

THE SUN | DIAL

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The Magazine of The Ethel Walker School



Welcome
Dr. Meera Viswanathan,
New Head of School

THE SUN | DIAL

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Head of School Dr. Meera Viswanathan addresses the audience at her investiture ceremony on October 14, 2016.



very time I pause and look back over the last six months since officially arriving at The Ethel Walker School as its 13th head of school, I marvel at all the ‘initials’ — the firsts — each new experience, each new tradition, meeting each new student, each new staff and faculty member, wondering if it will ever just seem ‘old hat’ to me.

My initial Old Girl Show (more on that later), the Investiture, the first Mountain Day, Thanksgiving Banquet, Holiday Ride — all have instead filled me with a sense of wonder. Wonder, that feeling of awe in which something greater than we could imagine or understand unhinges us for the moment, forcing us to rethink our place in the world. We stop dead in our tracks, mouths agape, speechless. And each week has found me in just such a state of slack-jawed wonderment as I’ve begun to experience Walker’s, from the sublime to the sublimely ridiculous and fun. I revel in these initial experiences with all of the freshness and surprise they bring.

At the Old Girl Show in September, as Suns and Dials took their places, there was some question of which I would be and the powers that be ordained that I would be both Sun and Dial, partial to none and encompassing all. But after an especially epiphanic week, it dawned on me that, in truth, I was also the gnomon, that funny little piece that sticks up, that anchored pointer on the sundial that serves to indicate the hour. The function of the gnomon, a word cognate with knowledge, is simply as an index to point to the truth, which is precisely what a head of school should do — serve to indicate the hour and direction of movement in a steady and grounded fashion, so that others may pursue our calling of teaching and learning.

In medieval manuscripts, it was customary in *luxe* editions to begin a page with a historiated initial, a large decorated and illuminated initial with an identifiable figure or tableau. At the risk of annoying the wonderful editors of the *Sundial*, I asked to begin my letter with the ornamented ‘E’ and end with a parallel ‘W.’ For me this is not only the year of my initiation, it is as well the initial issue of the magazine in which I now play a role. Hence the need for the ‘red letter’ beginning and closing. I wanted to share with all of you in the Walker’s community, both in this issue and the coming ones, my vision for the School and the initiatives embodying that vision that we hope to embrace. My hope is that the initiatives may serve to guide us, to point us in a timely direction, so that Walker’s progress — like the hours we spend together — is golden.

One initiative that we’ve just piloted in the week before winter break is something we’re calling the D.E.A.R.-Milk

Lunch, in which students and faculty once a week *Drop Everything And Read* for pleasure at the “Milk Lunch,” accompanied by cookies and milk with a nod to the past as many nostalgic alumnae have recounted. The intent of the program is to encourage students to engage in free reading as a stimulus to becoming avid bookworms, with cookies as a helpful inducement. In truth its greatest utility, based on comments forwarded to me thus far, may have been as a therapeutic moment which offered a welcome respite from anxiety, an hour of sanctuary in which all of us could withdraw to cozy refuges with no external demands placed on us.

One of the greatest threats to students’ well-being at our School and certainly everywhere else now as well is the encroachment of anxiety into their lives. This is not the typical pubescent/adolescent anxiety of growing up, which is painful but necessary. Instead this is a much more malevolent and destructive angst precipitated by the volatility of our contemporary geo-political world, the issues surrounding climate and environment and the role of technology, one whose impact on girls has been in certain ways terrific, but in other respects demonstrably pernicious.

Hence, we return to the idea of a school as that utopia, that ‘clean and well-lighted place’ that welcomes and nurtures. Fortunately we are blessed by a loving faculty and staff committed to the well-being of our students. Every initiative we undertake will be grounded in that notion of utopia, a venue where heart and mind are not divided, where learning is a social act, where relation and relationship anchor our understanding, beginning with the bedrock mandate for faculty and administrators, as for doctors, that dictum of Hippocrates — ‘do no harm.’ In the coming months and years, I hope to share with you much more of my vision for Walker’s future. Our mission to my way of thinking is “To foster and cherish the joyful development of girls into young women so that they may emerge in their full potentiality as astute thinkers and doers in the world.”

So, no, I don’t think this is going to ever seem like ‘old hat’ to me. Walker’s world is one of wonder. This much we know



Sincerely,

Dr. Meera Viswanathan (*aka Ms. Vis*)
HEAD OF SCHOOL

NULLAS HORAS NISI AUREAS •

“My hope is that the initiatives may serve to guide us, to point us in a timely direction, so that Walker’s progress — like the hours we spend together — is golden.”



A NOTE FROM

Kit O'Brien Rohn '82

CHAIR, BOARD OF TRUSTEES

One year ago the Board of Trustees announced the appointment of Meera Viswanathan as our new head of school commencing July 1, 2016. We recognized in Meera her brilliance, her extraordinary ability to articulate her vision of what education should and could be, her enthusiasm for women's education, and the drive to make The Ethel Walker School a leader in this field. She inspired us to think differently and dream big. I am delighted to report that only a few months into the job Meera is everything and more than we hoped she would be.

As she builds on the strong foundation of our past Head Bessie Speers, Meera is seeking to learn and know all things Walker's. Her attention is on the needs of the faculty, staff, and the students, and the academic and social experiences required for success. But equally important to Meera is her desire to build meaningful relationships with our alumnae and our larger community. Every day Meera models the importance of developing relationships, and how with them, comes greater knowledge, understanding, and joy.

One of Meera's great partnerships is with Amy Wheeler, our associate head of school. Coming from Beaver Country Day, where she was the director of the Upper School, Amy is the perfect complement to Meera. We are extremely fortunate to have her. Amy's extensive administrative skills and her authentic and professional style have already won her the respect of students, parents, faculty, and staff. It is evident to our entire community that the collaborative leadership between Meera and Amy is unique and having a significant impact.

Equally important is Meera's ability to turn to her husband, Eric Widmer, for his thoughts, advice, and support. Having served as head of school at Deerfield Academy from 1994-2006, and as founding head of school at King's Academy in Jordan from 2007-2010, Eric is well qualified to share his experience with Meera and is one of the reasons for the smooth and successful transition.

Although there have been some leadership changes at the top — most notably, Meera, Amy, and myself — the ethos on campus is active, energized and full of celebration. In September, when we welcomed our girls back, we opened the doors of our Centennial Center much to their awe and delight. In mid-October, we gathered in that space to honor Meera during her Investiture, and later in October during Parent's Weekend, we celebrated the closing of our \$50 million capital campaign — the largest campaign ever launched and completed at Walker's! If you wish to participate, we are still receiving gifts for this campaign through the end of our fiscal year. (*See more details on page 27.*) Also that weekend, with our honorary guests Bessie and Tom Speers, we formally cut the ribbon to our Centennial Center! These events have ignited a spirit and enthusiasm for Walker's that has rippled throughout the greater Hartford area and, through social media, into the homes of our alumnae.



Congratulations and heartfelt thanks to everyone who got us here! I encourage you to visit us, meet Meera, walk around our beautiful campus, and talk with our extraordinary students and faculty. Even if you've been to campus recently, come back and visit us again. If you are unable to travel to Simsbury, be sure to watch your mail and email for opportunities to meet Meera as she goes out to visit alumnae throughout the country.

We have so much of which to be proud. Walker's future has never looked so bright. Forward and up we go!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kit Rohn". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline.

Kit O'Brien Rohn '82
CHAIR, BOARD OF TRUSTEES



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Chad S. Alfeld P'19

Chad S. Alfeld is a partner of Landmark Partners, an alternative investment firm focused on secondary investment in private equity, real estate and real assets. He is a member of the private equity and real estate investment committees.



He oversees investor relations and marketing and is involved in transaction origination. Prior to joining Landmark in 1996, Chad served as controller for Health Plans Capital Services Corporation and as a senior consultant at Arthur Andersen LLP. Chad serves on the board of the Connecticut Venture Group and the board of its Hartford Chapter. He also serves on the board of the Simsbury Land Trust. Chad received an M.B.A. from the University of Chicago, as well as an M.S. from DePaul University and a B.A. from Middlebury College. Chad's daughter, Ellie, is a member of the Class of 2019.

Julie Berard P'19

Julie Berard is the president of the Ethel Walker School Parents Association (EWSPA) for the 2016-2017 term.

Formerly, she served as the secretary of the EWSPA for the 2015-2016 term.

Julie is an interior designer who has specialized in commercial properties and she currently is developing a small business that will utilize her design and entrepreneurial skills. She has served as president of The Farmington Newcomers and Neighbors; as president of the East Farms Elementary School PTO; co-chair and raffle chair for the New Britain Museum of American Art for its silent auction; and co-chair of the first Kids Care Club of Farmington. Julie lives with her husband, Alan, and daughter, Alexis '19, in Farmington.



Shelley Marks '81, MD

Shelley Marks graduated from Walker's in 1981 at the tail end of a long lineage of Walker's Dials including her mother Virginia Backus Caulkins '40, two aunts, Barbara Backus Jewett '31 and Dorothy Backus Lunken '38, as well as her first cousin, Virginia Backus Vanocur '54. Her godmother, Susan Ford '63, is a former Walker's trustee. After three years at Walker's, Shelley went on to double major in Art History and Neurobiology at Wellesley College. She then followed the path of her older brothers and moved to San Francisco where she was a research associate in the Neurology Department at UCSF



prior to attending medical school at UHS/The Chicago Medical School. Shelley did her surgical training at UCSF and Stanford, serving as a Chief Resident at the latter institution prior to returning for her fellowship at UCSF in Minimally Invasive Surgery under the mentorship of Dr. Lawrence Way. Shelley has worked as a general and laparoscopic surgeon at The Palo Alto Medical Clinic since finishing her fellowship in 1999. For many of those years she served as Department Chair. Shelley has derived the most professional satisfaction from her involvement in the Stanford General Surgery Training Program. She has been deeply involved in surgical societies including serving as president of the Northern California Chapter of the American College of Surgeons and the San Francisco Surgical Society as well as secretary/treasurer of the UCSF Naffziger Surgical Society. Shelley lives in San Francisco with her husband, Erik Gaensler, M.D., a radiologist, and their teenage son, Nicholas. The family returns several times a year to the family beach house in Gloucester, MA where many Walker's alumnae have congregated to reminisce about past times at school and to look forward to Walker's incredible future.

Curtis Mewbourne P'18

Curtis Mewbourne is a private investor. His professional career has included senior executive, portfolio management and trading positions at PIMCO, Salomon Brothers, Lehman Brothers and Andersen Consulting. Curtis has served on the boards of several



endowments, foundations, and educational institutions. He chaired the investment committee for the PIMCO Foundation, the Nightingale Bamford School, and for a private family foundation. Curtis has a degree in Computer Science Engineering from the University of Pennsylvania. He is married to Carolyn Briar Mewbourne. They have two children, Liberty "Libby" (EWS 2018) and Pearson (Choate 2020). Curtis is an outdoor enthusiast who enjoys skiing, biking, sailing, fishing, and is an avid pilot.

Kelly O'Connor Pasciucco '79

Kelly O'Connor Pasciucco is an interior designer with businesses in Greenwich, CT and in New York City. Her projects have included primary homes, vacation homes and apartments across the eastern half of the country. Kelly is the former fashion editor of *Town and Country Magazine* and a former fashion editor at *The New York Times Sunday Magazine*. Kelly grew up in



Bermuda, and is a graduate of Boston University and The Ethel Walker School. Kelly lives in Greenwich, CT and New York City and has two children, Paul (Deerfield '10 and Dartmouth '14) and Charlie (Deerfield '13 and Colorado College '17). She has been an active member of her community and held numerous positions at her children's schools. Kelly, a founding member and officer of the Deerfield Academy Parents' Committee, is currently a member of the Parents' Council at Colorado College, and an officer of the Greenwich Garden Club. Kelly is a Dial.

Susan Jensen Rawles '82

Susan "Susie" Jensen Rawles is the associate curator of American Painting and Decorative Art at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts. A specialist in American material culture of the colonial and revolutionary periods, she received a Ph.D. in American Studies from the College of William and Mary, an M.A. in the History of Art from Rice University, and a B.A. in Economics and Government from Smith College. As part of the 2010 reinstallation team for the American Galleries and the 2015 installation of the McGlothlin Collection of American Art, she co-authored the accompanying collection catalogues, *American Art at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts* (2010) and *A Promise Fulfilled: The James W. and Frances Gibson McGlothlin Collection* (2015). Susie is married to Ben Rawles and has two daughters, Coco, age 15, and Louisa, age 11. Both girls attend St. Catherine's School in Richmond. Susie is a member of the James River Garden Club; her book club, the Best Cellars; and she also volunteers in the Richmond community by serving on the boards of Sheltering Arms Hospital and Wilton House Museum. Susie also serves on committees for Stratford Hall,



Maymont Foundation, and the NSCDA-VA. As a member of the Class of 1982, Susie had her best school years at Walker's and feels most fortunate in the friends she made during her time here. As co-chair of the Alumnae Board, she is excited about the School's future and looks forward to catching up and giving back.

Teresa C. Younger

In 2014, Teresa C. Younger became president and CEO of the Ms. Foundation for Women, the oldest women's foundation in the United States. Under Teresa's leadership, the Foundation launched #MyFeminisms, a multimedia campaign sparking a national conversation on feminism; funded a groundbreaking report on the sexual abuse to prison pipeline; joined leading women's foundations at the White House to announce a \$100 million funding commitment to create pathways to economic opportunity for low-income women and girls; and led a campaign to hold the NFL accountable for violence against women. A noted speaker, advocate, and activist, Teresa has been on the front lines of some of the most important battles for women's health, safety and economic justice. In 2016, *Inside Philanthropy* identified Teresa as one of the "50 Most Powerful Women in US Philanthropy." In 2015, she was honored by Planned Parenthood Federation of America as a Dream Keeper and given Liberty Bank's Willard M. McRae Community Diversity Award. A graduate of the University of North Dakota, Teresa currently serves on the boards of the ERA Coalition/Fund for Women's Equality, Universal Healthcare Foundation of CT and the Women's Campaign School at Yale University and is a member of the Girl Scouts and the New York Women's Forum.



Trustee procession during graduation



Walker's Welcomes New Head of School

On July 1, 2016, The Ethel Walker School officially welcomed its newest head of school, Dr. Meera Viswanathan.

Meera joined Walker's from Brown University, where she was an associate professor of Comparative Literature and East Asian Studies with tenure. A lifelong educator and scholar, Meera holds her undergraduate degree, her M.A. and a Ph.D. from Stanford University. She speaks seven languages, including Japanese, French, German, Latin, Classical Greek, Old English and Old Norse.

Meera was born in Madras, India, and emigrated at age four-and-a-half to Los Angeles. She is decorated with myriad awards and accolades including earning the Barrett Hazeltine Award for Outstanding Teaching, and the John Rowe Workman Medal in the Humanities.

Her husband, Dr. Eric Widmer, served as Deerfield Academy's head of school for 12 years and while there, Meera taught English for a year while on sabbatical from Brown. At the behest of King Abdullah II of Jordan, she and Eric co-founded King's Academy in Madaba, Jordan, the Middle East's first co-educational preparatory boarding school with financial aid, where she taught and served as the curriculum's principal architect and dean of faculty. King Abdullah II personally awarded Meera the King Hussein Medal, Jordan's highest honor, for her endeavors. Meera's experience, talents, and vision will provide steady and inspirational leadership at Walker's, launching the School solidly into the future.

Women In Motion

With less than a year under their belts, Head of School Dr. Meera Viswanathan and Associate Head of School Amy Wheeler, have a clear vision for Walker's future built on existing strengths of the School's faculty, staff, students, and alumnae, with a heavy dose of new perspective and priorities layered on top. In a wide-ranging conversation with our two new inspiring leaders, they are clearly a force to be reckoned with and are, in their own words, twins separated at birth by ten years of gestation and a few continents. Here they talk about their vision, ambitions, and the joyfulness and excitement they feel leading Walker's to its place at the forefront of education.

What is your vision for Walker's?

MEERA: Integrity. I mean it in the broadest sense of the word, not just the notion of honesty, but in the sense of wholeness; in mathematics, we speak of whole numbers and integers in opposition to fractions. Whatever moment you are in at Walker's, whether on the athletic field, riding in the ring, in a faculty meeting, or in Mr. Carrington's math class, it's the same notion of wholeness at Walker's that you see valued. Wholeness implies a balanced integration of the constituent parts. This wholeness creates health: physical health, intellectual health, emotional health and social health. When the environment is healthy, we are all in balance.

AMY: Meera and I each bring varied and solid educational backgrounds with us that are different from each other, yet complementary. When merged together, a seamless fabric of values permeated by a sense of humor — all without ego — create a wholeness. And we both have a real openness to explore what we don't know yet.

MEERA: It's the convergence of what we do know, what we are learning together with the faculty, students, parents and alumnae, and our vision that creates wholeness. This is a new direction for Walker's. As a team, we are less hierarchical, more collaborative, more productive, which results in forward momentum. Everyone here should have ideas, try new things and be willing to fail boldly. We're seeking to build new relationships and strengthen existing ones — internally, with the surrounding community, and with our alumnae.

We hope to foster an open and transparent environment with our School community by flattening the landscape of hierarchy. We value enthusiasm, active engagement with ideas, and disagreement at all levels. I don't believe that hierarchy for its own sake fosters a healthy environment, since it creates unnecessary divisions and fissures. Again that detracts from the idea of wholeness and integrity.

Our vision also revolves around engagement. To engage means to focus, to be entirely present, to be consumed by what one is doing. The health is in doing. I see this happening now

— in Robotics, on the field, on Coming Out Day — but there is always room for more engaged action. This is why Shabana Basij-Rasikh's keynote address at the Investiture was so perfect: We are told 62 million girls in India are deprived of education. It's our challenge to address this in the world both directly and indirectly. I see our girls doing this. I see them taking up challenges in which there is no room for the passive.

AMY: Because wholeness, health and engagement are so key, we want our girls to be active and fully engaged in their learning both in and out of the classroom.

Meera is a big picture thinker; she is aspirational and visionary.

MEERA: And while Amy is also aspirational and visionary, she possesses in addition a singular ability to make complex ideas happen; she is exceptional at seeing how to implement and how to engage with all the stakeholders. What's a big idea without successful implementation? And while all the big picture items are unfolding, you can't ignore the day-to-day operations, the day-to-day doing. The doing is critical.



“We are told 62 million girls in India are deprived of education. It’s our challenge to address this in the world both directly and indirectly. I see our girls doing this. I see them taking up challenges in which there is no room for the passive.”

Meera Viswanathan

AMY: We get excited when talking to each other, formulating ideas and challenging each other intellectually. We are committed to being joyful in our jobs. Selfishly, for us to be happy, people around us need to be happy. No matter how hard the work is, there has to be pleasure in it for everyone. We need to create space for this.

Amy, as the associate head, where is your focus going to be?

AMY: We are looking at the School — as our home — and how things are working. How are we feeding and nurturing our girls? Is our academic program doing what we want it to be doing? What community outreach are we doing? What sort of international offerings do we have? And down to specifics, like do we have the right furniture in our classrooms to enhance the learning environment?

We’ve also rolled out a comprehensive evaluation program that includes goal setting and professional development to feed the interests and passions of faculty and staff. This is a huge priority. Just as we assess students, the adults need assessment and feedback as well. Based on a professional growth model, it will help them get where they want to go, to be better, to grow, and to remain engaged.

What opportunities do you see in front of us?

MEERA: There are many. In the short term, we are exploring a rethinking of our curriculum in order to teach our girls to be thinkers and doers; new international partnerships; community outreach; reimagining how we ask the girls to spend their time; evaluating what we should give the girls before they graduate that will help them succeed in life beyond our campus. Our girls need to be resilient, resourceful and receptive. We want them to be able to try new things confidently knowing that they can learn just about anything they want to do.

AMY: For community service, we want our girls to develop meaningful, ongoing relationships, not simply do something in the short term to make themselves feel better. We want high-impact partnerships. Under this concept, we might have fewer partnerships, but the relationships will be deeper and more meaningful.

MEERA: The program must be built on the fact that we are receptive to our surrounding communities, that our School

boundaries are porous, that we are part of our community.

We have an opportunity to rethink time. I don’t believe in the default assumption that massive amounts of homework necessarily constitute rigorous academics. We need to insure that our girls are avid readers by encouraging pleasure reading. I think the opposite can happen when you inundate students with too many assignments; it can stunt wonder and learning and make learning be understood as purely instrumental. This is not to say that students will not have to struggle to learn; all real learning comes out of struggle, failure and more struggle until clarity emerges. But knowledge and understanding are on-going quests and provisional in nature; clarity is momentary until you tackle the next stage when once again things become diffuse.

Academic rigor emerges out of serious engagement with ideas following incandescent moments in the classroom. Once you feel a subject is interesting, meaningful work and idea generation happen naturally. When people are engaged, they are excited and their energy builds off each other. We want this in our classrooms. When students leave a Walker’s classroom, they should leave feeling their vision of the world has changed, that they are thinking new ideas. We only have room for good and great classes. If people feel a class overall was only “okay” then we have failed, and that is a collective failure. As a teacher, I know well this feeling of failure and it spurs me on to see how I can galvanize my classroom the next time we meet.

We’re focused on our international opportunities as well and what they might look like. These opportunities need to have a sinewy quality, they need to have substance. Hence, they should be designed with a particular purpose, both with respect to cultural awareness and integration and in some cases language acquisition.

AMY: The way we effect change across the globe is to come together, not simply through parallel play that occurs with traditional exchange programs. We want our international programs to be based on interactive play, and collective problem-solving, which will be much more engaging for the girls. This harkens back to doing. There isn’t room for the passive anymore.

MEERA: At Walker’s, opportunities abound to provide space for our girls to accomplish extraordinary things that help them develop skills, articulate their ideas, hold up the nation...we are about girls who dare to do things. As we look to the future, we will roll out new capabilities that will help prepare our students for a successful life and give them the confidence to tackle whatever is in front of them. Every girl who leaves here will be able to swim, to code, to deliver an impromptu address for three minutes about any topic without “likes”, “ums,” and “you knows.” Every girl will learn about financial literacy — to invest money before she graduates, to learn about taxes; every girl will have an internship. We would like every girl to have an international experience and, if she so chooses, will learn to ride horses regardless of financial strictures. We will need to raise the funds to make the latter two possibilities a reality, something I am eager to undertake.

It's not just about getting to the goal, but how we get there will be the Walker's model. We want to adopt a sororial model of peer learning and teaching. If a girl can't swim, why can't another student be the one to teach her? If we all succeed, we are the better for it. We will leave no one behind.

AMY: Girls will be armed with the mindset and confidence that they can do whatever is in front of them. Maybe they were scared to swim, but they learned how and maybe they even ended up loving it. They will know how to invest money giving them the tools to be independent; they will have real-world experience showing them that they have the skills and ideas to contribute beyond our campus.

MEERA: Our potentiality for learning itself changes. You think that this is your limit, but then you realize it's an arbitrary stopping point, and you've gone beyond it, one is always doing, one is always in motion. This ever-extending horizon of possibility creates wholeness.

The Campaign has focused on buildings and over the last five years, we've talked about each building individually. Talk about how they work together.

MEERA: Buildings are about spaces they enclose. Like a meadow clearing in the woods — things happen in spaces and you need enclosures as frames to form the areas where human creativity and expression can take flight. We are blessed with wonderful structures on campus, especially our new Centennial Center, our wonderful riding program, and the newly redone classrooms in Beaver Brook that allow us clearings to bring heart, mind and spirit together to teach and learn.

The students are watching you work together, seeing two women in the top leadership positions partnering with each other. What does that mean to you?

MEERA: We hope we can model possibilities for them. That there is no one way to accomplish something. As they watch us, they have to take note of our different approaches, our different choices

and even of our disagreements on issues. Individually, it means I need to be better than I am because our students have such trust, optimism, and faith in us. I became a better person when I became a teacher, and an even better person when I accepted this job. Working with Amy has just ratcheted that up another notch.

AMY: It's a gift, a privilege, and a challenge. We want to model, in an authentic way, how professional partnership between women can work. Meera and I are partners in this very important job to lead the School. And we really, genuinely like each other. The girls can see this. They can see that we are resources and sounding boards for each other. They see we can cry and laugh and disagree so that we are better equipped and strong enough to do what we need to do: to lead.

MEERA: We believe in the same fundamental things, but the girls can see that there are different approaches, there are different opinions, and it is from these differences that solutions and great ideas are born.

How did this most promising partnership between the two of you come to be?

MEERA: Although we never met as finalists during last year's head search, we heard wonderful things about one another from various trustees and members of the Search Committee. Several months later the stars aligned for us to meet casually over drinks in Providence, RI.

AMY: Over what turned into a long, fantastic dinner conversation, we discovered that both of us had fallen in love with the Walker's community during our time on campus and shared an amazingly similar vision for the future of the School and girls' education in general.

MEERA: Our personal chemistry was also strong, we intuitively know how to work with each other, our skills and experience very complementary ... and here we are today, wildly enthusiastic about The Ethel Walker School, grateful for our close collaborative partnership, both believing that we are in the right place at the right time!

ASSOCIATE HEAD OF SCHOOL Amy Wheeler

Associate Head of School Amy Wheeler brings with her nearly 30 years of experience in education, a B.A. from Connecticut College and a Master's in Educational Administration from Boston College. Her notable independent school career began as a teacher, coach and dorm parent at Lawrence Academy, a co-ed boarding school in Groton, MA. Amy then worked at The Sage School, a K-8 school for academically gifted students in Foxboro, MA, where she held many positions including director of admission and secondary school placement, assistant head of school, and interim head of school. The last seven years prior to joining Walker's, Amy was the upper school director at Beaver Country Day School in Newton, MA, where she had the pleasure of her daughter graduating this past spring. In addition to her transformative administrative work with faculty, students and parents, Amy was also a founding board member of the Tremont School, a progressive, co-ed, 5th-12th grade day school in Lexington, MA. Amy comes to Walker's with her partner, Tim Reny, a graduate of Williams College and The Wharton School, and their blended family of seven children. They feel most fortunate to be living on campus in the Deck House and delight in sharing it with the Walker's community.



A New Era Begins

On Friday, October 14, Dr. Meera Viswanathan was honored at an investiture ceremony marking the beginning of her service as the head of The Ethel Walker School. Keynote speaker Shabana Basij-Rasikh, president and co-founder of The School of Leadership Afghanistan (SOLA), presented an incredibly moving and inspirational address.

The ceremony began with a series of special well wishes from friends, family, colleagues, King Abdullah II of Jordan, and Hillary Rodham Clinton, as read by students and Dean of Students Lauren Raia.

Speaker Shabana Basij-Rasikh spoke about her life journey and what led her to found SOLA. Growing up in Taliban-controlled Kabul where education for girls was illegal, Shabana attended school secretly, dressed as a boy and in constant fear of her life. Shabana came to the United States in 2005 for school, and was quickly aware of her privilege as well as how much was taken for granted in the US. Shabana encouraged Walker's students to recognize their own privilege and act upon it in recognition of the 62 million girls in India waiting for the opportunity to be educated.



“I think you all have done something amazing as a community to deserve the leadership of Meera, and I hope that together ... you learn and think very seriously about every single one of our responsibilities, individually and collectively, towards our world.”

Keynote speaker Shabana Basij-Rasikh
President and co-founder of The School of Leadership Afghanistan (SOLA)





“...at a school like Walker’s, it is not only education within the classroom. It is education everywhere we go, with every person we meet. We educate one another. This must be our sole purpose in being here.”



Bejay Mugo '22 reads a letter to Meera from His Majesty King Abdullah II of Jordan.

“Girls, why are you here? What is the purpose of your education?” she asked. “There is no one better in this world who will help you answer those questions than Meera. I think you all have done something amazing as a community to deserve the leadership of Meera, and I hope that together ... you learn and think very seriously about every single one of our responsibilities, individually and collectively, towards our world.”

