



Student body president Tricia Saint Fort delivers her remarks during Walker's 107th commencement exercises on Sunday, June 9, 2019.

SUN|DIAL SUMMER 2019 SUPPLEMENT

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HEAD OF SCHOOL
Dr. Meera Viswanathan



The Ethel Walker School

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We make every attempt to publish accurate information. If you notice an error, please let us know so that we can fix it. Thank you.

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ON THE COVER:

One of our most favorite traditions is the Maypole dance on the lawn of Beaver Brook during Reunion weekend. Virginia "Ginger" Bevis Littleton '69 assisted members of the Big 7 by holding the Maypole.

Dear Walker's Community,

'Sum—mer—tiime and the livin' is easy...'

Commencement was a glorious weekend filled with music, dance, riding, awards, culminating in graduation itself with our Distinguished Speaker, recipient of the Margot Treman Rose '80 Distinguished Alumnae Award, Yolanda (Yoli) Eleta de Varela '81 from Panama. She reminded us in her inimitable way (Did any other graduation platform party rise up to dance to 'Despacito'?) of the critical nature of passion, perseverance and our relationships in life. She was cheered on by a loyal cohort of sixteen classmates, including her sister, Ximena Eleta de Sierra '83, arriving from around the country and the world, demonstrating the steadfast nature of our School bonds. Hooray Sunray!

For a week or two, the dorms and classrooms at school were emptied of our Walker's students as we awaited the arrival of our Horizons girls and our summer campers. Soon faculty meetings concluded and all of us switched to our summer mode in dress, speech and focus. This summer I have a bit of travel to DC, NYC, CA, and a few islands to meet with some of you. But otherwise I'm going to take some time in RI and engage in R&R, which for me is reading and rooting around in the garden.

Typically we also share with you various book lists from alums, faculty and friends in this issue. This summer the entire faculty will be reading two books, *Anxious Kids, Anxious Parents* by Lynn Lyons and R. Reid Wilson (the former of whom will be with us this fall as the Margaret Huling Bonz Women of Distinction Speaker), focusing on the pandemic of anxiety confronting us all today, and *Culturally Responsive Teaching and the Brain* by Zaretta Hammond, a book centering on innovative pedagogies that optimize student engagement and academic rigor through a fuller understanding of issues of equity.

On my bookshelf in Matunuck, the sacred and the profane, fiction and non-fiction, high and low cohabit promiscuously: *A Great Reckoning* by Louise Penny, *The Hidden Life of Trees* by Peter Wohlleben, Margaret Atwood's *The Testaments*, *Lab Girl* by Hope Jahren, Loreth Anne White's *The Dark Bones*, Zadie Smith's *Grand Union*, Amartya Sen's *The Idea of Justice*, the eponymous *Surely You're Joking, Mr. Feynman* and *Fight Like a Mother* by Shannon Watts.



My plan for the days in summer when I'm off is to garden like mad in the mornings, walk, bicycle, swim and play tennis in the afternoons, and in the evenings butterfly my way through these volumes on the shelf, alighting on one and then another, sampling the flavors of each until I find the right book for the right moment. If you have suggestions for me or for our students or our school as a whole, let us know. In the immortal words of Dr. Seuss, "The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go." Walker's, we're on the move!

Cheers,

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



Visiting Writer SEMINAR

BY KIM HARRIS THACKER P'24



Two years ago, Walker's launched our Visiting Writer Seminar, an English elective for juniors and seniors through which students make an in-depth study of the works of a professional living writer. Toward the end of the semester-long class, the writer comes to Walker's to teach craft workshops and masterclasses to the students in the seminar and to address the wider Walker's community.

"Bringing writers to campus has a profound impact on the culture of our School and on the possibilities that students can imagine for themselves," says Lindsay Hodgman, who taught the class since its inception. "They have the opportunity to meet a writer they've been learning about and ask questions that only the writer can answer."

"The visit allows students to learn about the struggle to publish, the work involved, the lucky breaks and the joy of reaching a global audience," explains English Department Chair Catherine Reed.

So far, writers who have traveled to Walker's as part of the Visiting Writer Seminar are Anne Fadiman (fiction and non-fiction), Aimee Nezhukumatathil (poetry), Natalie Diaz (poetry) and Naomi Shihab Nye (poetry, essays and

fiction). The writers who are scheduled to visit during the 2019-2020 academic year are Paisley Rekdal (poetry and non-fiction) and Alison C. Rollins (poetry).

"Naomi Shihab Nye's visit this spring to Walker's was a luminous experience for our students and community," says Hodgman. "In her classes and readings, she reminded us that we are all poets. She encouraged each of us to keep a notebook nearby and to observe the world,

Students in the spring Visiting Writer Seminar participate in a Harkness-style discussion with Visiting Writer Naomi Shihab Nye.

recording the big and little wonders of our daily lives. Her magnetic presence and profoundly felt kindness lifted everyone into the air, making us believe in ourselves, our voices, and the power of poetry to improve our lives and the world."

After a writer visits the School, and as the final project in Hodgman's class, her students apply what they have learned throughout the semester to conceptualize,



FROM SCOTT FREY, ENGLISH FACULTY MEMBER

lay out and author their own creative works. "At Walker's, we encourage students to build a love of learning and of reading," she says. "As we challenge them to develop their voices, they need to see and hear from women writers who are using their words to make a difference in the world."

"The writers we have had so far have all been strong, politically-engaged, articulate women," says Reed. "Each of them has shown our girls how to use their voices to promote justice in the world. While Fadiman, Nezhukumatathil, Diaz and Nye are all very different people, their ability to tell women's stories in ways that move is a magic that they share." ■

Watch our video on the spring visit of poet Naomi Shihab Nye by visiting www.ethelwalker.org/visitingwriterseminar

Mark Your Calendars!

Members of the community are invited to join us on campus for the upcoming Visiting Writer receptions and readings.

Visit www.ethelwalker.org/visitingwriterseminar for more details.

Be sure also to watch our social media and your email for additional details and information on how to register.

