaret
to write the official music for the August 1996 World Triathlon, which took place in her town of Cleveland, and she did the musical fanfare for the race as well as for the parade of nations at the opening ceremonies. "Last but not least," she wrote, "I was invited to appear on Morning Exchange, a local Cleveland TV program that covers the Race for the Cure, because of an anthem I composed with a friend called 'Eternal Hope.' This race, currently held in 65 cities around the country, raises money for breast cancer research. I was originally asked to compose running music for the race but decided I wanted to make a bigger contribution to their cause, so I decided also to compose an anthem as an inspiration to all cancer survivors. 'Eternal Hope' is part of the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation library of music for any city wanting to use it at its race." Margaret has recently co-written anthems for the Harvest of Hunger and the Special Olympics. She adds, "I'm still enjoying my nursing home consultation work in podiatry and managing to keep up my tennis and running."

Our next item is borrowed from the annual newsletter of the Barnard chemistry dept: JOY COOKE ANDREWS received her PhD from Berkeley in 1995 and is an asst professor at Cal State-Hayward. She and husband Floyd (CC '77) live in San Rafael, CA, and have a son and a daughter. Joyce is interested in corresponding with anyone doing undergraduate curriculum reform and/or environmental chemistry teaching and research.

MONTANA KATZ was back at Barnard in October, as a speaker at the annual Scholar and the Feminist Conference. Her topic was "Choosing to be a Stay-at-Home Mom—and a Feminist." She is also editor for the Aronson Publishing book series, "Gender in Crisis," and author of The Gender Bias Prevention Book: Helping Girls and Women to Have Satisfying Lives and Careers. Her previous book, Get Smart, has been re-issued in paperback with a new subtitle, What You Should Know But Won't Learn in Class About Sexual Harassment and Sex Discrimination (Feminist Press).

LINDA CHIN SAM writes: "My three kids are growing up fast—Jeffrey is 12, Kimberly 10, and Jessica 5. I am a vp in corporate financial systems at Citibank. Life is very hectic, hard to keep in touch with old friends. Looking forward to Reunion."

FIRE COLLEGE is a four-person pediatric group in Stroudsburg, PA. Her husband, Cary Davidson, is a family practitioner and they have "two great kids"—Jeffrey 6 and Jennifer 4.

Thank you for all the wonderful cards and letters wishing me well on my journey through chemotherapy and radiation. The Year From Hell is nearly over! If I haven't written back to each and every one of you, it's because cancer may have changed my attitude on many subjects, but I am still, unfortunately, a lazy bum. (When will they find a cure for that?)

The place to be last autumn was Jacob Hupart's bar mitzvah, where among the 200 guests were such Barnard-Columbia pals of mom MERRI ROSEN- WASSER and DORI GOLD, KITTY YOH, TOM MARIAM and DOUG HUTC ('78), PAT HERRING MAZZA ('77), CHRISTINE HERRING BRUSCAGLI ('83), and ELLEN SAIDMAN ('79). MERRI is a contributor to the New York Times, Westchester section.

PEARL-ANGELIKA LEE writes from France that she's renovating an old mansion, the better to care for husband Pierre-Yves Hicher and sons Kevin and Patrick. She's also studying philosophy with no less than Jacques Derrida.

JUDY SARAH BECKER, an associate at the Washington law firm of Arnold & Porter, recently married film producer and screenwriter Michael Taylor.

My former floormate MINDY AGLER is no less surprised than me to discover that her eldest of three is about to enter high school. ("I'm not old enough for this!") she complains.) "Scariest of all, I'm entering a master's program in mental health counseling, just when I'd finally stopped having nightmares about a paper being due tomorrow!"

My former floor counselor, LISA SPRINGER, summed up nearly 20 years of a rather exciting life in just four paragraphs. The upshot: After marriage, divorce, international travel and a lot of soul-searching, Lisa has come out as a lesbian. She ran into BETTY MILLARD and ANNE STOTT '93 during a St. Patrick's Day protest against the exclusion of the Irish Lesbian and Gay Organization from the parade; they hope other Barnard lesbians will contact them in the name of solidarity (and maybe a little networking).

KATHY ETELMAN CAVALIERE didn't have enough Y chromosomes in the house, what with husband Angelo (Col. Eng '78) and sons Joey and Michael. So she went and had baby Ben. Then the cavalcade of Cavalieres moved to Westminster, Mass, where Kathy is getting involved in local politics.

On a sad note, our classmate KIM NATHAN WRIGHT met an untimely death last spring. She is survived by her husband, Kenneth, three children, and her parents.

LAURA NACHOWITZ STEEL writes that she has a son and lives in Washington.

LYNN ROTHSTEIN has been promoted to vice president for research and planning at Union Theological Seminary.

SHARON FRIEL is a partner in a new law firm in Glenstonebury, CT, specializing in cases involving children. She and her husband live in Marlborough and have one child, 6.

SUSAN WAGNER lives in Great Neck and has three children, Zach 9, Jesse 7, and Emily 3. She has been working part time at my new consulting company, SDW Strategy Consulting, specializing in government and community relations, and full time with the kids. Life is quite hectic but I am very happy with the full plate before me. Starting my own business was an emotional challenge, but for now I believe it affords me the best environment to do the balancing act many of us are too familiar with.

CAROL UNGAR is from the Class of '81, but remember—we are an equal opportunity Class Notes Column! The thought of practicing law in New York City made Carol want to run away to an artist's colony in Israel, so she did just that. She's a wife and mother and one of the many alumnas from different years who sent me words to heed by.

Jewelry designer SUSAN SPIELVOGEL describes herself as "one of the walking AWOL of the Class of '78." Luckily for her, there is currently a grace period like the one they give tax excluders for those who want to come back to the Class Notes fold. Susan is also doing some writing, details of which will be unveiled in due course.

HEDA EISENBERG is managing director of a forward-thinking company called Neoteric, providing "strategic consulting for messaging, telecommunication, workflow analysis, vendor selection, migration planning and enterprise messaging management." I wouldn't be surprised if my parrot Sensei weren't interested in the "migration planning" part of Heda's company.

My latest book, Chick Flicks: A Movie Lover's Guide to the Movies Women Love (Citadel), is now in stores. And it's never too late to buy my previous three books!

KAREN STUGENSKY 499 FORT WASHINGTON AVE., 4G NEW YORK, NY 10033

It is with great sadness that I report the passing of our classmate KATHERINE RUSER FERNANDO, of Arlington, VA, on September 4. This column is dedicated to her.

Katherine was an editor and writer and most recently served as an asst director of the office of public affairs at the American Council of Education. She received a master's in city and regional planning at the JF Kennedy School of Government at Harvard. From 1984 to 1987 she was associate editor and then editor of the Washington Running Report. Concurrently, she served as a senior editor and contributor to Running Times. A runner herself, she took photos of races that appeared in several national running publications. Her writing and editing interest first brought her to the Taft Group, where she was a managing editor. She oversaw the publication of three newsletters focusing on fundraising for nonprofit organizations. In 1990, she moved to the ACE, where she edited a publication on higher education and national affairs. In 1994, she left the Council to spend more time with her son and continued to do freelance writing and editing. Katherine is survived by her husband, Sharan Fernando, and her son, of Arlington, as well as her brother, John Ruser, and her parents. She is remembered with great affection by our class.

