

# SCOPE

A SHOWCASE OF SKIDMORE COLLEGE PEOPLE AND PROGRAMS FALL 2018

Liberal arts:  
What are they good for? 34

Campus news and updates 3

## Passion mashup

Alumni mix and match skills to forge careers they truly love

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Alumni blend diverse studies and skills into a perfect recipe for life success

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The value of the liberal arts in today's world—and tomorrow's



#### AND THE SURVEY SAYS...

Please take a moment to complete a brief survey about your SCOPE reading preferences at [skidmore.edu/scopesurvey](http://skidmore.edu/scopesurvey)

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Varsity rowers Kevin McCauley '18 and Ross Powell '19 deliver donations to a Saratoga food pantry.



# Year in Review

**2–17 Paul Simon, pig farming, students interviewing artists, Beatlemore, museum news, and more**

# Class Notes

**30 A full batch of alumni news, from travels to jobs to new babies (the latest notes are posted online at [alumni.skidmore.edu/classnotes](http://alumni.skidmore.edu/classnotes))**



## FROM THE PRESIDENT

**When Marie and I joined the Skidmore community 15 years ago,** we were impressed by its focus on creativity, welcoming attitude, and forward-looking spirit. Those qualities remain at the heart of all we do.

We have seen impressive change. From the comprehensive First-Year Experience of learning together in small, supportive seminars to senior-year capstones and thesis projects, students are engaging in intellectual exploration and self-reflection that integrate their learning in and out of the classroom. New interdisciplinary majors and minors have developed: from arts administration to neuroscience, to media and film studies (in conjunction with the Moore Documentary Studies Collaborative), to the first intergroup-relations minor in the U.S. Some 60 percent of our students study abroad, placing Skidmore near the top among American colleges. Increased funding for summer internships and hands-on, intensive learning allows more students to afford career-building experiences.

The demographics of our student body, faculty, and senior leadership has changed, and this diversity makes us stronger. By increasing financial aid, attracting more U.S. students of color, recruiting more international students, and devising new opportunities for cross-cultural interactions, we are making our campus more pluralistic and welcoming to all. The faculty also recently approved a revised and re-imagined general education curriculum that embraces this diversity.

In a world of complex interactions and sometimes disorienting change, success requires creativity, nimbleness of mind, and the ability to draw upon the broadest range of perspectives. Creative thought matters means not only ideas, but action. With roots in Skidmore's mind-and-hand legacy, our commitment to bridging theoretical and applied learning represents the best path for graduating thoughtful problem-solvers, skilled communicators, and global citizens.

Building a rich campus living and learning environment is a top priority. Our attractive residential and dining spaces motivate more upperclass students to live on campus. Solar, hydroelectric, and geothermal energy



now powers many buildings, and sustainability programs—from composting to bike-sharing—bring together students, faculty, and staff. We are expanding athletics, and fitness opportunities are expanding, from lunch-hour fitness classes to the new Valentine Boathouse. SaratogaArtsFest, Skidmore Cares, Saratoga Reads, and other programs, have enhanced the College's connection with the broader community.

Our most ambitious construction project yet—the Center for Integrated Sciences—reflects the crucial role of science in our lives. Whether navigating big data or managing instant global media, understanding climate and energy issues or shaping the ethics of biomedical innovation, science literacy is essential for any informed, responsible citizen. To support the increasing number of students who now major in the sciences and to increase science literacy for all our students, we have designed a transformative, 21st-century facility. The CIS will foster new collaborations among disciplines and connect them with other areas of the College. Phase I construction has begun. But even more impressive than its bricks and equipment will be the deepened understanding and the generation of new knowledge among the students and faculty members working there together.

Financing the CIS and other important initiatives is a substantial challenge, but it is one we have embraced. *Our Creative Thought—Bold Promise* campaign, which finished in 2010, made possible the remarkable Arthur Zankel Music Center and Sussman Village. Today, our *Creating Our Future* campaign is raising funds for the CIS, increased financial aid, and other priorities. I invite the entire Skidmore community—alumni, parents, students, faculty, staff, and friends—to unite in bringing this campaign to a successful conclusion in 2020. Even more importantly, I call upon our entire Skidmore family to rededicate ourselves to developing the bright, ambitious young people who are the leaders for tomorrow our world so desperately needs. Helping them fulfill their promise represents our greatest achievement.

—Philip A. Glotzbach

## SKIDMORE COLLEGE

### SCOPE FALL 2018

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**On the cover:** Artistic physician Mike Natter '08 uses his humanities background in his science career. (Photo by Todd France '89) See page 19.

**Creative Thought Matters**



# YEAR IN REVIEW 2018

## NEW CLASSIC

**Skidmore's Saratoga Classic** horse show, whose proceeds provide major scholarship funding, celebrated the grand opening of its new, 103-acre venue, a farm in nearby Stillwater, N.Y., that was given to Skidmore by the estate of Robert R. Rosenheim. This summer's participants and spectators enjoyed the state-of-the-art arenas, vast stabling and lush paddocks, reports the show's executive director and Skidmore advancement officer Adele Einhorn '80. "This competition venue is unlike any other in the region," she says. "It's absolutely beautiful, with ample room to ride and graze and turn out horses. It is so user-friendly for both horse and rider."

📷 Shawn McMillen







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## MARQUEE GUEST SPEAKERS

**RHYMIN' SIMON.** “A cliché when it’s not expected can break your heart,” confided 16-time Grammy winner **Paul Simon** in a songwriting master class for a group of music and English students. The 50-year icon of pop music immediately set a vibe that was relaxed, intimate and interactive. When a student began her question with “So, I was wondering...” Simon interjected, “See? You might be able to use that phrase—it’s obviously natural for you” and then said, “Sorry, what was your question?”

Simon played a work in progress, demonstrated some purposeful noodling for getting a song started, and discussed his influences and methods. After 90 minutes, he lingered with a ring of rapt students around him and talked more. Later Simon took the Zankel Music Center stage, with President Philip Glotzbach as interviewer (above). He chatted with the standing-room-only crowd and even surprised them with impromptu acoustic performances of “Questions for the Angels” and “American Tune.”



*New Yorker* covers are some of the artistic and editorial collaborations led by Françoise Mouly.



**SERIO-COMIC.** **Françoise Mouly**, who as art editor at the *New Yorker* magazine has worked with myriad artists to create the magazine’s signature covers every week for more than 20 years, met with students and gave the 2017 Fox-Adler Lecture. With husband Art Spiegelman (of *Maus* fame), Mouly created the comics anthology *RAW*, the “Little Lit” series and the “Toon” children’s comics series.

Adept at using the funny to uncover the serious, Mouly engaged her audience by showing draft *New Yorker* covers and how they were tweaked by artist and editor working together. Jordana Dym, history professor and director of the Moore Documentary Studies Collaborative, was pleased that students heard about this process. “Mouly highlighted how such work benefits from critique and honing the vision.”



### CHARACTER AND CULTURE.

Citing virtues like “tolerance, civil rights and creativity” along with “sins such as narcissism and a culture of fame,” leading journalist **David Brooks** spoke about American society’s past and future. Known as a moderate conservative, the *New York Times* columnist and regular commentator on *Meet the Press* and *All Things Considered* has written about personal character and social culture in American life. He’s also on the faculty at Yale.

In his Skidmore classroom session and public lecture, Brooks described “a crisis of social solidarity.” For him, the election of Donald Trump was “the wrong answer to the right question.” One right answer, he offered, is “to think about commitments as a cure for social and personal ills. It’s our commitments that create our identities, that give us a sense of purpose and meaning.”





## Fresh leadership

**Michael Orr** is Skidmore's new dean of the faculty and vice president for academic affairs. Since 2011 he held the same post at Lake Forest College in Illinois, where he helped guide a major upgrade in science facilities and start the Institute on College Futures for regional liberal-arts colleges. He has won teaching prizes as an art historian at Wisconsin's Lawrence University. His doctorate is from Cornell. Orr succeeds political scientist Beau Breslin, who served as DOF for five years, and social work professor Crystal Moore, who served as interim last semester.

**Sean Campbell** is the new Collyer Vice President for Advancement. He was managing director of individual giving at University of Chicago Medicine since 2012. He also led a range of staff and volunteer fundraising, alumni engagement and parent programs for the Chicago Society and Bates College. Campbell holds a BA in journalism and communications from the University of Maine. He replaces associate VP and campaign director Kim Verstandig, who served as interim VP after Michael Casey moved to Trinity College last year.

**Martin Mbugua** became Skidmore's first-ever vice president for communications and marketing last fall. He was formerly assistant vice president for content and communications at Carnegie Mellon University and earlier director of media relations and university spokesperson at Princeton. He began his career as a journalist, for the *New York Daily News* and *Queens Chronicle*. He holds an MBA from the University of Delaware and a master's in government, politics and international relations from St. John's University. Mbugua replaces consultant Debra Townsend, who served as interim VP for two years.

## FACULTY IN THE NEWS

Skidmore faculty members are always publishing academic articles and joining colleagues across the country and the globe to share their scholarship. A sampling of faculty who made headlines last year:

**Cecelia Aldarondo, English**, had her documentary *Memories of a Penitent Heart* aired July 31 on PBS television's *POV*.

**Paul Arciero, health and human physiological sciences**, contributed to a *July Health* article about snorting chocolate and a *March Self* story on fat-burning.

**Diana Barnes, Spanish**, was part of the Aug. 22 *New York Times* story "Far from Winner's Circle, Saratoga Track Workers Fear Deportation."

**Catherine Berheide, sociology**, appeared on National Public Radio's *Marketplace* on Feb. 16, in a segment titled "What Does the Gender Wage Gap Sound Like?"

**Ian Berry, Dayton Director of the Tang Museum**, was quoted in the Dec. 1 *New York Times* article "Breaking Through Categories and Conventions at BAM" and in a Jan. 2 NPR story on painter Njideka Akunyili Crosby.

**Yelena Biberman, political science**, co-authored a May 7 *Washington Post* story on Pakistani militants going into politics.

**Jennifer Delton, history**, wrote "The Left's Grand Delusion" in the July 28 *Washington Post*, where she also published an Aug. 22 opinion piece titled "When 'Free Speech' Becomes a Political Weapon."

**Kristie Ford, sociology**, was in the Oct. 31 *New York Times* story "In a Volatile Climate on Campus, Professors Teach on Tenterhooks." Her new book is *Facilitating Change through Intergroup Dialogue*.

**Amy Frappier, geosciences**, appeared on PBS television, as an expert in a *Nova* episode on "Killer Hurricanes" that aired Nov. 1.

**Rebecca Johnson, psychology**, was interviewed about reading and eye-tracking for a *Popular Science* story, part of its spring 2018 issue on intelligence.

**David Karp, sociology**, was quoted in the March 19 *Men's Health* piece called "This Is How to Apologize for Sexual Misconduct."

**Christopher Mann, political science**, was quoted in *U.S. News and World Report's* March 28 story "Vote...or Die?"

**Eric Morser, history**, published a new book, *The Fires of New England: A Story of Protest and Rebellion in Antebellum America*.

**Charlie Samuels, art**, saw his *Virgin Blacktop: A New York Skate Odyssey*, named best feature documentary at the Paris Surf & Skateboard Film Festival.

**Linda Simon, English (emerita)**, published a new book, *Lost Girls: The Invention of the Flapper*, and wrote about flappers in the September *Smithsonian*.

**Sheldon Solomon, psychology**, was interviewed on the BBC's *Why Factor*, for a May 21 story on immortality.

## FRESHMAN FACTS

**680**  
enrollees

**50%** enrolled through Early Decision

**36%** men



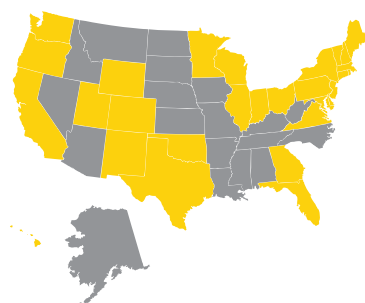
**64%** women

**10,797** applications

**27%** acceptance rate

**47%** receiving Skidmore grant aid

**25** countries international students



**35** U.S. states

**25%** domestic students of color



# Doing well, doing good

Alumni in the past year have racked up a mind-boggling array of accomplishments and accolades; here are just three examples:

After 9/11, Wall Street banker **John Ubaldo '88** decided to trade his New York City office for an upstate farm. Starting with eggs and chickens, he expanded to other fowl as well as heritage-breed hogs and cattle. He uses 100-year-old methods of natural crop and livestock care, plus 21st-century technology to advocate for animal rights, expansion of crop diversity and reduction of pesticides. His goal: to support small farms and preserve rural culture. As he laments, "Chemicals and sprays have just replaced knowledge." With the release of the multi-award-winning documentary *The Bullish Farmer*, exploring his life and work, Ubaldo visited Skidmore to talk with students, screen the film, and even provide some of his farm-fresh chicken to the dining hall.



"Options are like toys: the one with the most wins." Psychology major **Drew Fidler '08** still recalls social-work professor Peter McCarthy '83 saying that in class. For her, growing up with plenty of options meant "you have a responsibility to help create them for others." International-affairs major **Ivy Asamoah '19** came to "realize how privileged I am" when she spent a summer helping the International Rescue Committee in housing refugees in the New York area. That summer was funded by a scholarship endowed by Fidler and parents Josh and Genine. Each summer, the gift funds a first-generation college student doing out-of-classroom work in social and human services. Like the Fidlers, Asamoah has "a passion to bridge the global gap, increase understanding and attend to those in need."



**Leslie Snow Féron '48** has left Skidmore a \$2.4 million bequest. Féron danced on and off Broadway, including with the Martha Graham Dance Company, and she taught dance in England, at the Bath Academy of Art and the American School in London. Husband Louis Féron was a sculptor and jeweler whose work was shown in the Louvre in Paris and acquired by several museums. (Some of Louis's work, tools and photographs were included in the show *Rose Ocean: Living with Duchamp* at Skidmore's Tang Museum last spring.) Leslie left the entirety of her and Louis's estate to the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston and to Skidmore, which will use the gift to support the Center for Integrated Sciences, a major campus facility that is now under construction.



From the top: John Ubaldo '88 stars as a "bullish farmer"; (left) Ivy Asamoah '19 had a summer internship underwritten by (right) the family of Drew Fidler '08; Leslie Snow Féron '48 and her husband contributed to a Tang Museum show and more.

Ubaldo: Gerardo Puglia; Asamoah: Eric Jenks '08; Fidler: Jennifer Rynda; Féron: Fromalks; gallery: Arthur Evans



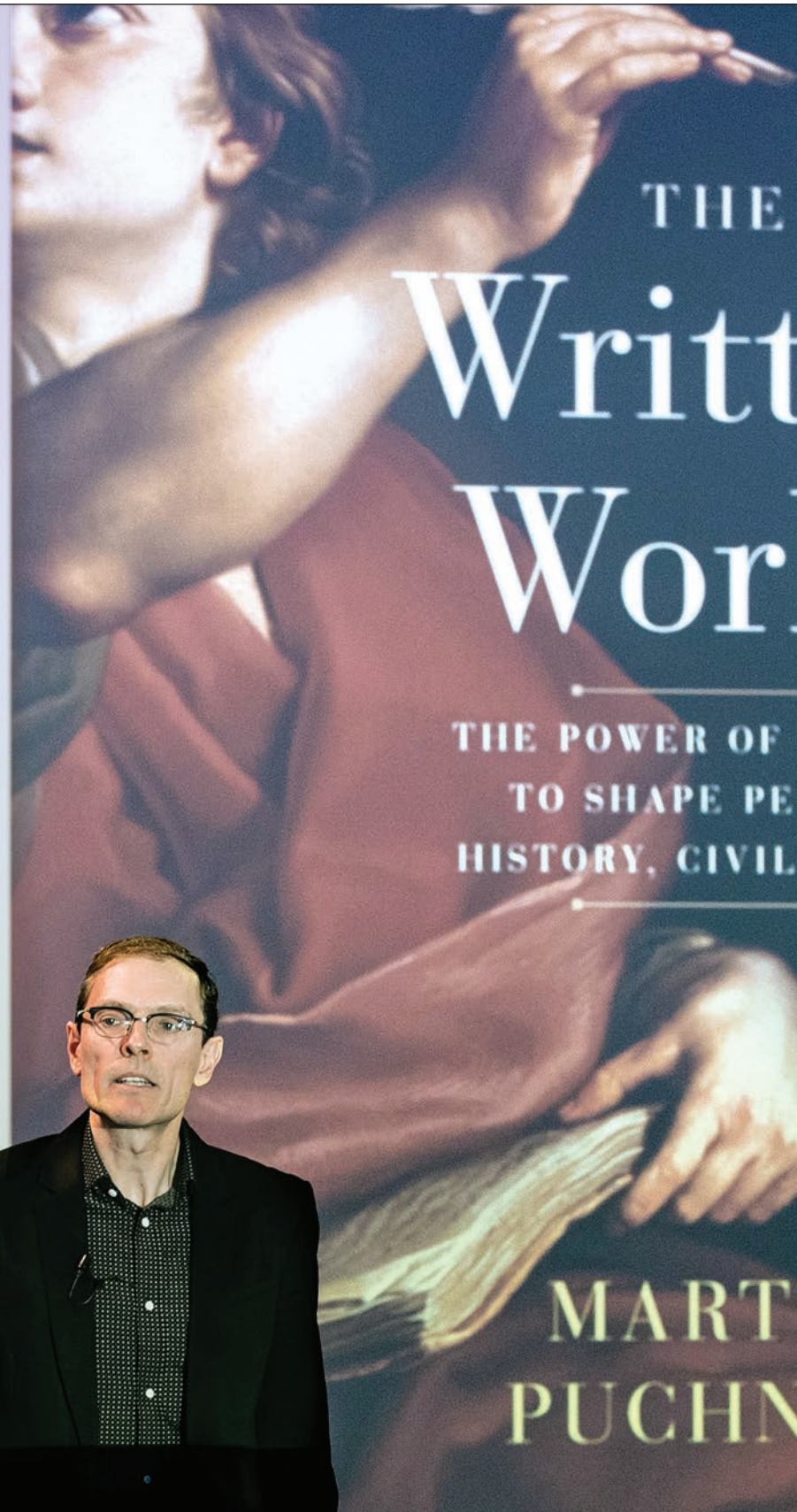
## VARIATIONS ARE THE THEME

From myths and shape-shifting to new technologies, a campus forum delved deeply and widely into themes of change. More than 100 faculty, staff, students and community members gathered in March for Skidmore's inaugural cross-disciplinary Humanistic Inquiry Symposium, co-founded by professors Michael Arnush (classics) and Barbara Black (English) and hosted at the Tang Museum.

For this year's "Metamorphosis" theme, keynote speaker Martin Puchner, a comparative-lit scholar and Wien Professor of Drama at Harvard, presented "Storytelling from the Tablet to the Internet," based on his book *The Written World*, describing the transformational history of literature and the written word starting with the invention of writing.

The symposium began with faculty presentations spanning humanities, sciences and arts, including Joel Brown and Brett Grigsby performing classic folk songs, April Bernard reading poetry, Robert and Shana ParkeHarrison exhibiting photographs, Will Bond acting an *Ovid Metamorphoses* piece, and Debra Fernandez with student Emily Gunter '19 presenting an original dance. Other presentations and discussions addressed the future of humans and nonhumans, evolution and mutation, new media and technologies, hybridization, migrations and changing populations, growth and aging, stories of shape-shifting and other topics. Faculty researchers, from classics to neuroscience to anthropology, also shared their work. From a social-work perspective, for instance, Crystal Moore explored absences due to death, addiction, mental illness and abduction, positing the formula "pain times resistance equals suffering. The more we push away from the pain, the more we are likely to suffer."

Puchner was impressed by the forum's "combination of art-making and scholarship" and by "the enthusiasm of the participants, the eagerness with which they encounter each other's work." As the event coincided with the national March for Our Lives protesting gun violence in schools, Puchner also cited it as a timely example of metamorphosis: a generation of brave students navigating an ever-changing world.



Martin Puchner shares his humanistic inquiry into the history of storytelling.





# Artists in their own words

Interviewee-artist Jamal Cyrus discusses his work, recently featured in the Tang's *Other Side* exhibition.

**Dayna Joseph '19** first learned about Zanele Muholi from her textbook in an art history class. She was intrigued by Muholi, who calls herself a “visual activist” and is known for her “Faces and Phases” photography, which aims to highlight the humanity of lesbians and transgender men in her native South Africa. When Joseph saw that Muholi was coming to the Tang Museum for Skidmore’s Artist Interview course, she signed up to be on the interviewing team.

“The class gives students unique learning experiences with living artists and contributes to how they are presented to the world,” says the Tang’s Dayton Director Ian Berry, who teaches the course. “All of the artists interviewed for class have work in the Tang collection, so our students are also adding to what we and future scholars know about the artwork on campus.”

Artists interviewed by Berry’s students include Syd Carpenter, whose sculptural work brings attention to the past and present lives of African-American farmers; Michael Joo, who explores perception and identity, often informed by scientific research; Paula Wilson, whose feminist art is a hybrid, pattern-filled mosaic of materials and imagery that mixes biography and body with fashion and technology; Jamal Cyrus, who experiments with conceptual connections between performance, music and politics; and Miguel A. Aragón, who manipulates news photos to resensitize viewers to the fatalities in his hometown of Ciudad Juarez, Mexico. All the interviews are conducted on camera before classmates, Tang staff members and crews with cameras, lights and microphones.

When the cameras rolled for her Muholi interview, Joseph

felt a little nervous, but she says, “I think my anxiety helped me get through it.”

“Some students haven’t yet understood art history as something crafted by individuals,” Berry remarks. “These interviews put students in the position of having to mediate the sometimes chance elements that can shape the creation of art history. Artists like Muholi know a question can shape their legacy just as much as their answer can.”

Muholi’s interview covered her career as an internationally acclaimed photographer and what she means by “visual activist.” She has a political goal for her photography to counter the history of bigotry and violence experienced by the black lesbian, gay, transgender and intersex communities of South Africa to which she belongs, and to argue for their own place in the world.

The dialogue with Muholi was an experience that Joseph won’t soon forget. “She was a very positive, amazing woman,” she says. “I think her toughness is the obvious result of the life she had to live.” For Joseph, the main lessons of the course occurred in class discussion after the interviews. “Ian and the students were able to pick out things that weren’t immediately apparent during the interviews. A lot of artists have ways of deflecting or not answering when they’re answering; others really like to talk. Zanele Muholi likes to talk, and she has an agenda. And she was able to get her agenda out.”

All of the course’s interviews will be available to researchers, and edited versions will be published on the revamped Tang collection website scheduled to launch in fall 2018.

—Michael Janairo

## Collection conspectus

The Tang collection includes more than **14,000 objects** ranging from pre-Columbian artifacts to paintings, photographs, video and sculpture by leading contemporary artists. The works are used in exhibitions; in arts, humanities and science courses; and in forums on issues from incarceration to public monuments to activism in the digital age.

In fall 2018, the Tang will relaunch [tang.skidmore.edu/collection](http://tang.skidmore.edu/collection) with 1,000-plus high-resolution images of artwork, videos of artists discussing their work and other resources. —MJ



# LAST YEAR AT THE TANG

In 2017–18, Tang Museum hosted many artists and scholars, organized 17 exhibitions, brought in 122 Skidmore courses and presented 153 events, including:

Njideka Akunyili Crosby, on the opening day of a show of her Predecessor series of paintings, spoke before a standing-room-only audience with artist Julia Jacquette '86 about art, family and popular culture.

*Birthing Bodies*, an exhibition that explored childbirth through a feminist lens, was curated by Laila Morgan '18, the 2016-17 Carole Marchand '57 Intern and a double major in American studies and art history. Morgan, who is a trained birth doula, also organized related events like "Birth Stories" for people to share stories about birthing experiences.

Eric Morser and students from his course *Adventures in Public History: The Prison Project* presented research as part of the show *States of Incarceration*. Gallery talks were led by student curators Deven Catalano '19, Meaghan McDonald '18 and Isaac Selchaif '18, and a panel led by Isolde Brielmaier, the Tang's curator-at-large, featured Harvard historian Elizabeth Hinton, artist Duron Jackson and activist Johnny Perez.

*Other Side: Art, Object, Self* showed contemporary artworks from the

Tang collection that explore national, cultural and personal identities. The show was the first in the Tang's three-year, Mellon Foundation-funded project *Accelerate: Access and Inclusion*. Among the courses using the show was *The Artist Interview* (see page 8).

The inaugural Winter/Miller Lecture brought Nicole Eisenman to discuss her art that challenges notions of gender and sexuality. The event was organized by Rachel Rosenfeld '18, a studio art major and the Eleanor Linder Winter Intern at the Tang. The lecture and internship are made possible by the family of Eleanor Linder Winter '43.

Skidmore art historian Mimi Hellman and the Tang led a four-institution display of *This Place*, encompassing more than 600 photographs of Israel and the West Bank. Related events included talks with three of the photographers and a student panel moderated by James Helicke of the international affairs faculty.

Skidmore's first Faculty Scholar in Residence, archaeologist Heather Hurst '97, organized *7,000 Fragments: Maya Murals from San Bartolo, Guatemala*. The life-size model introduced Tang visitors to ancient Maya art and helped Hurst and others interact with the site in a new way. —Michael Janairo



Clockwise from top left: Njideka Akunyili Crosby (right) talks about her work; *Dona Nelson: Stand Alone Paintings*, a major spring-summer show; Miguel Aragón, in the *Other Side* exhibition; professors Adrienne Zuerner and Amon Emeka view *Give a damn*.





## COMMENCEMENT 2018

Skidmore graduated 672 seniors in May, sending them off with plenty of advice and good wishes. Class president Rachel Thomeer '18 compared new grads to turtle hatchlings: "You can't ever save them all ... but you can help the one in front of you with a gentle toss into the shallow waves of safety." Honorary degree recipient Alison Bechdel—author, cartoonist, MacArthur fellow and Tony Award winner whose best-selling memoir *Fun Home* was adapted for Broadway—said, "Because the job of creating positive change in the world is such hard work, it will go a lot better if you really enjoy what you're doing." Fellow honoree Robert S.D. Higgins—surgeon-in-chief at Johns Hopkins and a global expert in heart and lung transplantation—reflected on the gains to be found in loss, urging grads to "never let the challenges you face in life defeat your spirit." For all the speeches, student videos and more, search "Skidmore Commencement 2018."