VISITING WRITERS 2019-2020

October 24, 2019

Paisley Rekdal
Poetry and Non-Fiction

• • •

March 23, 2020

Alison C. Rollins
Poetry

English faculty member Scott Frey was asked to introduce Visiting Writer Naomi Shihab Nye at the community reading. Scott wrote and delivered the following comments at that event:

"About sixteen years ago I pulled a folded sheet of paper from my faculty room mailbox. On it, a colleague had written, 'I love this poem and I think you'll love it, too.'

She was right.

I think you can guess that the poem was written by Naomi Shihab Nye.

As I turned from the mailbox and opened the poem, I read the title, 'Famous,' and its first line: 'The river is famous to the fish.' Something about this line pulled me in alongside it. I loved the playful tone pointing to deeper wisdom. It flipped the word, 'famous,' into something humble and relational, and invited reflection about those different relationships: 'The cat sleeping on the fence is famous to the birds / watching him from the birdhouse.' Or 'The tear is famous, briefly, to the cheek.' Even as I write this, the poem reminds me to consider how a pulley or a buttonhole might be famous, 'not because it did anything spectacular, / but because it never forgot what it could do.' It asks me to ease burdens. To remain open, ready to receive the other side of the fabric and hold it together.

I thanked my friend for the poem and told her how much I loved it, and then she gave me the collection, titled *Words Under the Words*. So the poem unfolded into new poems and more generosity. Naomi's work does this for us: it takes a photograph or a letter, a prayer, a moment... a memory that is 'wrapped delicately' or 'tucked under' and refolds it for us, showing us what lies on the other side of the crease. Or she unfolds it, opening to an unexpected epiphany about — as she says in "Loose Leaf" — "the invisible pictures between the pictures, and under them."

In preparing a creative writing assignment about six years ago, I watched a video of Naomi reading 'One Boy Told Me,' a found poem she assembled from the incredible comments of her young son. When she introduced the poem, she paraphrased William Stafford, saying 'we all are poets when we're little, and some of us just try to keep up the habit.' Her encouragement to see anew the poetry of a child's wonder has to be counted among the precious gifts she has given us. As I'm sure many of her readers have done, I was inspired to tail my five-year-old and record the magic of his remarks; these are, without question, among my greatest treasures. How many times do we crash ahead, failing to take the time to listen for the 'words under the words'? The other day my youngest son asked me, 'What does God look like?' And this time I was careful to have 'the right ears.' I bent my knees and asked him: 'What do you think?'

His reply: 'I think God looks like everyone.' Imagine if we could all understand this.

My friend who gave me the poems doesn't remember the moment of her wonderful generosity, and somehow that seems fitting. This, too, is addressed in the poem: 'The bent photograph is famous to the one who carries it and not at all famous to the one who is pictured.'

My favorite lines in 'Famous' are when the speaker expresses the desire to be famous to 'sticky children in grocery lines, / famous as the one who smiled back.' Naomi's work gives us the chance to listen for the stories across the aisle or across the sea. She beckons us to crouch down, peer around the walls between us, and smile back."



Ellie Alfeld '19, English Faculty Member
Scott Frey, and Nerissa Griffiths '19



reunion 2019



BY KIM HARRIS THACKER P'24

During the weekend of May 17-19, Reunion 2019 saw the return of well over 100 alumnae and guests to our Simsbury campus. Those in attendance included women who graduated from Walker's in years ending in four or nine as well as members of the alumnae board, board of trustees and many other guests. For those alums in the Class of 1969, this year's reunion was especially significant as it marked fifty years since their graduation. Fittingly, the Class of 1969 won the reunion's Sundial Bowl, an honor given to the class with the largest percentage of classmates registered for the reunion.

reunion 2019

A few of the main events during reunion were classroom visits, alumnae panels, an alumnae art exhibit, and a presentation on the state of the school from Head of School, Dr. Meera Viswanathan. During her address, Meera commented on “Disrupting Gendered Mindsets” including posing the question to those gathered, “What does it take for girls’ voices to emerge?” She went on to say, “This question has formed the basis of our strategic planning and will inform the activities that we will undertake including challenging ourselves to question, ‘What is it that we can do to strengthen Walker’s and prepare it for the future?’” Meera’s talk included videos on our tropical ecology and VITA programs and an update from incoming athletic director Kati Eggert on our efforts to share news of our athletics program more broadly. Those assembled were treated to a performance by the Grapes and a sneak peek at the upcoming Spring musical, “Hairspray.” It was followed by the traditional Maypole dance and Alumnae Parade.

During chapel on Saturday, the graduating class of 2019 was inducted into The Ethel Walker Alumnae Association — a special event at which alumna and clinical psychologist, **Dr. Frances Arnold '69**, delivered a keynote address. Arnold's mother, **Jane (Lowe) Edgerton**, was a member of the Class of 1943.

Arnold, who is on the faculty of the Boston Psychoanalytic Society and Institute (BPSI) and is a lecturer in Psychology, Department of Psychiatry (part time), Harvard Medical School and a clinical associate in psychology at McLean Hospital, shared her thoughts in a talk titled “Reflections on Coming of Age” where she drew parallels from her time at Walker’s in the late 60s to the experience of our 2019 graduates.

Arnold illustrated how the coming of age for the Class of 1969 was “complicated and overwhelming.”

“In 1963 and 1968, our world was rocked by the assassinations of three of our most promising leaders … Viet Nam was tearing us apart and our country’s divide seemed unbreachable — even within families,” said Arnold. “Yet, in 1969, off we went. Leaving behind the protected sanctuary of Walker’s and eager for new experiences.” She commented that for many, their Walker’s years nurtured deep friendships which remain “among the strongest and most influential in my life.” She said she had hopes for the Class of 2019 including “the ability to lose something in yourself in order to get to know someone who is different from you and that every member of a group holds something vital even if you cannot stand listening to them.” “...and finally,” said Arnold, “the wish to lovingly protect what is most precious, or truly in need of your protection.”

The reunion festivities came to a crescendo with the traditional Ba-Na-Na dance party on Saturday evening following a dinner in Abra’s dining hall which was replete with flower arrangements made earlier in the day at a new gathering called “Sips and Stems.” In between each of these events were tours, formal and informal discussions, classes, lunches, teas and receptions with friends, faculty and current students, including a hands-on African drumming workshop on the lawn near the chapel.



