

# CLASSNOTES

## CONTACT YOUR CLASS EDITOR

**1946** Ruth Swartley Maxson  
ruthsmaxson@comcast.net

**1948** Carol Roland Ranger  
lonerangers@cox.net

M. Elizabeth Green Jennings  
200 Veterans Lane  
Doylestown, PA 18901-3475

**1951** Natalie Gumport Holtzman  
cholt41258@aol.com

**1952** Marion Stiles Hemphill  
cmoib@atmc.net

**1955** Suzi Ketz Foster  
suzifos@comcast.net

**1957** Freda Friz Schopfer  
schopfer3@juno.com

**1958** Dwaine Fry Sutherland  
dwaine8946@aol.com

**1960** Sarah Michelson Bloom  
sbbblazer@hotmail.com

**1962** Lynn Kronenberg Berman  
lynnberman@msn.com

**1964** Linda Mann  
l.mann@comcast.net

**1965** Rebecca Just Wagner  
justwagner@msn.com

**1966** Judy Simon King  
bigj1051@verizon.net

Mary Beth Middleton  
4003 Penn Avenue,  
Apartment 711  
Pittsburgh, PA 15224-1353  
(412) 586-7232 or  
(412) 315-5677

**1967** Gail Agerton  
greythorne1@gmail.com

**1968** Leah Nicholls Duckworth  
Induckworth@cox.net

Ann Pilert  
piglert@aol.com

**1971** Judith Odonovich  
jodonovich@comcast.net

## 1951

**Natalie Gumport Holtzman** writes, "I visited the 'new' Glenside campus with my sons in the fall and was amazed by the changes. We had a delightful walk around and spoke with several students."

## 1958

Thank you all for your contributions. The earliest response came from **Marcia May Hummers** with what might be a first for us! She reports the birth of Logan Richard Hummers on June 4, 2019, who may be the first great-great-grandchild for our class! At least he's the first reported! Congratulations and best wishes to all!

**Becky Nell Winn King** is footloose again: "After spending February and March at the beach, I toured the coast of Norway for two weeks on the *Hurtigtuten MS Trollfjord*. Next trip will be to Lakeside Chautauqua, Ohio with my sister the last week of July." No one else in our group travels to more interesting places than Becky!

**Ina Block** keeps on swingin'! She tells us, "I'm recovering from right knee surgery and will do the left later this year. I stood on a chair to rehang a clock. The chair tipped over and so did I. I fractured my clavicle, humerus, and a couple of ribs. (Ouch!) People our age should not stand on chairs unsupervised. I had lunch with **Judie Grenen** at the end of May when she visited Pittsburgh. It's amazing how many ailments we had in common. I'm still doing theater: *Electra* this summer, and I am playing my dream part, Madame Arcati in *Blythe Spirit*, this fall. Hopefully, I'll be able to remember the hundreds of lines I have to learn." (We have faith in you, Ina!)

Still in the medical venue, **Joan Ottaway Gurniak** has some news. At the end of the summer she will join many classmates who have preceded her with cataract

surgery. She says, "Everyone tells me it's pretty easy (I agree!) and the results are almost immediate." Sometime in the fall she and Ted plan to move to Roanoke, Va. to a continuing care community called Brandon Oaks. "Last fall I went back to work! I had been serving as an interim choir director. Now we have a permanent rector and I plan to retire again, which I thought I did when I moved here! I have been playing and directing continuously since 2001. Maybe this time I can fully retire!"

**Gertie Ramsay Malloy** writes, "I am living on Amelia Island, the first barrier island after Georgia, north of Jacksonville, two-and-a-half hours north of Orlando and all its attractions. I've been here for over 17 years, so it really is home. I lived in Ridgewood, N.J. for 25 years but very few of my friends are still around. Usually, I stay with my oldest son when I visit for the holidays. My youngest is in Mendham near Morristown and my middle son lives in Connecticut, so I always see the whole group in one trip north. The older I get, the more I miss them!" She's planning her next trip north in the summer.

Great to hear from **Barbara Heylmun Longstreth**: "Here's an update on my grandkids. The oldest, Dallen, will be a sophomore at Franklin and Marshall. He's a very good soccer player (Class Editor note: wonder where that came from?) and made the starting team in his freshman year. Two have graduated from high school and will start college in the fall: Jalen at Wesleyan and Nayah at Duquesne. Quincy will be in 11th grade and the youngest, Jaise, will be in 9th. They have grown up so quickly, and I have been fortunate to be part of their lives all these years!"

More grandkids praise comes from **Grace Warrington Lowe**. "My grandchildren live four blocks away, and it's been a great 22 years sharing in all of their activities. Daniel graduated from the University of Virginia and is

off to Wisconsin to work for a large biomedical firm. Hannah is doing her second internship for William and Mary, this time in Cincinnati, doing research in the museum. I've never been so far away from them, but they're good at texting.

My gentleman pilot, Jim, and I have enjoyed each other's company for many years. He is a partner in the Pilot's Association with my Bill, as are our sons. His late wife and my late husband graduated Lewes High School together. Again this summer, as I've done for 30 years, I'm camping alone. My camper is nearby at Steamboat Landing on the Broadkill River. I go up almost every day and read, walk, and enjoy the river. Happy to be well again and hope to remain so. I still have the fondest memories of Beaver and Montgomery Hall and keep up with friends from those days. Still think we have the prettiest campus on the east coast."

Next comes **Patricia Fletcher Lyford**, who is always a force and a story in herself. She writes, "Life at the 'Lyford Care Center' is now a little calmer after our son, Stephen, moved in March after a serious ankle break. He slipped on his lawn and did a number on his left ankle. He moved in after surgery with ten screws, and he was not able to do stairs. So I ended up with two wheelchairs (Larry), knee scooter (Stephen), two walkers, two shower chairs, and two non-walkers. Thus, the 'Lyford Care Center.' Finally, after months with a space-age boot and lots of physical therapy, Stephen is home, driving, and on the mend, and our home is back in order. When not taking care of someone, I am gardening, playing Mahjong, doing occasional lunches, attending the theater, and still trying to speak Italian with a couple of friends who join me in this struggle. Together, Larry and I join friends for 'date night,' continue to support our local Symphony in C, and attend Rotary meetings and events.

