UPCOMING EVENTS

February 14 & 15, 2013
Upper School Dance Concert
February 16, 2013
Junior Family Weekend
February 20–22, 2013
Winter Play
Head’s Day — Shhhhh, it’s a surprise!
March 31, 2013
Middle School Play

Dogswood Day — Shhhhh, it’s a surprise!
April 12, 2013
Grandparents Day

May 17–19, 2013
REUNION
Classes Ending in 3s and 8s

June 7, 2013
Middle School Promotion Ceremony
June 8, 2013
Baccalaureate and Prize Night
June 9, 2013
Commencement

Dates may be subject to change. Check the website for final information.

Stay in touch!
www.ethelwalker.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

February 14 & 15, 2013
Upper School Dance Concert
February 16, 2013
Junior Family Weekend
February 20–22, 2013
Winter Play
Head’s Day — Shhhhh, it’s a surprise!
March 31, 2013
Middle School Play

Dogswood Day — Shhhhh, it’s a surprise!
April 12, 2013
Grandparents Day

May 17–19, 2013
REUNION
Classes Ending in 3s and 8s

June 7, 2013
Middle School Promotion Ceremony
June 8, 2013
Baccalaureate and Prize Night
June 9, 2013
Commencement

Dates may be subject to change. Check the website for final information.
GIVING TO WALKER’S THROUGH YOUR IRA OR RETIREMENT PLAN

Uncertainty about the economy, taxes, and future health care costs may prevent a generous alumna from making a meaningful gift to The Ethel Walker School during her lifetime. Consequently, many alumnae have chosen to remember Walker’s through their estate plans. By thinking creatively, you can use your estate to leave a legacy to the School while simultaneously benefiting your loved ones and generating estate and gift tax savings.

Is there an advantage to leaving Walker’s one of my (non-Roth) IRAs or a percentage of my qualified retirement plan rather than other assets in my estate?

Yes. Under current estate tax law, if you plan to leave a bequest to family members and Walker’s, you may save taxes by giving certain assets to charity. For example, an asset such as a pension or IRA is considered income in respect of a decedent (IRD) property. Unlike appreciated securities or real estate, IRD property normally carries income tax that must be paid by the owner or the person inheriting the asset. However, if IRD property is bequeathed directly to charity, this gift is often exempt for taxation.

If you decide to leave a portion of your IRA or pension fund to Walker’s, it may be best to segregate the charitable part, naming yourself as the first beneficiary and the School as the second beneficiary. This way it will be evident to your executor which portion goes to charity and which portion goes to family. This clarifies the subsequent tax treatment of each type of bequest.

Could you give me an example of how this might work?

Let’s say you have a large appreciated stock portfolio and a traditional IRA in addition to your qualified retirement plan. You know that during your lifetime you will pay annual income tax on withdrawals from your pension and IRA. (This planning technique would not apply to a Roth IRA.)

Over the years, through prudent investing, your IRA has grown to $300,000. Since your spouse unfortunately predeceased you, your intention is to equally divide the IRA between your daughter and The Ethel Walker School. Under current law, if you left the entire IRA to your daughter, the IRA custodian would automatically deduct approximately 20 percent from the payout for federal taxes.

However, if you had updated your beneficiary form after your spouse passed away to indicate that the sole beneficiary of this fund was The Ethel Walker School, 100 percent of the remainder would be donated to the School as your bequest with no inherent federal tax obligation of 20 percent. Your daughter would receive your stock portfolio.

Let’s say you have a large appreciated stock portfolio and a traditional IRA in addition to your qualified retirement plan. You know that during your lifetime you will pay annual income tax on withdrawals from your pension and IRA. (This planning technique would not apply to a Roth IRA).

Is there an advantage to leaving Walker’s one of my (non-Roth) IRAs or a percentage of my qualified retirement plan rather than other assets in my estate?

Yes. Under current estate tax law, if you plan to leave a bequest to family members and Walker’s, you may save taxes by giving certain assets to charity. For example, an asset such as a pension or IRA is considered income in respect of a decedent (IRD) property. Unlike appreciated securities or real estate, IRD property normally carries income tax that must be paid by the owner or the person inheriting the asset. However, if IRD property is bequeathed directly to charity, this gift is often exempt for taxation.

If you decide to leave a portion of your IRA or pension fund to Walker’s, it may be best to segregate the charitable part, naming yourself as the first beneficiary and the School as the second beneficiary. This way it will be evident to your executor which portion goes to charity and which portion goes to family. This clarifies the subsequent tax treatment of each type of bequest.

Could you give me an example of how this might work?

Let’s say you have a large appreciated stock portfolio and a traditional IRA in addition to your qualified retirement plan. You know that during your lifetime you will pay annual income tax on withdrawals from your pension and IRA. (This planning technique would not apply to a Roth IRA.)

Over the years, through prudent investing, your IRA has grown to $300,000. Since your spouse unfortunately predeceased you, your intention is to equally divide the IRA between your daughter and The Ethel Walker School. Under current law, if you left the entire IRA to your daughter, the IRA custodian would automatically deduct approximately 20 percent from the payout for federal taxes.

However, if you had updated your beneficiary form after your spouse passed away to indicate that the sole beneficiary of this fund was The Ethel Walker School, 100 percent of the remainder would be donated to the School as your bequest with no inherent federal tax obligation of 20 percent. Your daughter would receive your stock portfolio.

Alternatively, if you decide to gift half of your IRA to your daughter and half to charity, even though you know federal taxes will be withheld from your child’s portion, you may segregate the two gifts. You can do this by creating a charitable IRA and transferring half the fund to this new account, thus making it easy for all parties to determine the tax ramifications.

Do I have to redo my will in order to make this type of charitable gift?

No, you don’t. Since your retirement plan or IRA operates outside of your will, simply updating your beneficiary form will save the costs associated with updating your entire estate plan.

If you are interested in making a planned gift to The Ethel Walker School, please contact Director of Gift Planning June Rae Bradford at 860-408-4260 or jbradford@ethelwalker.org.

When making any philanthropic commitment to Walker’s, please be sure to include your attorney or financial planner in the conversation to ensure the transaction is arranged with respect to your individual requirements.
MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL

Hanging on the wall in my office is a black-and-white picture of the 1927 Walker’s Varsity Field Hockey team. Fifteen strong, somewhat dour-faced Walker’s girls, clad in their bloomers, white blouses, neck sashes, and field hockey sticks, provide quite a contrast to what the Varsity Field Hockey team looks like today! One of the young women in this photo is my grandmother. Ruth Gibson was a member of the Walker’s Class of 1929; she was sent to Walker’s because it was the very best school in the country to educate a girl for college; my grandmother went on to Vassar College at a time when many of her contemporaries did not go to college.

Miss Walker was clear that not only would the School prepare girls academically, but that the right way to educate girls included exposure to arts, music, theatre, the outdoors, and … athletics. Believe it or not, that girls could compete, play sports, and actually benefit from being part of an athletic team was a novel idea, and even somewhat controversial at the time. So, it is great fun to imagine what Miss Walker and the 1927 Varsity Field Hockey team would think of the amazing new synthetic and natural turf fields we have just completed! While Title IX was decades away for Miss Walker and her students, having Donna Lopiano, President and Founder of Sports Management Resources, and Julie Chu, Olympic medalist, ice hockey star, and coach, speak on campus this fall about the progress women have made in athletics is surely testimony to and a natural evolution of Miss Walker’s vision that equality for women was right and athletics were critical to a well-rounded education. In 2012, Walker’s requires that students participate on a team.

Lest one think that this fall has been any less exciting than our Centennial season last year, there is a distinct buzz on campus as we celebrate the completion of the state-of-the-art athletic fields and field pavilion projects. All summer long, faculty children were mesmerized by the array of trucks, bulldozers, and piles of earth being moved. Walker’s now boasts natural grass fields with new sod and built-in hydration systems, ensuring they are preserved for many years. The project also included two new synthetic turf fields, so our field hockey and lacrosse players can be competitive as they apply to colleges. We have already received many rental requests for our new fields from area schools and teams. The pavilion between the fields includes restrooms, shelter for teams during storms or foul weather, and a faculty apartment. We have several trustee leaders to thank for this vision and its execution. Sue Cesare and Lynn Manger, Co-Chairs of our Centennial Projects Task Force, along with other trustees, parents, and staff, worked hard to ensure success on this first phase of the campus master plan.

How are fields and athletics an investment in our mission? Walker’s empowers girls to lead with integrity, confidence, courage, and conviction. Athletics and team sports teach girls that it is actually not wrong to want to win and that life goes on if you lose. Girls can be hesitant to take risks, and they often worry more about failure. Athletics demand risk taking and require, play by play, that we adjust to mistakes, whether they be failed passes, shots, jumps, or throws, on an almost minute-to-minute basis. Hard work, perseverance, working closely with others, overcoming adversity, changing one's strategy, losing with grace, and winning with humility are all skills critical to leadership in today's world and are part and parcel of athletics.

Top from left, Bessie Speers, Kennedi Rookwood ’15, Claire Graham ’15; bottom from left, Kayla Chen ’16 and Taylar Clark ’15
Note from the President of the Board of Trustees

Our founder, Miss Walker, was a true pioneer, knowing in 1911 that educating the whole girl, not just the mind, was critical to the future. She was adamant that athletics and academics be on equal footing, and because of women like her, who had the courage of their convictions, we are able to stand today and celebrate all that women have accomplished for themselves and for the world. It seems fitting that the completion of our new athletic fields and pavilion coincides with the 40th anniversary of the Title IX legislation, a milestone in women’s history best known for its impact in sports. Our new fields also mark the successful completion of Phase I of our Centennial Campaign for The Ethel Walker School, a true milestone in the School’s history. Never before have I felt so proud to be a Walker’s woman. The School is in a position of true strength as we move into the next century of educating young women. Never has this endeavor been more important, never has there been so much promise and potential for our future, both for the School and for our graduates, the leaders of tomorrow. There is much to celebrate and even more to look forward to. Truly, it is Walker’s time!

Donya Nagib Sabet ‘90
PRESIDENT, BOARD OF TRUSTEES
It’s Walker’s Time

For more than 100 years, our graduates have helped to shape and improve the world. Our mission has never been more critical, and we have never been more unified in our pursuit.

The Board of Trustees, Head of School, faculty, staff, and students are fully aligned. Investing in the intellectual development of young women is imperative. The continued education and encouragement of women leaders—at every level of society—is essential to answering the world’s toughest challenges.

As we celebrate 100 years of academic excellence, we invite you to learn more about our Centennial Capital Campaign.

A Message from the Director of Development

Dear Walker’s Alumnae, Parents, and Friends,

What an exciting time to be part of this exceptional School. Our Centennial Campaign — It’s Walker’s Time, announced at the Centennial Celebration one year ago — has gained some real traction. As many of you know, all campaigns begin with a “quiet” phase, when generous donors come forward with leadership gifts. We are presently in our quiet phase; however, we want to share a sneak preview of some wonderful highlights of the Campaign to date. To that end, we are honoring several leadership donors whose belief in the strength and mission of Walker’s has been remarkable. It is individuals like these who understand that this Centennial Campaign has the power to be truly transformational for the School.

To date, we have raised over $22 million of our $50 million goal, including nine leadership gifts of over $1 million each.

A very special thanks to our early believer donors, five of whom we salute on pages 6 and 7. We will be highlighting campaign donors in all future issues of The Sundial.

Last year’s Annual Fund was a success, raising a record amount of over $1.6 million for the School, including the popular challenge in honor of our faculty. This year we are off to a strong start: Our Fall Challenge, called “Open the Doors of Opportunities,” was a resounding success! The Walker’s Board of Trustees challenged us to raise $300,000 between October 15 and December 15. The trustees agreed to increase their own contributions by 30 percent in unrestricted dollars this year. I am pleased to report that we raised $622,391 as of December 15. This amount puts us well on our way to reaching our 2012-2013 goal of $1.6 million for the Walker’s Fund for Annual Giving.

I love working for Walker’s, so I am sad to report that I will be leaving due to a move to Arizona. This is truly a special place, and a transformational time in the School’s history — exciting things are ahead. Luckily, Jane Rae Bradford and Heidi McCann, two veterans in our office, will handle affairs while the search for a new Director of Development is underway. Thank you all for your continued support in so many ways. Please feel free to call Jane at 860-408-4260 with any questions or suggestions.

Warmly,

Pamela Churchill
DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT

CENTENNIAL CAMPAIGN CABINET

No campaign is possible without a strong volunteer leadership team. We are grateful to the following individuals for giving of their time, treasure, and talents to ensure that we reach our campaign goals.

Constance Lavino Bell ’48, P’72, ’75, GP’12, ’14
Roberta Gerstall Bennett ’53
Margot Campbell Bogert ’60, CO-CHAIR
Ann Watson Bresnahan ’69
Thomas C. Brokaw
C. Austin Buck P’79
Claudia Ramsland Burch ’68
Sarah Gates Calley ’75, CHAIR
Holly Legler Cortes ’91

Amey Amory DeFries ’45, P’67, ’69
Aileen Turnbull Geddes ’56
C. Hugh Hildesley P’85
Lucy Rosenberry Jones ’59, P’80
James Wesley Kinneer III P’69, ’71
Deborah Williams MacKenzie ’55, CO-CHAIR
Alice Kerr Moorhead ’61
Elizabeth Nash Muench ’55
Celeste Royall Niarchos ’64

Lorra Sargeant Pfaelzer ’56
Letitia McClure Potter ’55, P’85
Elizabeth Rauch Rainoff ’53
Margot Treman Rose ’80
Donya Nagib Sabet ’90
Lisa Pagliaro Selz ’69, CO-CHAIR
Abra Prentice Wilkin ’60
Terese Treman Williams ’55, P’80
+ DECEASED
The Campaign at a Glance

**Centennial Campaign — $50 Million Goal**

1: $20M for Centennial Capital Components
2: $10M for Endowment
3: $10M for The Walker’s Fund for Annual Giving
4: $10M raised for Campus improvements and campaign expenses

**GOAL 1: CAPITAL COMPONENTS — $20 MILLION**

*Phase One:*
Centennial Athletic Fields and Pavilion
*Completed Fall 2012*
- Two new artificial turf fields that give our field hockey and lacrosse teams a venue that ranks with the best
- A track around the new fields for School and community use
- Two new natural turf fields and a new softball field
- Athletic pavilion providing restrooms, shelter, and faculty housing

*Phase Two:*
New Dormitory and Faculty Housing
*To be completed Fall 2013*
- A 30-40 bed suite-style dormitory with four faculty apartments

*Phase Three:*
Centennial Center
*To be completed by Fall 2016*
- Integrated Athletic and Wellness Programs
  - Pool, Dance Studio, Double Gym, Squash Courts, Health Center, Student Center, and Art Exhibition Space
- Transformational impact on academics and community culture
- Environmental Stewardship and Sustainability

**GOAL 2: ENDOWMENT — $10 MILLION**

- Financial Aid
- Faculty Development
  - Head of School and Faculty Chairs
  - Faculty Compensation and Development
- Environmental Stewardship and Sustainability Initiatives
- Technology and Innovation

**GOAL 3: ANNUAL FUND — $10 MILLION OVER FIVE YEARS**

It is our goal to raise $10 million over the five years of the Campaign for the Walker’s Fund for Annual Giving.

**GOAL 4: CAMPUS IMPROVEMENTS AND CAMPAIGN EXPENSES — $10 MILLION**

Funds already raised have set the stage for the Campaign by providing support for infrastructure and expenses.
Leadership Donors

Please join us in thanking the five donors below for their commitment to Walker’s future.

CONSTANCE LAVINO BELL ’48, P’72, ’75, GP’12, ’14, Former Trustee

Connie has a long family history with Walker’s; the daughter of Edwin M. Lavino and Constance Muller Hunter, she graduated in ’48. Her daughters, Constance Bell Moser ’72 and Deborah Bell Spoehl ’75, are also Walker’s alumnae. Her granddaughter Ellie Bell graduated in 2012, and her granddaughter Elizabeth Spoehl is currently a junior. Connie and her late husband, Jim, have been strong Walker’s supporters through the years. In 1987, Connie and Jim made a $1 million gift for restricted endowment to the 75th Anniversary Campaign. Walker’s library was named for the Bells in recognition of this gift. Connie and her family have given close to $1 million to the Centennial Campaign, including sponsoring the commemorative Centennial Book. Her son, Stuart Bell, continues to play a critical role on the Finance Committee of the Walker’s Board of Trustees. Connie’s commitment to Walker’s is exceptional; she returns to events on campus and understands that an investment in Walker’s is not only the right thing to do, but is a way to support future generations of talented young women.

“My time at Walker’s was the best of my life besides my marriage! I am glad my girls and grand girls have had the experience I had. EWS prepares young women for the future! I look forward to seeing the Centennial Center completed!”

MARGOT CAMPBELL BOGERT ’60, TRUSTEE

Margot Bogert is an active philanthropist who serves as the President of a family foundation. She is the daughter of the late William D. Campbell, honorary president of the World Organization of the Scout Movement, and the great granddaughter of William C. Durant, founder of General Motors. Moreover, she is Chairman of The Frick Collection and past Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Sarah Lawrence College (1998 to 2004), where she served as Director of Development (1991-1998). Margot is also one of the first female members of the national Executive Board of Directors of the Boy Scouts of America, formerly Vice Chairman of the World Scout Committee, and a member of the Board of Directors of the World Scout Foundation. In 2004 she founded the World Scout Fund USA, which supports community projects in underdeveloped nations. Margot holds a bachelor’s degree in international relations from Sarah Lawrence College. She is married to Jeremiah M. Bogert and has two grown children. Margot’s savvy in fundraising and her ability to connect people to each other are part of the joy she has brought to Walker’s in her role as Trustee, along with her understanding of the importance of this Centennial chapter in the School’s history.

“I truly believe that supporting Walker’s and single-sex education is more important than ever. It is increasingly important that the leadership of women be encouraged and fostered in order to bring the broadest intellectual views to domestic and international affairs.”

ANN WATSON BRESNAHAN ’69, FORMER TRUSTEE

Ann Watson Bresnahan grew up in New Canaan, Connecticut, and is the daughter of Ann “Nancy” Hemingway Watson Symington ’36, who passed away in 2012, and Arthur K. Watson. Ann generously donated $1 million in 1996 to name the Science Center in honor of her mother. Last year she donated another $1 million to the Centennial Campaign. Other significant gifts to Walker’s include $10,000 for the Margaret Huling Bonz Speakers Series; $500,000 for the Arthur K. Watson Charitable Trust; $1 million for the Jane Watson Irwin ’33 and Arthur K. Watson Scholarship Fund; and $250,000 for the 75th Anniversary. Ann was the alumnae representative on the Board of Trustees from 1973-1976; she served on the Board of Trustees from 1974-1983. Ann, who lives in Hope, Maine, with her husband, Rick, is a savvy philanthropist and fundraiser, always warm and gracious, who has solicited gifts for numerous institutions, including EWS, Outward
Bound, and her local hospital. In an interview about her involvement in Outward Bound, she said that if someone is going to solicit capital gifts, that person must make a substantial commitment him (or her) self in order to have credibility. Ann continues to demonstrate her credibility and lead the entire Walker’s community by example.

“Education and health care are the two most important things you can give to yourself and your family. I am especially passionate about the education of young women and women in science and math. The Centennial Center will be a unique combination of elements: athletics, health, counseling, and student center. Hats off to Bessie Speers for recognizing the need to support the whole girl in mind and body.”

LUCY ROSENBERRY JONES ’59, P’80, FORMER TRUSTEE

Lucy Rosenberry Jones excelled at Walker’s, and then attended Vassar College, the University of Minnesota (B.A., Social Welfare) and the University of Minnesota (M.S.W.), after which she worked as a psychotherapist. She has two children, Sarah-Jane McCarthy Markoe ’80, and Walter “Richard” McCarthy, Jr. Lucy’s sister is Elsie Rosenberry Donohue ’55. They are the daughters of Sarah-Maud Weyerhaeuser and Walter Samuel Rosenberry, Jr., of St. Paul. Lucy lives in Wayzata, Minnesota, with her husband, Jim. She is very engaged in board work, focusing on the areas of music and mental health issues. Lucy brings the same insightful, caring spirit to Walker’s. She has always been eloquent in describing the Chapel space and its impact on the School, and she understands Walker’s ethos in a profound way.

“My three years at Walker’s I count as one of my most important experiences. Not only did I receive a very good education, but I also learned to live and work with a variety of people and learned leadership skills. When I return to the School, I am pleased to see that what I remember has flourished and improved under its current leadership. I support the Centennial Campaign because Ethel Walker Smith’s vision for an all-girls’ school has proven valuable and long lasting.”

JAMES WESLEY KINNEAR III P’69, ’71

James W. Kinnear III graduated from Saint Paul’s School and entered the United States Naval Academy, where he served in brigade leadership positions and from which he graduated with distinction in 1950. Fifteen days after graduation, Mr. Kinnear married Walker’s alumna Mary Elston Tullis ’47, whom he had met on a blind date at the Academy. The Korean War began eight days later. Jim served three consecutive tours in the combat zone, earning seven engagement stars and a Navy Commendation Medal. In 1986, Jim was elected President and CEO of Texaco, leading the company through bankruptcy and a massive and successful restructuring. His beloved wife, Mary, was an involved Walker’s alumna, Trustee, and parent who gave generously of her time and resources before she passed away in 2002. Jim offered a marvelous toast at the School’s Centennial Celebration, and he has been an ever-loyal Campaign Cabinet member. His integrity, love of schools, and commitment to institutions that can make a difference in the lives of students has been extraordinary.

“I continue to support the School because I am dedicated to the importance of secondary education and the positive Walker’s experiences enjoyed by my wife, Mary, and our two daughters, Robin Wood Kinnear Anderson ’69 and Susan Jenkins Kinnear Neul ’71.”

“We are honoring several leadership donors whose belief in the strength and mission of Walker’s has been remarkable. It is individuals like these who understand that this Centennial Campaign has the power to be truly transformational for the School.”

— PAMELA CHURCHILL, DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT
“The world has come to understand what Walker’s always knew: that when young women train and compete, something amazing happens. Skills emerge, intensity, passion, and the desire to win. And we learn that being part of a team made us strong and whole.”

FROM THE CENTENNIAL REFLECTIONS VIDEO
A Conversation with Athletic Director John Monagan

Q. What is the philosophy of the Walker’s athletic program?
A. We want our girls to understand the value of sports in their lives. Our coaches help our athletes learn important life lessons, including responsibility beyond themselves and the need for hard work to achieve both personal and team goals. Our girls also learn that they are participants, not spectators. Through sports, we want our girls to learn they don’t need to stand on the sidelines for anything.

Q. How is athletics part of the fabric of the School?
A. Athletics are an integral part of our girls’ experience here. The program gives student-athletes another way to lead and to challenge themselves. Students learn that their teammates are relying on them. We see confidence emerge in these girls through competition. They learn they can push themselves, that it is okay to want to win. But they also learn through losing games.

Q. The School has grown in size over the last 20 years; how has the athletic program evolved?
A. Over the years, we’ve solidified our coaching program so there is more consistency. In the past, we had a fairly high turnover rate. Now we have less turnover, especially at the varsity level, so the girls can enjoy stronger relationships with their coaches and programs have clear direction. Over the past few years, as our enrollment has grown, so too have our sport offerings. We have a competitive golf team, a fantastic swim team, and a growing squash program. We added a cross country team this fall, which is an important addition to our athletic program. Our biggest news, of course, is the opening of our new fields this year. To add two play; it’s about the best competitors being given the chance to compete and it’s about constantly working to be better and pushing yourself. These are life lessons the girls take from Walker’s athletics. Nothing is handed to you; on the field, on the court, in the larger world, you have to work for it. Educators talk about the need to infuse real-world experience into education and prepare students for life after school. This is one way athletics contributes.
new turf fields for lacrosse and field hockey, as well as two new state-of-the-art soccer fields and a beautiful new softball field, speaks volumes as to where we are headed as a program.

**Q. Why are new fields so important and why add them now?**

**A.** Most importantly, because our teams, our coaches, and our student-athletes have shown we are ready. Strong schools and strong athletic programs are deserving of strong facilities. I feel that we made a needed upgrade, which is reflected by our strong play on the fields. These new facilities send a message that we are competitive. This project shows that we understand what the best athletes need to compete. It also feeds the mental game. It impresses, and even psychs out, our competition when they show up to play. Our athletes also now have a platform to prepare to play in college, so we’re giving them preparation for a slice of life beyond Walker’s. We needed new fields in order to stay on par with other schools. It wasn’t a question of nice to have; the new fields were a must have.

**Q. What are other strengths of the program?**

**A.** Coaching is a huge strength. If I do my job well, no one knows I’m here. That means the coaches are doing their job of teaching the girls and developing and strengthening the programs. I’m here to support the coaches if they need it. The personal connections between coaches and players are huge. The coaches are more to the girls than just coaches. They listen to the girls, they teach, they advise, and they befriend. This allows them to draw more from each player, and likewise, each player wants to play harder than she ever has for her coach.

As far as specific sports, softball and basketball are strong sports. Our golf team has done extremely well, and so has the volleyball team. In terms of facilities, if we can make the Centennial Center happen, which is currently being planned, our program will shoot to another level. That building is my dream. Aside from the state-of-the-art facility, it will allow our teams that currently practice off-site—such as squash and swimming—to be on campus.

**Q. What are the athletic program goals over the next decade?**

**A.** I think there are a lot of ways to measure success for us in the coming years. It all surrounds the continued upgrading of our facilities. We are already seeing the results of our new outdoor playing surfaces; we definitely have an increase in interest among girls that play these sports. With the planned Centennial Center, which includes an additional basketball court, a pool, and squash courts, I know we will see marked improvement in each of these areas. With an increase in interest from prospective student-athletes, we are able to develop strong programs across the board.

Clockwise from left: Jianna Footman ’15, Holly Barden ’14, Tricia Smith ’16, Amanda Lee ’13, Ella Ross ’15
Walker’s Hosts Community Forum on Title IX in Athletics

40 Years Later, Where Are We?
MODERATED BY TOM FARREY, DIRECTOR OF THE ASPEN INSTITUTE’S SPORTS & SOCIETY PROGRAM AND CORRESPONDENT FOR ESPN’S OUTSIDE THE LINES

On October 23, Walker’s hosted a community forum featuring leaders in the sports field to explore the impact of Title IX on women’s athletics and look at what remains to be done to achieve gender equity in sports. Over 140 people attended the panel discussion, including people from the Boston area, the surrounding Farmington Valley community, and New England colleges and preparatory schools.

The panelists were Julie Chu, three-time Olympic medalist, forward for the U.S. Women’s National Ice Hockey Team and the Montreal Stars, and Assistant Women’s Ice Hockey Coach at Union College; Donna Lopiano, President and Founder of Sports Management Resources and former CEO of the Women’s Sports Foundation, who was named one of “The Top 10 Most Powerful Women in Sports” by Fox Sports; and Alexander Wolff, senior writer at Sports Illustrated.

“We are excited to have these esteemed panelists here tonight to share in what Walker’s and our founder knew: Girls matter. Their hearts and minds matter to the world,” said Head of School Bessie Speers. “Our founder was a pioneer. We have many pioneers to thank, both men and women, who have laid the foundation for what is so important.”

“Forty years ago, women’s athletics changed forever and today, we are able to witness female athletes like never before,” said Ethel Walker student Jacinta Lomba ’13 in her introduction of Tom Farrey. “Tonight, we are able not only to gain wonderful insight into women’s athletics over the past few decades, but also to have meaningful discussion about the direction in which women’s sport is headed.”

Farrey guided the discussion through a wide range of issues, including the status of women in sports today. Lopiano spoke frankly: “Women are still getting grief for playing sports, so if you think the job is done, it’s not. We aren’t close to equal opportunity yet. Has life changed for girls? Absolutely. Is there equity? No.”

Lopiano highlighted statistics that show the need for more work to reach gender equity: 49 percent of high school students are girls, yet they have 42 percent of the participation opportunities, including budgets and equipment. At the college level, 57 percent of the students are women, who have 43 percent of the participation opportunities.

Chu spoke about her experience playing ice hockey after Title IX was enacted and how she still faced adversity. “When I started, I had to play on a boys’ hockey team,” Chu said. “There were very few girls playing hockey at the time. It was a sport where, if you said, ‘I play hockey,’ people would say, ‘no, you don’t, you’re a girl,’ but now that perception has changed. For me, a big part of that was the 1998 Olympics. That was the first time women’s hockey was included in the Olympic Games and since then, every year, the number of girls playing hockey has grown tremendously. We’ve come a long way, but now we need to focus on getting to the next step. That’s hockey, but that’s also sports in general.”

Throughout the evening, a common theme was the importance of continued participation in sports by girls. Wolff remarked that around age 10, children often question whether they should continue with sports. Keeping sports fun is key to continuing participation by both boys and girls. “The disconnect between what a 10-year-old wants out of
sports and what parents want out of sports is huge. Surveys show the number-one reason kids play sports is for fun, followed by being with friends, and to a lesser extent getting better at the game. Winning doesn’t come up,” said Wolff.

Girls need additional encouragement. Lopiano pointed out that boys grow up hearing they will be great at a particular sport or position. Girls usually don’t receive these messages, and girls’ participation is questioned, especially in sports dominated by boys.

“Research shows that, whether it’s participation, health, or success in school or life after sports, boys and girls benefit equally from playing sports. With girls, they gain stronger self-confidence, stronger self-esteem, they are much more likely to graduate from high school, to get better grades, and to matriculate in college,” explained Lopiano. “They are much more likely to go into nontraditional fields after college, which is critical because so many male-dominated fields are the best paid fields, be it engineering or mathematics or the sciences.”

Working toward gender equity also requires offsetting an unintended consequence of Title IX. When separate men’s and women’s athletic departments were combined in response to the new law, many female athletic directors and coaches were pushed out of their positions. Men, Lopiano said, dominate the decision-making about distribution of funds, hiring, and other important issues. She believes that this has contributed to increased gender disparity in six of the last eight years at the college level and four of the last seven years at the high school level.

The forum concluded with eager questions from the audience. John Monagan, EWS Director of Athletics, ended the event saying, “At the very least, we hope this event will start conversations so we can continue talking about these important issues.”
Imagine the scene: A team of Walker’s girls huddles with their coach and then bursts onto the field or gym floor. They play hard, deftly handling the equipment and coordinating their well-practiced movements. The game is exciting to play and to watch. But after the final whistle blows, after the winners have been congratulated and the losers consoled, a question remains: Are there significant, lasting benefits for the athletes?

The answer to the question is a resounding yes. Participation in organized school sports enhances girls’ academic achievement, leads to career advancement, and offers life benefits, according to recent research.

Girls who participated in high school team sports had significant gains in academic and career success, as shown in a 2008 study. Betsy Stevenson of the University of Pennsylvania compared girls who attended high school before and after Title IX required equal opportunity in athletics. The proportion of high school girls in sports went from 1 in 27 in 1972 (the year the law went into effect) to 1 in 4 in 1978 (the year states were required to complete compliance), while the proportion of boys in sports held steady at 1 in 2.

Stevenson found that girls’ participation in organized sports, overall, was associated with 0.4 more years of education and 8 percent higher wages, after controlling for students’ ability. She concluded that Title IX explains about 20 percent of the increase in women’s higher education and about 40 percent of the rise in employment for 25- to 34-year-old women, including an increase in wages and the number of women in male-dominated fields.

All regular physical activity enhances the ability to learn and improves physical health, both of which are important contributors to academic and career success. But team sports contribute the crucial third factor for success—life lessons that build confidence and the ability to take risks.

**ACADEMIC SUCCESS**

Dr. John Ratey of the Harvard Medical School explains that physical fitness leads to increased academic performance in his 2008 book, *Spark: The Revolutionary New Science of Exercise and the Brain*. According to Ratey, his research shows that exercise positively affects the ability of the brain to learn by:

- Increasing cellular components that support the systems responsible for learning, decision-making, and memory,
- Improving the environment of brain cells, and
- Promoting neurogenesis, the process of generating new neurons that integrate into existing brain circuits.

In a 2010 report, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) also concluded that exercise promotes brain function. “Cognitive skills and motor skills appear to develop through a dynamic interaction,” the report states.

The CDC reviewed 19 studies that focused on the...
relationship between academic performance and extracurricular physical activities organized through school. These included participation in school sports. All 19 studies found one or more positive associations between extracurricular physical activity and indicators of academic performance, such as cognitive skills and attitudes, academic behaviors, and academic achievement. Students who participated in regular exercise, including team sports, were more likely to succeed in school.

**CAREER & LIFE SUCCESS**

Physical exercise builds the brain, which in turn enhances a student’s ability to learn and achieve in school. But participation in team sports adds a crucial component that leads to success outside the classroom. Team sports build girls’ confidence levels, teach them the value of taking risks, and show them the connection between hard work and achievement.