One alumna who attended Reunion 2019 was **Christina Christie '94**. “Being at Walker’s as a student was a life-altering gift — the best experience of my life,” said Christie. “I remember meeting everyone for the first time. We all had acne and were just kids coming into our own. And look where we are now! One of my classmates is a judge ... another is a neuroscientist. It’s amazing. Walker’s sculpted us for our futures.”

Christie, a former boarding student from New York, returned to the city after graduating and now works there as a perfumer, creating fragrances for Estee Lauder, Chanel and other major designers.

“Chemistry is a big part of my work,” she said. “When I was here at Walker’s, my honors chemistry teacher was Lee Zallinger.



He was so passionate about what he did. He helped me to find my calling. I'm so thankful that everything he taught me stuck!"

Christie expressed how happy she was to see that while there are some elements of Walker's that have remained the same over the years, the School is also keeping up with changing times and technologies. "There's so much available for students now," she said. "I'm so happy to see people who are giving all they can to create this environment and to help the school get better and better. It's superb."

Karen Polcer Bdera '79, who attended Walker's as a boarding student from Essex, CT from her sophomore through her senior year, attended Reunion 2019 with her husband, Nick. She noted

that there have been many changes at Walker's over the years. "The biggest change, though, is in the student body," she said. "It was very homogenous when I was here, and now it's completely diverse. It's truly wonderful. It represents what's going on in the world."

Not everything about Walker's has changed, though. "What has stayed the same over the years is the sisterhood between the students who attend the school and the sisterhood between those of us who come back for reunions," said Bdera. "It's like time stops and you just pick up right where you left off."

To view a gallery of photos and the guest list for Reunion Weekend, please visit <https://www.ethelwalker.org/reunion>. ■

reunion 2019 Chapel

Reunion Chapel

DR. FRANCES ARNOLD '69

During Reunion Chapel, Dr. Frances Arnold '69 delivered the keynote address entitled "Reflections on Coming of Age." We have reprinted Dr. Arnold's comments here with her permission.

"It is a pleasure to be here to congratulate the senior class and welcome them as EWS Alumnae. Place matters, and this beloved chapel is what I hold in mind when I think about my EWS experience, now 50 years ago. It is a beautiful and peaceful place for reflection and refuge — a space for precious, private thoughts, as well as a place to come together as a community. Perhaps most important, the chapel is where we gathered to listen openly and respectfully to each other. I hope it has been the same for you — reflection, protected space, listening to each other is desperately needed.

For my class of '69, coming of age and launching toward college was exciting, but also complicated and overwhelming. In '63 and '68, our world was rocked by the assassinations of three of our most promising leaders — events which sent us into mourning when we still had one foot in young adulthood. While the Great Society was taking hold, Viet Nam was tearing us apart and our country's divides seemed unbreachable — even within families. Yet in 1969, off we went, leaving behind the protected sanctuary of Walker's, and eager for new experiences. For many

of us, the EWS years had nurtured deep friendships. In my case, several of them remain among the strongest and most influential in my life. Walker's was also a complicated place. At the time, isolated and lacking in diversity, many of us felt far removed from the world we were about to enter. In retrospect, I wonder if this removal reflected an old assumption that young women need to be protected from society, as if fuller female engagement would be dangerous. After all, it was my generation that came of age during the birth control revolution — not our grandmothers, and to some degree, not our mothers. This social revolution was undoubtedly one of the most important game changers for women in terms of work, economic stability, civil engagement, leadership and, yes, love relationships. Women became able to protect themselves and control their lives.

While there are many differences, the parallels between *your* coming of age and that of my class of '69 are striking. A flashpoint following 2016: I am on the phone with one of my daughters — she's trying to get her bearings around Hillary Clinton's defeat. She is in tears and asks me whether I have been through this before — "Was it like the 60s and Viet Nam, or was it more like the Civil War?" Another flashpoint, I am at a recent reunion with my Wyoming family and we are seeing if we can have a conversation about our country, without coming to blows. Before I arrived, I pick up a text — "Get here fast — conversation turning to Kavanaugh debates — fist fight brewing." As it turned out, no blows were struck, and with some



wild combination of love and curiosity, the reunion was deeply moving. Both sides gave up a little in order to better know the other.

And still ... these are uneasy times. In my family, the divide still stretches between us, remaining only partly knowable. On the wider socio-political stage, the search for union has been much less optimistic.

As young women entering this larger stage, you have not been groomed for easy times, nor should you be. Here is what I hope Walker's has given you:

- the capacity to make deep, life long relationships — you will need them;
- the ability to lose something about yourself in order to better know someone who is different than you;
- a passion for organizational life and civil action — it has never been more important to participate in groups, organizations and political structures and, if we do not, our democratic structures will continue to unravel;
- the belief that every member of a group holds something vital that you need to know, even if you cannot stand listening to them;
- the awareness that you can lead in many ways, but for it to go well, you will need to make yourself vulnerable and stake your heart on your mission;
- and finally, the wish to lovingly protect what is most precious, or truly in need of your protection.

Dorothy Holmes, a psychologist who has written about women and racial experience, offers the following definition for "ambition": "*Ambition is the loving, passionate pursuit of what you most fervently want to become, with perseverance and focus, despite the odds*" (Holmes, D. 2015). In the midst of the current chaos, we have seen a resurgence of female activism and the breathtaking emergence of new women leaders. As part of a recent, shared writing project, a colleague and I looked back through Harvard Medical School's oral history project on women leaders in medicine (keep in mind, it has only been a brief 50 years since women were admitted). As psychologists, we were particularly interested in the lives of several women psychiatrists who came of professional age in the 1950s and 60s. We found the following: most astounding about these leaders is their ingenuity, their blending of the personal and the professional and their creativity about how they composed their lives. There is no simple way to categorize their pathways. Certainly, they "leaned



Dr. Frances Arnold '69

in," yet "leaning in" would simplify and trivialize their complex paths to achievement. Each of them went to great lengths and encountered multiple barriers in achieving their medical educations and careers in psychiatry. Their narratives highlight the importance of supportive families and community which, despite barriers of quotas, harassment and discrimination, were protective and inspirational as these female physicians came of professional age. They emphasized their capacity to make and keep friends — particularly women friends over a lifetime — as well as their activism and impact on the next generation. They were responsible for overseeing major changes in medical school admissions policies, in mentoring of other women in medicine and psychiatry, and in broader humanitarian work. They wrote the first edition of *The Woman Patient*, developed programs for women seeking abortions, and brought to light the sequelae of rape and trauma. They were part of a generation of women who re-wrote psychological and psychoanalytic theory from the inside out, rather than outside in — that is, from the subjective experience of being a woman. While we are now in the era of deconstructing the binary, the power of their contribution, and that of others, changed the field.