In her inaugural address to the community, Meera, known as Ms. Vis to the students, spoke about her upbringing as an immigrant from India living in Los Angeles and the sacrifices of her family, particularly her mother, who instilled in her the value of education. “Education is everything; it is the ‘leading forth’ into life,” Meera said. “And at a school like



Members of the student body give Meera a standing ovation.



Meera addresses the community during her investiture.

Walker's, it is not only education within the classroom, it is education everywhere we go, with every person we meet. We educate one another. This must be our sole purpose in being here.”

Meera related her role at Walker's to that of a gnomon, the projecting piece on a sundial, the School symbol. “My function in this school is as the gnomon — and what I want to do is to be able to shine the light on our wonderful faculty and staff, and especially our beloved students. It is they who are making strides, it is they who will bring out that world that we will all be glad that we are living in.”

The inspirational event concluded under a tent at Debby's House, where faculty, staff, current and past parents, alumnae and trustees gathered to celebrate the next chapter of Walker's history under Meera's leadership.

For video coverage of the event, visit www.ethelwalker.org/investiture

Meera with good friend and trustee, Harriet Bles Dewey '60, P'86





*Long white steeple gleaming with sunshine
Stands defying gravity
Ms. Vis walks in through our front doors
The Chapel bows to courage
Her easy gait matches her composed style
Stunning us with her words, hiding nothing on a sheet
How do you face hundreds of faces
Waiting, distracted, judging the words of the impending leader
Courage*

Caroline Smith '19



Trustee Teresa Younger enjoys a selfie moment with Head of School Meera Viswanathan, Laura Calandro '19 and her mom, Roseann.



“Ms. Vis and the Way it Was”

ADDRESS GIVEN BY MEERA'S HUSBAND,
DR. ERIC WIDMER, AT MEERA'S INVESTITURE

On the morning of commencement day at Brown University in the late spring of 2015, Meera Viswanathan put on her Stanford regalia, just as she had done each of the 32 years she had been at Brown. That this would be the next to last time was the last thing anyone would have imagined, least of all Meera herself. And yet, already the winds were blowing a little differently, if still imperceptibly.

Just a little earlier, we had visited our dear friends in Connecticut, Bob and Harriet Dewey. (Bob had been president of the Board of Trustees at Deerfield during much of my time there, and even afterwards we would get together as often as we could manage.) Of course, the Deweys are here today. The fact that Harriet happened to be an alumna of Walker's, and a trustee, and on the search committee for a new head of school, was of interest certainly, but of little apparent relevance at the time. The only thing that she just happened casually to mention was that one search hadn't resulted in anything and another had now begun.

Then in June, after the Brown commencement, the Deweys paid us a visit at our home in “South County” Rhode Island. Harriet reported offhandedly that the search was gaining momentum, but as their visit ended and we bid our guests good-bye, Meera noticed that a copy of the *Sundial* had just happened to have been left behind.

Then in early July, seemingly out of the blue, Meera received a telephone call from the Carney Sandoe search firm, with the news that her name had suddenly surfaced as a possible candidate for Walker's headship. “Would you be interested in being considered?” she was asked. Meera was flattered, I suppose, but to think of leaving her professorship at Brown after all this time? Well, she didn't want to be impolite by dismissing the question out of hand. So the one word she failed to utter was “No.”

Perhaps a week went by and the caller from Carney Sandoe was back on the line. “I understand your reticence,” she said. “But if there is any chance, however remote, that you might conceivably be interested, all we need is

a letter, even if the letter dwells on the improbable.” So Meera wrote the letter, again not to be impolite. Two weeks later, Carney Sandoe was back with the news that she was a semi-finalist.

To me, the fact that Meera had never opted out must have meant something — more than something. But now she had to confront the question — was she in or not? Well, the semi-finalists would be invited to campus for interviews, and for a chance to see Walker’s and get a sense of the school. Why not stay in the search that far, anyway, just to satisfy her curiosity?

In retrospect, the semi-final visit, when it occurred on August 7, was the beginning of a turning point. That night we had dinner with the search committee in Simsbury — a telling moment, when Meera could actually see faces — and belonging to such engaging committee members. And, of course, they could all look upon her face for the first time.

That Meera had stayed in the search up to that point — it was always with the thought that she could decline to continue. But it was precisely because she would tell herself that she had that option that Walker’s grew on her, and grew and grew. Not long afterwards, she was informed that she was a finalist.

The visit was scheduled for September 21-22, with school now in session. On the way back to Simsbury that afternoon, the car was very quiet. But once we arrived, and over those two days, it was an exciting, even electrifying, experience for Meera, perhaps for the school as well. There were non-stop interviews of course, and the important meetings with the search committee and the Big 7 student leaders. Three times she was asked to speak to the faculty, staff and parents, always extemporizing as the situation required. She visited the horse barns and asked “Can the head take riding lessons along with the girls?” With a science class, she visited the school apiary and was presented with a jar of Walker’s honey.

To the faculty she said, “I’m not in the job market, or any other search. This is just between Walker’s and me.” To everyone we met she would say how drawn she was to the school, what a

compelling place she found it to be, with such a special spirit, going back to the determination of Ethel Walker herself that girls should have just the same educational opportunities as boys. As our visit was concluding, I could only acknowledge, to myself, once again, that extraordinary woman to whom I happened to be married.

To the faculty she said,
“I’m not in the job market,
or any other search.
This is just between
Walker’s and me.”

When Meera was informed of her selection in early October, she turned to me and I could read the look on her face. It said “Macbeth” and I knew that it meant that she would accept. How often, when choosing for something that required a certain amount of daring, we would quote to one another from Macbeth, “We’re in blood, stepp’d in so far, that should we wade no more, returning were as tedious as go o’er.” The announcement went out at 3:00 p.m. on October 6.

Meera was formally introduced to the school on October 20. Everyone was gathered in the chapel, and as she began to speak in her impromptu way, I found myself wishing that all Walker’s parents and alumnae could also have been there. The two-hour drive from Rhode Island would again have given us plenty of time to talk about what she might say, but again she had been rather quiet, no doubt contemplating the enormity of the turn her life had taken, but wanting also to speak to the school from her heart, which meant not being over-prepared.

Once the applause had subsided, Meera of course began by saying how thrilled she was and how much she had come to admire all the things that seemed so special about Walker’s, from the time of her very first visit in August. She spoke humorously about her interview with the Big 7 and then mentioned the smell of

Kellogg’s cornflakes in the kitchen of Abra’s dining room. (“Where is she going with this?” I asked myself, sitting in the choir loft behind her.) The smell, she said, was the same scent of cornflakes she had sniffed in the small apartment she shared with her mother and sister in Los Angeles after immigrating to America from India at the age of four and a half. “It was the smell of home at last. How evocative, how reassuring a smell it was!” she said.

Then Meera began to talk not about her sense of smell, but about voice, and the strength of voice she had already found in so many Walker’s girls. She said that finding one’s voice is often such a challenge for students in their formative years. (Whereupon I said to myself, “Oh my goodness, she’s going to recite Caedmon’s poem!”) And sure enough, she began to tell the story of that very shy seventh-century swine herder, Caedmon, who was suddenly commanded by God to go to the crowded village meadhall and compose a poem on the spot and out loud; at which point Meera switched into Anglo Saxon and recited from memory the 18 lines of what has become known in English literature as Caedmon’s Hymn. (When, if ever, I wondered in the 13 centuries that have elapsed since then, has anyone told the story of Caedmon in the original Old English, upon being introduced to her new school?) There was rousing applause, as the Walker’s community appreciated all the more the untypical head of school they would be getting.

Meera finished by returning to her “cornflakes moment” and saying how much she felt at home, and then with this last sentence — “I guess I’m now a Walker’s girl.”

And that’s the way it’s been ever since. A little later, as we were walking past the Middle School to our car, about to leave for Rhode Island, Mr. Yang’s sixth grade Chinese class suddenly spotted Meera out their classroom window. They all came running out to embrace her. It was a happy ending to a happy day, but only the beginning of that whirlwind year that has brought her, finally, to her new place, which just seemed, all along, to be waiting for her.

New Faculty and Staff

SARAH BEDNAR P'19 **Aquatics Director**

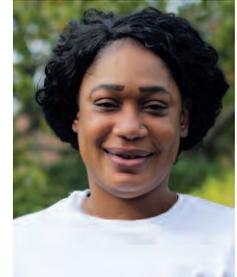
Sarah comes to Walker's from the Canterbury School where she served as aquatic director, summer program director, head swimming and diving coach, head crew coach and dorm head to freshman and sophomore boys. Prior to that, she had 15 years of experience in fitness, wellness and aquatics management including with a nationally recognized fitness and wellness management company where she implemented award-winning wellness and fitness programs. She is a certified level 2 swim coach through USA Swimming, a level 2 rowing coach through USA Rowing, and a certified lifeguard-training instructor. She holds a B.A. from Purdue University in Health Promotion. Sarah spends her free time with her husband, Chris, sons, Jack (16) and Charlie (12), and daughter, Reagan (15), who is a sophomore at Walker's.



technical school and has been working with computers throughout his professional life including working as a technician, systems/network engineer, specialist, and director.

MELICIA GARDNER **Environmental Services**

Melicia joined Walker's this summer as a custodian as part of the environmental services team. Previously, she worked as a custodian in a high school in Jamaica before moving to the United States. Melicia has also worked in home health care as a caregiver.



LINDSAY HODGMAN **English Teacher**

Lindsay received her B.A. in Literature from Franklin College Switzerland. In her time at Franklin, Lindsay immersed herself in the study of French and Creative Writing. After teaching at a high school in France, she began her graduate work in Literary and Cultural Studies (M.A.) at Carnegie Mellon University. She served as an English teacher at Hamden Hall Country Day School for three years where she redesigned the ninth grade English curriculum to include the diverse voices of contemporary authors. While there, she also led an Outdoor Adventure Club and implemented a yoga program.



ELISA CARDONA **Director of Social Justice and Inclusion**

Elisa, a native of Brooklyn, NY, has lived in Connecticut for eight years. Prior to joining Walker's, she worked as the director of student activities and leadership development/new student orientation at Wesleyan University. Elisa's deep-rooted interest in women's education is what brings her to Walker's. She attended an all-girls high school in New York City before attending Smith College in Northampton, MA where she majored in Government and minored in Spanish. While working at Mount Holyoke College, Elisa attended graduate school at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst where she graduated with an M.A. in Social Justice Education. Elisa lives in Newington, CT with her husband Mario, son Nico, and their dog, Chloe.



SHANNEN HOFHEIMER **Director of Theater**

Shannen, a classical artist and musician, holds a B.M. in vocal performance from The Hartt School of Music. She provides musical and theatrical instruction for students from beginner to the conservatory level. Her experience includes musical theatre, opera, jazz, rock, and more. As a child, Shannen had the privilege of performing with NETworks Productions on the international tour of "The Sound of Music" starring Marie Osmond, which taught her professionalism and responsibility at a young age. She also toured nationally with Chamber Theatre Productions where she performed classical works of literature adapted for the stage for school groups.



ERIC EVANS **Network Administrator**

Eric is a recent graduate of Western Governors University with a B.S. in information technology security. He also holds extensive industry certifications. Eric has been working in information technology for more than 12 years. He is a 2005 graduate of a



NISHETTE ISAAC
Dean of Digital and Library Services

Nishette comes to Walker's from the Collegiate School in New York where she served as the school's librarian for the past three years. She earned her B.A. in Anthropology from Hofstra University, her M.S. in Teaching from Fordham University, and her M.L.S. from Pratt Institute. Nishette began her career as a librarian for the New York City Department of Education. There, she ran the library while being frequently called upon to perform classroom teaching duties. In 2011, she joined Dalton School as a volunteer librarian and spent the 2012-2013 year as a maternity leave replacement librarian at both Chapin School and Brearley School. Nishette was born in Saint Lucia and moved to the United States when she was 10. She is an active member of the Shelflives Book Club and has served as vice president of the Hudson Valley Librarian Association for the past three years.



KATE MARKEY
Latin Teacher

Kate is originally from Ann Arbor, MI. She graduated from Kenyon College in Gambier, OH where she studied the Classics and Art History. At Kenyon, Kate fell in love with Latin as a student. There, she had a chance to start teaching the language as an assistant teacher. Kate is a choral singer, dog lover, and Michigan football fan.



EMMA MITCHELL
Physics Teacher

Emma received her B.A. in Physics from Vassar College in 2009, where she also was senior editor of the college newspaper. She taught physics and chemistry at her alma mater, Emma Willard School, before earning a Ph.D. in Applied Physics at the University of Virginia in 2016. Her Ph.D. research was in laboratory astrophysics and astrochemistry, focusing on thermal and radiation processing of frozen water in astronomical environments. As a graduate student, she was awarded fellowships by both the NASA Earth and Space Science Program and the NASA Virginia Space Grant Consortium. Emma lives with her rescue border collie, Davy.



GRETCHEN ORSCHIET
Director of Advancement

Gretchen was appointed as Walker's Director of Advancement in October 2016. Coming from Trinity College, she initially served as Director of Development, and, more recently, as Director of Principal Gifts and International Development. Prior to Trinity, Gretchen's career in education includes over a decade of fundraising at Cornell University and over a decade of work in admissions at Cornell University, Ithaca College and her alma mater, Wells College. Gretchen and her family live in West Hartford and enjoy exploring New England.



JENNIFER WALL
Math Teacher

Jennifer, a private math tutor for middle, high and college students, joins Walker's as a member of the math faculty. Jennifer is a graduate of the College of New Jersey and the New York Institute of Technology where she earned her M.A. in Instructional Technology. Previously, Jennifer was a math teacher at Northern Valley Regional High School in New Jersey. She served as a long-term substitute at Walker's during the 2011-2012 academic year where she taught *AP Calculus*, *AP Statistics*, *Honors Calculus* and *Trigonometry*.



BETH WIRSUL
Senior Associate Director of Admissions

Beth comes to Walker's from the Westover School where she worked for 15 years serving as their senior associate director of admission and the director of financial aid. Prior to that, she was employed at The Marvelwood School in Kent, CT where she served as associate director of admission and the head downhill ski coach. Beth graduated from St. Lawrence University with a B.S. and has furthered her education by taking numerous courses in school counseling at Fairfield University. She lives in Naugatuck with her husband and her two dogs, Bromley and Chester. She and her husband enjoy spending time at their home in Andover, VT, playing golf, riding snowmobiles, and being outdoors.



Hooray Sunray!

CAMPAIGN CELEBRATION AND CENTENNIAL CENTER RIBBON CUTTING

During Family Weekend on October 28 and 29, two celebratory events filled the Walker's campus with joy and excitement. Together on Friday evening, parents, alumnae, trustees, former trustees, and special guests shared a special dinner to honor the successful closing of the Centennial Campaign. On Saturday, a ribbon-cutting ceremony marked the official opening of the Centennial Center, the capstone project of the Centennial Campaign.



Sarah Gates Colley '75 and Kit O'Brien Rohn '82



Campaign Chair and Trustee Sarah Gates Colley '75 delivered remarks to more than 500 guests, including former Head of School Bessie Speers P'16 and her family, at a dinner in the new Centennial Center gymnasium to mark the closing of the Centennial Campaign which began in 2011. Family Weekend was a fitting time to celebrate the Campaign's success as the parent community was instrumental in unlocking a \$5 million gift from an anonymous donor to the Campaign in 2014 when 100% of the parents made a gift to the Annual Fund for Walker's. The gift was used to fund the Centennial Center project.

During the evening's program, Board Chair Kit O'Brien Rohn '82 commented, "Walker's campus today is a place of great pride and excitement. Our students, faculty and staff work and play in spaces that enhance their experience — and the impact is a happier, healthier, and energized community!"

Sarah joined Kit in thanking Bessie for her vision and hard work by adding, "I truly believe success breeds success and we will continue to build Walker's to be the best of the best — filled with institutional pride, confidence, courage, conviction, and integrity. With Meera's inspired leadership and vision, coupled with the success of this Centennial Campaign, we are starting our next and best chapter of The Ethel Walker School." The evening was capped off with dessert and coffee on the Centennial Center patio followed by a spectacular display of fireworks on the lawn behind Beaver Brook.

For video coverage of the event, visit www.ethelwalker.org/celebrationdinner



Campaign Celebration dinner in the new gym



RIBBON CUTTING CELEBRATION — Walker's Transformation

On the perfect fall morning of Saturday, October 29, the community marked a transformational moment together with the opening of the new Centennial Center. In his comments prior to the ribbon cutting, Athletic Director John Monagan said “This ribbon cutting represents a transition. It is the handing over of the building from the adults who have thought about design and fundraising and construction, to you, the Walker’s girls, who will make it your home. You will give it the things a wall and floors and ceiling are missing. You will fill it with the characteristics that are just so Walker’s that our soul and our spirit radiate from the building.”

Ella Ross '15, president of the student body when the 100% parent challenge was made, wore a purple cape for 93 days until all of the parents made a gift to the Annual Fund for Walker’s, unlocking the \$5 million gift that would make the Centennial Center a reality. “This project is an inspiration because it’s an example of the School practicing what it preaches. We are taught here to be bold, to dream big, to work very hard, and to collaborate to get things done. That’s exactly what the Centennial Center stands for,” said Ella.



Sue Cesare and Lynn Manger '59, co-chairs of the Centennial Center Task Force, lent their comments to the program illustrating how they worked with so many people to make the vision of a new center into a reality. Lynn commented, "Sixty years ago, I started as a student at EWS, a much smaller campus at the time. Never in my wildest dreams then did I imagine that I would be standing here today celebrating this incredible, amazing, extraordinary piece of Walker's history." Sue added, "The Centennial Center is here because of the resolve, thoughtfulness, and generosity of people — Walker's people — past and present. So many have taken care of turning the vision into a reality...I think the symbolism that cutting the ribbon reflects is that we are now the caretakers of the building — we and future generations of Walker's people — trustees, alumnae, administrators, faculty, parents, staff, and students alike."

For video coverage of the event, visit www.ethelwalker.org/ribboncutting

"As we cut the ribbon today, know that this building is yours. Forever owned by self-confident, eager, sometimes silly, but always caring Walker's women. It couldn't be in better hands, and we couldn't be happier to celebrate with each and every one of you today."

John Monagan, Athletic Director





Walker's is ready for its second century. Thank you for being a Centennial Campaign donor!

Your gifts will change girls' lives — forever.

At Walker's, we nurture tomorrow's leaders. You make that possible with your support. And with the Centennial Campaign, we looked to you and you were there.

Your gift will leave its mark on generations of girls. Thank you.

The Centennial Campaign marked a moment in our history when events converged and together, we created possibilities that would otherwise be impossible.

The Ethel Walker School was at the most important juncture in its history. You believed with us. You invested in us and the future of Walker's.

One hundred years of history.

A century of success.

And an ambitious \$50 million goal — all achieved.

Because of you, we are ready for our next century.

Our mission remains clear. We are prepared to fulfill it — thanks to you.

To discuss your gift, please call Gretchen Orschiedt at (860) 408-4260.
Or go to www.ethelwalker.org/giving/centennial-campaign to make your gift today!

A MESSAGE FROM

Sarah Gates Colley '75

TRUSTEE AND CENTENNIAL CAMPAIGN CHAIR

Dear Alumnae, Parents, and Friends,

On the evening of October 28, 2016, we stood outside our new Centennial Center as fireworks lit the sky and our Walker's community celebrated the conclusion of our Centennial Campaign in spectacular fashion. We looked on with pride as the fireworks were the visible display of our collective accomplishments.

In October 2011, we officially announced the \$50 million Campaign at our Centennial Celebration. The Campaign was an ambitious undertaking, and a fitting one for a school known for encouraging leadership and confidence in our girls. Thanks to you, new generations of girls will benefit from a school well-prepared for its second century. Together we have achieved so much!

The transformations at the School are many:

- A new dormitory
- New turf fields and athletic pavilion
- The restoration of our equestrian barns
- A new head of school house — “Debby’s House”
- And ...our capstone project... The Centennial Center

You can and should feel proud. Walker's now has beautiful new facilities on our picturesque campus. We attract amazing students, faculty and leaders who will carry the School's legacy forward in distinguished ways. Please come back soon to witness for yourself the energy and excitement on our transformed campus.



“Thanks to you, new generations of girls will benefit from a school well-prepared for its second century.”

I'm grateful for the generosity of the Walker's community and for your continued support of your alma mater and the future of women's education.

Sincerely,

Sarah Gates Colley '75
TRUSTEE AND CENTENNIAL CAMPAIGN CHAIR

CAMPAIGN STEERING COMMITTEE

Sarah Gates Colley '75
COMMITTEE CO-CHAIR OF TRUSTEES AND ALUMNAE

Letitia McClure Potter '55, P'85
CHAIR OF ALUMNAE PRE-1980

Anna Namnoum P'19
CHAIR OF DAY PARENTS

Katharine O'Brien Rohn '82
CHAIR OF TRUSTEES

Alexandra Badger Airth '83
CHAIR OF ALUMNAE POST-1980

Mary Barbour P'17
CHAIR OF BOARDING PARENTS

Aileen Turnbull Geddes '56
CHAIR OF FORMER TRUSTEES

Christine Chessen P'17
CO-CHAIR OF PARENTS

Deborah Bell Spoehel '75, P'14
CHAIR OF PAST PARENTS



Leaving a Legacy

The Oasis

Seven named spaces in the Centennial Center permanently recognize donors who made gifts towards specific areas within the new building. Their generous contributions helped ensure successful completion of the building, and will positively impact Walker's girls today and into the future.

The Oasis

In spring 2014, The Ethel Walker Parents Association hosted the Garden Oasis Gala and Auction. The net proceeds from the event were used to name the gathering space outside of the lower level training room and wellness center. The space is one of the most highly active areas in the building with direct access to the outdoor playing fields.

The Speers Family Lobby

The Speers Family Lobby, dedicated in honor of Former Head of School Bessie Speers P'16 and her family by the Board of Trustees, was given with deep appreciation for Bessie's leadership and commitment to transformational growth through the School's centennial chapter. The lobby is the main public entrance to the Centennial Center. It is located on the main level of the building closest to Sand Hill Road and features trophy cases and seating areas.





Harriet Bles Dewey '60 Squash Gallery

The Harriet Bles Dewey '60 Squash Gallery is given by Harriet Bles Dewey '60, P'86 and her husband, Robert M. Dewey P'86. Harriet and Bob's gift to the school to name this space recognizes the many hours Harriet has spent enjoying squash games played by members of her family.

The Lickle Family Athletic Director's Office

The Lickle Family Athletic Director's Office is dedicated in honor of sisters Sydney Lickle Jordan '70, Ashley Lickle O'Neil '78 and Kemble Lickle O'Donnell '70 as a gift from their parents in recognition of their athleticism while students at Walker's and in support of the strong athletic program currently at our School.

Class of 2016 Entry Porch

Members of the Class of 2016 and their parents played a pivotal role in the achievement of 100% parent participation in the \$5 million challenge for the building of the Centennial Center. The Class of 2016 Entry Porch, located directly inside the main doors from the Centennial Lawn behind Beaver Brook, is given by the students and parents of the Class of 2016. The location and furnishings in the space allow students to gather and enjoy watching activities both inside and outside of the building.

Letitia McClure Potter '55, P'85 Gallery

The Gallery is dedicated in honor of Letitia "Tisha" McClure Potter '55, P'85, trustee emerita, by family, classmates and fellow trustees in recognition of her lifetime devotion and service to the School. Clarissa "Lissa" Potter '85 and her father, Philip Potter P'85, initiated a group gift to honor Tisha's milestone birthday. The Gallery space, situated in a well-traveled area joining Beaver Brook to the new building, has a wall of windows looking out to the Heublein Tower. It is an ideal space to display artwork and to entertain.



Tisha Potter '55, P'85 and her daughter, Lissa Potter '85, are joined by their family at the dedication of The Gallery.

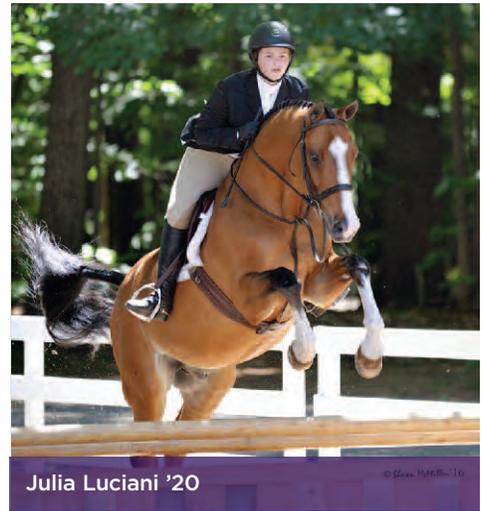


The Joyce K. McIntyre Health Center

The Joyce K. McIntyre Health Center is named in honor of Joyce McIntyre, B.S., R.N., C.N.C., who has been helping to heal and nurture Walker's girls since 1984. The health center has four overnight rooms, two treatment rooms, a waiting area, health classroom and a kitchen.

Equestrian Team Takes Home Champion and Reserve Champion in Avon IEA Show

The Upper School team placed first overall out of six teams, and the Middle School team placed second in the middle school division. In the Open 2'6" division, Becky Morris '19 placed 1st over fences and 1st on the flat. In the Intermediate 2' division, Isabel Lardner '18 placed 1st over fences and 2nd on the flat and Laurel Gaddis '18 was 3rd over fences and 4th on the flat. Bejay Mugo '22 placed 3rd on the flat in the Future Walk Trot Canter division, and Alexis Berard '19 was 3rd in the High School Walk Trot Canter division. In the Novice Cross Rails division, Hannah Theriault '20 was 1st on the flat and 1st over fences and Catherine Liu '17 was 6th on the flat and 4th over fences; Claire Shimanski '23 placed 5th on the flat and 1st over fences.



Julia Luciani '20

Walker's Equestrians Excel in Saratoga

Several EWS equestrians spent two weeks in Saratoga, NY over the summer showing at the Skidmore College Saratoga Classic Horse Show. Emma Crate '19 had two successful weeks, winning the Taylor Harris Insurance Medal both weeks. Becky Morris '19 was champion in the 15-17 Children's Hunter division during the second week and she placed fourth in the THIS Medal both weeks. Sheriden Beard '16 won the Ralph P. Symmes Equitation Medal, and Ava Rodgers '16 successfully competed in the Modified Adult Hunter and Equitation divisions, placing consistently in all of her classes. Julia Luciani '20 competed in the Modified Children's Hunters and Equitation divisions and earned three seconds, a third, a fourth and a fifth place throughout the week in these divisions. Walker's alumna Taylor Duerr '14 had great results all week in a very competitive 18-35 Adult Hunter Division.

Walker's Equestrians Compete in Prestigious New England Finals

Three Walker's equestrians competed in the prestigious New England Equitation Championships, held October 19-23 at the Eastern States Coliseum in West Springfield, MA.

Hope Cushman '18 placed 24th out of 187 riders, received the highest score out of the riders who had never competed in a 3'6" final, and advanced to the second round. Emma Crate '19 placed 10th in her open equitation class on Saturday and had the second highest score out of the riders who had never competed in a 3'6" final. Becky Morris '19 had the fourth highest score out of those who had never competed in a 3'6" final and placed 9th in the open equitation class on Friday.



Hope Cushman '18

Ribbons at Connecticut Finals

Six riders competed at the Connecticut Finals this year including Becky Morris '19, Laurel Gaddis '18, Julia Luciani '20, and Claire Shimanski '23. All placed well in their classes, bringing home multiple ribbons. Laurel placed 4th and 6th out of 41 in the modified children's hunters, and Julia was 5th in the modified children's as well. Becky placed 1st out of 14 in the 15-17 children's hunters, and Claire was 1st and 5th in the children's equitation.

Register for 2017 Summer Riding Experience!

Boarding and day sessions for girls ages 8-12.

Visit us at www.ethelwalker.org/sre to learn more.



Annual Riding Chapel

Each year, the riding team presents to the school community during Chapel. This year, they took an interactive approach by inviting the community into the Henderson Riding Ring to get a close up of the horses. Some girls had never been near a horse before. The program included cameos by Head of School Meera Viswanathan and Associate Head of School Amy Wheeler on horseback.