In July, our granddaughter is flying from Anchorage to Philadelphia by herself for a two-week visit with Grandma, Grandpa, and Uncle Stephen. I am so excited! For a change she'll get to swim in the ocean instead of glacial water!"

**Alma Alablikian** dropped a brief, but very welcome note!

**Georgia Karagias Stamos** and family toured the campus this spring and met up with former roommate, Alma, for a mini reunion luncheon. All agreed that it was fun to be together after all these years!

Here's something different from **Marcia Merdinger Fox**: "My oldest grandchild, who is 19, is serving in the Israeli army. She is training young people with disabilities to work on computers. She is finding the work very satisfying, and the kids are loving being part of the army."

(Class Editor note: Marcia, you must be SO proud.)

As for me, **Dwaine Fry Sutherland**, my thanks to all of you! Stay well (and don't stand on chairs, ladders, etc.) And keep smiling; it makes them wonder what you're up to!

## 1959

Congratulations to our class for winning the **Ethlyn Selner Mack Bowl**. This award is given annually during Alumni Weekend to the reunion class with the highest percentage of donor participation among its members. **Mary Lou Bratt Mees**, our class fund agent, accepted the award on behalf of our class at the Alumni Awards Ceremony.

**Jane Lewis Grove** led three programs about antique cars at her residence, Willow Valley Communities, in Lancaster, Pa. She showed movies and clothing worn at the time, told personal experiences, and gave a wealth of information. During the programs, **Debbie Gable**, who also resides there, was in a chorus and sang humorous songs about cars of this period.

## 1960

**Betty Holton Weiss** says, "Good news for all of us: **Sara Michelson Bloom** has agreed to take over for me as Class Editor! Sara is a published author and newspaper journalist. We'll be so fortunate to have her. Her email is sbblazer@hotmail.com. From now on, please send news to her. After 55 years as your editor, I am taking **Marianna Harder Peckmann's** place as interim Class President. With Marianna's passing in 2014 and our Fund Agent, **Nory Berman Block's** passing in 2016, we've been 'out of the loop' leadership-wise. With our 60th reunion approaching next May, we need help from our classmates. If you can help in any way, please email me at weissguys1@verizon.net or call me at 215-659-1893.

More good news; **Mary Jane Fretz Stevens** has agreed to be Reunion Chair again. We hope those who live nearby and those able to drive a couple of hours will plan to attend. When considering your 60th reunion donation to our alma mater, please consider these facts: for our 50th we gave almost \$100,000, which enabled the bridge between Commons and the Castle to be built. Our class gift of \$22,000 at our 55th reunion enabled us to contribute a laser engraver to the Department of Art and Design and to contribute three storage sheds to the field hockey, lacrosse, and soccer teams. This year, we ask all graduates of 1960 to make an annual gift to support *The Fund for Arcadia* and to make a gift to help us endow *The Class of 1960 Scholarship*, which will provide critical student support and create a lasting legacy for our class. I look forward to seeing you for our reunion in May.

## 1962

We hear from **Wilma Maxwell Gray**: "The last issue of *Arcadia* magazine had a record amount of news from the Class of 1962. I am always glad to hear what is going on with our classmates, and my sympathy goes out to those who have lost loved ones and to those dealing with the other challenges that come with this stage of our lives. We, too, have been saddened

by the deaths of many family members and dear friends. Along with the challenges comes the joy of children and grandchildren for many and the satisfaction of a life full of experiences for all. We just returned from another long road trip to attend a graduation and a memorial service along with some good visits with family and friends along the way. This year, Ed and I decided we'd better get busy taking some of the trips on our never-ending list while we still can. We enjoyed the Rose Parade and some time in San Diego, also a wonderful trip to Israel and Egypt. We look forward to a train trip across Canada in August. For now, we are at home in northwest Arkansas and looking forward to our family visiting us this summer. I enjoy hearing from **Gerry Murray Dunbar** and **Pat Peatman O'Sullivan**."

**Gail Williams Tattersfield** sends, "Lately I am taking baby steps towards cleaning out and paring down in order to move from my much too big house. I plan to stay in my general Midwest community as, after over 20 years, it is certainly home. I hear from **Sue Davison Lundborg** and **Judy Boetticher Leve** most regularly and also chat occasionally with **Susan Mandelbaum Axelrod**. I would love hearing from old friends."

**Carol Purdy Fugate** tells us, "Bill and I are enjoying life in the country, north of the border. We live in the country on Prince Edward Island. We are lucky to have eldest son, Bill, his wife, Emma, and our grandson, Zachary, living in Charlottetown. So, I'm the designated cook for Sunday dinner, which I thoroughly enjoy. They are all vegetarians, so it is also a challenge to cook new things each week. Fortunately, we have many sources for fresh veggies, fruit, etc. I also specialize in flowers for the joy of growing them. We also have bald eagles nesting nearby. We visit our old home on Cape Cod twice a year, usually in early spring and late summer where our youngest son, Kevin, lives. It's always nice to visit friends there. I empathize with **Gail Tattersfield** on sorting things out to move, having done it so many times over the years."

**Carol Fleming Halsey** says, "Time really does march on. I have moved into an 'old ladies home' (actually a lovely retirement complex) and absolutely love it! There is so much to do—lectures and seminars galore; just like taking college courses, but there are no exams! There are also different organizations and activities. The list goes on and on. I heartily recommend it.

The hardest part is downsizing. Nobody told me I couldn't take everything in my basement even though I haven't looked at half the stuff for years! I didn't know what to take or what not to take as I wasn't sure how we would be living. I have found cooking is at a minimum since they serve dinner every night. So, I didn't need every pot and pan I had accumulated. My granddaughter helped me move. She said, 'Mom Mom, you have seven pairs of black shoes. Pick three!' That's the kind of help you need. In the end it was all worth it. I am hoping my health holds up. Many body parts are giving out—hip replacement, pacemaker, cataract surgery, etc.—but I'm hanging on and loving life. I am blessed with two wonderful sons and families!"