AMBER SPENCE ZEIDLER 2022 WYANDOTTE STREET WINNETKA, CA 91306

NANCY FRIEDMAN writes that she continues to enjoy her "ever-challenging equity research position at Lipper & Co., a growing and truly NY money management firm (Ken Lipper was deputy mayor under Ed Koch and co-wrote and produced the movie City Hall). Any spare time goes into seeing and collecting art for my too-tiny Brooklyn Heights apartment."

In Rochester, NY, SARAH FITTS-ROMIG is "busier than ever—I received a grant from the NYS dept of library development to develop thematic kits of science resources for teachers pre-K-1st grade. I am also presenting workshops for Head Start parents and their children at the library. My other job as director of a Head Start program is very rewarding, and challenging. My boys Henry and Peter and husband Jeff managed a hectic fall with style!"

SUSAN CARDULLO has embarked on a new career, in real estate, as an associate at Century 21 Crestmere Realty in Wayne, NJ. She has a master's in political management and a JD, and has been working as a marketing manager in a business insurance consulting firm. In her new role she will be combining her experience in marketing and promotion with her knowledge of law.

Several items came in this time from the doctors among us. After living and working in the Bronx for five years, GAIL COHEN returned to Long Island.
recently, in order to live with her partner, Nancy Goldstein. She writes: “We celebrated our 13th anniversary last year. I am on the faculty at SUNY Stony Brook medical school. I am a general internist and director of the primary care track of the internal medicine residency program. I’ve come to love the beauty and comfort of Long Island, though I still miss the City at times.”

After four years at NIH in Bethesda, MD, BEATRIZ RODRIGUEZ OLSON has moved to Middlebury, CT, and started a private practice in endocrinology and women’s wellness in Waterbury. She writes that “it is a fun and rewarding change from full-time academic life. My greatest joy is to give lots of energy and love to my two girls, Loren 7 and Lyra 3, and my husband and buddy Eric. My goal these days is to be centered and to balance being a full-time mom with my more than part-time job.”

HELENE PRICE GROPPE and husband Charles announced the birth of Jaime Rebecca on June 16. Helene is a neurologist on the faculty at Mt Sinai Medical Center and Bronx Veterans Hospital. Charles is chief of dermatology at St. Barnabas Hospital, co-chief at Bronx Veterans Hospital, and on the faculty at Mt Sinai. They live in Manhattan and love it!

We sent our very deepest sympathy to ARIEL HURWICH BRAUN, whose mother, JUDITH KAUFMAN HURWICH ’84, was killed in an automobile accident in Israel in August. Ariel lives in Jerusalem. A memorial tribute to Judith Hurwisch, written by a student who met her during the process of applying to enter Barnard, appears on page 54 of this issue.

We regret also the death of RANDI TUMMINIA-CLEMINSON, of White Plains, NY, on July 11. Our thoughts are with her husband, Andrew, and son Anthony John.

AMY FAUST MILLER went to Israel and London last summer with her sons, Daniel 9 1/2, Ethan 7, and Jonathan 4 1/2. While they were in London, a Barnard family collaboration occurred with the twins of SANDY SIEGEL, David and Steven 2 1/2, and extended to the Class of ’82 when Amy and Sandy reunited with LAURA HYMAN and her two sons.

The rest of this column came in through the Alumnae Office. Unfortunately, since the time of the last issue, my father has had several small strokes and is barely able to walk on his own. I’m spending a couple of months in San Diego, taking “time out” to find the right care facility for him. I’ll be thinking of you during this time, please keep in touch.

ALLA KIRSCH somehow found time to write to tell us that she is “busy and happy in Cleveland. I work part time as family practitioner and am raising five children: Ariella 9, Elana 5, twins Yoni and Noah 3, and baby Zachary, who will be 1 in March. In my spare time I am taking a course at a college of Jewish studies and try to be an active BAAR (Barnard Alumnae Admissions Representative).”

ANN GENTHER SHERMAN has been in Hong Kong for four years, teaching at the HK U of Science & Technology; she is also doing research on financial markets, Asian and US. Husband Dan is a vp at Salomon Bros and their children, Nathaniel 2 1/2 and Nicole 1, were born there. Ann writes that they plan to stay in Hong Kong at least two more years.

KAREN FRIEMAN and her husband welcomed their first child, Jamieson Frieman O’Neill, on June 12. She is back at work as a partner at Cowan Gold et al in NYC, practicing entertainment and commercial litigation, but is able to work at home two days a week.

MARY ANN GOTTARDIS-ROBALINO writes that she has been married to Steve Robalino, vp of engineering for Distributed Processing Technology, for eleven years. She is having fun raising George 7, Stephanie 5, and Paul 3 and is a cub scout den leader, a liturgical minister, and homeroom mother.

After seven years as a litigator at Shearnan & Sterling and three years as chief of staff for Mayor Dinkins, ELSIE CRUM writes, she has formed her own nonprofit 501c3 corporation, Urban Technology, “dedicated to bringing affordable technology and telecommunication training and equipment to inner-city communities. With sizable grants from the Ford Foundation and the US Commerce Dept, the group has begun national operations in five cities. Who would have thought that I’d become a techie after political science and law!”

SUZANNE VEGA received a Hero Award from the NY National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences in December. As described in Billboard, “Suzanne’s 1985 debut is credited with helping to rejuvenate the NY folk music scene. In the four albums since that time, she has continued to grow artistically while helping to broaden industry awareness of the burgeoning singer/songwriter genre.” Her newest CD, “Nine Objects of Desire,” was released by A&M last year.

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15TH REUNION - MAY 30-31/JUNE 1 Reunion plans are shaping up but volunteers with party planning or fundraising skills are still needed. If you can help, call Judy Fried Conrad at 914-636-7602 NOW. We will have a class dinner at Barnard Friday evening and a second dinner with spouses or significant others Saturday. If you haven’t returned the class questionnaire you received from Judy in September, it’s not too late. As you fill it out, please consider becoming a class officer; a ballot will be included in our March letter. Also watch for the brochure from the College and send in your reservations for rooms and meals as soon as possible. You will see that our own ROSA ALONSO will be a speaker on one of the Friday panels, entitled “Where Cultures Meet: First Generation Immigrants at Barnard and in America.” We are looking forward to seeing classmates from all over the US and elsewhere, from Israel to Italy to Alaska.

Among those who are planning to come is MICHELLE GROSZ MULTZ, who writes that she and husband Alan “are thoroughly enjoying parenting” daughter Rachel 2. Michelle is working part time as a radiologist on Long Island.

SARAH WRENCH is ecstatic because her novel, The Duke of Sumava, has been accepted by Baen Books and will be in stores by May. It is a historical fantasy set in the 17th century with ties to Weber’s opera Der Freischutz. Sarah lives in Portland, OR, but spent last summer at the Wooden Boat school in Maine.

SUSAN KAHN and Richard Ferree (Bronxville, NY) announce the birth of Ruth Ferree last September. Three-year-old Tyler is keeping Susan busy as he introduces Ruth to the wonderful world of games, toys, kisses, and pre-school germs.

JANIS HARDIMAN-ROBINSON, in Chicago, also announces an addition to her family: Leslie Simone Robinson was born in March.

BROOKE MARIE WENTZ and Alfredo Alas were married in October. Brooke is the music director of ESPN. Their union is sure to be especially harmonious: Fred is a jazz musician and Alberto is in private practice in Pennsylvania.

CHERYL Glicker MILSTEIN is a leading Westchester philanthropist. Among the many organizations to which she donates her time and organizational skills are Barnard and the Westchester Holocaust Commission, for which she co-chaired their annual gala at SUNY-Purchase.