Participation in athletics teaches girls to become comfortable with competition. On the playing field or gym floor, only one team is going to win and only one girl on each team is going to be the high scorer. In her speeches and books, the former professional basketball player Mariah Burton Nelson points out that participating in competitive sports helps teach what it takes to succeed and also how it feels to be victorious. She says that healthy sports competition can teach that winning is fun and losing is no disgrace.

“Girls are much more likely to go into non-traditional fields after college, which is critical, because so many male-dominated fields are the best paid fields, be it engineering or mathematics or the sciences,” says Donna Lopiano, president and founder of Sports Management Resources and former CEO of the Women’s Sports Foundation, who was named one of “The Top 10 Most Powerful Women in Sports” by Fox Sports. Lopiano spoke at the EWS panel on Title IX in October (see page 12 for more on the panel).

Sports also counteract societal messages to girls about the importance of their looks and popularity. Team sports teach girls that they are valued for their hard work, ability to learn new skills, loyalty to teammates, perseverance, and strong, capable bodies. “For many people, playing sports is the best medicine for a negative body image,” states a 2011 article in *Volleyball Magazine*.

Team sports play a large role in helping children learn how to exercise regularly, which has been associated with increased life expectancy and reduced risk factors for many diseases and conditions. This lesson persists into adulthood, according to the Michigan Study of Adolescent Life Transitions, which looked at more than 600 young people. In a 2004 study the researchers found that childhood and adolescent sports participation was a significant predictor of young adults’ participation in sports and physical fitness activities.

After a practice or a hard-fought game, Walker’s girls are thinking about showers and food. But when they participate in class, head off to college, and join the workforce, they’ll be more successful, thanks to their participation in school athletics. Team sports help girls achieve the goals Walker’s sets for them, from building critical thinking skills, to developing confidence and the ability to take risks, to learning the connection between hard work and achievement.

**SCHOLAR-ATHLETES**

The scholar-athlete program was formed to honor athletes who have a cumulative GPA above 3.5 and either play three varsity sports, participate in dance at the advanced level for three seasons, or ride at the varsity level for three seasons. The scholar-athletes are announced at the end of the school year. “We felt it was important to honor those girls who have encompassed the school’s values—namely, that students should aim to be strong students as well as athletes. These girls have shown the ability to balance their academic strengths with their athletic strength,” says Director of Athletics John Monagan.
The Walker's community celebrated the opening of the Centennial Athletic Fields and Pavilion.

Two new artificial turf fields gave our field hockey and lacrosse teams a venue that ranks with the best, while two new natural turf fields provided a boost for soccer. In the spring, softball will play on a beautiful new field. A track running around the new fields is open for School and community use. The Pavilion provides restrooms, shelter from inclement weather, and faculty housing.

“At the ribbon cutting ceremony for the new fields, from left, Abigail Symes ’13; Amanda Lee ’13; Abby Reynolds ’13; Elizabeth Rockwell Cesare, Trustee Emerita; Devin Pafumi ’13; Jacinta Lomba ’13; Nicole Gregory ’13; Lynn Sheppard Manger ’59, Trustee; Donya Nagib Sabet ’90, President, Board of Trustees; Bessie Speers P’16, Head of School

“The players and I were excited this season to be playing on turf. We had many compliments from both our opponents and referees.”

Mimi Duran P’18, Assistant Athletic Director & V Field Hockey Coach
“To add two new turf fields for lacrosse and field hockey, as well as two new state-of-the-art soccer fields and a beautiful new softball field, speaks volumes as to where we are headed as a program.”

John Monagan, Athletic Director

“All the visiting coaches have commented on how beautiful the fields look and how great it is to play on the turf.”

Jennifer Pelletier, JV Field Hockey Coach

“The playing surface is the best for miles around, and our girls appreciate how fortunate they are to call this our home field. We’re looking forward to making our new field a ‘fortress.’ ”

Roger Cantello P’14, V Soccer Coach
Today’s Competitive Equestrian Program

The Ethel Walker School Equestrian Program is steeped in the School’s rich history and has been long recognized around the country as a strong program for riders. In October 2011, the School completed a barn expansion and renovation that included new stalls, windows, and lighting; brick-colored pavers throughout the barn; a new work area for farriers and veterinarians; and two large, heated wash stalls.

The new facilities are user friendly to both horse and rider, says Director of Riding Kathleen Battiston. The magnificent indoor arena was recently upgraded to include water- and dust-free footing with energy-efficient lighting. The School also has an outdoor ring, trails winding throughout 300 acres, four tack rooms, and extensive turnouts, allowing horses to relax and play.

This year, 45 girls from the Middle and Upper Schools are on the Equestrian Team. Some begin riding at Walker’s, while “some were already showing at very high levels when they enrolled,” explains Battiston. The team includes students from across the country, as well as Spain, Mexico, Sweden, and Hong Kong.

No matter their ability level, every team member becomes “a complete rider” at Walker’s through exposure to all aspects of equestrian pursuits, from equitation, hunters, jumpers, dressage, and combined training, to horse care and stable management.

Experienced student riders have a long tradition of ribboning at competitive events, including the ASPCA Maclay regionals and finals, USEF finals, Fidelity Jumper Classic, Mystic Valley Hunt Club, New England Equitation finals and the CHJA.

While highly accomplished members of the Walker’s Equestrian Team have always competed in the prestigious Wellington Horse Show in Florida as well as the Ocala circuit, this winter marks the first time riders will spend over a month training, competing, and studying in Wellington.

To offer competitive opportunities to all team members, the School participates in Interscholastic Equestrian Association (IEA) events. Because each student is assigned a horse at the event, girls without their own horses are able to compete in this show. IEA is one of the few shows in which riders are judged as a team as well as on individual performances.

On campus, students are grouped by their ability to ride in lessons three times a week. The more experienced riders, Battiston says, are quick to help and cheer on girls who are new to riding. In turn, the less-experienced riders learn by watching the lessons of the more experienced. Depending on skill level and desire, riders may also sign up for private lessons.

Every Wednesday, the team participates in ground school. This horsemanship class teaches the riders how to care for the horses, use the equipment and stalls properly, and other important aspects of riding needed to be a complete rider. Visiting speakers include veterinarians, chiropractors, farriers, and Walker’s teacher Dr. Suzanne Piela, who runs the Equine Science course.

The unique, yearlong class is an elective that encompasses anatomy and physiology, nutrition, health management, epidemiology, sports medicine, and other topics. The course enrolls students who are passionate about riding, as well as girls who are not on the Equestrian Team but are interested in veterinary science, medicine, and biology. As part of the class, students frequently go to the barn for hands-on labs.

Fueled by their love of horses, members of the team ride for fun outside of their lessons. Trail rides through the woods are one of the more popular pastimes. The girls also enjoy visiting the horses between and after classes. “They love being over here with us and their horses,” says Battiston. “There is a huge advantage to having our riding facility on our campus. The girls have the freedom to come over whenever they have time.

“Prospective students who interview and come through are very impressed by the new facility,” continues Battiston. She gives applicant-riders an in-depth tour and a lesson with one of the School’s trainers. This allows the prospective student to experience the program and see if she connects with the trainer, a key component for a competitive rider when she is looking for the right program.

The equestrian program benefits from the School’s experienced, dedicated team. Battiston oversees the entire riding program, including the Summer Riding Experience, Walker’s popular camp. Head Equestrian Trainer Hillary Rheinheimer
Rheinheimer is an accomplished rider in hunter/jumper and hunter seat equitation with extensive showing and training experience. She is a third-generation horsewoman and has been inducted into the Hall of Fame of Rollins University, where she rode competitively. She qualified for and competed in the prestigious Maclary, USET, and USEF Medal Finals, placing in the top 15 in all, and won many other competitions. She continues to compete on the circuit, which makes it easy for the girls to relate to her.

Equestrian Trainer Randi Booth is a third-generation horsewoman and has been a manager and trainer of children and adults at all levels in the hunter/jumper, equitation and eventing disciplines for the past 25 years. Barn Manager Sarah Rogers, who oversees care of the horses, has a bachelor's degree in animal science and is an experienced veterinary technician.

Riding has been an integral part of life at Walker's for over 100 years. Ethel Walker herself was an avid rider. While most of the student population does not ride, many beloved School traditions involve riding and bring the entire community together.

Family Weekend wouldn’t be complete without the annual Halloween Ride and relay race, when students and horses dress in costumes. This year, first prize in the famed costume contest was awarded to four riders who teamed up as the Princes and the Princesses: Taylor Lampert on Santiago, Phoebe Backman on Rain, Sarah Gordon on Banker, and Hannah Tuckner on Azzuro. The relay race was won by the Cowgirls who beat their opponents by a sizable margin and thrilled the spectators with their style and speed. Members of the Cowgirl team were Kristen Wrigley on Cavallino, Tori Arute on Zack, and Charlotte Gardiner on Coltrane.

The December Holiday Ride, first held in 1928, is a school favorite. The Equestrian Team dons festive attire and performs a drill around a decorated tree in the middle of the Henderson riding ring. Head of School Bessie Speers and her husband, Tom, open the festivities on horseback. Graduation ceremonies include a farewell ride by seniors, giving them one last chance to ride on the Walker’s campus before joining the ranks of alumnae.

EQUESTRIAN UPDATE

September: Grand Fall Classic
- Hannah Tuckner ’14 won the CHJA Medal.
- Savannah Barry ’14 won the 3’6” PHA Medal.

October: Princeton Jumper Classic
- Taylor Lampert ’14 took home a blue ribbon, a 2nd place, and three 6ths in the low children’s jumpers and .90 meter jumpers.
- Hannah Tuckner ’13 placed 2nd and 6th in the high children’s jumpers.
- Manuela Sanchez ’16 placed 2nd in the 1.00 meter class.
- Tori Arute ’14 had two 2nds and a 3rd in the high junior jumpers.

November: EWS places first at Fox Crossing IEA
The Walker’s IEA Equestrian Team has qualified for the Regional Finals to be held in March 2013. The team placed first at both the Fox Crossing and the EWS Show and third at Folly Farm and Avon Valley Shows. Riders ribboned strongly throughout the competitions, including many firsts.

December: Ox Ridge Horse Show
- Sarah Gordon ’14 won the NEHC, Marshall & Sterling, and CHJA Equitation Medals.
- Taylor Lampert ’14 was 6th and 8th in the schooling jumpers.
- Allegra Davis ’14, Lauren Piantadosi ’14 and Chappie Wick ’15 had strong rides at the show with their new horses.

From left, clockwise: The expanded and renovated barn, the indoor arena with water- and dust-free footing, Walker’s winners in the Fox Crossing IEA event, and Sarah Gordon ’14 and Hannah Tuckner ’14 with their horses.
On Sunday, August 26, 19 students and two faculty members left Walker’s to set up their tents in northern Maine. On Monday, they got up at three in the morning, then drove to Mount Katahdin and started their ascent to the top of the 5,268 foot peak, the tallest in the state. On Tuesday, they learned to canoe on the Penobscot River and paddled through light rapids. Wednesday saw them back on the water at 7 a.m. for another morning, including facing more difficult rapids and portaging the canoes and gear for a half mile. Thursday they arrived back on campus, eager for home-cooked meals and their own beds, but very, very proud.

Kathleen Quinlan ’16 summed up the feelings of everyone in the group when she wrote in her reflection paper, “I’ll never forget those final steps toward the peak of the mountain; they were the most painful, but I was so excited to touch the famous Katahdin sign. I felt incredibly proud. It was like I was on top of the world. This was the biggest accomplishment of my whole life.”

Each August, Mimi Duran P’18, Assistant Athletic Director and Varsity Field Hockey coach, organizes a team-building activity for the Upper School players. This year she arranged for the group to go on a wilderness adventure led by instructors from the Chewonki Foundation.

Duran’s goal is that these experiences will lead to a better understanding of the mental and physical challenges individual athletes and the team face on the playing field. Prior trips have included high ropes courses, the Adventure Team Challenge, and sea kayaking.

“They’re out of their comfort zones on these trips. They take home lessons they’ve learned about themselves that they can apply on the field and in life,” says Duran. Succeeding in a sport, she says, “is not all about a stick and a ball.”

Another result of these trips is that the athletes see their coaches differently. “They see that we have the same mental and physical challenges that they are experiencing. So when they’re on the playing field and struggling, they know we understand what it means to be apprehensive, to be pushed, and to persevere,” she says.

“This year’s trip brought expected challenges, such as building a campfire, and the unexpected, including portaging canoes full of gear. The climb up Mount Katahdin was less of a hike and more of a scramble on rock than many had anticipated. Rain poured on the tents that night. On the canoe trip one of the boats tipped over, although no one was hurt and no gear was lost.

Despite—or maybe because of—the challenges, the trip forged close bonds among the students. “I learned patience and persistence, I learned determination and execution, and I learned pushing my limits and the beginning of how to be a successful captain. I discovered a lot about our team as well. I am very proud that no one ever gave up, and we all have a new-found trust in each other,” wrote Devin Pafumi, ’13.

“The trip helped to build our team’s sense of community. We learned to work together and pull our own weight. I think it was healthy because there were no electronics, so we had to stay together.”

—Nicole Gregory ’13

“I Felt Incredibly Proud”

Upper School field hockey players challenged themselves on a team-building trip to Maine and learned what they can do on the playing field.

“The hardest part of the trip for me was climbing Katahdin. Although my legs were like jelly on the way back to camp, the most rewarding part of the trip was looking down over what seemed like the whole world.”

—Nellie Speers ’16
“Sometimes in varsity field hockey you think you can’t go on, mentally or physically. You have to realize that for those last 30 minutes you can give it your all. We did it at Chewonki, so we can do it at field hockey!”

—Abigail Symes ’13

“I learned that the team is a very powerful force. It was important for us to be together through the whole four days, experiencing each other in our successes and disappointments. I think it set the tone for the season.”

—Kate Richardson ’14

“I’ve taken students on this kind of trip for years, and this particular experience was by far the best I’ve shared with my teams. This climb occurred exactly 22 years to the day since I had last summited Katahdin. I wanted to share this effort with these girls, and I couldn’t have done it this time without their help.”

—Coach Mimi Duran P’18
The Art & Athleticism of Dance

Dance is both art and athletics. As an art form, dancers study creating, learning, and executing movement to produce live art. As a rigorous physical activity, dance is part of the athletics program, with dancers training five days a week. Dance Director Cheri Soule explains that the technical side of dance is an individual activity, requiring dedication and discipline. Then the dancers must come together as a team with each student dancing her best and opening herself up to the vision of the choreographer.

Dance classes, open to all students each season, cover ballet, pointe, modern, and jazz, with guest artists teaching other styles. Dancers are placed in one of three companies based on their level of ability; the companies perform in several concerts each year. Middle School students have dance as part of their weekly schedule to prepare them for the rigors of the Upper School dance program, should they choose to audition for one of the companies. The existing dance studio features expansive views of the new athletic fields. Plans for the Centennial Center include expanding the dedicated dance space to two large dance studios as well as a warm-up studio.
WALKER’S & ATHLETICS

Field Hockey
• Kestrel Thorne-Kaunelis ’15 and Alexis King ’17 were named to the Connecticut Independent School Athletic Conference (CISAC) All League.

Soccer
• Tara Patrina ’13 and Abigail Reynolds ’13 received honorable mention to the CISAC All League.

Volleyball
• Helen Clement ’13 and Mari Arico ’13 were named New England All-Stars.

Athletic Choices at Walker’s

Interscholastic Teams
• Basketball (V, JV, MS)
• Cross Country (V)
• Field Hockey (V, JV, MS)
• Golf (V)
• Lacrosse (V, JV, MS)
• Skiing (V)
• Soccer (V, JV, MS)
• Softball (V, JV, MS)
• Squash (V)
• Swimming (V)
• Tennis (V, JV)
• Volleyball (V, JV, MS)

Other Teams
• Dance
• Riding

Fitness & Health
• Personal Fitness
• Integrative Yoga
• Outdoor Adventure

HIGHLIGHTS

From left, Leander Dolphin ’95, Cerra Cardwell ’02, Rebecca Sherlock-Shangraw ’99, Margaret “Meg” Filoon ’81, and Tracy Himmel Isham ’85

Alumnae Perspectives Tackles Title IX

On November 10, the Alumnae Board hosted its annual Alumnae Perspectives Panel on campus for juniors and seniors. Spearheaded and moderated by Tracy Himmel Isham ’85, this year’s panel included four alumnae speaking on the Title IX legislation. Cerra Cardwell ’02, Leander Altifois Dolphin ’95, Margaret “Meg” Filoon ’81 and Rebecca Sherlock-Shangraw ’99 each shared their respective stories from sports to education and employment matters. The panel sparked myriad questions from the students and a rich dialog, making this year’s Alumnae Perspectives a resounding success.

Title IX Tackles the Issues and Challenges for Girls’ Sports

Tackles Title IX

On November 10, the Alumnae Board hosted its annual Alumnae Perspectives Panel on campus for juniors and seniors. Spearheaded and moderated by Tracy Himmel Isham ’85, this year’s panel included four alumnae speaking on the Title IX legislation. Cerra Cardwell ’02, Leander Altifois Dolphin ’95, Margaret “Meg” Filoon ’81 and Rebecca Sherlock-Shangraw ’99 each shared their respective stories from sports to education and employment matters. The panel sparked myriad questions from the students and a rich dialog, making this year’s Alumnae Perspectives a resounding success.
A Passion for Excellent Writing

“We’re not after perfection in writing. We’re after excellence,” says Roger Cantello P’14, chair of the English Department. “When I read a student’s essay and I’m pulled along, and I don’t have to pause and ask what is she doing or search for her meaning, that is excellent writing.”

Excellence in writing is a passion Cantello brings to his classes, along with a love of literature. His goals are to inspire his students to express their thoughts clearly in writing and to understand what great authors can teach readers.

Writing at Walker’s is intertwined with literature. At each grade level, the English faculty pair writing and reading to teach girls the joys of experiencing great literature and expressing their own thoughts on paper.

“We value literature for what it can teach us about ourselves and life in general,” Cantello says. Analytic essays often focus on the themes of the literature a class is reading. Writing is a way for students to get powerful insights into the themes. We are looking for the girls to find meaning from the text, what the author meant us take from the work.

“We try to help girls develop an authentic voice. Clearly articulating their own thoughts in writing is the hardest thing they have to do in school. By the end of the year I want to be able to identify whose writing I am reading without a name on the paper.”

The English curriculum teaches a student the writing process, including grammar, and the importance of producing content that expresses exactly what she wants to say. Cantello says that he appreciates how small classes allow him to sit one on one with each student and ask, “Is this what you really mean to say?”

The department, Cantello explains, values a student’s courage to stand behind her words and her perseverance as she revises her writing. “We want her to know that her voice is valued and respected.” The sequential Middle and Upper School curriculum includes many opportunities for students to develop their skills writing essays, poetry, short stories, and other genres.

The English Curriculum

The English curriculum focuses on the teaching of literature and composition. Our first concern in composition is for each student to express herself in a clear, straightforward style and find her authentic voice, qualities we consistently emphasize in both analytical and personal expressive writing in every grade. We maintain that correct grammar usage and the acquisition of vocabulary remain as important as ever, so their study is embedded in every course. At the same time, we acquaint students with major cultural and aesthetic movements of literature, both classic and contemporary, throughout America and the world, paying particular attention to the voices of women and of minority writers.

— Excerpted from The Curriculum Guide 2012-2013

Galbraith Chair Named

History Department Chair Roger Cantello P’14 has been named the Natalie Galbraith Chair, which recognizes a member of the humanities faculty for distinguished performance in the classroom and contributions to the life of the School.

Grades 6 and 7

Ancient and Modern Cultures

This course coordinates with the curriculum in the History Department to capitalize on cross-curricular opportunities in the humanities.

• Grade 6: Literature choices focus on the themes of growing up and emerging into society. Texts may include Tom Sawyer, Jacob Have I Loved, and A Midsummer Night’s Dream. Students have many opportunities to write about their own experiences.

• Grade 7: Students read challenging texts that may include To Kill a Mockingbird, The House on Mango Street, and Romeo and Juliet. Frequent writing assignments are of varied lengths and types.

Grade 8

English 8

Students are encouraged to further develop their creative and critical skills in response to literature and in preparation for secondary school. Texts may include Jane Eyre, Ethan Frome, Our Town, The Glass Menagerie, and Twelfth Night.
Mari Arico ’13, one of Cantello’s students, is excited by the many opportunities she has to express herself. “You see what you can create with your own mind on paper,” Arico says.

At each grade students are prepared for their next level at Walker’s, both in the development of their writing skills and their understanding of the literature they read. Middle School graduates are, in Cantello’s words, “very well prepared for ninth-grade work.” And Walker’s graduates are equally ready for college-level assignments. “When alumnae come back the year after graduating, they all say they’re extremely well prepared in English,” he says.

The advent of the digital age has if anything increased the importance of excellence in writing, Cantello explains. “The power of language and those who can manipulate it will only become more important. Women are learning to get the say in the world they deserve. They need to be able to stand up and be heard and change things.”

Cantello has introduced what he calls, “the roving essay,” for which a girl chooses her own topic. “Sometimes this is the first time a girl has been given the freedom to write about anything,” he says. In his classes students bring copies of their essays without names on them to class, where they are read by other students, who provide encouragement and nonjudgmental criticism. Peer review also strengthens girls’ ability to judge their own work.

Halfway through the junior year the English Department coordinates with the College Counseling Office to turn the roving essay into a college-type essay. This gives girls the opportunity to experiment with possible topics for their college applications. The English faculty also works closely with the History Department to coordinate the two departments’ approaches to writing in each grade, with history classes providing instruction on research methods.

Cantello, who came to Walker’s 13 years ago, attended Hampton Grammar School (now named Hampton School) in London. The school was founded in 1557. After receiving a degree in medieval English literature and art from the University of Exeter, he worked in the aviation industry for 10 years. When he and his wife immigrated to the United States, Cantello turned his professional focus to teaching. He received a master’s degree in education from the University of Southern Maine and then taught at Portland (Maine) High School. At Walker’s he also serves as the varsity soccer coach.

Like many English teachers, Cantello has a personal writing project he is passionate about. He began keeping a daily journal more than 17 years ago, when he made the decision to move to the United States. Since then, he has written about every important event in his life, adding photos and other visual elements to his journal to create a record of each milestone.

**Grade 9**

*The Self and Beyond (also offered as an honors course)*

Students move from their own perspective to the perspectives of others. Literature includes *The Catcher in the Rye*, *Their Eyes Were Watching God*, *The Odyssey*, a Shakespearean comedy, short stories, and poems.

**Grade 10**

*American Literature: The Individual in Society (also offered as an honors course)*

Students examine individuality by reading *The Great Gatsby*, *Huckleberry Finn*, poetry, essays, and contemporary short fiction. *Macbeth* is read to continue exposure to Shakespeare. Writing assignments are supplemented by a reading journal.

**Grade 11**

*Love, Power, and Revenge (also offered as an honors course)*

Students read classic and contemporary texts, including poetry, short stories, *Hamlet*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, and novels such as 1984, *Pride and Prejudice*, *The Mayor of Casterbridge*, *Frankenstein*, and *Atonement*.

**Grade 12**

*Advanced Placement English Literature*

Students write frequent analytical essays according to exacting standards of depth and style. Texts may include *King Lear*, *Gulliver’s Travels*, *Tess of the D’Urbervilles*, *Hedda Gabler*, *A Streetcar Named Desire*, *Song of Solomon*, and poetry.

*English Electives*

Summer Reading Revisited
A New Program to Better Engage Students & Build School Community
BY DEAN WENDY ALLENTON P’16

Innovation is about doing things differently, so in the winter of 2012, Department Chairs began a discussion about revamping our summer reading program to make it more enjoyable and meaningful for all teachers and students. Led by Roger Cantello’s insightful perspectives, an idea grew into a new program intended to better engage students and build school community.

Faculty of all departments were invited to recommend books for the summer reading list. Math and Science teachers were some of the first to suggest titles, and the final list was a tapestry reflecting all disciplines in our community. Summer reading suddenly involved everyone.

Students were engaged through technology and digital channels. We created a blog containing a list of the summer reading titles. To keep our community, which stretches to all corners of the globe during the summer, connected, each student had to write a minimum of three blog posts per book.

The results were extraordinary. Teachers who had recommended books were checking the blogs and joining in the digital conversations. New posts would generate 10-15 responses within minutes. Upper Schoolers were connecting with Middle Schoolers, old girls with new girls, and faculty with everyone.

The program was so successful that other schools are inquiring about how to replicate it.

Excerpts from an online conversation between Allie Harris ’13 and Isabel Beeman ’16 about Wuthering Heights

Allie July 15: “Although I am not very far in this novel, I think Catherine should have followed her heart and married Heathcliff rather than only considering what she could make of the marriage, and marrying Edgar. It is obvious that neither was very happy with the outcome.”

Isabel July 19: “I am on Chapter 19, and I absolutely adore it. Although it is sometimes frustrating that the only thing that stood in the way of Catherine and Heathcliff’s love was themselves, I cannot help but pine alongside the main characters, hoping for their happiness in the end. I was quite frustrated with Cathy when she first decided to marry Edgar, but as a young woman I can at least understand what she was thinking. Cathy thought that what would make her happy was marrying a stable, kind man who was tolerable to her and sophisticated.”

Allie July 26: “I honestly hope that you have finished this novel, because I’ve been waiting days to post this! Just like you said, I was hoping that Catherine and Heathcliff would end up together. It was odd that I would not have minded if they had affairs or abandoned their families to end up together. I suppose my abundance of hope led me to believe that there could be a ‘happily ever after’ ending for the couple.”

Isabel August 8: “I have now finished, and I can honestly say that it is my new favorite novel. I cannot help but wonder though how much more the reader would learn of the complexities of their relationship if the book was told from either Cathy or Heathcliff’s point of view. I was quite skeptical about how much of the truth was altered by Nelly’s opinion of Heathcliff. Also, being inside the head of the characters that were directly involved might cultivate a better understanding of their love for many readers.”
How Do I ...?
Similes & Metaphors & Learning to Love Reading

BY CAROL CLARK-FLANAGAN P'93, '97, 10TH GRADE ENGLISH TEACHER

My passion for language and books serves me well in the classroom, but it can be a slow process encouraging girls who are not readers to engage with a book. I have tried all sorts of lures. This summer I was reading *How Do I Love You?*, a children's book I had bought for my grandson who, at 10 months, is literally devouring books. I bought it because of the obvious reference to Elizabeth Barrett Browning's sonnet, "How do I love thee? Let me count the ways." I was immediately enthralled; I love the surprise contained in metaphors and similes. I particularly love both the playfulness and tight structure of an extended metaphor.

Why not have my 10th graders begin the year by writing children's books, using similes and metaphors? They would illustrate their books themselves, either drawing freehand or using an app on their iPads. So I read *How Do I Love You?* to them. We watched a music video of Tim McGraw and Faith Hill singing *I Need You*, a song replete with similes. The only instructions: their books had to have an overarching message or theme, every page had to contain a simile or metaphor, and there could not be any typos.

My goal was for the girls to publish their books digitally. Their books were shared with Walker's faculty and staff, the student body, and two teachers at the Cobb School, Montessori across the street. Everyone was encouraged to post comments about the individual books. This was a different kind of feedback than students usually receive, and it mattered to the 10th graders. The Montessori teachers chose five books for their lower elementary students to hear, and the authors of those books went to Cobb to read their stories to the children. Now the Cobb children will visit Walker's to learn how to create the books.

Our next step is for the stories to be translated into many languages. Beyond Spanish, French, Chinese, and Latin, which are taught at Walker’s, we hope to have our students from the 15 countries at school translate their favorites into their native language. In my 10th-grade English sections, I have girls from Spain, Germany, Sweden, China, Afghanistan, and Somalia.

Do these girls like reading more because they have written a children's book? No. Do they understand that I expect them to be creative and simultaneously pay close attention to details? I hope so. Does holding their work up to public scrutiny allow me to hold their feet to the fire? Absolutely, and that, hopefully, will help set the tone for the year.

*Thank you to Art Teacher Liss Couch-Edwards '07, who taught students to use InDesign publishing software, and to Web Presence Manager Tyler Varsell, who helped them with postproduction.*
Each year, the Daemon Club continues the long-established tradition of publishing the student literary and art publication, which showcases the best student writing, photography, and art. Shown here are examples from the most recent issue, the first to be published only on the Internet. To see the complete issue, along with other Walker's publications, visit http://www.ethelwalker.org/news-calendar/publications.

Charlotte Smart Rogan ’71 shared her love for telling stories and for the well-chosen word with students for two days in September when she served as a guest English teacher. She inspired students to follow their passions as she did when she wrote her critically acclaimed first novel, The Lifeboat, which was published in the spring. Rogan urged students to think of themselves as writers in every endeavor and “to use the full extent of our language, to its capacity.”

Walker’s juniors and seniors, along with all faculty members, read The Lifeboat as part of the Summer Reading Program, making Rogan’s visit all the more anticipated. During her visit she discussed the novel and talked about her motivation for writing. Inspiration for The Lifeboat came from an old criminal law text and Rogan’s childhood experiences among a family of sailors. Set in 1914, the novel is the story of a young woman who survives a shipwreck, only to be put on trial for her actions while aboard a lifeboat.

Rogan graduated from Princeton University in 1975 and then worked at various jobs, mostly in architecture and engineering, before teaching herself to write and staying home to raise her triplets. After living for many years in Dallas and a year in Johannesburg, Rogan and her husband now live in Westport, Connecticut.
History Teacher Ken Poppe received a $5,000 grant from the Innovation in Civics Education Program of the Boston-based Stanton Foundation. The grant funded an exciting program of guest faculty in his American Government course this fall. The course is offered every other year during national elections. The History Department also spent grant funds to purchase DVDs, books, and equipment to enhance its ability to use Skype.

Visits from eight women who are active in the political process brought the real world to the classroom. These speakers inspired students to think differently about politics and consider what roles they could play in public life. More speakers may visit during the second semester.

“One of the themes of this year’s government course is the role and status of women in the political arena. I invited women who represent academia, nonprofit organizations, and elected officials who can serve as role models and encourage activism in the political process,” Poppe explains.

The series began with Dr. Kaaryn Gustafson, professor at UConn Law School and an expert on the American welfare system, who gave students a nuanced view of the controversial subject. “Dr. Gustafson inspired me to think about welfare in a new light,” says Kate Richardson ’14.

Cary Wheaton, Executive Director of Billings Forge Community Works, brought the perspective of community activism to the problems of poverty and homelessness. “Cary Wheaton’s compassion to help people is contagious. I loved listening to her talk about her goal to eliminate poverty and homelessness,” Meg Schoenholz ’14 says. Walker’s is a partner with Billings Forge, a nonprofit focusing on affordable housing in Hartford, and the town of Simsbury in the Community Farm of Simsbury.

Simsbury First Selectman Mary Glassman spoke about her unexpected start in politics, the importance of championing education for all citizens, and the challenges of being a woman in a male-dominated field. She encouraged students to be confident in the choices they make and “to find the strength to believe in what is right,” even when they are surrounded by opposition.

Patti Russo, Director of the Yale Women’s Campaign School, discussed the evolution of political campaigns and the importance of women taking on leadership roles in their communities. She explained that women tend to not run simply because they are not asked. “If you feel this is your passion, you just have to get out there and say it,” advised Russo, whose organization trains women for the world of politics.

Linda Schofield, Simsbury State Representative, discussed important laws enacted in recent years and explained why she entered politics and why she is retiring after six years. Her visit was followed by that of Stefanie Chambers, Professor of Political Science at Trinity College, who spoke about women’s suffrage and the Equal Rights Amendment.

A visit from lobbyist Betty Gallo provided a different perspective. Gallo explained the regulations pertaining to lobbyists and how her firm, Betty Gallo and Company: Advocates for Social Justice, works for nonprofit clients at the Connecticut General Assembly. Finally, the class used Skype to speak from a distance with Kelly Dittmar, Research Associate at the Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University. Dittmar assessed the status of women in the political world as a result of the 2012 elections.

Another highlight was a school-wide program of voter registration and voting. All students, faculty, and staff were encouraged to register to vote in the 2012 EWS presidential election as part of the class’s study of the Obama-Romney race and the Murphy-McMahon Senate race. As Paige Williams-Rivera ’13 says, “Civic responsibility begins with our community, so we can then go out into the world and get involved.”
Innovation in Brief

Blended Learning Environments

Walker’s new course, *South Africa and the United States: Historical Parallels*, an elective for grades 11 and 12, was innovative in many ways. The curriculum, which focused on social activism, conflict resolution, and civic engagement, was developed and taught by a team. The Walker’s faculty members were Director of Equity and Social Justice Sheri Schmidt and Admissions Counselor Alice Mann. They worked with Caryn Stedman, the International Baccalaureate Coordinator Chair of the Metropolitan Learning Center for International and Global Studies (MLC) in Bloomfield, and Phoebe Milliken of the Plowshares Institute of Simsbury. The institute works globally to create a more just, peaceful, and sustainable world.