Head of School Meera Viswanathan and Associate Head of School Amy Wheeler strike a pose during Riding Chapel after making cameo appearances on horseback.

Athletics: The Stage Is Set

In 2012, the School implemented a phased approach to upgrade its existing athletic facilities and add new facilities where there was a need. The first phase was the overhaul of all playing fields, completed in 2013. The opening of the Centennial Center this fall marked the final stage of the revamp, including the addition of a new pool, two dance studios, and squash courts.

“Confidence is an important part of successful athletics. We saw improvement with our soccer, field hockey and lacrosse programs with the addition of the new fields in 2013. The Centennial Center provides another source of confidence for our student-athletes. This facility says to them, “You deserve something great because, with your hard work and dedication, you can be great. It shows them women’s sports are important.”

John Monagan, Athletic Director

One of the two
new team locker rooms

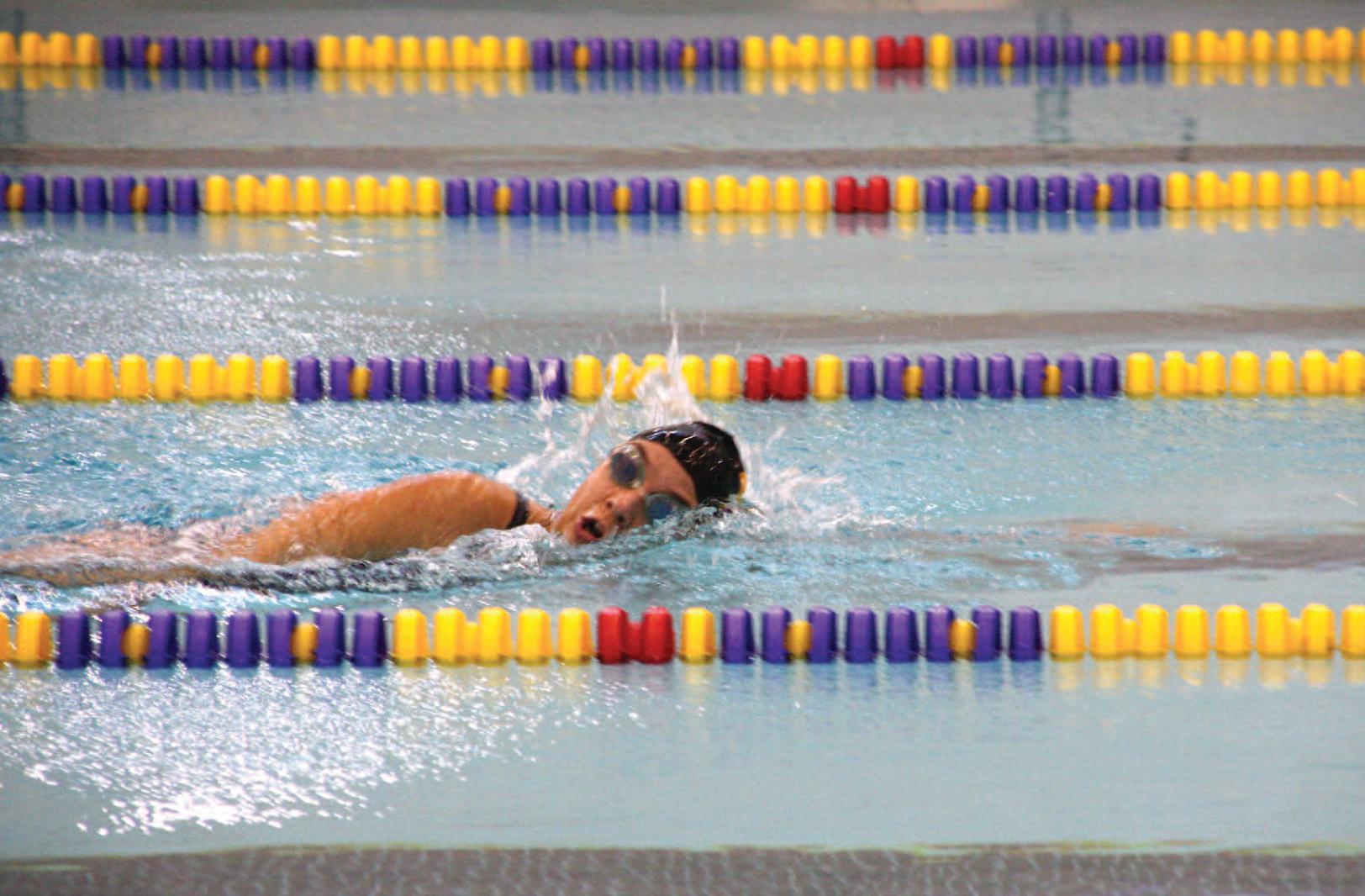




New softball field with natural turf, batting cages, and an electronic scoreboard.



Fitness center featuring sweeping views of Talcott Mountain.



Eight-lane swimming pool with underwater speakers

“Our new space has already hugely impacted the dance program. We can run side-by-side classes allowing for collaboration. Class composition has vastly improved; students can do independent work without fighting for space. Our old studio was isolated from everyone. Now we’re in the center of the action. The majority of foot traffic walks by our studios. We see other teams; they stop and watch and ask questions. And the dancers watch teams practice. The energy is new and palpable.”

Cheri Soule
Art Department Chair and Dance Instructor





“In the past, we had to travel to practice in an over-chlorinated and shallow pool, no access to starting blocks except during meets, and we couldn’t host a home meet. We now have an eight-lane, deep water pool that allows our swimmers to focus on becoming the best athletes possible. Underwater filming will give them focus to refine technique; the new fitness center will provide supplemental cross-training; underwater speakers create additional motivation (and fun), and we’ll be able to host meets and provide highly competitive experiences to our swimmers.”

Brooke Haynes, Varsity Swim Coach



The squash pavilion features four new courts with The Harriet Blees Dewey '60, P'86 Squash Gallery





Two artificial turf fields for field hockey and lacrosse

Fall Athletics Highlights

VARSITY FIELD HOCKEY

Season Record: 17-4

Of Note:

- earned Western New England Prep School Field Hockey Championship
- earned the #1 seed in the NEPSAC Class C Tournament

VARSITY SOCCER

Season Record: 8-10-1

Of Note:

- was one game away from earning a postseason appearance
- played against nine teams that made NEPSAC finals

VARSITY VOLLEYBALL

Season Record: 8-9

Of Note:

- was one game away from winning a postseason appearance
- played nine teams that made the NEPSAC finals

CROSS COUNTRY

Of Note:

- Mary McNally '17 starred for Walker's this season, earning a 6th place finish in the NEPSAC Championships and also representing the School in the all-star race.



Two new natural turf fields for soccer complete with an athletic pavilion at one end

“The Centennial Center is a great step forward for our athletics. It shows how committed Walker’s is to providing girls here with nothing but the best.”

Mia Farnella '18
Varsity Field Hockey





On February 18 and 19, audiences were treated to

the annual Upper School Dance Concert, titled

Remember My Name.

The artistic director was Cheri Soule, Walker's art department chair. Choreographers included dance faculty Cheri Soule, Brittany Gauthier, Haley Zdebski, guest artist Kate St. Amand, and seniors Nellie Speers '16 and Claudia Ru '16. Dance Workshop and Dance Ensemble provided group choreography.

On March 2 and 3, the Middle School performed

Empowered: How One Girl Scout Nearly Destroyed the World's Economy.

Lead roles were played by Madeleine Pelletier '20, Gabi Cohen '20, and Ella Samson '20. Lucca Troutman '08, Music Teacher, directed the performance.



The Upper School Spring Musical, The Little Mermaid,

debuted May 19 and 20
to full houses.

Under theater director
Kim Overtree's direction,
leads Nellie Speers '16,
Philine Gessler '16, Nan
Kanjankullawat '16 and
Monique Pace '18 dazzled
audiences.



104th Commencement



On Saturday, May 28
53 confident young women received their diplomas during the School's 104th Commencement ceremony, which took place under sunny skies in front of Beaver Brook. Students, faculty, staff, alumnae, trustees, family, and friends were in attendance to celebrate the Class of 2016.



“We are depending on you to be many things including both kind and honest, sensitive and strong, vulnerable and courageous.”

Thea Montañez, Chief of Staff, City of Hartford

Following a welcome by Interim Head of School Stephen Dunn and reflections by outgoing Student Body President Lian Nicholson '16, City of Hartford Chief of Staff Thea Montañez delivered the commencement address. Montañez reminded graduates that they have the capacity to be more than just one thing. “We are

depending on you to be many things,” said Montañez, “including both kind and honest, sensitive and strong, vulnerable and courageous. Remember, none of these things are mutually exclusive to one another; do not ever be made to feel as though you have to choose between them.”

In his charge to the Class of 2016, Interim Head of School Stephen Dunn spoke about the concept of liminal space, in which one is transitioning between two phases of life. Dunn spoke about the challenges of being in such a phase, and how you define yourself by the choices you make in that moment. “I believe passionately that Walker’s has prepared you to fill that liminal space,” said Dunn. “You have the inner strength to navigate these challenges. You have learned to use your intellect, your wit and passion to conquer these thresholds ... Embrace these challenging thresholds as opportunities to define yourself — to exercise your integrity, to demonstrate your confidence, to build your courage, and to forge your convictions.”





The Class of 2016

Dahlia Camille Ali
 Phoebe Elizabeth George
 Backman
 Joanna Grace Beach
 Sheriden Beard
 Isabel Victoria Beeman
 Jaclyn A. Benjamin
 Acadia Geigis Berry
 Rhiannon Victoria Bird
 Caroline Castonguay
 Yunyi Chen
 Francesca Fiona
 D'Anthony
 Paula-Jai Rasheé Douglas
 Kendall Marie Edwards

Anna Maeve Ellis
 Philine Geßler
 Tegan Gowing
 Mackenzie Hine
 Jiaxuan Huang
 Thidarat Kanjanakullawat
 Sidney Nicollette Keise
 Mary Katherine Kelley
 Justine Joanne Kieltyka
 Jantima Kumtae
 Carina R. LaBonte
 Kallie Mae Laspesa
 Tianying Liu
 Morgan Caroline
 Locandro

Sara Matilde Lomba
 Aurora Genevieve
 Naughton
 Aarti U. Nayak
 Lian Nicholson
 Gita Farideh Nodoushani
 Juliana Maria Patelli
 Georgia Catherine Paul
 Emily M. Peairs
 Yongyi Qian
 Kathleen Quinlan
 JoEllen Kelly Racicot
 Elizabeth Stohlton Reyes
 Oluwakemi Ruby
 Richards-Adeogun

Ava Grace Rodgers
 Yiran Ru
 Ailsa Moore Ryan
 Gabriella Elizabeth Savino
 Eleanor Clare Shea
 Natalie Rae Sherbacow
 Patricia S. Smith
 Eleanor Skinner Speers
 Nia I. Taylor
 Caleigh M. Thompson
 Valentina Crystel Torres
 Pellens
 Ruilin Wang
 Sweeta Yaqoobi





COLLEGE BOUND!

This year's acceptances include Boston College, Brown University, Colgate University, College of William and Mary, Cornell University, Dartmouth College, Harvard University, Trinity College, Union College, and Wellesley College.

American University
 Amherst College
 Assumption College
 Atlanta Metropolitan College
 Auburn University
 Barnard College
 Bates College
 Baylor University
 Belmont University
 Bentley University
 Berklee College of Music
 Binghamton University
 Boston College
 Boston University
 Brandeis University
 Brown University
 Bryn Mawr College
 California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo
 Carnegie Mellon University
 Case Western Reserve University
 Central Connecticut State University
 Claremont McKenna College
 Clark University
 Colby College
 Colgate University
 College of Charleston
 College of the Holy Cross
 College of William and Mary
 Colorado College
 Colorado State University
 Connecticut College
 Cornell University
 Coventry University
 Dartmouth College
 Denison University
 Dickinson College
 Drexel University
 Eastern Connecticut State University
 Eckerd College

Elon University
 Emory University
 Endicott College
 Fairfield University
 Florida A&M University
 Florida Southern College
 Fordham University - Lincoln Center Campus/Rose Hill Campus
 Franklin and Marshall College
 Furman University
 Gettysburg College
 Goucher College
 Hamilton College - NY
 Hampton University
 Harvard University
 High Point University
 Hobart and William Smith Colleges
 Holyoke Community College
 Hood College
 Iona College
 Ithaca College
 James Madison University
 Johnson & Wales University (Providence)
 Juniata College
 Keene State College
 Lasell College
 Lesley University
 Loyola University Maryland
 Lynchburg College
 Lynn University
 Marist College
 Merrimack College
 Miami University, Oxford
 Michigan State University
 Mount Holyoke College
 Muhlenberg College
 New York University
 North Carolina A&T State University
 Northeastern University

Nyack College
 Oberlin College
 Ohio Wesleyan University
 Pennsylvania State University
 Pepperdine University
 Pine Manor College
 Pitzer College
 Plymouth State University
 Pratt Institute
 Providence College
 Purdue University
 Quinnipiac University
 Randolph College
 Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
 Rhodes College
 Roanoke College
 Roger Williams University
 Rollins College
 Rutgers University-New Brunswick
 Sacred Heart University
 Salem State University
 Salve Regina University
 Samford University
 Savannah College of Art and Design
 School of the Art Institute of Chicago
 Scripps College
 Sewanee: The University of the South
 Skidmore College
 Smith College
 Sonoma State University
 Sophia University
 South Dakota State University
 Southern Methodist University
 Southern Vermont College
 Springfield College
 St. Lawrence University
 State University of New York at Albany
 State University of New York at Geneseo

State University of New York at New Paltz
 Suffolk University
 Susquehanna University
 Syracuse University
 Texas A&M University
 Texas Christian University
 The American University of Paris
 The Catholic University of America
 The College of New Jersey
 The College of Wooster
 The George Washington University
 The New School - All Divisions
 The Ohio State University
 The University of Alabama
 The University of Arizona
 The University of Scranton
 The University of the Arts
 Trinity College
 Trinity College Dublin
 Tulane University
 Union College
 University of California, Berkeley
 University of California, Davis
 University of California, Irvine
 University of California, San Diego
 University of California, Santa Cruz
 University of Central Florida
 University of Colorado at Boulder
 University of Connecticut
 University of Delaware
 University of Hartford
 University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
 University of Kentucky
 University of Maine

University of Massachusetts, Amherst
 University of Miami
 University of Michigan
 University of Mississippi
 University of New England
 University of New Haven
 University of Notre Dame
 University of Reading
 University of Redlands
 University of Rochester
 University of Saint Joseph
 University of South Carolina
 University of South Carolina, Aiken
 University of Southern California
 University of St. Andrews
 University of Vermont
 University of Virginia
 University of Washington
 University of West England, Hartpury Campus
 Vanderbilt University
 Villanova University
 Wake Forest University
 Washington College
 Washington University in St. Louis
 Wellesley College
 Wesleyan University
 Western Connecticut State University
 Western New England University
 Westfield State University
 Whittier College
 William Peace University
 Wilson College
 Wofford College
 Worcester Polytechnic Institute

2016 PRIZE NIGHT AWARDS AND RECIPIENTS

THE BRANDEIS BOOK AWARD

BREA AUSTIN '17

ST. LAWRENCE BOOK AWARD

VIKI VARGA '17

THE WELLESLEY BOOK AWARD

LEXI KING '17

THE DARTMOUTH BOOK AWARD

MADDIE ROSS '18

MT. HOLYOKE BOOK AWARD

NINA CHUKWURA '17

THE BROWN BOOK AWARD

NINA ZHANG '17

THE HARVARD BOOK AWARD

OLIVIA SICA '17

THE SMITH BOOK AWARD

IDABELLE PATERSON '17

THE TRINITY BOOK AWARD

EMILY CAZARES '17

THE YALE BOOK AWARD

CATHERINE LIU '17

THE MARY SCULLER NELSON ENGLISH PRIZE

ISABEL BEEMAN '16

THE CHINESE PRIZE

BREA AUSTIN '17

THE SPANISH PRIZE

LIAN NICHOLSON '16

THE LATIN PRIZE

ISABEL BEEMAN '16

THE HISTORY PRIZE

NINA ZHANG '17

GLOBAL LEADERSHIP AWARD

SWEETA YAQOOBI '16

THE SCIENCE PRIZE

ISABELL HUANG '16

THE RPI CERTIFICATE

NINA ZHANG '17

THE MATHEMATICS PRIZE

ISABELL HUANG '16

THE VISUAL ARTS PRIZE

BOW KUMTAE '16
SWEETA YAQOOBI '16

THE MUSIC PRIZE

NELL SHEA '16
ISABELL HUANG '16

THE MADELENE SALA CHOIR GIRL OF THE YEAR

NELLIE SPEERS '16

THE VIRGINIA CHILDS RAMSEY HINMAN PRIZE

ALANA GARCIA '17



THE THEATRE PRIZE

KALLIE LASPESA '16

THE ELIZABETH OLSON MARSHALL DANCE PRIZE

CLAUDIA RU '16

THE DOROTHY SILVERHERZ DANCE PRIZE

PHILINE GEßLER '16

THE PERFORMING ARTS

NELLIE SPEERS '16

THE VOORHEES CUP

NELL SHEA '16

THE MERITORIOUS EFFORT CUP

MACKENZIE HINE '16

THE WILLIAM C. LICKLE ATHLETIC CUP

VERONICA GARCIA '18

SCHOLAR-ATHLETES

NELLIE SPEERS '16
PHILINE GEßLER '16
CLAUDIA RU '16
KATHLEEN QUINLAN '16
AILSA RYAN '16
AURORA NAUGHTON '16
NELL SHEA '16
SHERIDEN BEARD '16
EMILY PEAIRS '16

THE WILLIAM C. LICKLE RIDING CUP

EMILY PEAIRS '16

HEAD'S SERVICE AWARD

AURORA NAUGHTON '16
GARET WEIRDSMA '18
SARA SCINTO '18
CLAUDIA RU '16

THE CICERONE SOCIETY PRIZE

LIAN NICHOLSON '16, SHERIDEN BEARD '16

THE MARGARET MALLORY CUP

MIA FARNELLA '18

THE BRUNHILDE GRASSI CUP

GARET WIERDSMA '18

THE CLARISSA GREEN CUP

MADDIE ROSS '18

THE HELEN BLAIR MEMORIAL PRIZE

CLAUDIA RU '16

THE BARBARA AND ELIZABETH BYRNES MEMORIAL PRIZE FOR EFFORT AND ACHIEVEMENT

SIDNEY KEISE '16

THE EMILY CLUETT PRIZE FOR COURAGE AND FORTITUDE

GITA NODOUSHANI '16

THE CUMMINGS PRIZE

LIAN NICHOLSON '16

THE ISABEL JACKSON MEMORIAL PRIZE FOR FAITHFULNESS AND DEPENDABILITY

EMILY PEAIRS '16

CATHERINE HENDERSON MURTAUGH PRIZE

JOELLEN RACICOT '16

THE CARY PAGE MEMORIAL PRIZE FOR VERSATILITY

NELL SHEA '16

THE HENRY B. SARGENT MEMORIAL PRIZE FOR KINDLINESS AND GOOD FELLOWSHIP

KALLIE LASPESA '16

THE ALISON STONE MEMORIAL PRIZE

NELLIE SPEERS '16

THE FACULTY PRIZE

GEORGIA PAUL '16

THE TRUSTEES PRIZE 2016

NAN KANJANAKULLAWAT '16

SENIOR CLASS GIFT

The Class of 2016 gave four new robes to the Walker's Suns and Dials Clubs. The old — and well loved — robes will be retired to the archives.



Middle School Promotion Ceremony

Under clear skies, the Ethel Walker community celebrated the 26th Middle School Promotion ceremony. Eighth graders processed into the Chapel to receive their promotion certificates in front of proud parents, siblings, faculty, and Upper School students. President of the Little 4, Gabriella Cohen '20 delivered a speech and advisors delivered personal remarks about each girl before awarding each her certificate, signifying promotion from the Middle School and official entrance into the freshmen class.

HIGHEST ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

Lizzie Strapp '21, Maggie Dunn '20, Riley Sheldon '20

GWEN COUCH AWARD

Madeleine Pelletier '20

CITIZENSHIP AWARD

Maggie Dunn '20



Walker's Teacher Named One of Hartford's 40 Under 40 Professionals

Isabel Ceballos, a Spanish teacher at Walker's and the executive director of Horizons at The Ethel Walker School, earned a spot on Hartford's prestigious list of 40 Under 40 by the *Hartford Business Journal*.

Isabel leads the only all-girls Horizons program in the country. Only in its second year, the Walker's Horizons program includes 30 girls from three Hartford schools, including Jumoke Academy, Martin Luther King, Jr. Elementary School and Parkville Community School. Students spend six weeks on campus each summer enjoying academic enrichment, arts, swimming, and other activities designed to improve educational outcomes for underserved girls from the greater Hartford area.

According to the *Hartford Business Journal*, "[The judges] were asked to identify outstanding young professionals in the Greater Hartford area who are excelling in their industries through leadership roles." In addition to founding Horizons at The Ethel Walker School, Isabel was the recipient of the 2016 Thelma Ellis Dickerson Jumoke Academy Bridge Builder Award for her leadership. She helped Latina students at The

Ethel Walker School; founded the Latin American Student Organization (LASO) on campus; and co-founded a winter-term course allowing Walker's students to be teacher's aides in a Hartford public school.

Read more about Isabel and her nomination on the *Hartford Business Journal* 40 Under 40 website.



Isabel Ceballos accepting her 40 Under 40 Award given by the *Hartford Business Journal*.



2016-2017 Big 7

Back row, L-R: Cheyenne Watts, Head of Community Service; Nina Chukwura, Head of Honor Board; and Nina Zhang, Student Body Vice President

Front row, L-R: Alora Foster, Head of Day Students; Ximena Franco, Head of Weekend Activities; Kayla Graham, Senior Class President; and Idabelle Paterson, Student Body President



Back row, L-R: Isabel Huang '16, Kayla Chen '16, Nell Shea '16, Emily Peairs '16, Lian Nicholson '16, Isabel Beeman '16
 Front row, L-R: Claudia Ru '16, Irene Wang '16, Idabelle Paterson '17, Lexi King '17

Cum Laude Society Inductees

In April, 10 students were inducted into The Ethel Walker School chapter of the Cum Laude Society, an organization that recognizes academic achievement in secondary schools for the purpose of promoting excellence, justice, and honor. (www.cumlaudesociety.org)

Inductees were Isabel Beeman '16, Kayla Chen '16, Lian Nicholson '16, Claudia Ru '16, Nell Shea '16, and Irene Wang '16.

Lexi King '17, Idabelle Paterson '17, Isabel Huang '16, and Emily Peairs '16 were inducted in their junior year for academic work so extraordinary as to merit early recognition into this society.

Science teacher Dr. Suzanne Piela P'22 encouraged students to be active learners throughout their lives: "Real learning does not end as soon as the lecture is over or the paper is turned in, and real learning should not be for the sake of getting the 'A' ..."

Faculty & Staff Service Awards

Hooray Sunray to faculty and staff who celebrated service milestones with Walker's on April 29!

5 YEARS

David Allen
 Brooke Haynes
 Elyssa Michael
 Tony Ranaldi P'18, '20
 Krystyna Rosa
 Justin Treado
 Tyler Varsell

10 YEARS

Sandra Quinlan P'15
 Susan Riggles P'18
 John Sway
 Cheri Soule

Bryan Rathbun P'23, a 33-year member of Walker's staff, received the Ethel Walker Medal during the May 2016 commencement exercises. In presenting the award, Interim Head Stephen Dunn commented, "When I think about Walker's and the extraordinary people who make up this community, and there are many, I always put Bryan at the top of the list. His commitment and dedication to this School is beyond comparison."
Hooray Sunray!

Bryan Rathbun P'23,
 Trustee Emerita
 Sue Cesare, and
 Stephen Dunn



Seniors Recognized for Helping Positive Race Relations

Lian Nicholson '16 and Sara Lomba '16 were awarded Certificates of Accomplishment for The Princeton Prize for Race Relations, a regionally awarded prize given to noted high school students throughout the United States who have “demonstrated a commitment to advancing the cause of positive race relations.” (www.princeton.edu/pprize) They received the award for their joint work with the SPHERE Student of Color Summit, the “Let’s Talk About Race, Baby” Learning Immersion class and Walker’s Martin Luther King, Jr. Day program.



Lian Nicholson '16 and Sara Lomba '16



Walker’s Makes STEM Kid-Friendly for Community

On July 23 Walker’s hosted a community event for girls ages 7-14 where they created their own designs and made 3D models on campus. The sessions were designed to make STEM more relatable with kid-friendly themes such as fashion, sports and food. MakerGirl is a non-profit start-up founded by students at the University of Illinois in Champaign to inspire elementary school girls to be active in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) through 3D printing sessions.



Walker’s Wirecats First All-Girls Team to Win New England Robotics Title

Walker’s robotics team, the Wirecats, won the title of first all-girls team to win a New England district robotics competition. They qualified for the 2016 FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) World Championships in St. Louis. The four-day robotics championship was comprised of three competitions: FIRST Robotics Competition (FRC) Championship, FIRST Tech Challenge (FTC) World Championship, and FIRST LEGO League (FLL) World Festival.



Sophomore Performs at World-renowned Carnegie Hall

Isabella Manganello '19 was one of 60 out of over 4,000 auditionees aged 13-17 to be selected to perform among an all-star line-up in the New York Pops 33rd Birthday Gala held May 2 at Carnegie Hall. "Performing on the iconic Carnegie Hall stage was truly amazing," said Isabella. "Working with legendary performers like Patti Lupone and the original Cosette from Paris, Marie Zamora, was a once in a lifetime experience."

Opening Days

School opened with a sense of excitement and anticipation as new Head of School Meera Viswanathan was officially in place. The days were filled with new student orientation, pre-season for varsity athletes, parent dinners, and Opening Days Chapel.





Dogswood Day

Hooray Sunray! Suns Win for Fourth Year in a Row!

After a day filled with fierce and fun competition between the Suns and Dials, the Suns claimed another victory to Dogswood Day, one of the School's most treasured traditions.

Girls Travel to DC for Girl Up Leadership Summit

Walker's C.H.A.N.G.E. (Connecting, Helping, and Nurturing Girls Everywhere) Club traveled to the Girl Up Leadership Summit in Washington, DC in July, where they had the opportunity to attend workshops and speak with congressional representatives about the Girl Up campaign.

Congressman Jim Himes (D-CT)
with Girl Up participants



Mountain Day

A picturesque fall morning provided the backdrop for the beloved tradition Mountain Day. On October 17, Walker's students, faculty, and staff hiked Talcott Mountain to soak in sweeping views of the Farmington Valley and beyond. Each year, the day provides a much needed break from busy school life and allows the community to further bond together while enjoying fresh air and prime leaf peeping.





Family Weekend

Parents and other family members traveled near and far for Family Weekend. Warm embraces, smiles, and laughter filled the campus as families attended classes, dined in Abra's, and attended games with their daughters.



WALKER'S LEGACY FAMILIES

Celebrating the mother/daughter bond with alumnae who are current parents: Bristol Voss Duggan '79 and daughter, Calista Duggan '18; Julia Luciani '20 and mom, Shayna Cohen Luciani '93; Brooke DeLorey '20 and mom, Wendy Hodgkins DeLorey '83; Eliza Wetmore '18 and mom, Leila Howland Wetmore '82. Absent from photo: Claudia Luciani '21; Katie Murphy '17 and mom, Ann O'Reilly '80; and Isabel Rush '19 and mom, Deborah Rush '77

**Washington, DC
October 2016**

Lindsay Flynn '05 hosted a reception and tour of the Capitol with Former Congressman Jack Fields (R-TX).



Patrick Flynn P'05, Catherine Cecil Taylor '77, Associate Head of School Amy Wheeler, and Betty Flanders Foster '53



Head of School Meera Viswanathan, Congressman Pete Sessions (R-TX), and Associate Head of School Amy Wheeler



On the steps of Capitol Building following a private tour with Former Congressman Jack Fields.