Of course, these are "wonder women," born with twice the energy as the rest of us. In my case, I am deeply aware of the power of colleagues, friends and loved ones and the role they played in my becoming a psychologist and psychoanalyst, which began in English classes at EWS. When choosing which academic center to rank first for clinical training, I eagerly applied to the psychology department chaired by a vibrant woman. This mentor went to bat for me, helped put my career on the map and worked with me to develop my ideas — for which, I have been forever grateful.

Good luck to the Class of '19, from all of us in the Class of '69 (and other classes). We look forward to hearing from you about what you most passionately choose to pursue and fervently become — don't worry too much about the odds." ■

SAVE THE DATE
Mark your calendars for
reunion 2020
MAY 15-17, 2020!

Alumnae 2019 Awards

Yolanda Eleta de Varela '81

Margot Treman Rose '80 Distinguished Alumnae Award

The Margot Treman Rose '80 Distinguished Alumnae Award was presented this year at Commencement exercises to **Yolanda "Yoli" Eleta de Varela '81** by previous recipient Board Chair Kit O'Brien Rohn '82. Please enjoy remarks delivered by Kit in the presentation of this award.

"This year, we are delighted to present The Margot Treman Rose '80 Distinguished Alumnae Award award to someone who embodies not just one, but all three of the principles of elevating the work of their profession, influencing their community or giving extraordinary service to their school.

I must admit that she is a Sun, but even as a Dial, I cannot help but be amazed at the devotion and talent she brings to everything and everyone her own "sunny" disposition touches.

Our school mission states that we prepare students to make a difference in the world. This alumna continues to take our mission to heart as a truly global citizen. The mission goes on to state that "Members of this diverse community are dedicated to scholarship, the arts, athletics, wellness and service." Indeed, she has dedicated herself not only to pursuing her own education but also improving access to education for others. A sportswoman herself, through service she has enhanced the wellness of others throughout her life.

Let's take a minute to look more closely at the three pillars of this award, remembering that an alumna only needs to exhibit one of them to be considered for this honor:

First: Elevating the work of her profession

Yolanda, or Yoli as she's known to all of us, has taken leadership in the telecommunications industry in Panama to new levels with her company's



Board Chair Kit O'Brien Rohn '82, Yolanda "Yoli" Eleta de Varela '81 and Head of School Dr. Meera Viswanathan

philosophy based in a reciprocal relationship with society. She has recently been awarded the "Luz de la Comunidad", or "Light of the Community" award from the Association of Businesswomen and Professionals of Panama.

Second: Influencing her community

Yoli makes everyone around her feel like family. The mother of four children, after her second daughter was born with Down syndrome, she always had a goal to ensure that her daughter and others with disabilities had access to all the opportunities available to other children. She realized that her leadership position in other areas could help her increase the possibilities for the disabled. Instrumental in building the Special Olympics in Panama and currently serving as its president, her leadership both there and internationally is evidence of how she views her family both as her own flesh and blood and as a global community.

Yoli's passion for her community extends far and wide. She led a project

called Mi Escuela Primero, or "My School First," working to adapt Panamanian school infrastructure through private-public partnerships. She also worked to improve opportunities for prisoners. Expanding on "My School First," she designed a project called "My School Chair First," collecting old and broken school chairs from public schools all over Panama to be refurbished by prisoners and re-distributed to schools all over the country. She is helping to launch a digital education program for prisoners, and is also supplying digital technology to women prisoners to help enhance their opportunity to learn vocational skills. Yoli has been awarded "Volunteer of the Year" by the United Nations, "Woman of the Year" by the Latin American Glamour magazine, and the "Maria Ossa de Amador" Distinction by the Panamanian government.

Third: Service to her school

Yoli is passionate about The Ethel Walker School. When we wanted to increase our international connections with alumnae,

she (along with her sister, **Ximena Eleta de Sierra '85**) was first to step up and help facilitate an international retreat for alumnae. This gathering in 2018 fostered ideas for ways in which students could gain international experience. In addition to connecting our English department with an alumna teaching English in Panama, she partnered with our science department to co-create a Tropical Ecology field trip which will be launched next spring.

I must quote once again from our mission statement: "The satisfaction of achievement and joy of friendship are fundamental principles as the School

empowers girls to lead with integrity, respect, confidence, courage, conviction and love of learning." Yoli's achievement knows no bounds, and if you need any proof of the joy she finds in friendship, you should know that 16 other alumnae are present today because she is here.

In 1981 as a graduating senior, Yolanda was awarded the Henry B. Sargent Memorial Prize for Kindliness and Good Fellowship, character traits which have undoubtedly remained throughout her life. Please join me in congratulating Yoli on being the 2019 recipient of our highest alumnae honor, The Margot Rose Award!" ■

The Margot Treman Rose '80 Distinguished Alumnae Award was established in 2005 by her mother, Terese Treman Williams '55, and Joseph Williams. This award is The Ethel Walker School's highest honor and is given 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 **LONG DISTANCE AWARD** is presented annually to the alumna who has traveled the longest distance from her home state or country to attend Reunion Weekend. This year's recipient was **Alexis Austin '14** who traveled 3,010 miles from Rohnert Park, CA to attend Reunion!

Alumna traveled to Simsbury from Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, the Dominican Republic, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Kentucky, Maine, Massachusetts, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Nevada, New York, North Carolina, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Virginia, and Washington.



Katherine Dunn '19 and Alumnae Association Board Member Shayna Whyte-Huguley '95

During Prize Night on Commencement Weekend, the Alumnae Association awarded the

ALUMNAE BOARD SOCIAL ACTION AWARD

to the senior student who "has demonstrated a concern for issues of social inequality and has acted on her concern through actively promoting awareness or participating in community service, activism or social entrepreneurship intended to advance positive social change." This year's recipient was **Katherine Dunn '19** for her work with the *Horizons at The Ethel Walker School* program.