**Pat Allen** shares: "Since moving full-time to South Jersey six years ago to an active adult community, I've been as busy as I was when I was working. I joined our Community Education Committee and have been able to continue my career as a graphic designer for our projects. I became chair of the committee last fall and since the first of the year, we have presented 20 programs. This is almost a full-time job, but I thoroughly enjoy it. I also do designing for a local church, for fundraising and other projects. I'm also a member of a South Jersey photo club and have run the fall 'shootout' contest for three years. That group is varied in age but not in talent. It's been fun and educational at the same time. I live only two-and-a-half miles from the Edwin B. Forsythe Wildlife Reserve, formerly known as 'The Brig.' It's a major stop-over on the Atlantic Fly-Way and there's always something to see and photograph out there. Somewhere along the way, I remembered that I was a

## CONTACT YOUR CLASS EDITOR

- 1973** Christine Schmechel Kokas  
ckokas@crsd.org
- 1975** Patricia Roberts Lucas  
orchard63cc@yahoo.com  
  
Linda Strickland  
lynstrickland@yahoo.com
- 1977** Mary Hauser Hadley  
battleofhastings@juno.com
- 1979** Caryn Best-Randall  
bestyet057@gmail.com  
  
Deborah Dancy Ingram  
dingram057@gmail.com
- 1983** Barbara Reppert Million  
bjmillion@comcast.net
- 1984** David Eatough  
deatough@reverek12.org
- 1985** Beatriz Rincon Young  
beatriz\_young@yahoo.com
- 1988** Stacey Downey  
staceybethdowney@gmail.com  
  
Elizabeth "Scottie"  
Scott Hall  
esh203@aol.com
- 1990** Linda Vandegrift  
lindamvan@aol.com
- 1993** Elisa Hoffman  
elisahoffman@verizon.net
- 1996** Stacey Lombardi Soricelli  
stacy.soricelli@gmail.com
- 1997** Maya Johnson  
mbasu252@hotmail.com  
  
Tracey Reed  
traceyreed53@hotmail.com
- 1998** TaraJean Tweddle  
Trzaskawka  
sharksgirl72801@yahoo.com
- 2000** Tricia Kershner Luddecke  
tricialuddecke@gmail.com

Painting major and have gone back to painting part time. I've no need to buy and or stretch new canvases as I'm painting over most of what I did at Beaver. The wonderful memories are still there, just under the surface now. I keep in touch with **Virginia Dunstan Bruno** and **Katherine Kurtz**, both of whom could have been painting majors. They're doing wonderful work today. I'm still close to my 'little sister' **Janice Comstock Murray '64**. That was a great match."

**Mary Jane Murray Poole** writes, "Tommy and I have just celebrated our 57th anniversary—a rather surprising amount of time when I reflect back on how quickly the time went by. Those 57 years produced four children, ten grandchildren, and another 'grandchild' who married my granddaughter. I was an at-home mother and when I think of that job and my success, it makes me proud. I raised four successful, thoughtful, and caring adults who, in turn, raised ten like-minded children. Three of the boys went to the United States Naval Academy, and my youngest daughter married a doctor in the Navy—they continue to serve the country. We now have two graduates who are working hard and have good jobs, and we have two more in college. I love what I see in them. Tommy and I are fortunate to be able to travel internationally a great deal, sometimes with some of the children, sometimes not. A few of the children have traveled abroad during their junior years, so we are a family with wanderlust. I am always reminded that Beaver was the pioneer in junior year international travel. Was it **Dr. Swaim**? I stay in touch with **Ronnie Kaye Herman** and, for those of you who remember my freshman year roommate, **Peggy Boone Baldwin**. Peggy has lived in Dallas for 40-50 years. Her husband was one of the first doctors in the U.S. who actually did heart transplantations. I think Beaver prepared me pretty well for the life I led. Being all girls, we didn't need to compete with guys for offices or honors. I believe it gave us a strong sense of who we were and what we could accomplish, instead of playing the shrinking violet."

From **Sherry Kugler Weidner** we hear: "I have joined the group titled 'widow' and remind myself, almost daily, that I was blessed to have 56 years with Chuck in marriage and 72 years of knowing him since we were children. Following the advice to not move out of one's home initially, I am content to stay in this house where we lived for 49 years. It is a one-floor house with many handy railings and grab bars at this point. I have good neighbors, some here even as long as me, and good friends plus a thoughtful family.

I have realized that I am not a person who likes to make changes. Despite that characteristic, I have made a big change. Upon moving to Wilmington 49 years ago, I joined a Methodist church because it was very friendly, and I developed many friendships over that time. However, the recent proclamations by the United Methodist Church regarding limitations to LGBTQ members did not reflect my beliefs. After much discussion with Chuck while he was with me and my children, I appreciated that they easily supported me in my decision to leave this church. I am now going back to my roots and attending a Presbyterian Church, which is more in tune with my beliefs. Although some of my former Methodist-based friends did not agree with my views, I have been grateful that they are respectful and kind regarding my choice. I remain heterosexual with appreciation and love for those I know who are homosexual. I hope this is not too much sharing. Have you noticed that the older we get the more plain-speaking we become?

Thank you for the *Class of 1962 Endowed Scholarship* report. As a scholarship student myself, I am happy to give back and will continue to do so. **Barbara Starks Favazza**, **Keiko Tani Fujimoto** and I stay in frequent touch by email. It is our hope we could manage another in-person visit."

**Heather McAlpin Richardson** provides: "I have been telling Bible stories to children in the Godly Play tradition for years (15 at the Korean United Presbyterian Church, as director of the Sunday school after graduating from

the Pittsburgh Seminary). After Easter this year, a sweet child cried when he realized Jesus died! Now, to this four-year-old, Jesus' life after death has no meaning for him. He even cries when he sees me! We are so sad together now! What a great pastor he will be! Thanks to him, I'm going gladly into another retirement. Thanks to God and Beaver for all my wonderful years with children. My eldest grandchild is walking in Luther's steps on his way to teach the Bible and English in a European orphanage. The second one's favorite study was physics this year and watches how to do neurosurgery on YouTube. The next one is earning big bucks as an umpire in little league baseball games and plays golf with me. The last, but not least, recently went camping with a friend and his military dad. Each one keeps Charley and me glad to be alive!"

**Susan Herridge Stahl** states: "I have lived in Rochester since I graduated. Sad to say I have lost track of most of my Beaver classmates. We used to have a big group in Rochester because **Dr. Kistler**, former president of Beaver, was from Rochester, but most have passed away. I love reading about all of you."