Charlotte Weidlein '05, Carly Giddings '13, Kelly Tran '07, Melissa Timbers '05, Tallie Kennedy '80, and Lindsay Flynn '05



Jennifer Jackson Smith '93 and Cindy Sebrell '87

Alumnae On Campus November 2016

The Alumnae Board visited campus on November 4-5 for a board meeting. They shared lunch with the senior class and discussed life at Walker's, college, and beyond. This was followed by a wonderful dinner at Debby's House with Head of School Meera Viswanathan and Associate Head of School Amy Wheeler where they shared stories about past traditions and discussed ideas for the future.



Elizabeth Greenberg '10, Susie Jensen Rawles '82, and Lindsay Flynn '05



Alicia Little Hodge '01 and Katherine Hypolite '04



Alumnae Board members with Head of School Meera Viswanathan and Associate Head of School Amy Wheeler (bottom left) during dinner at Debby's House.



Alicia Little Hodge '01 and Jamiah Tappin '00

Download the Walker's Alumnae App for Free!

Features include:

- A searchable alumnae directory
- A map of alumnae near you
- Alumnae event information
- News from campus
- Instant access to Walker's social media channels
- LinkedIn networking





Annie Peavy '15 Competes in Rio Paralympics

Angela “Annie” Peavy ’15 was one of four athletes named by the United States Equestrian Federation (USEF) to compete for the U.S. Paralympic Equestrian Team in the 2016 Paralympic Games in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. “Rio was an amazing experience,” reflects Peavy. “I finished 8th individually, and I was honored to represent my country while doing what I love.” Peavy, who is partially paralyzed on her left side as a result of a stroke she suffered before birth, began riding horses at the age of four as a form of physical therapy. (www.anniepeavydressage.com)

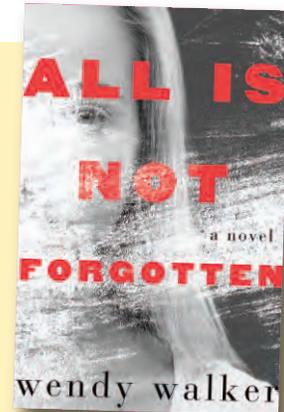
“Rio was an amazing experience. I finished 8th individually. I was honored to have represented my country while doing what I love. Lance was a great partner for my first games. He’s a once in a lifetime horse. It was a great start to my journey.”

Wendy Walker’s ’85 Novel Soon to be a Major Motion Picture

Gwendolyn (Wendy) Walker ’85 authored the psychological thriller, *All Is Not Forgotten*. The book was published by St. Martin’s Press in July 2016. Warner Brothers has optioned the film rights with Reese Witherspoon who is set to star in and produce the film.

About the Book:

In a quiet town, a young woman is attacked at a party. Immediately after, she is given a controversial drug to medically erase her memory of the assault. In the months that follow, she struggles with her memory, her father obsesses about his inability to find her attacker and seek justice, and her mother pretends this horrific event did not touch her family. As they seek help for their daughter, fault lines within their marriage and close-knit community emerge, and the quest to find the monster who invaded their town — and the lives among them — drive this psychological thriller to a shocking conclusion.



Emilee O'Brien '13 Named Furman Fellow

Emilee O'Brien '13, a senior at Furman University, has been named one of five Furman Fellows for the current academic year. The fellowships are awarded annually to five members of the Furman senior class who've shown “unique leadership skills and an ability to make a difference in the world and in the lives of others.”

Emilee O'Brien '13 (far right) with other Furman Fellow recipients (PHOTO COURTESY OF FURMAN UNIVERSITY)

A MESSAGE FROM

*Katherine Hypolite '04 and
Susan Jensen Rawles '82*

ALUMNAE BOARD CO-CHAIRS



Susie Jensen Rawles '82 and Katherine Hypolite '04 during Reunion Weekend

Dear Friends,

This issue of the *Sundial* marks the first in Dr. Meera Viswanathan's ("Ms. Vis") tenure as head of school. It also marks the final phase of the Centennial Campaign and the opening of the new Centennial Center.

These are transformative developments in the history of our school. The Centennial Center is a state-of-the-art facility designed with girls in mind — both enhancing their athletic and dance opportunities and providing them with much-needed social and study spaces. But more than just new bricks and mortar, we are witnessing a rare moment of synergy. Administrators, faculty, staff, alumnae and friends are equally invested in a singular vision to create and support an exceptional educational experience for our girls, so that they can enter the world with all the tools, talents and confidence they will need to lead and shape the future.

We wish all alumnae could have been at Meera's investiture. The excitement was palpable as our community celebrated her arrival with powerful and promising messages of hope and change for girls' education around the globe. For those of us fortunate enough to have enjoyed a Walker's education, the words were both inspiring and challenging. "What will you do with your education?" questioned guest speaker Shabana Basij-Rasikh, the twenty-six year-old president and co-founder of The School of Leadership Afghanistan (SOLA). When addressing the young women of her own generation, Shabana urged each of them to weigh the impact of her privileged education — "What will you do?" For the rest of us, her words were a reminder that the girls who leave Walker's now will be better than we; will do more than we have done; will teach us how to live useful and productive lives; and they will remind us that each generation of Walker's women serves as a stepping stone for the next.

Fellow alumnae, watch out. Walker's is on the verge of something great, something bigger than even Ethel Walker imagined — and yet, something for which she herself sowed the seeds: nurturing smart, strong, resourceful, caring and just young women to go out into the world and make a difference. We cannot wait to see where today's graduates will go and what they will do. They shine a light on all of us.

Even if you have been to campus recently, come back and renew your connection. Under Meera's visionary leadership, Walker's is poised to take flight and there is no limit to what we can accomplish. Let's all take part in the journey. It promises to be an exciting ride.

Katherine Hypolite

Katherine Hypolite '04
CO-CHAIR, ALUMNAE BOARD

Susie Rawles

Susan Jensen Rawles '82
CO-CHAIR, ALUMNAE BOARD

2016-2017 ALUMNAE BOARD

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RUMSON, NJ

*New AB Member

Stay in touch!
www.ethelwalker.org



1986

Reunion 2016

1999

JEN
L. [unreadable]



Alumnae in classes ending in 1 and 6 reunited on May 13th and 14th.



Alumnae reunited with classmates and faculty, met with incoming Head of School Meera Viswanathan, toured the Centennial Center, welcomed the Class of 2016 into the Alumnae Association, enjoyed delicious food and cocktails, and danced the night away at the Ba-Na-Na!



Reunion 2016





Reunion Awards



THE SUNDIAL BOWL is awarded each year to the class with the largest percentage of classmates registered for Reunion Weekend. The Class of 2011 won the Sundial Bowl in 2016. Way to go, Class of 2011!



50TH REUNION

Gail Sheppard Moloney, Edith Radley, Serena Steward, and Barbara Bidwell Manuel



LONG DISTANCE AWARD

In 2016, the Long Distance Award was presented to Jo Frost Richardson '91, who traveled from Lincolnshire, England.

Harriet Bles Dewey '60, P'86

Receives the Margot Rose '80 Distinguished Alumnae Award

Throughout the years, Harriet has devoted immeasurable time and treasure to Walker's. Her presence is a fixture on campus, her smile a light whenever she sets foot in a Walker's building. She is a sitting Trustee and has also served the School in many other capacities including Class Agent, Reunion Committee, Campaign Committee, Centennial Center Task Force, Development Committee, Executive Committee, and Foundation Board. She has both a daughter and a daughter-in-law who are Walker's alumnae. A member of the Class of 1960, Harriet is a Dial and the quotation on her yearbook page reads, "A dancing shape, an image gay, to haunt, to startle and waylay."

"Recently I was privileged to serve with Harriet on the Search Committee for our new head of school. We can thank her for introducing us to Meera Viswanathan, and for "waylay-ing" her here! For all that she has done for our School, I am delighted to award the Margot Rose '80 Distinguished Alumnae Award to Harriet Bles Dewey."

Sarah Gates Colley '75
2015 recipient of the Margot Rose Award



Sarah Gates Colley '75 and Harriet Bles Dewey '60, P'86



Harriet Bles Dewey '60, P'86 and her family

The Margot Rose '80 Distinguished Alumnae Award

is The Ethel Walker School's highest honor. It is presented to graduates of the School who best exemplify Margot Rose's attributes, ensuring that her work, dedication, and influence will be remembered now and always. When awarded, it will honor alumnae who, by their devotion and talent, elevate the work of their profession, who influence their community, or who give extraordinary service to their School. The award has been endowed in Margot's honor by her mother, Terese Treman Williams '55, and her stepfather, Joseph Williams.

Reunion 2016



Here's to the School we love so well • Here's to our comrades true



Here's to the spirit of fellowship • That guides us in all we do



Reunion 2016



Here's to our colors glorious • United for awhile



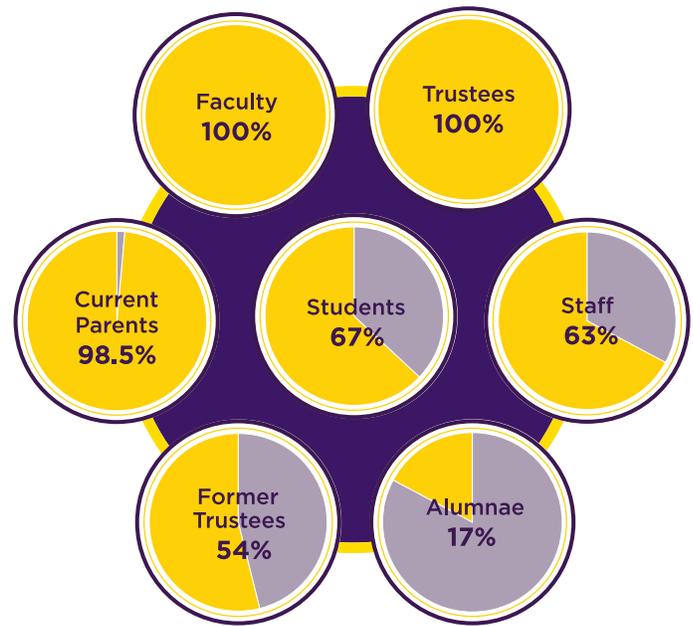
Here's to the many more happy hours • Here's to our dear Sundial



*None
But
Golden
Hours*

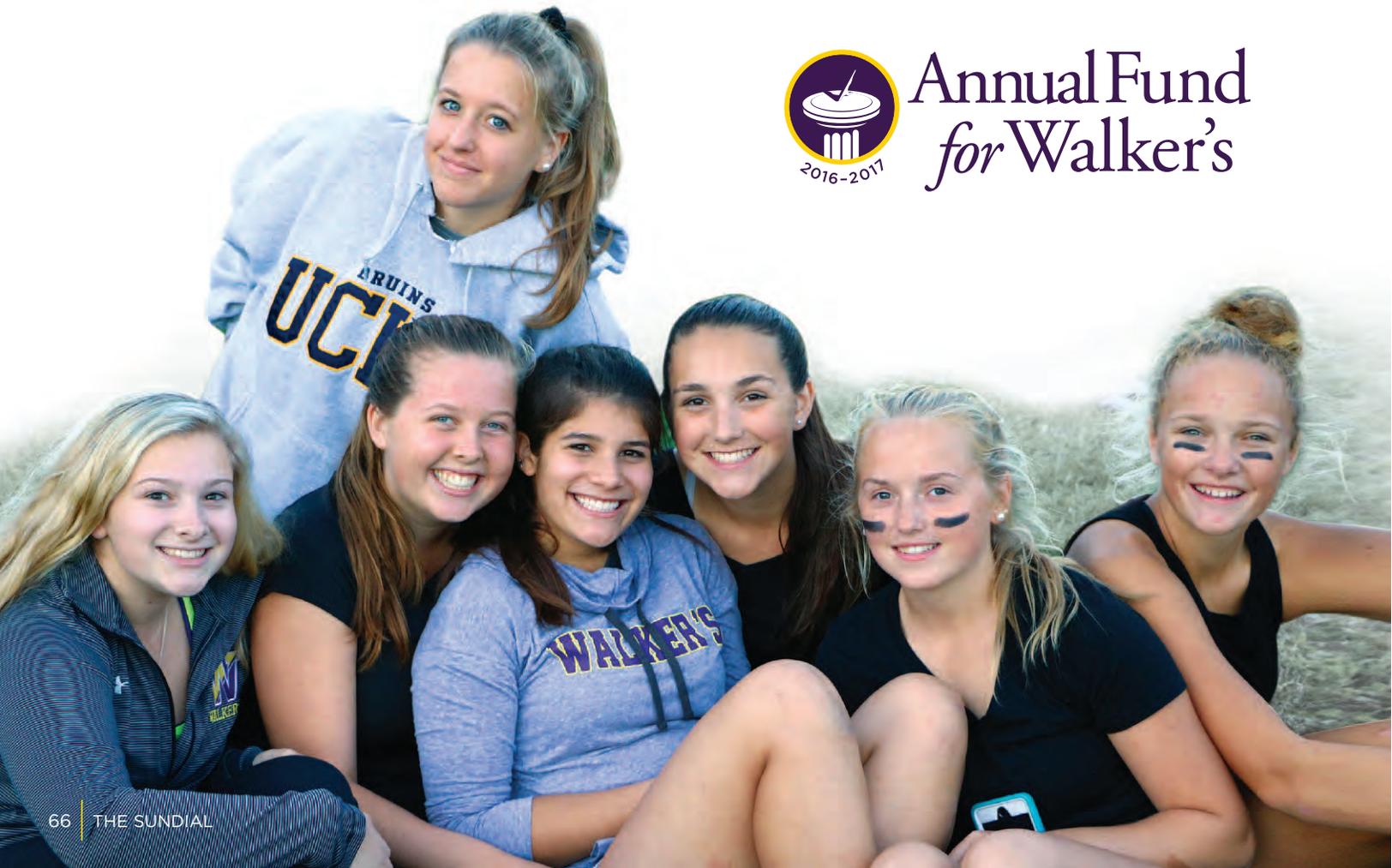
Our Collective Impact

Each year, The Annual Fund for Walker's grows from a balance of \$0 to realizing well over \$1.5 million raised. Reaching this goal is a compelling expression of our collective belief in Walker's mission. Gifts from alumnae, parents, trustees, faculty, staff, students and friends ensure that today's girls receive the very best education possible. By joining others in making your annual gift, you affirm your shared belief in Ethel Walker's vision and impact girl's learning at Walker's in the classroom and across the campus, each and every day.



“Our collective philanthropy to the Annual Fund for Walker's is a compelling statement of belief in Walker's enduring mission.”
Meera Viswanathan, Head of School

We are thrilled to report that during the 2015-2016 school year, 98.5% of Walker's parents made a gift to the Annual Fund for Walker's that unlocked a \$100,000 gift from a small, generous group of past and current parents.



Annual Fund for Walker's



ALL TOGETHER, NOW.

Giving to the Annual Fund for Walker's feels as good as getting a hug from your best friends. And your investment in the School's mission is critical to help prepare girls to lead today and for a lifetime.

Your gift matters, because we're all in this together.

Online: www.ethelwalker.org/onlinegiving

By mail: Annual Fund for Walker's
The Ethel Walker School
230 Bushy Hill Road
Simsbury, CT 06070

By phone: 860.408.4259



Annual Fund
for Walker's

1940

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

1941

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

1942 REUNION

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

1943

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

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

Sadly, our class is dwindling. We lost two members this year.

Janice Tompkins Spurr passed away February 4 after a brief illness. At Walker’s, she was head of the Sun Club and roomed with **Margie Auger Kennerly**, head of the Dials. They promised that they never swapped secrets. After Walker’s, Janice graduated from Smith College spending her junior year at the University of Mexico. Janice is predeceased by her husband, Donald Spurr. She is survived by her four daughters,

twelve grandchildren and many nieces and nephews. Janice was very active in the community and church as well as Ethel Walker where she and Margie were devoted and successful fundraisers for many years.

My sister, **Sally Darling Wimmer**, died March 16 after a siege of Alzheimer’s, which followed the usual pattern. At the end, she was able to remain at home with her sons in attendance. At Walker’s she was a Dial and a senior prefect. After graduating from Bryn Mawr, she went to Bonn, Germany and worked for The High Commissioner’s Office where she met her future husband, Henry Wimmer, who has predeceased her. They moved to Lake Forest when he became the international lawyer for Kraft. Sally became very interested in historic preservation and was involved in preserving The First Baptist Church where her family arranged an ecumenical service along with The First Presbyterian Church where she was a member of the choir. The First Baptist Church has its roots in the 1866 African American Church. Her son, Charlie, was warmly called Brother Charles. Sally is survived by her sons, Henry, of San Francisco, and Charles, of Lake Forest, as well as her grandson, Mitchel Wimmer, of Illinois.

I spoke with **Rosalind Shaw Kornegay’s** husband, Clint, who said that Roz is confined to a hospital bed in their apartment. She has a regular routine of care followed by a couple of hours of reading. Roz has had a series of strokes over the years. She has four children, and each one of them has two. Clint must be a devoted saint.

Margie Auger Kennerly shares that she has reached the age where she does not go far from home. An email from **Gracie McGraw Parr** and **Dottie Hirsch Loebel** indicates all is well.

Joan Moore’s news is that she is now living in Dallas near her son, Drake, and his wife. Sadly, she broke her hip in February but has made a good recovery and is doing well.

1946

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

1947 REUNION

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

1948

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1949

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

Mary “Murnie” Driscoll Henry and **Carol Calhoun ’55** had dinner together in Weybridge, VT.



Carol Calhoun ’55 and Murnie Driscoll Henry ’49

1950

Michelle Myers Florence 6 Hunter Lane Rye, NY 10580-1615 (914) 967-3610 mimimflo@gmail.com

Sara Jane Auchincloss Gordon found that moving three times is stressful. Her current address is Winchester Gardens, 333 Elwood Drive, Maplewood, NJ 07040. She appreciates her eight grandchildren ranging in age from a new baby to several college graduates. She spends time in Atlanta, GA, with part of her family and continues to enjoy summers in Bridgehampton, Long Island.

Joy Windle Hoffman spent 15 years wintering in Manhattan and enjoying adventurous world travel. Now she is settling in Blue Hill Bay, ME (P.O. Box 369), her summer home for 65 years. Grandchildren are Emma, a junior, and Charlie, a sophomore at Elon College, and Vietnam-born Binh, who is in a fabulous fourth grade public school in Newton, MA. Joy loves being with children, especially babies, sparked by her experience in the Child Study department at Vassar. Many thanks, Joy, for your help in gathering the news for the class of 1950!

Joan Gilbert Thayer is widowed three times — they were all wonderful husbands. She lives in a retirement community in Bryn Mawr, PA, with many new friends. She spent last winter in Boca Grande, FL.

Ruth Zeller is fighting the aging process fairly well despite spinal stenosis affecting her mobility. However, because of being stubborn, she will overcome this with physical therapy and a local gym. She is involved in local Cutchogue issues and follows national and international ones too. Ruth has been a Democrat

and Unitarian Universalist for many years!

Edith “Nancy” Read Lamb will be celebrating her daughter, Gwynne’s, wedding to Tony Rizzaro on October 1 in Pound Ridge, NY. She and her husband love life in Wilton, CT. All three of her grandchildren are only a half mile away.

Kathleen “KK” Blair Leisure lost her husband, Peter, in 2013 and her sister, **Mary Kane Hayes ’48**, in 2007. Her daughter, **Mary “Blair” Leisure ’80**, lives in Golden, CO, with her six-year-old son and daughter, Eloise Lee Adelfang, born on March 6.

Roseanne Blair Kelly ’56 lives in Asheville, NC, and her older brother, Edwin James, married to **Jean du Pont Blair ’58**, lives in New Orleans, LA.

Suzanne “Susie” Matthews Wood lives in Santa Rosa, CA, with her daughter, Suzanne. She lost her husband, Ted. She fell in her garage, hurt her elbow and jaw, and was treated in the ER, which she founded years ago. Her sons are in Venice, CA, and Santa Barbara, CA. She visits them there.

Kirby Smith Graham divides her time between New York City and Vero Beach, FL, where she sees **Pat Doubleday Irons ’52**.

Sadly, **Helen Wetmore Brann** died in November 2015. Helen will be greatly remembered for her long-term successful literary career and as a trailblazer for women by being the first female owner of her own literary agency.

Michelle Myers Florence lives in Rye, NY, with her husband, David. Son, David, lives in Riverside, CT, with his son and daughter, both of whom graduated from Skidmore last year. Son, Robert, lives in New Orleans with three children, runs a historic walking tour and writes

plays. Son, John, is in Bangkok, Thailand where he has a magazine-publishing business and is involved with gourmet restaurants worldwide. He was married in an elephant camp where they rescue elephants from the streets, and his friends and their children delighted in riding and dunking.

1951

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

1952 REUNION

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

1953

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

I feel most fortunate to have met Meera at a lovely reception this spring hosted by **Kate Crichton Gubelmann ’67** and **K.C. Wideman Pickett ’77** at the Gubelmann’s beautiful home. She comes with incredible energy, enthusiasm, and academic strengths. Her focus and passion are aimed at arming young women of this age (she considers these years the most formidable for us) with the confidence and abilities necessary to meet our new challenges. Our hearts are with her and the girls. I had a wonderful winter in Florida, although I missed **Mary Schwerin Ritter**. I’ve been trying to stay in shape with lots of gym work and swimming. Some of my kids were down and it’s always fun to run into EWS friends.



L-R: Patrick Flynn P’05, Catherine Cecil Taylor ’77, Associate Head of School Amy Wheeler, and Betty Flanders Foster ’53 at an alumnae gathering in Washington, DC

Jeannie Ballentine Riegel arranged a lunch with **Connie Neher Purcell**, and we had many a laugh over old EWS stories. And, I always love running into **Linda Trimmingham Warriner ’61** who was in my sister’s class. I’m awaiting hip surgery in a week and have been enjoying summer in Rumson with my family and friends. I had a great visit and lunch with **Adrienne Massie Hill ’56**. She is such a lovely and caring girl and such fun to be with. She stays in shape by playing lots of tennis and foxhunting with her little mare, Holly. She is also playing duplicate bridge. We all want to know what you’re eating!

Molly Goodyear Gurney is fine and busy as a bee as is her husband, Pete, who is still cranking out works of art on a daily basis! As you may remember, he had a very successful rerun of *Sylvia on Broadway* just last season. Congratulations to Molly and Pete — what a team! They refresh by running to CT on weekends where they are able to get together with family.

Bobbie Gerstell Bennett is having fun spending a lot of time with her extended family. She is really looking forward to two

trips: two weeks in Ireland and then the same in Nantucket. She goes to NYC often and frequently sees **Jeannie Ballentine Riegel**.

Annie Sherer Paddock reports she is very busy in Grosse Pointe this summer and marvels at the myriad of activities performed and enjoyed by her ten grandchildren. Between Grosse Pointe and Delray, Annie loves gardening, golf and bridge.

Rusty Hodgman Huff celebrated her 80th birthday with 28 members of her family in Canada and always sends love to everyone.

Q. Bloch Cook mastered recent surgery and hopes to be back in action soon. Best of luck to Q.

Betsy Rauch Rainoff gave herself a marvelous trip to Costa Rica with 15 family members for her 80th. They split time between hotels in the rain forest and a beautiful bay complete with zip lining (including Betsy!). We need a picture of that, Betsy, please!

Missy Kitchell Lickle is fine and happy as a clam right now as her granddaughter, Kaili, is visiting from Hawaii. The clan is good.

Jeannie Ballentine Riegel is fine and had a busy week in Tuscany with her oldest daughter and family — 11 of them and four generations!

Nancie Magee Bourne writes, “It is always such fun reading in the *Sundial* about our classmates! Hard to believe our 80th’s have come and gone! We were in Nantucket with our daughters, Kim and Ashley, and their families for my 80th, which was great fun. Now another year and celebrating our 81st which was a little quieter, just the two of us.”

Suzanne Patterson writes, “I’m still recovering from a lively, event-filled wedding of my niece in Beaver Creek, CO. The ceremony itself was beautiful — up on a mountain nearly 10,000 feet — at Beano’s Cabin restaurant. There were 120 guests (quite a few from Europe and even Hong Kong), as well as a friendly deer, who appeared and practically posed for photos as we were quaffing champagne after the vows were taken. A festive dinner ended in some enthusiastic, almost raucous dancing to live rock music by a trendy combo. I did my bit, whipped around by a friend (father of my goddaughter), and survived to make the bus down the mountain!”

Carrie Neher Queenan is “Working through a wildly busy three months. The historic 1811 Georgetown townhouse, which we loved and enjoyed for 36 years, sold in 11 days! After days of much searching and intense pressure, we bid on and won our new home. Still in Georgetown, 4013 Mansion Drive NW, Washington, DC 20007, is newer, smaller and fun! Moving is challenging — downsizing is the extreme challenge. “Box mountain” is our Olympic hurdle. Good luck and cheer to all who are facing this transition. Some tips — find humor wherever you can and get help whenever you

are able. John is well, absorbed in development of projects that support innovations in Medical Education and crying out “where is my #!+++#!?”

1954

Betty Richards Tripp
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(860) 535-0432
bettyrichards36@gmail.com

For most of us who are turning 80 this year, this is a milestone year. I remember Mrs. Smith telling us at a Dogwood Day back in the 1950s that our classmates would remain our friends forever. And, here we are more than 60 years later still keeping up those friendships.

Betsey Barrett Phillips writes, “Chuck and I sold our house in Franconia, NH, almost a year ago and moved to a townhouse in Bethlehem, NH, the next town over. Downsize and simplify was our plan. We miss the gardens and the pond that attracted wildlife that we left behind. But, our move has given us the freedom to travel. We left NH in our RV in April, toured some states we’ve never visited before (including Missouri, Kansas and Oklahoma) and won’t get home until the end of August. On the way, we stopped in Kansas City to spend three days with Chuck’s Bowdoin roommate whom he hadn’t seen in 52 years. It was as if time stopped for those years and they picked up where they left off.”

“Our older daughter, Callie, moved to Big Sky, MT, last summer with her family so we’re spending the summer with them. Lots of time with the grandchildren! Our other daughter, Susannah, a wildlife biologist, just finished her Ph.D. at the University of Idaho and is job hunting. She’d like to end up in Alaska. So, life is good

with all my family at least within driving distance during the summer of my 80th birthday. Our health is good for a couple of old people and we can still do all the things we love to do to keep thinking we’re NOT old.”

Ann Higbie Eckrich attended the Republican National Convention in Cleveland as an alternate delegate from Indiana, pleased that her Governor Pence became the nominee for vice president. Ann writes that she is “still doing some real estate, but close to giving it up. Need to have some fun! My two grandchildren from Indiana are finished with college now. Johnny has graduated from Kelly School of Business at Indiana University and is working in Chicago, and Allie has graduated from University of Southern Indiana and is working in Dallas. Others in Montana are 16 and 12. Finn, an outstanding hockey goalie, as well as an outstanding student, will start at Middlesex this fall. The other two are in Bozeman. Hans’ godfather gave him a Corvair for his birthday. His godfather is **Katy Auchincloss Porter**’s nephew, Will Porter. It is a small world! Blessings to all! Hope we shall see one another in the near future!”

Despite recuperating from recent surgery, **Patsy Kelly McCornack**’s annual summer visits — from her son, Stuart, and his family, who live in Portland OR, and daughter, Nancy, and her family, who live in New Hampshire — are in full swing at this writing. P.K.’s involvement in community organizations on Martha’s Vineyard keeps her busy throughout the year.

Recently, **Patsy Blun Deetjen** had two phone calls from **Muff Burden Childs** who has been out of touch with Patsy as well as EWS for many years. Muff told Patsy that she lives in NYC in the winter and spends summers in Nantucket. Muff has seven children and 22 grandchildren ranging in age from 36 down to 12. Patsy, who lives in Blue Hill ME, has two teenage grandchildren in Burlington, VT. Her son, who now lives in Maine, recently became a first-time father at age 52 and is thrilled with the new baby.