The course also blended online learning, traditional class time, and a two-week immersion trip. Eight Walker’s students, along with a group of peers from MLC, spent nine weeks during the summer studying together in an intensive online learning experience. In the early fall, the two groups met for four workshops to prepare for a two-week trip to South Africa in November. During the trip students met with government leaders, economists, activists, teachers, and students. They participated in team-building activities with South African and Zimbabwean youth and engaged in open conversation about conflict, hoping to foster conversations between the two groups.

The U.S. group also explored the Kgawasane Nature Reserve, learning about the need to balance agricultural land with ecological conservation and tourism revenue. In addition, the American students and teachers visited courts, schools, museums, markets, and homes. One highlight of the trip for everyone was meeting retired Archbishop Desmond Tutu, the social rights activist who was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for his work against apartheid.

The summer issue of *The SunDial* will include more extensive coverage of the course and the trip to South Africa.

Archbishop Desmond Tutu surrounded by students and faculty from Walker’s and the Metropolitan Learning Center for International and Global Studies in Bloomfield
Faces of the Dean's Office

From left, Brock Dunn P'19, Dean of Students; Mallory Green, Assistant to the Dean's Office; Wendy Allerton P'16, Dean of Middle School, Upper School and Faculty; and Emily Cole-Chu '00, Associate Dean of Students and Director of Resident Life. The expanded team in the Dean’s Office has developed new leadership training for the Big 7 and Proctors, begun work on a leadership retreat, and strengthened support for teachers and house faculty. It is not only the students who are benefiting from the use of iPads; their use allows for ease of attendance taking and frees Dean’s Office administrators to be out of the office more, interacting with students and faculty each day.

Teaching 21st-Century Skills

Walker’s faculty members made a presentation about the ninth-grade seminar at the September symposium Building 21st-Century Skills, hosted by Westminster School in Simsbury. Sarah Edson, Carol Clark-Flanagan P’93, ’97, Joan Skelly, Mary Beth Conley, Priscilla Jackson P’02, and Dr. Sheri Schmidt described how the four courses within the Ninth-Grade Seminar empower students to lead with confidence, courage, and conviction. The Public Speaking course teaches girls how to speak up more effectively; in the Inclusive Leadership course students learn how to create change for social justice; the Technology: Managing Your Digital Footprint course focuses on thriving as digital citizens; and the Wellness: Building Emotional Resilience course builds personal understanding and emotional strength. The symposium brought together more than 150 teachers from 28 area institutions.

Mentoring Girls’ School Leaders

Head of School Bessie Speers P’16 served as a faculty member for the annual Leadership Seminar of the National Association of Principals of Schools for Girls (NAPSG), held at Miss Porter’s School. Speers said, “It was especially inspiring to witness the caliber of talent within this group of 40 women, each of whom is making a difference in her school. Encouraging, mentoring, and positioning these women and Walker’s students to lead is important,” Speers says, because The White House Project reports that women are 57 percent of all college students, but only 26 percent of full professors and 23 percent of university presidents. At Fortune 500 companies only 3 percent of CEOs are women.

Education Innovation Summit

From left, LeeAnn Harris P’13, Carol Clark-Flanagan P’93, ’97, Sarah Edson, and Matt Bavone attended the third annual Education Innovation Summit, Everybody’s Children: Independent Schools, Educational Reform, and the Future of Teaching, held at Hathaway Brown School in Cleveland in October. They joined teachers and administrators from independent, public, private, parochial, and charter schools across the country. The summit focused on how to improve education for the good of all children in the United States.

Sarah Edson speaks about the digital footprint portion of the Ninth-Grade Seminar. Also on stage are, from left, Carol Clark-Flanagan P’93, ’97, Joan Skelly, Mary Beth Conley, Priscilla Jackson P’02, and Dr. Sheri Schmidt.
Summer Programs on Campus

This past summer over 200 students from grades 1-10 explored their unique interests and talents. These energetic and excited students created art, deepened their riding or athletic skills, learned about American culture while improving their English, developed their own video games, or honed their chess skills.

Students at The Summer Arts Academy chose a main concentration from music, dance, theatre, ceramics, painting and drawing, and digital arts and three electives each week. The theme of SAA this year was the “Art of the Olympics,” with every week exploring a different continent’s arts and culture. Each session ended with an open arts day when students were able to show their families all they accomplished and learned.

Once again The Summer Riding Experience offered a safe, comprehensive, and enjoyable program for riders of all ability levels, assisting them in developing self-confidence and good horsemanship skills. At SRE, riders learned elements of equitation, jumping, dressage, and cross country.

New this year was the Global Girls Academy, an intensive English language and American culture immersion program, which brought girls ages 12-16 from around the world to live on campus. Girls were introduced to a new curriculum that explored American history through the eyes of the women who lived it.

Tennis, lacrosse, and field hockey players played hard and learned new skills at their respective summer programs on campus.

Summer@Walker’s Programs

Also at Walker’s this summer were a wide variety of educational programs that used school facilities. For the first time, USA Chess, the largest and premier chess camp organizer for children in the United States, brought Chess Camp to Summer@Walker’s. Students improved their skills in a fun-filled environment while learning strategies and earning trophies for their chess accomplishments.

During Game and Animation Creation Camp avid gamers learned how to build a game that they designed in a step-by-step progression. Using Scratch software developed by MIT, instructors guided participants through animation basics so they could create their own 3D-animated stories and games.
6th Graders Participate in Citizenship Ceremony

On September 17, Walker’s sixth graders celebrated Constitution Day with a trip to Hartford, where they witnessed a naturalization ceremony from the jury box. After the new citizens were sworn in, the students led the courtroom in the Pledge of Allegiance and then presented each of the 50 people with a small American flag. After the ceremony, the judge introduced the students to the layout of the courtroom and elements of the judicial process.

Corporate America Takes Lessons from Suns & Dials

The most successful companies understand the value of their people and reward them beyond paychecks and benefits. They strive for employee engagement and train and develop their employees continuously. Recently, Aetna came to Walker’s to learn more about the Suns and Dials. The uniqueness of our spirit clubs and the enthusiasm on the part of all Walker’s community members, past and present, for their beloved Suns and Dials struck a chord with the company. A team toured the campus and listened to students and staff members talk about the rich tradition, the badge of honor, and the spirited play between the two teams.

Initiative for the Environment

In October Abra’s stopped offering disposable cups, thanks to the forward thinking of seniors Kelly Dyson and Abigail Symes. As part of their Environmental Science course the two lobbied the Walker’s Board of Director last April to eliminate the plastic cups and instead distribute school water bottles to everyone on campus. The students were spurred by their study of ocean health and the damage done by plastics in the environment.

Guest Visits Modern Cultures Class

Middle School History teacher Brooke Haynes’ dad shared his experiences of traveling in Africa and climbing Mt. Kilimanjaro with his daughter’s seventh-grade Modern Cultures class.
Opening Days

As always, the opening days of school resounded with greetings, hugs, and laughter. A sense of excitement and promise was in the air as the innovative Week of Welcome (WOW) introduced new students to the school and prepared them for a successful year, with the help of student orientation leaders.

"Over the past nine months, we worked to revamp our orientation program for new students to help ensure they feel part of our community from the first moment they step onto campus. We planned, recruited and trained old girls as orientation leaders, prepared materials, and executed the week," said Assistant Head of School Stephen Dunn. "New students and their families were smiling and enjoying the activities. I have received many comments from faculty about how prepared new students are in classes and settled into the Walker’s world."

Among new girls on campus for orientation, athletes attending pre-season sessions athletics, and old girls returning to school, good cheer was evident in all corners of campus as the old and new girls competed in a school-wide scavenger hunt and Spirit Field Day. The week culminated in the Opening Day Chapel and student-faculty banquet.

Sara Hendershot, a Simsbury native who rowed in the 2012 Olympics, delivered an inspirational address at the Chapel. “My advice to all of you would be to use this year to get to know yourself. This is the time to do it. Find something that you love, and push yourself to master it as well as you can. If you never push your own limits, you will have no idea how far you can go,” she said.

Clockwise, from top left, Sara Hendershot, 2012 Summer Olympian; opening banquet; Molly Codeanne '17 and Olivia Sica ’17; new girls and orientation leaders
ON CAMPUS & BEYOND

The State of Women 2012
Six students attended the State of Women 2012 event and the Youth Forum Girls Dinner of The Connecticut Forum. Walker’s was a sponsor of the October event, which included a showing of *Wonder Women! The Untold Story of American Superheroines*. Attendees were Samantha Gonzales ’13, Emillee O’Brien ’14, Stephanie Sponzo ’14, Jacinta Lomba ’13, Stephanie Cruz ’13, and Coriene Smith ’13.

National Merit Commended Student
Chelsea Regan ’13 was recognized as a Commended Student in the 2013 National Merit Scholarship Program, one of about 34,000 nationwide. Commended Students placed among the top 5 percent of more than 1.5 million students who entered the 2013 competition by taking the 2011 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test.
ON CAMPUS & BEYOND

International Day Brings Letters

October 11 was the first United Nations International Day of the Girl, which coincided with the delivery of letters from students at the St. Katherine’s School in Uganda. Two thousand young women of middle and high school age, many of them former child soldiers, live at the all-girls’ school. Last spring, the Walker’s Class of 2014 wrote and decorated letters to the Ugandan students. The replies were hand-delivered by Dr. John Woodall, founder and director of the Unity Project, a resilience learning system that works in schools in Uganda. Walker’s students plan to continue the correspondence.

The Power of Images

Walker’s students teamed up with students from Avon Old Farms School on October 21 to present a workshop about the impact of media images of women. The program, attended by students from Walker’s, AOF, and Miss Porter’s School, gave students a chance to speak openly about the pressure girls face to conform to the media’s increasingly unattainable standards of beauty.

Bonding over Chinese Food

Every year Chinese teacher Qi Yang and the Middle School Garden Club cook together at his house, topping Chinese noodles with garden grown veggies prepped by the girls. This year Cheyenne Watts taught the girls Chinese phrases appropriate for a dinner gathering.

Renowned Special Olympian Loretta Claiborne visited campus to share her inspiring life story and message of compassion and understanding with the Walker’s community.

A spirited game of Capture the Flag left Dean of Students Brock Dunn P’19 nursing an injured arm. The game with students and faculty children took place soon after Hurricane Sandy passed through the area, while school was still closed.

A decorated letter from Sajia ’15 of St. Katherine’s School in Uganda
Middle School Club Raises Chickens

The Middle School Garden Club built a chicken coop on campus and has been gathering eggs from its own chickens. They have used the eggs in baking and cooking on campus, as shown here, given them to a food pantry, or sold them to help pay for chicken feed and equipment.

Elizabeth Sherlock ’01 Spoke at Memorial Chapel

Challenging students to consider what they are seeking in life, Elizabeth Sherlock ’01 said, “Where are you today, this moment? What are you seeking? As you go on with your day, I challenge you simply to sit with the question: Are you seeking life with a capital ‘L,’ full life, abundant life? If not, then why not?” Sherlock is a graduate of the Harvard Divinity School.

Students Recognized for Academic and Civic Achievement

During Morning Meeting on Monday, November 12, Madeline Ross ’18 and Yiru Zhong ’13 were presented with the Student of Merit award, given at the end of each quarter to recognize good academic performance and citizenship.

Embarking on Junior/Senior Project

Taylor Lampert ’14, shown here with mini horse, Rio, begins work on her Jr/Sr Project.

Cynthia Anderson Barker ’72 Gives Chapel Talk

Cynthia Anderson Barker ’72, a civil rights attorney in Los Angeles, told the Walker’s community about her work helping the people of El Salvador in their struggle to receive basic human rights. She is an associate at the Working People’s Law Center. Her practice focuses on improving conditions in prisons for adults and youths.
ON CAMPUS & BEYOND

Mock Presidential Election

Walker’s held a school-wide mock presidential election on November 6. Overall, 240 votes were cast, representing about 74 percent of the school population, which is considerably higher than the average national voter turnout.

Physics class borrows bikes for a velocity lesson.

Bessie Speers rides out of Morning Meeting, where the bikes were presented as gifts to the student body.

A Group of Parents Has Created the Initiative “Random Acts of Kindness”: Bikes Donated for Student Use

Students are using bicycles to get around campus, donated anonymously by a Walker’s parent. Pictured on bikes, from left, Susan Vanaria P’14, Renée Alexander P’13, and Kristen Arnold P’14, ’15.

Extreme Makeover for a Cause

The 10th grade class is continuing efforts begun last year to provide support for children battling cancer. Last year, the class took on a project to make over the bedroom of a 15-year-old girl from Hartford County, including the design of the room, shopping for furniture, bedding, and accessories, fundraising for the project, and the makeover itself. The students were paired with Connecticut Children’s Medical Center and Art From the Heart, a part of Circle of Care, an organization that supports families who have a child with cancer. This year, the class is continuing its mission to work to positively affect the lives of these children.

THE SUNDAJ
ON CAMPUS & BEYOND

Experimenting with Rockets

Sophomores through seniors in physics teacher Dolan Patrick’s class set off their own, homemade rockets. Students observed how these rockets work and then designed their own experiments. One group tested the effect of fins on the rocket body, a second tested the volume of water added to the rocket, and the third tested what kind of bottle was most effective. The groups published their experiments on a Google sites page.

Halloween on Campus

Costumes added to the merriment of the day.

10th Anniversary

The Middle School show was traditionally a one-act play in Little Ferg. In 2003, the full-length musical *A Little Princess* was chosen and performed in Ferguson. The revival of *A Little Princess* this year marks the 10th anniversary of this series of main stage productions that are highly anticipated by the Walker’s community and beyond.

First Snowfall on Campus

An early storm turned the campus white.

Poem of Thanks

Letitia McClure Potter ’55, P’85, Trustee Emerita, read a poem during Thanksgiving Vespers.
Family Weekend 2012

The energy and enthusiastic spirit of 260 parents and students was palpable on campus during Family Weekend. Families travelled from near and far to attend, some from homes as distant as China, Spain, Mexico, Korea, Hawaii, California, Texas, and Florida. Smiling faces could be seen everywhere as students showed their parents around school, introduced them to faculty, dined in Abra’s, and participated in other festive fall activities.

Highlights from the weekend included parents observing how iPad technology is used in the classroom; connecting with other parents at The Ethel Walker School Parents Association (EWSPA) Reception; watching the spooky Halloween ride, compliments of the Equestrian Team, which featured horses and riders in costumes, and fiercely competitive athletic games.

Kathleen Battiston, Director of Riding, Bessie Speers P’16, Head of School, Hillary Rheinheimer, Head Trainer, pause to smile for the camera before the Halloween Ride. Hannah Tuckner ’14 prepares for the Halloween Ride.

Shae Clark ’17 enjoys class with her mom. Allie Leidt ’13 with her parents hard at work in science class.

Bessie and Tom Speers welcome parents to campus.
“Make Real Live Friends Here”

DURING FAMILY WEEKEND, DEAN OF STUDENTS BROCK DUNN P'19 GAVE A REMARKABLE ADDRESS ABOUT THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN INTERNET FRIENDS AND REAL FRIENDS. HIS TALK IS EXCERPTED HERE.

Here’s the problem with the Internet. No. Scratch that. We’ll be here all day.

Here’s a problem with the Internet. Friends. Facebook friends. Twitter followers. Instamethingorother fans. Google plus pals. LinkedIn? What the heck is LinkedIn? When I was a kid, linked in was how you kept angry dogs in the back yard.

Cyberfriends? I know people who claim to have hundreds and hundreds of electronic friends and followers. Really? Is your mom’s cousin in Cleveland actually a FRIEND? Are Internet friends even real? Let’s face it, there is not a person in this room who believes Snooki has two million friends.

Are any of the people on those lists really friends? The people who “like” you on the Internet? Will they be there when you REALLY need them? When you're really in a jam? When you really need some help? Some advice? Some love? You know, when you’re in jail, you get a phone call . . . not a tweet.

You all have an opportunity to make some real friends here. Every moment of every day a new opportunity presents itself. Ask the adults in the room about their best friends, and they’ll tell you they met them in high school. I sure did. Mine was and is a guy named Bull. He’s been my best friend since the day I met him, which as it turns out was in high school. My children hang out with his. Our wives are friends. Our families spend holidays together. The last time I actually gave a speech was as the best man at his wedding.

Friendship! Real friends. Not some prince from some far away land who will send you gold bricks when you send along your mom’s credit card info.

Let’s get the media out of social and just be social. Old school friending. Start with a “hello.” It’s like a poke . . . only in person. Reach out. Take a chance. You could make a friend for life.

The Monica to your Rachel.
The Thelma to your Louise.

A recent Mayo Clinic report on friendship points out that social networking relationships don’t translate into larger offline networks or closer offline relationships.

So turn off your laptops. Log out of your iPad. Mute your iPhone17. And friend someone in person. Make real live friends here.
Walker’s Supports The Cure

Play for the Cure Volleyball

When Varsity Volleyball played a Saturday night game against Canterbury, the Walker’s community contributed baked goods sold by students during the game to raise money for The Cure. A large crowd cheered on the Walker’s Wildcats, who lost to Canterbury 2-3 in a nail-biter.

Above, from left, Cat Flanagan ’14, Alena Zafonte ’15, Basak Oztahtaci ’13; far left, Steph Cruz ’14 and Kennedi Rookwood ’15; near left, Madison Morsch ’14 and Vicki Daguerre-Bradford ’13 working the concession stand

Movember

Spearheaded by Athletic Director John Monagan, Walker’s faculty, staff, and family members grew moustaches to help raise awareness of cancer, with students joining in the effort!
Field Hockey Play Day for the Cure

Organized by Varsity Field Hockey Coach Mimi Duran P’18, nine area field hockey teams JV and under played on the new athletic fields. Public and independent schools participated. The games drew big crowds from the region and the tournament raised $1,696 for The Cure.

Pictured, from top: JV Field Hockey Team plays for The Cure; Varsity Field Hockey Team works the concession stand; JV Field Hockey team; Mimi Duran, Varsity Field Hockey Coach.

Vie for the Kids

Vie for the Kids, the 6k trail run/walk to raise money for the Connecticut Children's Medical Center Clinical Trials Program, brought more than 400 runners to campus trails on October 20. The Walker's cross-country team joined in the fun and supported the cause. The School was an event partner.

Star Athlete Signs LOI

Lena Springer ’13, a Walker’s pitcher since her freshman year, signed a letter of intent to play softball at the University of Central Florida. To date she has thrown six no-hitters. In the 2012 season alone, Springer pitched 100 innings, striking out 187 batters with an ERA of 1.74. Her opponents’ batting average was .169 and she threw 15 complete games. She was selected for the Western New England All Star Team for three consecutive years.

Teammate puts Jonell Brown’s ’13 ribbon in her hair
A Message from the Director of Admissions

Dear Walker’s Alumnae, Parents, and Friends,

About a year ago, I began reflecting on where I was and where I wanted to be professionally. I knew I needed to be part of a learning environment that reflects its own mission. I wanted to play a role in an organization that was moving forward, with intention, in a progressive direction. I wanted to be part of a community with clear, lofty, yet attainable objectives.

I also knew that my motivation for change had to do with a nagging instinct that my daughter, Nell, needed a school where she would be simultaneously pushed and supported to grow into her best possible self—academically, athletically, and emotionally. Thus began my search for employment that would be perfect for both of us.

As a graduate of a women’s college, I was immediately drawn to the idea of a girls’ school. When I came upon the Walker’s posting, my gut reaction was that I had found what I sought. My interview visits confirmed my instinct. I feel such gratitude that the good folks I met during the search and hiring process must have shared the same sense of fate, that Walker’s is exactly where Nell and I belong, and we are very lucky to be here.

As the Director of Admissions, I don’t believe I could have landed at The Ethel Walker School at a better time. We have a wonderful team of talented professionals in our office. Much groundwork has been laid; the School is perfectly poised as it moves forward into the new Centennial era. We opened in September with 260 students, a larger population than we’ve seen in several years, from a variety of backgrounds, with a wonderful mix of talents. The new field complex, the fact that we are an iPad school, the recent Board approval to begin building a new dorm immediately, and the plans for a transformative Centennial Center all point to the School’s rich history, solid foundation, and very promising future.

The Ethel Walker School is moving forward. There is much good work to be done. My sleeves are already rolled up, and I am very much looking forward to contributing to the positive momentum.

Missy Shea, P’16
DIRECTOR OF ADMISSIONS
23 U.S. states and 15 countries are represented in Walker’s student body:

56 students took 115 AP exams
- 45 scores of 4 or higher
- 73 scores of 3 or higher

100% accepted to four-year colleges/universities

137 (62%) boarding
+ 84 (38%) day
= 221 upper school + 39 middle school = 260 student body

Mean composite ACT score Class of 2012: 24
Mean SAT scores Class of 2012:
- Critical Reading (verbal): 545
- Math: 552
- Writing: 579
- Total: 1676
Saratoga Springs, NY, August 5, 2012

Thanks to horsebreeder Deborah Rush ’77, alumnae and family received behind-the-scenes access at the exclusive Fasig-Tipton Sales Pavilion for a peek into the sales process for selective thoroughbred race horses, featuring the top yearlings in the country. The VIP treatment continued as the group dined track-side at the Turf Terrace, which provided prime finish-line views for cheering on horses and jockeys.

From left, Martha Nevins ’80, Elizabeth “Liz” Nash Muench ’55, Nan Flanagan ’93, Deborah Rush ’77, Rachael Rosselli ’98, Meredith Davison ’98, Emma Simon ’89, Celeste Royall Niarchos ’64

Tom Muench and Liz Nash Muench ’55
Rachael Rosselli ’98 and Meredith Davison ’98
Celeste Royall Niarchos ’64 and Tom Niarchos
Martha Nevins ’80 and her husband, Michael Pawasarat

Boston, MA, December 8

’Tis the Season! Alumnae attended a festive Boston Ballet performance of Mikko Nissinen’s The Nutcracker. A backstage tour followed, arranged by Rachael Rosselli ’98. Then Rachael hosted a gathering at Sip Wine Bar and Kitchen.

Back, from left, Drusilla Carter ’96; Roy Lurie, husband of Mary Beth Rettger ’81; Deborah Knight P’95; Rachael Rosselli ’98; Meredith Davison ’98 and her friend Allison Patavino. Front, from left, Ariana White Steele ’98, EWS friends and daughters, Leander Altifois Dolphin ’95
WALKER’S OUT & ABOUT

Flushed, NY, August 29, 2012

The annual US Open alumnae gathering continues to grow in size each year. This year, under clear evening skies, more than 20 people attended two great matches, watching Maria Sharapova and Andy Murray dominate in their respective matches.

Martha’s Vineyard, MA, September 2012

Many members of the Class of 1972 gathered on Martha’s Vineyard to celebrate a mini-30th Reunion. See Take Note for more details!

Sandwich, NH, Summer 2012

Bessie Speers popped in to see Patricia “Patsy” Ladd Carega ’64 at her art gallery in Sandwich, NH.
WALKER’S OUT & ABOUT

Metropolitan Museum, NYC, October 1, 2012

EWS alumnae and friends enjoyed a private tour at The Metropolitan Museum of Art, of the new Galleries for the Art of the Arab Lands, Turkey, Iran, Central Asia and Later South Asia. Curator in Charge Sheila Canby Voss ’66 guided the Walker’s group. A gathering followed at the home of Lynn Sheppard Manger ’59.

New York City, October 3, 2012

New York City-area alumnae met for happy hour at swanky 230 Fifth and enjoyed rooftop cocktails while catching up.
**Hartford Happy Hour, November 23, 2012**

Alumnae gathered at McLadden’s in West Hartford for post-Thanksgiving cocktails.

From left, Marianne Pettit ’10, Chelsea Keyes ’10, Alyssa Broatch ’10, Caroline Kiealtyka ’10

**New York City, December 5, 2012**

**Harvard Club Event**

EWS alumnae, parents, and friends gathered at the Harvard Club for a holiday cocktail party honoring Walker’s Former Trustees.

From left, C. Hugh Hildesley P’85, former President, Board of Trustees; Flann Lippincott ’76; Debbie Bell Spoehel ’75, P’14; Nancie Magee Bourne ’53, P’77, ’82; Missy Turnbull Geddes ’56, former President, Board of Trustees; and Bettina Murray P’88

From left, Piper Huntington ’00, Allison Quigley ’00, Emily Cole-Chu ’00, Sara Lavery ’00, Katie Andrighetti DeLany ’00

From left, Tisha McClure Potter ’55, P’85, Trustee Emerita, and Missy Turnbull Geddes ’56 (former President, Board of Trustees), hosts of the NYC event

From left, Nisha Mungroo ’04, Breanne Evans ’04, Katherine Hypolite ’04

**Harriet Blees Dewey ’60, P’86, Trustee; Amey Amory DeFriez ’45, former President, Board of Trustees; Gail Shelton P’12**

From left, Alicia Little Hodge ’01, Ashley Coster Harrison ’01, Margo Hanlan ’01

**Steve Flanagan P’14, Bessie Speers, and Connie Hildesley P’85**
MESSAGE FROM ALUMNAE BOARD PRESIDENT

It’s an exciting time at Walker’s. We opened this academic year with new athletics fields and a 1:1 iPad program; we are pursuing plans for a new dormitory and proceeding full steam ahead with the Centennial Capital Campaign.

Last June, the 100th class of girls graduated from the School. June also marked the 40th anniversary of Title IX. Walker’s celebrated the legislation with two programs described in this edition of the SunDial, one for the community at large and the other for the Alumnae Board’s Alumnae Perspectives event on November 10. These programs were initiated through the efforts of Tracy Himmel Isham ’85, a member of the Alumnae Board.

The passage of Title IX 40 years ago opened opportunities in every aspect of our lives, including sports. Athletics are an important part of each girl’s experience at Walker’s. Through competition, the school teaches her courage, conviction, and character. Stay in touch with athletics at Walker’s—and all the other wonderful things happening now—through our social media channels and our new Alumnae Quarterly e-Newsletter.

Celeste Royall Niarchos ’64
PRESIDENT, ALUMNAE BOARD

“ATHLETICS ARE AN IMPORTANT PART OF EACH GIRL’S EXPERIENCE AT WALKER’S. THROUGH COMPETITION, THE SCHOOL TEACHES HER COURAGE, CONVICTION, AND CHARACTER.”

2012-2013 ALUMNAE BOARD

Celeste Royall Niarchos ’64
PRESIDENT
LYNNFIELD, MA

Amanda Pitman ’90
VICE PRESIDENT
NEW YORK, NY

Carter Marjison ’07
SECRETARY
SAVANNAH, GA

Elizabeth Bollard Blodgett ’91
LAKE FOREST, IL

*Caryl Van Ranst Dearing ’60
MARTHA’S VINEYARD, MA

Leander Altifois Dolphin ’95
HARTFORD, CT

Mary Loetuff Feeny ’83
BRISTOL, RI

*Lindsay Flynn ’05
WASHINGTON, D.C.

Alise Veit Foulke ’87
NEW YORK, NY

Katherine Hypolite ’04
PROVIDENCE, RI

Tracy Himmel Isham ’85
CORNWALL, VT

Molly Love ’64
LOCUST VALLEY, NY

Mary Beth Rettger ’81
WAYLAND, MA

Deborah Rush ’77
COATESVILLE, PA

*Jamiah Tappin ’00
EAST HARTFORD, CT

Catherine Terry Taylor ’79
PROVIDENCE, RI

Gwendolyn Wood Wisely ’96
RUMSON, NJ

*New AB Member

Class of ’72 Reconnects

After the Class of 1972’s mini-Reunion on Martha’s Vineyard in September, Susan “Susie” Churchill Bowman wrote the following to Head of School Bessie Speers:

“Thank you for your note and thank you for coming by at the end of a long and demanding day. I can’t tell you how important it was for my classmates to be able to share their stories with you and hear you share where the School is today and your vision going forward. After you left, the gals kept talking, grateful you had asked for stories; several said that being able to share was cathartic. All agreed that where Walker’s is today is what we had wanted back then and more. Over the past few years, when I’ve had the chance, I’ve shared that the School is so very different today under your leadership, but nothing I could share is like hearing it directly from you! I think the School will see that some of my classmates who were coming to Reunions only to connect with other classmates will now be enthusiastically supporting the School.

“All agreed our long weekend on MV was a deeply significant time. I think it took us by surprise just how meaningful our time together was. Amazing to think that the one thing that brought us together for this off-site reunion was having spent two-to-three very challenging years together at boarding school during the tumult of adolescence, dramatic social transitions, and an academic institution trying to keep the clock set back by a decade or more! We have laughed over the years that it was the glue of survival and rebellion in those difficult years that has led to the significant sharing we experience with whoever in our class returns to reunions.”

Stay Connected with Walker’s Wherever You Are

Celeste Royall Niarchos
PRESIDENT, ALUMNAE BOARD
1940
Your class needs a Correspondent!
Contact alumnae@ethelwalker.org

1941
Elizabeth “Betty” Carpenter Davis
745 Hollow Road
Staatsburg, NY 12580-6327
845-266-5149

1942
Sylvia Breed Gates
01659 SW Greenwood Road
Portland, OR 97219-8301
503-636-6305
sylviagates@comcast.net

Lillian “Lil” Studebaker Hardy
shares, “Gordon and my last few years have been marked with tragedy. First, the
loss of our youngest son, Jeffrey, on 9/11. He was an executive chef, working for
Cantor Fitzgerald in Tower #1. Then in March 2011 came the death of our
older son, a singer/songwriter, of lung cancer. However, we have had a lot of
happiness, with a fabulous group of 11 grandchildren, aged 18 to 45, and
recently added our fifth great-grandchild.

“Gordon and I have been married 67 years! We have lived here in New
York City and Aspen, CO, with numerous European trips. Now we are
settled in our New York apartment and have sold our house in Aspen, where we
spent 50 summers. Gordon was President and Dean of the Aspen Music
Festival and School for 28 years. Our life has been dominated by music, as he also
taught and was Dean of Students at Juilliard. I have continued to paint until
about 10 years ago.” Lil also reports that she talks to Anne “Jiggsie” Beach
Jackson occasionally.

From Florence “Flossy” Forgan Wheeler comes this news, “I am still in
my same old house in Lake Forest. Henry, my husband of 64 years, died a
little over a year ago after a long, sad battle with dementia. My two daughters,
their husbands, and our five grandchildren have been super helpful
and keep the silver skies busy with numerous visits. One lives in Denver, the
other in Santa Monica, and grands are here and there. They are all fun, funny,
and adored.”

Margaret “Peggy” Cole Jennings in Hobe Sound, FL, writes, “Only 11 of us
left. It brought so many good memories: being in the living room at Beaver Brook
Sunday afternoon listening to the radio with Patricia “Pat” Cooke Peacock
(dec.) on December 7, 1941. Visiting Nancy Lawrence Schuller in Maine
reading from the Bible at breakfast if you were the first at the table. Currently,
the light of my life is a Havanese dog named Pepper that I got on the Internet
from a kennel in Oregon and my four wonderful grandchildren.”

Margaret “Margie” Auger Kennerly spent a lovely summer in Connecticut
highlighted by a trip on American Cruise Line down the Maine coast with her two
daughters, something she highly recommends. She is now off to Florida
for six months. Two cards from Jane Cole Graves say that she took a little
tumble but that she will recover. She talked to Payne Payson Middleton
and Loise Baldwin Chapin in the spring, which was a treat. Jane was sorry
to miss Reunion, but it just seemed too far away. EWS is always in her heart, and
she remembers Walker’s as being a wonderful time in her life. She and her
husband spend a lot of time reading, a very happy pastime. She is thinking
about Ulysses, yet to be tackled. If it is James Joyce, it is a tough one helped in a
class situation by a good professor. I suggest finding that wonderful motion

1943
REUNION
Caroline “Carel” Berry Laporte
5 Timber Lane, Apt. 222
Exeter, NH 03833-5334
603-658-7041
clapor@verizon.net

1944
Your class needs a Correspondent!
Contact alumnae@ethelwalker.org

1945
Martha “Molly” Darling Bell
363 East 76th Street, Apt. 19C
New York, NY 10021-2436
212-744-8264
molly@kirkpalmer.com

Margaret “Margie” Auger Kennerly
spent a lovely summer in Connecticut
highlighted by a trip on American Cruise Line down the Maine coast with her two
daughters, something she highly recommends. She is now off to Florida
for six months. Two cards from Jane Cole Graves say that she took a little
rumble but that she will recover. She talked to Payne Payson Middleton
and Loise Baldwin Chapin in the spring, which was a treat. Jane was sorry
to miss Reunion, but it just seemed too far away. EWS is always in her heart, and
she remembers Walker’s as being a wonderful time in her life. She and her
husband spend a lot of time reading, a very happy pastime. She is thinking
about Ulysses, yet to be tackled. If it is James Joyce, it is a tough one helped in a
class situation by a good professor. I suggest finding that wonderful motion
The filming is interesting, but the sound track is marvelous in helping understand the written word. Someone told Jane you should not die without having read Proust and the entire Bible. "Well we will see," she says. In the meantime, they are limping around and enjoying the literature.