Chris Massa





**CELEBRATING CONNECTIONS**

Reunion 2018 drew a record number of alumni to reminisce, create new memories and enjoy both Skidmore and Saratoga.

Creative Thought and Achievement awards were bestowed on children's TV producer Alice Wilder '88, physician Andrew Warner '83 and environmental artist Courtney Mattison '08, while outstanding service awards went to Jean Shipp Waldinger '68, Billie Stein Tisch '48, Romy Kushnick '13, Dotsie Slosson Erskine '48, Connie Masciale Carino '58, Lynne Faught '73 and Graeme Campbell '98. Former trustee chair Linda Toohey was named an honorary alumna.

Numerous class fundraising records were broken, and total reunion giving topped \$10 million thanks to more than 1,600 donors.

After golf, yoga, faculty minicolleges and fun on the greens, classmates topped off the weekend with dinners, dancing and fireworks. Sibyl Waterman Haley '71, president of the alumni board, said, "To share confidences, open hearts to friends and leave feeling blessed by Skidmore connections ... there's nothing like it!"

Videos and more are at [skidmo.re/reunion18](http://skidmo.re/reunion18).







## MEDAL WINNERS

**GOOD EATS.** From its herbed flounder appetizer to its citrus pound cake dessert, Skidmore's dining services earned another gold medal in January's American Culinary Federation contest, besting 11 other regional college teams. Mark Miller, director of dining services, says the event is great for developing new recipes for Skidmore's menus. In 2017 his crew also won gold at the "Tastes of the World" national culinary competition and was second (behind no lesser light than the Culinary Institute of America) in Niche.com's "Best College Food" rankings.

**BEST BAND.** Skidmore's summer Jazz Institute celebrated Grammy Awards for its faculty members Michael Dease and Steve Davis, both trombonists, as well as two institute alumni who've also served on its faculty: trumpeter Brandon Lee and trombonist James Burton III. As core members of Christian McBride's Big Band, they shared the Grammy for the band's album *Bringin' It*. Dease says the McBride band "embodies the principles of teamwork, excellence and mentorship—values modeled by the Skidmore Jazz Institute."

**START-UP GOLD.** The Kind Cultures brand of raw-honey kombucha tea earned its creator Graham Gilmore '18 the top prize—\$20,000 to help grow the fledgling firm—in the Kenneth A. Freirich Business Plan Competition. Kind puts a new spin on the fermented drink, using honey instead of sugar and offering flavors such as Grapefruit Rose and Ginger Punch. Gilmore thanked Tal Chitayat '03, co-founder and CEO of Full Circle Home, for his mentorship in fine-tuning the Kind business plan and "helping us bring it from zero to where we are today."

Top: Okoye Augustine '18 helps serve at the culinary competition hosted at Murray-Aikins Dining Hall. Right: Graham Gilmore '18 offers a tea-tasting during his winning pitch in the Freirich business startup contest.



Augustine: Chris Messer; Gilmore: Peter Abare-Brown



# TEAM TRIUMPHS

**Champs.** The riding team won its eighth IHSA national championship this spring, beating Stanford and Boston University among others. Firsts went to Alison Santucci '19 (walk-trot-canter), **Sheriden Beard '20** (novice over fences) and Maeve Foley '19 (intermediate on the flat).

**Postseason berths.** Women's basketball went 18-10, beating RIT for the Liberty League championship before falling to Farleigh Dickinson-Florham in the NCAA first round. Women's tennis took its eighth consecutive league championship, went 17-6 and advanced to NCAA regionals before losing to No. 4-ranked Middlebury.

**All-Americans.** **Kelly Donnelly '18** (who is staying on this fall as an assistant women's basketball coach) was an honorable mention to the D3hoops.com All-America squad and won her third All-America honor from the Women's Basketball Coaches Association. For the men, **Edvinas Rupkus '19** earned second-team All-American status from the National Association of Basketball Coaches. In tennis, **Michelle Fuca '18** and **Risa Fukushima '21** went ITA All-American in

doubles, as did **Steven Koulouris '18** and **JT Wynne '20**; Wynne also got an All-American nod in singles. And field-hockey standout **Marissa Folts '19** made the Longstreth/NFHCA All-American third team.

**Milestones.** Volleyball coach **Hilda Arrechea** notched her 500th career victory when the Thoroughbreds defeated Plattsburgh, 3-1, last fall. She starts the 2018 season with a career record of 504-303 and ranking 29th in wins among Division III coaches nationwide. To honor his longtime service, expertise and good humor, **Bill Jones**, Skidmore's athletics communications manager (and parent of Zack '18), was inducted by the College Sports Information Directors of America into its Hall of Fame.

**New leadership.** **Joe Martin**, formerly an assistant coach at the University of North Carolina, has become Skidmore's new head men's lacrosse coach. **Jessica Turner**, a five-season assistant coach at Middlebury, is now at the helm of the Thoroughbred women's basketball team.



Skidmore varsity equestrians celebrate their national championship. Under veteran coach Cindy Ford, the team won it all eight times.



## Fresh air

As of Jan. 1, Skidmore property will be tobacco-free, indoors and out. An all-campus committee conducted community meetings and surveys, and examined tobacco rules at other top liberal arts colleges nationally, before recommending the new policy, which was approved unanimously by the Institutional Policy and Planning Committee last fall.

The goal is "to provide the community with a healthy, respectful working and learning environment by limiting the potential exposure of students, faculty, staff and visitors to the effects of secondhand smoke and by reducing the risk of fires on campus." For the first time in Skidmore history, smoking will be prohibited for everyone not just inside buildings but also on walkways, in parking lots, around playing fields and anywhere else on or in College property. The ban includes e-cigarettes and other vaping devices.

A working group is now finalizing plans for introducing and implementing the new policy, which will include health and education services thanks to a partnership forged with nearby Glens Falls Hospital.





# HELPING HANDS

Coach Curt Speerschneider joins his tennis players in preparing donations for low-income Saratogians.

Team spirit embraces the wider community

**On a steamy evening in August**, Skidmore men's basketball coach Joe Burke and assistant coach Rey Crossman survey the fast-paced action in the Williamson Sports Center main gym— three full-court games running simultaneously. Shoes squeak on the floor, players move the ball crisply looking for opportunities to shoot, families chat in the stands. It's the sixth season of Skidmore's boys' high school summer league, which Burke started in 2013 not so much for Skidmore recruiting but to serve the local community.

Says Burke after a hug from a well-wisher, "It's just a good idea to get families into our gym. Most of these kids have never been to the Skidmore campus. This opens the door a little bit."

Earlier in the day, coaches Burke and Crossman and a number of their varsity players were running their third week of basketball camp for boys ages 6-14, an unexpected add-on due to high registration numbers—165 in all. Burke says, "My favorite part of coaching is teaching young kids about hoops and about life. The reward comes in watching them develop as good people over the years."

Such intentional efforts to connect with and provide value to community almost always start with an individual. And it doesn't hurt to belong to a culture that values service, as Skidmore's Athletics Department does. It was the spring of 2008 when Chris Markham '08 kept circling back to conversations he'd had with brother-in-law Ben Gucciardi, who had launched the global nonprofit Soccer Without Borders. Gucciardi had encouraged Markham to create a soccer clinic at Skidmore for local kids that would teach soccer skills, raise funds for SWB's Uganda Project and serve as a pilot for other colleges.

When Markham mentioned the idea to teammate Peter Brownell '08, they decided to throw caution to the wind. They asked for field time, and Skidmore's administrators and coaches were "very supportive," says Markham. "Before we knew it, more than 100 kids had signed up. We were like, 'Oh, no. How are we going to get this done?' But we got in touch with the men's and women's soccer players as well as our coaches, and they were all in."

That SWB clinic is still going strong, with about 250 Skidmore athletes having served nearly 800 youngsters and raised upwards of \$32,000, primarily for refugee children in Kampala, Uganda.

Now a Boston attorney, Markham says, "Hands down, starting the soccer clinic was the most rewarding thing I did in college. It's good for refugees in Uganda, good for local kids and families and good for Skidmore players and the school."

**Each year** the Skidmore Athletic Advisory Committee helps to plan an ambitious community-service agenda—a mix of long-standing traditions and team-specific initiatives—that enlists full participation from all 19 varsity teams and 400 student-athletes.

The more-than-20-year relationship with Special Olympics New York includes swim lessons in the College pool from October to May, an annual swim meet, even a biennial horse show at the Van Lennep Riding Center. Started by the student volunteer club Benef-action, the swim program relies on SAAC's recruitment of Thoroughbreds from all sports. The



program is now tied in with an NCAA Division III and Special Olympics partnership designed to “enhance the lives of student-athletes and Special Olympics athletes through a mutual learning experience.”

The Liberty League for the last three years has joined the Empire 8 in a SAAC-initiated “Change War,” a friendly competition in which student-athletes from each college collect spare change for Special Olympics. Not only did the Liberty League “win” the most recent competition, but Skidmore raised the most funds of all; its \$833 was nearly a quarter of the total from both conferences.

Skidmore participates each year in National Girls and Women in Sports Day, with athletes and coaches leading clinics for elementary school girls. This past year, in partnership with the regional Girl Scouts, 120 participants learned from the women’s soccer, field hockey, volleyball, softball, tennis and rowing teams, while the swimming and diving teams took care of logistics.

For Saratoga Bridges, a nonprofit serving people with developmental disabilities, Leila Wendler ’09 and Amanda Roth ’09 used a research-based social work course and got SAAC approval for a program that offers developmentally appropriate sports offerings throughout the school year. With all teams on board, it’s become part of the athletic department’s DNA. Posted outside the offices of many Skidmore coaches are thank-you cards featuring the happy faces of Saratoga Bridges attendees. Today a public-school counselor, Wendler says, “It’s simply amazing that what we hoped to achieve is still going strong. To take a project from the classroom and make it real is really cool.”

Varsity teams also lend a hand to Skidmore Cares, a campuswide program launched by President Philip Glotzbach and Marie Glotzbach to provide cash, food and household supplies to local people in need during the winter holiday season. Athletes and other volunteers collect and deliver the donations—this past year to 10 local agencies including the Corinth School District, Latino Advocacy Program and Shelters of Saratoga.

Recently SAAC supported the Adopt-a-Family program of Saratoga’s Franklin Community Center. Each varsity team is assigned one or two children, and this past year, 27 needy kids received presents from their own wish lists. Says women’s lacrosse coach and SAAC advisor Elizabeth Ghilardi, “Our student-athletes were 100 percent invested in the project. They put such great energy into it. And it gave them a real perspective about themselves and the community.”

**An All-American attacker** on the 1988 Division I national-champion lacrosse team at Temple University and an honoree in the National Lacrosse Hall of Fame, Skidmore’s athletics director, Gail Cummings-Danson, brings a winning attitude to the teams’ service ethic. She says, “We expect to be competitive and to succeed. We’re always in the hunt for league and NCAA qualifiers.” (Recent NCAA playoff teams include men’s and women’s basketball, field hockey, golf and men’s and women’s tennis, and the riding team won its eighth national championship.) But she emphasizes that success is also about hard work in the classroom, representing Skidmore, giving back and advocating for positive social change through the power of sport.

Coach Curt Speerschneider, whose 2016–17 women’s tennis team received the ITA Community Service Award for the northeast region, sees sports and giving back as a natural fit: “We’re trying to teach the students how to be selfless, to be the ultimate team players. The true definition of leadership is making people around you better, and that’s exactly what they’re doing.”

Says Cummings-Danson, “We used to mandate that all our teams do community service, but now it’s just understood by coaches and players, and they *want* to be part of it. It’s a shift in our collective thinking.”

**Last year Skidmore’s athletics** community-service award went to Speerschneider’s player Alexa Goldberg ’18. She helped lead the 2018 Show Your



At a Kids’ Night Out event, Thoroughbred basketball player Andrew Knight ’21 leads a game of dodgeball.

Sport campaign, “Change Direction,” an SAAC-led project with Skidmore’s Counseling Center that helped raise awareness and identify mental-health resources for all students.

The first Show Your Sport campaign, which addressed homophobia, was spearheaded by volleyball player Clare Kenny ’15. She took a sociology class that included art activism, and she wondered why she didn’t know other queer athletes better and how that could be changed with art. Her idea was of athletes willing to commit to creating a welcoming environment for their peers regardless of their position on or off the LGBTQ spectrum. The visual: compelling portraits under the title “Show Your Sport.”

Her first ally was teammate Aria Goodman ’15, now a graphic designer in Los Angeles. Goodman recalls that her participation was “empowering and showed me that I wanted to engage with the community to create positive change.” When Kenny and Goodman pitched the project to their teammates, Kenny admits, “We were nervous. We didn’t know what the impact would be on us or on our teammates, or how the campus would react. But they were immediately supportive.”

The ultimate response from Thoroughbreds was off the charts. Goodman photographed 136 athletes wearing Skidmore uniforms and looking intimately into the camera, each image accompanied by a personal message. For Kenny, currently a youth director for GLAAD, the project was the “highlight of my life. It showed me what I was capable of as an advocate and a leader, and quite literally it got me my job, which I love.”

The example set by Kenny and Goodman is still a point of pride for the athletics department. Says Cummings-Danson, “My goal is to have everyone cheering for Skidmore. It doesn’t matter who you are—for all of us, our school colors are green, yellow and white.”  
—Peter MacDonald

Quincy Gregg ’20, an ice-hockey player, joins “It’s On Us” to stop sexual misconduct.







## CAMPAIGN COMPREHENSIVE

**It's official:** Last fall Skidmore publicly launched its *Creating Our Future* fundraising campaign. Toward the goal of \$200 million by May 2020, more than \$169 million is already in hand, thanks to nearly 22,000 donors so far. The launch celebration was part of the annual New York City gathering of the Presidents Society for leadership donors.

"Creativity is at Skidmore's core," says President Philip Glotzbach, explaining that the campaign will support that mission directly. Mentored by the excellent teacher-scholars of the faculty, "our students are putting creative thought to work more than ever: winning prestigious fellowships, enrolling in the finest graduate schools and securing career-building first jobs." Glotzbach sees the creativity that "ties us together as a campus community and alumni network" as a key driver of the campaign's success in supporting and enhancing the Skidmore learning experience.

The cornerstone of the campaign is the construction of the Center for Integrated Sciences, bringing all of Skidmore's physical and life sciences departments—where nearly 100 faculty members and more than a third of students focus their work—into one building designed to foster collaborations across these and other disciplines. Construction began last May, and this year's Celebration Weekend, Oct. 18–21, will feature a formal CIS groundbreaking, to mark what Glotzbach calls "a watershed moment in Skidmore's history, extending its reputation for curricular creativity and innovation in the sciences."

In addition to funding the CIS, the campaign will expand resources for students to undertake internships, collaborative research and other experiential learning that prepares them for successful careers; increase financial aid to help deserving students from all backgrounds afford a Skidmore education and to enrich campus life and learning; strengthen the Tang Museum's capacities for creative exploration; improve athletics facilities and programs; and boost support for the annual Skidmore Fund, which helps underwrite all college operations. Celebration Weekend will include a visit by renowned paleontologist Neil Shubin, the dedication of the new Valentine Boathouse for men's and women's crew and other campaign-related events for faculty, staff, students, local alumni, families and friends.

The 2017–18 giving year was a goal-breaking and record-setting one for the campaign. Family members of the graduating seniors raised more than \$1.3 million toward the overall Parents Fund—a new record in the 17-year history of the senior-family fundraising effort. The Class of 2018 itself rallied to set its own record: a 94.9 percent participation rate in the Senior Gift Fund. Participation among alumni rose across the board, including by members of the Presidents Society and by the consecutive-year donors of the 1903 Society. Reunion giving capped the year by bringing in more than \$10 million, thanks to 1,600 alumni donors and 200 alumni volunteers.

To learn more about the Center for Integrated Sciences or other *Creating Our Future* priorities, visit [skidmore.edu/cof](http://skidmore.edu/cof).



## SCIENTIFIC ADVANCES

"The Center for Integrated Sciences will give students and faculty access to cutting-edge technology and pedagogical tools and create a space in which intellectual passion and curiosity will be encouraged to roam freely across disciplinary boundaries," said President Philip Glotzbach in remarks to more than 100 trustees, faculty, students and staff who gathered in May to mark the beginning of construction on Skidmore's new CIS—a major milestone for *Creating Our Future: The Campaign for Skidmore*.

Chemist Kelly Sheppard and historian Erica Bastress-Dukehart, faculty speakers at the event, noted the importance of a facility that will catalyze even more creativity and collaboration on campus. Bastress-Dukehart said, "We are, at heart, a community of makers. We are curious, inventive and hungry to collaborate. Some of the best learning happens when students from all disciplines lean across tables to explore, share and experiment with new ideas."



# COMMUNITY CALENDAR



**FAIRY-TALE FILMING** When creating a TV series for Amazon Video, faculty member Nicole Coady hired students and alumni in writing, wardrobe and other crafts. Coady is a longtime Hollywood screenwriter who now teaches in Skidmore's documentary-studies program; she also co-founded Trident Fantasy Films to produce classic fairy tales with messages of empowerment for modern kids. When Trident's *Adventures of Snow White and Rose Red* debuted in April, its credits listed 11 Skidmorites, with majors from art to sociology and with class years from 2016 to 2020. Some scenes were even filmed amid the lawns and gardens behind the College's Surrey-Williamson Inn (above), and the local state park's warming hut served as the title characters' house. By using "very minimal special effects," Coady hopes to highlight "the roots of the folk tales themselves."



**CLEAN ENERGY** Politics of Food, Agriculture and Social Justice; Literature and the Environment; and Soil and Watershed Science for a Crowded Planet were among the scores of last year's courses that focused on sustainability issues—and that contributed to Skidmore's silver rating through the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education, as well as a score of 94 out of 100 in the Princeton Review's Guide to Green Colleges. As part of a comprehensive strategic plan for sustainability, last year's work included geothermal wells ahead of the new science center's construction, new bicycles for the bike-share program, additional electric-vehicle charging stations, low-impact menus and composting in the dining hall, and more.



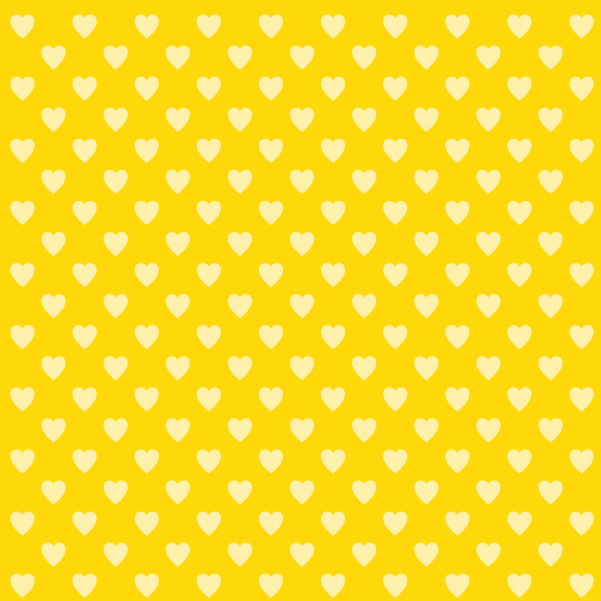
**IN IT TOGETHER** Among last year's all-campus "In It" programs to promote cultural fluency and community inclusion was a screening of *Sauti*, a documentary about African refugees, with its filmmakers Gayle Nosal '79 and Beret E. Strong, P'19. Also featured were discussions with Skylar Kergill '13, whose gender-transition YouTube channel has inspired a huge following and fueled his book *Before I Had the Words*; Beverly Daniel Tatum (above), former Spelman College president and author of *Why Are All the Black Kids Sitting Together in the Cafeteria*; and international affairs major Kali Villarosa '18, along with mom Linda, who has been executive editor of *Essence* magazine, and grandmother Clara, author of *Down to Business: The First 10 Steps to Entrepreneurship for Women*.



**BEATLEMORE MILESTONE** The 2017 Beatlemore Skidmania, with a focus on 1967's *Sgt. Pepper and Magical Mystery Tour* albums, presented 15 student numbers—from "Fixing a Hole" by the Bandersnatchers to "She's Leaving Home" by Bugs in the Tall Grass. As always, a rousing faculty-led farewell got the crowds on their feet with "All You Need is Love." But this time, that faculty finale was particularly poignant: After 17 years of guiding Beatlemore and coaching its student coordinators, music professor Gordon Thompson (above, at right) is retiring. Fellow music faculty member Joel Brown vows to continue the popular tradition.

Filming, in It, Beatlemore: Christopher Massa; charger: Erin Covey





# PASSION MASH- UP

**“Intensely interdisciplinary and relentlessly creative”** is how Skidmore’s president, Philip Glotzbach, describes the College’s approach to education. That also describes the work and lives forged by the majority of alumni. Below are just six of those who parlayed one field of study into another field of work, melded disparate learning into an unexpected career or turned a passion mashup into a unique and productive pursuit.



Elissa Nadworny '10 is happy she took career risks to land a job at National Public Radio.

## Multimedia communicator

**A**s a reporter for National Public Radio, Elissa Nadworny '10 asks questions, gets people to tell their stories and takes them to the airwaves. Right now her focus is a yearlong project examining high-achieving, low-income students. It's a topic close to her heart: Her senior thesis at Skidmore was a documentary on education in South Africa, which she filmed on site.

At Skidmore, the Erie, Pa., native wasted no time carving her niche. Hired by media services on her first day on campus, she later learned the job wasn't supposed to go to a first-year student; but her talent for video editing paid off and she stayed. At that time, Skidmore didn't offer a major in film or video, so she studied art, English and social sciences, rowed with a coach who taught her “toughness, endurance, goals and fortitude” and designed a self-determined major in film. She further enriched her knowledge in film studies at NYU's esteemed Tisch School of the Arts.

“Skidmore was small enough so that people knew who I was, but large enough for me to be exposed to diverse people and stimulation,” she recalls. “It's a place where you can figure stuff out. I learned to problem-solve, to write, to push boundaries and to think creatively. I use lessons I learned at Skidmore every day. Also, my closest friends were made in college. Everything about Skidmore was a good experience.”

Her first “real-world” job in media emerged from a course in which an executive from a prominent pharmaceutical advertising agency came to campus to conduct practice interviews with students to help them refine their “personal brand.” He was bowled over by Nadworny, kept her résumé and later offered her what she calls a “dream job” making client-profile videos such as doctor and patient testimonials about particular medications. She later turned toward journalism, “which has greater purpose,” and earned a master's at Northwestern's prestigious Medill School of Journalism. But she says, “You really learn how to do a job on the job. It's not all academics.” So she pursued a fellowship at *USA Today*, then an internship at the *Chicago Tribune*.

Next, Nadworny's already interesting career escalated to “amazing” when *Bloomberg News* offered her a position covering the Obama White House. She sometimes traveled with the president, and she especially cherishes “one truly cool moment standing 4 feet away from him in the Rose Garden.”

In 2014, when Nadworny learned about NPR's new education beat, she jumped, leaving full-time pay and benefits for another internship. She quickly took root at NPR and is now a reporter and editor. The move “was a risk,” she admits with a laugh, “but I got used to the sound of my own voice on the radio by pretending I'm telling my friends a story about human experience. And I get to use my great skills in eavesdropping that I developed as a kid, watching people just live their lives.” Nadworthy helped NPR to incorporate multimedia in its methods and was part of the education team that won a 2017 Murrow Award for innovation. —Helen S. Edelman '74





Former “humanities guy” Mike Natter '08 has turned his focus to healing and making art.

## Doctor of medical arts

**S**ome weeks, Mike Natter '08 spends up to 80 grueling hours in the New York City hospital where he is a resident in internal medicine. It doesn't leave a lot of time for drawing, but he finds 30 minutes, here and there, to sketch. It helps him stay balanced despite the “hellacious schedule” and sometimes emotionally draining moments inherent in caring for very sick patients.

Initially an art major at Skidmore, Natter found science and math “daunting” and preferred 3-hour studio classes “where I produced tremendously large charcoal drawings of women.” But, he says, “I wasn't insanely talented enough as an artist to stand on my own and be successful; I needed another life path.”

Natter had always considered himself “a passionate humanities guy from the Upper West Side, into literature and the arts. That's why I was at Skidmore.” Yet he didn't see himself as particularly academic. When a psychology course in his sophomore year included a lecture on the brain, “I got hooked on neuropsychology. I worked in the lab and saw I was not a dumb kid. I gained academic confidence and did well in my classes. Junior year, I had an epiphany: I wanted to be a doctor.”

He recalls that choice making his parents happy, but there was another reason. Having been diagnosed with diabetes as a young child, he liked the idea of “helping people with the same disease” and plans to do a fellowship in endocrinology after his residency.

Because he hadn't been studying science all along, Natter

**“I THINK IT  
MAKES FOR  
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HUMANITIES  
BACKGROUND.”**

attended a post-baccalaureate program to earn the right academic credits before applying to medical school. That further study, he remarks, “gave me a chance to mature.” He adds, “I think it makes for better doctors to have a humanities background. Med school admissions tests and your grades in science courses don't tell what kind of person you are. I know it sounds soft and fluffy, but a doctor needs to be compassionate, a ‘people person,’ empathetic. To be a good physician, you have to be good at observation, and I learned that skill at Skidmore in art classes.”

After medical school at Thomas Jefferson in Philadelphia, Natter is now a resident at NYU's Langone Medical Center. Throughout his studies and training, he says, “It's cathartic for me, as a doctor, to continue my work as an artist.” He shows his drawings online, and some of them sell, which pleases him. His work fits into three categories: classical anatomy illustrations, didactic pieces that teach about medical topics and cartoons that make light of serious things. He hopes to produce a few books incorporating his original art, “to explain medicine in a fun way, especially to kids.”

As he sees it, “I've actually been very fortunate. I got into med school by the skin of my teeth and had ‘imposter syndrome,’ feeling like everyone was smarter than me. But the truth is, I am successful. And my time at Skidmore was formative, as I was encouraged to explore both of my interests: science and art. For me, one informs the other.”

—Helen S. Edelman '74





Retired from an eclectic career, Steve Shapiro '75 now enjoys the outdoors and voracious reading.

## Teacher, trader, lifelong learner

**T**he circuitous route often has the richest scenery. Stephen Shapiro '75 began his journey on the cement of Forest Hills, Queens. Now he is immersed in the verdant Adirondack Mountains, tending to pets and making hard choices: hike, climb, swim, garden, research 18th-century Americans like Sir William Johnson and Chief Joseph Brant, or can pears?