Elodie Huntley Tilney writes that she and Farrar continue to enjoy Christmas cruises on a small cruise ship. For an occasional weekend away, they relax at their favorite hotel in their favorite Florida town (Winter Park). They love living in Vero Beach and



Helen Harvey Mills '54, Barbara Mayer Marks '54, and Karen Bisgard Alexander '54 in Chicago



Barbara Mayer Marks '54 with her grandchildren on her 80th birthday

welcome frequent visits from their collective families throughout the year. The next production at their marvelous Theater Guild will be “Sylvia,” written by A.R. Gurney, who is **Molly Goodyear Gurney’s** husband.

Anita Larsen Sullivan gets right to the point: “Still playing golf. Being alone is rotten.”

From Memphis, **Nell Rainer Levy** notes the medical problems which come with being 80, a list which “seems to go on forever but, as the old saying goes, it’s better than the alternative. I still play bridge, go out to dinner, have neighbors in for drinks, read, fiddle with the computer — all low key and very pleasant. I try to see the great grandchildren when possible. Two are out of town and the other four stay busy, but we do get together. Walking the dog twice a day keeps me moving, but she doesn’t like the hot weather and has cut way back. Also, strength exercises twice-a-week helps. So I’m hanging in and basically enjoying life.”

Karen Bisgard Alexander writes from Geneva, IL, “To combat widowhood blues I have found travel is very effective. I haven’t tried solo travel yet, but

armed with a child or friend, I’m happy zipping around the country. I’ve cruised around the Adriatic, made the acquaintance of Malta (fascinating beyond belief with 4th millennium temples and a Renzo Piano parliamentary building) and am about to set off with all 18 of our family to spend my 80th birthday on the island of Tinos in Greece. I find myself conversing loudly with my absent husband, asking him to find my perpetually lost glasses. Having five pairs dotted around the house gives him a leg up. Our family is well which is all I really want.”

From Zurich, **Ursula Bitter Ulmer** sends warm greetings and writes, “Not much to tell, for which I am grateful at this stage. Yes, our ranks are thinning and our country is in agony of rage and grief. I will be going to Kyoto in August for a Jungian Congress, my first trip to Asia — a privilege.”

Glenn Shannon Whipple notes, “We have been blessed with continued good health, albeit a few more aches and pains, but nothing major. We are grateful... and busy as ever with the familiar routine of our daily lives. After another wonderful Thanksgiving

with our son and his family in Houston, we spent Christmas with our daughter’s family in Denver. Then, the end of January, Emily and I celebrated our 80/50 birthdays by splurging and going to the Blackberry Farm in Tennessee for a few days, watching the Australian Open, playing backgammon with glasses of wine, dining superbly, taking cooking lessons and exploring the extensive acreage.

“This summer all 11 of us trooped back to the Broadmoor... ninth year in a row. I think it was the best ever, because the grandchildren are older and totally self-sufficient, and know the ropes now. They are such fun to talk to! David, my first born grandson, will be a senior in high school, two 14-year-olds and two 12-year-olds.”

Helen Harvey Mills, Barbara Mayer Marks and Karen Bisgard Alexander had an enjoyable gathering in Chicago when Barb and her son, Brad, visited recently from Hillsborough, CA. In her inimitable way, Helen sent this message: “Despite the scary world, Chicago has been some summer — The Grant Park Music Festival in Millennium Park, Marin Alsop with amazing Golijov’s “Azul” and Glass’ “Life: A Journey through Time” — St. James Cathedral music of Schumann and don’t forget the dramatic storms and the quiet before and after. I highly recommend as the best time ever to read Anna Backer Perlberg’s book, *The House in Prague*. She taught some of us history at EWS. By the way, I still open doors for almost anybody remembering that we did that before being seniors up at Cluett with our raccoon coats. I forgot to write about the Chicago Watertaxi...I love it!”

In April, Barb celebrated her 80th birthday at a party with her sons,

Doug, Will, and Brad as well as seven of her eight grandchildren (Julia was off on the tennis court).

Frannie Haffner Colburn and I, **Betty Richards Tripp**, visited the newly restored “Blue Garden” in Newport, RI, early in July. Soon after, Frannie returned from a month on her island, Oronsay, in Scotland followed by a trip on the Continent with one of her granddaughters.

Kathy Somerville Steele writes, “Things have been really quiet in our lives this past year which is not a bad thing. We are a bit squeakier each year but manage to have quite a few jolly times even at that. We just got back from St. Simons Island after a couple of weeks visiting our daughter, Hilary, and her family who live there. Hopefully a trip to upstate New York and Salisbury, CT, this fall to see son, Harris, and daughter, Liz. My heart was heavy when I heard of **Maria Mayorga Moore’s** death. Many shared times and events were such special memories for me. She created a magical journey for herself and those lucky enough to have been in her path! Thank you, Maria!”

Kathy’s tribute to Maria expresses my feelings much better than I could do. Maria died in Switzerland in March where she had resided in recent years. She called me two weeks before she died but never mentioned that she had cancer. Her death caught me by surprise and I am full of regret that I never said a real goodbye.

In addition to Maria’s death, EWS notified us of **Mary Bard Bourquin’s** death. Finally, I know I join others in sending condolences to **Maria Salome Casanova Agüero**, whose husband, Sergio, died in early summer.

1955

Letitia McClure Potter
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1956

Adrienne "A" Massie Hill
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The most exciting news about our Class is that four of our classmates attended our 60th Reunion in May and returned home with lots of enthusiasm. **Barbara Bidwell Manuel, Gail Sheppard Moloney, Edie Radley, and Serena Stewart** were filled with news of the School itself, their "special" treatment as they were the most senior alums gathering for a reunion, and most of all, excitement about our new head of

school, Dr. Meera Viswanathan, and her husband, Dr. Eric Widmer, retired headmaster of Deerfield Academy. They had dinner not once but twice with Meera and Eric and were amazed at the facilities that are in the new Centennial Center which will be dedicated in October. The building will be used for athletic events plus dance, yoga, and other meetings of different sizes. We all have something to look forward to in the coming years.

Phoebe Haffner Andrew sent a note about her month-long trip with her sister, **Frances (Frannie) Haffner Coburn '54**, through the Panama Canal followed by two weeks in Brazil. "The trip was fascinating. Hot and steamy (102 degrees) at times. Very windy and rough on the boat in the Caribbean. Hot again in Brazil and rainy in Rio — so a bit of everything. I only saw two mosquitoes the entire trip, however!"

Peg Peck Blosser and her husband, Denver, continue their

odysseys on and off shore. Except for a cruise this past winter when the Noro virus struck Denver, they quickly recovered and traveled on to Las Vegas and Palm Springs followed by stops in Ohio, The Greenbrier, Charleston and Hilton Head. If you are thinking that golf is included, you are correct! Peg and Denver have a large blended family and are diligent about getting together as many as they can throughout the year.

Nancy Lanphier Chapin has let no grass grow since her husband, Chick's, recent death. Nancy and I share a very nice mutual friend who lives here in Atlanta who traveled to Springfield, IL, where Nancy is, to attend a series of Abraham Lincoln events. Joan Keller, our friend, reported that Nancy is in great form, active as ever in all the activities that surround the former president. Nancy reminds me that she really would like our class to think of visiting in Springfield sometime. She wrote "No books to report on. I've never been so busy in my life! Have been somewhere each month; from my aunt's 100th birthday party in New York State in April, to my great-niece's wedding, to my sister twice in Santa Fe and my granddaughter in California. This month will have me heading north to Michigan to the family cottage for another great reunion. Having not been able to travel in recent years, it's been a treat! And, I've almost learned how to pack again. I've also been terribly fortunate in that helpful people have seemed to come out of the woodwork this year to help keep this place going. Everything is pretty much mowed up, fixed up and bulldozer coming this week to clear out a lot! I'll stay here on the farm as long as I can find people who will help me do so.

Mary Jo Laffin Field and her companion, John Simonds, continue their pattern of spending the winter in San Miguel and the

rest of the year in Chicago. Mary Jo and John have joined Lincoln Park Village, a senior support system spreading across the country, geared to helping people remain in their own homes as advancing years approach. "It is an enriching experience in terms of new friends and experiences." Mary Jo is very enthusiastic about it.

Missy Turnbull Geddes and **Diana Forman Colgate** planned to attend Reunion together but regrettably, could not go at the last minute.

Clarina Schwarzenbach Firmenich wrote a long email; she and her companion, Dusan Sidjanski, were in Princeton at the end of April to attend a conference about the European Union. With the recent vote in Great Britain, the meetings must have been interesting. Clarina writes: "And I was just thrilled to see the University after 50 years or so and was mind boggled about the luxury and the size of the campus! All the dogwoods were in bloom. It was quite magical."

Many years before any of us were old enough to be at Walker's, **Kiki Judd** and I met as our parents were great friends. The Judds visited us in Jefferson, NH, where my family had a summer home and one summer, I was invited to the Seignior Club in Quebec with the Judds. In March, Kiki sent me a cute picture of the two of us, probably about 8 years old, probably about 1946, each holding a golf club. (We wore identical shoes!) Kiki was heading to New York where her grandson's high school wind group (he is a trumpeter) was scheduled to play at Carnegie Hall. The performance was part of a National Search. Kiki has lived in Larkspur, CA, for many years. In March, Mal and I visited friends who live at Orchid Island, Vero Beach, and to our delight we saw **Gail Sheppard Moloney**



Mary Brown Jackson '59 (left) with Barbara Bidwell Manuel '56 (right) at head of school Investiture

not once but twice! We were invited to Gail's lovely house there, and then we were joined by **Gigi Pearson Smithers** and her husband, Kip, for cocktails and dinner at John's Island. The Smithers are well, in the midst of moving to a new house at John's Island, and are now at their home on the Cape for summer. It was such fun to pick up as if we had all been together the week before. Our class seems to be like that.

Serena Stewart and I continue to keep in touch, and not only through our now 5-year-old Scrabble game. (I have written about the scores before! She is very good at this game!) She writes, "These days I dislike winter so much I don't even remember if anything interesting happened to me or not. As spring broke through, I started traveling. First to our 60th Reunion! Just four of us showed up but we got very special treatment as we were the oldest class represented. Then out to St. Louis to visit friends. Then the biggie: Cuba. I'd been there in 1995 ("the dark year" as Russia had stopped sending aid) and was interested to see how different it was more than 20 years later. Cuba is now vibrant, joyful, alive with music and dance, lots of good restaurants, and exquisite architecture. The vintage cars are now often taxis. The Old Town is almost completely restored. I managed to break my ankle the last day that we were there, but other than that, it was a sensational trip. If any of you are planning a trip to Cuba in the future, please email me as there are a handful of tips I could pass on that might make your trip even better! I just got home a few days ago from my annual pilgrimage to Sun Valley and will stay put for awhile."

One of our annual treats is a visit in June with good friends from New York who spend their summers in Rumson, NJ. Not only do we have a great time with

Members of the Class of 1956 recommend the following books that they have enjoyed reading:

Peg Peck Blosser:
The Watchmaker of Filigree Street by Natasha Pulley

Missy Turnbull Geddes:
Purity by Jonathan Franzen;
Queen of the Desert by Janet Wallach; *Red Notice* by Bill Browder

Adrienne Massie Hill:
The Wright Brothers by David McCullough; *The Last Partnerships* by Charles R. Geisst; *Prague Winter* by Madeline Albright

Gigi Pearson Smithers:
The Future of Freedom by Fareed Zakaria; *True Reagan* by James Rosebush; *A Thousand Splendid Suns* by Khaled Hosseini

Serena Stewart:
All the Light We Cannot See by Anthony Doerr; *Travels on My Elephant* by Mark Shand; *When Breath Becomes Air* by Paul Kalanithi; *And Then All Hell Broke Loose* by Richard Eng; *A Prison Diary (vol. 1 Hell, vol. 2 Purgatory, vol. 3 Heaven)* by Jeffrey Archer

them, but we get a chance to have a visit with **Susan (Susie) Kleinhans Gilbertson '53**, a mutual friend of us all, who lives there as well. Although Susie is about to undergo a hip operation, she looks as if no time has passed. I always remind her that Big Six was so tall when we were freshmen that we marched right in line! Thanks to email hacking, we received an odd email from **Sandy Lipson Ryon '57**, who lives in Chestertown, MD. I wrote her back, saying that I was suspicious, and so had a note back from her saying that **Mimi Gibbs**



Gail Sheppard Moloney '56 at Reunion Weekend

Piper '57, and her husband, Jim, had just been visiting Sandy for a wonderful music festival.

Mal and I have continued our singing in two choirs at the Episcopal Cathedral of St. Philip although he has had to take leave since March because of a bad back. Otherwise, we are well, enjoying living near our older son, Mal, and his family. Last weekend was my husband Mal's 90th birthday, and the day after, our son, Mal's, 54th. We had a festival evening with the family. It is only 97 degrees here today, July 13, and so we are happily packing to head tomorrow to Denver for the weekend with our younger son, Gordon, and then on to Seattle for four weeks.

The next time was outside of the clubhouse at Hobe Sound. It's always fun to see her — no matter where! We will have granddaughters graduating in the same class at Chapel Hill this spring.

In June, I spent a lovely weekend with **Mimi Gibbs Piper** and her husband, Jimmy. We went to see a fun performance of "Iolanthe." It brought back memories for both of us of taking part in Gilbert and Sullivan productions at Walker's.

Kenny King Howe sounds great. She and Nat love their apartment in Greenwich overlooking Long Island Sound. She has a *pied-a-terre* in New York City where she recently had lunch with **Joanie Garver Anderson**. Joanie is in the process of moving into a smaller apartment. She hopes it will be in the same building where she has lived for 55 years.

Mary Fentress Grumhaus had a wonderful gathering of all of her children and 14 out of 17 grandchildren in Lake Forest over 4th of July. In January, she and David celebrated David's 80th birthday in Jamaica with their five adult children and spouses. They will return to Venice for three weeks in September where they will be joined by Jim and **Audrey Fentress Gorter '50**.

1957 REUNION

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Tory Kitchell and I have been running into each other in parking lots. It's always so surprising and out of context. The first time was at Costco about an hour from where I live when I was buying tires for my

Take Note

Lisa Dobbin Sherwood and John are enjoying their new house in Nantucket that is very near her sister, **Anne Dobbin Bailliere '59**.

Trudy Beebe Miller and David have moved to Baltimore and **Holly McKallor Page** has just moved from Colorado back to Long Island to be near her daughter. I don't have new contact information for either of them. This reminds me that it's been awhile since we've had an updated list with the addresses and phone numbers for our Class. I'll try to get one together soon and send it out to all of you.

Sadly, **Marnie Gaynor McLaughlin** passed away in New York City in January.

Janet Johnson passed away in February. **Lisa Dobbin Sherwood** attended Janet's funeral in March and said that it was a beautiful and well-attended service. Janet was a woman of many accomplishments. She was one of the first women to earn an MBA from Harvard Business School. She had a 30-year career as a real estate developer and

financial advisor. She managed the real estate portfolio for Johns Hopkins University, becoming Chairman of the National Association of Corporate Realtors. At the age of 63, she became ordained as an Episcopal Priest in the Diocese of New Jersey. After she retired, she was elected the first female president of the Chesapeake Bay Yacht Racing Association. We all enjoyed seeing her at our class gathering in Wilmington in 2011.

Life in Chestertown is fun and busy. My primary activity is being chairman of the board of the National Music Festival. It takes place during the first two weeks of June with about 150 apprentices and mentors from all over the world. It takes over the town with rehearsals and performances of classical music every day. It's the best two weeks of the year in Chestertown! Mimi and Jimmy came over from Baltimore for an afternoon and evening of concerts.

1958

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1959

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

1960

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Mimi Moore Rosenwald checked in to say, "No news is good news and love to all."

Patty Connors Warrender writes, "Blessed with good health and lots of energy, my granddaughter and I climbed a cliff in Montana last summer and my doctor made me promise 'never again.' The highlight of 2016, so far, was showing my Maggie, a Norwich terrier, at Westminster. She was wonderful. Without an award, we were successful in our eyes and enjoyed every minute. We are old enough to know it is not all about winning. My one regret is that I have not gotten to meet up with any EWS classmates this year. Let's rectify that with a get together."

Bea Vander Poel Banker and her husband, Bindy, moved after 51 years in the same house, a mile and a half down the road. It was a

nightmare but they survived. Sister **Linda Duryea '65** is right around the corner so it is awfully nice to be able to just drop in. They now have a ground floor bedroom, which is great plus — plenty of room for kids and guests.

Margot Campbell Bogert writes, "We spent the winter in South Carolina with trips back to NYC to check on the Frick. In January, I met Meera for lunch with **Tania Stepanian** in San Francisco. Meera is such a star and I know she will be a great asset to EWS."

Christy Hoffman Brown is busy three days a week with patient visits at two Memorial Sloan Kettering facilities in NYC as part of the "Caring Canines" team in addition to visits at the NYU Hospital for Joint Diseases. As she doesn't have grandchildren, her focus is all about "giving back." She has invested with her son in a three-year-old filly who is a racehorse in training sired by Uncle Mo who sired Derby winner, Nyquist. Stay tuned!

Completely by chance, **Cynn timer Kirkland Kellogg** and **Phyllis Richard Fritts** spent part of May on a river barge in Bordeaux sampling wine, touring and playing golf. "We were delighted when we got the passenger roster to see each other's names listed! The French people were charming and we noticed the heightened security only going through the airports. What a difficult and scary time for a wonderful country."

Harriet Blees Dewey had a busy year with four grandchildren out of college and employed. She had a lovely time in San Francisco seeing **Tania Whitman Stepanian** and **Margot Campbell Bogert** and had a much too quick coffee with **Mary Ann Shoenberg Margaretten**. There was a gathering in San Francisco to meet our new head of school, Meera. Harriet hopes to



Traditional maypole dance performed by seniors during Reunion Weekend

see some of the Class of '60 at Meera's investiture or at the ribbon cutting of the Centennial Center — both exciting events for our school.

From **Caryl Van Ranst Dearing, "Harriet Blees Dewey"** was with me as we formally gave Tom Speers his plaque (front row, right side of the chapel which is special to him) with Bessie there along with their family. He was completely surprised! I received a private tour of the new Centennial Center which will be celebrated this fall. It is wonderful. We graduated too early! My spring and summer have been busy here on Martha's Vineyard with board meetings, tennis, golf and mahjong along with family coming and going. Living on the Island we love to see summer friends, but love the quiet and ease of getting around the rest of the year. In the fall, Jim and I are visiting Bermuda to celebrate fifteen years, not bad for a second time around. Hugs to all."

Susan Shierling Harding is well and happy, and about to turn 75. She just finished her two and a half years of treatment for lymphoma. Life is good and even better as her daughter is doing very well and is happy. She is trying to survive this insane political year and is thrilled to still be living in San Diego.

Tania Whitman Stepanian emails, "A week ago, **Mimi Gardner Gates** and I were in Idaho fishing, fishing, fishing! It was the 20th Reunion of our women's Mongolian fly fishing trip. Then I went with my extended family to a dude ranch in Wyoming for a week of kids, riding, fishing, hiking and gorgeous scenery. Now I'll continue with my pottery and try to get away from the San Francisco fog. Next month, I am flying to Los Angeles to see Mimi's exhibit of the Dunhuang Caves that is at the Getty. It's

fantastic, so anyone who is in the area should try to see it before it closes. Love to all."

Ellen Corroon Petersen recently had an elegant and idyllic dinner with **Anne "Nanno" Carpenter Bienstock** on the bank of her river in the woods. She is still busy with many GCA garden activities and with trying to keep her own weeds at bay.

From **Margie Field**, "Summer has gone in a flash. Grandchildren were here until last week and now a slight respite to tend to the farm, garden and my desk. David's granddaughter was on the 15-year-old soccer team that lost in the U.S. Nationals in June which was quite an achievement. All the rest are in great jobs and doing well in school. I feel blessed at this point in life as I feel the loss of friends all around and understand the importance of celebrating each and every day. Stay well all, and I hope that our paths cross."

Abra Prentice Wilkin writes, "I suspect most of us feel that the minutia of our lives is ho-hum and not worth sharing. It's much easier to take deep breaths of thanks and quietly wonder just how we survived 75 years. Yet, it is in our final years that we need one another most and should reach out and share these 'me too' issues, be it death, disease, an aging spouse, tricky kids, \$\$\$ woes, depression, etc. I dodged the cancer bullet yet again in January with a breast lumpectomy but luckily no chemo or radiation. Don't forget to have your yearly mammogram, ladies. That's how my tiny spot was discovered, and at our age, breast cancer is rampant. Who knew? Meanwhile it was an especially sublime summer in Lake Geneva, WI, with side trips to MI, CA and MD. Jim and I celebrated my 74th birthday in July with a long-postponed (bucket list) dinner at Napa's French Laundry restaurant

and more happiness in September over our 30th anniversary. My daughter's second book is out. *If You Leave* is about a young mother's struggle with bipolar illness. Love and miss you all."

1961

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

1962 REUNION

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Wow! My last minute SOS for class news presented me with a major editing challenge — not my best sport! First off, our love goes to **Linda Hale Bucklin** who lost her husband in March after a short illness. They shared over forty years and many outdoor adventures, in addition to raising three boys. Earlier this year, Linda and her mixed doubles tennis

partner won their age division (for the second time) in National U.S. tennis! She also has a third book, *The Love of Angels*, due out in June. (I'm hoping to see her and **Sara Hall Fargo** in September in SF.)

Lots of visiting going on: **Mary Goodyear Glenn** bid on a Garden Club raffle and won a trip to the Chicago Botanic Garden where **Jeanie Hunt Van Nice** and **Louise Ingersoll Tausche** arranged a special tour and spent the day laughing and reminiscing! Louise is spending most of her time making outdoor improvements to their lake house in Indiana. (She is a retired decorator accustomed to working for others!)

Harrah Lord and husband, John, have continued exploring the U.S. in their Airstream and visited nine classmates in one year! **Lisa McCluney Delafield** in FL, Louise and Jeanie in Chicago, **Pam Kirwin Heintz** near Syracuse, and hopefully **Sue Carkhuff Evans** soon. (They saw **Sue Rand Whitlock, Suzy Fox, Quinta Symonds Bodin** and **Marcia Corbin** on a



Back row: Mary Goodyear Glenn '62 and Louise Ingersoll Tausche '62
Front row: Abby Aldrich Record '62 and Jeanie Hunt Van Nice '62

previous adventure.) Better hide now if you don't want to see them! My husband, Dick, and I had lunch (and a nap!) at **Quinta's** new house in Portland, OR, in July en route to a family gathering at Sun River. She is working hard on her gardens in her new house. In between family invasions, **Mary Goodyear Glenn** and I compare progress (or lack thereof) with our eight-month old puppies, which we agree is a bigger challenge than we imagined. There is a significant size difference in our animals!

Many of us have had summer gatherings of grandchildren — **Sara Hall Fargo** wrote in from Nantucket where she is having fun with two little ones. She and Mike have been married 50 years (as have several of you). **Betsy Balis Goodyear** and Frank are celebrating in October in Italy! Congratulations to all of you! A wonderful achievement in today's world. **Sally Bryant Dean** wrote from England that she has a new hip to go with her new knee (she commiserates with Mary about the knee) and Q says she spends winters in FL. She is still skiing, which many of us have reluctantly given up.

Dinah Day writes from NYC that she has had a colleague sharing her apartment this year. She recently talked to **Marcia Corbin** and had hoped to get to Aspen in September, but it is too far off the itinerary. Health problems prevent her from traveling. "I quit reading and knitting stuffed animals long enough to co-chair my Wheaton Reunion in May, which was lots of work, but fun. Missed the other five of you who went there! (Marcia, Sara, Sue R., Elaine and Betsy H.) Hope this finds the rest of you healthy and happy and looking for ways to keep our NH reconnection going!"

1963

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1964

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1965

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Janet Taylor Lisle writes, "One good thing about being in the writing business is that you never have to retire! My first book for young readers, *The Dancing Cats of Applesap*, came out in 1984; my seventeenth, *Quicksand Pond*, will be out next spring through Simon & Schuster. I'm working on another novel now. I've been lucky to have worked with only three editors over this long haul. My present editor is about thirty-five years younger than me! Everything in publishing has changed. I began writing on a Smith-Corona Electric typewriter. I used to keep my manuscripts in the freezer in case the house burned down. Now I use the Cloud and can copy hundreds of pages with a single key. I still live and write in Rhode Island. Many of my stories are centered in my hometown of Little Compton. If anyone is nearby, give me a heads-up. I'd love to see you."

Polly Wiessner reports, "I am currently working as a professor of anthropology at the University of Utah but have accepted an offer from the University of

Arizona too good to refuse starting next year. I will spend half the year in Utah — cannot give up the skiing. Still doing anthropological research among the Kalahari Bushmen of southern Africa and the Enga of Papua New Guinea every year. I was elected to the National Academy of Sciences in 2014 which in practical terms gives me more slack to take time off. I have two sons, Niko and Silas, and am now a grandmother. Niko just graduated from medical school and will do his residency in neurology at Stanford. How life moves on!"

Helen Frederick writes, "I'm off shortly for my very first, two-week cruise along the coast of Norway. I always thought cruising was for old people! Then I awoke on my 69th birthday and realized that I now fell into that category, so off I go. I'm writing now because I return after the deadline, but I assume I will have a glorious time. One of the many shore excursions is kayaking in the Arctic Circle — what a kick! I'm also being taken on a fancy lunch excursion on an island off Bergen. The only other eventful occurrence was injuring my rotator cuff once again and having to go through rehab — once again. My poor shoulder! But now I'm back and raring to go, swimming, biking, hiking, treading, and weight training!"

Sarah Elting Doering writes, "Fred and I have just returned from a wonderful safari in South Africa where we saw amazing wildlife on game preserves. What a thrill to get so close to the "Big Five" and more from the safety of a Range Rover. We took a brief trip to Istanbul a few months ago and were relieved to miss all the excitement. It is a beautiful city and Ephesus was spectacular. All the Greek and Roman antiquity reminded me of Miss Sindall. I am going to see **Sarah Wood Blumenstein** in August in Washington, DC. I hope we don't melt in the heat!"

1966

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1967 REUNION

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Jessica Ferguson exhibited a visual installation at MOBIUS in Cambridge, MA, in November 2015, which featured a 24-hour participatory meditation devoted to Kepler 438b, an earth-like exoplanet. Recent work was also included in "Cyanotypes:



Sarah House Denby '72, Victoria Veh '76, and Kate Crichton Gubelmann '67

Photograph's Blue Period," the first ever survey of handmade blueprints at the Worcester Art Museum, Worcester, MA, in April, 2016. From March 22–May 1, Jesseca's work was on view in "THIS IS A PHOTOGRAPH: Exploring Contemporary Applications of Photographic Chemistry" at Penland Gallery and Visitor Center in Penland, NC, and from May 8–September 4 in an exhibition called "Double Visions" at the Art Complex Museum in Duxbury, MA.

Sarah House Denby '72, Victoria Veh '76, and Kate Crichton Gubelmann '67 were together on July 2 at the Newport Art Museum Beaux Arts Ball in Newport, RI.

1968

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

Claudia Ramsland Burch '68 and her husband, Reagan, visited Hilary and Phil Deely at the Deely's home, "Rattlesnake Ranch," in Stockbridge, MA. During the 1980s, Claudia served as Phil's board chair in his roles as academic dean, associate head of school and interim head of school. Following a lunch on the Deely's gazebo, Phil brought the Burchs for a visit to the Norman



Phil Deely, former interim head of school, and Claudia Ramsland Burch '68

Rockwell Museum. Phil and his family spearheaded fundraising efforts for the Museum in the 1990s.

1969

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

On November 14, 2015, **Sigourney "Sunny" Williamson Wright** received the 13th Victor R. Swenson Humanities Educator Award at the University of Vermont during the Vermont Humanities Council fall conference. She has taught a variety of subjects in a number of places since she started teaching in Vermont in 1976. Congratulations, Sunny!

Elizabeth "Lisa" Elkinton Barr writes, "Love having four grandchildren who seem very bright! Aged 18 months to five years!"