ANGELA MACRODUFF and PATRICIA KING are among the partners in two restaurants, both created and managed by Patricia’s sister Elizabeth. The first, which is reviewed in Zagat’s, is King’s Carriage House, 25 East 82nd St., NY (212-734-5490); the other is the Suffolk House in Southampton.

VALLI WEST is living in New Mexico on a ranch along with her husband Stewart Davis and a bunch of horses, cows and boxer dogs. She is taking science courses toward a degree in vet science.

CYNTHIA MILLER has left hospice/home care nursing and is studying Oriental medicine in San Diego. She will become a licensed acupuncturist in the spring.

ANDREA GLICK, formerly assignment editor and education writer at the Home News & Tribune in East Brunswick, NJ, has joined the staff of School Library Journal as associate news and features editor.

MARIA SAKETOS, a board-certified reproductive endocrinologist/infertility specialist, has moved her office to the Women’s Comprehensive Health Center in Manhasset, NY. Her husband, Dr. Angelo Repucci, practices facial plastic surgery/otorhinolaryngology in Great Neck.

Obstetrician CHRIS CREATURA shared her experiences as a new mother and physician on a panel at Barnard on “Balancing a Medical Career and a Private Life.” The event drew a large turnout and reflected the large number of successful alumnae physicians. Chris is the mother of Isabella Day Creatura, born August 16. Obstetrician SIBEL BESSIM is a pro at balancing career and family, as the mother of Olivia 6 and Liza 4 and a member of an all-woman ob-gyn practice in the Boston area.

CONSTANZ WITT is at the U of VA, studying for a PhD in art history. She received her master’s at the U of Wurzburg and specializes in the art of northern Europe.

One of the things I like best about writing this column is the freedom (or license) it gives me to inquire about others—after all, it’s my responsibility to elicit as much as information as possible. I look forward to hearing from you!
ANDREA BARON and husband Ken Aron are the proud parents of Jonathan Tyler, born July 18. Legal practice keeps Andrea and Ken busy, she as in-house counsel and he as a litigation partner, so they are cherishing every minute together as a family unit.


One classmate has managed to combine the medical and legal fields. Lisa Deitsch Taylor is a director at Hannoch, Weisman, a law firm in Roseland, NJ, and second vice chairman of West Essex Community Health Services.

I met SUSAN LEIBOWITZ at a meeting of the L.A. Barnard Club. She really enjoys her job as a reporter for “Dateline.” We received a sad note from JAMIE MILLER NATHAN, reporting the recent death of MAID KATZ in NY. Her body was flown to Israel, where she had lived years ago, engaged in advanced Jewish studies and teaching. She returned to the US to attend Yale Law School and was working at Debevoise & Plimpton. Many classmates attended the funeral in Jerusalem on November 13.

Those of us who had been accustomed to seeing a byline for DONATELLA LORCH in the NY Times will have to look for her on NBC-TV News, for whom she is now a London-based correspondent.

RUTH GREENFIELD MILLER lives in St. Louis, MO, with husband Phil (CC ’86) and children Ty 4 1/2, Liara 3 and Miro 1. Ruth is working from home as a graphic designer and is having fun raising her kids.

DANA WALRATH’s mother lets us know that Dana had a paper in the American Journal of Physical Anthropology last spring. ELIZABETH McNALLY is an assst professor in medicine/cardiology at the U of Chicago and doing research on inherited forms of heart disease.

RONDI BROWER is “still running the bookstore (Blackwood & Borough. Kinderhook, NY) with Mom & Dad, still living with the same husband, same kids, and same dog in the same house.”

JUDY STEIN writes that she is teaching kindergarten at the Brearley School in Manhattan, where Millicent McIntosh was once headmistress, “another great all-female educational institution!” She recently had dinner with JUNE JERSON, who was in town on business: June lives in Zurich, Switzerland, with husband David Santangelo and their son Dean.

RENA POMPA reports that she “got married in May 1993 to a wonderful man (and my best friend) Don Broderick. We recently purchased an apartment in a 1920s landmark building in NYC which we spent the entire summer and a good part of the fall renovating—it was finished for Thanksgiving dinner. I am working hard as an employee benefits attorney and my husband is a TV news producer.”

As for me, one of the scariest experiences of my life happened in NYC in October. I was pulling an all-nighter (remember those) in our office on the 39th floor of the Rockefeller Center Plaza building, preparing for a 10 am closing. I was already stressed to the max when I began to smell smoke. I called security and was told to “sit tight.” After a very trying ten minutes, I called security again and was told to evacuate since there was a five-alarm fire in the building! Remember all those boring and useless fire alarm drills? Trust me, they’re important! After walking down 39 floors through heavy smoke with my legs feeling like yesterday’s jello and my stomach slightly north of center, I returned to my hotel to be greeted with the following message from the still sleepy partner-in-charge: “I can’t believe you didn’t take the closing documents!” I’m not sure which was scarier—the fire or the comment?

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Winter brings news from classmates who are taking on new career challenges, balancing family and work, and trying to make positive contributions to the world. Get comfortable and read on...

Enjoying family and work: BARRIE STEVENS writes from Huntington, NY, where she has been since completing her master’s in education from Harvard. Her son, Dylan, is fast approaching 4, and recently she published her first poem in Quarto magazine. In the fall she began a new position as associate editor for Scholastic News in SoHo, where she happily writes stories for children.

BERYL FORREST writes that she and husband David Mazella, PhD (CC ’84), moved to Houston in 1995. Daughter Helen is almost 2. Beryl works part time as an attorney; David is an assst professor of English at the U of Houston.

VICTORIA LOVE lives in San Francisco with husband Max and son Samel 1 1/2. Victoria is a therapist with Jewish Family Services in Marin County.

HELEN CATSCHTS HELLENBRAND writes from Milwaukee, WI, that she had another baby boy last spring.

AROZA SANJANA lives in Port Washington, NY, and has two kids: Lorenzo 2 1/2 and Armando 1 1/2. She earned her MBA from Fordham in 1994.

CAROLYN HCHSTADTER DICKER, husband Adam, and daughter Michal 5 recently moved from Manhattan to Cherry Hill, NJ, since Adam has joined the faculty of Thomas Jefferson U Hospital in Philadelphia, in radiation oncology. Carolyn continues to work at LeBoeuf, Lamb, Greene & MacRae in Manhattan; she has joined the Alumnae of Columbia Law School, a new organization, and is on a committee which serves as liaison with non-legal professional women’s organizations. She asks that anyone who is interested in joining the Law Alumnae or the liaison committee get in touch with her through the Alumnae Affairs Office at Barnard.

SANSI SUSSMAN and husband Dave Goggins (CC ’84) welcomed son Cam into the world last spring. Sansi is enjoying a break from the law to watch Cam grow.

ARI BROSE ORR has been working in Baltimore and is getting to know yet another east coast city. Husband Bob is a pianist and composer of jazzy contemporary music which he performs on a CD issued in November; the title composition, “Full Circle,” won first place in the Open category of the 1995 Mid-Atlantic Song Contest, where one of the other works won Honorable Mention.

Also in Baltimore, JESSICA ELFENBEIN is an assst professor at the U of Baltimore; she received her PhD from the U of Delaware in American history.

In San Diego, DONNA LOOPER has taken a break from the practice of law at Lindley, Lazar & Scates to clerk for Justice McIntyre of the Fourth Appellate District.