- 2018: Bri Goolsby and India Awe
- 2017: Brea Austin and Eshita Rahman
- 2016: Lian Nicholson, Sara Lomba and Nell Shea
- 2014: Kennedy Hilliard
- 2013: Jacinta Lomba and Emilee O'Brien



The **CLASS OF 1944 BOWL** was established in 1994 and awarded to the Reunion Class that raises a gift to the Annual Fund for Walker's between \$50,000 and \$74,999. This year the **Class of 1979** collectively raised \$65,000 for the Annual Fund for Walker's in honor of their reunion!

reunion 2019 Awards



Class of 1969 accepts three awards at Reunion Weekend!

Hooray Sunray to the **Class of 1969** for earning this year's **SUNDIAL BOWL** which is awarded to the class with the largest percentage of classmates registered for Reunion Weekend.

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The **GATES FAMILY BOWL** was established in 2002 by **Sarah Gates Colley '75** in honor of her parents, John and Christine Gates, and her family's longstanding relationship with The Ethel Walker School. The Bowl is awarded to the Reunion Class that raises a gift to the Annual Fund for Walker's of \$100,000 or more. This year's recipient of the bowl is the **Class of 1969**, which collectively gave gifts totaling **\$507,311** to the Annual Fund for Walker's in honor of their reunion.

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The **ELIZABETH NASH MUENCH '55 TRAY** is awarded annually to the reunion class (or classes) that has achieved the highest level of participation in the Annual Fund for Walker's by Reunion Weekend. Hooray Sunray to the **Class of 1969** where 48% of the class made a gift in honor of their reunion!

Alumnae Artists Reunion 2019

During the month of May, alumnae artists from reunion classes had works on display in the Letitia McClure Potter '55, P'85 Gallery in the Centennial Center. During Reunion, attendees had a chance to gather in the Potter Gallery to hear remarks from Head of School Meera Viswanathan on the artists' work along with a chance to hear directly from the artists on their specific pieces. Featured in this year's alumnae exhibit were **Averill Brockleman Shepps '49**, **Meg Lindsay '59**, **Katherine Murphy Ingle '69**, **Gurukirn Kaur Khalsa '69**, **Andrea Marschalk Scheyhing '69**, **Starr Winmill Shebesta '74** and **Janet Galvin '14**.



Meg Ashforth '84, Sandra Rohde McNamee '84, Kit O'Brien Rohn '82, Cynthia Vega '82 and Carrie O'Brien Thomas '84 enjoy time together during the alumnae artist reception.



Janet Galvin '14 (center) was one of the featured artists in the Alumnae Artists exhibit. Janet is currently an artist in residence at the Farmington Valley Arts Center. Her work features montage photography and paintings. She is inspired by textures on surfaces such as aging architecture and nature.



Ann Watson Bresnahan '69 enjoyed some time catching up with classmate and exhibit artist Katy Murphy Ingle '69 during the Alumnae Artists Reception in the Letitia McClure Potter '55, P'85 Gallery in the Centennial Center.



Members of the Class of 1969, Laura Cherbonnier, Gurukirn Paulus Khalsa and Jane Shanholt Sacasa, shared some time together viewing alumnae artists' work, including Gurukirn's, during a reception in the Letitia McClure Potter '55, P'85 Gallery in the Centennial Center.

reunion 2019 Classes



Sarah "Sally" Skinner Hart and Head of School Meera Viswanathan



Ann Middleton Buckley, Lynn Sheppard Manger, Meg Lindsay, and Lucy Rosenberry Jones P'80, GP 21'



Front Row: Susan Nichols Ferriere, Virginia "Ginger" Bevis Littleton, Gurukirn Paulus Khalsa, Ana Victoria Mestre, Gillian "Jill" Reighley Christensen

2nd Row: Sally Richardson Thompson, Katherine "Katy" Murphy Ingle, and Jean Moore Edwards

3rd Row: Ann Watson Bresnahan, Andrea Marschalk Scheyhing, Alyce "Lee" Brookfield Rafferty, Jan Muller Finn, and Barbara "Barbee" Thomas Kennedy

4th Row: Katherine Dredner, Katharine Goodbody, Laurie Cherbonnier Nielsen, Elizabeth "Lisa" Elkinton Barr, and Ruth Harrison Grobe

5th Row: Lisa Pagliaro Selz, Jane Shanholt Sacasa, Barbara "Barney" Arnold, Marian "Mally" Cox-Chapman, and Frances Lowe Arnold

Absent from photo: Anne Sprole Mauk, Pennell Whitney



Laura Mountcastle, Vanessa Guerrini-Maraldi Wilcox, Elizabeth "Betsy" West Sneath, and Elizabeth "Liz" Palmer Higgins



Front row: Catherine "Cathy" Terry Taylor

2nd row: Karen Polcer Bdera and Nancy Mack von Euler

3rd row: Lela Schaus Philip, Sarah Brand Kelly, Elizabeth McKee, Stephanie "Stori" Stockwell Cardigan, Henrietta Cheng Mei, and Mary Derbyshire

4th row: Cynthia Reed Klein, Karen Appel Brown, Sally Peck Tieger, Dana Carter Lange, and Karen O'Callaghan Horan

5th row: Angelia Heughan, Kelly O'Connor Pasciucco, Dina Cathey Solomon, Ashley Smith Washburn, Anne Haviland Cullen, and Bristol Voss Duggan

6th row: Kemi Lickle O'Donnell, Lisa Danforth Hurst, Marie "May" Herkert Bogdanovics, Ashley King Goddard, Donna "Dar" Reimer Barrett, and Ellen Gerry Breed

reconnect
rediscover
reunite
reimagine



Margaret "Meg" Ashforth, Carrie O'Brien Thomas, Sandra Rohde McNamee, Ann Madonia Hamm, and Catherine "Katie" Kenney P'25



Jennifer Alter Abt, Aimee Murdock Burke, Emma Simon, Courtney Sara Minard, Carolyn Espasas Muchacho, and Paula Vega



Christina Christie, Alexandra "Alex" Flood Alcoff, Philippa "Pip" Eschauzier Earl, and Kirsten Eckelmeyer