1970

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Pamela Constable was named *The Washington Post's* bureau chief for Afghanistan and Pakistan, beginning August 1. *The Washington Post* says, "The assignment matches an intrepid, deeply knowledgeable and enormously experienced foreign correspondent with a complicated and confounding story that she began to cover even before the attacks of September 11, 2001. Pam was South Asia bureau chief from 1999 to 2004, and she moved to Kabul for the second half of that tour. She has reported periodically from Kabul, Islamabad and other trouble spots ever since. She has written two

books rooted in the region: a memoir in 2005 called *Fragments of Grace: My Search for Meaning in the Strife of South Asia*, and a 2010 account of the rise of radical Islam in Pakistan called *Playing with Fire: Pakistan at War with Itself*.

1971

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Frieda Jacobs and Cynny Smith Evanisko did their best to gather the Class of 1971 for the 45th Reunion. Our rallying cry? Come support classmate **Charlotte Smart Rogan** as she participates in the Saturday afternoon panel discussion "Walker's Women Today" hosted by the Alumnae Board.

Charlotte's second novel, titled *Now and Again*, was published in early April. It is as captivating as her acclaimed first novel, *The Lifeboat*. Charlotte did the Class of '71 "proud" with her poise and insights during the panel discussion.

For the Reunion, we were a small but enthusiastic group of five. Frieda won the distance prize, as she flew in from Chicago. **Donna Williams** was a good sport to take several trains and taxi rides to get to campus. It was great to see her! She said life is good; she is still gainfully employed and she is in the midst of a major renovation of her home. Just after lunch, Donna was approached by a current student who realized that Donna was one of the first two students of color at The Ethel Walker School. The courage and determination that it took for Donna (and **Casey Ward**, who passed away February 21, 2003) to attend EWS in the fall of 1968 is often overlooked, so it was especially gratifying to witness this interaction.

Leila Baroody took time out of her busy schedule to come to campus, too. She reports, "I've been busy working in GMOFreeCT and Right to Know advocacy in some other states as well. (See <https://gmoupdates.wordpress.com> for what's been keeping me busy in retirement). We're at a tipping



Charlotte Smart Rogan '71, one of the panelists for the "Walker's Women Today" session at Reunion

Take Note



Leila Baroody '71 and Frieda Jacobs '71

point in GMO food labeling, but much needs to be done about toxic pesticides in our food supply as well. States have had to lead the way, but currently, there is a Federal effort lurking to undermine our progress at the state levels."

Cynny Smith Evanisko had a great time at the Reunion. "It was wonderful to share the day with Frieda, Leila, Donna and Charlotte. We attended chapel, had a delicious lunch, strolled around the campus, and absorbed the positive vibes from current students and faculty. We had a tour of the new Centennial Center, due to open in the fall of 2016. It is an amazing complex

that rivals any college campus: 8 lane swimming pool, double gymnasium, 4 squash courts, 2 dance/yoga studios, home and visitor locker rooms that are fit for queens, and a state of the art health and wellness center. The living quarters for all students are a far cry from Beaver Brook; all houses are warm and inviting, with kitchens, lounges and nice suites. Oh, how things have changed in 45 years!"

Betsy Hanson Lawlor was unable to attend the Reunion because she was "in the midst of a move within St. Louis and then going to a family wedding in Philadelphia."

Buffy Clifford Bell wrote: "I thought I would be able to come, but I am happily bogged down with a litter of 11 Bernese Mountain Dog puppies. I just can't get away. An interesting side note: This dog that I bred is co-owned by **Barbie Beck-Wilczek!** We have become good friends through our dog world."

Tory Eyre Whipple said, "I am days away from getting a new puppy so this May is out but thanks for getting the energy going for the 50th. Count me in!"

Sally Valentine Von Trapp said she was sad to miss the 45th, but is fully committed to the 50th. "Perhaps by then I will be retired and not chained to the May mayhem of a greenhouse business."

Christine Lloyd Schick wrote, "I have been watching the EWS Reunion mail arrive and think how grand it would be to disappear off to America for a week or so and, at last, 'do' a Reunion! I expected to have my 'freedom to roam' returned to me on my 60th birthday, instead this decade has been a nightmare and I find myself troubleshooting and being the main 'total factotum' prop to the family! Boomerang children, an ageing and ill mother and a husband trying to kill himself with over working! (Happily retired late last year!) So, I am still playing at being a domestic goddess! I find having a sense of humor and being spontaneous gets me through life. Although out of control at times, my life is peppered with happy times. Thank goodness! Hope you, who make it to the Reunion, have a lovely reminiscing time and that the Dials win! And, if any of you land in London, like **Jean Hamilton** has done in the past, it is always a pleasure to see you and catch up. I now have a wonderful Microsoft tablet and can already store the day for the 50th Reunion. I put it in also a year in advance so I can arrange a trip properly! P.S. There was a good review of Charlotte's second book in *The Times* or *Sunday Times* — brilliant."

Debbie Seaman had both of her twin boys graduating from college on Reunion weekend, so she and husband, Warren, were "leapfrogging from New York to Washington to Pittsburgh and back."

Marty Hedgpeth shares "Sunday of that weekend is a major feast day in my world and

getting from Hartford to Charlotte late on Saturday just doesn't work. Sorry to miss this one. I will plan on the 50th, when hopefully I won't be working anymore." Marty recently moved to a new home within Charlotte.

Jane Orndahl said she would love to be at the Reunion, but her daughter was having her tonsils out that Friday. She said she certainly will try for the next one!

Mary Brooks Puckett noted, "I will be in Nantucket for a reunion with my best friends from childhood for the upcoming 45th. Incredible how precious each moment and memory is as time seems to move exponentially faster with each passing year. Life in my 60s is better than ever if that is even possible. Will look forward to seeing all in five."

Barbara Marsilius: The website for Agraria Farm provides a terrific glimpse into what has kept Barb busy for the last 16 years. Quoting from the site, "Having dreamed of owning a farm for decades, it became a reality in 2000 when we discovered a town called Rehoboth and saw a real estate listing for a small, organic farm. After decades of a frenetic life — an intense 4 years in graduate school, a failed marriage, and an overloaded career, I ended up where I wanted to start — on a small farm growing berries and fruit! From my earliest childhood memories, everything in nature fascinated me. I collected all sorts of plants, found jobs working in other people's gardens, and ended up getting a master's degree in landscape architecture. That propelled me into the environmental movement — working with everyone from Greenpeace to the Garden Club of America's affiliates. Always striving to understand what stewardship meant and how to be an effective activist. Along the way, I was a volunteer, staff and



Class of 1971 45th Reunion attendees: Leila Baroody, Frieda Jacobs, Cynny Smith Evanisko, Donna Williams, and Charlotte Smart Rogan

board member of environmental non-profits. And, later became known for raising lots of money — and tasked with giving it away. Three decades and a huge amount of burnout later, I left the philanthropic sector to truly “go green” again! I was fortunate to find my way back — to what mattered most to me.” For more inspiration, visit www.agrariafarm.com

Damaris (Dee Dee) Welles wrote in an email, “I work part time and dedicate much of the rest of my time to working on animal welfare issues, a lifelong passion.” She is the founder of a company called DETAILS Organizing It All. Her website gives a bit more background; “I started organizing when I was quite young. I was the neatnik in my family and enjoyed organizing my three sisters’ messes. I have two adult offspring who fled Minnesota for warmer climes — one to Los Angeles and one to Sweden. I am both a dog and cat person and am owned by both. I spent many years working with nonprofits — fundraising, organizing benefit events, and coordinating volunteers before I founded DETAILS Organizing It All. When my marriage ended, I became a single mother with two young children. That’s when keeping up with the clutter and staying organized became a big challenge. To reduce the chaos, I designed organizing systems that I still use at home daily and with my clients. When I’m not working with clients, I work to help unwanted or stray dogs and cats from a Northern Minnesota Indian Reservation. I strive to be eco-conscious in both my life and work. I believe in having a lighter footprint on the earth and giving her a break. 1% of DETAILS Organizing It All’s revenue is donated to animal welfare nonprofits.”

Madelaine Arias said, “So sorry I couldn’t make it to this Reunion, but now you have my

email, please keep me informed, I’d love to come to the 50th.”

Helen Hinshaw Cray noted, “I am happily retired from paid employment, but I am a fundraiser for a couple of local organizations, including the library foundation. Most central to my state of contentment are my two granddaughters, ages 2 and six weeks, who live just 7 miles away.”

Heidi Hall Jones sent in the following, “Personal tidbits: my daughter, Annabel, graduated in 2015 with her Master’s in Communication from the College of Charleston. She is working at a PR agency, Method Savvy, in Durham, NC, plying her creative PR talents and social media skills. She amazes me every day, and she is much wiser at 28 than I ever dreamt of being.

“Professionally, I am in the process of renovating my design studio and retail store (located in a 1935 gas station) which hopefully will be finished this summer. We will be shifting the focus of the store towards more high-end vintage furniture and design items. We are also exploring the possibility of designing a small line of furniture available through Punch Jones. Lots of unknowns, but it’s bound to be an exciting and educational journey. We’re never too old to learn!”

1972 REUNION

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Joanna Betts Virkler writes: “About 17 classmates got together for the third every-other-year, four-night reunion in Pawley’s Island, SC, at the end of October 2016. More in the next *Sundial!*”



L-R: Class of 1971 members Donna Williams, Frieda Jacobs, and Cynny Smith Evanisko at Reunion Chapel in May.

From **Margaret (Peggy) Wascher Hellebush**: “I am enjoying my second year of retirement! I am busy heading up the one and only fundraiser for my garden club in May for the next two years — a week-long flower sale. My son just proposed to his girlfriend on my husband’s 65th birthday, July 2, at our lake house only to be toasted with champagne afterwards by all 35 members of our family. A June 17 wedding is in the works. I may also be the mother of the bride as that too is in the works! A fun 2017 to look forward to! My best to all!” (585) 441-1008

Sarah House Denby adds: “So sorry I can’t make Pelican this year — so glad to have made it in ’14! I know everyone will have a blast. Please send pix! FYI, I re-upped for another two years on the EWS Board, an easy decision once I met the new head, Meera, here in RI where she was with Brown for more than 20 years. She is truly a delight, and I strongly urge all our classmates to visit the school — it has been totally transformed from when we were there, is filled with joy and light — not to mention all these lovely new buildings! And, meeting Meera is worth the trip all by itself. Not a lot of news here. Travelled a lot last winter (two golf vacations, Jamaica, skiing in Big Sky, MT, London-Paris-Brussels-Italy, and Portland, OR), so it was nice to arrive

home on Memorial Day to NO AIRPORTS until August 13, when we went to Michigan’s Upper Peninsula for two weeks — our annual sojourn in Charley’s family’s cabin. Next big trip is to Egypt and Petra in November — darn, we’ll miss the elections... We’ve had tons of visitors this summer, so it’s been very busy with keeping the fridge filled and sheets washed. My daughter, Lisa, got engaged in January to a lovely Turkish man, Onder Ozer, so we’re planning the nuptials for August 2017 on Mackinac Island, MI. And, here I had her ‘on the shelf’ at 34! After teaching in the trenches in Philly for 10 years, we got another Master’s (Educational Public Policy) from Penn and is now teaching teachers how to be more effective in the classroom. Son ‘Ted’ returned last August from two-plus years in Switzerland to Minneapolis with Medtronic, and now wants to go back! So, I guess we will be crossing the pond more frequently, especially since Charley’s son, Owen, and wife, Katherine, are in London for two years with their respective law firms. Our grandson, Tighe (2-20-15), is now walking all over the place and a frequent visitor to RI, so it can be busy. They live in Brooklyn Heights so we also go down there in the fall and winter. So glad they don’t live in Seattle! That’s it for now. Best to you all.”

Cynthia Anderson Barker

writes, “Looking forward to seeing our former classmates during our Pawley’s Island gathering at the end of October. It will be so great to catch up, compare notes and see how our lives have changed since we last met two years ago. At these gatherings, we learn so much from each other. It is hard to believe we were at EWS together over 45 years ago. I am still working as an attorney in Los Angeles but now doing less litigation and more public policy work — which I love. My husband retired from practicing law and so he always wants to ‘get away.’ That is a bit hard at times, but my schedule is easing up. Our son is now in his second year of college. Unlike me, he is a computer science geek.”

Beryn Frank Harty

adds “Hubby Rick and I are still living close to Key West, and would be happy to offer a cold libation to any classmates passing by. Just call my cell 786-623-5700.”

From **Mimi Mead-Hagen**: “I have had two boys that both graduated, one from high school and one from college! An exciting year! Best to all!”

Regina “Reggie” Scruggs is braving the heat in Houston... although she hears that too many friends in other parts of the country are doing the same! The difference is that in Texas, “summer” lasts through November! Reggie did manage to escape to St. Louis for a week in July to visit old college pals. Otherwise she is busy seeing friends in Houston, doing a lot of reading (she favors biographies and other non-fiction), and watching the presidential race with interest.

1973

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

1974

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1975

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From **Catherine Munson Rogerson**: “Our big news is our son, Peter, was married in July to his college sweetheart. After nine years of dating, they tied the knot in our backyard so my life has pretty much been planning a rehearsal dinner and watering plants! Other than that, I still write a blog sharing how God’s Word applies to today and how Christ Himself longs to be in relationship with us. Check it out at www.devotionsfromthebridge.wordpress.com.



Catherine Munson Rogerson '75, her husband (l) and oldest son (r)



Catherine Munson Rogerson's '75 son, Peter, and his new bride

Otherwise, I am an empty nester with my youngest a sophomore at Gordon College. The rest of the kiddos are out of college and living all over the place. Tom and I are still in Duxbury, MA, so come visit! Here is a photo of me being walked down the aisle by my oldest son and hubby...no professional family photos have been sent to me yet! Best to all!”

Helen “Holly” Bryan Hubbard

writes, “We moved across the country this past February... from Efland North Carolina to Ashland, OR. This adventure has been in our plans for many years and now it is real. I love the weather; the atmosphere in the town; ability to walk and ride bikes everywhere; mountains, lakes, rivers surround me; AND it is all so new that I miss the familiar right now. We — Alan

Hubbard, my partner of 35 years and I — will give the town at least one to two years before we think about a move again. Come visit us in Oregon!”

1976

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1977 REUNION

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Catherine Cecil Taylor has moved from Portland, OR, to Alexandria, VA. She has loved being an ER nurse her whole career but is now considering new ventures, perhaps in some aspect of women’s health.

Caroline Lovell, who lives in Petaluma, CA, is doing important work in women’s health through The Women’s Wisdom Initiative (www.womenswisdominitiative.org) which she founded. Take a look at the wonderful creativity of one of her programs, Traveling Postcards, which has such a global reach (www.travelingpostcards.org).

Michelle Turner became a grandmother of twins, McKenna Marie and Kingston Stephen, on May 17.

Trish O’Reilly is the director of development at the Washington Montessori School in New



Jake Matthai (Cecily's son), Buckley Huffstetler (Trish's son), Trish O'Reilly '77 and Cecily Chilton Matthai '77

Preston, CT. Her husband, Jim, and she have two sons, Buckley and Nicholas. Fourteen-year-old Buckley attended Camp Pasquaney in NH with **Cecily Chilton Matthai's** son, Jake, a recent graduate of UNC-Chapel Hill who was his counselor.

Gabrielle Bebel lives in DC and has a new job as an admissions representative at Divine Mercy University, formerly the Institute for the Psychological Sciences, a Catholic graduate school dedicated to the study of psychology with the Catholic understanding of the person, marriage and the family.

1978

Katharine Swibold
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Katharine Swibold writes, "I sure would like to hear from more of you for the next *Sundial*! Please consider sharing your story with us. Look for my email and info on the class Facebook page. And, if you did not get an email from me, please let me know a good email address, and let Walker's

know too. I have been working as the executive assistant to the vice president of development at Barnard College for seven years, commuting into NYC on the Hudson Line train every day from my home in Tarrytown. I wish I didn't have to spend an hour and 15 minutes each direction in transit, but as commutes go, I have to admit it is pretty nice. If you are my friend on Facebook, you can see the pictures of the beautiful Hudson River I take with my phone most days. My husband of 28 years is an attorney working out of our home. While there are some very real disadvantages to being a sole practitioner (e.g. erratic income!), I am grateful that he is happier and healthier than he has ever been, and since he is home, likes to cook and is good at it. I am eating better than when I was the one doing it more often.

"Our son, Adam Becker, has been working at Food52 (a website about, you guessed it, food!) where he serves as office manager and jack-of-all-trades. They share recipes and stories about food and sell beautiful food and home related items. Check it out! He loves the work and looks forward to growing with the company. He and his girlfriend, Robin (a Class of 2012 graduate of Skidmore like

Adam), moved from NYC to Bronxville so that they can have more space for less money and because Robin will be starting a graduate program at Sarah Lawrence this fall. Our daughter, Hannah Becker, graduated from Smith in May 2015 and in August moved to Barcelona (where she had spent her Junior Year abroad) and where she has been ever since. She took the Teaching English as a Foreign Language certification course and has been teaching kids English and babysitting. She is living with her Spanish boyfriend and is hoping to begin a full-time job in translation once she gets her working papers in order. She began doing stand-up comedy(!) in English, at open mics and is really funny! She is also singing, so she is keeping her creative juices flowing. We look forward to visiting her in Barcelona in October and having her and Luis home with us for the holidays. I hope all are well, and I hope to see you at our 40th (OMG!) Reunion in 2018."

Laura MacIntyre Shaw writes, "Hello classmates! Life is great here in New Jersey. My husband and I have decided to retire this fall. We plan to travel first to some National Parks that we haven't seen yet and then get more involved with some of our hobbies. For my husband, that's NJ Invasive Species Task Force. For me, that's empowering young women (specifics TBD). We also spend a lot of time outdoors hiking and enjoying the reservoir near our home. Our kids are all busy with their careers. Two of our four girls are married, and we have two grandchildren (Eliza, age 3, and Nate born 7/15). We're looking forward to having the time to visit all of them on a more leisurely basis. Hope everyone is enjoying this marvelous time in life when we see our kids take flight and get to spoil our grandchildren!"



Laura MacIntyre Shaw '78 with grandson Nate, 1 week old

Libby Swaengen Cerullo writes: "Hi from rural PA, an hour west of Philly. I have dropped out of the mother role (mostly) and the work force (almost), but keep busy as a textile artist and a long list of etcetera, including travel. In January, my very active 79-year-old stepmother and I toured Morocco. We covered current and historic capitals, craft meccas, ancient Roman settlements, coastal fishing town, visited nomad families in different types of dwellings, crashed a market in a remote village, and stayed in a tent camp in the Sahara. Yes to camel rides! Yes to goats in Argan trees! Yes to a man in a long red cape holding a lantern who led us down a very dark alley to a hidden dinner jewel! Yes to bargaining in the souks! Yes to dancing with a couple and their teenage children in the living room after dinner! Yes to some very edgy modern art! Yes to a silent sunset over sand dunes! And, yes to feeling completely safe! OK, except when I stubbed my toe on the mosaic tile bathtub, or nearly ran into a butcher's sign — a severed camel head — or when I was swarmed by a couple dozen rural quadri-lingual school children for a few pencils and books. I retaliated with chemical warfare, probably infecting all the ladies at the women's collective in Ait Ben

Take Note



Libby Swarengen Cerullo '78 in a Moroccan market

Haddou with the common cold. Not bad for their first encounter with Westerners. (It's OK, they think I went to Holyoke, jk.) One of the best trips of my life, full of cultural and artistic inspirations, although sadly, I may have eaten my lifetime allotment of lamb."

1979

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"Angie" Angelia Heughan writes, "Living my life like it's golden! My daughter, Callie, and my son, Erik, planned a 55th birthday for me this year in Myrtle Beach that was simply magical. From inviting my best friend, Toni, to meet us, to a very special dinner at Joe's Bar and Grill, to a biker party at The House of Blues, to more presents than I can count, to a final dinner at Rio's Brazilian Steak House. I enjoyed every moment! My only sadness is that we can't do it again every year. Erik (20) is now living on his own with a job and in school. Callie (19) also has a job and is in school while preparing for a career that she already loves. I am so very proud of them. Now, to get out of mommy and career



Angelia Heughan '79

mode and start having more fun! Hope all is well with everyone else!"

Kathy Ponvert Judge writes, "So glad I had the opportunity to travel to Turkey two years ago because obviously I wouldn't go now. I am the executor for my uncle and that is quite the learning experience. My son, Louis, is going to be a senior in high school this year and is a talented illustrator."

From **Dana Carter Lange**: "I have visited Warren Erickson (head of admissions at Walker's while we were there) at his Rockport, ME, home many summers. Last summer Warren and I surprised **Julie Williams Wagoner '80** at her bank in



Julie Williams Wagoner '80, Dana Carter Lange '79, Joan Marshall Losee, Warren Erickson, and Shannon Young Ray '80

Bath. That night we tracked **Shannon Young Ray '80** down on the phone and made plans for a reunion this summer.

"Amazingly, the Reunion happened and it was more fun than you can imagine. I had not seen Shannon in 36 years and she is the same sassy Texan she was at Walker's. Friendships forged at Walker's do not diminish with time. We picked right back up with the same banter we had at EWS. Joan Marshall Losee, who had been the assistant head of Admissions with Warren while we were at Walker's, came for dinner one night with her husband, David. We also had **Jamie Kyte**



Warren Erickson, Jamie Kyte Sapoch '77 and Dana Carter Lange '79

Sapoch '77, who has a summer house nearby, over for breakfast one morning."

Jill Ashbey Pejoves writes, "I am happy to report my family and I are well. My husband, George, and I are busy planning and looking forward to the marriage of our daughter, Nina, to Dana Gorman this September. Hope all my Walker's classmates are doing well."



Jill Ashbey Pejoves' '79 daughter, Nina, and fiancé, Dana Gorman



Arabella Wattles Teal '79 and Femi Euba

This is from **Arabella Wattles Teal**: “I visited New Orleans for the first time the week of July 4. It’s not generally considered the best time of year to go, but it was the only time I could see my daughter, India, who had a brief respite between her first and second years teaching middle school special education. I see why people are so attached to this very special place with a genuinely unique culture and history. Everyone was so friendly, welcoming, and relaxed. While there, I had the pleasure of seeing a very old friend from my freshman year at EWS, Femi Euba. Femi is now a highly respected playwright and professor at LSU. In 1974, Walker’s had lured him to Connecticut to be the school’s artist-in-residence. He was one of my first EWS mentors, and his charm, enthusiasm, and ready laugh haven’t changed since I first knew him. It was such a delight to have the chance to share a delicious shrimp and grits dinner with him at one of the many excellent restaurants in India’s neighborhood.”

News from **Ashley Smith Washburn**: “Here’s what I’ve been up to as well as my sister, **Betsy Smith van Gemenen '77**. It’s been a busy 2015/2016 for all the Washburns. In the fall, my oldest son, Jack, moved to Denver, CO, to start his career in accounting while my second son, Sam, moved to Portland, OR, to work in counseling. My third son,



Betsy Smith van Gemenen '77 working with members of Students Empowering Students



Ashley Smith Washburn '79 with Seratiani's daughter, Ruth (her namesake)

Ben, graduated from Union College in June and was accepted into Oxford for this fall to get his Master’s in Migration Studies and my fourth and final son, Nate, finished his first year at Elon in North Carolina.

“It seems like my husband, Jay, and I would have been empty nesters but that wasn’t meant to be. We hosted a wonderful young lady, Zura, from Kibera, Kenya while she attended Northfield Mount Hermon School in Massachusetts. Her fellow student, Beam, from Bangkok, Thailand, frequently joined her at our home. Of course, my work in Tanzania with our foundation — Asante Sana For Education — keeps me traveling. I was so fortunate to have my sister, Betsy, join me in February. We spent two weeks working with my students, visiting the schools we have built and taking two of our Tanzanian students on their first



Betsy Smith van Gemenen '77 teaching a young Maasai child how to take a picture

safari (first escalator and airplane, too). The highlight of our trip was traveling to Kenya for a surgical consult with a young Maasai woman, Seratiani, who had a severe case of elephantiasis.

It was not only Seratiani’s first time on a plane, she did not even know what an airplane was before this trip. In June and July I spent three weeks leading a student/teacher service trip to Tanzania with my husband and students from throughout the US. While they all headed home on July 5, I brought Seratiani to Kenya for her surgery. She spent the first three weeks with her leg elevated and had a 12-hour surgery on July 28. She will remain in the hospital in Kenya another six weeks to recover, and in early September I will return her to her village and family in the remote village of Mnindi where we built our second primary school. I would love to have EWS students, alumni and teachers join me on my next service trip. Information on our work and trips can be found on our website: www.asantesanaforeducation.com, as well as a short documentary — *Following Heart – The Humanitarian* — about our work filmed and produced by JacksGap and Skype.”

Stori Stockwell Cadigan writes, “Hard to believe our one and only graduated from Middlesex in June. She’s doing a gap year in Nepal and then heading off to Colorado College. Scary to think we have been out of Walkers for SOOOO long! I can’t wait for our next Reunion and I hope everyone is well.”



Stori Stockwell Cadigan '79 with her husband and daughter



Karen Polcer Bdera '79

And, a quick update from yours truly, **Karen Polcer Bdera**: “I am still retired and loving it! I have several volunteer projects going on. I still fundraise for the Avon 39 Walk to End Breast Cancer. I continue to crochet scarves and lap robes for several charities including The Door (an organization whose mission is “...to empower young people to reach their potential by providing comprehensive youth development services in a diverse and caring environment”) and the Isabella Geriatric Center (an organization that strives to “... provide quality care through diverse programs designed to promote health and independence

within and beyond” their walls). I help out where I used to work (God’s Love We Deliver) at several events and in their finance department during donation crunch time. My husband, Nick, and I still enjoy being in one another’s company. We continue to race walk through many weekend races (albeit a lot slower than in the old days), and are now tackling some home improvement projects. We both enjoy our two annual trips to Aruba, and we just attended my younger brother, Sam’s, nuptials.”

1980

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From **Ann O’Reilly**: “As I write this, my daughter, Katie ’17, is preparing for a trip to Argentina with her field hockey coach and teammates. It’s hard to believe she’s heading into her final year at Walker’s. Alan and I are very excited about the opening of the Centennial Center, not least

because it means Katie will be able to have squash practice at a decent hour this winter. Our son, Jake, continues to defy his maternal genes by working toward a degree in mathematics at UConn. Alan and I divide our time between work and cleaning up after our three dogs. Still not clear how that happened...So great to be in touch with so many classmates on Facebook!”

Blair Leisure wrote: “My husband, Jack Adelfang, son, Ted, and I welcomed our new family member, Eloise Lee Adelfang, born March 8, 2016. We live in Golden, CO, where I’m an environmental consultant and Jack works in real estate. All the best to my classmates!”

Jennifer Hetzler sent greetings from Delaware, OH. “Yes, you read it right: Delaware, OH. Haven’t heard of it? Well, Delaware is just north of Columbus and is home to Ohio Wesleyan University. This year has been a banner year for Equus Now!, the equestrian retail company of which I am the general manager. Every year we seem to be growing more and more. And, I’m excited to say that I feel our sport is finally being recognized as an athletic sport and not just a hobby for the wealthy. That, together with a great social-media marketing staff, has led to our continuous growth. We have also started a subsidiary company, Primer Equestrian Marketing, and developed the Ohio Stable Directory, both of which have really taken off. Besides business stuff, Gracie, my deaf Australian Shepherd, and I have been educating people about deaf dogs and how great they are. Gracie has become a therapy dog, and I’m amazed at how she can really sense those who are mentally challenged and is quick to put them at ease. Back in January, I spent time with **Stacy “Space” Smith Pecka**, along with her dog, Dakota. We had a great time



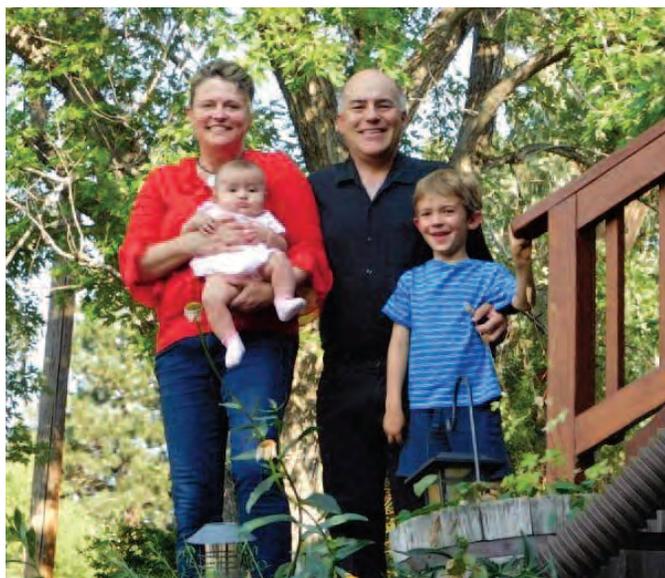
Jennifer Hetzler '80 at her equestrian retail company, Equus Now!

catching up while walking on the beach in Sea Bright, NJ. It was as if we had just seen each other yesterday! Facebook is great for keeping in touch with one another, but, really, we need a major Class of 1980 Reunion! We’ve been talking about it — now let’s do it! If anyone is ever out my way, my door is always open. I’d love to see you guys! Cheers to you all!”