Detours along the way have offered kaleidoscopic vantage points, from his jobs as a taxi driver, teacher, book merchant, sailing instructor, cook, researcher, Wall Street whiz and full-time student in Skidmore's University Without Walls.

At community college, where Shapiro got serious about biology, a professor suggested Skidmore, which offered a new science center and electron microscope. He approached Skidmore's biology department to ask for access, but "was politely declined," he recalls. Undaunted, he enrolled in UWW and designed his own degree, which included a lot of lab time. With a B.A. in biology soon in hand, he scored a teaching gig in the Adirondack village of Lake Luzerne. But it was temporary, and he later landed full time at Columbia University's College of Physicians and Surgeons as a research assistant.

A perk of the Columbia job was graduate education at minimal cost, and Shapiro's plan was to earn a Ph.D. But after getting mugged, he decided Wall Street might be a safer workplace. "I was a scientist, an idealist," he says, "but I was also becoming afraid to go to work and school. A week later, I was a clerk in the lowest position in a trading room."

Though he "knew nothing about finance," he adapted quickly. "The advantage of studying history, math, physics, biology, chemistry, philoso-

phy, language and the arts is when you encounter unanticipated opportunity, value or adversity, you understand it as part of a big picture," he says.

In the Wild West atmosphere of 1980s Wall Street, "the crash of '87 highlighted the need for regulatory and technical improvement, if not complete overhaul. The next dozen years brought dizzying changes that required constant focus." For some aspects of equity trading, it takes years "to attain minimal competence without getting fired, sued or worse," according to Shapiro. "You were expected to step up, step in and orient almost instantly."

He had to adapt again when traders began using fully automated programs operating at the speed of light. Programmers became "the most important links in the chain of trading. All it took was a network failure and, instead of suffering just a serious loss, a firm could suddenly be out of business." That's when he thought: "A good time to retire." So he and his wife relocated upstate, not far north of Saratoga, where he built a yoga studio and planted a garden.

Shapiro is also the very proud father of Carolyn, a 2015 Skidmore graduate, who detoured from thoughts of law school to take a job managing Saratoga's venerable Caffè Lena and to perform music. Flexibility runs in the family?

Serving as the Class of '75 fund chair helps Shapiro maintain his college ties. "I like the direction Skidmore has grown, both at home and abroad," he says. "Financial aid has increased and helped attract more economically diverse students. A good liberal arts education shouldn't be only for the wealthy." —Helen S. Edelman '74



# Journalism entrepreneur



Juleyka Lantigua-Williams '96 recently became a "solopreneur," whose firm presents audio and video with varied perspectives.

Christopher Myers

“I was a government major who loved her genetics class and was on the construction team for the theater company,” recalls Juleyka Lantigua-Williams '96. She went into print journalism, but now she's an entrepreneur who helps disseminate wide perspectives in podcasts.

Having moved from the Dominican Republic to the U.S. with her family when she was 10, Lantigua-Williams grew up in the Bronx during the crack-cocaine epidemic of the 1980s (“I witnessed my neighbors being devastated by it”) and earned Opportunity Program funding to attend Skidmore when she was just 16. There, she says, “I practiced doing things that were way out of my wheelhouse, and I received support while taking great risks.” That same “why not me?” approach has shaped her career ever after.

A government and Spanish double major, she had law school in mind. But a law-firm job working 16-hour days in a windowless office and researching “obscure environmental laws that corporate clients could use to eschew their due diligence” spurred a big life reassessment. With poets and journalists among her forebears, she had always wanted to write, and during a Fulbright fellowship in Spain after her senior year, she had helped launch a newspaper and a journal focused on immigrants there. So now she decided to earn a master's in journalism and became a reporter and editor at *Urban Latino*, the *Atlantic*, NPR and other media outlets. Lantigua-Williams found her Skidmore education was “the perfect foundation for a journalist, who has to assimilate all types of information in many formats and who has to translate and present complex ideas in a limited space.” Most important and useful across the board, she says, “At Skidmore I learned to think and discern, to dismiss platitudes and to question authority.”

Armed with those skills, “I'm not afraid to make mistakes,” she declares, “so I take risks all the time.” Last year her savvy and pluck paid off once again when she left traditional journalism to start her own company. As the *lantiguawilliams.co* website describes it, “We create audio and video experiences that stay with you long after the credits, using digital tools and original storytelling techniques.” One goal is to open media to more people of color, “whose perspectives and skills are vital” to American society, she says.

For her, “Storytelling is the only true universal language. As we become more fragmented economically, socially and culturally, it is storytelling that will help close the gaps between subcultures and subgroups.”

Just weeks after the launch, Lantigua-Williams took yet another flyer, applying for a grant from the prestigious MacArthur Foundation, and sure enough she won funding to pursue what she calls her most ambitious work ever. Titled “70 Million,” it's a series of 30-minute podcasts exploring incarceration and criminal justice in the U.S. As executive producer, she's working with independent radio journalists, editors and others. Aug. 27 marked the debut of “70 Million,” with new podcasts added every Monday in September and October.

Despite her prior career acrobatics, Lantigua-Williams confides that becoming a “solopreneur” felt like a huge leap. “But a year later,” she says, “I could not be happier or feel more fulfilled by my work.”

—Susan Rosenberg, with Helen S. Edelman '74





CEO Joel Quadracci '91 uses his philosophy major and mental flexibility to pilot a huge print and media services firm.

## Media services CEO

**“U**ndergrad is the time for exploring interests and learning how to think. “That’s what his father told Joel Quadracci ’91 when he was finishing high school. He knew he wanted to help manage his dad’s large printing business, Quad/Graphics, but wasn’t sure how to prepare. So he took after his dad and majored in philosophy.

He took some business and other courses at Skidmore, but he says philosophy especially taught him “to understand, critique, create and defend an argument. And there was logic, which was almost like math and was super-helpful to learn.” (His only regret was waiting until senior year to fulfill his arts requirement: “I loved my ceramics course with Regis Brodie, and I loved the time in the pottery studio, using an entirely different part of my brain.”)

Upon graduation, Quadracci joined the Quad/Graphics management trainee program, exploring all aspects of the business. “When I came to the sales rotation,” he says, “it really suited me, as it was all about engineering a solution to suit a client’s needs and creating an argument to sell that solution.” He became a vice president, and then just a few years after his father died unexpectedly, Quadracci became CEO in his place. He was still in his thirties, and it was 2005, “a very complicated and challenging time in the printing industry,” he recalls. Quadracci helped the firm embrace digital communications and make key acquisitions. Quad/Graphics generated a research and development subsidiary, a network of imaging assets and photography studios, and partnerships from Latin America to Europe. The 2010 acquisition of Worldcolor transformed

**“WORKING WELL WITH OTHERS IS INDISPENSABLE WHEN YOU’RE HAVING TO INNOVATE RAPIDLY.”**

Quad into “the second-largest print and integrated media solutions provider in the hemisphere,” according to its website. Having taken over a nearly \$2 billion company in 2005, Quadracci now runs a \$4.3 billion enterprise, with 22,000 employees in some 50 plants serving clients such as *Time*, *Sports Illustrated*, *National Geographic* and Land’s End.

Quadracci has also built on his firm’s legacy of community programming, which ranges from funding college scholarships for employee families to installing lights at a Little League ballfield in Saratoga. The company has won awards for printer of the year and for best place to work, as well as for environmental stewardship.

“When Quad is hiring new talent, and I see a liberal arts education on a résumé,” Quadracci says, “I pay extra attention. We look for people skills and the ability to think. We’ve even had opera singers in our training program, because they were open-minded, interactive and thoughtful.” One of Quad’s taglines is “We adapt to change—in fact, more often than not, we *are* the change.” That’s been central for Quadracci personally: “Though a natural introvert, I learned to thrive in Quad’s people-oriented environment. And working well with others is indispensable when you’re having to innovate rapidly and engage in ongoing education.”

Looking into the future employment marketplace, he says, “Some fields will still need specialized training programs. But the liberal arts will need to supply those programs with flexible thinkers who can apply argumentation and problem-solving.” —Susan Rosenberg



# Business specialist and generalist



Sociology and math have helped Deb Kelly '68 succeed as a corporate executive in practically every area of business.

Theo Stroomer

**D**eb Kelly '68 keeps reinventing herself. A Denver-based corporate affairs expert, she has led a range of firms in such areas as communications, crisis management, marketing and branding, investor relations and strategic planning. Now a partner in Genesis, a consulting firm, Kelly has proven more than once that embracing change can bring professional success and personal satisfaction. You just have to be willing to keep learning, she says.

Kelly came to Skidmore from Westchester County to study math, but she switched to a sociology major. After graduation she moved to Boston, “near skiing,” and became an administrative assistant. It was an era “when banks were under pressure to hire women officers,” and she landed jobs at a brokerage firm and a bank. To punch up her skills for that work, she took classes at Northeastern University, and later Lowes Companies lured her to head up investor relations at its North Carolina headquarters. Accurate math was crucial when Kelly was talking to high-level investors about complex capital expenditures and financial allocations.

That experience helped convince Quaker Oats to hire Kelly as VP for corporate affairs and investor relations and send her to Harvard’s management program. In 1995, she left the corporate workplace to join Genesis; she also sits on the board of directors of Perdue Farms. Being a consultant, she says, “At first I didn’t like the idea of selling, tracking my time or dealing with agency politics. But now I love that every new client presents a different problem—you have to get creative.”

In 2001 Kelly received a Lifetime Achievement Award from *Investor Relations* magazine and last year won a National Association of Corporate Directors Fellowship with credentials as a “gold-standard director.” She served on the federal Securities and Exchange Commission’s blue-ribbon Advisory Committee on Corporate Disclosure in the late 1970s, as well as the National Investor Relations Institute’s board of directors, including as a past president of its Rocky Mountain chapter. And she’s a giver, especially enjoying her mentoring of young professional women. “I want to teach them to jump in and try something. You have to figure out what you like and don’t like. I want them to be successful.” In the future, she hopes to share her acumen and experience with nonprofits. “Their needs are obvious.”

Kelly relaxes by playing Frisbee with her border collies, traveling (a recent trip was to London for the theater), skiing and reading, reading, reading.

“When I was in college, I didn’t take physics. Now, I find myself listening to books on astrophysics all the time. And I always hated the idea of studying dates, but now I read history. I learned so much from *Fascism: A Warning* by Madeleine Albright. If I had tried this in college, who knows? I might have ended up in the foreign service.”

Bottom line, Kelly advises: “Liberal arts are a great place to start your higher education—the wide exposure to ideas, to experiences, to people. And then you have to trust your instincts.” —Helen S. Edelman '74







# FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH: THE TRUE VALUE(S) OF THE LIBERAL ARTS

Climatologists have all the data on the **earth's warming trends**, but who's going to convince consumers to reduce their **consumption of fossil fuels**? As cities **grow in size** and complexity, who will lead their governments and make them **more livable**? With new industries seeming to **pop up daily**, who will educate workers so they can **share in the economic growth** they create? By overwhelming consensus, the answer is **liberal arts majors**.

BY VIRGINIA CITRANO WITH SUSAN ROSENBERG • ILLUSTRATIONS BY DAVIDE BONAZZI



# TO TACKLE THE WORLD PROBLEMS

that young adults rate as the most serious, according to *Business Insider*, a broad, integrated perspective is essential. Scholars of the future agree that to reduce and reverse climate change, to grow economic opportunities, to enhance health, productivity and success for all, the world needs leaders who understand what critical thinking is and how it can be applied to identify solutions.

Skidmore just broke ground for the Center for Integrated Sciences, a transformational learning space designed to nurture interdisciplinary connections among the sciences, as well as among arts, humanities and social sciences. One of the key faculty planners for the building, environmental scientist Karen Kellogg, points out that “many of today’s most interesting scientific questions are at the intersections”—for example, the mathematics of climate or the psychology of artificial intelligence. Her field and many other disciplines at Skidmore are shaped by the conviction that only scientists partnering with nonscientists can result in full solutions to 21st-century problems. In fact President Philip A. Glotzbach asserts, “Our intensely interdisciplinary, relentlessly creative approach offers not simply a welcome but a necessary contribution to our national conversations” on issues from climate to health care to energy.

Skidmore fosters both disciplinary and cross-disciplinary cognitive skills for discovering and analyzing facts, interpreting narratives and biases, and forging a comprehensive approach that’s both creative and realistic. A *Monster.com* article on “soft” career skills echoes other career experts in concluding that liberal arts graduates tend to be well equipped with the capacities that employers demand: communication, teamwork, adaptability, problem-solving, critical observation, conflict resolution and leadership. It’s no coincidence that Skidmore’s curriculum “emphasizes critical thinking, significant reading and writing skills, and quantitative reasoning abilities,” says Glotzbach.



**Latently some Americans** are voicing doubts about the value of liberal arts education. Especially as tuition fees have climbed, more parents and students want assurances that they can recoup their investment in tangible ways—a well-paid job and a productive career. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics charts America’s highest-paying jobs (mostly in medical fields), fastest-growing jobs (led by solar-energy installers) and fields that will generate the most new jobs (personal and home care). Searching the BLS for a tally of liberal arts jobs, it’s hard to find statistics that are easily grouped for analysis, because liberal arts grads work in so many sectors of the economy. But, for instance, fields such as market research analysis and

management, which attract a large number of liberal arts majors, are on the BLS’s most-new-jobs list. Court judges—typically holding degrees in fields like history, English and political science—rank among the BLS’s highest-paid professionals.

Skidmore’s Zankel Professor of Management and Liberal Arts Pushkala Prasad argues that “a liberal arts background gives business majors a broad perspective for incorporating political, economic and cultural factors into decision-making. This is of enormous value to managers and entrepreneurs, and it should come as no surprise that a majority of business leaders have had considerable exposure to liberal arts thinking as part of their formal education.”

According to Michael Orr, Skidmore’s new dean of the faculty and vice president for academic affairs, “Preparing students to understand multiple perspectives and be persuasive communicators, together with instilling a lifelong love of learning, maps directly onto employers’ expectations that their employees will train themselves and be able to handle a variety of tasks.”

In an era of tax caps and government budget cuts, legislation has been proposed “that would base funding for public colleges and universities exclusively on job acquisition” for their graduates, reports Lynn Pasquerella, president of the Association of American Colleges & Universities, in the spring 2018 AACU magazine *Liberal Education*. But concern about quantifiable ROI—return on investment—may overshadow an appreciation for higher education as a public good. Pasquerella laments that some government leaders call for “stripping out so-called frills—such as ‘the search for truth,’ ‘public service,’ and ‘improv[ing] the human condition’—from their university system’s mission statement. Any disciplines not considered economic engines are reduced to the status of mere luxuries and are in danger of being excised.” For her, “The rhetoric at the basis of these proposals not only posits a false dichotomy between a liberal education and preparation for work and life,” but it obscures the reality that such education remains a powerful force “in catalyzing individual and societal transformation.”

Skidmore’s Prasad agrees: “The kind of curiosity fostered by a liberal arts program is only matched by its ability to give students a comfort with ambiguity, change and contradiction—invaluable to anyone working in today’s globalized and volatile world.” Orr further maintains that “inquisitiveness allied with cultural competence can best be fostered in a close-knit but diverse community where all are learning, in person, from one another, navigating differences and growing into cooperative citizens.” Online interactions have their place, he says, “but I think we’ve seen that email and social media require even more sensitive and thoughtful discourse. Liberal arts skills are crucial for navigating the fraught terrain of communications across cultural divides, technological media and personal difference.”

Glotzbach says Skidmore seeks to arm graduates with “both richness of imagination and clarity of thought, to

Preparing students to understand multiple perspectives and be persuasive communicators, together with instilling a lifelong love of learning, maps directly onto employers’ expectations





But concern about quantifiable ROI—return on investment—may overshadow an appreciation for higher education as a public good.

allow them to view complex and dynamic situations from multiple perspectives, sort through enormous amounts of information, and collaborate to create solutions no one has yet envisioned. Empowering our graduates to infuse creativity into everything they do and then to implement their ideas is the most crucial mission we serve.”

Citing the AACU’s recognition of integrative learning as an urgent need in higher education today, Skidmore’s 2015–25 strategic plan emphasizes such learning as its first goal. The plan states, “A liberal arts education certainly represents a personal good for our graduates, preparing them not only to make a living but also to create a life worth living—a life that truly matters for themselves and others. But a Skidmore education also represents a broader social good that is seldom remarked upon in contemporary discussions of higher education. We highlight this value in our expressed determination to prepare our

graduates to live as informed, responsible, and globally and interculturally aware citizens who are not only capable of bringing their personal plans to fruition but who also strive to make the world a better place for all.”



**Given the continuing explosion** in technology, the “future of work” has become a hot topic of debate, with think tanks and business consultants weighing in on how IT and other innovations may affect the world of work for humans. The consulting firm Mercer posits in its 2018 employment-trends study “Unlocking Growth in the Human Age” that “organizations need their employees to be lifelong learners who grow with the business, embrace continuous change, master new technologies, and build skills for the future.”



A 2017 study suggests that the most valuable skills in the future will be those that machines can't yet easily replicate, like creativity and critical thinking.



In October 2016, the Pew Research Center reported that employment is rising in occupations requiring more education and training, and that many workers believe they will need to upgrade their skills to remain productively employed. The study found that, as of 2015, 83 million people worked in jobs that required an average or above-average level of preparation, up from 49 million in 1980. That's a 68 percent increase. In contrast, employment requiring a below-average level of job preparation rose only 31 percent. Pew also found that the average hourly wage for occupations requiring analytical skills rose from \$23 to \$27 between 1990 and 2015, while wages for jobs based more on physical skills rose from \$16 to \$18.

As artificial intelligence and robotics handle tasks from the surgery suite to the highway, Pew's 2017 study "The Future of Jobs and Job Training" suggests that the most valuable skills in the future will be those that machines can't yet easily replicate, like creativity and critical thinking. That was also the crux of a 2017 book by George Anders, a contributing writer at *Forbes*. His *You Can Do Anything: The Surprising Power of a "Useless" Liberal Arts Education* argues that the phrase "critical thinking" turns up in thousands of job descriptions because while the Internet can find facts, it takes skilled human minds to analyze, explain and apply those facts.

Again Skidmore's strategic plan codifies these ideas: "It is foundational to liberal learning that an educated

person understands not only the complex, nuanced, and multidimensional nature of the issues and problems most worth addressing, but also the various ways they interconnect." The plan calls for supporting "our students' abilities to make connections from the moment they are accepted into Skidmore on into their lives after college," where a mastery of concepts from diverse disciplines and experiences can help graduates "apply them to unscripted, real-world challenges" and act as informed, engaged citizens.

Orr notes that, even beyond Skidmore and its peers, "some strong voices are expressing these values of late. State universities, for example, have created 'honors colleges' as centers of liberal arts study. And China is just one country that's interested in importing this sort of education and beginning to create its own liberal arts institutions."

Skidmore's tagline, Creative Thought Matters, applies to interdisciplinary courses, integrative study, self-determined majors, collaborative research, study abroad, internships, community service, career development and every other aspect of the Skidmore experience. Glotzbach concludes, "Genuine creativity requires rigor of thought and practice that connects knowledge and imagination with discipline. The more we develop our students' capacity to make that connection, the more they will be able to respond to the world in ways that truly matter." 5



**Scope magazine will now be published twice a year** and will include class notes. Notes will be included in *Scope* magazine each spring and fall, and selected class news also will be featured in the February and July issues of the *Scope Monthly* e-newsletter.

The latest notes are at [alumni.skidmore.edu/classnotes](http://alumni.skidmore.edu/classnotes). Questions or concerns? Contact Mary Monigan, class notes editor, at 800-564-0115 or [mmonigan@skidmore.edu](mailto:mmonigan@skidmore.edu).



Your class correspondent was the sole member of our

shrinking class who attended our 75th reunion. I went because my four years on the old campus were the happiest and best of my life. I enjoyed my “last fling” touring the gorgeous new campus. Friendly students were constantly at the ready to transport us anywhere we wanted to go in golf carts. These student drivers represented their fellows wonderfully; they were smart, lively and happy. The dinners were absolutely fabulous. All told, it was a perfect weekend, for which I thank everyone who helped with the planning!

**Mary Sinon Sayer**  
[99sayer@gmail.com](mailto:99sayer@gmail.com)



I am delighted to serve as 1948 class correspondent,

picking up the torch passed on by outgoing scribe **Gretchen Eisner Rachlin**. All of us are grateful to Gretchen for her exceptional work collecting and sharing classmate news. Let's keep it going! There were seven of us at Reunion, accompanied by two granddaughters and a son and daughter, all of

whom joined in the fun! Attendees were **Helen Wigand Bolton, Gloria D'Aiello Wehle, Pat Malmar Almond, Mary Jane Baker Macartney, Elouise Kenworthy Spelbrink, Bernice Warr Williams**, and yours truly.

I received an Outstanding Service Award, and **Billie Stein Tisch** was honored with the Jacqueline M. Jung '61 Lifetime Service Award. (Billie's son Andrew accepted the award on behalf of his mother.) We enjoyed a lovely tea hosted by Skidmore's inaugural Class of '48 Professor of Excellence, Pat Fehling. Her successor, Susan Kress, joined us for dinner at the beautifully restored Surrey Williamson Inn across the street from campus. During the weekend, I happened to chat with a young alumnus, who told me his great-aunt was a former chair of the Theater Department and his mother was **Beatrice Reed '50**, with whom I became very good friends at Skidmore. What a small world and a wonderful experience!

**MJ Macartney** shared her impressions of the weekend. “Among the '48ers at Reunion were the infamous ‘Libby House Gang’: **Pat Almond, Bernice Williams, Elouise Spelbrink** and me! Chauffeured in golf carts by friendly students, we marveled at the new campus, enjoyed fine food and drink,

and made new friends. In short, we were thoroughly spoiled and loved every minute!”

**Gloria D'Aiello Wehle** adds, “The school planned so many great events and lovely dinners! Being with alumni who attended Skidmore in my era or close to it was fun. I especially liked getting to know ‘new’ members of my class and others! I enjoyed spending time on the new campus, and exhibiting my artwork at the Tang Museum was so very special. My granddaughter Abigail, who accompanied me for the weekend, loved the experience, too!”

Our Hawaiian classmate, **Aileen Kwock Char**, wants to thank **Gretchen Eisner Rachlin** for faithfully serving us as scribe for many years. “Mahalo!”

**Muriel Grossman Kaufer** moved to an independent living community in Palm Beach Gardens, Fla.

**Zilpha Slosson Erskine**  
[grandotse@gmail.com](mailto:grandotse@gmail.com)



**Leah Cunningham Wood** asked her son, Charles, to

inform us that her eyesight is quite bad. She is thankful and happy to be residing in a nice Acts retirement community in Boca Raton, Fla. Leah moved there last summer with her family's help.

**Jane Robertson Kalisch** can't believe she is 90. Husband Bob passed away five years ago. She lives in a top-notch facility, and her son calls her from California three times a day; he visits every six weeks. She is also close

to her youngest nephew, who is going through a divorce. Jane loves singing in the choir. She sends her love to all.

**Kay Christie Shaw** is especially glad to be in a residence with a full electric generator: she is “ready for all storms and blackouts.”

**Edi Neimark** slipped in February and separated her shoulder. Six weeks after it was screwed back, she was out of the sling. She warns everyone that old people break very easily when they fall. Be careful!

**Alex Ordway Bjorklund** is still living a mile from where she grew up, in White Bear Lake, Minn., in a “very cluttered house.” She spends time over the winter in Carefree, Ariz. She would love to see anyone traveling her way.

**Alice Ziegler Bomer** has five great-grands. The last was a boy who weighed in at 8 pounds. She hopes to meet him soon. Although she has had three strokes, Alice still lives in her own apartment in a retirement community.

**Marjorie Fee Neff** thought her home in Tryon, N.C., was in a safe place. But after 6 inches of rain in two hours produced 55 mudslides in the area, she is no longer so sure. Marge enjoyed traveling with friends to South Carolina to visit Revolutionary War sites and then toured antebellum homes in Georgia. (The International Tryon Equestrian Olympics, which typically draw about 500,000 people and horses, are held in Georgia.) Marge's grandson Jimmy is relocating to Georgia for a job opportunity. Her two great-granddaughters live nearby.

**Mary Lou Woodruff Street** suffered a bad stroke and is now in assisted living at Brookdale in Hyannis, Mass. She receives excellent therapy and is always upbeat, according to husband Bud. She gets around with a walker and is able to visit home in a wheelchair. She is working on getting her left arm and leg back to normal.

**Georganne Hinchliff Eggers** says she feels fine and uses a cane occasionally. She has traveled around the country to visit her kids and feels blessed that she is so well taken care of. Georganne enjoys watching the grandchildren build wonderful lives. You can reach her at [theggs2@comcast.net](mailto:theggs2@comcast.net).

**Martha Dunkel Chilcott** had a grand celebration for her 90th on the Oregon coast. All 14 family members plus three dogs got together in two gorgeous beach homes. Dunk stays in touch with Maine resident **Judith Sturtevant Harris** and Floridian **Claire Schreiber Pittman**, whose husband, Charles, is in a nursing home.

**Joanne Whiting Lenci** is taking a Viking Cruise to the Baltic after a hot summer.

**Beverly Bernhardt Jarrett** turned 91 in May — the same day doctors placed a pacemaker in her heart. Her children are now old enough to collect Social Security. Grandchildren, notes Beverly, “are the greatest invention.”

**Betsy Bell Condron** was in a car accident in June. After weeks of treatment and therapy, she has recovered nicely, even attending a full schedule of art and music performances and history lectures. Betsy also continues serving on three boards as a trustee emerita.



**Ellen Kniffin Wright** and hubby Don moved to assisted living in Madison, Wis. They love being near their two sons and Ellen's sister, but miss their friends of 54 years in New Jersey. Ellen doesn't travel well and will miss our reunion next year.

**Adelaide Hodgman Marx** may be "a little older but is still going strong." She plays bridge four days a week at the senior center and works at her home in the Berkshires, which is getting old too!

**Dorinne Shutter Armstrong** misses **Margery Campbell Fort**, who joined her on a trip on the Queen Mary in 1949. Margery passed away May 23. Dorinne observes, "Getting old would be quite pleasant, if family and friends would stick around to enjoy it with us!"

In addition to Margery, the following classmates have recently left this earth: **Eunice Kling Kirkbride**, **Eleonore Panzenhagen Moble**, **Nancy Coe Wixom**, **Millicent Binder Asher** and **Alice Giese Clark**.