JUDITH RANGER reports from the Florida Keys that she recently bought the Barnard Alumnae Directory thinking, “I’ll never use this thing but it’s nice to have.” One day, on the job at Jimmy Buffett’s (SFC) Foundation, she cracked it open to find some Barnard women to help her disburse the Foundation’s money. She needed referrals of small, grassroots nonprofits in several cities on Jimmy’s concert tour, and almost everyone she called was able to help. She sends special thanks to JEANNE CLAIRE VAN RYZIN in Austin, TX, CLAUDIA MARBACH ’86 in Pittsburgh, and ROCHELLE HAYES ’63 in Charlotte, NC. Great Barnard women all over the country! By the way, you can always reach Judith through the Alumnae Office or this column.

And finally, we have some news of Columbia friends. Adam Belanoff is a producer of the new CBS show on CBS. He came to the show after producing “Partners” on Fox last year, and Murphy Brown for several years prior. Frank Lang was married in the fall to a lovely woman he met in Thailand. Karl Schmuck and I work together at Drinker, Bird and Reath in Philadelphia, where he is vp of the regional Columbia Club. Karl and the group regularly plan events for members of the Barnard/Columbia community, so if you live in or around Philadelphia, drop me a line at the e-mail address above.
JILL ALCOTT has decided to satisfy her entrepreneurial spirit by launching her own business, offering fundraising consulting for nonprofit organizations and special events management services for corporations, nonprofits, and individuals. One recent endeavor was an intense political fundraising campaign to promote three state ballot initiatives in Florida in the recent election; her client was the Save Our Everglades Committee. Jill also works with Robbins Wolfe Eventeurs, a full-service events planning and catering firm in NYC, as director of marketing and new business development. She welcomes new projects and can be reached at 212-799-1733 or 924-6500.

CECILIA ACERO wrote that three Barnard women are attending the MBA program at USC in L.A.: herself and KATE FREDLAND and LORI HITZELLBERG ’92.

We read in the NY Times that TANYA CHALFIN married David Berman in November. She is a director of marketing at Revlon in NYC. He is a lawyer in Morristown, NJ.

DEBRA BOGEN and her husband remain in Baltimore, where she is midway through a general academic pediatrics fellowship at Johns Hopkins. Their daughter Shana is almost 2 and they find that “parenthood is wonderful and exhausting.”

ALIZA FREEDMAN AZIZ and husband David announce the birth of Benjamin Zev in September. “Brother Aryeh Yeuda 2 loves the baby except when his grandfather is holding him.” Aliza’s “temporary” sojourn in Tucson has become somewhat permanent since David, with his new PhD, got a good job there and they bought a home. But even after six years, Aliza writes, she “still misses NYC terribly. Anyone passing through Tucson, look me up!”

DR. LISA FREUDENBERGER is proud to announce that she has opened offices in NYC, LI, and Westchester. A clinical psychologist, she specializes in working with high-risk patients and their families.

EVA WISNIK is president of Wisnik Career Strategies, Inc., a career management and placement firm that specializes in working with lawyers. She is featured in an article in this issue on new careers.

In a letter sent last week news of her still best friend LENA KATCHERIAN, “my neighbor in NY, who celebrated the first birthday of her beautiful baby girl Lauren.” Lena has been married for four years and is a vp at the NY-based investment management firm, Cramer, Rosenthal, McGlynn. This summer, Suzanne will be completing her MSIS, a joint degree from Stern Business School and the Courant Institute at NYU. She writes: “I am already dreading/anticipating the new job search. We frequently discuss our years at Barnard with fondness and wish everyone the best.”

PAULINE ALAMA married Paul Cunneen on August 3. They had dated for seven years and he had followed her from NYC to Rochester when she started grad school. SUSAN GELTZ ’87 was best woman and Pauline’s brother Stan (SEAS ’84) gave a reading at the church. Pauline wrote: “Paul teaches high school social studies while I’m wrestling with a dissertation in Old English and putting the finishing touches on my first novel. I kept my last name; the families don’t seem to have much trouble with it but the car insurance company did. Have other alumnae had similar experiences?”

Other wedding news: BARBARA WOJCIK married Stephen Hinden, MARILENA TRUNCELLIO married Ariel Ojeda, and DR. NATALIA MORONE married Dr. Daniel Schenk.

CYNTHIA HOLLEN, who is a partner in Knowledge Strategies, Inc, an Internet design and consulting firm, was back at Barnard in October as a member of a panel on multimedia/internet careers.

JUDITH WEISENFELD has been an assst professor of religion at Barnard since 1991 and last year Routledge published her first book, This Far by Faith: Readings in African-American Women’s Religious Biography. She is also a member of the College’s Committee on Pan-African Studies. In October she was a panelist at the annual Scholar and the Feminist conference, on the subject “The Promise and Problems of Multiracial Families.”

YALL HERZOG has been promoted to director of participations, residuals and royalties at Jim Henson Productions in Hollywood.

BRENDA CHAN married Robert Grossman in 1995. He is an assst professor in psychiatry at Mt Sinai School of Medicine, where Brenda received a medical degree in 1990. She completed a residency in internal medicine and a fellowship in nephrology at Montefiore Hospital/Albert Einstein College of Medicine. She is a full-time faculty member at AECOM, doing research in molecular biology of kidney diseases.

BERIT FREEMAN-FISHER married Darrell Fisher in August. She is a sixth year ERISA attorney at Sullivan & Cromwell in NYC. In August LAURA CUTIGNOLA KELLEY and her husband returned from a belated honeymoon in Egypt, including a cruise up the Nile, and the next day she started a new job as a science writer at Johns Hopkins School of Public Health. Her focus is the Child Health Research Project, a collaboration between Hopkins, the World Health Organization Programme for Child Health and Development, Harvard’s Institute for Internet! Development, and the Centre for Health and Population Research in Bangladesh. “It’s a great job,” she writes. “I wear a variety of different hats: scientific editor, press person, pr-designer, and Webmeister....Upcoming activities include editing an issue about Zinc and Child Health for the American Journal of Clinical Nutrition, an article for Scientific American on the decline in child mortality over the last 30 years, and a trip to Bangladesh.” Laura’s e-mail address at work is lkelley@phnet.sph.jhu.edu.

DEBBIE LYNN DAVIS 47 WINDING LANE NORWALK, CT 06851 E-MAIL: DDAVIS@WILEY.COM

10th Reunion - May 30-31/June 1

In addition to all the other reasons you may have for coming to Reunion, here are two more: CHANSAI AND...
some time for my own needs personal, creative, and professional while taking care of my children. It is a constant struggle. Anyone know the secret?"

Now, between Caroline's desire for news and Shira's question, not to mention the milestone of our tenth year Reunion, you have two stimulating items to respond to—what are you waiting for?

KAREN LUE-YAT LEON
1730 EAST 19TH ST., 2ND FLOOR
BROOKLYN, NY 11229

LISA ANN NAPOLITANO was married on October 5th to Thomas Obermaier. Lisa received a law degree from Yeshiva and is studying psychology at Georgetown U; he is a vp at Bankers Trust Co in their anti-money laundering unit.

DANA GROSS is still living on the upper east side of NY. She is a product manager at Mercury Records, where she occasionally runs into MIRIAM LOCKSHIN, who works on Island Records, and SAMANTHA BLACK at Verve. Dana wanted us to know that JOY PRESS has had a book published with her husband, Simon Reynolds. The Sex Revolts: Gender Rebellion and Rock & Roll was published in the UK by Serpent's Tail and in the US by Harvard U Press.