Front Row: Sara Esthus and Joanna "Jo" Holdedge Seaver
Back Row: Jessica Katz, Tamara Baroody Wolpert, and Jillian Ventura
Absent: Vivienne Felix



Front Row: Molly Turro
Back Row: Brianna "Bri" Carillo, Caitlin Moss, Amanda Petruskevicius, Katherine "Katie" Gavin, Katherine "Kate" Molloy, and Heather Soltis



Katherine Hypolite-MacMannis, Breanne Evans, and Tori Saferin



Front Row: Janet Galvin, Haley Glofka, Caroline Mazo, Megan "Meg" Schoenholz, Aaseesdeep Kaur, Taryn Anderson, and Kennedy Hilliard
Row 2: Amanda Poniatowski, Olivia Cantello, Stephanie Sponzo, Sam Tressy, Sierra Yanaway, Elizabeth Spoehel, Elizabeth "Lizzie" Turner, and Sarah Lowry
Row 3: Darcy Hughes, Lauren Nicholson, Alexis Austin, and Caroline Calandro

Commencement 2019







BY KATHLEEN QUINLAN '16



Keynote Speaker Yolanda Eleta de Varela '81 and Head of School Meera Viswanathan

On Sunday, June 9, sixty students were awarded their diplomas under beautiful blue skies during Walker's 107th commencement exercises. The Ethel Walker School Medal was also awarded to Music Department Chair, **Laurie MacAlpine P'08**. The award, one of the School's highest honors, is given to a recipient of extraordinary commitment and service to the School. MacAlpine joined the Walker's music department in 1998. After presenting the award, Head of School Meera Viswanathan commented, "We are proud of her, grateful for her work and humbled by her never-ending enthusiasm and love for our students."

Yolanda Eleta de Varela, a member of Walker's Class of 1981 and current president of Corporación Medcom and Special Olympics Panama, was the keynote speaker. De Varela is on the board of directors of Cable Onda, S.A., Marketing Events and Grupo Eleta and a member of the Latin America Strategic Advisory Council of the Special Olympics Board of Directors. She has been a member of many social support organizations including Asociación Pro Niñez Panameña, Operación Sonrisa and the Ann Sullivan Center. De Varela's daughter, who has Down syndrome, will be the first student with Down syndrome to graduate from college in Panama.

"We were thrilled to have Yolanda, or Yoli as she is known to us, join us for commencement this year," said Head of School Meera Viswanathan. "She is a fierce advocate for girls' education and more specifically, she has dedicated her life to ensuring that children of all abilities have broad access to education and the pursuit of higher learning." During the ceremony, De Varela was awarded the Margot Treman Rose '80 Distinguished Alumnae Award, the highest honor given to a graduate of the School.



On Commencement weekend, 14 members of the Class of 1981 were on campus to join in the celebration and to support their classmate, Yolanda (Yoli) Eleta de Varela, this year's Commencement speaker. In attendance for the weekend, including Yoli's sister, Ximena Eleta de Sierra '83, were: Gizella "Anne" Callender Crawford, Alison Bruce Crichton-Stuart, Cynthia Dennard, Maura Landry Harris, Susan "Sue" Kostick, Veronica "Roni" Leger, Shelley Marks, Ann Marenakos, Jean "Piki" Nestares, Motria Procyk, Mary Beth Rettger, Pam Safford, Mary Bebel Schinke, and Julie Yindra.



Members of the Class of 1981 celebrate during Yolanda's commencement remarks

Prior to the keynote speech, Student Body President Tricia Saint Fort of West Orange, NJ delivered her address. She encouraged seniors to consider, "Throughout our journey at Walker's we have learned to be comfortable with new environments, adjust to change, and balance all of our commitments. We have gained an enormous amount of confidence. You have the tools for these next four years and beyond. Take them and use them to your advantage. Take them and use them to do what you want to do and be who you want to be."

In her address, De Varela emphasized the importance of three themes including perseverance, passion and relationships that have positively influenced her journey. She shared, "If you consistently and consciously follow your dreams with enthusiasm, never give up on your dedication to excellence, and build your personal connections with others, I can guarantee that you will be very successful, and above all, very happy and fulfilled."

De Varela referenced how her ability to seize opportunities, teach, help others and maintain relationships makes her stand out. "It's the energy that we put out into the world, which returns to us with love," she said.

De Varela concluded her speech by advising the graduating

class to, "strive for those personal connections ... to never give up on special people, like all these wonderful friendships which you have been so lucky to build at Walker's" and finally to "listen to your heart and let it carry you in the direction of your dreams."

In Head of School Meera Viswanathan's closing remarks, she recognized the Class of 2019 for playing an important role in educating her on Walker's traditions. She shared an anecdote from her travels in Europe where she learned about the lead glazing process in creating and maintaining stained glass windows comparing it to Walker's traditions as they both "focus on the greatness of small things." She drew a parallel between a small piece of painted glass and the remarkable everyday occurrences that take place at Walker's that reflect the mission of the

School. "Traditions teach us how to pass along the values and truths of our beloved School and how in not disrupting this stewardship, we become part of the fabric of the community," she said. She closed the ceremony by encouraging the Class of 2019 to "go forth and live, experience, discover and learn in your lives before you. Teach the world what you have taught me about community and what binds it together ... You are a thing of beauty and truth, Class of 2019! Good luck!" ■



Student Body President Tricia Saint Fort '19

Yolanda Eleta de Varela '81

2019 Commencement Speaker

Hola Chicas from the Class of 2019! Being here this morning is a dream come true!

In my yearbook page in 1981 I wrote: "Making friends for all the world to see, let the people know, you got what you need. With a friend in hand you will see the light, If your friends are there, everything's alright!" by Elton John.

I must confess that when I arrived at Walkers at 14 years of age, for the first time leaving a Latina home, I was incredibly homesick. On top of it, our first activity here was a BA-NA-NA in the gym! I thought these American women were totally crazy and I just wanted to go back home. I was incredibly lonely, until I started meeting and bonding with my friends — bonds that would last a lifetime.