As for me, I hate the computer, my hands are not good and it takes forever to type. I walk daily without a cane and can do a mile, if it isn't too hot. I still tend my little vegetable garden. Sometimes I take the three-hour drive to Pennsylvania. I play bridge on Thursday and serve as a lector at 8 a.m. mass. Once a month, I volunteer at a soup kitchen and help with the church Chronicles each month.

**Edith Armend Holtermann**  
[holterglas@aol.com](mailto:holterglas@aol.com)



**Ina Spelke Schnell** has returned to Plymouth Harbor,

Fla., after the death of her husband and several travel adventures in Great Britain, Europe and Canada by bicycle. After a career in fashion design, Ina worked for many years with children in trouble with the law in NYC. In retirement, she has been involved with the Ringling Museum of Art and the Library Foundation of Sarasota County. Ina is hoping to find classmates in the Plymouth Harbor area.

**Pat Bryant Koedding** is busy as always with her family and artwork.

We recently learned that **Mary Burroughs Small** died in 2015, and others left us this year: **Elizabeth Phillips Brisson** in January, **Carol Peever Zedler** in April, and **Mary Kahle Monthie** and **Frank W. Gibbins** in June. This issue's "In Memoriam" has details. Also, **Carl DeSantis's** wife, Barbara, died in February. We send our deepest sympathy to all of their families and friends.

**Patricia Grummon Clegg**  
[patriciaclegg436@gmail.com](mailto:patriciaclegg436@gmail.com)



**M.F. Hatfield**, who had her 87th birthday in April, is writing

an essay entitled "End-Game Strategies." I hope she will share it with the rest of us!

**Dawn Rylander Spitz** and Eric are still singing and performing. Dawn won first prize in the National League of

American Pen Women's poetry contest. Dawn and Eric are selling their Cape Cod home and moving to Venice, Fla. As class co-presidents, Dawn and I are already talking about our 70th reunion in 2022!

**Barbara Brigham Posey's** family writes, "Barbara's time is fully taken up as a patient at St. Patrick's Manor in Framingham, Mass. Although too weak to write, she often thinks of Skidmore and her classmates."

NYC resident **Bea Kee** shared news about her involvement with the New Birth Portrait Series, a collection of videos created by her church that explore the lives of New Yorkers transformed by faith. In her "portrait," Bea describes how exposure to Christian worship changed her life. You can view it at [www.newbirthportraits.com](http://www.newbirthportraits.com).

**Peggy McConnell Hinricks** spent a glorious winter in Vero Beach, Fla., before returning to her new residence at Waverly Heights in Gladwynne, Pa. She has made many new friends and is creating artwork, which is "great fun on rainy days." Peggy attended her grandson's graduation from the Navy's Officers Candidate School in Newport, R.I. He is now training for atomic submarine service.

**Marcia Hilfrank Forrest** and George enjoyed their vacation on Ossipee Lake in Freedom, N.H. Marcia has been vacationing there since 1931! The couple's three daughters, eight grandsons and two great-grandsons are all doing well. Despite the prevalence of males, Marcia is holding on to some "girly items" from long ago. She and George feel very fortunate.

**Jean Adams Shaw** and Biff, in Essex, Conn., are busy but taking life at a slower pace. Three great-grandchildren add to their joy in life. The couple enjoyed two days on the beautiful Skidmore campus and loved watching the New York City Ballet at the Saratoga Performing Arts Center.

**Nancy Kress Douglass**, married for 65 years, now lives in "an old folks home," they say. Actually, though, Friendship Village in Pittsburgh, Pa., is "a great place!" Their four children, 13 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren keep them very busy.

**Flora Shoemaker Taylor** and her husband are grateful for their health and being able to stay in their own home in Kimball Junction, Utah. The "questionable" decision Flo made a few years ago to adopt a 5-year-old yellow Lab has proved to be sound. Their canine companion keeps them entertained and a little more active. Her husband received a new heart valve this year; the TAVR procedure, says Flo, is "an amazing advancement in medicine." She sends good wishes to all.

We send our love and prayers to the families of the late **Mary Anne Sloate Everett**, **Joan Hecker Masters**, **JoAnn Molinari Byrnes** and **Ann Brown Abdalla**.

Bill and I have been very busy celebrating his 92nd birthday, our 65th wedding anniversary, his heart-valve replacement and the beautiful weddings of two grandsons to lovely young women. To top it off, we enjoyed three wonderful weeks of family fun at Lake Winnepesaukee, N.H., this summer.

**Betty Johnson Boothe**  
[bettyboothe@gmail.com](mailto:bettyboothe@gmail.com)



**Sue Davis Tull** has been staying close to home after back surgery

in April. Her pain has been virtually eliminated, but sadly so has the option of playing golf! Daughter Katie lives nearby with her husband. Son Gray who had been in California for three years, returned to the East Coast to reduce expenses and be closer to the family. Anne, the eldest, lives in Massachusetts with husband David; now retired, she plans to relocate to Nashville, Tenn. And the youngest, Bob (whom Sue calls her "caboose child"), lives in Ohio with wife Kristen. Their daughter Jessie recently graduated from Denison and teaches at an elementary charter school in Washington, D.C., with City Year. Her brother, Corey, is a junior at Johns Hopkins in Baltimore. Sue feels blessed to have Jessie and Corey so close by, while youngest granddaughter Allie, 15, is keeping Bob and Kristin from feeling the pangs of an empty nest. The family continues to make use of a cabin in a remote part of the Adirondack Mountains.

In April **Sue Lindemann Staropoli** and Nick gathered with 11 family members and 45 friends for the wedding of granddaughter Sarah (surrounded by 15 bridesmaids) at a private estate on Maui, overlooking the Pacific. A July reception followed in Portland, Ore., where Sue and Nick attended grandson Matthew's White Coat Ceremony in August. He is a first-year medical student at Oregon Health and Sciences University, where Sarah is a physical therapist. Another



granddaughter, Laura, went off to college in Caldwell, Idaho, the same day.

#### **Emily Whitlock Moore**

reports that her children and grandchildren are all gainfully employed (except for the 12-year-old). Emily is planning a Disney World trip with the family in the near future. She continues to be “amazed at Skidmore’s growth in so many areas.”

#### **Tanoula Nasla Hadjiparaskevas**

’s grandson graduated from the University of Pennsylvania and is working for the Board of Education in NYC. Her other two grandchildren are teenagers.

#### **Barbara Churchill Thompson**

had a “catch-up” lunch with **Jean Pitta Pacchiana**. Barb still plays bridge, occasionally goes to the theater and dines with friends. Daughter Beth lives in Madison, Conn., and Barb’s granddaughter worked at a great book store there, RJ Julia. Son Stuart and wife Tiff live in Stonington. Daughter Annie and family are in Vermont. Barb is selling her condo and trying to decide where she wants to live. Wherever she ends up, the place must be stair-free. Maybe a Skidmore alumni dorm?

#### **Roslyn Newman Wolin**

’s great-grandson C.J. is almost 2 years old. The Wolins love living in Sandwich, Mass., which is quite far from California, where C.J. and his family reside. Although she enjoys video calls and pictures, Roslyn is looking forward to seeing them in person soon.

#### **Myrna “Mickey” Sawyer**

enjoys working one day a week at the Health Department’s legal office. She observes, “It keeps my brain in gear.”

#### **Joan Ewig McCallum**

reports that the wildfires close to her area in California have been very destructive. Fortunately, her retirement community was not affected. It’s a lovely place where she and her husband have made many interesting friends. Their grandchildren, who live close by, are growing up fast. Joan says the oldest is fine student; “It will be fun to see where he goes to college.”

#### **Joanne Schmidt Madden**

recently welcomed her fourth great-grandchild. She is enjoying life at Harrogate, a retirement community in Lakewood, N.J. Although Joanne has a few health problems, she considers them “not particularly surprising at our age.” Serving as treasurer of the Harrogate Residents Association keeps her “out of trouble.”

Instead of taking a vacation this summer, **Mary Grindley Shepard** opted to stay in New London, Conn., where there was plenty going on, including a concert by Chris Brubeck (who had just played with his dad, Dave, at Skidmore’s wonderful Zankel Music Center). Grin’s sons visit her often, and her golden retriever takes good care of her. Her youngest grandson is a freshman at Ithaca College. (Remember Ithaca, nursing majors?)

#### **Marcia Weeks Clayton**

lives at Thornton Oaks, a senior community near Bowdoin College in Brunswick, Maine. A new great-grandson, Cameron, was born in March 2017. His older brother, Tucker, 2, and their parents live in Hingham, Mass. In July Marcia’s granddaughter, Ellie, married Bobbie Hoffman and honeymooned in Europe. The newlyweds are living

in Virginia, where Bobbie is pursuing an MBA at UVA; Ellie will be the breadwinner for a while. Marcia plays bridge three times a week, belongs to a book club and writers club and volunteers at the library.

It is with sadness that I report the loss of three classmates.

**Marilyn Graham Horton** and **Martha Steele Pitts** passed away in 2016 and **Betty Carpenter Evans** died in August.

I still volunteer at our thrift shop and the library. Most weekends, I head off to Vermont to see David. He is in a nursing home and we celebrated his 102nd birthday in June. My granddaughter gave birth to her third son, Noah, giving me my third great-grandson. They are 13, 3, and six months! I am fortunate that they live here in Madison, as do my son Bill and my daughter Lydia. My daughter Leslie is in Arlington, Va. I see her as often as her job will allow. We all take a trip once a year to see all the grandsons in Colorado and visit my old roommate, **Sandy Strouse Gaylord**.

**Lydia Pardo McMinn**  
[lpmmcinn@gmail.com](mailto:lpmmcinn@gmail.com)



#### **Carol Snyder Woodward**

says she lives “a very quiet

life.” Her family includes a son and a daughter, four grandchildren and a great-grandson and great-granddaughter. She spends time with them at a lakeside property that stretches from Vermont into Canada. Although she no longer rides horses, Carol loves walking the trails around the lake. Each year, she makes the four-day drive from Quebec to Sanibel Island, Fla., for six

weeks of relaxation in a tropical setting. She is thankful that after all these years, Sanibel still restricts building heights, so no high-rises obstruct views of the Gulf of Mexico.

#### **Adele Albrecht Wakefield**

treasures her time with family and friends. I spoke with her this summer after she returned from a visit with her sister. She also visited son Philip and grandsons Brendan and Barrett in Seattle, Wash., to attend Barrett’s high school graduation, and later she returned for Philip’s 60th birthday. While in Seattle, Adele caught up with **Nancy Lee Farrell** by phone. Adele’s second son, Peter, is the father of Andrew, Emily and Rachel. Adele encourages anyone to write to her.

Hudson, Mass., resident

**Nancy Barrett Eadie** says she is “coping with life as a widow.” Husband James Peter died four years ago, just before their 60th wedding anniversary. Her life is now filled with news of their sons, Jay and Todd, daughter Elizabeth and six grandchildren. Nancy finds great satisfaction making Nantucket-style baskets, a skill she learned from a “fabulous teacher” in Florida some years ago. For a change of pace, she switches to needlework. She stays in touch with a small network of Skidmore friends, chatting with **Joan Kennison Shaw**, who in turn stays in touch with Nancy’s former roommate, **Diane Davis Nelson**.

#### **Susan Steinbrenner Norpell**

and husband Bradley still split their year between Sanibel Island, Fla., and Lakewood, Ohio. Sue stays in contact with **Tillie Ruby Coulter**, who also spends the winter in Florida. They both spent freshman year in Penfield, and after graduation,

four Penfield dwellers traveled together in Europe. Thus bitten by the “travel bug,” Sue came up with a system: She worked at a job until she had the money to travel, quit the job, went traveling, and then landed another job to earn travel money again — she had eight jobs in about 10 years. Along the way, Sue earned a graduate degree in library science; her last two employers were the Cleveland Public Library and a law firm. The travel became less important after she was happily wed and welcomed son Michael! Her favorite European destination is Paris, but she remembers once in Vienna, unaware that the Russian military was ending its long occupation on the day she arrived, Sue was surprised by fireworks, gun shots and wild celebration.

**Joyce Brier Galkin**’s husband Warren wrote from the couple’s home in Warwick, R.I., recalling their love of adventurous travel. The grandparents of four boys, they are the proud parents of a son and daughter who have forged successful professional careers. Now in assisted living, Joyce is “still smiling” despite her Alzheimer’s disease. Warren says, “Music seems to give her great pleasure,” and she sings the words to old tunes, even though she can’t remember names of good friends.

#### **Harriet Soshnick Hirsch**

died Jan. 20 in Tucson, Ariz. Harriet’s dedication to helping special-needs students to master reading and writing was remarkable.

#### **Constance Swedlin Sultan**

passed away Feb. 16 in NYC. She so loved her work in the baby nursery at Mount Sinai Hospital, which she did for three decades. She enjoyed arranging very well-attended



luncheons in the city for '55 nursing majors; she leaves her friends with many good memories. Both classmates will be greatly missed. See "In Memoriam" in this issue.

**Barbara McBride Sterling**  
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'56

When it wasn't 95 degrees in the shade, rain soaked everything

here on Long Island.

Fortunately, on a beautiful day in August we were able to celebrate our Skidmore backgrounds at an alumni event held at the Devon Yacht Club in Amagansett. Skidmore staffer Joe Porter joined us as we celebrated reconnecting with one another. We were delighted to welcome **Ada Vapnak '57**, who braved the summer traffic from her home in Sag Harbor to join us.

**Joan Maertins Hansel** lives in Lancaster, Pa. (My husband and I travel there several times a year to visit our son, a resident since his college days at Franklin & Marshall.) Joan had lived in Hingham, Mass., for 53 enjoyable years. Two years ago, she celebrated her 60th wedding anniversary at a family reunion in Williamsburg, Va., for which her grandchildren came east. Joan enjoys the Lancaster area's music traditions and choral groups. Activities for her include dog-walking, metal- and wood-working, and fundraising. Six older grandchildren are pursuing careers in ad sales, construction, supply management, nursing and teaching in Manhattan and New England. The family travels to Europe for reunions; son Luke was in Germany this summer attending a cousin's wedding.

I am saddened to report that **Phyllis Probst McIntire** died in December, and **Cherry**

**Pepper Kaneff** passed away March 21. Many remember Cherry as the live-wire blonde of Penfield House, who left after freshman year to marry Howard Kaneff. She traveled the world with him, was fluent in Spanish and French and taught herself Russian.

**Averill Dayton Geus**  
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'57

**Phebe Grauer Appleton** lives in Niagara on the Lake in

Ontario, Canada. A dual U.S. and Canadian citizen, she is grateful for all the region has to offer, including wineries, fruit farms, a magnificent view of Fort Niagara and the George Bernard Shaw Theatre, which presents plays and a popular summer music festival. Phoebe is active in green-space conservancy in the rapidly developing area, observing, "It's an uphill battle." She continues to sing with a local choir of retirees.

**Ginny Carter Lombardi** and Dick have moved to Traditions, a senior community in Dallas, but spend the summer months in Colorado. Ginny plays tennis, volunteers for hospice, drives for Meals on Wheels and enjoys travel and reading.

I received an email from **Mary "Bang Bang" Gund Farr**, who said she hadn't used her Skidmore nickname in 50 years! She and Hap live at Moorings Park at Grey Oaks in Naples, Fla. She says, "I can't tell you how often we laugh over Skidmore adventures." A few times each summer, they spend two weeks in Michigan at their family compound, which was built in 1926 and includes an island. Relatives come from everywhere to enjoy reconnecting there. Other

times, they're in Cleveland, where they enjoy activities with many childhood friends. Still painting and making jewelry, Mary donates proceeds from the sale of her work to charities in the name of son John, whom they lost to cancer in 2006. The Farrs' other son, Warren, runs the family air conditioning business. A wonderful gaggle of grandchildren live in New York, California and Washington, D.C.

Let's plan to get '57ers together on Florida's west coast this winter!

**Linda Gorham Harvey** stays in touch with **Joan Hayes**, who winters on Sanibel Island, Fla. She also had fun catching up with **Judy Fletcher Baker** in Falmouth, Maine, in August. Linda and John hopscotch between three homes: They spend winters in Sanibel, spring and fall at their Cape Cod home in Harwich Port, where Linda gets her garden fix, and summer escapes in a small lakeside cottage in Bridgton, Maine. Linda enjoys lake swimming and still plays some tennis.

I received an email from **Pat Naigles Lyons's** husband, Herb. Given Pat's advancing Parkinson's, Herb is "acting as her corresponding agent." She sends her greetings and enjoys hearing from classmates. The couple lives in Bellingham, Wash. An enthusiastic alumna, Pat organized some mini-reunions on Florida's west coast. I am still wearing a yellow shirt she convinced us to wear in the Parade of Classes at Reunion!

**Ginny Carter Lombardi** passed along the sad news that **Carla Pepperman Kernan** died in May. Carla lived just four houses down from Ginny and Dick before moving into assisted living

three years ago. Carla's daughter Nancy Jagielski shared that her mother had cherished a framed photo of herself and other members of the Skidmore Chorus that was taken during their late-1950s appearance on the *Ed Sullivan Show*, which Carla often called "one of the best experiences I ever had." Unable to travel due to a fairly severe case of COPD, she regretted not being able to attend Reunion. And **Linda Harvey** informed me that **Ann Talbot Brown** passed away; she had been in failing health for quite some time. We send condolences to both families. (See this issue's "In Memoriam.")

My husband, Jim, and I enjoyed a trip to Santa Fe and Taos, N.M. I had never been there and absolutely loved the gorgeous scenery, so beautifully captured by Georgia O'Keeffe. We visited her museum, home and studio before driving out to the Ghost Ranch where she often painted. The trip included a family reunion, making it even more special.

**Dotty Wakeman Mattoon**  
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'58

At 82, **Connie Hey Morton** says she is doing "OK"

despite the challenges of MS and fibromyalgia. At home in Meadowlakes, Texas, she is getting physical therapy and participating in a study at Baylor University. The study includes riding a mechanical horse, which has really improved her balance.

**Beverly Beatson Grossman** reports that she thoroughly enjoyed Reunion and wishes more classmates could have attended. Bev was pleased to represent Skidmore

President Philip Glotzbach in the installation ceremony for the new president of Williams College, where she and husband Felix have a grandson who is a member of the freshman class. Felix continues to participate in an aquatic masters' program as a diver; he has won gold and silver medals in his division.

**Fran Garrett Crew** enjoys country living in Elmira, N.Y. She and her husband feel fortunate to have their four children and seven grandchildren nearby. (Their youngest daughter is a Skidmore graduate.) They take long walks with their two 5-year-old Labs, who keep them on their toes. Although Elmira is the glider capital of the world, Fran admits flying one is something she still has yet to check off her bucket list. The couple travels in a big motor home, which has allowed them to enjoy some amazing trips to Alaska. Fran has fond memories of being active in student government at Skidmore (just take a look at our yearbook).

In Lake Placid, N.Y., you can find **Tina Brodley Eigenmann** playing tennis, downhill skiing, hiking, walking or swimming ("like a true Pisces," she says). She and her husband enjoy their home on 3 acres surrounded by the great outdoors. She recalls the excellent experience she had studying home economics at Skidmore, and her skills and passion for sewing led to a successful alteration business. For fun, she and a friend keep their vocabularies sharp by doing lots of crossword puzzles. In good health, Tina feels fortunate to be living completely "pill free."

**Susan Hecht Goldstein** loves the summer weather in Aspen, Colo. The rest of the year, she resides in Los Angeles, Calif.



Susan is often busy fundraising for Skidmore. At Reunion this spring, she spent time with **Monica Reis de Janosi**, a connection that she says “warmed my heart.” Sue, who feels quite comfortable with technology, has encouraged me to “love” my cellphone. (I still need to be convinced.)

Portsmouth, N.H., resident **Barbara Warriner Engelbach** has been active in the National Society of Colonial Dames of America, serving as president of the New Hampshire chapter from 2004 to 2008. She has also enjoyed classes at the local Strawberry Banke Museum, which encompasses the site of the earliest known European settlements from the 17th century and showcases period gardens and homes as well as trades and crafts. Barbara served for 15 years as the manager of the historic Warner House, home to sea captains, merchants, explorers and even a royal governor. Barbara and her husband of 61 years have three sons. She and Fred lived in Germany and England while he was in the Air Force; they have also visited China, Vietnam and Thailand and have a favorite little hotel on the island of Naxos, Greece. Barbara’s hearing loss has not slowed her determination to improve her Greek-speaking skills to “more than 10 words.”

**Claire Steinmetz McCleery** sounds upbeat and positive as she continues to deal with the effects of a nasty fall. She admits she gets annoyed at her painful arms and legs, but she is encouraged by the help of her husband, a part-time caregiver and her family. She’s in the pool three to four times a week and volunteers at her church office. She also enjoys the antics and company of her dog, Tame.

**Ann Pizzutello D’Innocenti** was just home from playing tennis when I spoke with her. She was experiencing a few aches and pains and may discontinue playing with folks 10 years her junior. Ann and her husband live near the Kennedy Space Center in Florida; her son and his 13- and 16-year-old children live nearby. She retired after a successful and rewarding career teaching art in New York and Miami. She plays bridge twice a week.

**Monica Reis de Janosi** had a good time at Reunion and also wished more of us were there. She especially liked meeting **Connie Masciale Carino**, whom she had not really known. Connie surely did our class proud for all her work and service! Monica keeps in touch with **Esther-Ann Solotaroff Asch** and **Naomi Goldfarb Tamerin**. She hosted **Cathy Yacker Winter** for a little reunion of their own. Monica has plans to tour the national parks of the West, and she is the proud owner of a miniature Dachshund named Blossom (don’t you love it?).

I had a chatty and delightful lunch with **Joan Bowles Averette** and **Chris Rouse** while Joan was here in the Wild West to visit Chris. There was lots of catching up and happy observations that “we all look pretty good.”

**Jackie Bush Collopy** and husband Bruce visited Saratoga and Skidmore on her birthday last spring while attending Bruce’s 60th reunion at RPI in Troy. They celebrated their 60th anniversary with family and friends at home in Roswell, Ga. Daughters of the American Revolution, genealogy research, church choir and alter guild, quilting, and playing bridge keep her busy. Jackie was disappointed that

family commitments kept her from attending our reunion. She and Bruce went to Minneapolis twice, for their oldest granddaughter’s wedding and for her younger sister’s graduation from college. Jackie visited **Barbara Ford Ostrander** in Florida, where Barbara spends half the year.

**Marge Sigsby Noble** is “extremely happy in retirement” at her adult community in Hendersonville, N.C. She and **Joan Bowles Averette** comprised the “southern contingent” at Reunion; both physical education majors, they enjoyed getting reacquainted. Marge also ventured off campus for a mini-reunion with **Bobbie Bongard**, who lives on a farm in nearby Schuylerville, where she raises (winning) racehorses! Marge and Joan had previously gotten together in Virginia Beach, Va., where Joan resides, for mini-reunions. Marge keeps fit by teaching aerobics and swimming, playing pickleball and taking Zumba classes. She feels really blessed to be feeling well and active.

She loved the activities at Reunion, including the bus tour of the old campus, touring the beautiful new campus and participating in the Parade of Classes. The lively dinners were a treat, and she was impressed by the Tang Teaching Museum and Art Gallery and its beautiful surroundings.

**Joyce Gilbert Hood-Jelliff** is “feeling fine” in Scottsdale, Ariz. She and a friend took a lovely but sometimes weather-challenged cruise to explore the beauty of Alaska.

**Elsa Daspin Suisman** was happy to hear that classmates who attended Reunion were appreciative and pleased with all the activities. I am sure it was satisfying to see it all come together!

It was a severe blow when my sister Alice passed away in Rochester, N.Y., from a short bout with cancer. I know many of you have experienced such a personal loss and the deep, difficult and soul-searching feelings that it brings. It is so hard to accept that a very special person in your life is gone forever. **Jane Goodman Hunter** knew Alice, as they both worked as counselors in Stephen Ministry Program, so it was good to see Jane and share some thoughtful time with her.

I returned to Rochester to see my brother-in-law and also met **Mary Ann Groves Carley**, whose son Rick lives nearby. Mary Ann recently lost her vibrant husband after a long illness. Although she and I have phoned over the years, it was wonderful to connect in person over lunch in a restaurant her son owns.

Stan has been with me through all this and has been a great support. He and I caught up with almost all of our family members at a beach-house reunion on the Outer Banks of North Carolina. It is getting harder every year to corral all 22 of us, due to jobs, soccer tournaments (do they ever stop?) and other commitments. My daughter Allison and husband Mike spent a year camping all over the United States with their children Jeff, 12, and Kate, 11. We missed them at the beach; they were still in the Ozarks. Now back home in southern California, they are savoring the many great memories, for sure.

I hope you all read about **Connie Masciale Carino** in the last “Class Notes.” A great picture and productive and meaningful nursing career!

I wish we could all have been at Reunion together. I love

hearing your voices, but please feel free to email me as well.

**Bobbie Schwartz**  
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**Gail Wheeler’s** longtime companion Bob Schulz passed

away in March. Gail laments, “I’m lost without him. We dated senior year then went our separate ways but always kept in touch. We were a twosome for the last 19 years and really the perfect couple! Fortunately, I’m keeping busy and have my beach house at the Jersey Shore as an escape.” She stayed occupied planning a trip to Paris with sister Dona for the first week of October. Gail gets together with **Cynthia Magriel Wetzler** every few months; they recently met for lunch and a museum tour.

**Gail Lanctot Hamlett** still loves living in Florida. She stays busy with activities at Shell Point, her church and an associated thrift shop, as well as several other ministries. She spent time in Buffalo, N.Y., to celebrate the graduation of four grandchildren (two from high school and two from college); there are still two grandkids to go! Gail had the good fortune to run into **Nancy Marsh**, and they had lunch to celebrate Nancy’s birthday.

**Barbara Denney Woods** says “all is well” with the Woods family. Three out of four grandsons are in college, and the youngest is a high school senior. Barbara and her husband still live in a lakeside home in Victorville, Calif., and hope to stay put. They spend time with friends and family and are committed to getting rid of “stuff” in-



stead of collecting it. Barbara is pretty sure she has done her last craft show.

**Elizabeth Wadleigh Leary's** painting *Dawn at the Bluffs* is causing quite a stir. Her artist's statement sets the stage for this slice of Cape Cod history: "It's quiet just before dawn; there's a heavy haze hanging over the island, but off on the horizon the warming sunlight appears to be rising out of the sea. On the southern point of Plum Island there used to be a small group of cottages set high on a ridge known as 'the Bluffs.' The view in this painting is what would welcome the summer people arriving by rowboat from Newbury and Ipswich." The Willoughby Fine Art Gallery, which is exhibiting Elizabeth's work, calls it "one of her most elegantly painted architectural portraits."