**Kathy Kurtz** tells us: "Wendy and I are well and happy in Narberth. I am now fully retired and am loving the sense of expansiveness that it has given me, although I am well aware there is less and less time to expand into. So I paint a lot and read a lot and plan to see as much Shakespeare as possible. I saw Glenda Jackson in *King Lear* in New York this spring. She was amazing. The plays hold up no matter what producers do to them. It makes me grateful for those required two semesters with **Dr. Fenton**. My daughter lives and works for the city of Denver in their department of housing, trying to keep the city accessible for all. I'm proud of her and so glad when she comes home for visits and our yearly family vacation at Barnegat Light. Best regards to everyone. And keep resisting the current madness."

**Pat Cosgrove Poor** reminisces, "I thought of **Pat Allen** this week



during the news coverage of the 50th anniversary of the Normandy invasion and remembered the day we visited Omaha Beach on April 9. My recollection of how pure and cool and crisp the air felt is still very keen, along with an incredulous sense of the carnage resulting from the action there. Although our visit was in the 20th anniversary year, that fact was not in my memory bank at all until I did the math on June 6, 2019. We visited the stark and lovely cemetery of Saint Laurent, the resting place of the Americans who perished on the beach, and I copied down these words from the monument: "This embattled shore, portal of freedom, is forever hallowed by the ideals, the valor, and the sacrifices of our fellow countrymen."

**Ginny Bruno** sends, "I am just back from an opera trip to Tallinn, Estonia, which was great. Now I am putting the other Baltic States on my bucket list. Before that, I had a good ten days in the Andalusian Mountains in Spain with a group of friends. We go every year to this retreat for rest, relaxation, massages, walks, and very good food and drink. In May 2018, five of us went on a cruise along the Volga from Moscow to St. Petersburg and next year it will be the Danube through Vienna to Budapest. I enjoy gardening, theatre, opera, and art class. My friends keep me busy and happy and I continue to have good health!"

**Joyce Sobelman** shares, "I just returned from my annual trip to Australia to visit my daughter there. At the age of 91, I'm happy to be able to continue making that long trip."



From left to right, **Cynthia Mindel Auerbach**, **Gail Wiener Biben '64**, **Janet Copeland Zinman**, **Carol Plessner Miller**, and **Barbara Blumenthal Stern**.

**Janet Copeland Zinman** writes, "We just shared a wonderful lunch catching up with good old Beaver friends. Everyone is great and very busy with our grandkids' graduations from middle school through high school. We are thrilled for **Gail Wiener Biben '64**, who is engaged. Since some couldn't make it, we've scheduled another get together for September in New York City."

**Lynn Auerbach Kaplan** keeps in touch with **Linda May Sklar**. Lynn and husband, Steve, moved to a retirement community a few miles from their home of 39 years. One of their daughters lives in Elkins Park—so there are times when she remembers Jenkintown/Beaver driving on Old York Road! They have six grandchildren and three grown children. Good health to all.

**Joan Dretler Rubinstein** informs us, "**Cynthia Mindel Auerbach**, **Gail Wiener Biben '64**, and I met at Hudson Yards for a very long lunch. Two weeks later, Cynthia and I had dinner with our husbands in the Berkshires. We shared a wonderful story about how we tried to fix my son up with her daughter many years ago when they were both living in California and seemed to have so much in common. It sounded like a great idea until Cynthia said her children always spend Thanksgiving with her family, and I would be welcome to join them! I made the same offer to her! But as she was the mother of the girl, I knew I could never win! Needless to say, they are both happily married—not to each other—so Cynthia and I never had to deal with a stalemate. We had a good laugh over that one!"

**Gilda Battaglia Rorro-Baldassari** says, "I am still recovering from a brain tumor, but I keep very busy. I was a guest speaker at the annual Conference of Presidents in June, held in the Columbus Citizens Foundation, in New York. Topics of discussion included the universality of Italian heritage curriculum, such as, the lynching of Italians in New Orleans, and the current controversy regarding the continuation of

Columbus Day. I also distributed my memoir, *Gilda, Promise Me*, to the 40 presidents of major Italian American organizations in attendance. Matilda Cuomo, wife of Governor Mario Cuomo, requested seven copies of *Gilda, Promise Me*, for her son, Governor Andrew Cuomo, and other family members. The consul general of Italy in New York was also present. He had read the memoir prior to the meeting and was most enthusiastic. It was a great experience!"

As your Class Editor, I, **Lynn Kronenberg Berman**, have been disappointed with the response to my requests for news. We only received the reports in this article after a second request! There are so many good reasons to keep up our relationship with Beaver/Arcadia. First, we have good friends and memories from our school days. Second is we should pay it forward to the students of today. The world is very different from the 1950s when we "privileged" daughters were groomed to be good wives and mothers and do charity work. We also became teachers, doctors, and professionals! We can take credit for being the catalyst for the achievements of the women and students of today. Although Arcadia is not the school we remember, the vestiges are there and we can be proud of the school of today. Hang in—hang on—keep our class vital and responding to the needs of the 21st century. Continue to send in reports of what is happening in your lives. Keep in touch with each other and tell us how you are. We don't have a class Fund Agent, but please continue to contribute to our *Class of 1962 Endowed Scholarship Fund* so that we can give more funds to the less privileged students among the student body of Arcadia today.

## 1964

Our condolences to the family and friends of **Linda Rappa Gordon** who died last December. Condolences as well to **Janet Spence Kerr** whose husband, Thomas Kerr, died last year and to **Charis La**

**Pier Jenkins** on the death of her husband, Arthur (Art).

Our 55th reunion was in May. Attendance was low, mainly due to medical problems of classmates or their spouses, or other commitments. A toast to those who did attend: **Margaret Lees**, **Bonnie McDowell Lasky**, **Sandra Krebs Hirsh**, **Phyllis St. John Skok**, **Marcia Krysa Hamilton**, **Barbara Ruthberg Leiland**, **Mary Ann Marshall Speakman**, **Carol Van Sciver**, and **Janet Smith Corson**. Thank you to all who contributed to our reunion class gift, totaling more than \$112,620 to benefit Arcadia University.