Standing up here this morning, I thank God for the many blessings I have received in my life, especially with my supportive Eleta family, my husband Fulo, and my children Ximena, Sofia, Luisfer and Graci. I feel blessed to tell you that I found many of my best friends in life right here on this Walker's campus, 40 years ago. Tell me if it isn't just priceless to have a bunch of 16 alumnae here with me today? Please stand up Class of 1981 and my sister, Ximena. I love you all! Of course, Suns were always the best half — I'm only kidding!

Today I will speak to you about three topics which I believe have shaped my career, my goals, and my personal life, way beyond my Walkers' years. These themes are: perseverance, passion and relationships. If you consistently and consciously follow your dreams with enthusiasm, never give up on your dedication to excellence, and build your personal connections with others, I can guarantee that you will be very successful, and above all, very happy and fulfilled.

The perfect example of determination, enthusiasm and special connections in our family is our daughter, Ximena. Mena, as we call her, was born with Down syndrome 30 years ago. She has been a fighter, trooper, and the soul of our family. She was one of the first "special children" to attend a regular private school in Panama, when the word "inclusion" did not even exist. When she was ready to enter tenth grade, the principal convened us to subtly suggest that we pull Mena from her school, because they assumed that high school would be too 'tough' for her. I respectfully asked that she allow her to remain in her school, and that I would be the first to pull her out if I sensed that it was too hard for her. Mena not only graduated from Brader School, receiving a huge standing ovation, but she went on to study as a photography major in Ganexa University in Panama. Just last

week, after years of hard work and perseverance, I am incredibly proud to tell you that Mena presented her thesis to a panel of three professors, and received a perfect score of 100. Mena is officially the first person with Down syndrome to graduate from university in Panama. She adds to her collection of awards, a gold medal won in the World Games in Ireland, and silver and bronze medals won in China, both in tennis. And, last but not least, she boasts about having been invited for dinner at the White House by President Barack Obama, in representing our 380,000 athletes from Special Olympics Latin America. Only one athlete was invited per region of the World — and there she was — with Fulo and me as her 'assistants.'

If you consistently and consciously follow your dreams with enthusiasm, never give up on your dedication to excellence, and build your personal connections with others, I can guarantee that you will be very successful, and above all, very happy and fulfilled.

With such an example at home, we have all strived to be our best! That is what our parents instilled in us, and we cannot escape from it. In my own professional life, I worked at our telecommunications business for almost 25 years, going from a junior sales executive, to general manager, to president of the company today. And as is often the case, I am the only woman on the board. The same is true at Special Olympics. I began as 'Mena's Mom,' going through all stages, local, regional and international. I was invited to join the international board when there was only one Latino, and of course, he was a man.

I always ask myself, 'Why me?' Just as I asked myself, 'Why would Meera invite me to be your speaker today?' Thank you Meera for this honor! This question made me look introspectively at my life, to understand what makes me special in the eyes of others. I realized that over and over again, I have taken advantage of every opportunity to teach something useful, to help others find jobs, make amends with relatives, to find scholarships for students, or to just listen to a friend in difficult times.

Thinking of my Walker's friends, I have noticed that over the years I have made a huge effort to find missing friends and reconnect with them. For example, I had lost touch with my friend **Jean 'Piki' Nestares '81** when she returned to Spain. In an era without emails, Facebook or Instagram, it was almost impossible to find missing friends. So I had her childhood home address in Madrid, and on a trip there, I jumped in a taxi and drove there. I knocked on the door and found she was not there but in Venezuela. During a business trip, we literally met again in the media company where she was working, and where I had my business meetings. From then on, I have followed, or 'stalked' her all over the world, meeting her in Milan, then Paris and last year

in Connecticut. I also stalked Felicia in Venezuela, Gaby Milmo in Dallas, and several others. I have invited many to Panama, and have returned to every possible Walker's reunion. I have discovered that if you want to keep relationships and friendships, you must dedicate time and effort and tons of love.

Besides being a 'stalker' and OCD about being results oriented, I discovered that I have magic powers. Some call this intuition and serendipity, like finding Piki. I just know that I have this superpower, that if I call upon it for the right reasons, it works wonders. My good friend, Erika Ender, who wrote a famous song, gave me just what I needed to call on my magic powers. She offered me this magic wand, with an inscription that reads: Blessed be the magic of your infinite heart!

Like me, Erika has a giving heart and wonderful things come back to her. One of these was the inspiration to write a song which some of you might know. She has broken all records, as a woman, in the music industry globally, with the number one song in the highest number of countries in the World and the only one to sustain the #1 position for the longest period of time in the 59-year history of Billboard magazine. And she is one of my best friends! She is from Panama. Play it Mr. DJ: DESPACITO!

Erika and I share this deep belief in using love and compassion to change the world. It's the energy that we put out into the world which returns to us with love. I have made a more conscious effort to tap into my intuition and passion to help others, and transform them into projects and organizational models.

Just as our team was able to turn Special Olympics Panama into the model program for Latin America and to have Panama become the headquarters for our regional office, I have implemented several social and educational projects which have become incredibly successful.

For example, in a business meeting with a CEO, I learned of his family connection to an Italian friend of my sister Ximena, which led to their Walkabout Foundation in London. Long story short, through this magical moment, I have been able to bring to Panama every year a full container filled with hundreds of wheelchairs, to distribute all over our country, changing lives of people I don't even know. I have travelled to dangerous places in the jungle between Panama and Colombia to bring them the joy of mobility, and my heart just goes out to them. Once I have a serendipity moment, then I create a project and go for it with hard work and passion.

Five years ago, I began working with the president of Panama rebuilding schools all over the country. I have seen poverty first hand, and the conditions in which many Panamanian children live. Many walk for two hours or more every day to and from school, without anything in their stomachs. I have seen hunger,

abuse and neglect. So, for the sake of those thousands of children I redirected my passion and my mission.

When I met Carlos Slim and he told me about his digital educational platform, I instantly knew that this is what I wanted to promote in Panama. In case you don't know of him, Mr. Slim is from Mexico, and he is up there with Bill Gates, as one of the wealthiest and most influential businessmen in the world. His dream is to reach out to millions of young and adult persons in our region, who did not receive a formal education, and who could learn vocational skills, and look for real and needed jobs, if given the tools and training. His incredible contribution includes free online technical courses and free internet bandwidth, through his regional telecom company.