**Carolyn Brown Straker** observes, "People tell me I should be happy that I have reached this age but look a few years younger." Brownie and eight family members celebrated her birthday in San Diego and Los Angeles, Calif. She is grateful for her two wonderful children, who are "sweet, kind and successful," as well as for three "delightful" grandchildren, ages 9, 10 and 11. Her son is a psychiatrist like his father and grandfather, and her daughter is a television screenwriter who won an Emmy for her work in the acclaimed Hulu series *The Handmaid's Tale*. "I am very proud of them," she says.

**Joey Haufler Rosenthal** enjoyed a lovely lunch with Dan and **Sue Collard Fanning** before an evening with Dick and **Pam Bartholomew Armstrong** at Tanglewood in Lenox, Mass. The evening included a surprise visit from Steve and **Janet Lucas Whitman**, who

joined them for a joyful lunch, during which many memories were shared. The Rosentals later headed to Doug and **Ginger Clark Keare's** home on Cape Cod.

**JoEllen Steinfeld Snowman** and husband Alfred moved from their home of more than 50 years to an apartment in Englewood, N.J. JoEllen writes, "We recently had the pleasure of visiting **Linda Eisenberg Hardy** and Richard in Las Vegas. Linda and I were bridge partners during our time at Skidmore, and we had great fun recalling the old days. It was a special trip in many ways." One of JoEllen and Alfred's daughters runs a safari company in Tanzania; the other is a labor and delivery nurse in Boston.

**Linda Eisenberg Hardy** visited with **JoEllen Steinfeld Snowman** "at our vacation home in Las Vegas and then at Jo's new apartment in Englewood, N.J. We played bridge together for first time in 60 years!" Back home in Seattle, Linda still goes to work every day at a family machine shop, where she writes and tests documentation for the construction of flying parts and tooling for the aerospace industry. Her eight grandchildren are almost grown, but "there are no greats yet!"

**Nancy Rae Scully** enjoys reading the news of '59ers. She and Dennis enjoyed the summer in NYC. "The city thins out somewhat so you can do more with greater ease," she notes. Nancy has been taking mindfulness classes and finds them very energizing.

**Rose Lee Schainman Halper** came to Philadelphia for a two-day visit in April. I enjoyed showing her the Japanese Garden, Rodin Museum and some of the Philadelphia Museum of Art. Roe felt

inspired by the fiber work of Yvonne Bobrowicz, but reacquainting herself with the sculpture of Auguste Rodin was her primary objective. Check out her website at roehalperart.com. At age 81, she finally has an art dealer, Machamux Gallery owner Reed Seifer. To see Roe's work, go on artsy.net/machamux; you'll find two shows: *The Struggle in Common* (works from the '60s to the '80s) and *Roexplosion* (paintings of abstract movement in color). Roe shared great news about **Elana Scaglia '15**, our Class of '59 scholarship recipient for four years. On July 29, Elana married **E. Austin Stokes '15**. Elana has completed a master's in library sciences and archival studies. The couple have moved to Chicago, where Austin will be pursuing a doctorate in clinical psychology.

**Evelyn Schawbel Rosenkrantz** lives in Marblehead, Mass., but winters in Palm Beach Gardens, Fla. Evie is recovering from back surgery and hopes to get back to her golf and travel soon. Now that she has retired from real estate, she is spending more time with her two daughters and five grandchildren in Kiawah, S.C., and keeping up with old friends.

**Anne-Marie Philippe deTourbet** loves to hike, recently in France's Chamonix Valley, where she enjoys very hot, sunny weather. (I have a postcard from that area and it is absolutely beautiful!) Anne-Marie's son and his family are in Florida touring and visiting relatives in Miami. Daughter Isabelle toured Croatia and enjoyed the country. Daughter Christine and her spouse spent two weeks in Scotland. Granddaughter Lisa, 22, is attending McGill University to study marketing (and e-marketing of course).

Anne-Marie writes, "Avec toutes mes amitiés."

**Barbara Lecky Benjamin** stopped in Saratoga in late July on the way to a family reunion at Willsboro Point on Lake Champlain. "Saratoga is the same beautiful, exciting town, especially during track season. But it has come a long way since 1959." Back home in Florida, she encourages anyone traveling there to reach out to her at barbarab38@gmail.com.

After spending many years in Naples, Fla., **Abby Lewis Warman** and her husband are moving to Wilmington, N.C., where their daughter and her family live. Abby is "looking forward to a new adventure!" She continues to love painting and recently shipped one of her works to the Haggin Museum in Stockton, Calif., for the American Women Artists Exhibition (she is a Signature Member). She saw **Terry Alcorn Foster** and husband Frank in Winter Park, Fla., this spring. They're both great and enjoying lots of travel. Abby encourages classmates in the Wilmington area to contact her.

**Anne Sawyer Manners** shares wonderful news: she became a great-grandma June 19. Granddaughter Rosie gave birth to Franklin, who has lots of brown hair and weighed 9.5 pounds at birth. Anne flew to London in August to meet him and visit with other family members. Her far-flung grandkids include a granddaughter who worked in New Hampshire this summer and another currently working in China. "The world seems to get smaller all the time," says Anne.

We honor the memories of four classmates who will be greatly missed (see "In Memoriam" in this issue). **Alice Law-**

**rence Roehrig** died in January. **Linda Amerling Scull** lost a long and courageous battle with liposarcoma in February at age 80. We all remember her ever-present smile, wonderful sense of humor and contagious laugh. **Roberta Evelyn Young Shafer**, a devoted Skidmore volunteer, passed away in April. **Nancy Shonyo Rahm** died in May. We remember her as an accomplished cellist and pianist as well as a game enthusiast.

**Evalyn Zoda Shippee, Sally Gray Perry, Sheila DeNadal Salvo** and **Bev Sanders Payne** worked hard planning our 60th reunion for next year, so keep your calendars clear for May 30 to June 2, 2019!

**Sandra Stees Sudofsky**  
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**Becky Martin Watson** married longtime friend Al

Wilder in February. His late wife was a dear friend of hers as well. They celebrated the marriage with a July gathering at the day camp that the Martin family has run for four generations in Williamstown, Vt. **Suzanne Denby Pelton** and I joined the crowd and enjoyed meeting several of Becky's children and grandchildren.

**Beth Perles Gillman** is involved with the New Rochelle Opera Company. She serves on the Wetchester board of the Crohn's & Colitis Foundation of America. She plays the piano at the White Plains Hospital in the orthopedic unit and also lectures on health care advocacy.

**Debby Davenport Brooks** says she is "still a knit-wit." She spends 60 days a year in



Las Vegas and Zion with her son Caleb's family, and her New England granddaughters keep her busy with theatrical, band and cheerleading events. As always, she doesn't aspire to a career in charity work: "I'm just focused on being a good mom, grandma and neighbor." Debby and husband David ran into **Jill Ayers Gilbert** and John at the colorful July 4 parade in Wardsboro, Vt., a favorite occasion for her family.

**Eleanor Schmidt Schweigaard-Olsen** and her husband Bert cruised from Miami to Barcelona, then traveled around Spain via high-speed train. A highlight was the recently opened Sorolla Museum in Madrid. They cruised to Lima, Peru, in January. While they were away, kind neighbors cared for Chester, their 18-pound Maine coon cat! Ellie and Bert enjoy water aerobics, pickleball and lots of music at the Brevard Music Center in North Carolina, where they spend summers.

**Ellen VanDusen Guthrie** is still working three days a week for the Louisville, Ky., chapter of Habitat for Humanity, building houses and being an advocate for the homebuyers — very gratifying work. She misses her deceased husband but is playing a little golf and making new friends.

**Joyce Jacobs Grand** has finished editing her books *Margaret: From Newton to Nerja* and *Moving Forward*. She is speaking at several book clubs this fall. September plans include visiting her older son, Steve, and his wife and son in the Netherlands. A grandson is there for soccer coaching and enjoys the international baccalaureate program at the International School.

**Mary Anita Hoff Fallon** lunched with **Elaine Perlman Cohen** and Aaron at Gulfstream Park racetrack in March. MA hosted the annual Skidmore luncheon at Devon Yacht Club, noting that it is "always special."

**Peggy Hiller Harris** cannot believe most of us are turning 80 this year. "Luckily I'm still in good health and stay active in many civic organizations," she says. Her travel is limited since her husband is unable to go with her. They enjoy attending their two grandsons' school activities in Savannah, where their families live.

**Penny Miller Hansen** reports the loss of her wonderful husband of 48 years, Brock, in March. She says, "I know that many classmates are also dealing with the double challenge of losing a beloved partner and learning how to live alone." She has been revising the eight-week class she teaches each semester at American University's lifelong-learning institute. It's called Today's Supreme Court: A Class for Citizens. "The students are very bright," she says, "and the subject is very relevant — particularly this year."

**Sandy Blair Ohanian** enjoys living in a retirement community in Florida and participating in its many activities. She volunteers as a docent at the Conservancy of Southwest Florida every week. In May, she went on a great three-week tour of northern Italy with Overseas Adventure Travel.

**Suzanne Denby Pelton** celebrated her 80th birthday in June with a delightful luncheon for her family and lots of friends. I attended and was pleased to see **Becky Martin Watson** and husband Al, as well as **Gail Moran Morton's** widower David and

wife Judy. Missing was **Pam Crossley Faulkner**, who had a datebook mishap (forgot to look). It happens.

**Jean Lowes Dignazio** lost her long battle with cancer the evening of International Woman's Day, March 8. As with many women, her main contribution was social support, especially for her husband and children.

**Marty Miller Spencer**  
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While in Michigan this summer, I attended one of my

favorite events of season: a Sousa concert by the Northport Community Band. As I walked in, I hugged **Ann Putnam McGinnis**, a regular usher at these events and a friend from freshman year. After we got to know each other in this special part of the world, she discovered that I was class secretary and we realized that we had both minored in music. Unfortunately for us, Ann left to attend the University of Michigan, where she met her husband. We feel a special bond because of our shared experience in 1957–58. The Sousa concert was great, as always.

**Margaret Howe-Soper** says her life is "full, interesting and happy." Skeet is volunteering, reading, taking road trips and enjoying grandchildren. She sends her best to all.

**Linda Collier Kenerson** and I almost connected this spring during an art tour she took in Washington, D.C. Linda shared that **Frances Malino** was honored in May for her 30 years at Wellesley College, where she established the Jewish studies curricu-

lum. The college's Sophia Moses Robison Professor of Jewish Studies and History, Linda spoke on "Jewish Voices: Muslim Lands." An internationally recognized scholar, she has written eight books on Jewish communities in France during the 19th and early 20th centuries.

Westchester, Pa., resident **Karen Devine Janney** enjoys "a good life" with many activities at her adult community. She participates in a book club and bridge club as well as strolling the beach and swimming in the pool. Karen has friends and family nearby, including her best friend, a daughter and son-in-law, and a sister and brother-in-law. Both grandchildren are in college; one will graduate in 2019 with a degree in mechanical engineering. A travel lover, Karen's most recent destinations include China, Turkey and Scotland.

**Fran Fenn Hofmeister's** husband, Bill, fought leukemia for almost a year and a half, with a "roller coaster" series of hospitalizations. In February Fran became his full-time caretaker, and in March he lost his battle, surrounded by the entire family. Fortunately, he enjoyed some terrific times with them before he passed away. With the support of her daughters and Bill's kids, Fran is hanging in there. After tackling the taxes and probate issues with professional help this spring, she is beginning to see a small light at the end of the tunnel.

**Alice Chase Kaufman** recently visited Waikiki, Hawaii. Over the past year, she had two stories published in *Marin Magazine*, spent a month in Nice, France, and visited Seattle and New Orleans. Alice volunteers for the Humane Society thrift shop in San Anselmo, Calif. (and usually

spends about \$20 there each time). She is also editor of the Friends of the Larkspur Library newsletter. Alice and Frank adopted a terrific dog named Rosie; all concerned are very pleased and in love! She speaks to **Ellen Rein Goldin** frequently but doesn't see her nearly enough. Alice encourages classmates in the Bay Area to contact her: "Let's get together."

Los Angeles resident **Edna Simons Alvarez** recently went to a piano festival on the Lofoten Islands off the coast of Norway.

Last December **Kirsten Holt** and **Mary Pierce Riney** had lunch at the "famous" Chez Panisse in Berkeley, Calif., while Kirsten and husband David were visiting the area. "It was so much fun," says Kirsten. They reminisced about last summer's fun six-day reunion in Boston with **Brenda Giombetti Darcy** and **Anna Jalar Jeanneau**. Kirsten went on to visit son Kristian and his family, which includes 4- and 7-year-old grandkids, in western Massachusetts. The East Coast trip also involved stops in Maine and Vermont. Back at home, Kirsten enjoys time with 9- and 14-year-old granddaughters in Berkeley, where her daughter is a pediatrician, and with her 30-year-old horse Ginger, who amazes the family with her vitality. (My granddaughter Nora just started leasing a horse named Chocolate!) Kirstin is looking forward to a January trip to the Galapagos and Machu Picchu; she hopes it's as much fun as the Skidmore alumni trip to India two years ago.

**Charlotte Smiley Read**  
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'62

I received some great news from Skidmore Fund staff member

Beth White: "The Skidmore Fund raised over \$7.1 million this year, with more than 6,500 alumni participating. The Class of '62 raised \$90,602 for the Skidmore Fund from 121 donors, translating into 43 percent participation! Total giving for your class was \$1,691,589 and there were 16 Presidents Society donors." Kudos to us!

**Lynn Garrett Meyer** won the raffle for our class quilt at our 50th reunion, and when it was raffled again at our 55th, **Linda Blanquart Smith** emerged the winner and agreed to share this prized item with **Nancy Cutter Parker, Brenda Baekey Mi-han, Glenda Arentzen, Lynn Pringle Anastos** and **Bobbi Mann Bigham**. But since none of them could take the quilt, it continues to hang on Linda's guest-bedroom wall, safe from dogs and grandkids. We hope to raffle it off again at our 60th. The above classmates had a mini-reunion on Cape Cod this summer to enjoy some fun and frolic.

I received a typed note from **Bobbie Gottlieb Falk**, who after 25 years is officially a tour guide emerita at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in NYC. Husband Bob is retired from a career in private equity. Now living at the Desert Mountain adult community in Scottsdale, Ariz., they enjoy golf, hiking, gardening and bridge, as well as many new friends. When not traveling, the Falks divide their time between Scottsdale and their home in Scarsdale, N.Y., to experience "the best of all possible worlds." They are "truly grateful for good health and the time to enjoy children

and grandchildren."

**Janice Sachs Davis** and husband Steve celebrated their 55th wedding anniversary in August at the Club Med in Punta Cana, surrounded by their 12 children and grandchildren. The couple's five grandchildren include a 25-year-old granddaughter and four boys. Two of the boys are college seniors, one at Towson and the other at Syracuse. Another is a freshman at RPI. The youngest is in eighth grade. "They keep us very busy," observes Janice.

A card from **Janet Gardner** informed me that her Gardner Documentary Group won the Audience Choice Award for Best Documentary at the New Hope Film Festival in Pennsylvania this summer. Their documentary *Quakers: The Quiet Revolutionaries* was also screened at the Rhode Island Film Festival in Providence.

**Sue Vanek Heidtmann** and her husband saw two of their grandsons married five weeks apart, both in Virginia. Henry IV (son of their son Henry III) and Lance (son of their daughter Debra Sue) were both wed to lovely people. Sue hopes that her home in Connecticut sells soon, as she and husband Henry are anxious to begin retirement in Sarasota, Fla. Henry retired in December. Although Sue is no longer working full time as a vice president of nursing services, she still consults on assessment cases in Connecticut and New York for long-term-care insurance companies.

**Alice Goodman** recently enjoyed time with Skidmore friends **Saralee Elegant Evans, Meg Reitman Jacobs '63** and **Ellen Pomeranz Sax '64**. A medical journalist, Alice writes about cancer for medical publications read by physi-

cians. She says, "Everything is good — knock on wood."

**Mary Campbell Kemp** enjoyed her time at Skidmore and then graduated from the University of Michigan. An early retiree from AT&T, she stays busy conducting genealogy research, keeping track of 10 grandchildren and traveling. Most recently, she hiked with a Road Scholar group in Patagonia, Easter Island and the Atacama Desert. An avid "park collector," Mary has been to 55 of the 60 major national parks. Other activities include membership in the Village Chicago, part of a national network that helps adults age in place through collaborative community. Mary notes, "It's a great way to connect with others and an excellent resource for navigating the new longevity."

**Nancy Smith Bushnell** would love to get in touch with any classmates in the Sarasota, Fla., area, (especially **Laura Stanley** and **Candice Taylor Boyd**). Nancy goes to alumni gatherings sponsored by Skidmore-Sarasota and says the best are the Rays games at Tropicana Field in St. Petersburg. Rays owner Stuart Sternberg's daughter, **Natalie '18**, just graduated from Skidmore, and local alums are invited to attend a game "with priority parking and a gathering in a lovely box with good things to eat and drink. It's always a lot of fun." The Skidmore-Sarasota group has also organized tours backstage at the Asolo Theater and the Ringling Museum. Nancy spent six weeks recovering from ankle replacement surgery this summer. After lots of physical therapy, she is back at home but continues outpatient visits. Nancy hopes to see roomie **Susie Donner Wells** when Susie comes to Florida.

**Liz Pugh Grout** enjoyed the reunion news from last year and would like to know if anyone can identify classmates featured on the cover of the Class Notes newsletter published in summer 2017. (This is a project Mollie and I thought of. Anyone want to volunteer?) Liz is planning trips close to home this year, as they are building townhouses in Chester Springs, Calif., Asheville, N.C., and Maine.

**Molly McKinnon Baxter** told me she "hated" leaving Skidmore after her sophomore year but could not be accommodated when she changed majors from French to elementary education. She returned home to complete a bachelor's in education from Elmira College in 1963. She still says she enjoyed Skidmore much more than Elmira. She has had a successful career selling real estate for 28 years, the last 26 in Bozeman, Mont. With no plans to retire, she is just working fewer hours, allowing her more time to ride her Morgan horses and play pickleball (her latest passion). Molly's three kids and three grandchildren live within 20 minutes of her home; she feels very lucky to have them all so close by. She wonders if anyone has contact information for **Dee Dice Thompson**, whom Skidmore lists as "missing."

**SaraKay Sherman Smullins** was hired as a consultant to the HBO film *The Tale*, and she has found it particularly meaningful to witness the film's success. Written and directed by documentarian Jennifer Fox, it deals with child sexual abuse and is based on Fox's own abuse by a trusted mentor.

**Joellen Maloney Toussaint** is "still here!" She welcomed a new kitten to her household and attended a family

reunion at the Saratoga racetrack and Lake George.

**Terry Tiffany Sullivan** and **Sara Lee Lubin Schupf** attended **Sue Wilhelm Hands's** April memorial service in St. Petersburg, Fla. Sue and Terry had gone to high school together. After 18 years in their riverside home in Vero Beach, Fla., Terry and husband Peter have simplified and downsized, and they love their new apartment in Indian River Estates, a continuing care community. Married 29 years, the couple recently enjoyed a cruise to Iceland and the U.K. islands as well as a Disney cruise to Alaska. She says, "There are so many blessings!"

**Lollie Engel Triebold** believes, "Once a nurse, always a nurse." Although she retired from teaching nursing 20 years ago, Lollie still gets plenty of practice. Husband Dave had a major back surgery in December 2017, followed by a slow recovery. In April he suffered a stroke just as he was preparing to plant his first acre of corn. Thanks to great rehab efforts, he is now looking forward to harvesting the crop this October!

**Karen Marsh Gobrecht** and **Katharine Simonds Cunningham** enjoyed a long-overdue reunion in Boston in June. Roommates their senior year at Skidmore, they had not laid eyes on one another in 56 years! There was plenty of catching up to do. Kathy came from Colorado to visit her family in Boston en route to Paris, and Karen traveled from Hilton Head Island, S.C., to join her.

**June Kahl Schubert** attended her 60th high school reunion in Baltimore, Md., noting, "That's a big number; when did we become so 'mature?'"



In June she and husband Terry took their dream vacation, a French schooner cruise down the west coast of Italy from Nice to Malta. She observes, “It was fabulous and we were well spoiled, with just 59 passengers and 30 crew onboard.” They enjoyed excursions to multiple ports, many of them “places one reads about in books or sees in movies.” They’ve already made reservations to take a trip from Malta to Naples in May 2019. Back at home, they launched into a renovation of their master bedroom. Now complete, the space is “pure luxury.”

**Mary Kohring Highberger** and **Faxon Green** connected on Skidmore’s campus for three days in August. “Neither of us had seen the ‘new’ campus for many years. We enjoyed staying in the Sussman Village student apartment complex — great accommodations in or out of racing season, but especially when local hotel prices skyrocket. The campus is beautiful and well designed to maximize the outdoors. Summer-school students were on campus, so we got a little taste of what it might be like in the fall.” Heading off campus, Mary and Faxon enjoyed mineral baths and massages, the racetrack, chamber music at the Performing Arts Center and dinner at the Gideon Putnam Hotel. “It felt great to be together again in Saratoga,” says Mary.

Tamara Wiley informed me that her mother, **Carole Moore Wiley**, passed away May 8, 2017. Diagnosed with multiple myeloma seven years earlier, Carole died with most of her family by her side. **Susan Wilhelm Hands** died March 6 in St. Petersburg, Fla. She is survived by her son Harold III and daughter Marilyn. We send

condolences to both families.

This spring **Glenda Arentzen** organized a mini-reunion for New Hampshire classmates **Joslin Kimball Frank**, **Pam Hardy Andrews**, and me, **Susan Sambrook Berry**. With **Carolyn Heft**, **Mollie Klee Heron** and **Sybil Rhoads Buell**; a few more were unable to attend. A good and noisy time was had by all. Most of us had not seen each other in more than 50 years, so there was lots to talk about, including plans to meet again later this year.

I “vacationed” at our summer home on northern Lake George with my five kids, six grandchildren (a girl and four boys, ages 7–14) and five dogs!

**Susan Sambrook Berry**  
[icdrssberryret@yahoo.com](mailto:icdrssberryret@yahoo.com)



After the big turnout for our 50th reunion, this year’s 55th drew about two dozen of us, plus a few significant others. But all of our events were a buzz of happy people reconnecting or noticing each other for the first time. We were thoroughly engaged in our two discussions: the new curriculum and our changing attitudes over time. Both topics sparked thoughtful and interesting dialogue. Our memorial service, although sad and reflective, underscored the unity and cohesiveness of our class.

At the memorial service was Bill Jaenike, widower of **Elizabeth Pecoroni Jaenike**, my freshman suitemate at Grove. He presented us with the book he had written about her, *A Celebration of the Life of Elizabeth Marlene Pecoroni Janaeki, 1941–2015*.

Several copies are available from Skidmore’s Development Office, and **Pixie Cram Elsberry** has a few as well. We came up with a sharing strategy: a classmate requests a copy, reads it and mails it to the next person waiting to read it. I would be happy to participate in its circulation. Commenting on our 55th reunion, Pixie observes, “Having time to be just us together and sharing made it special.”

Another happy participant was **Nancy Crook Rhodes**, who enjoyed getting to know a few women she knew only in passing as a student. Following Reunion, Nancy and husband Dusty enjoyed a summer full of family and friends at their great camp on Clay Island in Lake George. Once the seasons change, Nancy will again be flying south to Florida for the winter.

**Patty Foreman Balbirer** shared more great memories of Reunion, dropping me a card on her way to Lago di Garda, Italy, for a few weeks with the family. She sends love and hugs to all.

But the final word on Reunion comes from **Alex Wilbert Fleischman**, who voiced what was in my own heart: “I really loved reconnecting with classmates I had known as a student. But it was equally wonderful mixing it up with the amazing women whom I am now getting to know.” Alex is busy selling two houses in Southampton, N.Y., where her late husband’s family has lived since 1930.

Our 55th reunion was a marvel, and it broke my heart to leave when it was over. Some of us think it would be nice if we didn’t have to wait until our 60th reunion in 2023 to rejoin, so we are in the early planning stages of a “non-

Reunion reunion” in Mystic, Conn., slated for September 2020. We plan to gather over two weekdays and nights sometime between Sept. 7 (Labor Day) and 17. Please try to save those dates. This special gathering is the brainchild of **Sue Weston Marino**, who is shepherding it with other volunteers.

**Susan Altus Rudnick** was sorry to miss Reunion, but she was at a family graduation. This particular snowbird spends six months each in New England and Florida every year. While in the Sunshine State, she frequently lunches with **Evelyn Nutman Siegel**. Susan recently got together with **Linda Maislen Frieze** in Boston.

Full-time Floridian **Carol Brush Nicholson** was accompanied by a friend on a Holland America cruise to Norway. Carol left her husband home with the dog and cat because “he can’t see the point of going on a boat that you can’t fish off of.” Carol stopped at several ports and enjoyed two fjord excursions in perfect weather. Back at home, she makes weekly therapy-dog visits.

**Doris Killenberg Wohlfort** moved to New Hampshire around four years ago with husband Bob. They had been vacationing in the White Mountains for over 40 years. She doesn’t say the word “retirement” ever. Bob participated in a 50-mile bike ride in Hanover this summer, and Doris works as a court-appointed advocate for abused and neglected children.

**Mildred Krips Boyce** enjoyed a whirlwind August. Her son and one daughter arrived from South Africa, and another daughter came from the Czech Republic to reunite with family in New York and

elsewhere. Although Mildred has sold her farm, she will stay on for two years, until another adventure presents itself. She sends wishes to all for health, happiness and, as always, love.

Married to a Greek myself, I took pleasure in a note from **Eileen Winters Mann**, who married a wonderful Greek gentleman in 2014. They met in a dog park in Manchester, Vt. She says her husband, who grew up in Brooklyn and graduated from Cornell in 1956, arrived with (in the order stated) a dog, two daughters, three grandchildren and excellent culinary skills. Eileen says, “He makes all our dinners. I just stack the dishwasher.”