Stacy Smith Pecka '80 and Jennifer Hetzler '80

Lue McWilliams shared this news: “2016 has been a year of both good and bad. We lost my dear brother to cancer in January. It’s such a horrible disease that I know unfortunately touches many of us, but we get by with the love and support of family and friends. So, mother and I decided to visit my niece in Scotland and family in Norway in May and June. The Orkney Islands are beautiful. After visiting family in Oslo, we traveling up to Hattfjeldal, where



Blair Leisure '80 and family, including their newest addition, Eloise Lee



Lue McWilliams '80 with her niece, Sirianna Santacrose, on the Orkney Islands

mother lived during the German occupation. It was my first time seeing that part of Norway, and, if you want to live without Wi-Fi for a while, I highly recommend it. For me, it put all those 'living through the war' stories I have heard since I was a little girl in very clear perspective and made me appreciate my own childhood that much more.

"Professionally, I co-starred in a movie with Veep's Scott Adsit, which is now in post-production, and I have one film about to hit the festival circuit, another in it, and a few on Netflix. (Feel free to rent — I think I get about a penny each time). I continue to write, have just booked another film, and I have a short film I conceived and directed that I hope will hit the airwaves in fall 2016.

"After the one-room schoolhouse in Hattfjelldal (which is still there), EWS never looked so good!"

Shannon Young Ray reports: "I am doing great in Fort Worth. Breck and I just celebrated our 30th anniversary in May. He's still running his executive search firm, and I am semiretired and enjoying more free time with family and



Shannon Young Ray '80, Dana Carter Lange '79, and Julie Williams Wagoner '80 enjoyed a reunion in Maine

community board work. Our oldest son, Breck, Jr., and wife, Meredith, are expecting our first grandchild in October. A boy, Breck III! Our son, Peter, is happily working in insurance and enjoying being on his own in Dallas. Our triplets, Carson, Megan, and Taylor, are graduating (on time!) next May from UT, Wake Forest, and TCU — all within a week! Hopefully, Breck and I will take a much-needed trip next summer to celebrate our empty nest! Loved my reunion in Maine in July with **Julie Williams Wagoner, Dana Carter Lange '79**, and our EWS advisor, Warren Erickson. Amazing after 36 years. If anyone is in the DFW area, give me a shout to catch up!"



Cecilia Clarke's '80 youngest child, Simon, with Helena Ten Bos de Belloy '80 on Helena's farm in Normandy, where she breeds Connemara ponies

Cecilia Clarke writes "The past few years have been eventful. In 2013, I left the nonprofit I founded (Sadie Nash Leadership Project — a feminist leadership program for low-income girls) after 12 years to become the president and CEO of the Brooklyn Community Foundation. I live in Brooklyn with my husband, John, a ceramicist, and my two youngest children, Josephine, age 14, and Simon, age 11. My oldest, Allegra, got married in February 2015 to Morgan Eifler who is fantastic and has quickly become part of the family. And, finally and sadly, my very young and healthy mother (age 76) died very suddenly and unexpectedly in



Shannon Young Ray '80 and her family

November, so it's been a very hard year. (Hence the trip to Paris with my family for some recovery time...)"

1981

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Pam Safford recently and happily moved to New Canaan, CT, where she took a job as the interim director of enrollment management and financial aid at The Country School. She is looking forward to learning a lot as she shifts her focus from rising ninth graders to three-year olds and their parents. Attached is



Cecilia Clarke '80 enjoying time in Paris with her husband, John, and children, Josephine, Simon, and Allegra

Take Note



Pam Safford '81 and her poodles, **Jim and Frank**

picture of her adorable little schoolhouse on Ponus Ridge, adorned by a Penn flag (her husband Dan's contribution), and her two standard poodles, Jim and Frank, who love their new neighborhood!

The good thing about Pam moving to New Canaan is that my sister, **Marion Leger Murphy '80**, lives there too. So, in my travels, I was able to have a coffee with Pam and **Laura Whiteman** in July after Pam's first day at her new job. I was very bad and forgot to get a picture! But, Laura and Pam ran into one another a few weeks later and managed to grab a picture with Laura's daughter, **Artemis Talvat '14**.

Laura Whiteman writes that once she gets **Artemis Talvat '14**



Pamela Safford '81, **Laura Whiteman '81**, and **Artemis Talvat '14**

back to TCU in Fort Worth in early August, she will be heading to a gorgeous lake house in PA for a week. But when she gets back, she'll rope **Pam Safford** and **Marion Leger Murphy** and **Ann Marenakos** into a big night on the town in New Canaan. Who else is around there?

Alison Bruce Crichton-Stuart is living back in Central London and restarting her private practice working as a psychoanalytic psychotherapist with children and adolescents. Two of her three children are still studying in the US (Flora at Vassar and Tito at Millbrook) so she is still backwards and forwards across the Atlantic.

Elizabeth "Lelie" Carroll is still living in Fort Collins, CO. Her son, Mato, is now 14 and headed to high school in a few weeks. She is the owner of Earth Star Healing Center, a home-based healing center and web business. She writes, "I love that I am surrounded by animals at home and while pet sitting and dog walking. I am working on at least two books and learning how to create videos so I can help people and animals cope with anxiety and fear. I help people understand what their animals are trying to tell them, especially when there are behavioral issues. I plan to help animals and work in the Healing Arts field for a very long time. Keep posting your pictures and comments on Facebook so we can keep in touch!"

Kate Pribor Schulte wrote, "My daughter, Becca, and I headed to Nicaragua for the third time this July with an organization called "Amigos for Christ." For six days we worked side-by-side with locals in a couple of rural Nicaraguan communities digging ditches to bring running water where now they are having to use dirty well water. Great way to help out and realize how we can use our blessings to support others."



Kate Pribor Schulte '81 and daughter, **Becca**

Elizabeth England was named a finalist for an anthology of short stories for new and emerging writers called "American Fiction." Twenty stories were chosen out of 500 submissions. It's published by a pretty cool university literary press called New Rivers Press and is due out October 2017. Her story is titled "Bruised People." Check out New Rivers Facebook Page (posting July 25) for a beautiful photo of Elizabeth. Elizabeth is still wearing various work hats: college and high school application coach business; content generation and marketing strategy business; teacher of spin classes in Sharon, CT, on weekends and summers; and, most importantly, mom. She wrote, "Daughter, Olivia, is about to start her last year at Oberlin (crazy; how did THAT happen?) and son, Cameron, is about to start sophomore year at her alma mater Wesleyan (THAT is even crazier). Both are marinating in the beauty of a liberal arts education: reading, writing, questioning, puzzling their way through bio, environmental science and physics. Husband, Tony, and I are missing the kids madly when they're away, but also settling into the 'What now?' chasm with anticipation and excitement."

1982 REUNION

Eve Agush Costarelli
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Mary Coyne Hayes arranged for blank barrettes and paints to be waiting for **Hoey Stewart Wilks** at their recent reunion this summer in Lake Placid. It had been almost 30 years since these Suns and Dials had seen one another but it quickly felt like no time had passed! **Ana Consuegra Cummins '83**, **Garrett Handley Dee '83** and **Diana Aixala** enjoyed July 4th together! **Sue Czepiel** and **Claudia Ingham** hiked at Silver Falls State Park, OR, in July 2016. It had been more than 20 years since Sue



Hoey Stewart Wilks '82 paints barrettes



Hoey Stewart Wilks '82 and **Mary Coyne '82**



Tracy Denney Hritz '82 and Emily Eckelberry Johnson '82

had made it to Oregon. And, **Tracy Denney Hritz** and **Emily Eckelberry Johnson** spent time together this summer in Oyster Bay, Long Island.

1983

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ade_cordova@hotmail.com



Wendy Walker '85

Tahra Makinson Sanders says, "I am very close to launching my line of Apres Sport Dresses (www.tmaksportswear.com) manufactured here in San Francisco. I am also manufacturing a better sports bra for athletic ladies with bodacious tatas! I'm enjoying learning all things manufacturing and looking forward to combining my love of sport with my own business. If anyone is ever in San Francisco, please look me up! Also, we have a Facebook page for the Class of '86."

teenage girl whose memory of an assault is medically erased. The novel was the latest selection for the Reese Witherspoon Book Club and was optioned for film by Ms. Witherspoon and Warner Brothers. Wendy has been writing for seventeen years while also practicing law and raising her three sons, one of which is headed to college this fall. She is looking forward to being able to write full time from home and would love to hear from classmates at wendy@wendywalkerbooks.com!

Heather Monchik Carey writes, "I am about to launch my new, state of the art, teaching kitchen! I am so excited."
(www.heathercarey.com)

Kelley Schuler Norcia shares: "I have opened my new photography studio in Clinton, CT. I specialize in women's portraits. You can see the transformations of these women before and after."
(www.kelleynorcia.com)



Sue Czepiel '82 and Claudia Ingham '82

1984

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

1985

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Bethel, ME 04217-0501
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dearepg@aol.com

Esther Pryor
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Wendy Walker just released her third novel, *All Is Not Forgotten* (St. Martin's Press), a psychological thriller about a

1986

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1987 REUNION

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

Wendy Martin, Lamonda Williams, Sonja Neill-Turner '85, Adicia Cohen-Johnson '86,



Ana Consuegra Cummins '83, Garrett Handley Dee '83, and Diana Aixala '82



L-R: Wendy Martin '87, Lamonda Williams '87, Sonja Neill-Turner '85, Adicia Cohen-Johnson '86, Nichelle Davidson Bussey '88 and Constance Kossally '85

Take Note

Nichelle Davidson Bussey '88 and **Constance Kossally '85** make it a priority to get together twice a year. They had a recent get-together in Philadelphia.

1988

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1989

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

Alexis Swanson Traina and family appeared in an August 2016 *Town & Country* magazine article entitled "2016 Happy Times," which features the family's Newport cottage, Beaulieu, and its history.

1990

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

1991

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1992 REUNION

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whitleyschoeny@yahoo.com

1993

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Apt. 3E
New York, NY 10069-0502
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mimiharrison@me.com

The Class of '93 has been busy! From traveling, to expecting a first baby, to raising teenagers... we've got it all! **Danielle Lambrechts** is living in Belgium, where she found the love of her



Danielle Lambrechts '93 and her boyfriend



Jasmin Marquez Whitehead '93 with her husband and daughter



Jennifer Jackson Smith '93 and her son, Alexander

life, got a dog and is expecting a baby in October. She is keeping the gender of the baby a surprise. Now that takes willpower!

Jennifer Jackson Smith is living in Alexandria, VA, and is enjoying her adorable Alexander, who turns two in September.

How time flies! **Amanda Eastman** enjoyed spending time in Europe over the summer, especially Croatia!

Claudia Soler is living in Madrid, Spain with her husband and four adorable girls, and gets back to New York and El Salvador occasionally to visit family. She enjoyed some time in Italy over the summer — how nice!

Glenna McMahon is still enjoying living in Encinitas, CA, but gets back to Vermont to visit her family and friends a few times a year. Glenna would love a visit from anyone; if you're ever in



Children of Shanthi Trettin Coleman '93

Encinitas or nearby let her know! **Niki Taurel Hinesley** is living in South Florida with her husband and two teenagers, and is planning a trip to NYC with her daughter in October to see some Broadway shows. Perhaps we will have a Class of '93 mini reunion?

Jasmin Marquez Whitehead is going through several life changes at once. She recently started working for the NBA, her daughter graduated from middle school and she is moving to New Jersey before the end of the summer.

Shanthi Trettin Coleman is staying busy with her three daughters and private practice as a psychiatrist specializing in women's issues. Additionally, she has been running marathons and triathalons, and hopes to do Ironman next year. You go, girl!

Kristin Carideo Flyer is loving



Claudia Soler '93 and her family



Niki Taurel Hinesley '93 and her family

living in Jupiter, FL, and occasionally sees **Kim Pyfrom** and **Allison Joyner**. As for myself, **Mimi Morrison Harrison**, I enjoyed spending July in Saltaire, Fire Island, and am in disbelief that my daughter, Carolina, will be starting third grade this year! Where does the time go?

1994

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1995

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1996

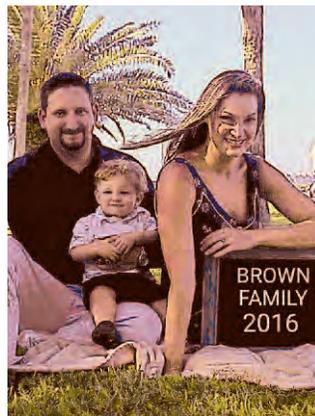
Your class needs a correspondent! Contact alumnae@ethelwalker.org

1997 REUNION

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Karen Crowe
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kcrowe79@gmail.com

Kristin Jones Brown writes: “We had our beautiful son, Ryan, who turned one on 3/31/16. We still live in Daytona Beach and I work part time doing behavioral assessments for children in foster care.”



Kristin Jones Brown '97, her husband, Mike, and son, Ryan

Kristen Culotta sends this news: “Back living in The Woodlands, TX. Will be getting married next month to TSGT Mike Martin (ret. USAF). Baby boy was due 9/16/16!” (Neil Victor Martin was born early on 8/4/2016!).

Sumitra Daswani writes: “After 12 years of being a West Village-living Manhattan-ite, I decided to become an Indian who actually



Kristen Culotta '97 with husband, Mike, and son, Neil

lives in India. I moved to Mumbai in February 2016, onto the same street where my mother grew up, so I'm sort of a local already. I still don't really speak the language, but get by with my fantastic kitchen and taxi Hindi. As a board certified health coach and the chief strategy officer of a corporate wellness technology company, I'm helping people get healthier and happier through the integration of digital healthcare solutions...and my awesome vegan dinners. I keep healthy myself by meditating, surfing, hiking (or trekking as they say in India), Iyengar yoga and tai chi. Last year I studied medical botany and am currently studying permaculture so I'm totally prepared when I finally move out of these big cities! The move to India was mostly a play to travel on this side of the world so I've already visited the holy city of Rishikesh and hiked in the Himalayas. I'm also planning travel to Bhutan, New Zealand, Morocco and the beautiful mountains of Himachal Pradesh in northern India where the Dalai Lama lives this year. I hope everyone is doing well, staying balanced and keeping the adventure alive.”

Karina Morales recently moved to Darien, CT, and keeps busy with her two boys, ages four and six. After a long absence from the courts, she is happily back to playing tennis.



Vivienne Felix '99, Ipsita Das '98, Crystal Kay '00 and Namita Parikh '97 and families

Libby Clark Fuller writes: “Tom and I welcomed our first child, a daughter Sadie Elizabeth Fuller, in November of 2015. I continue to work as an academic teacher at our local Tech Center in Vermont.”

Puja Thadhani-Motiani writes: “Since 1997 I have been living in Miami, which is where I went to college and worked in the hospitality and tourism industry. I became a stay at home mom in 2010 when I had my first daughter. My second daughter was born in 2013. I love seeing friends from Walker's whenever I get a chance. Most recently, I met **Karen Crowe** and **Alicia Kelly Benedetto** on one of their trips to Miami. Hope to see more of you at the Reunion!”

Namita Parikh writes, “Hi everyone. I am updating everyone on my life these past few years. I am married now and have two kids. My husband and I split our time between New York and Connecticut. My husband is a dentist and we run dental offices in NY, CT, and TX. I try to keep in touch with friends from Walker's and I see **Ipsita Das '98**, **Vivienne Felix '99** and **Crystal Kay '00** often including at my son's birthday party. Life has been good, and I especially love and enjoy motherhood. I cannot believe our 20th Reunion is coming up soon! It seems like yesterday even though it was long ago.”

Take Note

Christine Foley Smith sends this news: “Hi everyone! My husband, Matt, and I are living in Bucks County, PA, with our daughter, Alexandra. We welcomed our son, Jackson Chartier Smith, on March 4, 2016 and he has completed our family perfectly. I work locally as a child psychologist, and, needless to say, between work and two little ones, life is pretty busy at the moment. Hoping to see you all next year for our Reunion!”

As for me, **Alicia**, Michael and I are still living in Westchester, NY. I “retired” from advertising four years ago to stay home with our two children, Madeline (4) and Ryan (2). They keep me very busy, but I did have the opportunity to travel to London with **Karen Crowe** and enjoyed a wonderful evening with **Puja Thadhani-Motiani** and Karen in Miami this past winter. Looking forward to seeing everyone at our 20th Reunion!



Puja Thadhani-Motiani '97, Alicia Kelly Benedetto '97 and Karen Crowe '97

1998

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Kate Estock and her husband, Peter Hussell, welcomed their



Brooke Berescik-Johns '98, Kate Estock '98 and Finley



Finley David Howard Hussell

second son, Finley David Howard Hussell, on March 11, 2016. Finley joins his big brother, Ian. “Everybody is healthy and happy!”

1999

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viviennefelix@hotmail.com

Thank you for sharing these tidbits about your lives! **Traci Brinling** was engaged in December and is excitedly planning a summer wedding. **Nicole Walker** happily shared that she and her daughter, Kamryn, have moved to London, England. She said, “I’ve given up

my job as an admissions director and will be relocating to be closer to my family and boyfriend of 6 years! Here’s to a new adventure.”

Ashley Jackson also wrote about her adventures. She reflected, “I can’t believe it’s been so long since graduating! After living in Afghanistan, London, Indonesia, and elsewhere, I’ve moved back to NY. I advise the UN and aid agencies on how to negotiate with armed groups like the Taliban, the Islamic State and others on humanitarian issues and how to deliver aid safely in dangerous places. I spend a lot of time abroad (this year alone has included trips to Afghanistan, Central African Republic and Somalia), but when I’m in NY I see my old roommate and best friend, **Lauren Iovino Dawson** — along with my gorgeous godson! I also try to see as much as I can of **Siobhan Egan '00** and **Christine Hannaford Wagner '00**, who are living in Boston.”

Like **Ashley Jackson, Lauren Iovino Dawson** cannot believe that we are getting so close to 20 years since Walker’s. Lauren wrote, “I have been having a blast. I got married in 2011 to Chris, the best partner in the world. We have two beautiful boys, Stafford (3) and William (1). We are really enjoying raising them in Manhattan where we get to expose them to so much. **Ashley Jackson** is not only still my best friend, but also is William’s amazing godmother. He is blessed for sure. I am also still lucky enough to keep in touch with **Abby Pekrul Tomlinson**, who try as she might, can’t get rid of me. Getting older and having my own children makes me realize what an amazing opportunity Ethel Walker’s was and how it made me such a strong, self-assured woman.”

Nicole Madison writes, “I’m still living in Brooklyn and working at

a large global consulting firm where I am now a senior director where I help manage corporate communications campaigns for financial services companies. I’ve been with the firm for 12 years and it has been challenging but rewarding! This has definitely been an EWS summer — I went to visit **Renelle Richardson Roberts** and her family for Memorial Day, and in July Renelle and her daughter came to visit me for a tour of my job and a fun day around NYC! I also had dinner with **Rebecca McDowell '02**. This summer, I’m also so excited for **Traci Brinling’s** upcoming wedding and just met up with her and **Jamiah Tappin '00** for her bachelorette party! I look forward to running into other alumnae in the weeks to come! Hope everyone is well!”

In my tiny corner of the world, New York City, I’ve also been keeping busy. I spent much of this summer placing high school students in paid internships throughout NYC, and serving as a guest lecturer. I also spent quite a bit of time traveling throughout Texas, Colorado, and Virginia. Above all else, the highlight of my summer was walking across the commencement stage of Bowling Green State University. I am very happy to share that I earned my Ph.D. in Higher Education Administration. In closing, to all my Sundials, please know how much I look forward to reconnecting and reading more of your stories. Our alumnae newsletter could not exist without you!

2000

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2001

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In the April 28, 2016 *New York Times*, **Ariana Rockefeller Bucklin** was featured in an article entitled, “Ariana Rockefeller on Her Preppy Fashion Label and Famous Last Name” which features her contemporary clothing line inspired by her preppy lifestyle. Her handbag collection is available in September.

2002 REUNION

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Caitlin Turner Laffan sends this update: “Still living in East Haddam. Boys growing fast!”



Caitlin Turner Laffan’s ’02 sons, Reed (3) and Cole (6)



Windy Black Jansen ’03 and her family

Reed has just turned three and Cale is now six. No girls to send to EWS. Hubby, Patrick, works hard as sales manager at Dattco and very proud to share he is close to opening a Frisbee golf course here in East Haddam. A project he spearheaded and built completely with volunteer power.”

2003

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

Naasia Abid Moore writes, “Since graduating EWS, I went on to get my B.S. degree from University of Vermont and M.S. degree in education from Northeastern University. I am currently living in Boston and working as a fourth grade teacher in the Boston Public Schools. I also married Brian Moore two years ago and had three fellow alums (**Breanne Evans ’04**, **Katherine Hypolite ’04**, and **Amy Vlosky ’04**) as bridesmaids. **Molly Stevens Allen** and **Cara Buciak ’04** were also in attendance! I am looking forward to celebrating **Katherine Hypolite’s** wedding in May.”

Windy Black Jansen sends this: “My husband, Dustin, and I

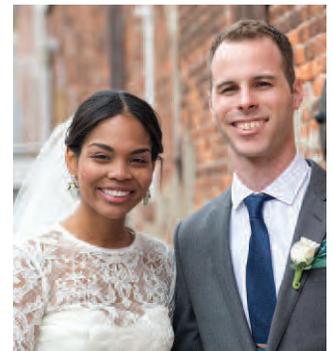
welcomed our son, Tucker Black Jansen, to the mix on April 19. We absolutely love our crazy life with three boys and Flynn and Hayes have been wonderful big brothers. **Liz Cobey Simonton** told me all of high school that I would have a house full of boys!

“I am still working at The Cobb School, Montessori as director of development. The boys love the Montessori environment. This fall, life has come full circle at school — Jill Harrington’s youngest is in class with Hayes. Jill was one of my first teachers and my advisor during middle school at EWS. It will be fun to watch them together!”

2004

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

On May 21, **Katherine Hypolite** married Andrew MacMannis in a seaside reception in Bristol, RI. With her sister, Michelle, **Breanne Evans ’04**, **Naasia Abid Moore ’03** and **Amy Vlosky ’04** by her side, the couple said “I do” in front of family and friends at the Bristol Harbor Inn. **Catherine Terry Taylor ’79** also attended. The newlyweds will begin their life together in their new home in the Pawtuxet Village neighborhood of Warwick, RI, in August 2016.



Katherine Hypolite ’04 and her husband, Andrew MacMannis



Breanne Evans ’04, Michelle Mack (Katherine’s sister), Katherine Hypolite ’04, Naasia Abid Moore ’03, and Amy Vlosky ’04



Executive Producer James Rowley, Host Chris Harrison and Co-Executive Producer Liz Harris '05 of "Who Wants To Be A Millionaire"

2005

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Elizabeth Harris writes, "In September 2015, I moved out to Los Angeles to continue to pursue my career in television. I was promoted to co-executive producer of *Who Wants To Be A Millionaire* and I received an Emmy nomination for Outstanding Game Show."

2006

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Alle Shane
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alleshane@yahoo.com



Jin-Sun Choi '06 and Seungjoo Lee

Jin-Sun Choi was married to Seungjoo Lee on October 15!

2007 REUNION

Emily Casey
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Taylor Davis writes, "Hi everyone! I just finished teaching my fifth school year and it was

one of my favorite ones thus far. I switched to New Haven Public Schools this year, and taught in a public Head Start school working with children and families in poverty. It was one of my most memorable and rewarding years, and I was sad to say goodbye to my students for summer vacation. I am taking the summer off, and will be focusing on yoga, finishing my Master's program in Early Childhood Studies with a graduate certificate in Leadership, Administration, and Management. I am so excited to be getting married on August 13 in Rhode Island! Next time I check in, I will be Mrs. Lewis! Sending my love and well wishes to all."

Amy Ramirez says, "Hi everyone! I can't believe next year it will be 10 years since graduation! I graduated from UConn a few years ago with my Master's in Social Work and last year, I became officially licensed with the State of Connecticut as a licensed master social worker (LMSW). I am working for the Hartford Public Schools as a school and community supports site coordinator and I spend some nights and weekends as a bilingual mental health clinician and therapist. I currently reside in New Britain, CT, so I'm not too far from the area! It's so nice hearing updates from all of you. Hope to see you all at our 10 year Reunion next year!"

"Hey ladies of Ethel Walker" writes **Samantha Staubitz**, "I am currently living in North Canaan, CT, and was a full time preschool teacher at Muddy Brook Regional School in Great Barrington, MA, this past school year. This summer I am waitressing at a French restaurant in Lakeville, CT. I enjoy living in the Berkshires in a house with some wonderful women. We go on hikes, eat great food, enjoy nature and grow all our own vegetables! In the fall, I am going back to school for nursing and to

become an EMT. I am so excited for my new life adventures. I miss everyone in my class and can't wait for our ten year Reunion!"

Mallory Moore writes, "Hello Ethel Walker ladies! I am still living in Lakeland, FL, and I'm currently working in Orlando at The Golf Channel as a digital product coordinator. I got engaged on April 10 and will be getting married in September 2017 in St. Petersburg, FL. I cannot wait to see everyone at the 10-year Reunion! Xoxo!"

"Hello all" sends **Posey Daves**, "I am still living in West Palm Beach, FL, and I'm currently working at Gast Construction Group, Inc. as a project coordinator. I am also involved with business development and marketing in the company. I am still heavily involved in the yoga community in South Florida and I am currently taking a 16-week intensive class called Adventures in Yoga where I'm learning about the history of yoga and the fundamentals of the practice. I am also a part of a yoga community called Yoga for All in Delray Beach, FL that one of my yoga instructors, Caroline Wybar, created in February 2016. Once a month I also take photos of the yoga classes, which has been such a great experience. I also was asked to take photographs for a few local projects. I created the logo for Adventures in Yoga and the design is being used for a t-shirt design. I am thrilled to see my artwork on a wearable item! I am also a representative for a local art business called H2Overboard based in Jupiter, FL. One of my family members started the company a year and a half ago with her husband. The company sells H2Overboard products and other local artists' work. If I had more time to paint, Design by Posey items would be a part of the company. I have not had much time to paint, so I am involved in the business

development and marketing side of the business. I am getting involved in the Everglades Foundation through the Everglades Trust. The foundation educates and raises money to save the Everglades. My former boss, Kimberly Mitchell, is the new executive director, so I am trying to promote Everglades education and information to all. My earth loving self just had to help the Everglades since it is such a crucial part of the Florida ecosystem. Even with my several business ventures, I still find time to see friends and family. I love to go on at least one road trip once a month, even if it is just for the weekend. I love going to see the National Parks around Florida and taking photographs. Sometime this summer I am going to Chicago to see my brother and his family. I am looking forward to that adventure! See you all at our 10-year Reunion next year! Cannot believe it!"