Heloise Bacon Power writes of the lovely reunion she had with Dorothy "Dottie" Hirsch LoebI and Hannah Griffith Bradley at Hannah’s home at Sandy Land Beach, CA, where Hannah's garden is outstanding. Heloise says all is well in her land, but somewhat chipped away as the historic rangeland has become a crowded wine-tasting, grape-growing destination and touristic. Sarah “Sally” Darling Wimmer and Hope Griggs Turner (fourth-form roommates) remain in touch. Hope says she is slowing down because of a middle ear problem. She spends a lot of time knitting children’s sweaters for World Vision, making more mistakes as her vision dims. However, she has made many new friends through various new knitting groups. Sally says Hope's 92-year-old husband is helpful and that the Turner children come to dinner weekly.

A note from Dottie Hirsch LoebI sharing news from Penelope “Penny” Hall Porter says that Penny stays in touch with Theodosia “Teddy” Smith Casey. They love to talk on the phone. Teddy’s husband is in his 90s and still rides off into the sunrise every morning. I gather he rides back every sunset. Penny is still writing her memoirs, which she hopes to finish this winter. She enjoys revisiting all those memories including a horse named Shanghai, which showed at Walker's. The horse was originally owned by Penny's father.

Payne Payson Middleton is still at work teaching spoken English to Non-English speakers at The English Speaking Union. Her grandchildren range in age from 1½ to 25 years. The oldest is living in Charleston, SC, an architect; one is at The Art Institute of Chicago; one in the College of Charleston, and the only girl at Denison. Payne added she had a lovely visit with Amey Amory DeFriez in Maine this summer.

Janice Tompkins Spurr says fortunately she is well and still able to drive to her summer home in Maine from Pennsylvania, both places dear to her heart. This summer she was invited on a two-and-a-half-week cruise in the Mediterranean from Istanbul via Egypt and Israel. She remarked on the fabulous scenery and delicious food. All her four families are doing well. The eldest grandchild is out of college and working in England, four are in college, one in the military, and the rest in high school.

Julia “Julie” Jackson Young says she is still going strong in spite of a recent back operation. She now lives in a senior apartment in Washington, DC, but goes to her home on the water at St. Michaels, MD. She writes that she has a large family, three daughters, two stepdaughters, four husbands, four grandchildren. The Marine is safely back from Afghanistan. One is getting a post-doctorate at Harvard. Elizabeth “Liz” DeLong Kuhl ’44 has moved near her so Julie sees her a bit.

Molly Bell writes, "On the home front, I am still working full time, enjoying family plus lots of theater. Grandson Andrew Bell (the Westminster student) was part of a trip to Thailand this summer. He travelled to the northern part of the country where he met and swam with an elephant. He ate the local fare, which consisted of a lot of fried insects. Hope to hear from more of you ladies!"
was a great influence on my life. She not only enhanced my love of English literature and made Harvard’s English curriculum seem a breeze after her class, she helped me immeasurably in teaching English to juniors and seniors at an independent school in Vero Beach, FL; in fact, I modeled my classes after hers at Walker’s. I respected her and admired her tremendously. This year I have been to the Hay Festival in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, with my son, Boris. A marvelous city and a marvelous event encompassing all the arts: literary, visual, musical, etc. And in May I was in Jerez, the lovely sherry-making town in Spain, visiting my late husband’s charming relatives and celebrating Gonzalez Byass’ 200th anniversary.”

1952

Your class needs a Correspondent!
Contact alumnae@ethelwalker.org

1953

Susan “Susie” Kleinhans Gilbertson
18 Buttonwood Lane
Rumson, NJ 07760-1008
732-842-2057
SWVG@comcast.net

Helen “Hennie” Frost Hale and her husband Phil are winding up their 53rd summer at their Maine island cottage. All their grands and children were able to come too. The cottage has a beautiful view of the ocean and the village of Five Islands. They find it is a great place to relax and gather the whole family. Hennie hopes to make it to Reunion.

Quarrier “Q” Bloch Cook and her husband Phil are spending three weeks in Italy after working diligently in the presidential campaign all summer.

Elaine Dominguez Rawlinson took a house in Capalbio, Italy, about one hour from Rome for her family. They swam in the ocean and a pool, but it was so hot it never cooled off at night. When Elaine returned to the UK she said that too was airless, but the Olympics fortunately diverted the mind. Elaine’s daughter Angie had tickets for herself and daughter Delilah, so they had the grand experience of the stadium in East London. Elaine watched the horses of Greenwich, which was thrilling except for the UK missing the gold by one point.

Then Elaine went to Edinburgh for the Annual Arts Festival, which is a fantastic week of music, dance, and all unimaginable entertainment. She stayed with some great friends at Dundas Castle not far from the center of the city. In September she went to the South of France to stay with friends, and now she’s settling down to being a good babysitter again for her grandchildren. Elaine sends lots of love to everyone!

Mary Schwerin Ritter was in Bay Head, NJ, for the best part of the summer with her daughters and grandchildren. That is a fun household so I’m sure she enjoyed every minute. There was even a beach barbecue birthday party for her daughter Maria that was very festive. I look forward to seeing Mary in November.

Nancie Magee Bourne and Jim Bourne are still in Greenwich and looking forward to another two months in Boca Grande, FL, when the weather chills.

Mary “Molly” Goodyear Gurney did her annual “Four Boroughs” of NYC bike ride. She did 85 miles, which I find staggering. She’s complaining because for the last four years, she has done 100 miles. “C’est la vie!” Pete has yet another new play, “Heresy,” opening on October 11 at The Flea Theater. The Flea is breaking ground this fall on three new theaters in Tribeca. One of those theaters will be named after him, called The Pete. How about that! Congratulations to Pete and how lucky you are to have Molly, the force, with you!

Susie Gilbertson writes, “I had a lovely visit with Eleanor Barnes and Heidi McCann from EWS Alumnae Relations and Development. We talked about our upcoming 60th Reunion at Walker’s. I stayed put this summer, being very busy with family and friends. The grandchildren are busy with crew, football, lacrosse, and track. I hope to see Pete Gurney’s new play when I’m in NYC, and I am going with Joan Ferguson Ellis ’47 to see Sigourney Weaver ’67 open in “Uncle Vanya” at McCantor Theater in Princeton. We will be having lunch with Roberta “Bobbie” Gerstell Bennett beforehand. I am very excited about that.”

Nancy “Missy” Kitchell Lickle is in Vermont, and I am about to head up that way myself. The leaves are glorious, and my granddaughter is interviewing at colleges. I look forward to seeing you all in May! Much love, Susie.

Dorothy “Dottie” Snow Vilmar writes, “I am now a great-grandmother and loving it. I love living in Vermont and spending my summers on Lake George on my island. Deeply miss my husband, but he is with us in spirit.”

1954

Betty Richards Tripp
18 School Street
Stonington, CT 06378
Bettyrichards36@gmail.com

From Kathryn “Katie” Auchincloss Porter in Mendham, NJ, “All well in the Porter household. We had a great trip to Vienna and Budapest this summer for a nephew’s wedding. We have a condo in Portland, ME, where we spend quite a bit of time as we have a daughter, son-in-law, and two granddaughters living there. We love it and have lots of friends nearby, including Patricia “Patsy” Blun Deetjen. We are beginning to look at retirement communities in the Portland area. I retired from being mayor of our town and from being on the board of trustees of the New Jersey Conservation Foundation. I am still chairman of the National Recreation Foundation.”
Take Note

A letter from Virginia “Ginny” Backus Vanocur in Santa Barbara, CA: “I am back at the same address I had when I left for EWS. We have been here since about 1998. I have been married to Sander Vanocur since 1975. He is now retired, but seems to be having a little recovery due to being the last surviving person from the first debates—Kennedy and Nixon. Lots of interviews. I have lived in San Francisco, Boston, Washington, DC, and New York since college. I have not worked since Washington. I am now involved with two foundations, The Leakey Foundation and the National Tropical Botanical Gardens. We travelled a lot, mostly Southeast Asia, but not so much now because of Sandy’s health. My activities, outside of going to meetings in Hawaii and San Francisco, seem to be hiking and Pilates to stave off aches and pains. I have a daughter, Daphne, who has two children, 20 and 16, and Sandy has two sons, who are not married. My granddaughter, who is a sophomore at Denison, is living with us. My grandson lives in New York City and attends a day school. The last EWS friend to visit here was Deborah “Debby” Williams MacKenzie ’55, a wonderful and special person. She died soon afterwards.”

A note from Pauline “Polly” Barnes Hester, Kent, WA: “Retirement has been fun for us. We split time between Washington and Palm Desert, CA, and enjoy golfing in both places. We’ve been in the Seattle area since 1973 (northern California prior); we have a son and daughter in the area plus two grandsons (ages 8 and 11). I moved to California after college and have only been in touch with Elodie Huntley Tilney (got together once 25 years ago) via Christmas cards.” Polly says that she looks forward to reading the class replies.

Karen Bisgard Alexander, Geneva, IL, writes, “Life has been a series of minor physical adjustments to old age’s ravages: three cataract removals (ours), two teeth refilled (ours), one broken toe (mine), and one removed kidney (his). Actually, that happened just a few weeks before we were to leave for Spain and Morocco so that trip faded away, but for my 75th birthday the children and Walter whisked me off on a surprise trip to England. First London and then a walk on Hadrian’s Wall that I had always wanted to do. We were just our nuclear family. The spouses all stayed with the grandchildren, and it was amazingly wonderful for all of us to be just ourselves together for a week. Grandchildren number 11, from 19 to 3 years old, and spread from Vermont to California. I have found the benefits and pleasures of T’ai Chi and strength training. I got tired of not being able to open any jar lid, so I’m pumping iron and opening jar lids, not perhaps with an Olympian’s dedication, but all I want is to open jar lids. At the Art Institute the Department of Ancient Art (Greece and Rome) was given a $10 million gift from the Jaharis family to publish, reinstall, and improve the collection, so I have worked on researching and readying the Greek and Roman coins and writing a history of the collection for the book that will be published at the opening in November. It’s been a fun last project; it’s time to retire.

“All our friends are moving into easy maintenance, pre-assisted living, pare-down units, but we can’t face the basement, so we stay put, and occasionally all the children come home and I’m glad I have an upstairs, and an over stuffed basement. All our family is well and doing what they like, so the sun shines on all of us at the moment. We are lucky.”

While visiting Katie Auchincloss Porter, Patricia “Patsy” Blun Deetjen, Blue Hill, ME, wrote, “My goodness, it has been a long time since I have said hello to all you ’54ers. I can’t believe that it has been a year since my Rudy passed away. I am on a jaunt visiting good old buddies in Connecticut and New Jersey. I saw Nancie Magee Bourne ’53 last week and am in Mendham now having a wonderful time with Katie and Jim Porter. My older son, Leif, lives nearby with his wife and younger son. Cliff and his wife and two grandsons, Alex who is 13 and Ben, 10, live in Burlington, VT.”

Maria Casanova Aguero, Miami, FL, writes that Frances “Frannie” Haffner Colburn, Maria’s EWS roommate, will be visiting them in Miami before going to Cuba with a Boston Museum of Fine Arts group. “I remember when she visited me in Cuba in 1956, and we both went to the Red Ball in Havana. Irony of ironies, she is visiting Communist Cuba before I have and will not be attending a Red Ball this time around. We left in July 1960 and have not returned thus far. The Castro monsters have been in power for 53 years. They are so old that they have forgotten to die.”

Helen Harvey Mills, Park Ridge, IL, writes:

“There is so much going on here that going somewhere seems … Well it seems I’m going somewhere here. Like I’m new to the water taxi that goes from the train station to Michigan Ave and Saturday. I’m taking it to Chinatown. Chicago, the Venice of the Midwest. Just now on train to meet a friend to go See Hear Madonna. At our age Contemporaries are being honored — the architect Helmut Jahn is being honored by Facets Multimedia at the casino club. My new friends are giving Roman mosaics to the Art Institute — new opening for ancient ‘stuff.’ I assume Karen Bisgard Alexander will be there. I’m new to this 76 and all that. I’m now doing pastels instead of darkroom work. A change in careers of sorts.”

Frannie Haffner Colburn, Manchester, MA, sent the following: “I have lived in Manchester, MA, since 1973 when I left Lake Forest where I grew up. I spend most of my week in Boston serving on committees for the Museum of Fine Arts and the Trustees of Reservations, the oldest conservation organization in the world, established in 1893. Although I am no longer a voting member of either
board, having served as President of the MFA and Vice Chair of TTOR, they still represent my main interests. Before my husband died in 1992, we had bought an island in the Inner Hebrides of Scotland. I still spend two months of the year there, May and mid-August to mid-September. The island is farmed by the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds to allow the recovery of two species, the corncrake and the chough. As it has the ruins of a 14th-century Augustinian priory, three Celtic crosses, and 42 late medieval grave slabs, it relates to both of my main interests. I do have a garden there, as it is very mild with lots of wind but no frost. However, I spend a lot of my time picking up the rubbish on the shore. Not only does this greatly improve the looks of Oronsay, but I get plenty of exercise and the chance to observe wildlife, lots of birds and gray seals and an occasional sea otter.”

Ann Higbie Eckrich writing from Fort Wayne, IN, sends her best to all and says that she is still doing real estate, but traveled to South America twice last year where her son, Eric, his wife, Patricia, and Hans Peter, 12, and Anna Lise, 8, were spending the year. In December she visited them in Ecuador and also went to the Galapagos, which was glorious. “Kids were amazing, speaking and writing Spanish in school. In April, we visited them in Bariloche, Argentina, where they had moved second semester for school, followed by skiing in May and June. Most fun in my 75th years.” Ann’s older grandchildren are in college: Allie in her first year in Evansville, IN, and Johnny in his second year at Indiana U. Finn Wimberly is still at home in Bozeman, where Eric’s family usually resides.

Elodie Huntley Tilney, Vero Beach, FL, says that she wishes she had been able to come for reunions, etc. “I have had health problems that have kept me seeing doctors on and off since 2005. Beat breast cancer, and am so happy to get that out of the way. I am fortunate enough to have my youngest daughter (who just turned 50) and her husband and my only granddaughter (11) in the area. My other grandchildren are boys who live in Colorado. It is wonderful to be able to watch one of them grow up instead of seeing them once a year. When able, I volunteer at McKee Botanical Garden and my granddaughter’s charter school tutoring reading. When my body is up to it, I still play tennis. Have lived in the same house in Vero Beach for 23 years. Love it here. After 12 years of ‘spinsterhood,’ married the world’s nicest man 16 years ago. Bud still plays tennis with his age group (84) and is good at it, much better than I.”

Royce Lake Lehmann writes that she lost her husband, Stockton, nine years ago. She left Ohio and moved to “The Villages,” a senior housing community built around a lake and surrounded by a golf course. Royce says it is wonderful—good friends and good fun. She is a very active golfer, plays mahjong, bridge, sequence, bocce, etc. There are many day trips to Tampa, St. Petersburg, etc. “All in all, a great life. One thing that is missing is Stockton.” Royce recently visited her great-niece in Cincinnati and attended the races at Keenland, KY, where she is a life member. She enjoyed a few days of autumn but was glad to return to sunny Florida. Royce reminds us “Life is not always fireworks, but a celebration in itself.”

Patricia “Patsy” (P.K.) Kelly McCormack writes from Martha’s Vineyard, MA, “This year has been uneventful for the most part. As usual, everyone was here this summer—Nancy and her family for the entire summer and Stu and his family for two weeks. So I, who live alone, was not alone from May 31 until August 23! Nancy’s three children have summer jobs on the island. She works remotely for her company, and Dan comes when he is not flying (unfortunately, for him, for AA—a prime example of corporate greed). They, of course, bring their dog (large) and his cage. I just watch the comings and goings and enjoy the evenings when we actually have dinner together! Confusion reigns for me! “Nancy’s Sam is a junior at William and Mary, in the undergraduate business school and hoping to be accepted to Semester at Sea for spring term. Why didn’t those opportunities exist for us? He will literally be going around the world! Matt is a senior hoping to go into marine biology. Annie is a sophomore and aspires to go into fashion merchandising. She has been asked to audition for runway work at Fashion Week in Paris next year. I doubt that it will happen. Stu has two children, ages 4 and 8, so there is quite an age spread when they are all here. But all the grandchildren mesh well. Stu’s oldest has been mainstreamed into his charter school and is working at grade level. He
has been taken off the Spectrum, which is most exciting! Sydney is now in kindergarten, so Kym has time for herself. Stu's business is doing very well and he is always his usual optimistic self!

"As for me, the same old, same old—retired, serving on several boards and various committees at my church and in the community. My focus is the arts and health care. I do a lot of handwork, play a great deal of duplicate bridge, garden, read—you know the routine. KEEP BUSY!! I am off to Paris and a river trip up the Seine to Normandy with a few friends—should be delightful. Two of the highlights will be attending the ballet with three pieces by Balanchine and having cocktails in the home of a friend who lives in Paris at a very swank address.”

Anita Larsen Fivek, Hamden, CT, sent a lengthy email with news of her 11 grandchildren ages 14-31 (to be continued in the next issue since I lost the email). Anita and Bill have been married for 15 years, after the death of her first husband, Dick Sullivan, to whom she had been married for 42 years. Bill and Anita will head to Venice, FL, as they do each winter for three months and where Anita will play golf frequently. She says that her handicap has gone from 4 to 16 in a short time, but laughs it off lightly. I remember seeing Anita’s name repeatedly on many winners’ plaques at her golf club. Anita is looking forward to a trip France in November, her first time in Paris.

From Hillsborough, CA, Barbara Mayer Marks sends news: “We celebrated 50 years of marriage by going to Flathead Lake in Montana for a week with our entire family including eight grandchildren, but not our dog. There was something for everybody, including tennis, horseback riding, waterskiing, and of course lots of eating. It was a great trip. Recently, we loved seeing Betty Richards Tripp who stayed with us a couple of nights, visited Napa Valley, and drank wine.”

Maria Mayorga Moore’s daughter, Alicia, who takes care of Maria’s emails, tells me that Maria divides her time between Gstaad, Switzerland, and Culebra, Puerto Rico, where Alicia lives.

Jane McCurrach Talcott writes from Brookline, MA, “Hooker and I now have two grandchildren who have graduated college, three in college, two in high school, and one in 8th grade. All seem to be ‘on track.’ The glorious thing is that all of them and their mothers (our three daughters) and fathers live nearby! Our three daughters are, respectively, an artist, an Episcopal minister, and in public relations promoting writers and books. We are pleased, proud, and happy! I still play golf, tennis, and bridge and work a little at the museum (the bridge is better than the body stuff). We are still in our house of 41 years and talk a lot about what to do next. We also still enjoy our house in the Northeast Kingdom of Vermont.”

Katherine Somerville Steele, who lives in Greenwood, MS, reports, “No retirement homes for us! Ed Hunter and I spend our spare time visiting our combined families from coast to coast, including all 12 grandchildren, who range in age from 22 years down to 6. In between, we stay in our beloved Mississippi Delta, loving its unique beauty and interesting, fun people! I often think of the old EWS days—always with a smile.”

Mary Stein Dominick writes from Aspen, CO, that, “One piece of good news is that all three sons are gainfully employed. Buck is an attorney in Denver with two sons in college, Chris is doing his junior year abroad in Spain from the College of Charleston, and Josh is a freshman at CU-Boulder. Drew and his wife, Sarah Vanderlip, are both professors in sculpture and art at Cal State L.A. with one son, Dominick, a sophmore in high school. DeWitt, a fluvial geomorphologist, works for Environmental Research Management in Livingston, MT. He has two children, Josie, 10, and Garrett, 8. We managed to see all of them in 2012 and wish that we weren’t so geographically separated. I am very involved with my board of Wilderness Workshop, a pro-active environmental group working on adding more wilderness to White River National Forest and protecting what we have. I also personally fundraise and run the Artist in Wilderness project. We have a competition twice a year for artists in a variety of mediums to apply for a
residency with an eye toward giving WW a piece of art to sell at auction to replenish the seed money with which we started. Check out our website wildernessworkshop.org. Sven and I continue to ski, hike, ride, and pursue the development of his product Zipfit, which is a high-quality, inner-boot system for skiing and orthotic foot beds for any sport or walking. We manufacture in northern Italy, which affords at least one trip per year. I’m always hopeful that we will travel from there and sometimes it happens.”

I, Betty Richards Tripp, have lived in Stonington, CT, for 52 years, the last 24 as a widow. I feel very fortunate that my daughter, Amy, her husband, and my 13-year-old grandson live in town. My son, George, his wife, and my two other grandsons, ages 14 and 9, live about an hour away in Rhode Island. I see them all so often that they do not always treasure each moment we are together. A bonus to another fine year is that I have seen many EWS classmates as well as Mary Schwerin Ritter ’53. In August, Ursula Bitter Ulmer arrived from Zurich, Switzerland, to her house nearby in Watch Hill, RI, so I had updates on her interesting role at the International School of Jungian Psychology in Zurich. Soon after Labor Day I went to the West Coast where I had a wonderful brief stay in Watch Hill, RI, so I had updates on the weather in her garden. Being close to her border of Canada on Lake Champlain, she can easily drive to Montreal for visits. She was about to see a show of Impressionist paintings from the Clarke Institute in Williamstown, Massachusetts, held in Montreal, and to have lunch with a friend. In Montreal Liz has ferreted out some fine sources for cheese and special goodies. By November she will be back on Bray’s Island until next May. At this writing Liz was planning to visit with Jean Hope “Hopie” Phelps’ daughter, Hope “Pikki” Nestares Van Havermeier, in New York on her way south. I had not heard from Tanis Higgins Ermann so I called her up. She and John had just returned from a trip to Russia. Then I learned that she had been on the board of Staying Put in New Canaan for four years, working on its establishment. She is now on the advisory board and volunteers there. Staying Put makes it possible for elders to stay in their own homes. Members receive services such as transportation, Medicare counselors, home repairmen/handy men, computer help, visits to cultural events, and companions for doctor visits, almost anything you can think of. There are similar organizations around the country, which are patterned after the original Boston program. Good work, Tanis. Sounds good to me.

Walker’s offered a special visit to the Metropolitan Museum’s recently opened Islamic wing with a tour by Sheila Voss Canby ’66, the curator in charge of the Museum’s Department of Islamic Art. It was a rare treat, with the added pleasure of seeing Marguerite “Meg” Doubleday Buck and Austin. They are in excellent form and had a good summer. They soon will be heading south to Spring Island, SC.

Keep in touch, I enjoy hearing what you are doing; meanwhile, may you enjoy many blessings.

1955

Letitia “Tisha” McClure Potter
44 Rockwood Lane
Greenwich, CT 06830
203-869-6069
LMPotter@earthlink.net

Greetings to our Class! I took the summer off this year after having had a hip replacement in June and have been slow to get back into the groove; as a result our column is scanty this time. Sorry. Hopefully, it will give you all the motivation to send me news for the next issue. Yes, you may send me news anytime, for I shall save it carefully. Meanwhile, what a wonderful move this hip replacement has been for me. I am better than new and rejoicing in every step, feeling my body has been sprung from prison. I must confess I learned to be lazy during the recuperation.

I spoke with Terese “Terry” Treman Williams just before she and Joe went on a Yale trip to Turkey, Greece, and the Dalmatian Coast, ending in Venice. They might even have stopped in Sicily. After 13 months of having to nurse her broken ankle, she is delighted to travel. With 20 family members gathered in August, Terry celebrated her “special birthday.”

I met up with Elizabeth “Liz” Nash Muench at Walker’s in September. She looks terrific and has had a good summer in Vermont. She wages a constant battle with the critters and the vicissitudes of the weather in her garden. Being close to the border of Canada on Lake Champlain, she can easily drive to Montreal for visits. She was about to see a show of Impressionist paintings from the Clarke Institute in Williamstown, Massachusetts, held in Montreal, and to have lunch with a friend. In Montreal Liz has ferreted out some fine sources for cheese and special goodies. By November she will be back on Bray’s Island until next May. At this writing Liz was planning to visit with Jean Hope “Hopie” Phelps’ daughter, Hope “Pikki” Nestares Van Havermeier, in Canaan for four years, working on its advisory board and volunteers there. Staying Put makes it possible for elders to stay in their own homes. Members receive services such as transportation, Medicare counselors, home repairmen/handy men, computer help, visits to cultural events, and companions for doctor visits, almost anything you can think of. There are similar organizations around the country, which are patterned after the original Boston program. Good work, Tanis. Sounds good to me.

Walker’s offered a special visit to the Metropolitan Museum’s recently opened Islamic wing with a tour by Sheila Voss Canby ’66, the curator in charge of the Museum’s Department of Islamic Art. It was a rare treat, with the added pleasure of seeing Marguerite “Meg” Doubleday Buck and Austin. They are in excellent form and had a good summer. They soon will be heading south to Spring Island, SC.

Keep in touch, I enjoy hearing what you are doing; meanwhile, may you enjoy many blessings.

1956

Adrienne “A” Massie Hill
2771 Peachtree Road N.E. #10
Atlanta, GA 30305
travelinghill@yahoo.com

The fall always reminds me of returning to Walker’s, donning our various uniforms and shoes, heading to the hockey field with Miss Biggs, and settling in with new roommates and classmates. I confess that I continue thinking of September as the first month of the “year” rather than January!

In late August Patricia “Pat” Love Anderson sent a detailed account of the
"Chips" fire that was impacting the Andersons, in Westwood, CA. “Instead of our usual sunny, clear air, we are having a very smoky summer. It started on July 29 and so far has burned 66,750 acres to the southwest of us. The fire started in the Feather River Canyon, difficult for the firemen to reach.” Pat gave high marks to the firefighters. (Wonderful Christmas pictures, Pat.)

**Phoebe Haffner Andrew** sent a note saying that all is well in her family. She and her husband, Lucius, enjoyed a 50th reunion at Penn for Lucius’ class followed by a trip with two 12-year-old grandsons to London, Normandy, and Paris, repeating a trip that they made with two granddaughters the year before. Our canceled trip to Seattle was our disappointment, as we would love to have seen the Andrews.

**Margaret “Peg” Peck Blosser** and her husband, Denver, continue to be avid travelers and golfers both here and abroad. “The dogs think our house sitter is really their family!” At the same time Peg has been active in their residential community, most especially as a natural archivist, I think, and sent a note; she and I hadn’t spoken on the phone for a while, and so I was particularly glad to hear from her. She wrote, “I thought I’d catch you up with life on the prairie just the same. Record heat caused many fires and made Linen and her husband, Doug, busy bees putting up as much hay as possible for much needed winter feed as many crops were lost on account of the drought. Linen and Doug have nine grandchildren ranging in age from 6 to 24, and their first great-grandchild is due in June. One son and his family have moved from Sheridan to Eden Prairie, MN, specifically so that the boys could play advanced hockey. Another son and his family live in Cody, WY.”

**Nancy Lanphier Chapin** and the Hills share a delightful friend in Atlanta, Joan Dixon Keller, a native of Springfield who has known Nancy all of her life. Nancy is a natural archivist, I think, and sent some pictures of the Chapin’s farm in Chatham, IL, outside of Springfield. Nancy is very active in all things historical in the area.

Yesterday I had the great fun of speaking with **Clarina Schwarzenbach Firmenich** on the telephone. Clarina lives in Geneva, where she has for many years. Mal and I are trying to plan a trip to France next summer, and she kindly called to say, “Stay away from France,” especially on the Mediterranean, until after the summer months. I think that she rescued us from a bad mistake! She sounds very well, has a grandson who is just starting at McGill University in Montreal. Clarina has two sons, Patrick and Antoine, each of whom is married with two children. I’m always hopeful about coaxing her to visit in the U.S.”

**Aileen “Missy” Turnbull Geddes** wrote to say that she has just returned from a bridge trip to Canada with three friends, terrible weather but lots of fun. And in capital letters, “Two grandkids have JOBS!!!” One will be working in Washington and the other in California. Missy saw Bessie Speers in New York and writes how I feel, “Every time I see Bessie, I am more thankful that she is at EWS. What a treasure.”

**Melinda “Linen” Miller Greenough** lives in Sheridan, WY, and wrote a long note; she and I hadn’t spoken on the phone for a while, and so I was particularly glad to hear from her. She wrote, “I thought I’d catch you up with life on the prairie just the same. Record heat caused many fires and made Linen and her husband, Doug, busy bees putting up as much hay as possible for much needed winter feed as many crops were lost on account of the drought. Linen and Doug have nine grandchildren ranging in age from 6 to 24, and their first great-grandchild is due in June. One son and his family have moved from Sheridan to Eden Prairie, MN, specifically so that the boys could play advanced hockey. Another son and his family live in Cody, WY.”

**Barbara Bidwell Manuel** and I had a long telephone conversation last week. Barbara remains active in her community’s activities, most especially as the organizer of trips for the excellent resident choir, Gloriae Dei Cantores, which travels extensively both here and abroad. Barbara sounded bright as a penny!

Just yesterday a cheery email came from **Dorothy Doubleday Massey**, written in Far Hills, NJ, where Dorothy is visiting her sister, **Marguerite “Meg” Doubleday Buck ’55**. Dorothy’s bookstore in Santa Fe, NM, The Collected Works Bookstore and Coffeehouse, is a hive of activity with readings, signings, and lectures. We are on her email distribution list, which is very reader-friendly. This fall’s suggested reading is Salman Rushdie’s riveting memoir Anton Joseph, about his years in hiding after the fatwa decreed by Khomeini following the publication of The Satanic Verses. His voice speaks eloquently about freedom of thought, writing, and reading.

**Lorna Sargeant Pfaelzer** wrote that she and her husband, Butch, joined **Mary Fentress Grumhaus ’57** on a trip to Venice which was “beyond wonderful.” Just a few weeks ago Lorna and her husband had dinner with **Betsy McNally Ravenel** and other guests, **Carol Keeney Munro** and her husband, Dick. “Needless to say, we had a blast,” writes Lorna. I would love to have been there!

**Barbara Richards Pitney** sent a very thoughtful note. When she wrote it, she was leaving for Cuba shortly afterwards. I’ll be interested to hear what she has to say. She wrote that the Lt. Governor of New Jersey, Kim Guadagno, was coming to her office to report on what progress and awareness there is in small business in the state. Barbara feels as I do about the importance of voting next month. Then changing hats, she was off to “a grandson’s track meet or soccer or flag football game or to eat lobster with my darling granddaughter.” Great choices, all.

**Edith “Edie” Radley** and I have had emails back and forth. She continues to sing in her church choir, is on the board of a home healthcare agency where she...
husband, Fred, live in Washington, DC, among them.

Evelyn “Evie” Lisle Rooney and I had a good visit last week. Evie and her husband, Peter, are happily ensconced in their new home in Pennsylvania, definitely have the travel bug and plan to go to northern Europe next summer. Mary and I had a long telephone conversation as by chance Mal and I had met a grandparent couple when we were attending our first Grand Day at Trinity School where our granddaughter, Caroline, is in Pre-K. When they mentioned that they had come down from Wilmington, I could not resist the urge to ask, “By any chance do you know” … and yes, the couple has known Mary and her family for decades. I had to call her!

Since the Centennial a year ago, Virginia “Gigi” Pearson Smithers and I have had several telephone conversations as well as emails back and forth. Gigi and her husband, Kip, divide their time between Vero Beach and their home on Cape Cod. Gigi wrote as follows: “This past summer the Smithers spent five weeks with their daughter’s (Sabrina Smithers DiMiceli ’81) family on the Cape. Her three boys go from one sport to the next (soccer and lacrosse during the school year) but on the Cape, it’s all tennis and golf. They are now 14, 12, and 9 and hard to keep up with (not much golf with “Mimi” anymore!!). Our son and his family also came for five days with his two sons (21 and 24) and our first adorable great-granddaughter! So nice to have a little lady after five grandsons.”

Gigi is busy with a number of volunteer obligations in both places as well as being an owner of an antique shop in Vero Beach. She remains an active reader, as is most of our class. She recommended several books: Half the Sky by Nicholas D. Kristof, That Used to be Us by Sheryl Dunn and Thomas Friedman, Behind the Beautiful Forevers by Katherine Boo, and Of Thee I Zing by Laura Ingraham.

On July 20 I awakened to the horrendous news of the shootings in Aurora, CO, Caroline “Carol” Stanwood’s present home, and sent off an email of inquiry. I was relieved to receive a quick note back, saying that no one known to her or her family had been hurt. Carol sent a most interesting email for our set of class notes, part of which I would like to share with you. Carol has moved to Boulder, CO, not too far from Denver, where her brother and sister live with their families. She is living in a senior residence, and I had to commend her for thinking ahead in such a positive way. The whole question of living arrangements is certainly the topic du jour among many of our friends here, in Seattle, and in New York. Boulder is filled with music of all kinds; Carol is in a singing class at the University of Colorado at Boulder, and is soon to audition to sing in the Boulder Bach Festival. We had lots of mutual interests to share, and vow to keep singing as long we can!