After Reunion, I attended the bar mitzvah of my last grandson to turn 13 — it was sheer joy. We spent time with friends, including a dinner with **Jane Finneman Hochman** and her husband, Jack, in Princeton, N.J. Also in attendance was classmate **Sabre Gilmartin**, whom we remember as **Lynda Sable** (hey, I was Ida Blum). Since our 50th reunion, I have become friends with Sabre, a British subject who summers in NYC. She hopes to spend more time in the U.S. next year. What an amazing group of women we are!

For those of us who missed the reunion memorial service, and for the families and friends of the classmates who passed away this year, I mark the loss of two beloved members of our Skidmore family: **Ellen Schwartz Gudwin**, who passed away March 25, and **Frances Chapman Zuke**, who died May 26. They will be greatly missed.

**Susan Blum Loukedis**  
[littperson@optonline.net](mailto:littperson@optonline.net)





**Bev Fuhrmann Gregory** is very enthusiastic about plans for

our 55th reunion. Bev joined **Linda Keating Fuller** and **Ellen Pomeranz Sax** to fine-tune the details for our big weekend, May 30 to June 2, 2019. They will be looking for classmates willing to help the cause, so please say "yes" if you can.

**Barbara Kezar Whitman** is also looking forward to Reunion. She and Bill recently returned from a trip to the Dalmatian coast by ship, which included stops in Venice, Mykonos and Athens.

**Lindsay Knowlton** enjoyed a lovely New England summer in Vermont and Maine. She plans to spend the winter on a dude ranch in Tucson, Ariz.

**Kathanne Kuhn Mitchell's** husband, Willis, died of cancer in 2005, a few days before their 51st wedding anniversary. With the help of family and friends, Kathy has regained her strength and continues to live in their home on Lake Canandaigua, N.Y. She also maintains a condo in Rochester, N.Y. She is joining some Rochester friends this month to cruise up the New England coast and down the St. Lawrence to Montreal.

**Jane Boyle Gerrish** moved to Huntington Common in Kennebunk, Maine, in December. She enjoys her new community and rents a two-bedroom cottage with an attached garage, sunporch and access to assisted living. Jane continues to work from home as an expert for Social Security disability hearings. In her spare time, she enjoys reading to the blind and singing to

hospice patients.

**Susan Viuker Lieberman** joined a Shanghai-born friend on a two-week Road Scholar tour of China. Susan loved visiting the homes of her companion's parents and grandparents, as well as the school that she attended.

**Betty Anne Edge Kreutziger** and Karl celebrated 54 happy years of marriage in June. Five of their seven grandchildren are college graduates and two are still pursuing college degrees. Due to extended travel, Betty cannot attend the 55th reunion. She encourages everyone to view her plein air artwork at [bettyannekreutziger.com](http://bettyannekreutziger.com). She is a member of Laguna and Southern California plein air painters associations, and her work currently is exhibited at galleries in Laguna Beach and Costa Mesa.

**Deborah Leedom McGeorge** taught school before retiring in 2000, when she and her husband moved to an adult community in Tucson, Ariz. The couple play golf and enjoy international travel. They have four children, one of whom lives nearby; three reside in Boise, Idaho. They have four grandchildren.

**Lilless McPherson Shilling** is "so thankful for all the class news" she has been reading. Her daughter, Paz, is a physical therapist in Mount Pleasant, S.C., where Lilless makes her home. Their proximity is "a great comfort" to her since the passing of husband Mackie shortly before their 40th anniversary in 2012. Lilless still occasionally teaches online courses for East Carolina University and the College of Charleston. A member of the Alliance Francais, she continues to pursue French and Spanish studies.

Another source of inspiration is genealogy, which uncovered a family connection in Germany. A few years ago, the Shillings spent several weeks in Newtonmore, Scotland, the site of a McPherson Clan museum. Lilless loves meeting old Peabody friends from time to time.

A major work by renowned abstract painter **Stephanie Rose** was recently acquired by the Museum of the City of New York. Her portrait of Columbian-American author Jaime Manrique is now part of its permanent collection. Stephanie, who has been teaching undergraduate and graduate students of fine art for decades, holds the view that "the rationale for education involves furthering the development of student preparation for a professional career." She also believes "the accomplishments of alumni are a credit to their alma mater." She is certainly proof of that. The Wikipedia page about her includes an observation by Professor Emeritus of Art History James Kettlewell that "The extraordinary art of Stephanie Rose occupies a critical place in Modern-Postmodern art history."

**Nancy Gardiner Milstein** and husband David moved from Scarsdale, N.Y., to a co-op apartment in the same community. David continues to work in the nuclear medicine department of Montefiore Hospital in the Bronx. Retired from her career in IT consulting, Nancy enjoys spending time with her three children and four grandchildren.

I am saddened to report that **Lynne Tower Combs** died of cancer June 10. Lynne's husband, Bill, welcomes news from her classmates.

Having enjoyed a wonderful family vacation in Edgartown, Mass., this past August, I still find myself flashing back to

vacation mode at times. Our oldest son, Chris, and his family have moved from Indianapolis to Lenox, Mass. Son Ted and his family live in South Boston; our son Tim and his family reside in Brooklyn, N.Y. Bob recently finished up his leadership of the New England Surgical Society.

Our 55th reunion will be held May 30 to June 2, 2019. Although our 50th was a great success, our class spirit continues to grow. Let's make our 55th the best ever! Stay tuned for updates.

**Janice BozBeckian Toujan-touloukian@gmail.com**



**Sandra Koch Prior** reports that two of her five adult children

are undergoing treatment for similar types of cancer. She remains confident that they are in good hands and is praying for full recoveries.

**Zack Murphy**, fiancé of **Carole Walter Maeder**, lost his dad at the age of 102 after a period in hospice care in June. Carole was one of several attending a get-together at the home of **Ed and Eileen Kirwin Cameron** in March. In addition to a couple of slightly younger Skiddies and their husbands, attendees included **Kathy Lord Chapman, Sheila Schmidt Warshawsky, Penny Thompson Jones, Linda Ellenbogen, Joan Berejik, Peg Kendrick Kuechle, Linda Miller Thorell** and me. Many of the same people gathered to celebrate 75th birthdays at a luncheon in April.

**Leslie Atkinson Thomas** celebrated a 27-year work anniversary with Coldwell Banker Residential Broker-

age in Westford, Mass.

While returning home from Florida in March, husband Harvey and I stopped for lunch with **Sue Steele Isbell** and Bob and were also guests of **Lenore Bethka Wersten** and Tom. In August, Harvey and I joined 11 family members, including my sister **Carol Weisberg '69**, on a European tour with stays in Rome as well as a cruise with two excursions in Spain, one in France and three in Italy. Afterward, Carol headed to Denmark while Harvey and I made additional stops in Italy with our son's family. At the Vatican and the Borghese Gallery in Rome, I finally saw works of art I had learned about at Skidmore. I also took in the statue of David and the Florentine Pietà in Florence. We enjoyed a private tour of Pompeii led by an archeologist and a VIP tour of the Petra winery in Tuscany, where some of the grapes were originally planted at the direction of Elisa Bonaparte, Napoleon's sister!

Gift annuity payout rates are now more handsome than ever: 6.2 percent for a 75-year-old! It's a wonderful way to support your retirement and the College simultaneously (earning you membership in Skidmore's Legacy Society). Contact Andy Campbell, director of gift planning, at 518-580-5658 or [andy.campbell@skidmore.edu](mailto:andy.campbell@skidmore.edu) for a personal consultation.

How do you celebrate your 75th birthday? We'd love to know!

**Toby Weisberg Rubenstein**  
[owcpcclaimsconsulting@gmail.com](mailto:owcpcclaimsconsulting@gmail.com)





**Sara Kroll Rubloff** is “trying” to retire from clinical social work.

She loves her practice so much that she is taking the exodus slowly and volunteers at a nearby prison and domestic violence center. Husband Gary is not even thinking of retiring. The couple tries to get to Berlin, N.J., at least once a year for a month with her son and daughter. Being a grandparent has been “an unexpected thrill,” notes Sara. She sees **Joan Minard Scruggs** when she and Joan’s sister Ellen visit Maryland for an annual sheep and wool festival. Sara met up with **Barbie Fisher Hall** at Longwood Gardens outside of Philly a while back. Sara encourages anyone living or traveling in the Baltimore and Washington, D.C., area to contact her at [skrubloff@gmail.com](mailto:skrubloff@gmail.com).

**Juliette Willis** and husband George Davidson were looking forward to participating in September’s Bugatti car rally in Saratoga, showcasing cars dating from the 1920s and ’30s. The couple drives a Bugatti Type 35B, the model that won the 1929 French Grand Prix at Le Mans!

**Carolyn Bates** works for *Vermont Magazine*, taking architectural photos of a unique house in Vermont five times a year. If anyone would like a year’s gift subscription, contact her at [cbatesbt@gmail.com](mailto:cbatesbt@gmail.com). Carolyn contributed three stories and the cover photo to the book *Family Cabin*, published by Taunton Press. She invites classmates to join her mailing list on [www.carolynbates.com](http://www.carolynbates.com).

**Joan Agisim Odes** has been visiting with **Mary Loveland**

**Wasserman** and husband Marty during her annual trips to see daughters **Naomi ’94** and Rebecca and their families in South Hero, Vt.

**Jane Gronostalski Zapka** says what we all know: “Time flies.” After about 50 years as a professor at the University of Massachusetts (Amherst and Worcester) and the Medical University of South Carolina, Jane retired in June 2017. She and David will celebrate their 50th anniversary in December. They enjoy their home in Hatfield, Mass., where for decades they have taken in rescue dogs. Dottie and Jesse, their latest two standard poodles, love riding in the couple’s new RV. While some health issues are challenging, Jane looks forward to this new phase of life.

**Lana Feldshuh Master** is eager to host **Jill Fuller Crowley**, **Anna Hoehn Kline**, **Marianne Mayer Phillips** and **Beth Wardwell** at her home in Flagstaff, Ariz., later this year. She and **Linda Prince Smith** and **Judy Clauson Holmes** traveled to Capetown, South Africa, for the wedding of **Jill Fuller Crowley**’s son, Luke. While there, they joined a safari!



**Laurie Sammeth** has been back in NYC for the last six

years and has been acting, mostly in off-Broadway productions and other projects. Her daughter, Anna Campbell, is a television producer at PBS. Laurie has joined the 21st-century showbiz world; check out [www.lauriesammeth.com](http://www.lauriesammeth.com).

**June Massell** reports that daughter Samantha had a sold-out show at Broadway’s 54 Below theater in August. June

is quite proud of her daughter, who won an Outstanding Actress Award from the Connecticut Critics Circle in *Rags* with Goodspeed Musicals.

**Bonnie Blades Andre** describes Reunion as wonderful and over too soon. “It was a lot for my aging brain to handle, especially keeping track of keys to the apartment and rooms.” Bonnie and her sister **Betsy ’71** toured Scotland this year. One of the highlights was a cross-country excursion on horseback above Loch Ness, and they spent two beautiful days on the Isle of Skye. Bonnie’s roots are Scottish on her mother’s side; she was particularly interested in checking out Clan Fraser sites.

**Cheryl Smith Major** enjoyed Reunion’s opportunities to explore Saratoga Springs and the Skidmore campus. She was thrilled to spend time with fellow nursing majors, who are planning an interim reunion in two to three years. “Five years is too long to wait!” notes Cheryl. In June she and husband Harvey celebrated their 50th anniversary with their three children and six grandchildren in Seaside Heights, N.J. Retired from neonatal nursing at Vanderbilt University Children’s Hospital, Cheryl remains active in health, family and residential challenges in the growing Nashville community.

**Nancy Baroff Dinar** and her husband, Richard, had a “terrific time” at Reunion. Richard, who had spent a considerable amount of time on campus in student days, knew many of our classmates. Shortly afterward, the couple celebrated their 50th anniversary in a Tuscan villa with children Josh, Meredith and Sami, along with their spouses and five grandchildren. An Icelandic AFS student who lived with them 35 years ago also joined the party. What a

great celebration! In February 2019, Nancy and Richard plan to head to Antarctica.

**Andrea Fenton Campbell** and husband Bill have relocated to Saratoga Springs from Delhi, N.Y. They are thoroughly enjoying the transition and now live just down the street from son Andy, Skidmore’s director of gift planning, daughter-in-law Ashley, and grandchildren Cruz and Holland. At Reunion, Andrea co-hosted our hospitality suite with **Foxie Henn Mason**.

**Jane Dow Friedman** has reconnected with Skidmore (she says my postcard helped). A resident of Mankato, Minn., she started several civic groups there, including the Mankato Area Fair Trade Initiative, now in its 25th year and the first of its kind in the state. Jane is an advocate for sustainable practices in waste management. She often travels to California to visit her son and daughter. Her daughter works with the homeless as a resource person; her son, who has a doctorate in neuroscience from Berkeley, is researching a new medication to treat memory loss and brain injury. Jane loves spending time with her 3-year-old granddaughter, Ava.

**Sue Sobel Kaufman** was happy that she returned for our 50th. Her picture with Dean Olds is quite a treasure! Sue is very glad to have attended Skidmore in the 1960s and also pleased with how the College has evolved. After our big weekend, she and her husband headed to Stockbridge, Mass., for their yearly reunion with **Anne Kantor Lynn** and her husband.

**Foxie Henn Mason** returned from Reunion to the large forest fire that began in Durango,

Colo. Her community was saved by the remarkable efforts of firefighters and other responders. We were relieved to learn from several classmates that Foxie was fine. She says, “It was wonderful to see all of you at Reunion!”

**Nickie Nickles Kates** says politics and weather are getting scary, but life is still good. All three of her children and grandchildren live nearby, which is a great luxury. Also, she has reconnected with some high school friends, which is fun.

**Linda Gibson Stoner** retired from Stoner Architects in Seattle this year. She plans to spend more time with her 7-year-old grandson and to pursue printmaking and painting in her studio.

**Barbara Allen Nearpass** was sorry to miss Reunion due to family obligations. She now has four grandchildren, three being added quite recently. Last year Barbara drove to the Northwest for a wedding and stopped to visit Yellowstone and the headwaters of the Mississippi in Minnesota, in addition to about 80 percent of the solar eclipse! Fires last year prevented her from touring Washington and Idaho, where she had planned to visit Glacier National Park.

**Bobbi Bell Liepolt** and I had fun reconnecting at Reunion. Bobbi’s jewelry was featured in the Alumni Art Exhibition, along with photographs by **Nancy Baroff Dinar**. Bobbi, who does a lot of rowing, participated in three sprint races this summer. She and her husband are experimenting with beekeeping by hosting a hive for friends. She’s not sure how much honey they will harvest, but says the bees are “fun to watch.” If you are on Facebook, you can view images of Bobbi’s

beautiful garden and bees!

**Mary Burge Percy** writes, "Reunion was fabulous!" Since then she has been enjoying her morning coffee in her big white Skidmore mug, working in her garden and horseback riding in the Aiken, S.C., woods. She and husband Steve are cruising along the Alaskan coast before continuing on to Tokyo.

**Niki Holbrook Sabbath** continues to be "too busy" in retirement. At work on a genealogy project, she expects to have a booklet ready by Christmas. She spent a week in North Carolina with her older daughter, and in April she welcomed a new grandson, who is thriving. Niki says, "It's fantastic to see the world through children's eyes." Her other grandchildren are 6 and 4. She and husband Larry are doing a fall cruise from Budapest to Prague.

Reunion attendee **Jeanne Shipp Waldinger** hopes we all remain inspired to stay in touch in person and electronically. **Stefanie Newton Matteson's** work at MDI Biological Laboratory in Bar Harbor, Maine, keeps her very busy, but she makes time for mini-reunions. In July she got together with **Renee Akel Rosebrook**, **Joan Low Hammond** and **Cathy Traber Ruff** in southern Maine. A few weeks later, Jeanne and Stefanie had a terrific time exploring Stonington, Conn., and Deer Isle, Maine. In August Jeanne and husband Peter met up in Saratoga with **Ellen Rosen Wolfson** and her husband Michael for a SPAC performance. They also had the pleasure of spending time with **Andrea Fenton Campbell** and Bill.

**Judy Schapiro Yogman** and husband Bob recently

"through-hiked" the Cohos Trail in northern New Hampshire. "It was hard but beautiful, especially in the Connecticut Lakes region," according to Judy. She enjoys playing the ukulele with others in southern Vermont.

Sadly, I must report the death of **Marilyn Miller Colvin** in 2014. She had lived in California for many years.

I thoroughly enjoyed Reunion, although I was not there very long. My granddaughter graduated from high school that Saturday, so I had to leave early for Baltimore. The weekend was filled with "planes, trains and automobiles," but I was able to reconnect with old friends and enjoy the company of new ones.

**Dorothy Kanrich Sandford**  
[sscott106@aol.com](mailto:sscott106@aol.com)



In February I met up and traveled with **Barbie Herbert**

**von der Groeben** in Santa Fe and Taos, N.M. While there, I managed to slip on a patch of unseen ice and broke my arm and wrist, resulting in a trip back home, surgery, casts and splints, and physical therapy. My post-surgery visitors included **Barbie** in March and **Laura "Lolly" Dubinett** in April. As John Lennon wrote, "Life is what happens to you while you are busy making other plans."

**Charlene D'Avanzo** is excited to announce the publication of *Secrets Haunt the Lobsters' Sea*, the third of her Mara Tusconi mysteries about the adventures of a Maine oceanographer with a passion for exploring the

unknown. A marine ecologist herself, Charlene writes "climate fiction" to help readers understand the impact of climate change through fast-paced, exciting narratives with empathetic characters. The series is available at [www.charlenedavanzo.com](http://www.charlenedavanzo.com). Charlene lives, writes and sea-kayaks in Yarmouth, Maine, with her husband, John.

Planning for our 50th reunion began in earnest in July. Please mark your calendars for May 30 to June 2, 2019, and look for updated information on [www.skidmore.edu/reunion](http://www.skidmore.edu/reunion). I hope to see many of you there!

I am saddened to learn that **Deborah Hall Shapiro** passed away in 2016. Our belated, but sincere and heartfelt condolences go out to Debbie's family and friends.

**Carol A. Bogardus**  
[mscarolab@gmail.com](mailto:mscarolab@gmail.com)



**Judith Chaffee** hosted **Stephanie Martini** and **Pam**

**Kerr Frothingham** for a July mini-reunion and 70th birthday bash at her home on Plum Island, Mass. "Pam, Steph and I had a lovely afternoon catching up with pictures, conversations and many laughs about college memories." Steph, who was visiting family on the East Coast, lives in Leeds, Utah, and recently married her longtime partner Kjeld Jensen. Together they've enjoyed traveling to Africa, New Zealand and Central Europe, among other places. Pam lost her husband, David, to cancer a few years ago and is finally retiring from

Stratton Mountain Resort in Vermont, where she was director of retail/rental operations. She enjoys traveling, skiing and hiking with her children. Judy retired three years ago after 41 years of teaching dance and theater at Boston University. Her partner, Pete Wishnok, just concluded his career as a research scientist at MIT. Judy has been busy choreographing, directing, acting and traveling when not walking the beach on Plum Island. She would love to connect with classmates in the Boston area.

Happy birthday to all of us who are turning 70 this year!

**Barbara Crossman Bell**  
[bici@twcny.rr.com](mailto:bici@twcny.rr.com)



Greetings from Vienna, Va., where I'm enjoying my

grandchildren (now in first and fourth grades). As I helped my daughter **Kimberly Davidson Young '04** prepare for a party, she didn't care for the channel I had on in her kitchen, and she asked Alexa to tune to a different station. The first song took me back to our freshman year: "Though I know I'll never lose affection/ For people and things that went before/ I know I'll often stop and think about them/ In my life, I love you more." Both generations love the Beatles, and Kimberly and I both treasure our time at Skidmore—"the people and things that went before."

**Jill Wertheimer Rifkin** retired after 25 years as an independent college counselor but increased her volunteer hours, which keeps her "reasonably sane

and very happy." As chair of Instruments for Children, a program affiliated with the Albany Symphony Orchestra, Jill seeks out used instruments that are given to school students who can't afford them. Thus far, 81 instruments have been collected, enabling the recipients to play in their schools' orchestras or bands. Alumni in Albany, Schenectady or Rensselaer can donate instruments by contacting her at [jrrif@aol.com](mailto:jrrif@aol.com). Jill is also teaching a delightful 74-year-old refugee from Liberia to read, tutoring in an Albany elementary school, and serving on the board of Grassroot Givers, which has donated 240,000 books to adults and children in need. She says her husband, Richard, "shares my dual passions for biking (he's near expert and I'm sort of passable) and classical music." They spend lots of time with their three grandchildren (ages 3, 2 and 3 months), who "make us laugh and are nestled forever in our hearts."

Retired from the office of legal counsel for Dane County, Wisconsin, where she lives, **Molly Plunkett** says, "My hobbies have run amok: pottery, bonsai, clocks, memoir writing group, book club and chickens. On the side I serve on some boards and write grant applications." She attended her "one and only reunion in 2016 and connected with English professor Ralph Ciancio thanks to **Nancy Schwerzler**, who keeps in touch with him." Two of Molly's daughters and one granddaughter met with her in D.C. for the January 2017 Women's March, "which was a magical event." Her youngest child "has left the launch pad, although 'launch' may be too strong a description."



**Mary McDonald Klimek** and Dan sold their home in Lexington, Mass., in May and moved to Maine. While they hunt for a winter home in Belfast, they are staying at their summer place on Dyer Point in Steuben. Vice president of Estill Voice International, Mary travels to teach and also conducts lessons online. She encourages classmates interested in exploring her neck of the woods to contact her (“yes, dear Skiddies, there is life beyond Bar Harbor”). Mary notes, “Oddly enough, our closest neighbor is my second cousin **Elizabeth Wilkinson Lane '79**.”

**Mary Ayres** and partner Merrill spent more than three weeks in Yugoslavia, Croatia, Bosnia-Herzegovina and Slovenia. It was a great trip, although “a bit weird being in a place where I remember the war.” They especially enjoyed Sarajevo, a very European city, and got to see its Haggada. Mary observes, “It is bizarre to realize that the West allowed the siege of this place to continue for five years.” She and Merrill wished for more time in beautiful Slovenia, where “everyone pointed out that Melania Trump was a native, but didn’t seem to think much of her husband.” Mary had fun comparing notes with **Martha Merrick Shanahan**, who traveled to the region with her family.

**Sue Hufnagel** recently had a shoulder replaced; both knees were taken care of last year. She retired in June after a 34-year career educating 3- to 5-year-olds with special needs. Her job involved identifying eligible kids, getting them into programs, monitoring their progress and helping them transition to public school special-ed. Sue decided to retire when

her eldest granddaughter (a kindergartener) opted to get off the bus at grandma’s three days a week! Sue’s other granddaughters, ages 4 and 3, live close by and Sue feels blessed to be part of their lives! Maizie is the child of Sue’s daughter **Sarah Reilly Harvey '00**. Sue loves having more time for sewing, gardening and keeping up with house projects. She sees **Connie Kniffin** and her husband, John, as often as schedules allow.

I am saddened to share the news that **Nancy Betts** died in NYC Dec. 12, 2017, after a valiant struggle with ovarian cancer. Newly retired, she returned to the East Coast after many years in San Francisco to seek treatment at Sloan Kettering. Bob, her partner of 35 years, stayed by her side. Quickly mastering the complex treatment protocols for her cancer, she was often two steps ahead of her medical team. Nancy once said that her father did not suffer fools, and that apple did not fall far from the tree. Nancy blended a sharp wit with a lively sense of humor and a love of laughter. She will be sorely missed.

**Susan Flanders Davidson**  
[suzart@davidsonautonet.com](mailto:suzart@ davidsonautonet.com)



When **Mary O’Bryan Seidman’s** husband died three years ago, she remained in NYC but moved into a smaller apartment and continued to manage the family’s racing stable. Her horses race at Aqueduct, Belmont and Saratoga; the mares and foals are kept at McMahan Farm in Saratoga. During last year’s Saratoga

racing season, she rented a condo on Spring Street — in the former church right across from the old Little Theater building. But in August, she moved permanently into a Union Avenue townhouse recently built on the site of Moore Hall, where she lived during sophomore year. She loves being near her horses and enjoys Saratoga. She may even audit a class at Skidmore! Youngest daughter Jenny was married on Montauk this summer. Older daughter Jamie now has three boys: George, 7, Hal, 5, and Skyler, 3.

**Beth Josephs Kelly** is still working for an environmental engineering firm. But she also spends time baby-sitting grandkids. Her summer included a five-day backpacking trip to Kings Canyon.

**Barbara Devine Bode**  
[Barbara.bode1@gmail.com](mailto:Barbara.bode1@gmail.com)



Reunion chair extraordinaire **Cathy Offinger** was delighted by the turnout at our 45th reunion. Cathy says, “Reunion was a wonderfully happy success. It was great to rekindle longtime friendships and equally meaningful to make new friends. To those of you who worked so hard to make the 45th so special, thank you! To everyone who made the journey to Saratoga, I am confident you are very glad that you did. To classmates who were unable to share in the celebration, we missed you and hope you will make every effort to join us in 2023!” Cathy says retirement is in her near future. “I may still go to the lab on occasion, but I do intend to start drawing on my retire-

ment funds!” She spent 10 fun-packed days with daughter Heidi and her husband in August. Although exhausted after the vacation, she quips, “I am proud to say I can still party hearty!” And Cathy’s 98-year-old dad is still going strong; his 76th Yale reunion was in May.

**Lynn Faught** had a fabulous time at Reunion, catching up with classmates, meeting other alumni and taking part in the events planned by the College and our reunion committee. She felt honored to receive an Outstanding Service Award as a Skidmore volunteer. In her lively acceptance remarks, Lynn dedicated the award to her “happy pappy.”

“It was so much fun to see so many of us at Reunion,” says **Timi Carter**. She thanks everyone for making the effort to attend and catch up with her, adding, “I know I am biased, but we do have an outstanding class.” In August, Timi attended a Skidmore event in Portland, Maine, where sociology professor John Brueggemann lectured on the decline of societal institutions and rise of grassroots movements. While there, Timi met a delightful incoming freshman and an alum who has a mutual friend. “It was a fun and informative evening!” Earlier in the summer, she spent three days with former roommate **Carol Mulvihill Ahlers**; they had a fabulous time reconnecting! Best of all, Timi’s grandson Theo (who was born during Reunion) continues to thrive and “worm his way into everyone’s hearts.”