**Phyllis Skok** continues her extensive travels: Cuba with the Foreign Policy Association (before travel restrictions were imposed), Paris and the Loire Valley in France, western Ireland and Dublin with Road Scholar, and Florida. While traveling to Egypt for three weeks with a friend, they also toured the city of Addis Ababa during a 13-hour layover. "We spent time in Cairo and Alexandria and one week on a river cruise down the Nile. Seeing the pyramids, temples, and tombs in the Valley of the Kings was something I never expected to do."

**Barbara Ruthberg Leiland** and her husband, Jonathan Mallamud, went to Iceland last July. "We loved that journey. We flew to Reykjavik, spent time there by ourselves, then boarded a cruise ship of just 290 passengers for an extended journey of the area. Jon and I disembarked in London. We were able to see the Alan Bennett play, *Allelujah!*, at the new Bridge Theatre." The week following reunion they went to Short Hills, N.J. for the Bat Mitzvah of their granddaughter, Madeline. She's the daughter of Barbara's son, Brett Popolow, and Shari Brandt. Barbara and Jon's blended family includes four sons and their wives and seven grandchildren, six boys, and a girl, Madeline.

A few days after our reunion, **Bonnie McDowell Lasky** and her husband, Elliott, went on a cruise of the Scandinavian



## CONTACT YOUR CLASS EDITOR

- 2003** Eileen Butkovic Cook  
eileen.cook@yahoo.com
- Kerry Ann Braunstein  
DePetro  
kerryanndepetro@gmail.com
- 2005** Bethany O'Brien  
bethie.obrien@gmail.com
- Sarah Holmstrom  
sarahholmstrom@gmail.com
- 2006** Megan Corcoran Patten  
megan.c.patten@gmail.com
- 2007** Dennis Greene  
drbalyeat@gmail.com
- 2008** Caitlin Rooney Meeker  
caterooney@gmail.com
- 2009** Barry Hendler  
barry.hendler@gmail.com
- 2010** Grace Wainwright Taylor  
gracewainwright@gmail.com
- 2011** Carrie Fillebrown  
cjfillebrown1@juno.com
- Kimberly Lane  
kimlane428@gmail.com
- Derek Tracey  
dtracey714@gmail.com
- 2013** Ashling Suppan  
acsuppan@gmail.com
- 2014** Sarah Wolf  
wolfsarahe@gmail.com
- 2015** Chelsea Reedman  
chelsea.reedman@gmail.com

capitals. She says, "We toured Helsinki with the exchange teacher we hosted in 1982 and have been corresponding since then. We had planned this trip last year in May with my daughter, Charis, and my two sisters as a 50th birthday celebration for Charis. In mid-April, a tendon in my right foot ruptured, and Elliott and I were not able to go on the cruise. The three of them went and we used their experiences and recommendations to plan our trip this year." After a four-month ordeal of surgery, a boot, crutches, a wheelchair, and more, Bonnie was able to walk with a cane for balance and support and was back to doing water aerobics four or five times a week. She also attends a local university's Center for Learning in Retirement.

**Sandy Hirsh** joined the bionic generation last year with a left hip replacement. Her daughter, Katherine, came home from Germany to help with her home recovery as did Drew, Elizabeth, and Chad, who live nearby.

**Lynda Spielman** tells us she is busy with her third or fourth career as a teacher of watercolor and as an artist. She and husband, John, are still adjusting to country life in upstate New York, even after moving out of the city five years ago. She sent a note card featuring one of her watercolors, *Saturday Morning in Delmar*, a delightful depiction of craft show tents in a clearing beyond the woods.

**Sandra Segal Polin** could not attend the reunion due to a business conflict, but she continues to support the University. She also recently met with **Jeff Spence**, Arcadia's assistant vice president for Alumni Engagement and Communications, for coffee in Pacific Palisades, Calif.

**Sue Mason Bothwell** writes that her life is predictable: "I am still going to Bible study, teaching children's Sunday school, and attending classes at a fitness center. Yes, I continue to enjoy garage sales, but their popularity is in decline. My

hunt for an object for the Antiques Roadshow has become even more of a challenge!"

Larry and **Linda Johnston Austin** attended the Worship Symposium at Calvin College in January 2018 and enjoyed six months of camping, two weeks at a time, at Waldenwoods for the seventh year. She is still active at Calvin Church as clerk of session and worship committee chair. Larry preaches on Sundays for various churches and does funeral services. Janine and Jeff's and Scott and Kelly's families keep them busy and delighted with school and sporting events and sleepovers at Waldenwoods.

In February 2018, **Karen Holmes MacIntyre** met her sister Diana in San Antonio, Texas, for a few days of sightseeing before driving to Diana's home in Nacogdoches, where she toured the town, learned about East Texas, and enjoyed visits with her sister's son and his wife and son. Karen returned to San Antonio to join a Road Scholar trip to Big Bend National Park. "I saw rolling farmland, pecan orchards, and cattle ranches. I saw the desert and then mountain country. At the border was Mexico with very rugged, wild desert, 3,000 sandstone cliffs, and the Rio Grande River—all spectacular! We spent a few days exploring and sightseeing highlights of the park." She is still learning the finer points of duplicate bridge and playing regularly so she has earned a few master points. Upkeep of a house never ends; and so does accumulation. Karen is working with a professional organizer to help her declutter.

**Diana Peck Watters**, **Wendy Glass Severance '65** and I, **Linda Mann**, have vowed we are going to get together this summer/fall, as have **Mimi Hirsch Brauch** and I. **Janet Spence Kerr** stopped by for lunch with me on her way to Kennebunk, Maine,

where she is having a house built, hopefully for occupancy by Labor Day. Once it's furnished, I'm invited for a stay.

## 1966

**Bettie Howard Yerkes'** daughter and her husband moved seven houses away from her. She is the "bridge" for her granddaughter, between the end of the school day and when either B.A.'s daughter, Sarah, or son-in-law, Jon, get home from work. Betty says this is the best job ever! B.A.'s son, Jeremy, is a fireman in Hilton Head. He has two sons, Liam, 12, and Ronan, 9.

**Joan Reifsnnyder Sears** had a wonderful 2018 of travel. She and Al went to Costa Rica, Ireland, Michigan, Wisconsin, and France. Now they have unpacked and are enjoying watching their grandchildren (Drew, Ella, Gabriel, Rick, Cameron, Katie, and Sofia) participate in volleyball, baseball, gymnastics, basketball, piano, soccer, and school plays!