Serena Stewart and I really are in daily contact with our Scrabble Game! And yes, she remains very much the champion. She is enjoying New York...
immensely and has had a few trips throughout the year to see some of her wide circle of friends. However, she remains a loyal volunteer at Hope Lodge in New York, one of 31 different locations in the United States sponsored by the American Cancer Society that offer adult cancer patients and their caregivers free, temporary housing during cancer treatments. What does she do there? Everything!!

And now, to the sad news about which I must write. Lee Mullowney Story lost her husband of 20 years, John “Jack” Story, in July 2011. I called Lee as I had not known of his death until this spring, and we had a good visit. She and Jack met over boats! Lee has always been a keen water person and it seems that Jack was, too. Lee has family nearby: son Brien Metcalf, father of a grandson, son Rick Metcalf, and daughter Elizabeth “Beth” Metcalf. We had a long conversation. We are in those years for sure.

Gail Sheppard Moloney lost her husband, Philip J. Moloney, on September 1, 2012, after several years of ill health. Phil became one of us as he was present at quite a few of our reunions, always the courtly gentleman, and never seemed to mind our exuberant conversations! He loved life, his work, and his play and was always a welcoming friend. He died in Vero Beach, FL, where he and Gail have a winter home. Gigi, and I had been in close telephone contact during the recent months when Phil was failing. Gail always found time to send a thoughtful note to her friends.

Despite some health matters, Mal and I have had a good year. We are singing in the Cathedral Choir at the Cathedral of St. Philip, and I am singing in a smaller choir, Schola, as well, which provides the music for the 4 p.m. Evensong services from September through May. Our repertoire is laden with a cappella music, my favorite, definitely thanks to Miss Sala. I am serving a three-year term on the Chapter (Vestry) of the Cathedral and really enjoying it, and still playing two pianos weekly with my very good friend, Linda Bath. Our younger Malvern Hill family, who live only a mile away (the reason that we moved to Atlanta), are enjoying their two young children, Caroline (4) and Charlie (1), as are we. Our son, Gordon, is in his 12th year in Denver where he works for a law firm. We are grateful for the ease of calling ... a lot!

In October, we ran into Nancy “Missy” Kitchell Lickle ’53 at a holiday boutique near us in Chestertown, MD. She was representing her charming shop, Everything but the Kitchen Sink, in Hockessin, DE. She told us that our classmate Victoria “Tory” Kitchell is in St. Louis visiting her daughter, Shawn, who recently moved back to this country from Malaysia. I’m sure that Tory is thrilled that she no longer has to travel halfway around the world to see Shawn and her family.

Eleanor “Holly” McKellar Page sent an e-mail with a picture of her adorable grandson, Colton Page. It’s easy to see why she moved to Colorado, where Colton and his parents live within walking distance. She and Laurie Mack McBride have been trying to get together, but haven’t quite worked it out. Holly sounds terrific and loves her new life in Eagle Ranch, CO.

In September, Mort and I went to Bridgehampton, LI, for a family wedding. While we were there, we had a most enjoyable dinner in Amagansett with Victor and Karen Peterson Earle. Karen spent her summers there and it’s where they now live. The two lawyers got so engrossed in conversation about mutual experiences, acquaintances, etc., that Karen and I agreed you would have thought that they were the ones who went to school together.

Nancy “Kenny” King Howe recently had lunch with Joan “Joanie” Garver Anderson. She says that Joanie is just as sweet and caring as ever. She loved the card we all signed for her when we were in Wilmington.

We have a friend who lives in Manakin-Sabot, VA, not far from Angelene “Angie” Pell. They fox hunt together and say that she is a wonderful part of their community. It’s always nice to hear compliments about our classmates!

J. Randall “Randy” Furlong Street recently went to Zambia. She says that she’s been to more national parks in Africa than in this country. To make up for it, she is planning a trip to Yellowstone Park in February.

Mary Fentress Grumhaus spent a wonderful weekend in Sea Island, GA, with her brothers, sister, and their spouses. She stays busy keeping up with her many children and grandchildren.

Recently Mort and I met up with John and Elisabeth “Lisa” Dobbin Sherwood at an antique car and boat show in St. Michaels, MD. Lisa continues to be very much part of the singing community in Annapolis. We were all in Nantucket at the same time this summer, but were not able to get together for our usual dinner.
We spent a great weekend in October with Jimmy and Mary "Mimi" Gibbs Piper in Baltimore. We went to a very successful benefit at Irvine Nature Center where Jimmy is on the board and Mimi’s brother Dixon was the executive director for many years. It’s a very impressive place whose mission it is to promote environmental education. The Pipers gave us a terrific tour of the area, including a drive through Garrison Forest School where Mimi, Randy Street, Lisa Sherwood and Ellen Ober all went before they came to Walker’s.

We were very sorry to learn of the death of Frances Glee Browne Deodhar’s husband, Dr. Sharad Deodhar (in August 2011). I know I speak for all of us in sending our love and deepest sympathy.

1960

Phyllis Richard Fritts
910 Ladybug Lane
Vero Beach, FL 32963
772-234-7096
pfritts@earthlink.net

Caryl Van Ranst Dearing writes from Martha’s Vineyard, “It is raining again as it did yesterday for Columbus Day. For many, the summer is over and fall is really here. For Jim and me, it is the start of a beautiful time with the quiet of this island. We now have available parking spaces, grocery shopping any time, and restaurants open only on the weekends. Our summer was busy with family, friends, tennis, and golf. We continue to see our Massachusetts families and grandchildren. In November I will travel to EWS for an Alumnae Board meeting, which should be fun. One thing I find interesting is our class is also very well represented on the EWS Board of Trustees, with Abra Prentice Wilkin, Margot Campbell Bogert, and Harriet Blees Dewey. We were/are quite a group of ‘gals.’ You can still find me knitting and stitching while watching TV sports, still a Colts supporter, and I still follow Big Ten athletics. Yes, I am still a Hoosier! Also, this fall we got involved in political fundraising. Massachusetts is a different state politically … an eye opener. Went to Key West for my 70th birthday and had a great time.”

Ellen Corroon Petersen emails, “I joined a small group in Kenya to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Rainforest Alliance, where I worked from ’89-’91. They have been working in Kenya for five years. We went to a coffee plantation and a tea plantation and one of the subsistence farms where the RA has taught sustainable techniques. Now farmers can raise a cash crop (tuberoces) to pay for high school for their children. It was fun to meet university-educated Kenyans involved in this work. We had some of the same conversations we all have here. There were lots of complaints about how competitive it is to get one’s children into university these days. We also went to two game preserves, so I got to see some beautiful animals and birds.”

Margot Campbell Bogert says, “Jerry and I had an uneventful summer, but a highlight was seeing Mary Ann Shoenberg Margaretten in San Francisco. She is such fun and we had a great day together. I love serving on the Board of EWS with Abra and Harriet and working with Bessie Speers, our fabulous leader.”

From Abra Prentice Wilkin, “I quietly celebrated my 70th with kids and grandchildren visiting our summer nest in Lake Geneva, WI. Big moment was getting up on water skis again after 20 years … and now I don’t have to do that again! Jim and I enjoyed our annual fall trek with fellow antique wooden-boat devotees, this year to the Muskoka Lakes area of Canada. We are seriously thinking of spending Christmas with a cousin in Punta del Este, Uruguay, where it will be summer. Also, I’m really looking forward to enjoying a birthday gift from my kids, a trip to the California wine country and visiting them in LA and San Francisco. Off to NYC for a party jointly organized by Gretchen “Gen” Miller Elkus to celebrate everyone’s 70th birthday year. I know Beverly “Bea” Vander Poel Banker, Patricia “Patty” Connors Warrender, Margot Campbell Bogert, Marilyn Hodges Wilmerding, Harriet Blees Dewey … and probably more are coming!”
Take Note

A quick note from Harriet Blees Dewey saying she was just back from a vacation in Italy and she was off to the “70s” party in NYC.

Phyllis Richard Fritts writes, “Guy and I had the holiday of a lifetime spending a month in London attending lots of Olympic events and seeing lifelong British friends from our life there in the ’70s. Back in Vero Beach, FL, we are celebrating my father’s 98th birthday on Monday with family and many of his friends (Oct. 15).”

1961

Leslie "Kim" Cutler
Worcester, MA 01609-1644
508-752-5383
kc.grafix2@gmail.com

I am mother to John, who has Alexander (14), and Harriet, who has two girls, Amelia (3) and Iona (1). I also have several step-children and step-grandchildren, so we are very busy with the family.

Diana Montgomery Hughes writes, “It was a great delight to return to Walker’s after 51 years in September with my husband, Neville. We arrived on the day when Beaver Brook had to be evacuated because of a chemical spill in the laboratory, and we all had a picnic lunch on the grass. The new buildings show how Walker’s has moved on, but the feel of the place since my year as the British exchange student with the English-Speaking Union was very similar to those days. We enjoyed attending a 9th grade English lesson, and my EWS sweatshirt, purchased in the school shop, has kept me warm as the autumn weather arrives. Now that I am back on the alumni address list, it would be good to hear from anyone in my year, especially anyone who is visiting the UK. I am mother to John, who has Alexander (14), and Harriet, who has two girls, Amelia (3) and Iona (1). I also have several step-children and step-grandchildren, so we are very busy with the family.

Diana Montgomery Hughes ‘61

1962

Sage Dunlap Chase
P.O. Box 238
Elkins, NH 03233-0238
603-526-4788
sagedunlapchase@gmail.com

Margaret "Margie" Holley Sparks
101 Bellant Circle
Wilmington, DE 19807
302-655-1969
Margaret.holley@cox.net

Sage Dunlap Chase writes up lots of news: Perhaps it took a Forgotten Fiftieth to make us realize we shared too many of our formative years together to let those friendships fade. One positive result of our reunion being subsumed by the school’s Centennial is that following Abigail “Abby” Aldrich Record and Anne Strong’s valiant attempts to rally a small crew on campus, there was a flurry of correspondence indicating a real interest in seeing one another again, but with more lead time and a more relaxed agenda.

Elisabeth “Lisa” McLuney Delafield and I are hoping for a big turnout for our New Hampshire gathering. Eight have already committed, and six more will try hard to make it. We have sent invitations to all but Catharine “Cathy” Yerkes Frantzman, Marion Silverthorne Cilley, Nancy Austin Sorenson, and Katharine “Kitty” Barbour. Do any of you have their contact information? We will send out our attendance lists and more information to all who express an interest.

I stay in regular contact with Mary Goodyear Glenn, Marcia Corbin, Sara Noyes Fargo, Elisabeth “Lisa” McLuney Delafield, and Susan “Quinta” Symonds Bodin. Saw Quinta in Portland last May and also this summer when she was back East. She is on her own, living in a wonderful old duplex, and stays interested in gardening, Portland cultural activities, and keeping up with friends. Marcia Corbin is leading a quiet life in Aspen, where she has been involved in environmental issues for many years.

My husband, Dick, and I are loving “retirement” in NH. I spend a lot of time reading, cooking, kayaking, and attending hospital board meetings, as well as with friends in book, theater, and knitting groups. We travel a lot, mostly to keep up with our five sons and their families (14 grandchildren at last count), who are scattered all over the country, but also to exotic places when we can. Had a wonderful trip to Egypt with Mary Goodyear Glenn and her husband right before the revolution!! Hope to see ALL of you in New Hampshire next fall!! Love to all, Sage.

Margie Holley Sparks collected the following notes from classmates:

Jeanette “Jeanie” Hunt Van Nice writes, “Peter and I are in London celebrating his birthday; we are planning our day around a major demonstration scheduled in Waterloo Place in front of our hotel. More excitement than usual for us! I do hope to be there in September! Thank you, Sage and Lisa.”

From Mary Goodyear Glenn: “I thought I was going to retire from my landscape design business, but in fact I
had one of my busiest years ever. I do think it is time for me to slow down and 'smell my own roses,' so hope to just do consulting next year. Dick is still practicing law but on a much more limited basis. We have seven grandchildren—3 to 14 years old—and try to stay involved with them as much as possible. We spend about four months a year in Louisiana. We love the more relaxed lifestyle, the music, and great food. Hope lots of classmates will participate in the reunion in New Hampshire next fall.”

Sarah “Sally” Bryant Dean sends this note: “I hope to get to Sage’s reunion next year. We live on two continents, dividing our time between southern England and eastern U.S. So life is never dull. I have three step ‘children’ and six grandchildren living near us in England, and my son lives near Atlanta, GA, with his wife and two boys. My daughter lives in NYC with her husband and two girls. So a grand total of 10 grandchildren. They keep us on our toes. Christmas this year in England with ALL the family (22) around the table. So excited.”

Catherine “Cathie” Smith Leonard shared this news: “In brief, a few years ago I retired from my job in Vermont as an outreach social worker working with low income families and troubled children. My husband and I moved to Connecticut to be nearer some of our grandchildren and to have a couple more months of outdoor weather. We ended up a few miles from Walker’s in Simsbury! I have six grandchildren ranging in age from 15 years old to 4 months, and am just loving being involved with all of them. Interests include hiking, biking, kayaking, choral singing, messing in my gardens, and Pilates. Trying to stay healthy! We summer at Prince Edward Island, where all grandkids and their parents come to enjoy the simple lifestyle there. I will be at the reunion!”

Abby Aldrich Record writes: “I am now living in Marblehead, MA, very close to where I grew up. I have two children and two grandchildren, and my second husband, Gene, has three children, two step-children and 10 grandchildren. They are all scattered around the country, which makes for interesting travels. I retired from lawyering in Boston eight years ago and now spend a lot of my time painting, which I love. Go figure. Best to everyone.”

Valerie Vidal Hewitt sent this catch-up and news: “BA from U of A, MA from California where I got married, had a son and worked for many years for the San Diego County Juvenile Court. Moved to Florida in ’90 to help my mom and have been living, working, and traveling the world from there ever since. Am currently living in Delray Beach, where I have enjoyed the tennis and squash teams as well as my love for scuba and underwater photography. Really enjoyed catching up with Suzanne Fox and her husband, Allan Williams, in Orlando last year. We all did the Disney scene, where I had previously worked and had a wonderful time.”

And I, Margie Holley, and my husband, Peter Sparks, have just this weekend moved from Arizona to our new home in Wilmington, DE, where each of our two children (plus spouses and seven grandchildren) live only 40 minutes away (in opposite directions). I retired about a year ago in the wake of Peter’s life-saving surgery (a total pancreatectomy!), and in between enjoying our family, I’ll now be continuing with my writing habit and also volunteering at the Winterthur Museum’s Information Desk.
Lynn shares, "I am the temporary correspondent as Robin Frost Bessin is up to her ears in moving boxes. Our 50th reunion is coming up this May 17-19, 2013. I have been in contact with many of you by phone and have left many messages. I will continue to do so until you either answer or return my call or email me at cythmad@aol.com. This is a special time for all of us. The more of our classmates who come to the reunion, the more fun it will be. Who knows where we will be for our 60th! Hoping to attend to date are Stevens “Stevee” Greeff De Vargas, Cheryl Clark Chalmers, Robin Frost Bessin, Nancy Clarke, Suzanne “Suzy” Schroeder Chapman, Elizabeth “Liz” Jack Ghriskey, Leidy Paine Samson, and maybe Emily Agnew Nelson. The more the merrier. Think of all of the interesting stories to be told and pictures to share!"

1964

Cynthia “Cindy” Higgins Roby
40 Cable Roadway
Sausalito, CA 94965-2302
415-332-6556
croby@earthlink.net

Sylvia “Sylvie” Brooks reports from Amsterdam, where she has lived for many years: “Lavinia “Vinnie” Chase and I went back to Walker’s for a day during the Centennial celebration. I had not seen Walker’s since I left in 1964 because I live so far away and need to catch up with so many people on my annual visits to the States. I was amazed by all the changes at EWS, particularly the new buildings and new use of Beaver Brook. I also got very nostalgic when I saw that Cluett had been torn down. I’d heard this before, but one has to see it to believe it. Vinnie and I were so glad we took the trouble to drive down from Boston and relive our past. During the Centennial, we caught a glimpse of Lynn Allegaert and Suzanne “Suzi” Chapin Berl.”

Linda Marvin Benjamin says, “Park and I have been out cruising on our boat all summer. We will be moving to our new house on Centre Island in the fall. Other than that, we spend a lot of time visiting our 12 grandchildren, who are scattered all around the world.”

Elizabeth “Liz” Yinkey Moore saw Karen Johnson last summer when she was in Watch Hill visiting her sister Penelope “Penny” Johnson Wartels ’62, also a Walker’s girl. “Penny is a terrific cook and recruits Karen every summer. They make corn relish, jams, jellies etc. Karen looks great and we had a terrific afternoon.”

Patricia “Patsy” Ladd Carega, who has the Patricia Carega Gallery in Sandwich, NH, reports with a laugh, “Met Bessie Speers, our delightful new (or not so new) Head of School. Sue Speers, her mother-in-law and resident of Sandwich, brought Bessie to the gallery pre-opening time one day to meet me. Guess who was in the shower! Long & short, I met our new Head of School in a towel, dripping from head to toe. We had a wonderful, energetic visit (and yes, I did get dressed). So much fun to see the Speers family in the gallery and re-connect with all that Walker’s is doing and has to offer. Great stuff! Three children within driving distance is bliss. Francesca and her family will be moving to Hong Kong this fall and that makes up for the easy drives. I look forward to visiting Hong Kong, but I will miss my trips to London. Marco and Livia are in NYC and Alessia at Saint Paul’s School in Concord, NH.”

Cindy Higgins Roby: “My happiest news is the arrival of a grandson, Ryan Christie Roby, born to my son Jay and his wife, Ali, on August 9. He was born in Atlanta, where Jay is working at Cox Communications. Jay also has a wonderful 9-year-old daughter, Madison. Maybe she’ll be a Walker’s girl someday? My younger son, Nick, lives and works here in the Bay Area. I had a wonderful October visit from beloved classmate Dane Nichols. Although I have been retired for several years, I am now helping a couple of nonprofits with communications: press releases, newspaper articles, and that sort of minor exotica. But the important news has to do with my favorite Walker’s girl, Elise Farley Higgins ’40, who turned 90 on August 18. Family gathered from near and far to celebrate with her. The happy event became incredibly poignant soon after. Mom died just two weeks later from a combination of Parkinson’s disease and pneumonia. She was the most wonderful mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother. And she loved Walker’s! The EWS Alumnae Office also forwarded a note from Diane Newton Sumner ’41, who evidently named her daughter after Mom. I did not know this! Mom would have loved to know of this correspondence.”
I got a terrific catch-up from Anne Fuller Wall this year! “I got married after my junior year at Stanford, though I did also graduate. We just had our 45th wedding anniversary. We had our two sons very rapidly by today’s standards. I did a lot of volunteer work until they started elementary school. Then I went on an officer training program at Wells Fargo Bank and stayed in banking for 20 years. When we got the last one through college, I retired, and lo and behold in the fullness of time became an Episcopal minister. My husband, Jim, was also in banking for 40 years, the last half of which he started small community banks. When he retired the first time, we moved down here to the Central Coast, near San Luis Obispo, for the clean air and weather. About six months after moving, he got talked into starting a new bank back in the Bay Area. I stayed here. We have rural property with our horse and three dogs. Of all the things that I have done, my passion was being the Intensive Care and Trauma Chaplain at Stanford University Hospital for eight years and being on the Ethics Board. Regrettably, I can’t duplicate that here as the hospitals are small.

“We also left our older son, his wife, and three grandchildren, who live in San Jose. Fortunately, I have kept all my Palo Alto-based doctors, too many, and end up going up about once a month for one thing or another and stay with them. Grandma Anne sleeps on the trundle bed with her granddaughter. Our other son works in telecommunications, is single, and lives in Sacramento. So we live a pretty quiet life now, a little quieter than we would like actually. I am busy with our church, but not all the time. Jim is still on a bank board and does volunteer work. It seems like I spend a lot of time riding and doing activities with the dogs, a Great Dane, a Welsh Corgi, and a Shih Tzu. For the last year I have been taking the Corgi and Shih Tzu to nose work classes, like they train the police dogs for drugs, though we don’t use drugs as our scent! The Shih Tzu is 8 years old and somewhat crippled from birth, but is the star performer. I am thinking about entering her in a trial competition. So I guess you could say I have gone to the dogs.”

Wonderful, talented Charlotte “Carla” Meyer was in the San Francisco in August. What a treat it is for me to see her always! She is smart, fun, and talented. Our friendship preceded Walker’s. We grew up on Long Island together! Carla, who is a dialect coach, reports: “Since I last wrote, it’s been a quieter year. I keep thinking that I may actually have accomplished retirement, but then I realize there are horseshoes to be purchased and pups and kits to keep in their ‘high quality’ food. (No Alpo for them!) So back to work I go. This time I’m on a Woody Allen movie, the name of which remains W.A.S.P. (short for Woody Allen Summer Project) until something else appeals to him. I’m coaching the brilliant Cate Blanchett and equally wonderful Sally Hawkins. One Australian, one Brit, playing American sisters … Don’t even ask! One of the highlights of the shoot was that it brought me to San Francisco, where Cindy Roby and I were able to have a wonderful afternoon.”

“We came up to Fenwick, CT, in late June,” reported Anne Brainard Schmitt last summer. “We’re having fun seeing old friends and family. Husband, Steve, got homesick for South Carolina so we came down to Dataw for a week. Had a blast playing some golf, tennis, and being with new friends.”

Celeste Royall Niarchos says: “It has been fun being the President of the Alumnae Board, and we have had some great events, such as the horse races in Saratoga, NY, where I showed off my handicapping talent to pick some winners. My big news is that my daughter, Zoe, got married on July 23 in Crete. The entire family travelled to Greece for the occasion, spending time in Athens and in the eastern part of Crete. We had a nice vacation in addition to the wedding. She married a fellow Greek, Jack Anerakis, who is a lawyer. They live in Boston, close by. I am trying to wind down my practice and look forward to getting back to our new home in Fr. Myers at Fiddlesticks in November.”

Lea Austen Hooker reports that her daughter Annie recently married Andrew Bolam. Both of them are artists. Lea says: “Annie is so happy with Andrew. He’s a terrific guy. They have created a wonderful life together, working hard and living simply. They are constantly painting but find time to do lots outdoors—hiking, biking, etc. Your class secretary is Annie’s godmother and is proud of her. She is a very talented painter.”

1965

Your class needs a Correspondent!
Contact alumnae@ethelwalker.org

Judith “Judy” Coburn Klein shares: “Pictured here are Tyler and Jonathan Klein, my grandsons. They are enjoying a picnic on the bench outside the chapel at Walker’s that was given in honor of their great-grandfather (my father), The Rev. John Coburn, a trustee and longtime friend of EWS. He was also the father of Sarah Coburn Borgeson ’71. Tyler and Jonathan found it quite amusing that their great-grandfather would have been honored with a bench!”

Grandsons of Judith “Judy” Coburn Klein ’65

1966

Your class needs a Correspondent!
Contact alumnae@ethelwalker.org

Contact alumnae@ethelwalker.org
**Take Note**

**1967**
Caroline Adams Muller  
14 East Fifth Avenue, #4B  
New York, NY 10011  
212-450-4359  
muller.caroline@gmail.com

Nancy Hathaway Steenburg was one of the contributing authors to *The Rockets’ Red Glare: The War of 1812 and Connecticut*. She also was elected President of the New London County Historical Society at its September annual meeting.

**1968**

Kimberley Smith Niles  
14 McLains Woods Road  
Groton, MA 01450  
978-448-9279  
kimniles@hotmail.com

Cate S. Lord  
30363 Hilltop Drive  
Evergreen, CO 80439-8753  
720-220-9140  
catelord@yahoo.com

Thank you, everyone, who sent in news. It was wonderful to hear from all of you! And it was especially nice to hear from those who haven’t sent news in a while.

Ingrid Kaufmann Hamilton called all the way from Germany and gave me her news: “Hi, everybody! I am still living in Kiel, Germany, and have the same address, telephone, and email address. Jennifer, my daughter, is still living in Nassau and her kids are now 3 and 6. They are attending my old school, St. Andrew’s School, the third generation of our family to do so. Here’s some news for those in our class who took piano lessons: I learned that Rosi Grunschlag, sister of Toni Grunschlag, passed away at the beginning of 2012. My sincere regards to all of you!”

And we heard from Katharine Goodbody too: “It has been forever since I have responded but thought I would this time. My oldest daughter, Rachel Deming, just started medical school at University of California, San Francisco. My middle daughter, Kate Deming, is living in the Boston area and working for the Girl Scouts. My youngest daughter, Anna Deming, is in her sophomore year at Washington University in St. Louis. She is minoring in painting, but hasn’t decided on a major yet. I am living and working in New Haven. I practice law, doing some criminal appeals and some environmental and other general legal work. I also teach an undergraduate course in Environmental Law and Policy at the University of New Haven, which is a lot of fun. It is very quiet with the girls gone, but I have two dogs and two cats (all rescues) to keep me company.”

Mary Laub Cowan sent in: “Still President of our wonderful Greenbrier Valley Theatre company (last year’s special event was Ellis [dad] and Branford Marsalis playing together—fabulous!), but after my term is up, I’m moving over to Charlottesville, VA. Renovating a classic architect’s-dream home and hope to be in by late next spring. We’ll see. Very happy and well.”

Charlotte Mckim said, “I don’t have much to report I’m afraid. Life is currently pretty calm and quiet. I did leave New Jersey and move to Florida a year ago, and after a considerable settling-in period, I am now thoroughly enjoying life. I hope you are well and I am hoping to see everyone at a reunion soon.”

Gurukirn Paulus Khalsa said, “Still painting in the desert again: ”For a week in October I attended Plein Air Moab, a plein air (painting outdoors) event in Utah in the heart of canyon country. I visited Arches and Canyonland National Parks and Dead Horse Point State Park, all of which were quite breathtaking. In the picture I was posing under Mesa Arch in Canyonlands. I often set up my easel at one of the lookout points, so had quite a few curious onlookers. The vastness was very uplifting. Guru Dev Kaur and her husband, Seva Simran Singh, and their 6-month old son, Puran Amrit Singh, are doing great in San Francisco. We had a nice visit at the end of September.”

Susan Nichols Ferriere wrote that, although they were unable to leave New York last summer, they fortunately had many visitors from abroad. She adds, “In terms of ‘official news,’ I really have none except to send my love to all our classmates and encourage them to find their way to NYC soon, where we will be delighted to see them.”

Jane Shanholt Sacasa says: “We rented out our Hampton summer house in August, first moved Alejandra into her apartment near the University of Illinois...”
Chicago Medical School and helped her put together all the IKEA furniture (what parents do for their kids these days!), then we headed to Beaver Creek, CO, to relax, hike, and fly fish for 10 days! Then we went to Hong Kong for 10 days, where I have client families with kids who want to get into American schools. We finally wrapped up the month with a week in New York City. It was a great month!

Elizabeth “Lisa” Elkinton Barr sent me this: “Just spent a great afternoon with Susan Ferriere and her husband, Patrick, in Washington, DC, where our husbands were for meetings of the Retina Society and the American Swiss Foundation. Lunch at the Mandarin Oriental Hotel and then off to Dumbarton Oaks Museum and Gardens, designed by Beatrix Farrand. Balmy afternoon with great friends. Off to dinner now!”

Cate Lord wrote: “All I can say is that I continue to work with veterans, and it is becoming harder and harder to get them the care they need, because the system is so overloaded with Vietnam vets in their mid to late 60s who are getting sicker and sicker, and all the new vets coming home, not to mention the budget cuts in places we can’t afford to cut. So I am facing angrier and angrier patients each day who don’t understand why the VA is no longer taking care of them. It is frustrating and stressful. I did have a lovely warm (some say too hot) summer in my garden growing and tending bright colored flowers. We had our first hard freeze and snow last week so I am now figuring out what I will occupy myself with this winter. Much love to everyone!”

As for me, Katy Murphy Ingle, I had a lovely visit with my daughter Gina and my old friends this summer in Switzerland. This time, my husband, Bill, came with me, and we hiked up to the mountain hotel near Grindelwald together. It was a fantastic experience. He says he’ll never look at a mountain the same way again! Gina is fine and is busy working in theater and dance in several cities around Europe. Daniel is working hard as a web developer in San Diego, and we are looking forward to visiting him and his family at Christmas.

Katy ’69, Gina, and Bill Ingle in Zurich

Our intrepid group were Susan “Susie” Churchill Bowman (a great tour director!), Diedra “Dee Dee” Roach-Quaries (thanks for her financial wizardry and contributing a personal trainer and catered dinner and lunch!), Jane Hadden Geisse (super help in the kitchen!), Jill Englund Jensen (still a great baker after all these years!), Lisa Harrington Foote (thanks for the mementos from New Hampshire!), Aimee Gilleaudeau Lundy (a great sport!), Karen Brooks (a songstress extraordinaire!), Cynthia Anderson Barker (part of the impromptu choir!), Beryn Frank Harty (thanks for the bracelet!), Priscilla Cushman (thanks for setting up our EWS ’72 Facebook page!), Victoria “Tori” Reeve Spaulding (always a hoot!), and me, Joanna Betts Virkler.

Many thanks also to Bessie and Tom Speers, who joined us for an evening. We were so impressed with Bessie and her passion for Walker’s. Below is an excerpt from a note Bessie wrote to Susie about her own observations: “There seemed to be an openness, a level of compassion and support that was remarkable among your group. The talent, beauty, natural and down-to-earth quality of you and your classmates were striking. Walker’s women, yes, are often talented and strong in many ways, but it seemed to Tom and me that you and your classmates have something in particular that resonates with each other and is such a terrific balance of intellect, interesting passions, professions, life stories, experiences and a willingness to keep learning and contributing in the world. We loved being part of your warmth and vibrancy with each other.”

Really hope more of you can make it to next reunion!

We missed Catherine “Cathy” Miller Patel, who had to cancel so she could fight the good fight against breast cancer (Cynthia reports Cathy is doing well). And we did remember to toast Sarah House Denby on her birthday; she was celebrating in Tanzania. Now, no excuses in two years when we meet on Kiawah Island, SC!!!
Earlier this summer, I met Mary Mountcastle about halfway between her home in Durham, NC, and mine in Charlotte. We spent an enjoyable couple of hours catching up. And following the reunion in September, Dee Dee and I had lunch with Elyse “Muffin” Leonard ’71, and after dropping Dee Dee at the Providence, RI, airport, I spent the night with Muffin at her Marion, MA, home. It was fun catching up with Muffin, too!

Jane Hadden Geisse writes: “Thank you for sharing Bessie’s letter. WOW!! I always knew that about our class, but thought my perception might be a bit biased. When you think about all the people Bessie meets, past students, etc., to have her see our class as unique is really something. I am VERY impressed with her and the direction she is taking Walker’s. It has renewed my faith in girls’ boarding schools! Our big news this year was that our daughter Ali got married. The wedding was near Winter Park, CO, and was an incredibly joyful occasion. Ali is already pregnant and expecting March 29. Needless to say, we are thrilled. She lives and teaches in Denver. Her sister, Boo, is trying to get her writing career launched. She has been freelancing for Cleveland Magazine and preparing a portfolio for a master’s program.

“My motto is: I may have to get older, but I don’t have to get more mature!” (Joanna adds: Jane is a two-time gold medalist in the Senior Olympics.) Jane adds, “I’m very involved in our local rescue and still play the violin in the Solon Philharmonic Orchestra. Husband, Tim, is trying to master his golf game and occasionally does some legal work as well as travel to South America, where his family’s foundation supports various micro-lending and well-digging operations.”

From Cynthia Anderson Barker: “Had a wonderful, amazing reunion with my very impressive and inspiring classmates. Good exercise, great conversation and splendid food and drink thanks to everyone’s incredible effort. Missed Cathy Miller Patel but she was in our thoughts. Hope to visit her in Canada next summer. My work life is still very consuming. When I returned to Los Angeles, I jumped right back into meetings about immigration policy and reform and reconnected with my law students and office mates. Also prepared for a fundraiser at my home with a hundred guests who support repeal of the death penalty and the Three Strikes law in California. My husband plans to retire at the end of the year. I HOPE WE CAN DO THIS!!”