Annie Richey writes, "Hello everyone! I just moved to Burlington, NC, from West Hartford. I moved here to be closer to family and explore what other parts of the country have to offer. I am currently in nursing school and am a CNA. I've been a CNA for the past 7 years and have been working in geriatrics. The elderly community has really touched my heart and I am so excited to be able to work in such a rewarding field! Hope you all are well."

Jamie Shannon's update is: "Hey everyone! I can't believe our ten year Reunion is almost here. I'm back in New England living in western Mass with my fiancé, Nate. We're getting married in October and I couldn't be happier! I work for a study abroad company in Northampton helping faculty plan and implement short-term study programs, and love what I do.

This year I've had the amazing opportunity to lead two university groups, one in Italy and one in Southeast Asia. I hope you're all doing well and I look forward to catching up at Reunion!"

2008

Kathleen Kirby
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Wethersfield, CT 06109
(860) 882-2195
kathleenangelinekirby@gmail.com

Lucca Troutman left Walker's to work on her Master's in Composition at Mills College in Oakland, CA. In this program, she will study all manner of music composition. The program is "considered on the cutting edge of new sounds from creative minds." Lucca will be able to use her many talents on a variety of instruments and also in the dance ensemble. She is considering devising a program that will allow her to use her undergraduate work in psychology and the effects of music on the human psyche.

2009

Katherine Reid
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Charleston, SC 29412
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reidkt25@gmail.com

Brennan Maine, a videographer and editor working alongside Angela Adusah on a film called *Skin*, submitted their piece into the 2-Minute Film Festival at the Carnegie Museum of Art in October 2015 and walked away with two awards, one for the critic's choice and one for the best local film! Congratulations, Brennan!

2010

Marianne Pettit
150 Randolph Road
Silver Spring, MD 20904
(860) 614-3212
12pettit@cardinalmail.cua.edu

Marianne Pettit writes, "Hello Ethel Walker alumnae! I am writing to you from Silver Spring, MD, where I purchased a home in August 2015 with my boyfriend. I am starting my graduate degree in August 2016 online with Arizona State University in Criminal Justice. I see **Caroline Kieltyka** quite a bit but never enough! I am also getting excited for a trip back to Walker's as my sister, Catherine '17, prepares for her senior year. Hope all is well with everyone!"

Katia Charov writes that she is finishing her first year in graduate school at the University of California, San Diego. She is a Ph.D. student in chemistry "using synthetic chemistry to create molecular tools to study protein-protein interaction in the lab of Professor Michael Burkart." She still hasn't learned how to surf but when not doing research, she



Sydney Satchell '10

plays a lot of beach volleyball and has committed to try to bike everywhere "like a good San Diegan."

YeEun "Catherine" Kim will start her Master's degree in Counseling Psychology at Columbia University this fall. She plans to visit Walker's once she moves! **Sydney Satchell** has been continuing on with boarding school life while she works at Berkshire School as a learning specialist and director of student activities. She has found new love with sitting volleyball which "helped me keep my competitive edge and look positively on my new normal. My new normal is being blessed enough to live life with a prosthetic leg." You can check out her new website at www.sydneyasatchell.com/

2011

Kelsey Ballard
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Windsor, CT 06095
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kelseyballard11@gmail.com

Constance Wall writes, "Hi everyone! I graduated from Scranton last year with a degree in Biology and I've moved on to the University of Hartford for a degree in Biomedical Engineering. I also developed a series of talks that use popular culture to teach science alongside my job at a marine lab. Most recently, I moderated a panel in Hartford on Pokémon and Biology with a huge audience and it went over really well. Hope everyone is doing great!"

Emily Sawicki went on her road trip to Berkeley, CA, where she'll be living. In the fall of 2014, **Samantha Sorbaro** completed an internship at the National Geographic Channel. In January 2016, she reported at the State of the Union address followed by

Take Note

graduation in May from George Washington University. In June, she became an associate producer with News 12 in Westchester, NY.

Jaclyn Reis is a graduate of the Hoffman Heart and Vascular Institute of Connecticut School of Cardiac Ultrasound at Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center in Hartford. Congratulations, Jaclyn!



Jaclyn Reis '11



Emily Sawicki '11

2012 REUNION

Jordana Monét Clarke
163 Mather Mail Center
Cambridge, MA 02138
(860) 683-4079
clarke@college.harvard.edu

Alexandra Silver graduated from the University of Miami in May and is now a social media manager at a public relations firm in New York City. She has created her own social media marketing business which already boasts five clients. With all this already under her belt, this recent grad's next goal is to be her own boss by December 2017!

Melody Altschuler is a rising senior at Bates College where she majors in psychology and is actively involved in research in the psychology and neuroscience departments. She is excited to complete a year-long honors thesis in clinical psychology during her senior year. She spent this past summer as an intern at Boston Children's Hospital Labs of Cognitive Neuroscience. After graduating from Bates in 2017, she hopes to do research for a couple of years before applying to clinical psychology graduate school programs in the field of autism and clinical neuroscience.

Ellie Bell graduated in May from College of Wooster and has accepted a position with a start-up hedge



Melody Altschuler '12



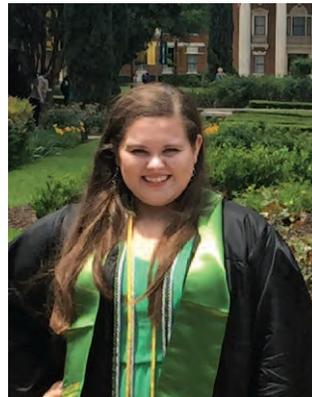
Alexandra Silver '12



Ellie Bell '12

fund called Tenaron Capital Management, LP. She loves living and working in New York City!

Kelsey Shelton graduated from Baylor University in May with a major in international relations and minors in Arabic and forensic



Kelsey Shelton '12

science. She has just said goodbye to the background check company she has been working for this past year and is heading off to Georgetown Law School this fall. There, she plans to take the Pro Bono Pledge and focus on international and constitutional law. But before the real work begins, she sent me her update for the *Sundial* whilst en route to Yosemite National Park! Always on the move, Kelsey is looking forward to pausing long enough to see everyone at Reunion.

Samantha "Sammy" Siegel is currently working with a company called Produce Alliance. Her team oversees accounts for multiple restaurants and vendors statewide. Ambitious as always, Sammy is helping to create a new department within the company to help streamline processes for certain accounts. She says that although all this has been hectic, she has been having a lot of fun.

After graduating from the University of Redlands, **Eleanor "Elle" Thacher** moved to sunny San Francisco and is working at both Athleta and a local pilates studio. In the future, she hopes to work in social media marketing at Athleta.

Since The Ethel Walker School, **Adriana Borges** matriculated at



Adriana Borges '12

Pepperdine University, where she has earned her bachelor of science in biology. Her sophomore year of college was spent abroad in London in an effort to broaden her studies. During her time at Pepperdine, she did research in multiple ecology-related topics. Adriana hopes to further her education by attending veterinary school in a few years. Until then, she is working at Beckett and Associates Veterinary Services in Glastonbury, CT, to gain experience and learn more about the field.

On August 5, 2016, **Tahara Jordan** graduated from the Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University (FAMU)



Tahara Jordan '12

with a Bachelor of Science. While at FAMU, Tahara majored in biology with a minor in chemistry. During her undergraduate career, she was very involved on campus both academically and socially. She was a member of the honor society, the National Council of Negro Women, Teaching Our Youth Science, the Beta Alpha Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc., a resident assistant, and much more! Now that she has graduated, Tahara looks forward to working in the surgery department of Tallahassee Memorial Hospital, and applying to medical school in the future. All the best, Tahara!

Emily Mainolfi graduated from the College of Charleston in May. While there, she was on the executive board for her sorority, Delta Gamma, and specialized in planning their programming events. Throughout her years, equestrian life had always been a passion Emily knew she needed to follow and luckily, just prior to graduation, she secured a position as barn manager and assistant trainer at Foxwood Farm. She feels very fortunate to be able to combine her passion for horseback riding and her skill in event planning and management into her career. Go get 'em, Em.



Samantha Siegel '12



Emily Mainolfi '12

Kayla Monroe graduated in December with her bachelor's degree in business administration and will be returning this fall to Hampton University to complete her 5th year in their 5-Year MBA Program. She will be juggling the rigor of this final year with her new appointment to a graduate assistantship from which she hopes to gain invaluable training. But before returning to Hampton, Kayla has spent the summer interning for the third consecutive year with the Aetna Foundation. Kayla requests that if anyone is ever in the Virginia or DC area to please let her know! And yes, if you look closely in her picture, five years later she is still wearing her Ethel ring religiously every day!



Kayla Monroe '12



Monét Clarke '12 with youngest sibling, Nathan

Jordana "Monét" S. Clarke writes, "After Walker's I matriculated at Harvard University where I chose to concentrate on sociology, East Asian studies, and Mandarin Chinese. In 2014, I took time off from undergraduate studies to travel. Although I participated in full graduation ceremonies with my social class, Harvard 2016, I do still have two terms to complete before I earn my bachelor's degree. But — plot twist — instead of returning to Cambridge to continue my studies, I have opted to complete my academic senior year abroad. I will have left for Taiwan in late August for semester one, and as for the second, the destination is

Take Note

still to be decided. My highest-ranking continents include Asia, Africa, Europe and Australia! Please write me if you have any suggestions. And, regardless of where I end up, come Reunion, you all know where I'll be. Until next time!"

2013

Ameena Makhdoomi
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ameenam13@gmail.com

Paige Williams-Rivera
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Where in the world is the Class of 2013? Brazil • China
England • France • India • Italy
Japan • South Africa • Spain

Jess Chang writes, "For the past two summers I have had internships in the hospitality business. In the summer of 2015, I worked in Traverse City, MI, as a sales intern, and I am currently in Jersey City, NJ, as a human resources intern. Internships are a great way to explore what you want to do in the future and I absolutely recommend everyone to take a chance and look for opportunities."



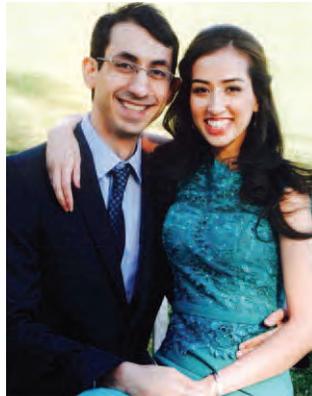
Jess Chang '13, second from left, along with other summer interns



Allie Harris '13

Allie Harris sends this news: "I recently completed an internship with a music production company where I focused on social media and digital marketing for artists playing college concerts. I had the pleasure of working backstage and behind the scenes with bands, tour managers, and crew. I am excited to explore digital marketing and the power of social media in the music industry, and hope to work for a record company in the future."

Sahra Ibrahim says, "Coming to the U.S. not only gave me the wonderful opportunity to receive a great education, but also to meet amazing people. While studying at Smith College, I met my fiancé, Amir, whose love, kindness and support have helped me throughout my challenges. I intend to attend graduate school next year, and Amir will be graduating with a Ph.D. in Business Administration from



Sahra Ibrahim '13 and fiancé, Amir

UMass-Amherst. I am grateful for the amazing life journey I am experiencing."

Karen "Kari" Macke writes, "I work for the National Park Service and absolutely love it!"

Ameena Makhdoomi's news: "I went abroad to the South of France in the spring and had an amazing time! While I was there, I completed a fifteen-page dissertation and presented a defense on it called 'From Bubbles to Bottle: An Analysis of Veuve Clicquot in the Luxury Market.' I also was awarded the Certificate of Academic Excellence in Business Studies and the Certificate for Wine Studies while at the Institute for American Universities in Aix-en-Provence, France."

Brittany Sawyer sends this news: "I just graduated from an accelerated LPN program at



Brittany Sawyer '13



Karen Macke '13 and her colleagues



Ameena Makhdoomi '13

Porter and Chester Institute and I am planning on continuing on to become an RN and hopefully work on a cardiac unit."

Paige Williams-Rivera writes, "For the past two years, I have been completing a human



Paige Williams-Rivera '13

resources internship with Stanadyne LLC, a Connecticut-based global fuel systems technologies company. I am looking forward to completing my senior year of college and applying to MBA/MS in Human Resources programs!”

Carly Giddings is finishing her senior year at George Washington University in the Elliot School of International Affairs. She spent last semester in Vietnam and hopes to find her way back to Asia after graduation.

2014

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Taryn Anderson
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Brittany Camacho
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Artemis Talvat
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Lisa Volg
6 Silkey Heights
North Granby, CT 06060-1422
(860) 653-8281

2015

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

Eleana Paravantsos says, “I wish to say how much I miss my beloved School and truly hope I can get to visit sometime in the near future! I truly feel this school shaped me into the person I am today and laid the strong foundation one needs to succeed in life. If it was not for the wonderful professors who taught me so much and showed their support during some difficult times, I would not be where I am today. Once again, I wish to extend heartfelt gratitude to everyone at the School who cared and supported my development. I have relocated back to London since November 2015 and decided to take a gap year till

September 2016. I have applied to some universities in London to study journalism and communication. I was fortunate to begin a new full-time job in the retail sector in February. I miss my school, America, the many friends I made along the way, but am loving my new life in London. It will also give me the chance to reconnect with family and former friends. I am hoping to visit the U.S. often in the future, and the first chance I get, I will return to Walker’s to visit and to once again express my thanks!”

2016

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

Welcome Newest Alumnae, the Class of 2016!



Births & Adoptions

- 1980 **Mary “Blaire” Leisure**
Eloise Lee Adelfang
March 8, 2016
- 1997 **Libby Clark Fuller**
Sadie Elizabeth Fuller
November 28, 2015
- 1997 **Christina Foley Smith**
Jackson Chartier Smith
March 4, 2016
- 1997 **Kristin Culotta Martin**
Neil Victor Martin
August 4, 2016
- 1998 **Kate Estock**
Finley David
Howard Hussell
March 11, 2016
- 2003 **Windy Black Jansen**
Tucker Black Jansen
April 19, 2016

Marriages & Unions

- 1997 **Kristin Culotta**
To TSGT Mike Martin
(ret. USAF)
August 5, 2016
- 2000 **Sara Jacob**
To Michael Birner, Jr.
April 20, 2016
- 2003 **Naasia Abid**
To Brian Moore
May 31, 2014
- 2003 **Liza Burke**
To Stephen R. Bates
June 11, 2016
- 2004 **Katherine Hypolite**
To Andrew MacMannis
May 21, 2016
- 2006 **Jin-Sun Choi**
To Seungjoo Lee
October 15, 2016
- 2007 **Taylor Davis**
To Les Lewis
August 13, 2016
- 2007 **Jamie Shannon**
To Nate Hammond
October 1, 2016
- 2009 **Traci Brinling**
To Josh Osowski
August 27, 2016

In Memoriam

- 1935 TATIANA LITCHFIELD LOWE
- 1935 SYLVIA CRANMER MCLAUGHLIN
- 1936 MARY MATHES JACKSON
Sister: Ruth Mathes Gerrity '41
Daughter: Rev. Mary French Jackson '63
- 1936 JEAN THOMSON SARGENT
- 1938 RUTH WICKWIRE URBAN
Daughter: Ruth Urban Smith '67
- 1942 SYLVIA BREED GATES
- 1943 DIANE STINCHFIELD
KLINGENSTEIN
- 1944 ELIZABETH DELONG KUHL
- 1945 JANICE THOMPSON SPURR
- 1945 SARAH DARLING WIMMER
Sister: Molly Darling Bell '45
- 1954 MARY BARD BOURQUIN
- 1954 MARIA MAYORGA MOORE
- 1957 JANET HILL JOHNSON
- 1957 MARNIE GAYNOR MCLAUGHLIN
- 1958 ALICE ALBRIGHT ARLEN
- 1958 POSEY WRAPE EARLY
Sister: Lucia Wrape Hopple '63
- 1977 SUZANNE GRINNELL BODNAR
THOMPSON

In Sympathy

- SERGIO AGUERO, Husband of Maria Casanova Agüero '54
- GEORGIA ASHFORTH, Mother of Margaret M. Ashforth '84
- DONALD AWE, Father of India Awe '18
- THOMAS BAILLIERE, Husband of Anne Bailliere '59
- RICHARD BRESNAHAN, Father-in-Law of Ann Bresnahan '69
- WILLIAM N. BUCKLIN, Husband of Linda Hale Bucklin '62
- JOHN MARSHALL CLARK, Father of Carol Clark-Flanagan, EWS Faculty; Grandfather of Nan Flanagan '93 and former EWS Staff; and Katherine Flanagan Shoss '97
- ROBERT CLARK, JR., Father of Hilary Clark '87
- BARBARA COOPER, Grandmother of Emily Coffin, EWS Faculty

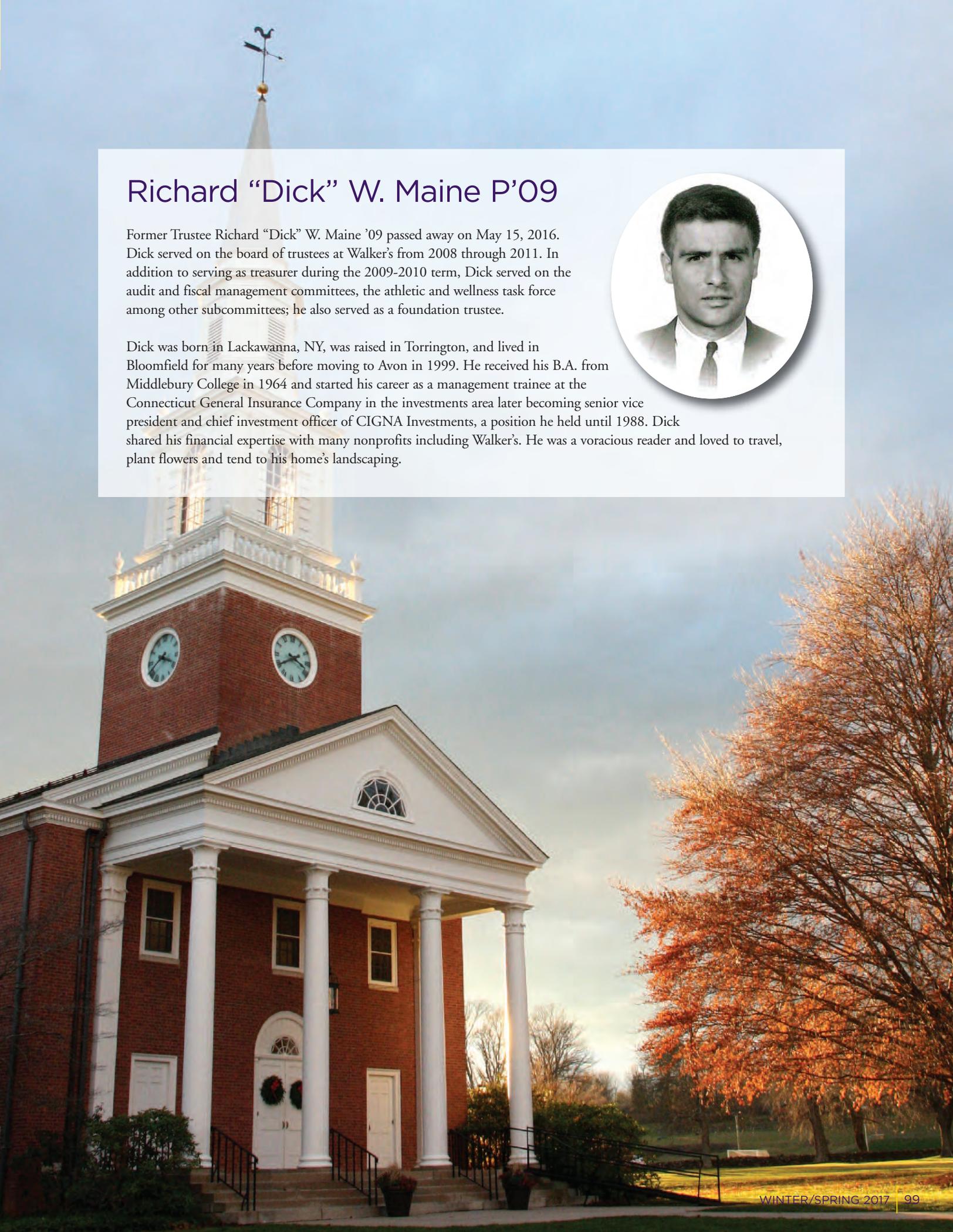
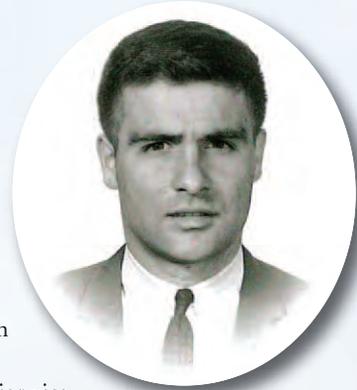
- JOHN FAUVER, Father of Ellen Fauver Reimer '78 and Father-in-Law of Tracy Smith '79
- BEATRICE GREENBERG, Grandmother of Elizabeth Greenberg '10
- RICHARD HELMIN, Grandfather of Elisabeth Helmin '19 and Father-in-Law of Michelle Helmin, EWS Staff
- RAYMOND JANDREAU, Father of Greg Jandreau, EWS Staff
- GLADYS B. LASPESA, Grandmother of Kallie Laspesa '16
- ALBERT MARTIN MACKEY, JR., Husband of Alexandra Sewall Mackey '49
- RICHARD W. MAINE, Father of Brennan Maine '09 and Former Trustee
- ERIK MCWILLIAMS, Brother of Susan Lue McWilliams '80
- ERNEST GALBRAITH NICHOLSON, Grandfather of Lauren Nicholson '14 and Lian Nicholson '16
- HENRY SYDNEY OOSTERMAN, Grandfather of Kathryn Phair '18
- HARRIS BATEMAN PARSONS, Father-in-Law of Kathy McCarthy Parsons '75
- IRVIN C. REYNOLDS, Father of Stephen Reynolds; EWS Staff, Father-in-Law of Jenny Reynolds, EWS Staff; and Grandfather of Abigail Reynolds '13 and Lila Reynolds '15
- CASSANDRA SIMMONS, Sister of Diana Goss Ward '47 and Tania Goss Evans '55
- H. WILLIAM SMITH, Father of Wendy Wheeler Smith '87; Father-in-Law of Deborah Flagg Smith '85; Uncle of Mary Coyne Hayes '82 and Christina Coyne Hearon '86; Great Uncle of Nan Flanagan '93 and former EWS Staff and and Katherine Flanagan Shoss '97
- RICHARD C. TAPLIN, Former EWS Staff; Husband of Nan Flanagan '93 and former EWS Staff; Son-in-Law of Carol Clark-Flanagan, EWS Faculty; and Brother-in-Law of Katherine Flanagan Shoss '97
- ROBERT E. THOMAS, Father of Barbara Thomas Kennedy '69
- WILLIAM TYSZKA, Former EWS Faculty
- STUART COWAN WOODRUFF, Former EWS Faculty
- SUZANNE WRIGHT, Mother of Maggie Wright '95

Names reflect those received through October 1, 2016

Richard “Dick” W. Maine P’09

Former Trustee Richard “Dick” W. Maine ’09 passed away on May 15, 2016. Dick served on the board of trustees at Walker’s from 2008 through 2011. In addition to serving as treasurer during the 2009-2010 term, Dick served on the audit and fiscal management committees, the athletic and wellness task force among other subcommittees; he also served as a foundation trustee.

Dick was born in Lackawanna, NY, was raised in Torrington, and lived in Bloomfield for many years before moving to Avon in 1999. He received his B.A. from Middlebury College in 1964 and started his career as a management trainee at the Connecticut General Insurance Company in the investments area later becoming senior vice president and chief investment officer of CIGNA Investments, a position he held until 1988. Dick shared his financial expertise with many nonprofits including Walker’s. He was a voracious reader and loved to travel, plant flowers and tend to his home’s landscaping.



What an extraordinary time to be the president of The Ethel Walker Parents Association (EWSPA). I had the great pleasure of witnessing the installation of our new head of school, Meera Viswanathan. It was both powerful and uplifting and truly a life changing moment. So many of us were moved to tears. We understood that history was unfolding before us and that a new era was awakening. Through Meera's leadership, vision and guidance, we are embarking on a new chapter at Walker's that promises to bring excitement, challenge and opportunity to our girls.

The Parents Association had an eventful few months! We hosted a Welcome Reception for Head of School Meera Viswanathan and Associate Head of School Amy Wheeler. It was a lovely evening as parents and staff welcomed our honored guests. We also enjoyed a community favorite, Book Club, which was guided in its discussion by our new head of school. It was such a treat! Check Walker's website for upcoming Book Club dates and featured books. We would love to see you! We also welcomed families during the opening days of school, co-hosted a Financial Planning Presentation with the College Counseling Department, surprised the girls with Halloween treats and started a Wednesday Walkers club to enjoy the beautiful Walker's Woods.

Family Weekend was extra special this year. We had a chance to visit with our girls and their teachers, we shared a lovely reception with fellow parents where we celebrated the naming of the EWSPA Oasis in the Centennial Center and we celebrated the closing of the Centennial Center campaign and the opening of our magnificent new Centennial Center. It was truly an inspiring weekend and a great opportunity for parents to witness first-hand the magic that our girls live every day.

What I'm most excited to share is the publication of the very first EWSPA Newsletter. The newsletter will be published bi-monthly and include highlights of events and activities the Parents Association provides for students, families and the School. It also includes Fun Facts about Walker's, Did You Know, Book Club, Volunteer Needs, and so much more.

Whether near or far, we encourage parent participation and welcome you to reach out and join us in the life of our school. It has been an extraordinary fall and I look forward to the months ahead.

Best regards,



Julie A. Berard P'19
PRESIDENT, EWSPA 2016-2017



Ethel Walker School
EWSPA
Parents Association
2016-2017 BOARD

Julie Berard P'19
PRESIDENT

Lori-Jean Foster P'17
VICE PRESIDENT

Alisha Glaser P'20
SECRETARY

Grace Niland P'15, '18
TREASURER

Grace Petrarca P'19
CHAIR, UPPER SCHOOL COMMITTEE
UPPER SCHOOL VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

Jennifer Shimanski P'23
CHAIR, MIDDLE SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Beth Strapp P'18, '21
MIDDLE SCHOOL VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR
MIDDLE SCHOOL PARENT LIAISON

Kim Foster P'18, Carol Ross P'18,
Gretchen Wierdsma P'18
CO-CHAIRS, ALL SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Pat Meguid P'17
INTERNATIONAL PARENT LIAISON

Lynn Phillips P'17
BOARDING PARENT LIAISON

Tracey Goolsby P'18
UPPER DAY SCHOOL PARENT LIAISON

Amy Paul P'16, '18
PRESIDENT EMERITUS

CLASS REPRESENTATIVES

2017 Elizabeth Hariprasad P'17
and Lori-Jean Foster P'17

2018 Renata Ranaldi P'18, '20
and Tracey Goolsby P'18

2019 Mary Duba P'19 and
Kelly Majka P'19

2020 Meg Castineiras P'20 and
Debbie Savino P'20



EWSPA-hosted events L-R: Make Your Own Sundae bar for the girls; Amy Paul P'16, former EWSPA President, and Head of School Meera Viswanathan at the October Book Club; EWSPA Executive Board members with the plaque for The Oasis in the Centennial Center



THE PLANNED GIVING CORNER

Create a Lasting Legacy at Walker's

Whether you choose to support the next generation of students, finance innovative teaching, or provide faculty support, every estate gift impacts Walker's in a way that will stand the test of time.

Matured bequests preserve the quality of education at Walker's and provide future generations of girls with the skills necessary to succeed in an ever-changing world.

When making any philanthropic commitment to Walker's, please be sure to include your attorney and/or financial advisor in the conversation to ensure that the transaction is arranged with respect to your individual requirements.

For more information, contact Gretchen Orschiedt at 860-408-4260, gorschiedt@ethelwalker.org, or visit our website at www.ethelwalker.org/support-walkers/planned-giving.



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Classes Ending in 2 and 7

SAVE THE DATE

YOUR REUNION IS MAY 19 & 20