**Elisabeth Mackerell Ruch '67**, **Sheila Murphy**, **Diane Duffy Hoch**, and **Miki Waldman De Baise '66** (above) went to Aruba together in January. Rumor has it that a great time was had by all.

**Holly Pfeiffer Ludwig** has been packing and unpacking too. She went to Tahoe for skiing twice: once with her regular

buddies and then again with her son, Chris, and granddaughter, Saige. Introducing Saige to “big mountains” and the true joy of skiing out west was a thrill. After the cold weather and skiing, Holly was off to Florida for Saige’s gymnastics competition in Orlando. And then, she enjoyed a wonderful trip to New Zealand—the people, the history, the sheep, and the cows!

I, **Judy Simon King**, spent time in February with **Margaret Wolpert Rutkowski**. Our visit is a yearly event and we have the same agenda each year: eating, laughing, talking, shopping, sunbathing, repeat. What fun!

**Miki Waldman DeBaise** was inducted into the Pennsylvania Sports Hall of Fame, Bucks County Chapter in April 2019. She was honored at a lovely dinner attended by 17 other inductees and their guests. Miki had two tables of well-wishers attending, including **Diane Duffy Hoch**; Miki’s daughter, Brooke; her son-in-law, Glen; and I, **Judy Simon King**. We were privileged to be invited and so proud to see Miki honored in such a wonderful way. Miki has certainly made Beaver/Arcadia proud.

## 1969

**The Class of 1969** celebrated its golden 50-year reunion during Alumni Weekend on May 3 and 4, 2019. Graduates traveled from near and far to reunite on campus and commemorate the many special milestones they achieved since graduation.

**Barbara Kelly Breeden** volunteers at her church as an archivist and the head of the church’s history and archives project. She also participates in several groups at the United States Naval Academy, including serving as historian for the Naval Academy Garden Club and former president and advisor for the Naval Academy Spouses’ and Civilians’ Club. She serves on the program committee of the Anne Arundel Genealogical Society. She is also a member of the Maryland Genealogical Society and the National Genealogical Society.

**Patricia Broh Bort** shares, “I am still teaching Math Olympiads, which I began in 1997. My husband and I travel when we can and have visited China, Europe, Peru, Argentina, Chile, Brazil, Australia, New Zealand, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Belize, and India. I also love traveling the United States, especially the National Parks in Utah, Wyoming, and Arizona. We also spend time visiting our sons in Seattle and New York and travel to Cabo San Lucas every summer.”

**Barbara Woodruff Chase** says, “I retired at 60, and about eight years ago I decided to take some painting classes. It only took a short time to know that I could capably paint and feel proud of what I was doing. I now do quite a few outdoor art shows in the summer and have exhibits all over Maine. And I am loving every minute of the painting, marketing, and sharing.”

**Christina Hill Connell** writes, “We have two sons: David and Philip. David and his wife, Julie, have three children: Romi, 8, Shelby, 5, and Addison, 2. David has a master’s in Agricultural Engineering from McGill University and is a contractor. Philip lives in Toronto and is a film director. Ross and I have been married for 47 years and have lived in Oakville, Ontario, since 1982.”

**Emily Solomon Farrell** shares, “Besides being a docent at the Brandywine River Museum of Art, each week I do Zumba Gold and Chair Yoga and walk my hostile rescue pup, Bianca. For my brain, I take Bible on Wednesdays and Lifelong Learning on Thursdays. I have also discovered mosaics, so I take classes each week and have mosaicked everything in my house that doesn’t move.”

**Susan Rodgers Fleming** says, “Traveling, reading, and staying connected to friends and family keep me happy. Rob and I bounce around from Philadelphia, New York City, and Des Moines, where we now oversee the farm where Rob grew up. The farm has been

a real adventure and is something I never would have predicted we would be doing at this point. It’s been great having a new project and is very satisfying. We especially appreciate renewing old friendships and making new friends there.”

**Hilda Glazer** continues to work in her private practice and teaches part time. She volunteers at Barefoot Beach in Florida in the education center and also for Corkscrew Regional Environmental Watershed (CREW). She also volunteers with the Columbus Jewish Foundation, as the chair of the grants committee, and with her congregation.

**Helen Rolfe Ham** says, “I am beginning to think of myself as an artist. I have been painting for the last five years and think I have gotten good enough to try to show some pieces and perhaps sell enough to pay for my art supplies! I also volunteer at my church on social justice issues.”

**Ruth Fireoved Marino** tells us, “I worked as a school psychologist for a total of 37 years, most of them in New Jersey public elementary schools. I decided to wait until I retired to pursue clinical licensure to practice psychology in Pennsylvania. Securing supervision proved to be an enormous obstacle, but I managed to fulfill the requirements and was issued a license in August 2018. Presently, I am employed part time for a charter high school in Philadelphia.”

**Susan Smyth Shenker** shares, “My goals for retirement are to be healthy and have fun. So far, I am achieving both. With four children and four grandchildren, family time is my number one priority. I’m on a few advisory boards and am trying to decide whether to sell my suburban home and move back to Manhattan. My dream would be to live near Lincoln Center and have a view of the sunset.”

## 1973

**Pamela Martin** had emergency open-heart surgery three years

ago. She perseveres and continues to take groups to Cuba! She writes, “During trip number 88, I contracted fish poisoning (ciguatera). I just returned from trip number 91! I would love to introduce Arcadia alumni—let’s plan a trip!”

## 1988

**Michelle Prudon**, who was born in Holland and attended an American high school in Brazil, provided an update on her life and career since attending Beaver College and receiving a B.F.A. in Interior Design. She was offered her first job as an interior designer for an architecture firm in Poughkeepsie, N.Y. and, in 1992, moved to Charlotte, N.C., where she worked for a firm specializing in store design. Although she enjoyed designing, it was not fulfilling her expectations and finally, in 1995, she returned to the Netherlands to get her M.B.A. in Finance at Webster University. This was her first time living in Holland since she left as an infant, and she fell in love with Europe. Since 1997 she has been working for ING Bank NV as a network manager, where she manages the “network” of ING’s relationships with banks in 75 countries. The job requires her to travel quite a bit and have strong social skills. But there is also plenty of time for fun! Having been a part of the equestrian team at Beaver, Michelle’s passion for horses continues. She now owns two horses and participates in dressage competitions in her free time. She is a single mother with two teenage children and loves traveling with them. Next stop, back to visit her roots in Brazil in July 2019!