And Karen Brooks: “I’m still doing some farming in western Massachusetts, walking the fine line between self-sufficiency and inefficiency. Some of my creative efforts have been spent in producing farm products for sale, and this time of year it’s good to look at the big picture. I turned my house into a vacation rental this year (soon to have its own website), since my kids are all on their own now (Sarah’s in Sausalito working at the Academy of Sciences and the No Name Bar, Liza is assistant registrar at BU, Loren’s in school studying art, and Patrick’s in the Navy October and in the process beat the woman who is the World Champion in my division. World Championships will be in the U.S. for the first time this winter, so I’m planning to see if I can beat this woman again and get a world title. My motto is: I may have to get older, but I don’t have to get more mature!” (Joanna adds: Jane is a two-time gold medalist in the Senior Olympics.) Jane adds, “I’m very involved in our local rescue and still play the violin in the Solon Philharmonic Orchestra. Husband, Tim, is trying to master his golf game and occasionally does some legal work as well as travel to South America, where his family’s foundation supports various micro-lending and well-digging operations.”
[IS] in the Middle East). I’m also still playing out in the Hudson Valley, solo and with my music partner, and, yes, still singing with Pete Seeger, who is going strong at 93. I was amazed (and relieved) at how well our group of 12 interacted on Martha’s Vineyard, how intimate (and familiar) it was sleeping in a house together—felt like it could have gone on forever. For those of you who couldn’t make it (out of lack of time, lack of funds, lack of confidence, whatever), I encourage you to come next time. My thinking is, if it’s a question of funds, don’t be afraid to speak up. We are such a motley crew, there’s definitely wiggle-room. So here’s to an amazing class, and also to our alma mater, so changed for the better!"

Susie Churchill Bowman: “I will certainly make the trip to Kiawah! (Unless my arthritis again has me disabled like I was three years ago when travel was literally impossible because of pain/weakness/stiffness). But take heart. I have no intention of going back there! I have to have missed the mini-reunion on Martha’s Vineyard, when I had little rest during the day and slept so few hours every night. I had only the week before cut my medication in half. I really thought I’d have a setback, but I’ve caught up on sleep now and am fine. Hooray! I plan to have my blood tested at the end of the month (for two inflammation markers), and if things look good, I will stop my anti-inflammatory medication entirely and see how I do. My type of arthritis (spondyloarthropathy—how’s that for a mouthful!) can resolve in some cases, and I plan to be one of those cases!”

Regina “Reggie” Scruggs: “Warm greetings to my classmates! I’m so sorry to have missed the mini-reunion on Martha’s Vineyard, but it looks like those who got there had a great time. It’s been a year of great change for me. After many years of living in Houston, I moved to Little Rock, AR, in the spring of 2012 for a great job opportunity. I was hired by KLRE-FM, the 24-hour classical music radio station at the University of Arkansas to be its Program Director. Soon after I arrived, the Program Director of our sister station, KUAR-FM, departed. I have just been given the opportunity to head KUAR as well, so I have scored a big promotion (and lots more responsibility!) after being here for just six months. It’s busy, but fulfilling and satisfying. I believe in public broadcasting, NPR, and bringing a wide variety of music and cultural programming to our listeners. On a more personal note, I have recently reconnected with my younger sister, who just moved to Atlanta from Florida. We haven’t seen each other for many years and are hoping to get together over the holidays.”

And lastly, big news from Sarah House Denby: “Yours truly is now a new member of Walker’s Board of Trustees and so looking forward to working with Bessie and her team. Missed the first board meeting because of Africa but the next one is next week. Yay! My daughter, Lisa, bought a house in the Germantown area of Philly, so is a first-time homeowner at 31. Now I get to rent a U-Haul and take all her stuff that has been here in Rhode Island for the past 15 years and take it to HER house! And my son, Ted, and his wife, Katie, will be moving to Switzerland (Lausanne) for a year starting this spring. Both their companies (Medtronic for him, General Mills for her) have offices there so they will stay gainfully employed. They will be taking French classes pretty soon … and we will go skiing next January in Zermatt! Still playing golf and tennis although a bit creaky here and there; more evenings spent by the fireplace!”

1974

Vanessa Guerrini-Maraldi Wilcox
580 West End Avenue
New York, NY 10024-1723
212-877-3413
evmailcox@nyc.rr.com

I have some sad news to report. Elizabeth “Liz” Palmer Higgins’s husband, Tom Higgins, died on September 10 after suffering a heart attack. Some of Liz’s classmates attended Tom’s funeral on September 15 at Wesleyan College Chapel. This was followed by Tom’s burial at Indian Hill Cemetery in Middletown, CT. Afterwards Darby Tench Leicht, Lois Johnson Hughes and her partner, Aimee, and Vanessa Wilcox and her husband, John, gathered at Liz’s home in Torrington. You can write to Liz at: 113 Old Farms Road, Torrington, CT 06790 or you can send her an email at: ephiggins@hotmail.com. I am sure she would like to hear from you.

Katherine “Kate” Bentley MacPherson wrote to me that her son, Grant, is now attending boarding school not too far from home. It’s a bit quieter not having him around the house. Kate continues to do interesting work with her architectural firm.

1975

Doris “Veda” Pendleton McClain
425 South Hubbards Lane #373
Louisville, KY 40207
502-384-7041
veda_mcclain@yahoo.com

Deborah “Debbie” Bell Spoehel writes from McLean, VA: “My daughter, Elizabeth, is at Walker’s this year. She’s a junior and is living in my old room at Cluett. How funny is that?”

Penelope “Penny” Jonas Brewer writes: “My three boys are now 18 (Max), 17 (Hugo), and 15 (Angus). Max has just started at Edinburgh University, reading French and Spanish. Hugo and
Angus have two and three years, respectively, left at Radley College, before going on to university. Paul set up his own company 12 years ago in London, and we live on the Dorset/Wiltshire border with horses, chickens, and three very spoiled dogs! As a family we love skiing, and the boys are passionate about all country sports, hunting, fishing, and shooting. If any of my classmates are ever in the UK, please do contact me at pennybrewer@donheadhall.co.uk.

Catherine “Cathy” Munson Rogerson writes, "Well, we have two children off the dole and one on her way to college with one still at home for two more years. This has freed me up to pursue a long-awaited career in marriage coaching. I am now certified as a marriage and life coach and am working with people in the areas of marriage, infertility, adoption, and parenting. Check out my new website (which needs some work) at rogersonfamilyservices.com! I am also writing a weekly article for my church and just want to thank Mary Nelson over and over for teaching me how to write! Greatest teacher I ever had! I hope she is reading this!"

Veda McClain shares, “Nyoka Browno Woods visited with me this summer in Louisville, KY. What a blessing! We spent time together chatting away about our lives, our faith, and our families, while reading books and playing games on our electronic gadgets. After a week, she returned to Orangeburg, SC, to prepare for the new school year, and I did the same. I hope that all of you are doing well and enjoying life. Please keep me posted about events in your life. Have a wonderfully blessed holiday season.”

Allison Wanamaker: “I'm busy raising funds for the equestrian disciplines of the Central American Games to be hosted in March 2013, as well as very active on the Centro Cultural Costarricense Norteamericano as VP (U.S.-Costa Rican bi-national center). For the games, we're trying to launch a version of the cow parade but on a much smaller scale and using horses that will be painted by artists and exhibited the month before the games. My daughter is at St. George's as a junior this year.”
weekend, and by now I think I can even give a college tour myself!"

Anne Lacouture Penniman: “The largest project in my office is the Weekapaug Inn in Rhode Island, a renovation of a historic coastal summer hotel into a year-round luxury inn. We also designed a new 42-acre park for the town of Madison, CT, located at a former airport. Oldest daughter, Jeannette, graduated from Yale in May and in July started a master’s program at Yale Architecture School. Amelia is a junior at UVA and spending the semester in Paris, forcing us to visit her this fall (ha ha). My mother is turning 92 this fall, and we just had a family reunion at the Cape to celebrate.”

Frances “Flann” Lippincott: “I’ve recently formed an intellectual property boutique law firm with a patent attorney and patent agent, and it’s lots of fun! My kids are launched, with my daughter working at the Aspen Art Museum and my son deep in politics in the District of Columbia, working for a telemarketing firm for Democratic campaigns. All in all, life is good. I enjoyed the Centennial, and seeing everyone there. I’m looking forward to our next reunion!”

Larke Woods Wheeler: “My daughter Callan is a junior studying interior design at Auburn University, and my son is a senior this year so we are on the hunt for colleges. My youngest is a freshman in high school. All are happy and well, thank God! Ray and I are both good … just working, raising kids, and trying to keep all the wheels on the bus.”

“Virginia “Ginny” Spilman Perrin came through town a few months ago and spent the night. It was wonderful to see her. As always, she looks fantastic! Her son Forrest and daughter in law, Richa, are living in Macon (Richa’s hometown). They have two precious little girls, so she was going down for a quick visit. Ginny’s second son, Coles, lives in Richmond and works with her husband, Coleman, in construction. Whit, her youngest, just graduated this spring from law school in Charleston. She is thrilled because he is living and working there. We had so much fun catching up. It’s wonderful to see old friends and pick up right where you left off … especially after a thousand years! I try to keep up with Anne Lacouture Penniman and Staley Cayce Sednaoui. They are both great!”

Lisa Weber Greenberg: “I have been busy appraising art and working part-time at the Clark Gallery in Lincoln, MA. My youngest is a junior, and we are just beginning the crazy college process. It only seems to get more complicated with each kid. My middle child will be graduating from Brown this year, and my oldest is living in what must be the tiniest studio apartment in Soho (NYC).”

1977
Lisa Bourget Frisbie
2 Caryn Road
Wcatogue, CT 06089
860-431-5216
academicinsight@aol.com
Deborah Rush
Two Sisters’ Farm
400 Fairview Road
Coatesville, PA 19320-4449
(610) 380-9312
twir@aol.com
Lisa Bourget Frisbie shares: “After 17 years of living away from the Greater Hartford area, my family and I returned and live in Simsbury. My son, Harrison, is a sophomore at Trinity College, and my daughter, Sawyer, is a sophomore at that other all-girls’ school in Farmington.” Last March, I officially launched my college and boarding school counseling company, Academic Insight LLC. You can check out my web site at www.academic-insight.com. Deborah Rush and I will share the privilege of connecting with classmates, in the roles of Class Correspondents. Please send ALL of your news and updates in to be shared. We are a great class and we are doing fantastic things with our lives. Let’s let the other classes know that we rock!”

1978
Ashley Lickle O’ Neil
3 Harbor Bluff Lane
Rowayton, CT 06853
203-966-6025
aoneil@optonline.net
Elizabeth “Libby” Swearengen Cerullo shares: “My youngest son graduated from high school, and we’re planning a mother-son trip to Iceland in late summer ’12. Would love to hear from anyone who has been there and has ideas of what not to miss (besides volcano eruptions!). Life is good.”

Anne “Annie” Crandall Campbell: “I have recently moved to Londonderry, VT, and I am leading outdoor day trips both in lower Vermont and Connecticut. My oldest daughter just got engaged, so I am also going to be busy planning a wedding! I have seen Deborah “Deb” Coward Smicka often in Connecticut, Barbara “Barb” Heimbach Webber this spring in Montana, and Jennifer Hermann in Boston. Everyone is doing great! I am trying to get some EWS alums together in Connecticut to do some winter snowshoeing or hiking. Let me know if you are interested. I look forward to seeing everyone at our reunion in May.
Anne Crandall Campbell
(anniecampbell27@gmail.com)
Ashley Lickle O’Neil writes: “It’s time to reunite! We’re not getting any younger, life is short, and you must be out of excuses why you didn’t come to the last six reunions. No more excuses! Put our 35th reunion date in your calendar right now (Friday, May 17- Sunday, May 19, 2013). Come on … we’ve grown up a lot. Let’s have some fun together. Hope to see you there! P.S. Also mark your calendar for a girls’ night ‘pre-game’ at my house in Rowayton, CT, if you’re in the area Friday, January 25. Save the date!”

Karen Polcer Bdera
24-03 86th Street
E. Elmhurst, NY 11369
718-429-7594
pinkwalk@gmail.com

Karen Bdera sends news: “Entering the 4th quarter at a not-for-profit in the development/special events area is daunting. Here are just a few of the things I’m involved with this fall: 6th Annual Golden Heart Awards Gala (600 guests—and you thought seating your wedding guests was tough!); online holiday catalog set up (generous donations turn into lots of work—look for the catalog www.godslovewedeliver.org/shop); Support of the Avon Walk for Breast Cancer (I walk it, but our organization feeds the walkers their lunches on day two of the walk—LOTS of sandwiches); ‘Basket Day,’ when we assemble special Thanksgiving baskets of nonperishable food for our clients’ households; The Race to Deliver, the four-mile race we sponsor in Central Park to raise money to help fund our program; Thanksgiving, the day when we all work and deliver a special Thanksgiving meal to nearly 1,000 households; ‘Blizzard Bag Day’ when we assemble special bags of nonperishable food for our clients in case there is a day in the winter when we can’t deliver because of the weather; Christmas Eve, the day when we all work and deliver a special Holiday Feast meal to nearly 1,000 households, as well as gifts for the children in those households and the aforementioned Blizzard Bags. Okay, after that list, I need a nap.”

Ashley Smith Washburn writes: “Since my last update, I took high school students on a service trip to Tanzania in June. During the three weeks, we spent much of our time working at IMUMA Orphanage and Vulnerable Children Center, one of our partner NGOs; visiting the villages where my foundation, Asante Sana For Education, is building schools; working with the Students Empowering Students Club members from Bagamoyo Secondary School and taking them to tour the University of Dar Es Salaam; doing lots of art shopping; and going on a few safaris by land and boat. Our first school and teacher housing in the village of Magogoni is close to completion, and we are about to break ground on our second school in the village of Mnindi. I am actually heading back to Tanzania on October 6 with my oldest son for a week to check on our projects and will possibly be leading a college student service trip in January in addition to the June student trip. It has been nice to hear from EWS alumnae who are interested in helping ASFE and traveling with us.”

Stephanie "Stori" Stockwell Cadigan writes: “Life here in Hamilton, MA, is great. We sent our daughter off to Middlesex this fall so now the house is very empty. I read Dana Carter Lange’s blog every day… everyone should :) (Note: Dana challenged herself to lose 50 pounds, so that we can sponsor her per pound, with the proceeds going to a local food bank. She’s done on November 1. Let’s see how she does!!!!) I can’t wait for the next reunion; if anyone is up this way, come say hi.”

Elizabeth “Lisa” Danforth Hurst writes: “I spent a late September weekend in Vermont with Lela Schaus Philip and Cynthia Reed Klein and a few other mutual friends. It was great to be with just the girls and have nothing to ‘have’ to do. We enjoyed lots of laughs reminiscing over nothing and everything, and realized the beauty of these high-school friendships is that it takes exactly one millisecond to slip back into ourselves of 33 years ago. Fresh air and friends—what more do you need? My two sons are thoroughly enjoying Middlebury, and Spencer will be graduating in May. (Note: one tuition down!) Parker is just a year behind him, but we are already sad to think that our parent weekends and squash events are winding down. Lizzie is a junior at Greenwich Academy so all that fun stuff like SATs and college are definitely on her radar. Keeping it all in balance is my job. Although I do not sign on very often (amazing how much time one could spend surfing), it has been really fun to reconnect with EWS classmates and friends on Facebook!”
Deana Washburn
12 Craig Place
Cranford, NJ 07016-2307
908-272-4229
deanadw@aol.com

Ann O'Reilly
110 South Road
Winsted, CT 06098
860-738-4442
ASOR1@aol.com

Deana Washburn shares: “For those of you who sent news of last October’s Centennial, it sounded like great fun. I especially enjoyed seeing all of the Class of ’81’s photos on Facebook. Seems they had a wonderful turnout for the dual celebration (Walker’s Centennial AND their 30th reunion.) Since most all of us are reaching the 50-year milestone in 2012, I’d like to wish one and all a happy half-century and a rich and rewarding year ahead!”

Of course, Susan Knapp Thomas was at the Centennial celebration. As she put it, living 10 minutes away, it would have been hard to miss! Sue has also become a regular presence on campus come summer. Her harp camp, Connecticut Valley Harp Intensive, just spent its fourth year in residence at EWS, in the beautiful, renovated library. Congratulations to Sue for becoming the Principal Harpist of Hartford Symphony during the 2011-2012 season. Outside of the musical realm, Sue’s travels last year gave her an opportunity to catch up with both Laura Whiteman ’81 and Susan Turnier Mahin ’81.

Susan “Lue” McWilliams (known to us as Sue in the days when she had the longest hair in the class) missed the Centennial, given her role in an off-Broadway production of the Tennessee Williams play Suddenly Last Summer. Luc’s stage and screen credits (of which there are many) include the film Naked As We Came, which was voted Festival Favorite at Philly’s QFest 2012, as well as The Pill, which won the Grand Jury award at its 2011 world premiere in L.A. and the Audience Award at NYC’s Gen Art Film Festival. Brava, Lue!

Joanie LeViness Elbourn ’80 on her 50th birthday

As for those with starring roles on the home front, Joanie LeViness Elbourn writes: “Greetings! How techno Walker’s is becoming! When I remember Beaver Brook and the classrooms as they were in the late ’70s, then see the pictures in the mailing, WHEW! I feel OLD! It’s fun to read of everything going on. Our eldest child, Tom, started college at 16, and received his associate’s degree at 18, graduating top of his class. He is starting at another college, Assumption College in Worcester, MA, for his third year. He is pursuing a degree in psychology, and he wants to concentrate on marriage and family counseling. He works two jobs (30 hours), teaching karate (since age 14) and working at Wal-Mart, but he maintained a 4.0 GPA.

“Eldest daughter (there are four) started college at 15 and is set to graduate in 2013 with an associate’s degree. She hopes to attend Houghton College in upstate New York for her third and fourth years and major in photo journalism. She and I have a clothing ministry, ministry to veterans, food pantry, and Christmas ministry. Youngest daughters remain taught at home (as were the above two until the last two years). Hannah (14) is a dedicated writer and an amazing artist. She and her sister Abigail Rose (12) are best friends. Abby takes karate lessons and continues to be interested in everything from knitting and sewing to tree house building and fairy house-making.

“I am blessed to be able to work three jobs from home, teach the kids, and care for our almost one-acre gardens and 15 pets. My husband of 25 years, a 20-year Navy veteran, is in his 18th year with Wal-Mart. He is waiting for his second corneal transplant. My genetic conditions continue to make life interesting, but they also force me to rely more deeply on Jesus and His care. Blessings and joy to all my old classmates!”

Sarah-Jane McCarthy Markoe successfully sent her oldest daughter off into the wide world of academia last year, and Julia loves St. Andrews University in Scotland. Anastacia, 14, and Lucia, 10, are still at home with Sarah-Jane and her husband, Jim, in White Bear Lake, MN.

Daria Blackham received her master’s degree in community counseling from Fairfield University in 2009 and is currently working as a therapist at a mental health and substance abuse
counseling agency in Norwalk, CT. She adeptly juggles a full caseload and a house full of teens, 13-year-old Colby, 17-year-old Taylor, and 19-year-old Jake. Fall and winter weekends find her keeping up with daughter Colby’s busy sports schedule, whether on the soccer field or at the hockey rink. Daria’s 50th birthday in January was reason to celebrate: The two of us enjoyed a sun- and fun-filled girls’ getaway weekend to Miami’s South Beach.

Katharine Dusenbury just returned from a year in Germany. “We went for Ed’s job, and the kids (Caroline and Owen) attended the Frankfurt International School. It was a great year with lots of challenges and even more rewards. We all learned a bit of German. The best part was being able to travel around Europe relatively easily. We took full advantage of Germany’s generous vacation schedule and went to Ireland, France, Greece, Italy, and the Czech Republic. Our final trip was to the London Olympics, which was really fun. The whole city was a bit like Disneyland—clean and organized, with cheerful volunteers seemingly on every corner just waiting to answer your inane questions.”

Madeleine Tappe Empey has embraced an entirely new lifestyle as she successfully wages a fight against cancer. She writes: “I gave up all the ‘important’ stuff over five years ago—my career, travel, big home; hell, I even traded in my Porsche for a motor home so we can travel around and play golf. I’m grateful for every day that I’m on this side of the turf.” I can attest that health issues have not detracted from Maddie’s prowess at Words with Friends!

Marion Leger Murphy writes: “I’ve been living in New Canaan, CT, for about 15 years. I have 16-year-old boy-girl twins who are sophomores at King Low Heywood in Stamford. Turns out that Daria Blackham has a child there, too. Small world. Connor is concentrating on baseball and spent this past summer traveling with his team. He is currently playing for Baseball U New England. Alexandra took up riding at EWS camp four years ago, and it’s developed into a passion. She competes in Children’s High Jumpers and has begun 3’6” equitation. I’ve stumbled upon several other EWS schoolmates while living in New Canaan. Winifred ‘Winnie’ Coward-Koestler ’81 just moved here and has a great jewelry line.”

Jennifer “Jennie” Hetzler writes: “I live just north of Columbus, Ohio, in the town of Delaware (better known as Dela-frickin’-nowhere), and I’m the sales manager of Equus Now!, a mail-order equestrian retail company. We moved from a 6,300-square-foot store to an 18,000-square-foot store five years ago and are continuing to grow. We ship all over the U.S. and throughout the world. I have taken my Ethel Walker ‘Hetzler charm’ and turned it into creating a staff that provides exceptional customer service. I have a great Australian Shepherd, named Gracie, from the great state of New Jersey. Actually, her full name is Gracie Lou Freebush (ever see Miss Congeniality with Sandra Bullock?). She is a rescue who was born deaf, and she is the sweetest and smartest dog. She doesn’t know she’s deaf, so she doesn’t care. I still find time to ride a few days a week. I love getting back in touch with everyone from EWS through Facebook and would love to get together with everyone.”

Victoria McCain Carson writes: “I am living and teaching in Wheaton, IL. My husband, Drew, is a research psychologist doing work on talent development and assessments (mostly). Kids are grown. Both went to Tabor Academy in Marion,
MA, and then Emily went to Harvard and Nathaniel went to Colby. Em taught in Philadelphia for two years with Teach for America. She is now in her second year at Dartmouth Medical School. Nat is working for the Under Armour Company in Baltimore and loving it! He claims to have the perfect job. All is well and hope the same is true for all our classmates! I think of life on Bushy Hill with fondness." Victoria has just added: "Drew just landed his dream job, and we are moving back east to Princeton!"

Ann O'Reilly: As for me, I’m living in Northwest Connecticut with my husband and two children, Jake (17) and Katie (13). I’ve been working at home for various ad agencies for 20+ years—a career that owes much to the tremendous teaching skills of Mary Nelson and Rita K. Shea. It’s been fun to be able to follow the triumphs, trials, and tribulations of fellow EWS-ers via Facebook. How else would I know that Pamela Platt has the most adorable little boy or that Susan Knapp Thomas shared in my squirrels-inside-the-house nightmare of last winter? Now, if people would just stop posting photos of themselves looking so great … ”

1981

Veronica “Roni” Leger 91 Fayerweather Street #3 Cambridge, MA 02138 617-547-4130 veronica@alum.mit.edu

Roni Leger writes: "It is kind of funny that the classmate I see the most is probably Shelley Marks, even though she lives on the other side of the country. Shelley was on the East Coast in mid-June at her house at Wingersheek Beach in Gloucester, MA. So, of course, I went up for the weekend. Then, only a few weeks later, I was in San Francisco for work for nine days and stayed with Shelley for about five of those days when I wasn’t working. Shelley bought a fantastic house in Presidio Heights, and it was a total delight to get to spend time with her and her family. There is nothing like waking up to Shelley’s homemade pancakes. After I was in San Francisco, Shelley, her husband, Erik, and her son, Nicholas, took a super trip to Europe for a few weeks ‘couch surfing’ through Switzerland, Italy, and the South of France. Then Shelley had to come back to work, but the boys went on to the Olympics. With all my “mini reunions” this year, you might think I would actually get a picture to share for Take Note—but, no. However, I do have this great photo of Shelley’s son.”

I also have seen Andrea “Andy” Little Eaton a few times this year. Andy came to Wingersheek when Shelley was on the East Coast. Then later in the summer, Andy and I went to a polo game and then to the Boston Jumper Classic at the Myopia Hunt Club.

Then, when I was in Seattle for work, I had dinner with Elisabeth “Lisa” Keating. I think that was the first time I’d seen her since graduation. You have got to love Facebook for keeping you connected. Otherwise I would not have even known where she lived and wouldn’t have been able to connect.

Nancy “Nan” Alexander Doyal has been on a two-year journey. In August 2010 she decided to try the Lotoja Classic. For those, like me, who don’t know, it is a 206-mile bike race in one day from Logan, UT, over three mountain passes though Idaho and ending in Jackson, WY. She had just taken up road biking at the time, so she trained hard for a year and was supposed to ride in September 2011. But she was in a terrible crash three weeks before the event. It took another year to recover, get back in shape, and get over the fear of crashing. Finally she did the race this September 7. Her time was 10 hours, 36 minutes (an hour faster than she expected), and she placed in the top 10 in her race!! Go, Nan! Nan writes, "Moral of the story for me—say yes to your dreams, work hard, and be patient. It took me until I was 48 years old to figure that out. As fulfilling as finishing the race was, what happened during the
two years it took to get me there was the biggest surprise—I unexpectedly became a ‘bike racer’ and I liked it.” You can see the well-deserved smile on her face at the end of the race.

Suzanne Hirsch Grocki writes from South Burlington, VT, that she is deep in kitchen remodeling. Suzanne, her husband, Tom, and friends are doing the work with a little help from the kids. I’m sure she can’t wait for that to be done. She also writes that her 19-year-old is doing a gap year in Israel, and she will be visiting in December.

Lisa Haemisegger Hogervorst shares: “Hello, Walker’s! Congratulations on turning 101 this year! It has been many years since I have been on campus. I have fond memories of horseback riding and singing with the choir. Last year I married a Dutchman, and we are now happily residing in the Netherlands. We live in the beautiful countryside just outside The Hague. Holland is a country of horses and horseback riders, among many other things. I am currently busy with Dutch lessons and preparing to participate on a governmental panel to discuss what the outcome of the upcoming U.S. elections might mean to the European Union. Wishing everyone well!”

Finally, I get be the doting aunt. The twins of my sister Marion Leger Murphy ‘80 just turned 16. Here are pictures of Connor and Alexandra Murphy on their 16th birthday. Watch out, folks driving in New Canaan, CT, there are two new drivers on the road!

1982

Eve Agush Costarelli
16 Porter Road
Natick, MA 01760-2411
617-879-6062
AdamAnt_Eve@hotmail.com

Ashley Bourne Dewey shares: “A beautiful summer up here on Lake Champlain. As always, it goes by too quickly! Both girls, Katie (20) and Allison (17), were busy working at Basin Harbor Club, which is up the road a few miles. Before starting work, Allison spent a month in Beijing with other Mandarin students and her teacher from Deerfield Academy; it was a memorable and wonderful experience. We had a great time over in Saranac Lake in July with the entire Dewey/Logan clan celebrating the 70th birthday of Harriet Blees Dewey ‘60 (current EWS Board Member and my terrific mother-in-law!). I’m looking forward to seeing Cassandra “Cassy” Sperry Ordway ‘80 soon—her son, George, and Katie are classmates at Middlebury College. Whitney Williams Jones was just here visiting with her son, Clarke, while looking at Middlebury. Best wishes to all of ’82.

1983

Your class needs a Correspondent!
Contact alumnae@ethelwalker.org

REUNION — The following classmates have agreed to be Reunion Volunteers! Watch for communications from them, and be in touch with them, for your 30th Reunion, May 17-19, 2013.

Jennifer “Jen” McDonough Albanesi: jena@premier-realtors.com
Wendy Hodgkins DeLorey: wendy.delorey@verizon.net
Mary Lotuff Feeny: mary.lotuff.feeny@gmail.com
Kellly Finn Mazo: maze46@comcast.net
Katherine “Katie” Hillman Wilhelm: khwilhelm@comcast.net

1984

Your class needs a Correspondent!
Contact alumnae@ethelwalker.org

1985

Elizabeth “Betsy” Potter Giddings
14 South Shore Lane
Albany Township, ME 04217
860-805-8711
darpeg@aol.com

Betsy Giddings writes: “I hope this edition finds everyone celebrating good health and daily happiness wherever you are located on the globe. I have to apologize; last submission came up very quickly because I was preparing a big change for my family and me. Following an employment opportunity, we moved from Connecticut to Maine. Yes, north … to beautiful mountains and scenic landscapes. But along with change, not all decisions come with ease. One of the toughest challenges that we faced as a family was whether my daughter, Carly, would complete her high school years graduating from Walker’s or accompany her brother and me with the move. As the decision became imminent in August, she opted to join the relocation.”
Now here, she is realizing the quality of her EWS experiences. Her new school is providing her with many positive exchanges and developmentally appropriate academic challenges; however, the confidence, conviction, and perspective that she discovered within herself from her days at Walker’s are unparalleled. With this, be reminded to value your Walker’s education and if you have the opportunity to visit with your daughter, friend, or family member as a prospective student, please do: The benefits are deeper than the surface! As for Maine, it is our new home and together as a family we are discovering its riches each day.

1986

Your class needs a Correspondent!
Contact alumnae@ethelwalker.org

1987

Elizabeth “Liz” West Glidden shares: I was fortunate enough to catch up with many of my very youthful and blonder classmates at the Walker’s 100th celebration last October. More recently, I heard from Clemence “Clemmie” Miller Kissack, who is an attorney for Johns Hopkins School of Medicine. She lives in Baltimore with her 6-year-old son, Ramsey, and her husband, Lyle. Lyle is a muralist, painter, and college professor.

Hilary Clark is still living in NYC and will be graduating in May from Pratt Institute’s graduate school in Information and Library Science with a concentration in Archives. She is photo editing on a freelance basis and interning in the Metropolitan Museum of Art’s Digital Media Department, which she loves!

Elizabeth “Liz” Cowie Mojica is in Melbourne Beach, FL, with her two amazing kids, Graeme (7), who loves penguins and Legos, and Maya, who is 12 going on 16. Liz teaches Marine Biology for Keiser University as her ‘day’ job. Recently she started her own photography business and can be found at www.lizcowiephotography.com.

As for me, my husband and I and our baby moved to East Haddam, CT; last April. I am the Town Planner in Haddam, doing everything from new sewer systems to large subdivisions. I am also in touch with most of our class through Facebook and promise to friend any of our lost classmates if they find me! I can always be found at lizwest8@gmail.com.

Lamonda Williams ’87 and Wendy Wheeler Smith ’87 enjoyed a great summer lunch together in the city at Barbuto in the West Village.

1988

REUNION — The following classmates have agreed to be Reunion Volunteers! Watch for communications from them, and be in touch with them, for your 25th Reunion, May 17-19, 2013.

1989

Fiona Cox
1133 37th Avenue
Seattle, WA 98122
206-568-2390
Fiona@coxlawpllc.com

Karen Brundage writes: “After 10 years I have left my position as a public relations account manager and am now a big Jackie-of-all-Trades enjoying all the new opportunities coming my way. I work as an all-around assistant for a TV/Radio producer; I am back to pursuing acting and have a new theatrical agent on board. I still perform comedy improv weekly with my group Stranger Than Fiction, which includes singing lead in our band “Phoenyx.” I’m happily single with an amazing group of friends, including an incredible sisterhood of women, The Palentines, and I will be a bridesmaid this fall for one of my best friends. So life in L.A. is pretty okay! Hope you and yours are well.”

Jennifer “Jennie” Alter Abt shares: “We are living primarily in Telluride, CO, and loving it; we hope to stay as long as we can. We love the mountains and the outdoor adventurous lifestyle balanced with the usual schoolwork, sports, and ‘life.’ It’s been really wonderful for our family because we have more togetherness than ever before.” Jennie and her family were back in Chicago for the B’not Mitzvah of her daughters, Jessie and Emily Abt. Aimee Murdock Burke and Stephanie Lee brought their families to join the celebration. It was an amazing weekend and a fantastic reunion.
Amanda Pitman shares the following. Cristina de Molina Ramirez writes, "With me, life is going pretty well in sunny South Florida with my husband, Joe, and boys, Diego (7) and Felipe (5). My only recent news is that I can now add ‘blogger’ to the nouns that describe me. I began www.triathlonmami.com as a way to document my journey to an IronMan in 2013 (just writing it here gives me a minor anxiety attack). But more than a race, it is my journey as a mom trying to balance all the things I want to do. Come visit!"

Tatyana “Tanya” Bradford Ouhrabka writes, “My husband, Tim, and I are in Barrington, RI, with our now teenage son, Chase, tween son, Thatcher, and our little Alexis who is 7. I’m continuing with my interior design work, but most often I’m wearing my mommy hat. I love keeping up with so many EWS friends from all different years on Facebook, but miss seeing everyone in person.”

Helen Morgan O’Shaughnessy shares, “My husband, Declan, and I reside in Raleigh, NC. I am still practicing family law and am a partner with Wake Family Law Group, which I helped found in 2005. I have been selected by North Carolina Super Lawyers as a Rising Star for 2009, 2011, and 2012. Declan and I had our first child, Maeve, August 21, 2012.”