ILANA AARONSON MEYERS writes that she and husband Glenn "gave birth to twins on August 30. Our son was first, Garrick Payton, and our daughter, Mackenzie Drew, was born one minute later. They are healthy, beautiful babies."

AURORA ANDREESCU apologizes for not writing more often, nor making any attempts to contact old acquaintances and friends after seeing their names in the new Alumnae Directory. "I hope to do that before we arrive on campus for our tenth Reunion! Otherwise, life gets busier and busier—finished internal medicine residency in June (at St. Michael's in Newark) and after the board exam in August, started private practice. It is everything I expected but even more rewarding, enough to make up for countless sleepless nights, uncomfortable on-call rooms, and a myriad of situations in the hospital."

JENNIFER HILL completed her master's in environmental planning at MIT in 1995 and is working hard as executive director of the Northeast Business Environmental Network. "The Network supports environmental excellence as a competitive advantage. Please visit our website, http://www.nben.org, for more info. Right next door is ALICIA LEHRER, who coordinates the Volunteer Environmental Monitoring Network for the Merrimack River Watershed Council when she's not taking care of son Max. And we didn't even know each other at Barnard!"

A clipping from a local newspaper brought us information about STACY WALDMAN, who has joined the commercial real estate firm of David Adam Realty in Fairfield County, CT.

DIMITRA KESSENIDES
371 SUMMIT ST.
NORWOOD, NJ 07648

ESTHER ROSENFIELD
60 DEARBORN ST., #2
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94110

In late summer SARAH ELIZABETH WEINSTEIN wrote to us for the first time since graduation. She lives in NYC and is national director of media relations for Island Records. "Things are going well," she said.

ILENE SAUL is living and working in NYC, she directs and produces television shows, music videos and record label projects. Ilene also mentioned her dog Gismo, "who has the run of my apartment."

ELIZABETH SOMERS has been working as an employee relations associate at Goldman, Sachs in NYC. On Dec 14 she married Jeffrey Urgand, an asst vp at Merrill Lynch in Princeton.

BRET COHEN is research and concept development manager for the Young Presidents' Organization, located in Irving, TX. Brett lives in Dallas but the job will be taking her to many exciting cities across the globe.

AMY VELTMAN is finishing her MFA at NYU's Film School. LISA SELLENFRED LOWE received her master's in broadcast journalism from NYU in 1993 and has two children, 3 and 1 1/2.

MARTY BANKARAK returned to Barnard in October to participate in a panel on careers in multimedia/internet. She is director of marketing for CitySearch/MetroBeat, an online guide to NYC which provides comprehensive listings in more than 20 categories, including music, restaurants and theater (http://www.citysearch.com).

According to the chemistry dept newsletter, WENDY POLLACK RIEDER married Robert Rieder, a systems analyst, in 1994. She received a JD from Fordham in 1995 and works in the patent dept of Boehringer Ingelheim in Ridgefield, CT.

Many congratulations to LESLIE KANTOR, who received the Jay S Drotman Memorial Award of the American Public Health Assoc for establishing the Community Advocacy Project, a national initiative assisting more than 125 communities to adopt comprehensive, effective, sex education programs without fear-based, abstinence approaches. Leslie teaches a course in public health policy at Hunter College and has educated staff from many national organizations about the need for a comprehensive approach to sexuality education. Formerly director of planning and special projects for the Sexuality Information and Education Council of the US (SIECUS), she recently moved to a new position as vp for education at the Planned Parenthood Federation of NY.

LISA NAMHANSON
147 BARTLETT STREET
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94110
MAIL: LNNAMHANSON@AOL.COM

It has been great to hear from Barnard women over the Internet!

HANNA SONG writes that she was married to Englishman Peter Toogood last May in Portsmouth, Ohio. LIZA WU and KELLY PHILLIPS were in the bridal party. Hanna is working on her doctorate in church music at the U of Michigan. She did her master's in choral pedagogy and performance.

I ran into LAURA CURRAN and RUFINA LEE at a party here in San Francisco in the fall. Laura is getting her doctorate in social welfare at UC-Berkeley. She says she is very stressed out. Laura reports that CARA LESSER and MICHELLE GOTTLIEB are both married and living in DC. Cara is working on health care reform and Michelle is working in public health. Laura also told me that NICOLE ELLISON is living in LA, where she is the drummer in a thrash band and will have an album out in the spring, and CATHERINE METCALF is working on her MBA at Columbia. Ruina is in the MSW program at the School of Social Welfare at Berkeley. She told me that CYNTHIA STAVRIANOS is in a PhD program in political science at the CUNY grad center.

I ran into DEBORAH PARDES '87 recently. She just released a new cd called "Strange Tattoo." She had a CD release party at the Borders Bookstore on Union Square in San Francisco. When I saw her, I made her sing that song "Barnard's got it" that she wrote for our first year orientation...remember that? It was pretty funny.

I met two other '87 grads when I attended a Barnard reception in San Francisco in October and heard President Shapiro and Professor DelliCarpini speak. HEIDI KRIZ is a research associate at Wired magazine and JOCelyn SAFeR KANE is the assistant to the executive director of the San Francisco Dept of Parking and Traffic.

SHIRA AGUS LEWIS wrote that "on November 4 I gave birth to a beautiful baby boy named Jesse Bryan Lewis."

CHARMIAN LING is a producer for "Inside Edition."

Finally, I had the lovely pleasure of being in the bridal party at the wedding of ELIZABETH GORDON and Willem Jonckheer at the end of the summer at the Flood mansion here in San Francisco. LESLIE COHEN and JENNIFER DONOVAN '91 were also in the bridal party. Mother of the bride is SONYA LIVSHIN GORDON '53.

DIANE FINK REIN
50 WEST 34TH ST., #9A
NEW YORK, NY 10001

I received a nice letter from OLIVIA MATES MATHES who moved to Boston at the end of August with her husband, Lex Mathews (CC '91). After coordinating the "Power Lunch Program" in NYC, she started the Boston affiliate of "Power Lunch," a volunteer program which matches corporate employees with public elementary school children, one-to-one. The volunteer visits the school on his/her lunch hour once each week to share lunch, conversation, and a good book with the student. Olivia invites all Barnard alumnae who want to have their organization involved with "Power Lunch" to call her at Boston Partners in Education. Olivia also writes that JORDANA ZANGER is in her first year of residency in medicine at the U of Penna and JEN PHILOPENA recently moved to LA.

Nice news from DANIELLE FEUILLAN she married Lee Benaka (CC '91) last February in Las Vegas and moved to Cape Cod in July.

I recently saw ABBY SAFIRSTEIN PAROWER
and husband Richard in Houston, TX. They were visiting her parents there while my husband and I were visiting my sister. Abby and Richard enjoy living in San Mateo, CA.

**ELIZABETH BRUCE** is teaching English at Touro College and ESL at language schools. She writes that she is also performing as a singer in the band "Remy and the Rain" around NY.

**JENNIFER ALDERSON BENSON** and husband Nathaniel moved to Rancho Santa Fe, CA, from NYC last February. "Glad to be back in the big apple" after two years in France (Paris, studying at the Sorbonne) is **ALISON LOVELL**, who has started a PhD program in French literature at CUNY, on scholarship. She writes that she still comes to Barnard and Columbia to use the libraries.

**JULIA BOVEY** is a TV reporter in Boston. She writes that she keeps in close touch with MINDY EADES, who is raising ferrets on a small farm in Nebraska.

**EDITH LEE KASE** is the US representative of a Japanese interior design company. Her husband is in his first year at Yale’s School of Management and they live in New Haven.