**Stacey James Mohr** writes, “I have been teaching for the last 20 years. My husband Phil and I are celebrating our 30th wedding anniversary in September. Our son, Simon, graduated from Arcadia in 2016, received his master’s degree from Arcadia in May 2019, and is the coordinator of the R.E.AL. Certificate program at Arcadia.”





**Susan Adelizzi-Schmidt** says, "I recently had the pleasure of reconnecting with some of you and meeting Arcadia's dynamic new president, **Dr. Ajay Nair**, in Bethany Beach, Del. Since graduation, I have earned an M.B.A. at Stockton University, where I also serve as an adjunct professor. I was recently accepted into Stockton's Ed.D. Organizational Leadership program and I look forward to beginning my journey toward earning my doctorate in the fall.

Since 2007, I have owned Suasion Communications Group (*above*), an award-winning marketing and public relations agency, with offices in Somers Point and Haddonfield, N.J. *The Philadelphia Business Journal* named Suasion to its top Full-Service Agency List for the past two years, and we have been very fortunate to be recognized for our work, with numerous state, national, and industry-based awards.

Being the mom to two incredible people, my daughter, Lauren, and my son, Conrad, brings me so much joy. Lauren will finish her associate's degree at Atlantic Cape Community College in the fall and will then complete her bachelor's degree at Stockton University. Conrad has just finished his junior year at Ocean City High School and has been accepted to Northeastern University's Pre-College Summer Program.

In 2013, I ran for a New Jersey State Senate seat and was honored to be

the first woman from either party to win a nomination and run in the history of the state's First Legislative District. I am based at the Jersey Shore and travel extensively throughout the Delaware Valley visiting clients and networking. I would love to hear from you! If you would like to reconnect, please send an email to [sschmidt@suasionmarketing.com](mailto:sschmidt@suasionmarketing.com) or connect on social media."

## 1990

**Marlyn Alkins** writes, "After retirement, I missed teaching, so I began teaching Shakespeare's *Macbeth* at Delaware Valley College's Continuing Learning for Retirees (CLR) program. I have done this for a few semesters, and will continue to do it in the future. The students are 65 and older, well-educated, and very interested in the material. I love it."

## 2001

**Sarah Friedman** was named vice president of Customer Experience and Strategic Projects at Bollman Hat Company in Adamstown, Pa.

## 2005

**Angela Linder** writes, "After graduating from Arcadia, I worked with a homeless organization in South Philly, helping 30 men who had drug, alcohol, and mental health issues in addition to being homeless. In 2015, I started working for a mental health program. I currently work in a house with eight women with intellectual disabilities. Their needs are on varying degrees. This keeps things interesting.

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On a personal note, I have been divorced and taking care of my mother who has two very serious medical conditions.”

**Meg Eubank** married Roland Kaelin on May 24, 2019, in a private ceremony with family, followed by a ten-day honeymoon in Ireland. Meg and Roland live together in Hilltown, Pa., where Meg is the executive director of a nonprofit, Welcoming the Stranger (*see p. 32*), and Roland is an audio engineer.

## 2006

**Mishy Rashid** was awarded the Ms. Florida Coast 2019 title by the Ms. America® Pageant on June 8, 2019. Mishy has held several business practices as an entrepreneur in several countries across the globe including Dubai, South Africa, and the United States. She is an activist for My Hope Chest. In 2019, she launched her own makeup line for people with Persian Indian skin tones called Shazi Glam. Currently, she manages and owns a home care company for seniors called Angelic Home Care of Sarasota in Sarasota, Fla., covering twelve counties within the state.



## 2007

**Lisa Labb** received an honorable mention in the Portrait Category, for the 13th Julia Margaret Cameron Award. She will be exhibiting in Barcelona, Spain from Oct. 7–26, 2019.

## 2009

Congratulations to **Anthony Champi** and his wife, Eileen, on the birth of their son, Tucker Anthony Champi (*below*), on March 7, 2019. All are doing well.

**Hilda Rivera** recently bought a house in Allentown, Pa. and was promoted to Government Affairs Analyst at Lehigh Valley Health Network.

**Dana Bartelt** says, “I’ve recently adopted a one-eyed cat named Harley Quinn.”

**Kevin Janus** is now the Regional Vice President with Ameritas.

**Helen M. Dwyer** says, “This past year I presented at the National Science Teacher Association conference in National Harbor, Md. and earned my Master of Education in STEM Leadership from the American College of Education.



I finished my seventh year teaching in Southern Maryland.”

**Jennifer Thomas** (*above*) says, “I just finished my tenth year teaching at T.M. Peirce Elementary School in North Philadelphia. Me and my wife, Megan, and our son, Alexander (“Xander”), just purchased and moved into our first house!”

**Barry Hendler** recently accepted a new job as an associate director of Residence Life at West Chester University.

**Christine Klepper** and **Alessandro Russo** got married on July 20, 2019 on Long Island, N.Y.

## 2010

**Grace Wainwright Taylor** says, “I am currently an associate director of Financial Aid at Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine. I have just started leading my daughter’s Girl Scout Daisy troop! My husband **Andrew Taylor ’11** and I had our second daughter, Natalie Michelle, on March 4, 2019. Andrew is currently in the M.F.A. in Visual Narrative program at SVA NYC.

**Dawn Boothby** is working for the United States Treasury Department as an I.T. project manager. Dawn is a foster parent in the state of Ohio and has had a



total of eight children (ages three-months-old to 15-years-old) in her home within the last year. She shares, "I currently have a foster baby, who I hope to adopt one day. Fostering is hard, but it means the world to the kids I support."

**Jessica Davis** is an associate at a private practice in Mechanicsburg, Pa. and has been practicing psychological therapy since finishing graduate school five years ago.

**Justin DeRosa** completed medical school at Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine in 2016 and is currently finishing his medical residency training and will be starting a gastroenterology fellowship at Jefferson Health System in July 2019.