Claire Reese Ketchum writes she continues to enjoy living and working at Rumsey Hall School. In addition, she is enrolled in a yearlong class at the Institute for Integrative Nutrition to become a Holistic Health Coach. She is enjoying learning information each week on how both food and lifestyle choices can affect our health.

When I heard Gaby was ready to turn the position over, I thought it would be a great way to get back in touch with everybody. I was class correspondent a while back and enjoyed getting the updates from everyone.

Kisha Mair Marzouca is a pediatric hospitalist in West Palm Beach, FL, with three beautiful children: Chris (13), Tony (10), and Alicia (6). They spend all their free time (and money, lol) traveling around the U.S., competing in basketball tournaments. Her boys play for a local travel team, the Wellington Wolves. This year they traveled to Memphis, Charlotte, Atlanta, and near home to Orlando. Both boys have been doing very well with basketball and are straight A students. Her middle son was featured in all the local newspapers last summer for achieving a perfect score on his Florida Comprehensive Achievement tests in both reading and math. Those are the state standardized tests that all students take each year. Only 0.13 percent of students tested scored perfectly. As you can see, they are a busy
crew. Her daughter is coming along right behind her brothers playing basketball as well. When she isn’t doing that, she is their biggest cheerleader.

Nancy Lombardo Valente wrote that her family took a trip to Spain in June—one week in the North and one week in the South. They spent time with Mercedes Rodriguez ’92 and her family in Seville at the Sea! “It was really nice to catch up with Mercedes and her husband, Carlos. We had a lot of laughs!”

Paola Rainieri de Diaz writes, “All is going well here; my kids are growing fast. Veronica is 13 and Juan Tomas will turn 12 in December. My husband’s eldest, Emilia, graduated from high school last June and will spend five months in Cambodia, Thailand, and Vietnam teaching orphan kids and monks to speak English. The past 18 months have been filled with EWS friends. Donya Nagib Sabet ’90 visited Puntacana, and we got a chance to reconnect and meet her kids, who are wonderful. Also Johanna “Jo” Hill ’90 was in Santo Domingo on a work trip and Maria Teresa Guillani ’90, Olga Ravelo ’91, and I went out to dinner with her. Karinna Perez-Rubio Levy vacationed in the Puntacana region with her husband, Raymond, and kids, and we were able to meet and catch up for a few hours.”

Karinna Perez-Rubio Levy writes, “I’m bogged down with work and kids, so won’t make the deadline to send any pics, but wanted to just to touch base and let you know we are still here in Greenville, SC, selling TEA. Our company, Amanzi Tea, is now trying to expand to wholesale; being a small business we get a bit hectic wearing more ‘hats’ than I can handle sometimes. Our twins, Anabelle and Samuel, just turned 5! Time is flying way too quickly!”

She also mentioned that Caterina Henriquez Bern will be running the New York City marathon in November, and she and Olga Ravelo Alvarez hope to be on the sidelines cheering her on! Editor’s Note: NYC Marathon was cancelled due to Hurricane Sandy.

From the other side of the pond Joanna “Jo” Frost Richardson writes, “My son, Edward, has just turned 8, and I can’t believe where the time has gone. I still work at De Montfort University in Leicester (12 years now, and also celebrated 12th wedding anniversary with my husband, David, this year) and I’m now a Principal Lecturer and have recently had my fifth academic book published.”

And as I get ready to send this off, I received the wonderful news that Amanda “Mandy” Cobb Leedom gave birth to a baby boy, Quinlan “Quinn” Robert Leedom, on October 12. Congratulations Amanda and Andy!

I heard from many others who did not have news to report but just wanted to say hello. It was great to hear from everyone, and I’m so glad to hear that you all are doing well! As for myself, I recently sold my house in the suburbs and moved to an apartment in
downtown Baltimore. I am in a great neighborhood with fabulous restaurants and shops all within walking distance. Best move I ever made! So if anyone plans on being in the area, please give me a call!

1992

Your class needs a Correspondent! Contact alumnae@ethelwalker.org

1993

Kristin Carideo Flyer
784 Stratford Court
Atlanta, GA 30305
770-395-2046
kristinflyer@comcast.net

Augusta “Mimi” Morrison Harrison
120 Riverside Boulevard, Apt. 3E
New York, NY 10069
212-769-2254
mimiharrison@me.com

Anne Bodner Martin writes: “I graduated from BU and then moved to NYC and studied at Parson’s, getting my teaching certification. I then met my husband, Stephane, while vacationing in France. Moved to Paris to study painting at the Beaux Arts and eventually got married and moved to France permanently. I have been teaching art for nine years in an International School in Geneva, Switzerland. We live in France on the border to Switzerland. We have a son, Etienne, who is 6, and just had our second, a girl named Cerise, who is 5 months old. We are absolutely delighted, and I have taken a year off to enjoy her. Not sure if I will be coming to the 20th reunion as it is quite a distance for us but we are planning a trip to the States in a few weeks to introduce our new addition to the family back home. I can’t believe how fast the time has flown by, but looking forward to hearing how everyone else is doing. Sending our best, Anne.”

Amanda “Mandy” Eastman sends this news: “I have been living and working in the Bronx for the past eight years. I teach theater and am the Chair of the Theater Arts Department at the Riverdale Country School, where fellow alumna Pamela “Pam” Sperry Findlay ’74 also works. I love teaching theater and find myself not surprised that I gravitate towards the more mischievous students. I have been fortunate to stay in contact with Mimi Morrison Harrison, Jennifer Jackson, and Kristen Carideo Flyer, all of whom I spent several lovely weekends with this past year. I was also able to catch up and go skiing with Glenna McMahon over the holidays in Vermont and grab a drink with Jasmin Marquez and Samantha Calamari one weekend this past March when Jen was in town! Hoping to make it to the reunion this May and hoping to see as many of you as possible.”

Nancy “Nan” Flanagan writes. “Hello from the Walker’s campus! I’m settling into school life and loving it. Happy to be back in Simsbury and looking forward to seeing everyone in May for our 20th reunion!”

Kristin Carideo Flyer writes, “After Walker’s I went to St. Joe’s in Philadelphia. I stayed in Philadelphia after college and got my MBA. I then met my husband, Michael. We have been living in Atlanta for the past 12 years! We have an 8-year-old daughter named Reagan and a 6-year-old son named Jake. I frequently visit with Mimi and Mandy when I come up to New York every year. I also spent a weekend in Fire Island, NY, with both of them over the summer. As for the other Walker’s alums I have stayed in touch with, I know that Carmen Barrera is very dedicated to her horses in El Salvador and travels all over the world with them. I also know that Allison Joyner is happily living in Fort Lauderdale. Mimi Harrison is currently living in NYC and has a beautiful daughter named Carolina.”
1994

Your class needs a Correspondent! Contact alumnae@ethelwalker.org.

Alex Flood Alcoff has asked for someone to take over the role of Correspondent, as she just had twins! Owen Samuel Alcoff and Audrey Morgan Alcoff were born on October 7, 2012.

1995

Alexandra “Ali” Townson
666 West Ferry Street, Apt. #26
Buffalo, NY 14222-1625
716-308-6697
alexandratownson@hotmail.com

1996

Drusilla Carter
13 Falknor Drive
Manchester, CT 06040
860-634-7519
jdrusillacarter@gmail.com

Drusilla Carter shares, “I’m finally back in Connecticut after 18 years away! I’m now the Director of the Willimantic Public Library, and I’m looking forward to catching up with old friends in the area. I was back on the Walker’s campus to attend the talk Sean Delmore ’95 gave to the current students in October and enjoyed the chance to catch up with him.”

1997

Alicia Kelly Benedetto
6 Little Bear Drive
Yorktown Heights, NY 10598
acbenedetto15@gmail.com

Karen Crowe
790 Boylston Street, Apt. 22F
Boston, MA 02199-7923
617-875-7240
kcrowe79@gmail.com

Karen Crowe shares, “I’m still living in Boston, working outside the city (I’m an Operations Analyst for CareScout, a Genworth Financial Company, based out of Waltham, MA). I travel as much as I can, most recently to Ireland this past August. I enjoyed catching up with Rachael Rosselli and Heather McConnell over dinner a few months ago. I’m looking forward to being back on campus in June for my niece’s graduation from Walker’s! (Keelyn Crowe ’13)”

1998

Jennifer “Jennie” Coombes Giorgio writes: “I am in my 11th year of teaching Health and PE in Red Hook, NY. When I’m not working, I am chasing my three little boys who are now 6, 3, and 18 months. I can’t wait to see everyone at Reunion!”

Ashley Davis and Paul Rhodes were married in Sonoma, CA, in September 2012, and Deven Koch was a bridesmaid. Ashley and Paul have moved to Newport Beach, CA.

Lindsay Martin Mancuso and husband, Joseph, recently celebrated their eighth wedding anniversary and welcomed their second child! She writes: “David Mancuso was born on January 18, 2012, and joins big brother, Bruno, who will be 4 in November. My husband now works for EMC, and I am in stay-at-home-mommy heaven!”

Blair Sperry moved back to the States in September after an amazing nine months in Spain. She has started teaching and is also coaching high school soccer.

Brooke Berescik-Johns is enjoying living in New York City with her wife, Margot, and their Yorkie. In her free time, she volunteers overnight at the Friends’ Homeless Shelter and is on the
junior board for Education Through Music, which brings music programs to underprivileged students. She sees Sarah Heinemann ’00 and Meaghan McLean Boisfeuillet ’99 often, was excited to reconnect with Ipsita Das ’98 recently, and is looking forward to seeing everyone at Reunion.

Emily Broidrick had a wonderful first trip to Ireland this past May and was recently promoted at her job.

Jackie Harris Mercurio sends news, “I can’t believe we are approaching our 15th-year Reunion. Time flies! I am still living north of Boston with my husband and my puggle, who is named Meatball. I expanded my skating school to two locations, in the north end and in Saugus! I happily reconnected with one of my favorite coaches over email this year, Sally Goodrich, and I am looking forward to spending the holidays with friends and family in Queens, NY.”

Fujii Xiong Portanova is a new mom to a beautiful daughter, and she and her husband, Michael, are making an exciting move from Massachusetts to Georgia.

Vivienne Felix 113-33 201 Street St. Albans, NY 11412 646-597-0633 Viviennefelix@hotmail.com

Vivienne Felix writes: “After spending the summer in New Zealand and Australia, I am looking forward to a brisk fall in Ohio. I love advising my undergraduate students and am busy preparing students for an upcoming leadership conference. In November, I will travel to Las Vegas; I’m also looking forward to spending the holidays with friends and family in Queens, NY.”

Meaghan McLean Boisfeuillet attended the NYC Walker’s alumnae gathering. She writes, “I recently baked for Ipsita Das’ ’98 employee ’Fat Friday,’ when they bring in goodies to share! I am enjoying my new job at Diagnostic Endoscopy in Stamford, CT. I have been here four months and I LOVE it! Jon and I had our fourth anniversary on August 22! I have gotten back in touch with a lot of great EWSers like Sarah Heinemann ’00, Cerra Cardwell ’02, Ipsita, and Brooke Berescik-Johns ’98!”

Nicole “Nikki” Dunson McAllister is doing well and is still doing bankruptcy law. She shares that she is, “Busy, busy taking care of this little one. I love being a mom! Calvin was born on April 10, 2012. I hope all is well with you!”

Elizabeth “Lizzy” Heurtematte de Alfaro sends news from Panama: “I have two little girls, Alessa (3) and Dahlia (2). Last year I joined a law firm as a name partner. Lopez, Villanueva & Heurtematte is now three years old and already named by Chambers and Partners as a leading firm in Panama. I am working hard to balance family and work, but overall everything is great! Un abrazo.”

Nicole Madison writes, “I still live in New York and for the last eight years I have been working in public relations. I currently work at a global consulting firm, FTI, where I’m a director in our strategic communications practice. There’s never a dull moment in PR, and I really love it! Everything’s well, and I recently saw a number of EWS alums at the US Open and NYC Mixer events. I also just returned from Boston for the weekend, where I saw Traci Brinling, Jamiah Tappin ’00, and Erin Grimshaw ’00. I keep in touch pretty regularly with Frances “Fanny” Lee and, of course, I speak to Renelle Richardson Roberts every other day! I’m so excited for Renelle and her husband, Casey, who are expecting their first child very soon! I hope all of my EWS ladies are doing well!”

Lesley Northrop-Nelson writes: “Greetings from sunny Southern California! I’m living in San Diego with my husband, Jeremy (a Taft graduate), and my 4-year-old son, Isaac. Jeremy and I met freshman year at RPI where I earned my engineering degree. For the last nine and a half years I’ve been lucky to work in defense and for the last six years I’ve worked on the Predator UAV Drone and a Synthetic Aperture Radar for the predators and other UAVs/Aircraft. Last year I spent many weeks in the Australian outback testing the radar with the Royal Australian Air Force. I also have the privilege of working with personnel in Afghanistan and traveling around the country, supporting Department of Homeland Security UAV operations on the
Northern and Southern U.S. borders as the Radar Programs Project Engineering Manager. I am proud to say I’m the youngest manager in my division and the only female engineering manager.”

2000

Allison Quigley
151 Bunker Hill Avenue
Stratham, NH 03885-2432
603-772-8507
abatu@yahoo.com

The past months have been quite a whirlwind! After graduating from nursing school in the spring, I enjoyed attending my brother’s wedding, and then buckled down to study and prepare for my boards. After getting my RN license, the job search was a little slow going, but I am happy to report that in mid-October I took a job at one of the local Seacoast hospitals here in NH!

Aside from all things nursing, I had a great time with Jamiah Tappin and Sara Lavery, when we got together to celebrate Emily Cole-Chu’s birthday in early June. Jamiah surprised me later on in the summer when she joined me for my 30th birthday celebration, and shortly thereafter I got to see Marisabel Portillo ’99 when she was home from Abu Dhabi. I was also lucky enough to catch up with Erin Grimshaw two times now that she’s moved to Boston. I am thankful to have so many of us close by in New England, and I am very proud of all that we’re accomplishing!

Katie Andrighetti DeLany writes: “A lot has happened recently! I got engaged on the top of Mt. Washington in October of 2010. We got married February 18, 2012, and followed the wedding up with an amazing honeymoon in Mexico! Mike and I met at Enterprise Rent-A-Car in 2006, where we were both working at the time. In the past four years we bought a house in South Windsor, CT, and adopted two Siberian Huskies, named Juneau and Kenai, along with two cats.

I currently work for EdR, one of the leading collegiate housing management companies, at a brand new property called The Oaks on the Square near the UConn campus, and my husband works for Travelers Insurance.”

Kimberly “Kim” Wagner Patterson writes: “It has been an exciting few months. Connor Evan Patterson was born on June 18. The summer flew by, but we have been enjoying the new addition to our family!

2001

Alicia Little Hodge
142 Hampton Avenue
West Hartford, CT 06110
860-573-5136
alittlehodge@gmail.com

I am still tackling my Doctorate of Psychology program and managing to have fun at the same time! I have kept up with most of you via Facebook and even quick lunches and text messages. I enjoyed the long weekend at Centennial to truly catch up and reminisce about our “glory days.” I attended a wedding in Jamaica this past May with Sasha Osbourne. We had a BLAST. It was definitely a fun-filled summer of trips and birthday celebrations, and I am always reminded of how grateful I am to have long-lasting friendships from high school. I recently attended the US Open with Ethel Walker alumnae. I have enjoyed being able to connect with Walker’s to brainstorm about alumnae events. I would like to encourage all of us to attend these events and participate in the annual fund.

Piper Huntington sent the following update: “I’m happy to report that life is fantastic! I’m living in Albany, NY, and working at Cengage Learning, a publishing company, in its marketing department. I also sit on the board of directors for the Ellen Sinopoli Dance Company, a modern dance company in Albany. This past spring I co-chaired the silent auction at our annual gala and helped to raise over $20,000. In other news, I’m engaged! My fiancé, Alex, and I are getting married June 2013 in Pine Orchard, CT, and I can’t wait! I hope everyone is doing wonderfully and if you ever find yourself in Albany I would love to see you all!”

Jamiah Tappin recently relocated back to the Boston area, and is putting her MSW to good use as a community organizer at the Boston Alliance for Community Health.

Sasha Osbourne ’01 in Jamaica

Courtney Hornberger has this news: “I am running sales recruiting for Demandforce, a growing software company in San Francisco, which was just acquired by Intuit in May. Also, I’m planning a trip back to the East Coast in December to visit with some of our EWS pals and then a trip to Japan in March!”
Ashley Coster Harrison has this news: “As many of my classmates are aware, on September 3, 2011, DJ and I welcomed Allison Charlotte into the world! She was a month early but came home four days after her birth. DJ and I are so blessed and Allie amazes us every day! Margo Hanlan and I keep in touch frequently, and she is Allie’s godmother. Kristin Collis ’02 was in the DC area a few months after Allie was born, so we were able to catch up. Although I missed the Centennial celebration, being home with our new bundle of joy was worth it! My parents are doing well and still in Connecticut. Becca graduated from Vanderbilt in May, and she is living in Arlington, VA; it’s nice having her close to us! She is working for Huron Consulting. Michelle Coster ’12 is attending Central Connecticut State University. Please let us know if you are in the Northern Virginia area. We love having visitors!”

Sasha Osbourne writes, “I am enjoying my residency and spent most of my summer traveling for interviews for a forensic pathology fellowship. I also spent the weekend in Connecticut with Alicia Little Hodge for her birthday, which is always a fun time. It was nice seeing everyone at Centennial and I look forward to our next reunion. My next big plan is to celebrate my 30th birthday in Cancun with some friends.”

Jennifer DesRochers writes, “I was married by my Guru, Mataamritanandamayi Devi, on July 18, 2012, to David Seidell. I am in training to be a Vedic Priest. I have my own business in which I offer spiritual guidance in the form of Jyotish (Vedic astrology) and mantra instruction. This is done through readings and workshops. Mainly, I teach to advanced yoga instructors. Most of the year I live with my Guru and then spread the dharma the rest of the year. My husband is a green contractor working in both southern and northern California.”

Alexandra “Lexie” Lent writes, “Jim Costanzo and I were married September
1, 2012, at Avon Old Farms School. It was truly the most amazing day of our lives and we’re both super-excited for our future together as husband and wife!”

**2002**

Holly Jackson  
76-01 113th Street, Apt. 3A  
Forest Hills, NY 11375  
860-593-1081

I moved back from Chicago to New York City earlier this year to accept a job at a social media startup. Margaret Schwartz was nice enough to let me crash at her place for the first few weeks, and Cerra Cardwell helped welcome me into the city as well. It was fun to meet up with some other Walker’s alumnae at a recent happy hour event, and I look forward to reconnecting with others around the city.

Cerra Cardwell writes, “I recently moved to Charm City (Baltimore, MD) from the City that Never Sleeps (New York, NY) to pursue a career in fundraising and sport development at US Lacrosse. Hooray Sunray EWS, you prepared me well. I’m delighted to report that I had a lot of opportunities to celebrate milestones and mild days with my fellow Sundials all year— with Sarah Heinemann ’00 in Cleveland at the wedding of Melanie Shwab ’01, on the cape for Lacey Millar’s bridal shower, at Yale for the graduation of Margo Hanlan’s ’01 from nursing school, at Monkey Bar with Brooke Beresick-Johns ’98 for absolutely no reason whatsoever, and ‘reunioning’ with Holly Jackson around the East Village. I am very grateful to have so many talented, brilliant, and beautiful women in my life and am still reeling from the wonderful weekend that was Centennial.”

Brittany Coons Noble sends news: “My husband and I welcomed Nicolas Robert Noble into our family on September 25, 2012. He weighed 6 lbs., 6 oz. and was 19 inches. ‘Nico’ is already looking forward to meeting the girls of the EWS Class of 2030 (his grandpa and uncle have already submitted his application to AOFJ).”

Margaret Schwartz sends news: “I opened my store, The Summer House, in New Canaan, CT. At The Summer House you’ll find the old brushing up against the new, as contemporary items, such as coffee tables and sofas, are displayed alongside antique vases, lamps, and ottomans. Stop by if you’re ever in the area!”

Kristi Sadowski is the Co-Director and Head of Teen Services at the Booth & Dimrock Memorial Library in Coventry, CT, and living in Vernon, CT, with her girlfriend.

**2003**

Your class needs a Correspondent! Contact alumnae@ethelwalker.org.

Mary Rose “Molly” Stevens was married at Walker’s on June 2, 2012, to Stephen Allen. She also shares that she graduated with her DVM degree from the Tufts Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine in May and is now completing an equine internship at the Ballarat Veterinary Practice Equine Clinic in Victoria, Australia. She lives in Ballarat with her husband and two pets (dog, Madison, and cat, Cameron, who traveled to Australia and survived a month in quarantine).

**2004**

Your class needs a Correspondent! Contact alumnae@ethelwalker.org

Berit Barr writes: “I’m currently living in Nashville, TN, to attend graduate school at Vanderbilt University. I am in my second year of my master’s program in special education. I plan to teach for a few years before eventually consulting as a Behavior Analyst for public school districts. I love living in Nashville and, of course, managed to do some riding since I’ve moved! I hope all of my Walker’s girls are doing well and I look forward to seeing you all soon!”

Brittany Coons Noble’s ’02 son, Nicolas Robert Noble

Walker’s friends at the wedding of Molly Stevens ’03. Front, from left, Amy Vlosky ’04, Nassia Abid ’03, Cara Buciaek ’04. Back, from left, Katherine Hypolite ’04, Emily Lawrence ’03, Breanne Evans ’04, Kristen Lockaby ’04
Take Note

2005
Your class needs a Correspondent! Contact alumnae@ethelwalker.org.

After two years of teaching in Chiang Mai, Thailand, Christina Traquair Ball is a first-year student in NYU’s Steinhardt School of Human Development graduate program in occupational therapy.

2006
Alle Shane
9609 Mockingbird Trail
Jupiter, FL 33478
561-309-6883
alle.cohen@softrock.org

Ebony J. Moses
13 Willow Street, Apt. 202
Lynn, MA 01901-1230
ebonyjanay@me.com

Diane LaPosta sends news: “After the Centennial, I adopted a cat who is called Sumo, after Emily Sappington and Emma Bogdonoff recognized her extraordinary resemblance to a sumo wrestler. This spring I moved to Atlanta, GA, to take a new job at CNN headquarters. I've been lucky enough to spend a lot of time with my Walker’s girls this year, including a very cozy New Year’s Eve in NYC!”

Emily Sappington writes, “I'm finishing a master's of design in the Interaction Design Program at Carnegie Mellon. Last summer, I interned with Microsoft working on Windows 8, and starting next fall I will return full time as a User Experience Designer with Microsoft Windows in Seattle. I look forward to bringing more of Walker’s to the West Coast!”

Hillary Rohback writes, “I was sad to have missed Centennial last year, but it sounded like a ton of fun! I am still living in Manhattan and in the process of moving from Greenwich Village to the Upper West Side. I graduated last May with a dual master's in education and special education from New York University. I have recently begun my first year teaching on the Upper East Side in one of the top 10 NYC public schools, and I absolutely love it! In addition to beginning my career as a teacher, I got engaged last April to my fiancé, whom I started dating as a freshman at Union College, where we met. We plan to be married in June of 2013 in Watch Hill, RI. I am so thrilled to have recently become an aunt to another adorable baby boy. Both of my sisters are new to parenting and both with little boys! This should be an exciting and hectic year as I begin my career, plan a wedding, and try to find time to enjoy being an aunt to my nephews! Hope everyone is doing well.”

2007
Emily Casey
446 Cedar Lane
New Hartford, CT 06057
860-489-4700
feelflowfree@gmail.com

Carter Margison
227 East 89th Street, Apt. #3C
New York, NY 10128
860-839-0770
carter.margison@gmail.com

2008
Kathleen Kirby
kathleenangelinekirby@gmail.com

Madeleine “Maddy” Andrews sends news: “I graduated from Emerson College with a degree in writing, literature, and publishing after completing my final credits in London this summer. I had an incredible four years at Emerson; I cannot speak more highly of it. Now I’m living back at my mom’s in Riverside, CT. When I’m not escaping to Manhattan or Boston for days at a time, I’m working at a yoga studio, as a cocktail waitress, and as a liquor promo model (I’ll be spearheading a new team in Connecticut for Jameson and Malibu in October) until I can make enough to move to New York. I plan on using my degree to work in publishing in some vein, likely magazine publishing, as I interned at Forbes last summer and loved it. I am not married, engaged, or dating, just happy.”
Kate Crescimanno-Roth writes, “I married Emery Roth III on June 30. We had a small ceremony with just close friends and family at the New Britain Museum of American Art. Also, last December I graduated with distinction from the University of Oklahoma with a BFA in drama with an emphasis in scene technology. I’m now doing freelance theatre work all around Connecticut.”

Silvia Manent writes, “I’m in my last year at ESADE business school in Barcelona, but I’m currently interning in San Francisco at Cepheid (a molecular diagnostics company) in marketing until January. I’ll graduate in May 2013, and hopefully I’ll be back in the Bay Area! Come visit me, people.”

Karen Kennedy writes, “Hi, everyone! I graduated from the University of St. Andrews with honors, having earned a UK MA in international relations; I also studied modules in economics and Arabic. I spent the summer traveling and then at home in Georgia, but now I’m living in NYC and am about to ship out to Denver to finish training for my job as an Assistant Director for a grassroots campaign movement to re-elect Obama! I’ll be helping to manage a field office in a swing state, and I’m really excited! Not sure what I’ll be doing afterwards, but I’m looking into teaching English for a year or two before pursuing a master’s or law program. I hope everyone is doing well! I can’t believe it’s been so long since I’ve been away from Walker’s! Miss you girls!”

Isamar Ramirez writes, “I graduated from University of Pennsylvania with a bachelor’s in English and gender, sexuality, and women’s studies. I’m a Programming Specialist at the Free Library of Philadelphia, where I manage grant-funded programs throughout the city. My job description changes depending on the grants I’m working on, but I recently piloted a few programs, including a college prep program for over 200 teens in Philly. For the past few years, I’ve also supervised the development of curriculum for some of our summer programs and afterschool programs. I’ve been blessed with an amazing mentor who has given me opportunities to write various grant proposals and present at conferences. I’m currently looking into various master’s programs in nonprofit leadership and will eventually go to law school. If you’re in the Philly/NY area, call me! I hope we can all catch up soon!”

Yung Joo Jang sends news, “I graduated from Syracuse University with my bachelor’s in industrial design, and I’m in my first year at Yonsei University graduate school in Korea. I might go back to the USA after getting my master’s degree. I can’t believe it’s been more than four years since we graduated from EWS. I miss everyone!”

Lauren Milka writes, “I graduated from Assumption with my bachelor’s in English with a concentration in writing and mass communications. I spent the summer living on the Cape taking care of my grandmother and working at a new and used bookstore (perfect for an English major!). I’m back in Connecticut at the University of Hartford, working on my master’s in communication and doing a couple of day jobs: clothing retail and freelance writing/interning for West Hartford Magazine. I hope to move to either the Boston area or the Connecticut shoreline after finishing my master’s in the next couple years.

Charlotte Wolfe sends this news: “I’m a makeup artist in Toronto, Canada, working in fashion and film. I also own a hairless cat and a Great Dane.”

Nicole Smith writes, “I graduated from Assumption with my bachelor’s in psychology, and I’ve been working on the Cape for the summer. I studied art (mixed media, specifically) a year ago in Sicily and have continued working in that and photography mostly. I will probably be moving around a lot this year (looks like NYC and then Colorado), so it is hard to say where I will be exactly. Hopefully by spring I will be making my way through Macedonia, Italy, and then France.”

Alicia Mohanie Ramharack writes, “I graduated from Fairfield University with my Bachelor of Science in accounting and finance. I work for United Technologies as an Associate for the Financial Leadership Program, which allows me the opportunity to travel to
subsidiaries in different locations. Currently, I am positioned with Kidde-Fenwal in Ashland, MA, in a general accounting position, but I look forward to travelling more with the company in the coming months.”

Karen Santana has news: “I’m a first-year law student at Western New England University School of Law in Springfield, MA. I am interested in pursuing family law and animal law. So far everything has been going well; law school is not as scary as I thought it would be. I am still living in Connecticut, so if anyone is around let me know :)

Sarah Chotkowski writes, “I’m working on my master’s in social work at Bates. I work as a Spanish, English, and medical student at Johns Hopkins in Europe after graduation and then moved out to LA! I just started a new job at eHarmony today (isn’t that hilarious?!), and like it a lot so far! I have a dog, Wrigley, and he’s so cute! Miss you all and I hope I will be able to make it to reunion! And if anyone ever comes to LA, let me know and I’d love to meet up! Glad to hear everyone is doing well and being super successful! GO DIALS.”

Kathleen Kirby writes, “I graduated from St. Lawrence University with a double major in English and Spanish. I’m moving to Toledo, Spain, and am working as an English teacher while earning a degree in teaching English as a second language. Anyone is welcome at my apartment if ever in Europe! Hope everyone is doing well!”

Heather Erny writes, “I graduated in May from The College of New Jersey with a degree in social psychology research. I have since moved to Hunterdon County, NJ, where I am training horses and teaching lessons professionally. I co-operate a show barn in Bedminster and freelance on the side. Looking forward to seeing you guys at reunion!”

Jenel Moliere writes, “I graduated from Vassar College with a BA in drama, then went to Paris for three months to study pastry-making at The Cordon Bleu. I’m currently working in an organic, vegan bakery in Brooklyn.”

From Veronica Victor comes this news: “I graduated from CU-Boulder in May with a BA in history and Jewish studies. I spent a month traveling around Europe after graduation and then moved out to LA! I just started a new job at eHarmony today (isn’t that hilarious?!), and like it a lot so far! I have a dog, Wrigley, and he’s so cute! Miss you all and I hope I will be able to make it to reunion! And if anyone ever comes to LA, let me know and I’d love to meet up! Glad to hear everyone is doing well and being super successful! GO DIALS.”

Sara Seferian writes, “I am currently in my fifth and last year of undergrad at SUNY Potsdam, going for a BFA in photography along with a minor in art history. Currently, I am studying abroad in the beautiful city of Firenze, Italia, and it’s quite a wonderful experience! The photo and travel opportunities are amazing and I never want to leave. After graduating, I hope to go to graduate school somewhere in NYC to continue my pursuit of becoming a photographer, or at least something within the field of art. Missing everybody from my high school Class of 2008, and of course … GO SUNS!!”

Samantha “Sammy” Mayer writes, “I graduated from Bentley with a degree in marketing. I’m living in Manhattan working for Time Warner in the magazine division. I am mainly doing marketing and research for InStyle and People magazines. If anyone is in the city I’d love to meet up!”

Catherine Ruperto writes, “Hey, ladies!! I’m so glad to hear that everyone is doing so well. I am currently getting my dual degree in psychology and adolescence and look forward to working closely with children. I have been working as a pharmacy technician in the meantime and am so looking forward to graduating soon. As many of you may know, my older sister, Jenice Ruperto ’06, had a beautiful baby boy named Riley Jon (just over two months old now!). I couldn’t be happier to be an aunt for the first time. I can’t wait to see you all!!”

Codie Kane writes, “In May, I graduated from Georgetown University with a degree in psychology and Spanish. I am currently a Fellow at Teach for China, an organization intended to combat education inequality by placing recent college graduates in underserved, rural Chinese schools. I live in a tiny village in Lincang in Yunnan Province, where I teach third- and fifth-grade English and first-grade gym and art at Xinu Elementary School. I spend my time learning Mandarin, exploring the countryside, and teaching my children about American culture. I’m upset I won’t be able to make it to Reunion, but I invite anyone interested to visit me in rural China!”
I am currently going into my senior year at High Point University and will be receiving my degree in human relations. This summer was my third year working for SS&C Technologies in the Human Resource Department, as well as in the Investor Relations Department. I spent this past spring semester studying abroad in Italy through the Istituto Lorenzo de' Medici. I was fortunate to study in three different cities: Tuscania, Roma, and Venzia. Each city was unique and beautiful in its own way. I wouldn't trade the lessons learned, experiences gained, and friendships made for anything! While studying abroad, I was fortunate to meet up with Jennifer Sieber in Rome. Jenn stayed with my family and me in London for a week, and the two of us also traveled to Ireland. Above is a picture of the two of us in front of Ireland's beautiful Cliffs of Moher.

I still stay in frequent contact with Rebecca Castellani, Elizabeth “Emily” van Gemeren ’07, Brennan Maine, Lisa Sorrell, and Elenor “Ellie” van Gemeren. Above is a picture of all of us enjoying brunch before heading off to school for our last year! I am also looking forward to visiting Spencer Waybright in Myrtle Beach, SC. I look forward to seeing all my ’09ers! Wishing you all the best in our senior year!