“Our 45th was a well-oiled, beautifully planned event,” concludes **Terrie O’Donnell**, who was thrilled that more than 50 classmates returned to celebrate together. She

was especially proud to be one of 10 Ross House dorm-mates in attendance. “That’s close to 50 percent of the freshmen in that dorm!” In addition to Terrie, the Ross House 10 are **Donna Canevari Paredes, Carol DeLancey, Lynn Faught, Keiko Kumai Ihara, Cynthia May, Zoe Nousiainen** (known as Pam Norris back then), **Jennifer Pearman Lammer, Elaine Pettigrew Hurley** and **Bailey Staub Johnson**. Terrie, who retired in 2016 after 43 years in software development, has two daughters and a son. The girls are fraternal twins, both of whom developed hearing problems and began wearing hearing aids in their late teens. Last year, Terrie went to St. Louis to be with one daughter as she received a cochlear implant. The implant changed the quality of her life so dramatically that the other daughter signed up for the same procedure in September at Johns Hopkins, allowing Terrie to host and play mom once again.

Another happy reunion attendee, **Betsy Blades** is already excited about our 50th in 2023. She went to Las Vegas for a National Association of Singing Teachers conference and had a great “sisters’ trip” to Scotland with **Bonnie Blades Andre '68**. Bonnie traced her mother’s Fraser lineage back several generations, and the sisters donned Clan Fraser T-shirts, attracting attention from the locals. Betsy loves teaching Body Awareness and Movement for Musicians at Shenandoah University Conservatory. Her books, *A Spectrum of Voices* and *Singing With Your Whole Self: A Singer’s Guide to Feldenkrais Awareness Through Movement* were just released in second editions. Betsy was invited to be a

featured member of a Missouri Geologists Association field trip.

**Anne Blodgett Holberton's** summer was a whirlwind of hosting kids and grandkids at her lakeside home in Wolfeboro, N.H. She also joined several neighbors in supporting the community watershed and saving a large parcel on the lake. Anne and husband Philip managed to enter their black Lab, JB, in an annual dock-diving competition, in which the old guy never missed a beat, although Anne thinks she has! She wants everyone to start thinking about our 50th reunion: let's stay connected as we plan for the big event in June 2023.

**Doug Gray** is working with choreographer Twyla Tharp (his old boss from the '80s), producing her latest work, *Minimalism and Me*, at New York's Joyce Theatre Nov. 13 to Dec. 9 and at Boston's ICA Dec. 12 to 16. *Minimalism and Me* is a retrospective of Tharp's first nine works, eight of which were performed in silence; the ninth features the Petula Clarke song *Downtown*. In addition to archival video and drawings from Tharp's notebooks, the evening presents six of her dancers along with 12 supernumeraries, nondancers selected from the general public. Skidmore's alumni office and regional groups in NYC and Boston have been encouraging Skidmore alumni to apply as "supers," and our own **Nancy Rotenberg Peterson** was the first to do so.

**Zoë Morsette** received a beautiful crystal Local Legend Award for her "talent, dedication and contribution to the Long Island City artistic community." She delivered a huge set piece (props on wheels) for *The Cher Show*

that previewed in Chicago this summer and then heads to Broadway for a Dec. 1 opening. While cleaning up after the job, Zoë fell and broke her right hand—she was undergoing surgery when she should have been at our 45th reunion! She is recovering and is beginning to work again. The August issue of *Stage Directions* magazine featured her in "Fur, Foam and Focus: In the Shop with Props Fabricator Zoë Morsette." She is backing working on props for the Puerto Rico production of *Hamilton*.

**Cheryl Bonini Ellis** is "so sorry to have missed Reunion." She moved to St. Petersburg, Fla., last year and moved her 92-year-old dad into an independent-living facility there. She did get to the Saratoga Racecourse in August (she hasn't missed a year since 1973) and attended a Skidmore workshop for fundraisers, followed by lunch with **Tina Vigeland Ashton**. "It was great fun." Cheryl is already looking forward, although in awe, to our 50th.

**Lynn Faught** received an Outstanding Service Award at the awards ceremony during Reunion. Our dedicated class historian for the past 20 years, Lynn has held many other Skidmore volunteer roles. She served as co-president of the local alumni group in two different cities, "both times before I had even finished unpacking." Our class made sure to let Lynn and the ceremony audience know how proud we are by cheering the loudest and longest!

Six classmates had works selected for Reunion's Alumni Art Exhibition. Their pieces showed talent, creativity and much effort. Congratulations

and thank you to **Cynthia May, Nancy Meeker, Kathie Chwals Milligan, Zoë Vose Morsette, Jennifer Pearman Lammer and Nancy Katsin Stabler**. I know that many of us were beaming to see our class so well represented at the show.

**Cynthia May** says she met "the love of my life." We had the pleasure of meeting her husband, Paul, at Reunion. To top it off, Cynthia's son Alex just got married.

Huge kudos to our hospitality chairs **Timi Carter** and **Susie Lesser** for coming up with our newest tie-dye adventure. First we creatively colored sneakers and then went for our hair (including beards) with crayons. Everyone was taking pictures of our very colorful crew as we prepared and marched in the Parade of Classes. Timi and Susie also created a jigsaw puzzle of places and events important to our student days in Saratoga (think Tin and Lint). What fun and what memories we all shared!

On the bus tour of Skidmore's old-campus buildings, Hollis A. Palmer regaled us with stories of the folks who built and owned some of the Victorian homes that we lived in and walked by in our student days. Hollis transported us back in time to the late 1800s and early 1900s.

My dog Rosie was asked to audition some of her tricks for the entertainment portion of a special event at the Stranahan Theater, a venue for touring Broadway shows. Among her tricks are standing on two legs and pushing a grocery cart, rolling over and covering herself with a blanket, saluting and taking a bow.

**Joanne Rubin**  
[jrubin610@aol.com](mailto:jrubin610@aol.com)



**Helen Susan Edelman** happily writes that life for her

is going well. There have been two weddings in 12 months, and the universe has blessed her family with two wonderful granddaughters. (She is sparing us the "kvelling"; however, if you'd like more details, she'd be happy to share!) She still lives in Saratoga Springs, works as a writer and travels to beautiful places with her life partner. In her words, it's more than she would have dared to ask for. Excelsior!

**Wendy Hamilton** shares her good news first: Grandson No. 2 arrived in April! His proud parents are on the faculty at Bowdoin College. Her not-so-good news: After a crew worked full time for one year and three days to restore her new brownstone in Boston, the house (except for the bricks) was destroyed in a fire in April. Wendy's belongings had already been moved in, as she was planning to move in June. Although this has been a hard hit to take, she says that, being "a stubborn goat," she is already rebuilding, because this house is a long-held dream of hers.

**Ellen Miller-Wolfe** joined **Nan Rosen Statton** and **Kim McClain** at Tanglewood this summer for beautiful New England scenery, music, friends and family. Good for the soul!

**Nancy Garran** is executive director of the Cape Cod Sea Camps family business, celebrating its 97th camping season with approximately 380 overnight campers, 320 day-campers and 250

staff. Nancy's husband, David Peterson, and her two sons and their wives all work together in the business. She writes that she is blessed with five grandchildren under the age of 5 who hang out at the camp as well. In the offseason the family recruits campers and staff, in addition to traveling to places on their "bucket list." If any classmate is ever on Cape Cod, she would welcome your visit.

**Ellen Young Hug** writes that her husband, Marty, retired this year, and they celebrated with a cruise to the Panama Canal. They are now building their retirement home in Spring Mill, Pa., and hope to move in by Thanksgiving. She sends her best to all.

**Kathy Corsale D'Appolonia** retired in 2016 after a career in academics and banking and hasn't looked back since. She recently joined several classmates for an exciting weekend in Saratoga to begin planning for our 45th reunion. Kathy says that both the campus and the town of Saratoga look great! She looks forward to seeing many of our class next year.

**Kate Ferris** is ecstatic about being retired! Living a mile from Skidmore "as the crow flies," she intends to spend more time there. She recently began reunion planning (for the "20th anniversary of our 25th reunion") and was happy to have **Vicki Greene Aldrich, Ellen Brickman, Kathy Corsale D'Appolonia, Nancy Haas Geyer, Denise Marcil, Stefanie Oliver Kirkpatrick** and **Emily Pavlovic Chiles** participate. Kate saw **Catherine Stroup** on Cape Cod in the spring. She is looking forward to Reunion! We extend our sincere



condolences to **Emily Pavlovic Chiles**, whose husband, Jerry, passed away in June. Our thoughts and healing wishes are with her.

It's not too early to start thinking about and making plans to attend our reunion in spring 2019. Stay tuned for more news of the plans being made by our volunteer committee.

**Regina N. Carbon**  
[rcarbon14@gmail.com](mailto:rcarbon14@gmail.com)



**Dina Gluckin Tranen's** daughter, Lara, delivered

her second son, Gavin, on June 28. Dina says, "He is a delicious little peanut and already looking up to big brother Ryan, 4." She now has five grandchildren (between New York and Los Angeles). "It's pretty great!" says Dina, and it gives her a great excuse for regular bicoastal visits.

**Jean Bidlack** continues her career as a professor of pharmacology and physiology at the University of Rochester Medical Center. Earlier this year, she received an NIH grant to determine if the hormone known as fibroblast growth factor 21 can reduce the preference for opioids in mice. This inquiry opens a new potential target for treating opioid use disorders. The Feb. 23 edition of Rochester's *Democrat and Chronicle* published an article (with a video online) detailing Jean's research. She and husband Carl Helmers visited Saratoga Springs in August, taking in the Philadelphia Philharmonic Orchestra and enjoying great food.

**Marianne Boswell** is launching a startup based on her work at Massachusetts General Hospital. This new company provides software and decision support systems for genomics. Marianne also started a community-based nonprofit in Lexington, helping refugees and their families with tutoring and mentoring, which is producing successful results.

Rumor has it that **Reed Manville** and **Liz Everett Manville '76** relocated their home base to Paradise Valley, Ariz. I'm going to guess the new hometown has some decent golf courses and cigar shops!

**Noni Reilly**  
[noreen.reilly@verizon.net](mailto:noreen.reilly@verizon.net)



**Susan Flanagan** recently moved from Wash-

ington, D.C., to Harwich, Mass. Although she loves her new home, Susan continues to work in D.C., so trekking to airports in Providence or Boston is a challenge.

**Ingeborg Hegemann Clark**  
[iehegemann@gmail.com](mailto:iehegemann@gmail.com)



After moving to Colorado two years ago, **Cynthia**

**Staats Weed** and family finally feel settled and at home. She and husband John enjoyed a wonderful hiking holiday in Croatia in June. Both are active in a local bicycle club, and Cynthia has taken up pottery again. She continues to substitute teach. Their

children and two grandchildren are well (more to come in that department). Cynthia was greatly saddened to hear of the death of her roommate, **Kathy Kirk Meyers**, in May, adding, "It was a great loss."

**Art Richardson**  
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**Lisa Lavieri** reports that son Christopher spent the summer

working as sailing race coach for the Hingham Maritime Center before heading off to UVM to start his junior year. Daughter Suzanne is finishing a master's in biomedical sciences at Tufts University and working for Boston-based Xenotherapeutics, a startup that develops skin grafts for burn victims. Lisa provides test prep and subject support for students in grades 3-12 and works in the local school system. "I'm not sure who has more homework, me or my kids!" she quips.

Lisa was one of a dedicated crew of classmates who gathered on campus in July to plan our 40th reunion next year. **Carol Visger, Mark Rakov, Ann Kuhn Levitan, Lori Gedon, Gail Capobianco, Janet Macht Boosz, Jim Gluckson** and I met with College staff to coordinate a stellar lineup of activities. **Elaine Pantages Conti** and **Jill Wemple Lampe** are crafting a video commemorating our class, while **Joyce Kiehle DeGregorio** is collaborating with fellow nursing majors on some special offerings. Stay tuned for more news about this exciting milestone weekend. The list of reunion volunteers continues to grow; let us

know if we can add you to the team!

**Elaine Pantages Conti** and her husband moved to the beach and welcomed incredible sunsets daily. But this was no more fabulous than becoming grandparents for the first time. Granddaughter Remy is beautiful (I've seen the photos). For our 40th reunion, she and **Jill Wemple Lampe** are putting together a slideshow/video and want everyone included, so even if you can't attend Reunion please forward us a few photos from our time at Skidmore or present-time photos with you and your Skidmore friends. They will include as many as they can and will share the video with the class immediately after the weekend. Please send photos, with names and locations if possible, to [photosfor-skidmore40th@gmail.com](mailto:photosfor-skidmore40th@gmail.com).

**Martha Van Gelder** has just joined the U.S. Center for SafeSport as chief marketing and business development officer. Based in Denver, the center is an independent nonprofit committed to ending all forms of abuse in sport; it adjudicates cases of sexual abuse in the Olympics and Paralympics.

**Ann Kuhn Levitan** writes that, with most of the 60th birthday celebrations complete (**Karin Liljestrand Puff, Meltem Tekeli Ozpay**), she is enjoying celebrating friends' children's weddings. In July her dear friend and Elm-C roomie **Mary Bates's** son was married in Virginia. Such a great time, so much history. Ann had fun at the 40th-reunion planning weekend on campus and says Skidmore and Saratoga have never looked better! She zipped back to NYC to attend the MFA thesis show of **Jamieson Thomson Thomas '80**.

Afterward they enjoyed a "third reunion dinner" with Skiddies from the third floor of Howe-Rounds 1977-78, **Kate Grandin '78, Shelley Vancief '78, Sue Sahlman Stoffel** and **Rebecca Crumb**. On the homefront, Ann is excitedly planning the wedding of eldest daughter Sarah, a lawyer in Manhattan. Second daughter Emily lives in LA and just started an exciting new job at Netflix. Ann has been working as co-president of the Social Service Association of Ridgewood and Vicinity, an emergency relief agency and food pantry serving six towns in Bergen County, N.J.

**Madeline Black (Dean)** presented her work on human gait at the Cognition and Movement Conference held at Harvard Medical Center in July. She lives in Sonoma, Calif., and travels extensively with her work, the Madeline Black Method.

**Robin Safeer** married Eddie Southgate in June, with **Julia Mutch** in attendance. Robin became grandmother to a precious granddaughter in July, making for quite a memorable summer!

**Penny Studwell Matallana** is teaching high-school special education in Fishersville, Va. She and husband Jorge travel to NYC frequently to visit their daughter Alix, who lives and works in Manhattan. She is passionate about pastel painting and in June she traveled to France to attend a plein air workshop. Penny is looking forward to retiring next year and moving on to a new chapter of life.

**Joyce Kiehle DeGregorio** says "life is good" on the west coast of Florida, where she has become an avid scuba diver and loves to sail. Both of her sons are married,

and she has two wonderful daughters-in-law and two adorable grandsons. She invites nursing majors to exchange email (mrsbdg1@aol.com) and text info in preparation for our 40th reunion.

**Wendy McAllister** has sold her Vermont house and will be in Vero Beach, Fla., for January through March. If anyone is there, she'd love to see you! Email her: wmac28@aol.com.

**Patty Abbott Michl** in Dorset, Vt., says there's no retirement in sight as long as she can still sit on and get up from the floor. Her 18-month-old grandson is the smartest/cutest ever, but he lives on Long Island so visits aren't as frequent as she would like. They rented a house outside of Charleston, S.C., in April and assembled both daughters and their husbands for a week of big fun. Patty is interested in other classmates in the Charleston area, because that will be her landing place once she retires.

**Sue Sahlman Stoffel** and **Ann Kuhn Levitan** celebrated with **Kate Grandin '78**, **Becky Crumb** and **Shelley VanClief '78** at the MFA thesis show of **Jamison Thomson Thomas '80**, who also had a pop-up exhibition of her artwork on the Lower East Side in July.

**Martha Van Gelder** recently had dinner with **Maura Connolly** as she traveled up from Beaufort, S.C., to Nantucket and with **Linda Winnard** in Chicago in the spring. We hope that those of you who have not attended a reunion in the past will make the trip next spring. Saratoga bears almost no resemblance (other than the Tin & Lint) to our days when Mr. Jacks, Mabou and the Pharmacy were the only stores on Broadway.

**Debbie Monosson**  
[debbie@bfec.com](mailto:debbie@bfec.com)

'80

**Katharine Coulter-Steeger's** daughter, **Amelia '18**, has joined

the alumni ranks after graduating with a degree in management and business in June! Sister **Julia '20**, is continuing the tradition.

**Jane Doherty Cassidy's** daughter Colbie graduated from Elon University and is exploring opportunities. If anyone knows of an opportunity in the fashion industry in NYC or Boston, you can contact both Colbie and Jane on LinkedIn and Facebook.

**Wendy Collins Gutfarb** and husband Bill were in Saratoga for this summer's race meet. Their partnership, Mosaic Racing, currently has two horses in training that they hope to run at Belmont this fall. In 2014 they enjoyed a win with their horse Analysis, who has since retired and now is "learning his new job as a hunt horse." Wendy is retraining another horse, Electrified, and hopes to run her in the Retired Racehorse Competition in Kentucky this fall. Wendy was honored by her recent appointment to the position of "master of foxhounds" by Aiken Hounds in Aiken, S.C. She and Bill have been full-time residents of the city since his retirement. Wendy has fond memories of fox-hunting as a Skidmore student under the tutelage of **Chris Smith**. She continues to get together with **Collette Reifers Huidekoper**, **Jane Bennett Low**, **Linda Cooke Ashley**, **Alyssa Oxley** and **Liz Martin Gross**.

After teaching English to speakers of other languages

for 21 years, **Linda Dufford Jewett** will retire at the end of the school year. She has enjoyed "a wonderful and enlightening experience learning about new cultures and languages from my students and their extended families." Husband Robert is retiring in December, and the couple will start building a home in South Carolina, where they will spend half the year (and the remainder in Connecticut). Daughter Lauren graduated in May with a master's in divinity from the Pacific School of Religion in Berkeley, Calif. She is pursuing ordination through the National United Church of Christ.

**Peri Snyderman**  
[specialcat@msn.com](mailto:specialcat@msn.com)

'81

**Amy Kapps** has fond memories of Skidmore and

Saratoga. Last year, she was an artist-in-residence at Salem Art Works, about 20 miles from campus. She hopes to be invited to the Tang Museum at some point. A performance and installation artist in Venice, Calif., since 1996, she previously lived in Chicago and spent 13 years in Cologne, Germany. In June she performed "Experiments in Stripes" at the REDCAT Theater in Los Angeles. Now in residence at the Museum of Art and History in Lancaster through Nov. 25, she is exhibiting photographs within a large-scale installation and giving performances in the space. Amy enjoyed a visit from Skidmore's **Jeanne Urquhart '82** when she was visiting Los Angeles.

**Amy Todisco Braunstein**, **Maureen Hille**, **Kathleen**

**Colquhoun Halm**, **Christine Balevic Brown**, **Hildy Schuler Aldridge**, **Suzanne Cooperman Gill**, **Ann Marie O'Keefe** and **Sally Byrnes Tanner '82** got together at the Country Club of Fairfield in Fairfield, Conn., for a picnic (see [alumni.skidmore.edu/classnotes](http://alumni.skidmore.edu/classnotes) for a photo). Amy observes, "We all look great, for 59-year-olds!"

**Karen Bradley McElroy**  
[bkccamac@gmail.com](mailto:bkccamac@gmail.com)

'82

**Lisa Tesar Capretta** and husband Ric celebrated their 20th

year in Mill Valley, Calif. Their kids are finally out of the house! Son Alex, 28, worked in private equity in Austin, Texas, for four years and is now pursuing an MBA at Wharton. Sofia, 25, enjoys living in NYC and working for American Express. The youngest, Bianca, is a senior at Tufts, majoring in computer science and music. Lisa and Ric stay busy remodeling and building homes and enjoy weekends at their ranch in Sonoma, Ariz. Lisa observes, "Aside from our 3-year-old dog, Brando, our newest babies are our grapes. We look forward to our first crush this fall!" Lisa would love to reconnect with Skidmore friends and encourages them to contact her when in the Bay Area.

**Lesa Stramondo Botti**  
[bottifamily4@gmail.com](mailto:bottifamily4@gmail.com)

'83

**Anne Alzapiedi** was recently named to the board of directors of the Connecticut Red Cross. She is a

human-resources executive at General Electric.

**Jan Halper Scaglia's** father died in October, but her family had lots of joy to pull everyone through. In May both of her daughters became graduates: Leigh earned her bachelor's degree from the University of Vermont and is now working in Boston as a legal assistant, and **Elana '15** earned her MLIS from Pratt. In addition, Elana and **Edward Austin Stokes '15** were married July 29. The wedding was an amazing experience, with 18 alumni in attendance: **Rose Lee Schainman Halper '59** (grandma), **Coline Paimblanc Riviere '86**, **Holly Cressy '86**, **Linda Perry Feaster '86**, **Kiley Columbo '12**, **Carly Stokes '13** (Austin's sister and groomsman), **Erin Curran '13**, **Kiki Pohland '13**, **Carolyn Shapiro '15** (bridesmaid), **Adam Strauss '15** (groomsman), **Brad Cray '15**, **Layla Lakos '15**, **Kim Snow '15**, **Kate Tarbell-Lipman '15**, and **Ryan Davis '17**. The newlyweds will be in Chicago for Austin to pursue his doctorate in psychology, and Elana will be working. Jan asks alumni in Chicago to reach out.

**Clifford S. Nelson**  
**48 Sagamore Road, Apt. 28**  
**Bronxville, NY 10708**  
**914-310-1881**

'87

In the past 18 months **Julie Ross** has remarried, moved to

the north shore of Boston and gained two stepsons, Max, 12, and Noah, 11. Her son Harrison, 23, graduated from UMass-Amherst and is the head swim coach at the Northampton YMCA; daughter Jess, 16, recently



acquired her learner's permit and is a gifted artist. Julie is a writer, storyteller and communicator, whose clients range from nonprofits and schools to pharmaceutical companies; see [www.jklwriter.com](http://www.jklwriter.com). She was in Saratoga last summer for the first time since shortly after graduation. "It is an even greater town now," Julie notes. She loves being in touch with **Maria Gomez McEvoy, Greg Rutchik, Laura Shippee Hart, Diane Oxman** and **Bill Packer**.

After 30 years, **Joellen Harper Austin** still loves her job overseeing business and management operations for the National Institute on Drug Abuse ([www.drugabuse.gov](http://www.drugabuse.gov)), part of the National Institutes of Health. She and husband David enjoy playing golf regularly; JoEllen made her first hole-in-one in May! The couple enjoyed an amazing eight-day train trip to Seattle and western Canada aboard the Rocky Mountaineer.

**Stacey Gerrish** opened a retreat space in Woodstock, Vt., called Leading Fields, located on her grandparents' 186-acre farm, which includes a historic home and beautiful gardens. There are wonderful pictures on her webpage. Leading Fields has a deep Skidmore history, and Stacey would love to host any Skidmore alums interested in retreating to Vermont for a few days. (Stacey's grandmother was **Barbara Stroock Kaufman '39**, whose sculpture adorns Skidmore's Alumni Memorial Garden.)

**Cameron Krainin** has been working for the Oakland Raiders for nine years. She used to manage their transportation security and is now running the catering and flight services for away games. She says football

season is "fun but challenging!" She hopes to attend the next class reunion.

**Greg Rutchik** says it's hard to believe a whole year has passed since "our blissful, highly energy-filled reunion." He and his wife, Erin, have a place in NYC since she is running a company outside the city. Greg is involved in a venture capital fund focused on artificial intelligence and sensors (please send prospects), and he is still practicing startup and real-estate law "when necessary," teaching meditation ([www.thepanicproject.com](http://www.thepanicproject.com)) and training for the NYC marathon. He enjoyed going to Saratoga for Skidmore's Freirich Business Plan Competition in February. In addition, he got to see Dead & Company in June. Greg has enjoyed visiting with **David Harrison, Amy Bonami '89** and **Adam Perlmutter**; playing guitar with **Scott Buckley**; and catching sightings of **Ana Hernandez Nelson, Michael Eigen, James Tolan** and **Maria Gomez** in New York.

Our condolences go to the family of **David Albahary**, who died of pancreatic cancer in June. Many Skidmore friends remember him fondly. You can learn more and see a memorial video, and leave a condolence, by visiting [burnett-white.com](http://burnett-white.com) and searching for "Albahary."

**Melissa Weintraub**  
[bleat13@comcast.net](mailto:bleat13@comcast.net)



What an amazing time we had celebrating our 30th

reunion! It was great to enjoy the company of both old and new friends. Skidmore is

thriving, and downtown Saratoga is equally vibrant. Our accommodations in the new Scribner Village (now known as Sussman Village) were ideal — a fabulous place to stay and gather with friends. Seventy of us and our guests shared in the festivities. We missed those of you who couldn't make it and hope you'll join us for the next one!

**Elysa Dauerman** enjoyed visiting the Tang Museum. She was delighted to see so many old friends and really appreciated the relaxed atmosphere of the hospitality room. She especially liked seeing a few "friends of friends" from the Class of '87.

**Margo Leanna** sent in some great pictures that captured good times at Sperry's and other Saratoga haunts! You can view them at [alumni.skidmore.edu/classnotes](http://alumni.skidmore.edu/classnotes).

**Amylou Porter** enjoyed seeing everyone at Reunion. This year she celebrated her sixth anniversary working for the Indianapolis Chamber Orchestra as its operations manager. In addition to her behind-the-scenes production work for the ICO, she recently became project manager for its weekly radio broadcast.

**Margie Ostrove** is sad that she missed Reunion. She has been really busy with her son Joey, now in second grade.

**Victoria King**  
[vking5@me.com](mailto:vking5@me.com)



**Daniel Elkin** is celebrating his 20th year of teaching high school English in Grass Valley, Calif. He was inter-

viewed by website *Comics Bulletin* regarding his work with small-press comics.

**Jackie Goldman Sasloff** says she has had "a lot of time in Saratoga the last couple of years, as my daughter, **Liana '20**, is a rising junior there. Reconnecting with psychology professor Sheldon Solomon has been especially fun. My son, Max, will be a high school junior in the fall." She adds that "spending time with **Lee Green** and his wonderful girlfriend has been a highlight recently."

Our 30th reunion is May 31–June 2; I hope to see many of you then! Check our Facebook page, Skidmore College Class of 1989, to stay up to date on reunion plans.

**Cindy Urick**  
[Newyearsbaby67@yahoo.com](mailto:Newyearsbaby67@yahoo.com)



To celebrate their 50th birthdays (Really? How is that possible!), **Andrea DeMartino Wiepert** and **Marcy Redford Beach** and their families visited Rome and Florence and then cruised the Mediterranean, seeing Nice, Monaco, Corsica, Barcelona, Mallorca and Sardinia. Marcy says that Andrea needs to reconsider her career and become a travel agent! It was a dream trip, to travel together and to see in person so many great works of art and architecture studied in our Skidmore art history classes!