According to the Barnard chem dept newsletter, **NANCY LEE** is studying radiation oncology at P&S.

And we read in the NY Times that **JULIE WERNER** married Paul Lane on November 9. She is an associate management consultant at American Practice Management, health-care consultants, and he is a trial lawyer in the office of the Manhattan DA.

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**DAY LEVINE**

525 WEST 49TH ST.  APT 6G

NEW YORK, NY 10019

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E-MAIL: DAEDREL@AOL.COM

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**5th Reunion - May 30-31/June 1**

As you see, I have finally joined the 20th century, and for my last two columns you can send me e-mail. Or send me a fax at home at the number above.

Plans are well underway for Reunion in May. And — fabulous news — former Barnard president ELLEN FUTTER will join us for our class dinner on May 30.

Also, for the first time EVER we share our Reunion weekend with Columbia College and SEAS, so we are taking advantage of that by having several joint events. We are still working out the Reunion brochure, which includes information about the events planned by the College. And remember that the special discount package for our class events and gifts only lasts until April 15. Please get in touch with me or Janet Alperstein (854-5561) if your address has changed or you know of someone who may have moved and not sent their new information. We want everyone to attend! Please join us.

Now to the news. **JODI SPIERA STORCH** recently gave birth to Kenneth, EDINA SULTANIK, who is working at Sportswear International, a publication of In Fashion, ran into Jodi in their building, Edina just returned from a trip to Europe taking pictures of the hip hop scene there. Also new parents, **REBECA YOUSEFZADEH SASSOUNI** and husband Sasan are pleased to announce that Sophia and Cyrus were born on October 24, 1996.

**JESSICA INSELBUCH MALASEK** married Jan Malasek on October 19 (which was the day of the moonsoon in NYC — they say that is good luck!). Jessica is a business consultant in the corporate finance dept at Pfizer Inc. She and Jan received MBA degrees from the U of Virginia. He is a management consultant for AT Kearney.

I recently spoke with **OLYMPIA STONE**, who is working at A&E Television but expected to be moving on from there soon.

**AMY BLUMBERG SCHRADER** is teaching 8th grade American history at Dalton. ELANA FREMERMAN is on tour with a western band.

**ANNA COQUILETTE CASPERSON**, who graduated from Boston College last May, is now at Dewey Ballantine in NYC in the trusts and estates law dept. Of course, she is not the only one in the law field.

**SARENA STRAUS** is an ass’t DA in the Bronx and indicting felonies. Husband Alex is in his final year of medical school. **NICOLE GERSON, SHARON GOLSTEIN, ALEXANDRA MILITANO, and JENNIFER KATZOFF** were all in the wedding party.

**KELLY DIEDMANN** is at Harvard Law. She is living with LEIGH FAIRCHILD, who is teaching in Framingham, MA. CONSTANCE PENDELTON is in her third year at U-VA Law and will be working in Washington at Collier, Shannon, Rill & Scott. A bit further south is KIM EGAN, finishing up at Duke Law this year. She will begin at Covington & Burling this summer.

Classmates are also continuing their education in other fields: **ROBERTA WATERSTONE** is finishing her master’s in arts administration and working in a museum in downtown Manhattan. JILL COLTON lives in Berkeley and is pursuing a PhD in clinical psychology at the Wright Institute. DEBBIE YU will soon be joining them on the west coast; she is moving to L.A. KAREN HIRSCH expects to complete her MFA in poetry writing at UNC this spring. After that, she writes, "who knows! I am getting work as a freelance writer and editor and hope to take that with me wherever I end up."

**GABRIELLE MAYERS** finished medical school and has begun her residency program at Mt. Sinai. **GALE FRIELAND** is about to start medical school at UMDNJ.

**GABRIELLE CANAVAN LESE** is at Columbia Law, and her husband, Sean, is at Columbia Business. **EVELYN DELORI** is in nursing school at Yale.

**AMY RICHARDS** is working on a number of different projects with Gloria Steinem. She stays in touch with several classmates, including BECKY MICHAELS, who is a senior publicist at the publishing house of Little, Brown & Co. She's also director of financial planning at The Donna Karan Company. SUSAN HALPER BERKLEY, with whom Anne stays in touch, is a project manager at Impact Communications. They also stay in touch with SARAH VAN NESS, who is at The Gap Corporation in San Francisco.

**MEREDITH TOLAN** is in Paris, looking for a job and having a great time.

**MIARRA MAZZO** spent the past year in London, working as a marketing consultant, but is back in NYC and dropped in at the Alumnae Office while she was job-hunting in finance.

I am still at National Medical Fellowships in NY, administering three programs, The Arthur Ashe Program in AIDS Care, the WK Kellogg Community-Based Training Fellowship Program for Minority Medical Students, and the Clinical Training Fellowship Program for Minority Medical Students in Substance Abuse Research and Treatment. I am also writing a novel and doing free-lance political fundraising.

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**GABI ALBERT** writes: "Two weeks after graduation, I married Daniel Altman, then a second year law student at Columbia and now an associate at Dewey Ballantine in Manhattan. I worked for a year in public relations at the American Committee for the Weizmann Institute of Science in Manhattan. I then moved to Riverdale, NY, and began working towards my master's in health advocacy at Sarah Lawrence College, which I hope to complete in May. On September 7, I gave birth to my little bundle of joy, Isaac Shlomo Altman, who is also the first grandchild of my mother, TOBY RUTMAN ALBERT '65 and mother-in-law, MYRIAM JARBLUM ALTMAN '59.

**ELLEN ROH** updated me from Africa. She worked on a master's in art history at the Sorbonne for a year and was working at a trading company in Libreville, Gabon (West Africa). She wrote that she was planning to continue her studies in Florence, Italy, this February. "I have been lucky enough to be able to combine work/travel/academics since graduation with the one drawback of having to plan my life way ahead and yet be flexible enough to change it at the last minute without too much consequence. I can't really complain. I will eventually head back to Paris to finish my master's and hope to have a permanent address in the near future."}

Ellen reports that **TOMOKO KATAOKA**, after paralegaling at Coudert, is at Cardozo Law School, and **ABIGAIL GORDON** is "just taking it nice and easy" working as an equine trainer in Burlington, VT.

**ALANODE COOLEY-WOODS** is a Lab associate in chemistry at Barnard while studying flute.

**RACHEL ZACK** has been dancing since graduation, performing with various independent choreographers. Last year she co-founded Spider Arts Alliance.
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### 1st Reunion - May 30-31/June 1

Hi, Class of ’96. I hope you’re all enjoying post-gradu-ate life. You will be receiving the brochure for Reunion in the next few weeks, and as you’ll see, we are invited to return to the campus without charge (!). However, we must make reservations for all meals and events; we plan to attend by returning the form that is in the brochure. See you there!

Most of my news this time concerns classmates who are living in the Manhattan area for the least for the time being. **Aileen Soper** has returned from a cross-country drive, during which she visited over 20 states and spent time with her brother in California. **Shalini Sehgal** is working in human resources and contemplating graduate school. **Liz Peterson** is working, **Elli Heyman** is doing legal research, and **Jessica Bloch** is going for her MA in journalism at Columbia. **Alexa Dietrich** is also doing research and **Ronnie Koenig** is considering grad school in writing next year.

**Sarah Feinberg** is working at the Council for Initiatives in Jewish Education. She writes that she misses Barnard but still finds opportunities to be on campus and loves hanging out with Barnard friends. **Elizabeth Kang** is designing and producing the content for Metlife’s corporate website. In October, she was at Barnard to talk to current students at a career panel about the world of multimedia/Internet.