**Jennifer Gray** writes, "Last fall I returned to Arcadia in order to obtain a master's degree in Education, something I've been toying with doing for years. My estimated graduation is in 2021. I am also celebrating nine years of working for Historic Philadelphia, Inc., a nonprofit in Old City where I am able to make history come to life through storytelling and portraying Betsy Ross! I'm loving living in downtown Philadelphia with my black cat, Doug."

## 2012

**Samantha Luciano** married Kenneth Mariano on May 18, 2019. Three decades of Arcadia alumni—all coaches with Special Olympics, who started their volunteering through Arcadia's Special Athlete Association (*pg. 10*)—attended the wedding.

**Brittany Dutch** was the maid of honor and was joined by her fiancé, **Cristopher Sefransky '07**. Other alumni in attendance included, **Dave Owens '04** and his fiancée, **Denise Meola '02**; **Dave Paone '04, '09MED** and his fiancée, Kathryn, who unexpectedly passed away on Sept. 11, 2019; **Stephanie Doyle '06, '07M**; **Michele Morgan '14**; **Curts Charles '12MBA**; **Heidi Reynolds Russell '92**; and **Kerry Costello Leraris '92, '94MED** (*above*).

## 2013

**Gabrielle Bruno** (*left*) recently graduated from South University as a physician assistant and got engaged to fellow Class of 2013 classmate, **Christopher Baines!**

**Melissa Bowers Palmer** (*top right*) is currently running for Sheriff of Montgomery County (on the ballot as Melissa Bowers Palmer). On Tuesday, May 21, 2019, she won her primary and will be up for election this coming November. Melissa



says, "My bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice from Arcadia University has truly played an important role in my decision to run for public office. One professor I took several classes under, **Al Stewart**, is a member of the Montgomery County Bomb Squad, which is under the Sheriff's Department. His classes not only prepared me for my career, but helped motivate me to be where I am today."

**Benjamin Smith** has joined Law Offices of Anthony J. Leonard, LLC as an associate. In this new position, Ben will focus his practice on serious injury cases of all kinds, including slip and falls, automobile and trucking accidents, product liability, and medical malpractice. The firm has offices in Mount Holly, N.J. and Philadelphia.



## 2014

On May 17, 2019, **Haylie Lobeck** (*above*) successfully defended her Ph.D. thesis titled "Transformation of Uranyl Phases into Nanoscale Cage Clusters and Hydrothermal Behavior of Uranyl Peroxide Nanoclusters" at the University of Notre



Dame. Her advisor was Dr. Peter C. Burns. Their research was funded by the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) Actinide Center of Excellence grant DE-NA0003763. Her work studied uranium chemistry and geochemistry, with projects focusing on dissolving uranium minerals in different environments and how this relates to the nuclear fuel cycle. She has accepted a one-year NNSA Postdoctoral Fellowship (NNSA NGFP) and will be working with the Office of Tritium and Materials Management in Albuquerque, N.M.

A year ago, **Lauren English** launched her own business and app for book clubs, Bindings. Groups can manage their reading schedules, rate and review books, and host discussions regarding their readings. What's more, by completing a short personality questionnaire, the app will match you with book clubs worldwide that meet your personality and needs. The app is currently live, but very far from finished. The last year has focused on expanding users and reaching out to the public to help test. The app is available in the App Store as Bindings App. For more information check out [facebook.com/bindingsapp](https://facebook.com/bindingsapp).

**Brandon Strauss** recently received his master's degree in Natural Resource Sciences in the discipline of Applied

Ecology with a specialty of Forensic Entomology from University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

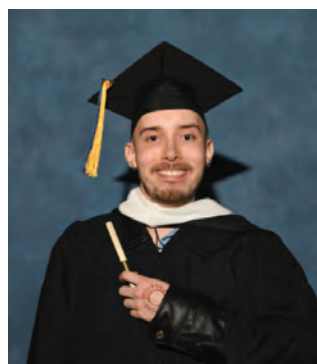
**Amber Timlin** is currently a teen librarian for Marple Public Library and has a beautiful 2-year-old daughter.

**Katlyn Davies** is engaged to marry to Stephen Whitehead on Dec. 14, 2019.



In March, **Emyliane Christodoulou** (above) launched her own tea business, Dearling Blends. It's an all organic, sustainable business started in New Hope, Pa. For more information, check out [dearlingblends.com](https://dearlingblends.com).

**Joseph Beissel** is graduating from Palmer College of Chiropractic as a Doctor of Chiropractic in September.



In May, **Chris Issac** (above) graduated with his master's degree in Strategic Communications from La Salle University. While studying for this degree he was also working two jobs.

Since graduating from Arcadia, **Allison Gaines** received her master's degree in Biomedical Science, obtained certification with the American Board of Medicolegal Death Investigators, and accepted a job as a forensic death investigator at the Cobb County Medical Examiner's Office in Marietta, Ga.

**Joseph Thomas** just finished his M.F.A. in prose at the University of Notre Dame, and will be doing a Fulbright to Oaxaca this year. He will then pursue his Ph.D. in English at the University of Pennsylvania the year after. He had a memoir excerpt, "The Den of Earl" published

in *The Offing* in 2017, and has a short story forthcoming in the *Kenyon Review*.

**Stephanie McDougal** is the clinical director of the Physical Therapy and Wellness Institute Souderton location. She is also board certified in orthopedics effective July 2017.

## 2018

**Samantha Trainor** writes, "A year after graduation, I have found myself in a new graduate program at Drexel University. I am currently a Master of Public Health candidate in Health Management and Policy, graduating in March of 2020. Along with full-time grad school, I am also working for Virtua Health in South Jersey in Patient Access—utilizing my degree received in Healthcare Administration. In June, I began a position at Wills Eye Hospital in Center City, Philadelphia in their Patient Safety and Quality Improvement Department working alongside the heads of surgery, patient safety, and infectious disease. Since starting this degree in September, I have been working with one of my professors to research and present at the APHA Conference in Philadelphia this coming fall! Arcadia has given me these opportunities to grow and I would not change it for the world!"



Effective Jan. 1, 2020, alumni will retain access to their Arcadia email accounts for two years following their graduation date. In order to protect personal information and sensitive data, accounts will be retired after that period. To continue receiving news and announcements from the Alumni Association, update your alumni record at [alumni.arcadia.edu](https://alumni.arcadia.edu) or by emailing [alumni@arcadia.edu](mailto:alumni@arcadia.edu).