**Caroline Bennett** reminds us, "I was the older student in your classes and got my degree in philosophy/religion, music and art. I have taught music, life science, biology, chemistry and marine biol-

ogy from New York to New Mexico and from Delaware to California. I have been an Outstanding Teacher of America since 2000. I turn 65 this year. I've been in Los Angeles for five years but want to move back east — see my [gofundme](https://www.gofundme.com) account under Doc Bennett. Love to everyone who remembers me. Get in touch, Russell, Chris, Maria and all my buds!

If you haven't seen the revamped Skidmore website, I recommend that you take a look at [skidmore.edu](http://skidmore.edu). Finally, it's not too early to start thinking about Reunion 2020. We're looking for volunteers to help organize and plan the weekend, so if you are interested please let me know.

**Dana Metes**  
[danametes@yahoo.com](mailto:danametes@yahoo.com)



After 16 years, **John Beckman** left Chicago's Science and Industry Museum of Art to start his own consulting firm with his partner Faith Griggs. He says their first client "is a little show you may have heard of called *Hamilton*." John and Faith will be managing the production of a museum-quality exhibit that delves deeper into the history behind the show, and it will begin its national tour in Chicago in April 2019. The two recently bought a small house and some land in Wisconsin, which allows them to escape the craziness of show business on the weekends and spend more time with their retired racehorse, Marked Tee.

Actor **Holter Graham** and wife **Neela Vaswani '96** welcomed daughter Kavita this spring. Neela's

picture book, *This is My Eye*, launched this summer. Holter celebrated the 30th anniversary of *Hairspray* with John Waters and other cast members at an IFC Center screening in NYC. *Maximum Overdrive* got a deluxe reissue, and Holter was interviewed for the Blu-ray commentary. He narrated the audiobook of "Fire and Fury," and, "since he doesn't read but follows his bad press maniacally, I'm pretty sure my voice annoyed our fool in chief." Holter shot the final installment of a series of short films written and directed by **Niav Conty '95**. In June, Holter marked his five-year post-transplant remission from leukemia, he notes, "making me once again as medically uninteresting as the next schmuck."

**Emily Sellergren** is still in Boulder, Colo., with husband Pete and two boys, Max, 13, and Henry, 10. She says, "I am living the Colorado dream of hiking, biking, tele-skiing and yoga and have started up fly-fishing!" She is a counselor at a middle school and has a private practice working with adolescents.

I love living in NYC. I enjoyed a spate of live theater this past year, including *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child* (a lavish musical) and *The Band's Visit* (a musical that hits the deeper emotional notes more typical of a play). I still work at Scholastic, volunteer with New York Cares, and sing in the Sirens of Gotham chorus. I recently became the communications coordinator for Sweet Adelines International Region 15, helping keep the membership of our 19 choruses and 40-plus quartets in the know! This summer I had a wonderful time back on campus for reunion planning session. It was great to see Saratoga

residents **Kirsten O'Rielly Drabek** and **Adam Wald**, as well as those who traveled in for the weekend: **John Beckman**, **Meredith Eastman Principe**, **Tony Reidy** and **Josh Weiner**. Be sure to mark your calendars for May 30 to June 2, and join the "Skidmore '94" Facebook group to build the buzz and get the latest details!

**Vicki Tisch**  
[vickitisch@yahoo.com](mailto:vickitisch@yahoo.com)

'96

**Neela Vaswani's** fourth book, *This is My Eye: A New York*

*Story*, was just released by Candlewick Press. It is a new kind of picture book, with text and photos by Neela, and featuring **Jason Brown** and a photograph by **Jennifer Livingston '95**. For details, visit [neelavaswani.com](http://neelavaswani.com). Neela and her husband, **Holter Graham '94**, joyfully welcomed daughter Kavita into the world this spring.

**Eric Goss** married Kim Thoa Nguyen in 2016 in Gaithersburg, Md. **Rosemary Whalen Rath '96** was in attendance.

**Victoria G. King**  
[vkking1@comcast.net](mailto:vkking1@comcast.net)

'98

Back in 2003 **Angel Perez** was one of the youngest

alumni to serve on Skidmore's alumni board, where he was chair of diversity. Today he is vice president for enrollment and student success at Trinity College in Hartford, Conn., and an important voice in the movement to provide historically underrepresented

groups greater access to higher education. His most recent op-ed appears in the Aug. 6 edition of the e-magazine *Diverse Issues in Higher Education*.

**Michele Rothstein**  
[mdrothstein@gmail.com](mailto:mdrothstein@gmail.com)

REUNION '19  
'04

**Liz Rave** and husband welcomed a baby boy on July 29.

**Meryl Kenny** and husband Josh Makaruk welcomed daughter Kiva in May. They continue to live in Scotland, where Meryl teaches gender and politics at the University of Edinburgh.

**Jacqueline Vernarelli** and husband Ross MacLean welcomed a baby girl, Isla, to the family in April.

**Jacqueline Vernarelli**  
[jvernarelli@gmail.com](mailto:jvernarelli@gmail.com)

'05

**Zachary Toth** is living the dream in Los Angeles,

where he is the senior brain-MRI research specialist at the Institute for the Developing Mind. When not at work, he is hitting the sands of Santa Monica, Manhattan and Long Beach as frequently as possible. He recently graduated from Thinkful Inc. Full Stack web development coding school, and he has created a rent-based cryptocurrency.

**Rebecca Blum Emami** got married in August 2017 and, after living in LA for the last year, she and her husband relocated to northern Virginia. While California was a lot of fun and they loved explor-

ing the national parks, they are really happy to be back on the East Coast. They're looking forward to hanging out with some Skiddies and putting down roots in D.C.

**Kathryn Wink Gilligan** and husband Sean bought their first house, in Lawrenceville, N.J., and their twins Katelyn Marie and Jack David arrived July 13 at Penn Medicine Princeton Medical Center. **Michelle Bernstein Simkin**, **Yael Katz** and **Kate Bradley** celebrated the twins by hosting a baby shower in May. Kathryn expects to complete her master's in teacher leadership in summer 2019.

**Erin DeCou** was overjoyed to visit Skidmore and Saratoga this August and made sure to squeeze in visits to the Tang Museum, the racetrack, the Adelphi, and Desperate Annie's in less than 24 hours. Erin runs a community outreach and youth development program through Smith College in Northampton and Springfield, Mass. She married Aaron Mendelsohn in February and lives in Florence, Mass.

I married Samantha Oliver in Portland, Maine, in August. We celebrated surrounded by family and friends including **Joanna Caliman** and **Kristen Helmstetter**. After completing my master teacher fellowship in September, I plan to continue as staff physician and clinical faculty member at Tufts University's Family Medicine Residency at Cambridge Health Alliance.

**Robert Caiazzo**  
[robert.j.caiazzo.jr@gmail.com](mailto:robert.j.caiazzo.jr@gmail.com)

'06

**Adam Wallace** has launched Spherical,

which provides web design and development, social media, search marketing, production and copywriting. He made his mark in the hospitality industry after graduation, when he signed on as director of digital marketing at NYC's Roger Smith Hotel. A pioneer in the use of social media to promote travel and tourism, he is a sought-after speaker at conferences in the United States and Europe. Today Spherical's clientele includes boutique hotel chains Rosewood, Edition, Palisociety and Proper. "I have combined my love for art, design, culture and sustainability to create a fast-growing, innovative agency," says Adam.

**Jerome Mopsik** and wife **Emily Mopsik '07** enjoy life in Saratoga Springs and had fun hosting friends this summer. In July their home was featured in the annual Saratoga Soroptimists Secret Gardens Tour; they welcomed over 800 visitors to their little slice of the city!

**Mikayla Nemes** is a physician assistant for Premise Health in a large urgent-care center in NYC. She recently moved to Brooklyn and adopted a dog named Indiana. This year has been full of amazing trips to Japan, Iceland and Greece as well as fun reunions with '06ers.

**Martin Levison** served as executive chef at Twitter's headquarters in San Francisco for two years. This past January, he was named purchasing and culinary director at Airbnb headquarters, also in San Francisco.

**Rachel Gordon Miller** and **Eben Miller** welcomed their second child, Hannah, on July 15. She joins big brother Nate. The family lives outside Boston. Eben teaches eighth-



grade English and history in the Lexington public schools. Rachel is a developmental specialist in an early intervention program for families and their children with developmental delays.

**Alexandra Ravener Feigman**  
[afeigman@gmail.com](mailto:afeigman@gmail.com)



**Lauren Bloomenthal** married Skyler Farmer

Aug. 4 in Seattle. Those in attendance included **Philip Anstey '06**, **Dina Pantuso Du Val**, **Kerry Genese**, **Sarah Hoffman**, **Aleksa Lazarewicz-Anstey** and **Rachel Schillhammer Meckelburg**.

**Mike Hochron** married the love of his life, Elle Ballengee, on Sept. 1 on a farm outside Columbus, Ohio. The ceremony was attended by fellow Thoroughbreds **James Tak '06** and **Kendra Asplund Tak**. Mike serves as policy director to Franklin County Commissioner Marilyn Brown, helping develop and oversee services for the residents of one of America's largest counties. Elle is a nurse in the neuro-ICU at Riverside Methodist Hospital. The newlyweds love their city and two dogs, and they would be glad to welcome anyone passing through or moving to central Ohio.

**Autumn Bush**  
[autumnbush@gmail.com](mailto:autumnbush@gmail.com)



**Christopher Toregas** is a vice president, senior portfolio manager and financial adviser at Morgan Stanley's

Park Avenue Plaza wealth management office in NYC. A certified financial planner, he is on *Forbes* magazine's list of America's Top Next-Generation Wealth Advisers.

**Matt Shrensel**, known to classmates as "Strudel," moved to Portland, Ore., married girlfriend Heather, started a new job at the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality and in June welcomed a new baby boy named Shay!

**Shannon Hassett**  
[shannon.hassett@gmail.com](mailto:shannon.hassett@gmail.com)



In May **Aviva Ariel-Donges** completed a master's

in public health and passed the national certification exam. She and her husband moved to Chicago, where she is finishing a clinical internship year for a doctoral program in clinical health psychology at the Jesse Brown VA Medical Center. The couple are thrilled to be closer to friends and family and plan to stay in Chicago for the near term.

**Lauren Donovan** married Ken Michalczuk in August in her home state of Maine. Among the bridesmaids were **Julia Auster** and **Kristina Scheurle**. Lauren and Ken reside in NYC, where she is director of publicity at Scholastic Inc.

**Morgan Violette** married Jonathan Fusco June 16 at the Stone House at Clove Lakes on Staten Island. She wore the wedding dress previously worn by maid of honor **Kiera MacDonald**, and the event was photographed by **Julia Lockett-Cox '12**. **Caroline Scherer**,

**Katherine Sommer**, **Justin Morelli '09**, **Peter Selinsky**, **Ethan Foscue** and **Nicholas Pierce** were all on hand to celebrate.

**Nicholas Pierce** got engaged to **Julia Lockett-Cox '12** in August. Nick popped the question on the shore of Lake Champlain in South Hero, Vt., during a beautiful sunset. They live together in Winooski, where Julia operates Julia Lockett Photography and Nick works as a librarian at UVM. The couple first met in Mozart's Operas taught by Tom Denny, and soon afterward sparks flew one night at Desperate Annie's. Their dog, Zhivago, attended their wedding ceremony.

**Alexandra Wennberg** is a recipient of the Marie Sklodowska-Curie Actions Individual Fellowship. She is moving to Padua, Italy, to continue her research on Alzheimer's disease.

**Ross** and **Jess Goldberg** welcomed baby Evan (Class of 2040) this August. They are excited about their expanding family!

I graduated from Columbia in May and now work at Mount Sinai Hospital as a volunteer coordinator. I married Max Nisen July 29 in Philadelphia and was delighted that **Melissa Ross**, **Sara Riker**, **Jess Goldberg**, **Ross Goldberg**, **David Butler**, **David Engel**, **Keith Petri**, **Jakob Schenker**, **Emily Goldman**, **Elissa Nadworny**, **Michael Cass-Antony**, **Rachel Elias**, **Sonia Segal-Smith**, **Julia Auster**, **Michal Rose '09** and **Logan Brenner '12** came to share in the celebration. I feel lucky to have such a wonderful Skidmore family!

**Claire Solomon**  
[claire.a.solomon@gmail.com](mailto:claire.a.solomon@gmail.com)



**Brendan Calafiore** credits the Skidmore course Global

Financial Institutions, taught by Paul Calhoun, for "opening my eyes to the world of structured financial products and real estate finance." He pursued the latter in his senior year, with the help of the Skidmore alumni network, and cultivated relationships in NYC real estate. After a few years in finance and data analytics, he completed a full-time master's in real estate finance and development at Cornell University and has been active on the buy side of private-equity real estate investing ever since. In his free time, he is an avid skier and wine enthusiast.

**Tanner Kaufman**  
[Tanner.Kaufman@gmail.com](mailto:Tanner.Kaufman@gmail.com)



This summer **Mario Hyman** played for Memphis

City Football Club, the first semi-pro soccer team in Memphis, Tenn. He also worked as an information technology intern at the FedEx headquarters there. Now in his last semester of a master's program in electrical engineering, he plans to return to the Northeast for employment and reconnect with Skidmore friends.

**Jordan Grapel** completed a master's degree in autism studies at the University of Massachusetts and accepted a position as a clinical research specialist in the neurophysiology lab at Duke University's Center for Autism and Brain Development in Durham, N.C.

**Lindsey Decker** is pursuing a master's in computer science at Tufts University in Boston.

**Jessica Stoukides** graduated from the University of Rhode Island with a master's in kinesiology in May. She is now a therapist at a farm that provides equine-assisted therapies for individuals with a wide range of mental-health conditions.

**Office of Alumni Relations**  
**Skidmore College**  
[alumni@skidmore.edu](mailto:alumni@skidmore.edu)

## MALS

**Lisa Chalidze '08** is a visiting lecturer at Norwich University's School of Justice Studies, with special interest in the role of police and the Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, Eighth and 14th Amendments. She writes, "The Skidmore MALS program was a great help in effectuating my gradual, planned transition from the practice of law to academe."

**Tracy Eastwood Sturtevant '87** lives outside Brisbane, Australia, with husband Mike and their cat, Oz. She feels incredibly lucky to be working at her "dream job" as equine coach coordinator and head coach for the largest therapeutic riding program in the country. She recently became the first riding coach and mentor in Australia to be certified by the Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship International. She looks forward to assisting other coaches and riding centers in becoming certified/accredited members. Tracy keeps in touch with **Lisa Willey Porter '87**, **Mike Porter '87**, **Jeanne Cooney Dunn '86** and **Jennifer Hill Thorne '88**, and she recently caught up with **Stephen Legan '87** in NYC. Tracy says, "I am back and

forth quite often to Saratoga Springs to visit my folks, who retired there in 1998. If anyone is interested in visiting Australia and needs a tour guide, feel free to contact me at sturtetee@gmail.com!"

**Judi Lerman**  
judilerman@hotmail.com

## IN MEMORIAM

**Evelyn Tiffany Schaefer '40** of West Hartford, Conn., died June 22, 2017. An English major, she was a real estate agent and community volunteer. She was a founding member of the Red Oak Hill Swim and Tennis Club and a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution. She served the college as a volunteer for its Skidmore-Hartford alumni group. She is survived by son Robert and a daughter, four grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. Her husband, Caspar, predeceased her.

**Jane Dewey Cash '41** of North Andover, Mass., died July 13, 2017. A physical education major, she retired after a long career in education. She served the college as a reunion and class volunteer. Her husband, George, predeceased her.

**Mary Jane Galvin Stevens '46** of Greenville, S.C., died March 30. A nursing major, she practiced at New York Hospital before moving with her physician husband to Binghamton, N.Y., where she taught nursing at Broome Community College for many years. She is survived by her second husband, Steve, three sons, five grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

**Viola McCutcheon Lyman '47** of Steuben, Maine, died June 9, 2017. An art major, she was an accomplished visual artist who taught that discipline to adults and children. She is survived by four children including daughter Mary, a sister and three grandchildren. Her husband, John, predeceased her.

**Mary Pfenninger Riordan '48** of Alpharetta, Ga., died Oct. 6, 2017. An art major,

she was a graphic designer whose work is still used by clients including Yardley, Revlon and Nestle. She was also a painter. She is survived by daughter Kathleen Epstein, two sons and 10 grandchildren. Her husband, Robert, predeceased her.

**Margery Campbell Fort '49** of St. Louis, Mo., died May 23. She was a theater major. She is survived by two sons including John, a daughter, five grandchildren and a sister.

**Dorothy Richards Zopf '50** of Taos, N.M., died June 4. An art education major, she taught in public schools for many years. She became an acclaimed quilter. Her book *Surviving the Winter*, the result of a 10-year survey of quilt-making in rural New Mexico, garnered the Southwest Book Award in 2001. She is survived by a son and three daughters including Emily, a sister, five grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. Her husband, George, predeceased her.

**Carol Beals Holmberg '50** of Kennebunk, Maine, died Nov. 15, 2017. A physical education major, she earned a master's in physical therapy and later completed a master's in counseling at the University of Southern Maine. She was an avid outdoorswoman and sailor. She served the College as a reunion volunteer and class agent and as a nursing and reunion chair. She is survived by two daughters including Kristen, two sons, brother **John A. Beals '50** and two grandchildren.

**Mary Kahle Monthie '51** of Queensbury, N.Y., died June 7. A sociology major, she volunteered for Meals on Wheels and was a board member of the Glens Falls

Home. She served the College as a class and reunion volunteer. She is survived by two daughters including Julie Gray, two sons, three grandchildren and a great-grandchild. Her husband, Warren, predeceased her.

**Carol Peever Zedler '51** of Suffolk, Va., died April 25. She was an English major. She served the College as a class agent and reunion volunteer. She is survived by husband Robert, a son and daughter, five grandchildren and a great-granddaughter.

**Nancy Sweeney Hutchins '51** of Branford, Conn., died Sept. 23, 2017. A nursing major, she was a public health nurse before serving as a consultant with the Connecticut Health Department. She is survived by two sons including Jeffrey, a daughter, a sister, 12 grandchildren and seven great-grands. Her husband, Vernon, predeceased her.

**Ann Brown Abdalla '52** of Rexford, N.Y., died May 18. A physical education major, she earned a master's in education from SUNY Oneonta and another in special education from the College of St. Rose. She was a veteran educator in Saratoga Springs and Whitehall, N.Y., public schools. She is survived by brother Douglas Brown, a cousin and many nieces and nephews. Her husband, Charles, predeceased her.

**Josephine Smith Zirkilton '53** of Seal Harbor, Maine, died April 30, 2016. A psychology major, she served on the White House Committee on Mental Health and on Pennsylvania's York Hospital board of directors. An accomplished equestrian and competitive sailor, she

won the Women's North American Sailing Championship (Adams Cup). She volunteered on numerous community boards in Maine. She is survived by two sons, including Stephen, a daughter and seven grandchildren.

**Harriet Soshnick Hirsch '55** of Tucson, Ariz., died Jan. 20. A psychology major, she earned a master's from Columbia University Teachers College. She taught in New York City and in Germany, and she eventually transitioned to special education when the family relocated to Tucson. She is survived by daughter Julie Hills, a son and four grandchildren. Her husband, Robert, predeceased her.

**Constance Swedlin Sultan '55** of NYC, died Feb. 16. A nursing major, she enjoyed a 30-year career at Mount Sinai Hospital's infant nursery, where she was head nurse. She is survived by her husband and two sons.

**Ann Talbot Brown '57** of Barnstable, Mass., died Aug. 13. An English major, she worked in the financial industry in NYC before her marriage. After earning teacher certification from Kean University, she spent 16 years teaching third grade in Chatham, N.J. She is survived by husband Bill, a son and daughter, a brother and five grandchildren.

**Joan Wallace Bulloss '57** of Troutman, N.C., died Jan. 21. A home economics major, she also studied at the Medical College of Virginia. She enjoyed a long career with ARA Services, now the global food-service corporation Aramark. She is survived by two sons including Glen, six grandchildren and four great-grands. Husband Charles predeceased her.



**Carla Pepperman Kernan '57** of Dallas, Texas, died May 23, 2017. A business major, she performed with the *Sonneters* on Ed Sullivan's *Toast of the Town* television show in her sophomore year. She was a prolific volunteer for her church and area civic organizations. An avid tennis player, she also enjoyed playing piano, guitar and bridge. She is survived by five children and seven grandchildren. Her husband, James, predeceased her.

**Irene Greenberg Stern '57** of Westlake Village, Calif., died Oct. 24, 2017. A psychology major, she went on to earn a master's in counseling from Yeshiva University and a master's in education from Pepperdine. She enjoyed a 55-year career in education, beginning at Covert School in Rockville Center, N.Y. In 1973 she relocated to Los Angeles, where she eventually became principal of Beverly Vista School. She is survived by husband, Mark, a son, a grandson and a brother.

**Joanne Hutz Carroll '58** of Kennett Square, Pa., died Nov. 21, 2017. She was an art major. She is survived by sister Elizabeth Hutz. Husband Thomas predeceased her.

**Nancy Goodwin Calhoun '58** of Sherman Oaks, Calif., died Nov. 28, 2017. She completed her bachelor's degree in history at Connecticut College. She is survived by sister **Judith Goodwin Begg '61**.

**Nancy Shonyo Rahm '59** of Florence, Wis., died May 7. An English major, she taught grade school before launching a career in real estate. She was a talented cellist and pianist. She is survived by her husband, Robert, two

daughters and three sons, a sister and 13 grandchildren.

**Alice Lawrence Roehring '59**, of Coram, N.Y., died Jan. 11. A nursing major, she was a longtime ob-gyn nurse. She is survived by a daughter, Amy Swinford.

**Linda Amerling Scull '59** of Rowayton, Conn., died Feb. 3 of liposarcoma. Married to Pete Scull a year after graduation, she taught preschool before launching a 22-year career as a real estate broker and partner at Scott Associates. Active in her community, Linda also loved reading, skiing, beach activities and time with her family, including her grandchildren's sports and stage pursuits. She served the College as a campaign and reunion volunteer. She is survived by Pete and three daughters, seven grandsons and a sister.

**Roberta Evelyn Young Shafer '59** died April 13 in Saratoga Springs, N.Y. A physical education major, Roberta taught in New York and Virginia public high schools. She was active in community causes including the Navy League, YMCA youth sports, PTA and the Association for Children with Learning Disabilities. She served Skidmore as a reunion volunteer and class agent. She is survived by her husband, Clark, two sons, a daughter, six grandchildren and a great-granddaughter.

**Nancy Shonyo Rahm '59** of Spread Eagle, Wis., died May 7. An English and music major, she was active in Glee Club and athletics. Nancy taught grade school in Vermont and later became a real estate broker. An accomplished cellist and pianist, she also enjoyed painting, writing poetry

and gardening; she was an unabashed game enthusiast. She is survived by her husband, Robert, two daughters and three sons, a sister and 13 grandchildren.

**Sue Miller Bell '62** of Savannah, Ga., died July 18, 2017. An English major, she served the College as a reunion and class agent volunteer. She is survived by husband Frank, two sons and five grandchildren.

**Frances Chapman Zuke '63** of Stephentown, N.Y., died May 26. A business major, she earned a master's in teaching from Tufts University. She taught business at the high school and college level and served as dean of students at Briarcliff College. She was an avid golfer. She is survived by her husband, Gregory, a son, a brother and two grandchildren.

**Ellen Schwartz Gudwin '63** of Syosset, N.Y., died March 25. An art major, she served the College as a campaign and reunion volunteer. She is survived by her husband, Robert, and daughters **Anne Gudwin '92** and **Elizabeth Gudwin Kolsky '90**.

**Lynne Tower Combs '64** of Millington, N.J., died June 10 of cancer. A business major, she earned a nursing degree at Morris Community College. She served on the Millington Township Committee for 10 years, spearheading affordable housing and other projects, and was the township's first female mayor. She was a longtime volunteer for the Visiting Nurse Association and many other community organizations. A triathlete and marathon runner, she cycled across the U.S. with her husband. She served Skidmore as a class agent, reunion volunteer, fund chair

and member of the Friends of the Presidents and Alumni Association Nominating committees. She is survived by her husband, Bill, two daughters, a son, and six grandchildren.

**Marilyn Miller Colvin '68** of Ventura, Calif., died Oct. 22, 2014. An English major, she earned a master's in education from Trinity College and a master's in counseling from the University of La Verne. She was a teacher and guidance counselor for the William S. Hart Union High School District for over 20 years. She is survived by husband John and a son and daughter.

**Deborah Hall Shapiro '69** of Washington, D.C., died Dec. 30, 2016. A biology major, she founded and ran her own residential construction company and taught skiing in Santa Fe, N.M. She led the first Women Build for Habitat for Humanity. A champion snowboarder, avid kayaker and environmentalist, she volunteered for numerous community organizations. She is survived by two sons including Jesse, four grandchildren and a sister.

**Stephanie Dillon Goldman '69** of New York City, died May 4, 2017. An elementary education major, she earned a master's in education from City College of New York and enjoyed a long career as a special education teacher. She is survived by her husband, David, a son, a daughter and four grandchildren.

**Lynn Getz-Riley '83** of Portland, Ore., died April 20. A social work major, she ran a holistic therapeutic practice for many years. She was a dedicated environmental advocate and supported the Oregon Symphony and

Northwest Academy. She was a past director of the Globe Corporation. She is survived by her husband, David, a daughter and two stepchildren.

**Vanessa Biery Lazzarini '96** of West Columbia, S.C., died May 1. An economics major, she was a Wall Street executive before relocating to South Carolina to manage her husband's orthopedic surgery practice. She was an accomplished singer, horsewoman and skier. She served the College as a class agent volunteer. She is survived by her mother, Lucille Biery, and a daughter, Brooke Lazzarini.

**Nicholas Cleves '16** of New York City died Oct. 31, 2017, in a terrorist attack in lower Manhattan. A computer science major who minored in physics, he was well-known across campus as a dedicated Help Desk assistant; he also tutored students in astronomy and enjoyed studying Italian. He had recently launched a career in software engineering and web development. He is survived by his mother, **Monica Missio '81** and an aunt.

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📷 Christopher Massa