**Patricia Stewart** is a production assistant with HUB, a venture between AmericaOnLine and New Line TV in NYC.

Further afield are **Melissa Gallon**, who took a trip to Italy, and **Adena Gelb**, who is in dental school in Connecticut. **Ritu Goswamy** has started law school at Boston University and **Alieca Ellorras** is at Dickinson law school in Carlisle, PA. **Rosana Perry** is working in Washington, DC. **Marcy Berman** is attending St. Mary’s Law School in San Antonio, TX. And word has it that **Deanna Welch** has moved to California.

As for me, I’m a reporter for a financial newsletter. It’s really fun and exciting and I even get business cards. Please send me your news at the above address, or call me at 212-864-0446 (home) or 212-224-3799 (work).
CAROLYN AGGER '31
Carolyn Agger, graduate of Yale Law School and pioneer for women in the private practice of law, died on November 7 at her home in Washington.

Ms. Agger's first graduate degree was in economics and she worked in staff positions at various New Deal agencies. In 1935 she married the late Abe Fortas, who would later be appointed by President Johnson as an Associate Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court, and entered Yale. She was second in her law school class and, at a time when few women were entering private practice, she joined Lord, Day & Lord. She then became a full partner in Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison. In 1960 she joined Arnold & Porter, where she remained as a senior partner and head of the tax practice section until her retirement two years ago. There are no immediate survivors.

JUDITH KAUFMAN HURWICH '54
When Judy Hurwich interviewed me for the Barnard Admissions Office, she urged me to go into the army before entering Barnard, to gain maturity which could not be derived from any other experience. I never thought I would need that maturity to deal with her death only four years later.

Judy Hurwich was vibrant, energetic, enthusiastic, loving, honest, down-to-earth, giving, and always looking to help. At age 62, she was the model of a Barnard woman and she applied her education in every part of her life. She was devoted to her family and to the people around her. She supported the cause of Jewish education, especially the education of women. A few nights before her tragic death in a highway accident, she had led a discussion of the Talmud with twelve single women gathered at her home for dinner, not an unusual activity for Judy. Like many many others, I will cherish her memory.  
Rhea Glassman '2000

PROFESSOR AMELIA AGOSTINO DEL RIO
Amelia Agostini del Rio, Professor Emerita, charismatic teacher and spacious intellectual, died on December 11 at the age of 100, as formidable as ever. Still setting an exhausting pace, she was busy writing her recollections of her friend, Federico Garcia Lorca.

Born in Puerto Rico, Amelia del Rio came to NYC in 1918 and worked her way through Vassar by teaching Spanish. She did graduate work at Columbia, began teaching at Barnard in 1929, and was department chair from 1942 to 1962. For the students of her generation, she was, like Millicent McIntosh, the living embodiment of the goals to which women could aspire. She was not merely an influence on our lives but more like a hurricane sweeping over us, shaking, energizing, challenging students and colleagues alike.

With her husband she was co-editor of an anthology of Spanish literature which for many decades was the textbook of choice in American universities. Ardent thespians, the del Rios were members of a Spanish classic repertory company based in Minor Latham Theatre, where she gave an unforgettable performance as Bernarda Alba. Her taped lecture on Don Quixote has nourished many generations of alumnas. Mayor Robert Wagner presented her with a key to the City of New York and King Juan Carlos of Spain awarded her the highest civilian honor that country bestows. In 1985 she received the Citizen of the Year award from the Institute of Puerto Rico for founding a museum to bring art to the people of Bayamon.

In her later years, Professor del Rio made few concessions to age, personal tragedy or illness. Her aid celebration of life in all its facets is perhaps the trait that best defines her. She recently published a collection of poems, Quiero irme gazosa (I Wish to Leave in Joy). It is the way I will remember her.

Professor Mirella d'Ambrosio Servodidio '55

Professor del Rio is survived by her daughter, Carmen del Rio de Pinies '53, and granddaughter, Carmen de Pinies '78, as well as other grandchildren and great-grandchildren, and she is mourned by legions of former students and colleagues. A memorial service will be held on Tuesday, May 6, at 5:30 pm, at Columbia's St. Paul's Chapel.
THE BARNARD CONNECTION

After more than two years as Barnard's president, Judith Shapiro is a familiar presence on the college campus, and she is rapidly becoming a familiar figure to alumnae in the metropolitan area, around the country, and abroad. During this academic year she has made repeat visits to several locations, often accompanied by a member of the Barnard faculty, and traveled for the first time to many cities where alumnae have welcomed the opportunity to be re-connected to the college.

The first event in the current cycle took place in October in Chicago, where President Shapiro was accompanied by J. Phillip Thompson, assistant professor of political science and specialist in urban affairs. A few weeks later, the president greeted alumnae at receptions in Los Angeles and San Francisco, where Professor Michael DelliCarpini spoke on "What Americans Know About Politics and Why It Matters."

In November, a reception was held on Long Island, at the home of Amna Saleh '81. In December, President Shapiro greeted alumnae in Washington, DC, and Richard Pious, Ochs Professor of American Studies, spoke on "Why Presidents Fail (and What We Can Do About It)." MARGARET DE VECCHI GABRIEL '51 arranged for this event to be held at the Sullgrave Club.

Later in December, alumnae in Ohio were invited to meet the president at receptions in Cincinnati, at the home of Molly Wilby Whittaker '45 and in Chagrin Falls, at the home of Amanda Ford Morris '48.

Three events were held in Florida in January, where President Shapiro was joined by Professor Randall Balmer, Ann Whitney Olin Professor of Religion. Receptions were held at the Water Club in Longboat Key, courtesy of Myra Cohen Montgomery '60, and at the homes of Evelyn Langlieb Greer '70 in Miami and Margery Newman Puder '43 in Palm Beach.

North Carolina alumnae were invited to renew the Barnard connection at a reception at the home of Andrea Vizoso '72 in Chapel Hill on February 4. Still to come on the president's schedule for this year is a visit to London in March and a reception for alumnae in Boston in April.

BARNARD IN FAIRFAX

The Barnard College Club of Fairfax County, CT, continued its annual Book Award program in 1996 with the presentation of copies of The Beauty of the Beastly, by Nathalie Angier '78, to eight high school juniors in their area. The award recipients were identified by their school science department heads. Since the presentation of the first book award in 1987, many of those honored have obtained PhDs and pursued careers in scientific research.

The Fall Meeting of the club was held on November 10 at the Silvermine Guild Arts Center in New Canaan, Joan Snitzer of Barnard's department of art history spoke about the contemporary art world and showed slides of the work of students who are majors in art/art history. In her talk she described the need for young artists to be prepared by their education to earn a living while developing their talent.

BARNARD IN HOUSTON

The Barnard College Club of Houston devoted its September Supper Meeting to a talk by allergist Dr. Linda Gorin '64 titled "Houstonites: Do You Have It?". Other kinds of problems, related to privatization in Poland and the former Soviet republics, will be discussed by World Bank economist Dr. Lucia Cannon '73 at the club's second program this year, at the Sierra Grill on February 28. Other events on the Houston calendar include a performance by the Dance Theatre of Harlem on May 2 and the possible creation of an investment club. Caroline Schroder Strohl '77 is the club president.

BARNARD IN NEW YORK

The Barnard College Club of New York is an affordable membership organization offering a wide range of social, cultural and academic activities. Events on the club's fall schedule included a private visit to the "History of Women's Photography" exhibit at the NY Public Library, a pre-auction viewing at the Doyle Gallery, and a festive holiday gathering with a performance by the Columbia Glee Club.