Lisa Sorrell ’09

Kaikoura doing conservation work, and two weeks on an adventure tour where I discovered a love for bungee jumping. It’s my last year at Bentley University, where I am studying managerial economics and hoping to add a focus on nonprofits.

Spencer Waybright writes, “I officially have an apartment in Hoboken, NJ (where they film Cake Boss). I will be entering my final year of college at Stevens, majoring in business and technology with a minor in marketing. For the past two years I’ve interned for

Lisa Sorrell writes, “I did a lot of traveling this year to Costa Rica in January and England, France, and Scotland in June. I spent July and some of August in New Zealand and Fiji with a group called International Student Volunteers. I spent two weeks in

Katie Reid ‘09 and Jenn Sieber 09
Thomson Reuters and Sard Verbinnen & Co., a financial PR firm. I am still playing lacrosse and was just named captain for the upcoming year. This past New Year’s I was able to visit Katie Reid and her family in London for two weeks. I had an amazing time.”

From Brennan Maine comes this news: “I went to Italy this May with my parents; we toured little hill towns and then finished our trip in Florence. I also went to Vancouver, BC, in July with Blair Casey to visit Marisa Ann Brignole at the Vancouver Film School. I decided at the end of last year that I wanted to be a studio art major and a Chinese studies minor. I have just finished interning this summer at the Wadsworth Atheneum in Hartford for the Amistad Center for Art and Culture.”

Rebecca Castellani writes, “I am entering my last year at Holy Cross and will be getting my bachelor’s in English; I am working on an honors thesis about the relationship between the 20th century poet T.S. Eliot and the 21st century rock star Bob Dylan (yes, Mr. Deeds is pretty excited). I am off to London for a week in October with my seminar class on King Lear to see a few productions of the play on stage. My plans for post-graduation are to get my master’s in humanities and then pursue my PhD in English. My long-term hopes are to become an English professor. I have been living in Worcester, MA, this summer, working on Senator Scott Brown’s re-election campaign and at the Worcester Public Library.”

From Valerie “Val” Jarvis comes this news: “I am going to be a senior at Bates College this fall where I am a biochemistry major with a concentration in science education and a minor in Spanish. I am hoping to pursue teaching in the future. While at Bates I developed a new passion for running and completed my first half-marathon in Lisbon, Portugal, followed by half-marathons in Burlington, VT, and Portland, ME. I will also begin my yearlong thesis, which is a community-based research project focusing on the increasing rate of diabetes in the Somali immigrant population and what educational steps can be taken to prevent a further rise. This summer I designed an English curriculum and taught a group of international students at a prep school outside of Boston. I was also fortunate to teach three English classes (first, fifth, and 10th grades) during my semester abroad in Spain.”

Elizabeth “Liz” Nadeau writes, “I am entering my fourth year at Northeastern University, where I have had a far from traditional college experience. This past year, I spent six months in beautiful Charleston, SC. I pursued my co-op at the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC) in the Cardiothoracic Surgery Department. This next year I will be participating in Northeastern’s Three Seas Program. I will be spending a year doing scuba diving research and taking classes in Naban, MA, Panama, and Washington State.”

Heather Carley writes, “I am a musical theatre major and heading back to West Chester University in Pennsylvania to finish senior year. I have been working a lot on the design process of shows and have found an interest in props. I am still playing my harp and am a music minor. Just last year I had my first official gig playing in the pit orchestra for the City Theater Company’s production of A Little Night Music in Delaware. I have also gotten really interested in scuba diving and earned my advanced open-water certification. This summer I was a theater counselor at the Walker’s Arts Camp; the camp ended with a musical that I, along with Lucca Troutman ’08 and Alanah Percy, directed.

Amanda Petruskevicius writes, “I am in my last year at DeSales University in Pennsylvania and plan to graduate this spring with a major in biology (with a concentration in forensics) and a minor in psychology. Also, I have played on the school’s volleyball team since freshman year. We have been pretty successful in our region/conference, and this past summer my team spent a week traveling around Italy, sightseeing, and scrimmaging with three of their national club teams. Afterward, I went off on my own and met up with my cousin to explore London, Paris (where I ran into Heather Soltis!), and Barcelona! When I’m back in Connecticut during breaks, I work as a CNA (nurse’s aide) at a nearby health center, and after graduation I hope to continue my education either in the medical field or a more specific forensics specialty.”

Jordan Dell sends news: “I am going into my last year at Bryant University with a major in actuarial math and a double minor in business and computer information systems. I have been working at my internship for an insurance agency called Insuritas in East Windsor, CT, doing IT services and software and report programming with Visual Basic and SQL. I recently got a job offer from my internship to work full-time after I graduate as a systems analyst. I also will be doing some work for them at school 10-15 hours a week. In addition, I have been working at Madewell in the Westfarms Mall and, of course, still at the golf shop, so I haven’t had much time to travel any farther than Boston.”
Kaila Tiedemann writes, “I am entering my second year at Auburn now after transferring from the University of Vermont last fall. Before I came to Auburn, I took the spring semester off and did an internship at the North Carolina Zoo in its Wildlife Rehabilitation Center. I am majoring in agricultural economics and hope to go into wealth management for large agricultural firms. I also recently got my own dog, which was very exciting for me. She is a 4-year-old Great Dane-Lab mix that has brought great joy to my life so far. Also, I live with a fellow Walker’s girl, Grace Wilkins!!”

Katherine “Katie” Gavin has this news: “I am about to head back to Rochester for my final year at RIT (majoring in new media marketing). This past spring and summer I have been interning at a small marketing firm in West Hartford called Marketing On Demand. I am currently planning a LGBT expo for one of our clients, Unity of Greater Hartford. The expo is a chance for the local LGBT support organizations to offer their services to a new community. I have also invited local universities’ and high schools’ Gay/Straight alliance groups to attend and am happy to report that Ethel Walker was among the first to show interest.”

Britta Holum writes, “This year will be the start of my junior year at Colorado College; I still have not declared my major. (It will probably end up being biology.) In the last couple of years I have been dabbling in some travel as well. One place you all must go is to Machu Picchu; the Andes are so breathtaking. I was also fortunate to spend a week diving in Belize. This summer I lived at home for the first time since I started at Walker’s, and I worked at the Denver zoo as an animal intern.”

Isis Richardson writes, “In March I had my lip-gloss launch party in NYC. To date, my lip gloss sells in one store in NYC and will sell at NYU this October. I am working on getting my product into chain stores. I went to Quinnipiac University, joined the Army, and then moved to Georgia. I currently attend Armstrong Atlantic State University in Georgia. I am a senior in college and will graduate in May.”

Katherine “Kate” Molloy writes, “I’m going into my final year at Colby-Sawyer College in New Hampshire with a major in communications and a minor in business. This summer I was lucky to be a marketing intern at Fiduciary Investment Advisors in Windsor. I’m planning a trip to Scotland for spring break ’13 to visit my cousin who will be a freshman at St. Andrews University. I’m definitely excited to see such a historic university. My younger cousin, Alisa Ryan ’16, is a freshman this year at Walker’s!”

Sarah Benjamin writes, “I will be graduating this spring from Lynn University, with a degree in advertising and public relations and a minor in journalism. I plan on moving back to Chicago after leaving Florida and working with a PR firm in the city, Alpaytac. My sister, Jaclyn “Jackie” Benjamin, is a freshman at Walker’s this year.”

Natalie Dorman sends greetings from the West Coast “and a photo of Veronica Victor ’08 and me enjoying a gorgeous day in Huntington Beach!”

Veronica graduated from University of Colorado, Boulder this past spring with a BA in history and has since moved to LA. I’m still in school working on a degree in environmental and marine science, with a pre-vet focus.”

2010

Sydney Satchell
25 Hawthorne Lane
Bloomfield, CT 06002
860-752-8822
sydneysatchell@gmail.com

Alyssa Broatch writes, “I am at the University of Hartford and working in the Human Performance Research Lab there. This past summer I was in Newport, RI, working, sailing, and volunteering at the America’s Cup.”

Katherine “Katie” Charov sends news: “I’m at Johns Hopkins University and was recently published in Protein Science for work on computational protein structure I did in 2011. This summer I did research on rat beta-cells and their insulin resistance after we altered their gene expression.”

Katherine E. Conlon writes, “I am in my third year out of five at Northeastern University in Boston. I spent my first semester of college studying in London. I am currently on co-op where I take six months off of classes and work. I began working in July as an event-planning intern at ALS TDI, a nonprofit biotech in Cambridge, MA, and will return to classes in January.”

From Meghan P. Couch-Edwards comes this news: “I am at Whittier College in California. My parents, Gwen Couch (former EWS faculty) and Ned Edwards are working at Chatham Hall School in Chatham, VA. My father is the chaplain and teacher of philosophy and religious studies. Gwen is the theater director and an English teacher. My sister, Alicia “Liss” Couch-Edwards ’07, is working at Walker’s in the Arts Department as a photo teacher and dorm parent in Smith.

WINTER 2013 | 91
I am going to study abroad in Mendoza, Argentina, from this February until July. I saw Bria McCurdy in Colorado for a three-day concert at Red Rocks Amphitheater this summer, and saw Abigail Endler and Emily Hamilton when I visited the East Coast.

Colby H. Eisen writes, “I have spent the year studying abroad in South Africa. I spent the first half in Durban living in a Zulu township with a family of eight amazing people. I am a public health major at Johns Hopkins so I chose a program on community health and social policy. I volunteered in a lot of hospitals and clinics, with traditional healers, in orphanages for infants and children affected or infected by HIV/AIDS, and in schools. I travelled outside of Durban with a community health outreach team conducting independent research on the nutritional and economic impact of home vegetable gardens in semi-rural communities in Kwa-Zulu Natal. While I was there I participated in the nationwide ‘shave-a-thon’ for cancer and shaved my head to raise awareness and donate my hair.”

Sol Ah Hwang writes, “I am at Emory University, with a double major in economics and art history. I had an internship in Seoul at SV Investment Company, which is a venture capital company. I traveled to Italy and Paris this summer. I also visited Guam with my family.”

YeEun Kim writes, “I’m at the University of Wisconsin-Madison; this summer I went back to Korea and took some classes at Korea University. I also went to Shanghai for a week with my family.”

Elizabeth S. Noonan writes, “I’m at Parsons the New School for Design in Manhattan, and I’m working as an apprentice to a beekeeper here in the city. I am also working at a farmers’ market and collecting honey from hives.”

Sydney C. Satchell shares this news: “This summer I was an intern for Hamilton Sundstrand in Windsor, CT, in benefits and compensation and volunteered at the YMCA, Greater Hartford. At Howard University I’m head of Mecca Mad House, the only spirit group on campus.”

Stephanie R. Schwartz writes, “This summer I interned at Kaye Communications in Boca Raton, FL. I am going to MEXICO tomorrow for fall break! I went to Punta Cana, Dominican Republic, this past May! I do a lot of work for domestic violence awareness with my sorority at High Point University.”

Mahori Shigeta writes, “I’m at University of Bath, in the UK. I am the chair of the BodySoc Dance Society at the university; we have more than 200 members and we go to at least two competitions and have a lot of shows, fundraising events, socials, etc.”
Ella P. Smith is at St. Lawrence University, where she is majoring in communications and gender studies. She is a Kappa Kappa Gamma and is on the PanHellenic Board and Academic and Standards Committee.

Alexis A. Stephan sends this news: “I spent the last four months in Australia living in Cairns and traveling to Sydney, Brisbane, Fraser Island, and the gold coast. Also in Australia, I volunteered at an animal shelter. I recently spent a weekend in Boston with Samantha “Sam” Lepore and Brittany Dingler.”

2011

Kelsey A. Ballard
80 Pilgrim Road
Windsor, CT 06095
860-688-9589

See photo on page 92.

2012

Monet Clarke
81 Brewster Road
Windsor, CT 06095
860-874-3752
clarke@college.harvard.edu

The future is looking bright for the Ethel Walker Class of 2012, but the present is by no means short of brilliant. We’ve stepped down from the stage of Commencement into a new stage of our lives, the path of which has taken the 41 of us to destinations all over the country and the world. Here’s some news from the members of this class!

Eda “Ellie” Bell is studying at The College of Wooster in Wooster, Ohio, and plans to major in business economics. She has been involved in the Jenny Investment Club, which aims to grow scholarship money through wise investment. In coming weeks, she plans to apply for a trustee position within the club, a process that involves arguing for the purchase of a stock in a presentation to the club. Ellie also plans to be active in Greek life and to use the leadership experiences she gained at Walker’s to run for student government. Best of luck, Ellie!

Michelle Coster loves her time at Central Connecticut State University in New Britain, CT. Pursuing a degree in physical education has kept her busy, but she loves sports and working with children, so this major suits her perfectly. Her most interesting course of the semester is Dance in Education, in which she learns dance terminology and teaching methods from an older woman who has, as Michelle describes it, “the energy of a 20-year-old.” Outside of classes, Michelle enjoys taking various fitness classes, and works part time at a phonathon geared toward keeping CCSU alumni connected and raising money for the university. Michelle does her best to stay in touch with her Walker’s friends, both those who have graduated and those who have not, which is awesome!

Melody Altschuler is living in Buenos Aires, Argentina, and having an amazing time! The English Speaking Union arranged for her to study at two different private high schools in the area, and she has had many incredible moments with host families and friends. Most notably, Melody had the opportunity (and the near-herculean endurance!) to run her first marathon, and did so through the beautiful streets of Buenos Aires. Before beginning at Bates next fall, she looks forward to volunteering in Las Mesas, Costa Rica, for six months.

Our former President of the Student Body, Kayla Monroe, is doing great things at Hampton University in Hampton, VA. Again demonstrating her natural gift for leadership, she has interviewed for and been accepted to the university’s Freshman Executive Council. She has decided to continue participating in instrumental music as she did at Walker’s and now plays viola for an orchestra at the collegiate level.

Hannah Fasano is having a great time at Iona College in New Rochelle, NY. She is currently enrolled in philosophy, sociology, Italian, communications, and a course called The Evolution of Western Civilization, and plans to declare herself a history major by the end of this year! Continuing to pursue her passion for athletics, Hannah is playing on Iona College’s women’s lacrosse team.

Kelsey Shelton is studying at Baylor University in steamy Waco, TX. She is taking several fascinating courses, including Arabic and a course on self-cultivation and actualization called Examined Life. Staying true to her inner Walker’s girl, Kelsey also participates in a cornucopia of extracurricular activities, such as an Air Force community service group, the International Studies Honor Society, the Forensic Society, a book club, and gospel choir, and is moreover tutoring at a local community center and mentoring a student at risk of dropping out. For more news from the Ethel Walker Class of 2012, see page 92.
out of school. Kelsey is also excited about a series of lectures she is attending called the Honors Formation Series, the topics of which span from upperclassmen experiences at Baylor University to prophets to political action and formation.

**Casey Brottman** is studying on a pre-veterinary track at Rhodes College in Memphis, TN. The courses she has chosen for this semester are biology, sociology, infant and child developmental psychology, and philosophy. Also, Casey has pledged to Delta Delta Delta and volunteers at St. Jude’s Hospital and as a tutor at a childcare facility near campus.

So far, **Deborah “Deb” Place** loves Smith College in Northampton, MA. Her classes keep her very busy, but most of the time, she enjoys the work. Because of the alluring nature of her two religion courses (introduction to world religions and philosophy of religion), she is even considering majoring or minoring in the subject. Despite her busy schedule, Deborah makes a point of attending lectures on and off campus and hanging out with the wonderful friends she has made. She also loves her dorm, Tyler House, with its beautiful ivy-covered exterior and strong, comfortable community within.

In short, wonderful things are happening, and there is only more to come. Better keep an eye on this 100th graduating class!

**Corrections to the Annual Report**

Due to a formatting error in our 2011-2012 Annual Report Tributes section, Margaret Whipple Wright ’44 was incorrectly listed as deceased. The listing was intended to indicate her gift in memory of Frances Robertson Chandler ’44.

In the same section, Maude Urmston Chilton ’53 was incorrectly shown as not deceased. Gifts were made in her memory by Eve Chilton Martirano ’79, Cecily Chilton Matthai ’77, and Eleanor H. Towles.

**EVERY EFFORT IS MADE TO AVOID ERRORS, MISSPELLINGS, AND OMISSIONS IN THE SUNDIAL. IF, HOWEVER, AN ERROR COMES TO YOUR ATTENTION, PLEASE ACCEPT OUR SINCERE APOLOGIES AND NOTIFY US. THANK YOU.**
Development on the Road

HEAD OF SCHOOL BESSIE SPEERS P’16, DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT PAMELA CHURCHILL, AND DIRECTOR OF GIFT PLANNING JANE RAE BRADFORD VISIT MANY WALKER’S ALUMNAE, PARENTS, AND FRIENDS.

“During 2012 we visited folks overseas and domestically in Wyoming, Montana, Washington State, New Mexico, Texas, Illinois, Florida, South Carolina, the District of Columbia, Virginia, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York, Massachusetts, Maine, Rhode Island and, of course, Connecticut. This upcoming year we will return to the states above and also visit California, Ohio, and North Carolina, to name a few.

“When traveling in the field we are repeatedly touched by the kind hospitality and friendship we have received. Our visits have reaffirmed what makes The Ethel Walker School the wonderful place it is today.”

-Bessie Speers P’16
Take Note

Births & Adoptions

1990 Helen Morgan O'Shaughnessy
Maeve O'Shaughnessy, August 21, 2012

1991 Amanda “Mandy” Cobb Leedom
Quinlan “Quin” Leedom, October 12, 2012

1994 Alexandra “Alex” Flood Alcoff
Audrey Morgan Alcoff & Owen Samuel Alcoff, October 7, 2012

1998 Lindsay Martin Mancuso
David Mancuso, January 18, 2012

1999 Nicole “Nikki” Dunson McAllister
Calvin McAllister, April 10, 2012

2000 Kimberly “Kim” Wagner Patterson
Connor Evan Patterson, June 18, 2012

2001 Ashley Coster Harrison
Allison “Allie” Charlotte Harrison, September 3, 2011

2002 Brittany Coons Noble
Nicolas “Nico” Robert Noble, September 25, 2012

Engagements

2000 Piper Huntington
To Alexander “Alex” Noricki

Marriages & Unions

1993 Marguerite Kelly
To T. J. Rush, October 20, 2012

1998 Ashley Davis
To Paul Rhodes, September 29, 2012

2000 Katie Andrichetti
To Michael “Mike” Delany, February 18, 2012

2001 Jennifer DesRochers
To David Seidell
Alexandra (Lexie) Lent
To James “Jim” Costanzo, September 1, 2012

2003 Mary Rose “Molly” Stevens
To Stephen Allen, June 2, 2012

2005 Nicole Rougeot
To Michael Partyka, September 15, 2012

In Memoriam

1935 FLORENCE SULLIVAN LYNCH

1936 AMY PLANT CLARKE
Great-nieces: Sarah Roberts McDonald ’96, Frances “Fanny” Lee ’99
MARY WARREN FAGAN

1940 ELISE FARLEY HIGGINS
Daughter: Cynthia “Cindy” Higgins Roby ’64

1947 MARY ELIZABETH WYNEGAR GIFFORD

1971 KATHARINE KITTREDGE
Sister: Elizabeth “Betsy” Kittredge ’68

1982 JENNIFER SMITH COLLISON

2003 CHRISTINA ANN JACOBS

In Sympathy

JUDITH BEGLEITER, Grandmother of Emily Begleiter ’14
STEPHEN O. FRANKFURT, Father of Abigail Frankfurt ’91, Emily Frankfurt ’94
GLORIA JUSTO, Former EWS nurse

ANNASTASSIA KEISE, Sister of Sidney Keise ’16

TOM HIGGINS, Husband of Elizabeth “Liz” Palmer Higgins ’77
REBECCA L’HEUREUX, Sister of Katherine L’Heureux ’10

REV. DR. LEONEL MITCHELL, Grandfather of Kirina Gair-MacMichael ’14

PHILIP J. MOLONKEY, Husband of Gail Sheppard Moloney ’56 and brother-in-law of Lynn Sheppard Manger ’59

SHARON MONTERO, Grandmother of Julia Cuisart de Grelle ’15

MARGARET ELDER NEUHAUS, Mother of Margaret “Meg” Neuhaus Weekley ’68 and related to Lacey Neuhaus Dorn ’65, Elizabeth “Betts” Neuhaus Armstrong ’73, and Joan Neuhaus ’76

ANITA PAGLIARO, Mother of Anita Pagliaro ’65, Carla Pagliaro ’66, Lisa Pagliaro Sels ’69

CHARLES RATHBUN, Father of Bryan Rathbun, EWS staff

JOHN F. STORY, Husband of Lee Mullowney Story ’56

NANCY ANGELL STREETER, Mother of Ruth Streeter ’72

LUCIE BEDFORD CUNNINGHAM WARREN, Mother of Lucie Cunningham McKinney ’52 and Lynn Cunningham Maddock ’63 and grandmother of Blair Cunningham Newsome ’93

ELIZABETH KEARNEY WEST, Mother of Nancy West Hannah ’64, Elizabeth “Liz” West Sneath ’74, and Wendy West Brenninkmeijer ’77

ISABEL AGEMIAN WILSON, Grandmother of Lee-Ann Harris P’13 and EWS faculty and great-grandmother of Allison L. Harris ’13
If your class does not have a Class Correspondent listed, please consider joining a great group of correspondents who help compile Take Note. If interested, please contact alumnae@ethelwalker.org. We’d love to have you join the team!

Please stay in touch!
We need your email address as well as any changes to your home address, and any other contact information, for example, home phone number. Please send this information to alumnae@ethelwalker.org.

Submit your Class Notes Online!
Visit ethelwalker.org, and click on the Alumnae link at bottom right; there, you will find a link to the Take Note section. An easy-to-use form will allow you to submit your news directly from that page. If you have a longer submission, or photos to send (we hope you do!), all the information you need appears on that page.

Stay Connected with Walker's Wherever You Are

WAYS TO SUPPORT WALKER'S

Cash, Check or Credit Card
Many gifts are cash contributions that are made by check or credit card. These gifts are tax deductible as allowed by law and provide immediate funding for the School.

Securities and Property
Gifts of stock, other securities, or property benefit the institution and provide the donor with a tax deduction for the fair market value of the gift when it is made. Additionally, the donor does not have to pay capital gains tax on the appreciated value of the stock or property.

Matching Gifts
Many companies provide their employees with the benefit of increasing their gifts to certain organizations by matching those gifts. Please check with your employer about their matching gifts program.

Planned Giving
Gifts made through estate planning provide for the future growth of the School as these gifts, unless otherwise specified, are directed to the School’s endowment. The Ethel Walker Heritage Society honors those who have made provisions for Walker’s in their estate plans.

Gifts-in-Kind
Walker’s welcomes gifts in kind, including donations of goods and services that meet the educational and programmatic needs of the School.

Special and Restricted Gifts
Walker’s has a number of funds that have been established by donors for special purposes such as the support of educational programs, scholarships or endowment.

For further information about making a gift, please contact Jane Rae Bradford, Interim Co-Director of Development and Director of Planned Giving at 860.408.4260.

Give online at ethelwalker.org/annualfund
There was a day when school supplies consisted of backpacks, calculators, and lined paper, but how things have changed. This fall, the iPad made its debut on campus and left an indelible mark on our students, faculty, and families. The iPad has brought an innovative and interactive method to cover the curriculum, while keeping students engaged in collaborative and independent problem-solving, creative and critical thinking, and self-expression.

The opportunity to be on the leading edge of technology has opened new horizons and opportunities in leadership, artistic expression, and academic discovery. The increasing role of technology in our lives has inspired students to employ state-of-the-art communication methods and use social media outlets to voice their opinions and concerns. Through this positive use of technology our daughters can identify and explore their passions, support each other, and effect change to make the world a better place.

How fitting that at Family Weekend we celebrated the opening of Walker’s state-of-the-art athletic fields as we commemorated the 40th anniversary of Title IX. This important law gave women and girls new opportunities both in classrooms and on athletic fields.

This summer, members of our golf team served as camp counselors at the Skunkamaug River Golf Club, instructing, encouraging, and instilling their love of the game in each young player. Forty years ago, young women teaching golf to boys as well as girls would have been unthinkable. Presenting your junior/senior project as a female golf counselor using an iPad... Progress!

In the classroom, on the stage, and on the playing fields, our daughters develop confidence and character, and it is our job to remind our daughters to be balanced, that technology does not replace the sound of a voice, and academics and sports should be harmonious to one another, neither outweighing nor outplaying the importance of the other.

Warmly,

Reneé Alexander, P’13
President, EWSPA 2012-2013

EWSPA Hosted Parent Dinners

Parents socializing and learning about Walker’s at Opening Days parent dinners

“The opportunity to be on the leading edge of technology has opened new horizons and opportunities in leadership, artistic expression, and academic discovery.”
The Confidence You Instill in Your Students Every Day

In October, Head of School Bessie Speers P’16 received this letter from a former parent.

Dear Ms. Speers,

My daughter, Samantha (Sammy) Mayer, was a graduate of the Class of 2008. Her time there is still something she cherishes every day as it has shaped her in every conceivable way.

Last May, Samantha graduated from Bentley University, a four-year, intensive business college located in Waltham, MA. Samantha was a participant in its challenging Honors Program. In addition to taking Honors classes throughout the four years, each Honors Senior must complete a capstone project. The projects were presented the week before graduation, and parents were welcome to listen to the presentations. Steve and I attended and found each student presentation extremely professional and informative. The subjects were all related to business, but were extremely varied.

I tell you all of this for a reason. When Samantha stood up to do her presentation and began to speak, I literally got chills on my arms. Her demeanor was one of complete confidence and ease. Her presentation was thorough and interesting, and she was able to answer audience questions with aplomb. Her composure was undeniable. My immediate thought was the realization that this was the result of an education at an all-girls’ school. It was at Walker’s that she learned to present her teenage self to her peers without the worry of being judged. This was an exercise she had mastered at Walker’s, so that by the time college began, she was confident in front of any audience, whether it be her peers, adults, or professors.

That evening at a dinner for the Senior Honors students, she was presented with the award for best capstone project. I tell you this not to brag, but because I want to let you know about the confidence you instill in your students at every age, every day. Education at an all-girls’ school is an irreplaceable experience that sows positive lifelong results.

Samantha was offered a job at Time Warner in marketing in its magazine division before she graduated last spring and currently works there and resides in New York City. She is in the process of applying to graduate school.

Thank you and your staff for all that you have done and continue to do every day. Our daughters are the fortunate beneficiaries of your efforts.

Sincerely,

Carol Mayer

Parent Dinner in Shanghai

A reception and dinner for parents was held in Shanghai, China, at the historic Jin Jiang Hotel. From left, Chris Zhou, Perry Zheng P’17, YingFeng He P’15, ShaoHui Chen P’15, Zhao Chen P’14, Kan (John) Chen P’16, Erin Ross Moses, Director of International Outreach and Summer Programs, Ye (Simon) Li P’16, Wei Wu P’16, Yugang Liu P’16, Wei (Helen) Chen P’16, Lei Wang P’16, Sarah Zhou
1924 Olympics — Athlete from Walker’s

“Nothing is impossible to a willing heart.”

At the Oaksmere preliminary meet, held in New Rochelle, NY, before the Olympics, Nancy won the running high jump with a jump of 4 feet 7 inches and placed second in the standing broad jump.

At the Olympics in Paris, she was a competitor in the running high jump and the running broad jump. Nancy tied for first place in the running high jump with Carrie Hatt of Great Britain. Her sister, Louise, was a teammate.


NANCY VAN VOORHEES ’24
WORLD’S RECORD HIGH JUMPER & GOLD MEDALIST IN 1924 OLYMPICS

She was a member of the following clubs/teams

1. Sun Club
2. Sun Riding Club
3. Dramatic Club Play ‘21,’22
4. Dramatic Club ’23, ’24
5. Glee Club ’24
6. Secretary Athletic Council ’22
7. French Club ’21
8. Winner of the Gold Basketball ’22
9. Sun Track Team ’21,’22,’23,’24
10. Varsity Track Team ’22,’23,’24
11. Sun Hockey Team ’21,’22,’23,’24
12. Varsity Hockey Team ’22,’23,’24
13. Sun Basketball Team ’21,’22
14. Varsity Basketball Team ’22
15. Sun Baseball Team ’21,’22,’23
16. Varsity Baseball Team ’22,’23
17. Sun Indian Club Team ’23,’24
18. Tennis Team ’23,’24
19. Winner of the “W” ’21,’22,’23,’24
20. President of the Athletic Council ’23,’24

“Nancy has broken another record!” If we don’t know those words we don’t know anything. She’s the pride of the school, and we all love her. Her long legs (we beg her pardon) have climbed to every conceivable height — actually and metaphorically — and just a glance at her endless list of accomplishments will prove all the complimentary things we can ever say about her. Nancy is just one of those people whom the school will feel lost without and, unfortunately, there is nothing we can do about it. This sounds very serious, but it’s not the only side to Nancy. Ask her where the Malted Milk or the best crackers in a certain closet are — she’s sure to know — and lots of other things which we won’t mention. If there’s anyone in the school or faculty who doesn’t like Nancy, try and find the person, but let us warn you, it can’t be done.”
The Ethel Walker School does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sexual orientation, or national or ethnic origin in the administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, athletics, and other School-administered programs.

New this fall: Two artificial turf fields, two natural turf fields, a beautiful track running around the new fields, and a pavilion are now open for School and community use.

Giving to Walker’s Through Your IRA or Retirement Plan

Uncertainty about the economy, taxes, and future health care costs may prevent a generous alumna from making a meaningful gift to The Ethel Walker School during her lifetime. Consequently, many alumnae have chosen to remember Walker’s through their estate plans. By thinking creatively, you can use your estate to leave a legacy to the School while simultaneously benefiting your loved ones and generating estate and gift tax savings.

Is there an advantage to leaving Walker’s one of my (non-Roth) IRAs or a percentage of my qualified retirement plan rather than other assets in my estate?

Yes. Under current estate tax law, if you plan to leave a bequest to family members and Walker’s, you may save taxes by giving certain assets to charity. For example, an asset such as a pension or IRA is considered income in respect of a decedent (IRD) property. Unlike appreciated securities or real estate, IRD property normally carries income tax that must be paid by the owner or the person inheriting the asset. However, if IRD property is bequeathed directly to charity, this gift is often exempt for taxation.

If you decide to leave a portion of your IRA or pension fund to Walker’s, it may be best to segregate the charitable part, naming yourself as the first beneficiary and the School as the second beneficiary. This way it will be evident to your executor which portion goes to charity and which portion goes to family. This clarifies the subsequent tax treatment of each type of bequest.

Could you give me an example of how this might work?

Let’s say you have a large appreciated stock portfolio and a traditional IRA in addition to your qualified retirement plan. You know that during your lifetime you will pay annual income tax on withdrawals from your pension and IRA. (This planning technique would not apply to a Roth IRA.)

Over the years, through prudent investing, your IRA has grown to $300,000. Since your spouse unfortunately predeceased you, your intention is to equally divide the IRA between your daughter and The Ethel Walker School. Under current law, if you left the entire IRA to your daughter, the IRA custodian would automatically deduct approximately 20 percent from the payout for federal taxes.

However, if you had updated your beneficiary form after your spouse passed away to indicate that the sole beneficiary of this fund was The Ethel Walker School, 100 percent of the remainder would be donated to the School as your bequest with no inherent federal tax obligation of 20 percent. Your daughter would receive your stock portfolio.

The second beneficiary gives you the opportunity to plan your estate tax and charitable giving in a manner that will minimize the overall tax liability for your estate and maximize the proceeds for charity. The key is to plan and update your beneficiary designation after a loved one predeceases you.

Do I have to redo my will in order to make this type of charitable gift?

No, you don’t. Since your retirement plan or IRA operates with no inherent federal tax obligation of 20 percent, your daughter would receive your stock portfolio.

Alternatively, if you decide to gift half of your IRA to your daughter and half to charity, even though you know federal taxes will be withheld from your child’s portion, you may segregate the two gifts. You can do this by creating a charitable IRA and transferring half the fund to this new account, thus making it easy for all parties to determine the tax ramifications.

When making any philanthropic commitment to Walker’s, please be sure to include your attorney or financial planner in the conversation to ensure the transaction is arranged with respect to your individual requirements.
UPCOMING EVENTS

February 14 & 15, 2013
Upper School Dance Concert
February 16, 2013
Junior Family Weekend
February 20–22, 2013
Winter Play
Head’s Day — Shhhhh, it’s a surprise!
March 31, 2013
Middle School Play

May 17–19, 2013
REUNION
Classes Ending in 3s and 8s

June 7, 2013
Middle School Promotion Ceremony
June 8, 2013
Baccalaureate and Prize Night
June 9, 2013
Commencement

Classes Ending in 3s and 8s

Dates may be subject to change. Check the website for final information.

Varsity Volleyball playing for The Cure. (see article on page 42)