The current calendar features the club's fourteenth annual series of faculty lectures, which began in January with a talk by Associate Professor of History Deborah Valenze on gender and work in 18th and 19th century England. On Tuesday evening, March 4, Karen Fairbanks, Director of the Architecture Program, will speak on "Urban Interior/Suburban Landscape: Architectural projects which investigate how new relationships between living and working and technology and nature have transformed domestic space." The final lecture for this year will be held on Saturday afternoon, April 5. Assistant Professor of English Ross Hamilton will speak on "A Ruler Girl: Jane Austen, Persuasion, and the Problem of Romantic Love." His topic reflects the tremendous success of the book The Rules, coincident with the rediscovery of Jane Austen by Hollywood and A&E. The fee for each lecture is $15. For reservations or for information about other club programs, call Gwen Greenberg at 212-661-1369.

The Young Alumnae Committee of the AABC also sponsors a number of alumnae events throughout the year. The Committee works with members of the Class of 1997 in arranging for the annual Senior Dinner on February 19 with Donnaella Lorch '83, London-based correspondent for NBC-News, formerly with the NY Times, as speaker. Coming up is a panel discussion on body image, co-sponsored with Barnard Health Services, featuring April Benson '73, co-founder of the Center for the Study of Anorexia and Bulimia. An evening of chamber music at Merkin Concert Hall is scheduled for May 1. Details of these and other events are included in YAC-ON, the committee's newsletter, which is being mailed to approximately 4,000 alumnae of 1986-96.

Young alumnae are also invited to join members of Barnard Business & Professional Women at a Reunion Breakfast on Saturday, May 31. A panel led by Eva Wisnik '85 and including Ulana Lysnyak '87, Maryam Banikarim '89, and others will discuss "Breaking into New Fields." Reservations can be made on the form in the Reunion brochure which will be mailed to all alumnae in March.

For more information about BBPW, see page 49.

AND ELSEWHERE....

In Denver, alumnae attended a reading by anthologist Susan Koppelman '62, during the Rocky Mountain Book Festival in October...Barnard women in Atlanta joined other Seven Sisters alumnae at a reception and special viewing of the Matisse exhibit at the High Museum in May...At the Seven Sisters' "College for a Day" on Long Island in November, Patricia Denison, Lecturer in English, spoke about late-19th century drama...Barnard students in Italy have begun to meet regularly at the home of Eleanor Iacuzzi Natioli Branca in Rome. Visitors are welcome.
Dear Diary

By Mary Denton Wilson '22

In 1918, fifteen-year-old May Frances Denton (later Mary Denton Wilson), a high school senior from Paterson, New Jersey, began her first diary. In chronicling the daily life of a teenage girl, she muses about careers, the war, school, women’s suffrage, boyfriends, and college (which to her meant only Barnard). Following her death in 1979, her daughter Joanne Denton Wietzgreffe inherited the gilded, imitation-leather diary, which she recently published as Will I ever be Somebody?: The 1918 diary of May Frances Denton. The following are excerpts:

Thursday, January 10: Today has been nothing but dull, lazy, depression. My first attack of melancholia...What will be my career? I wish I was ten with time for nothing but dolls or about thirty, when I hope, I shall be settled down, a high school teacher with a severe mien and glasses, or Mrs. So & So with a couple of dirty kids. I feel it in my bones that I shall pass to the next world, unwpt, unhonored, and unsung. If I could ever be Somebody. If I only might have my picture in the paper and magazine as Miss Denton who wrote "The Red Peanut" or Miss Denton who has aroused the notice of... by,...! I feel just now that my field is literary. I think I will seriously consider Journalism. I seem to be burdened with Big Thoughts, but I cannot express them. My mind seems too large for my body and tongue. If I could only break through and shine! There is a little of Hamlet in me. I might do something if I did not always hesitate and put off and question whether it is good enough. I have a few times dared, and have failed. I think this old world has some knocks in store for M.D. [May Denton]. Now all I have to do is to read a sad book and—Presto—call the undertaker.

Monday, August 5: We went to Camp Vail this morning after breakfast. It is easily a ten mile trip. The camp really isn’t very large, but it has several good sized hangars, and a flying field. We saw four or five companies of ‘rookies’ being drilled. The flying field is carefully guarded and you are not allowed to stop your car on that side of the road. Uncle George is wild about aviation and was talking to the guard who had charge of us. He wants to be a mechanic on an aeroplane. He reckons that with this new draft bill, there is a chance that he will be called. I hope not, because then Papa will, most likely. Oh, how I hate the Kaiser. The War is affecting Asbury Park perceptibly. The crowds do not dress so extravagantly nor buy candy so much. The fishing yacht doesn’t run and the bands all play war songs.

Monday, October 21: Ah! The day of all days. I got up at five minutes to six by the alarm, and was half dressed at six. I didn’t sleep hardly a wink. Mama got up to put on my chop, then went back to dreamland...I called for Augustine and we were soon on our way. The moon was shining brightly by the Nurses’ Home. We were early and had to wait for the train. I will never forget my sensations when I first saw Riverside Drive and the river. We went straight to the college, and as we were early, Lois [Gurnee ‘21, a friend] showed me around before her psychology class. I will not attempt to describe the buildings, or the mingled fear, hope, awe, and yearning the grounds and buildings inspired in me. The girls are so heterogeneous and happy-go-lucky. Lois took me everywhere, nor did she spare any pains to show me most every little thing and introduce me to all the nice girls. Most of all I enjoyed the Drama class. After lessons she introduced me to Fanny Wagaeheim [21] who showed us through Brooks Hall. Then we met a girl from the Co-op. Both were such friendly girls, I just felt as if I wanted to know them well and do something for them. Maybe I can some day.

Tuesday, October 22: It’s just a case of the morning after the night before. I was so full of news to tell the folks when I got home at 5:30 p.m. that I haven’t spilled it all yet, and every once in a while a new item of information or paean of adoration will burst from my lips. Diary, I will just die if I can’t pass my entrance exams to that exalted Eden of Bliss on 119th Street. It is too bad poor Papa can’t spare the time to hear me, when it is his work, effort, money, and kindness that will send me there. Mama thinks we shall be able to afford the cheapest room in Brooks Hall. I think I shall drop chemistry and devote that time to algebra and other subjects necessary to college. The Columbia Library is the most magnificent edifice I have ever beheld. Oh, I am so thankful for my friends, especially Lois, and my parents. Coming home I pitied every girl who was not a student in Barnard. I think I will go to sleep now. Beautiful dreams.

[The next day, she sent her letter of application along with $15. She entered Barnard College in February 1919.]

Monday, November 4: Today was election day! How I wish I could vote! When I think of the intelligence (?) with which some men vote, I could just boil over. In the Journal this evening, it had a funny (at least they thought it was) piece about a woman voting. She voted for every last man on the ticket democratic or equally foul; then she wanted to take it home to her husband. Such nonsense, as if a woman had less sense than a man! That’s downright propaganda! And yet the men will read that with a superior smile, and if you ask them what the democratic candidate stands for, all they will know is that he hands out good cigars.

Mary Denton Wilson, mother of three, was a journalist and an active member of the Wyoming, New York, historical society. This excerpt is reprinted with permission from Will I ever be Somebody?: The 1918 diary of May Frances Denton, Goose Pasture Publishing (451 Pleasant Valley Road, Alfred Station, New York, 14803).
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