I immediately saw an opportunity to create our own local non-profit, to promote in Panama the use of this incredible educational tool. Only two years after I had this idea, today I can proudly say that we are in the process of spreading this project to almost 50% of public high schools in our country, to several prisons and more than 100 youth centers and public internet plazas in Panama.

This of course has allowed me to meet individually with even more persons in need of my 'magic wand' superpowers. For example, I have made wonderful friends in prisons. One of them, Lissette, is a wonderful artist, who gave me this hand-painted pillow of me. Every other month, I send her painting materials and she makes beautiful artwork which her family then sells, in order to make a living. As she tells me all the time, art has saved her soul. I spent my birthday last year in the women's prison of Panama City, and asked Erika Ender to come along and sing to these women. The

tears of joy and gratefulness from these thousands of women just inspires me every day to take out my magic wand and make sure that, as long as the sun shines on us, I have a duty to inspire someone who needs me.

Graduating class, I tell you all of these stories to encourage you to make sure that the really important things for you are those that fill you from inside. Follow your passion, with dedication and perseverance and make sure always that your aspirations are grounded in your relationships with people. Take an interest in every person you meet, explore opportunities together, work your magic around the persons you love and care for. In this age of increasing interactions with technology, strive for those personal connections, and be 'stalkers' like me, to never give up on special people, like all these wonderful friendships which you have been so lucky to build at Walker's.

Chicas, listen to your heart and let it carry you in the direction of your dreams!" ■



Yolanda Eleta de Varela '81

Class of 2019 Matriculations



60 graduates are attending 48 different colleges in 20 states (inc. DC) and 2 countries

12 will play a varsity sport 7 will study visual and performing arts 2 will study engineering

Eleanor (Ellie) Alfeld	University of Vermont	Isabella Manganiello	New York University
Caroline Bastarache	Rochester Institute of Technology	Quincy Maynard	The New School
Brigitte Bayer	Arizona State University	Ellen McCarthy	University of Massachusetts, Amherst
Alexis Berard	Gettysburg College	Chloe Miller	Central Michigan University
Laura Calandro	College of William & Mary	Jasmine Morris	University of Connecticut
Shaneice Campbell	American University	Rebecca (Becky) Morris	Southern Methodist University
Olivia (Liv) Charman	High Point University	Elise Namnoum	Boston College
Isabelle Chen	Northwestern University	Kathleen (KC) O'Connor	Endicott College
Celeste Davis	Babson College	Madison Parham Murray	Dickinson College
Brianna Duba	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute	Emma Paterson	Sarah Lawrence College
Katherine Dunn	Ohio Wesleyan University	Cecelia Petrarca	Pennsylvania State University
Mariah Dunn	Eastern Connecticut State University	Daniela Ramirez	The University of Tampa
Mariela D'Alessandro	Southern Illinois University	Lydia Rifkind	DePaul University
Kristen Emery	American University	Emily Ross	University of Miami
Sara Fallon	Muhlenberg College	Isabel Rush	Gap year
Jocelyn Feliciano	Dickinson College	Tricia Saint Fort	Lehigh University
Gabriela Garcia	University of Hartford	Hannah Schweitzer	Clarkson University
Amanda Gould	The University of Tampa	Erin Shanly	The American University of Paris
Nerissa Griffiths	Villanova University	Annie Sherbacow	University of Connecticut
Elisabeth (Liz) Helmin	English Speaking Union –	Caroline Smith	Haverford College
	Eastbourne College	Maisie Smith	Haverford College
	University of Massachusetts,	Caroline Stent	Stonehill College
	Amherst	Phichchaya Sutaporn	Pennsylvania State University
Ruoyi (Royer) Jin	Washington University in St. Louis	Apichaya Thaneerat	Michigan State University
Lilith (Lily) Johnson	Temple University	Amanda Torres	San Diego State University
Jillian Jones	Hobart and William Smith Colleges	Shay Ventresca	Wofford College
Helena LaBonte	Salve Regina University	Xinyu (Hazel) Wang	Vanderbilt University
Ruoning (Hester) Li	New York University	Tiansi (Christy) Yang	New York University
Yaxuan (Sabrina) Li	New York University	Olivia Young	University of Glasgow
Ziting (Gloria) Lin	The New School	Sofia Zarmsky	Texas Christian University
Grace Majka	Springfield College	Chi Yang (Alice) Zhao	Brandeis University
Stephanie Makowski	University of Connecticut		

2019 PRIZE NIGHT AWARDS AND RECIPIENTS

BOOK AWARDS

THE BRANDEIS BOOK AWARD

Alaina Vermilya '20

THE BROWN BOOK AWARD

Ella Samson '20

THE DARTMOUTH BOOK AWARD

Elisabeth (Lizzy) Strapp '21

GEORGE WASHINGTON BOOK AWARD

Abigail (Abi) Welch '20

THE HARVARD BOOK AWARD

Shiyue (Kitty) Huang '20

THE MOUNT HOLYOKE BOOK AWARD

Hannah Theriault '20

PRINCETON BOOK AWARD

Abigail (Abby) McRavey '20

THE RENSSELAER POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE CERTIFICATE

Xiya (Sisi) Feng '20

THE ST. LAWRENCE BOOK AWARD

Ella Samson '20

THE SMITH BOOK AWARD

Kyleigh Holt '20

THE TRINITY BOOK AWARD

Xiya (Sisi) Feng '20

THE WELLESLEY BOOK AWARD

Riley Sheldon '20

WORCESTER POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE BOOK AWARD

Lillian (Lily) Cullen '20

THE YALE BOOK AWARD

Liyanni Vazquez '20

DEPARTMENT AWARDS AND PRIZES

THE MARY SCOULLER NELSON ENGLISH PRIZE

Ruoyi (Roya) Jin '19

THE HISTORY PRIZE

Stephanie Makowski '19

THE LATIN PRIZE

Isabelle Chen '19

THE MANDARIN PRIZE

Alyssa (Ally) Pelayo '21

THE MATHEMATICS PRIZE

Chiyang (Alice) Zhao '19

THE SCIENCE PRIZE

Caroline Smith '19

THE SPANISH PRIZE

Mariela D'Alessandro '19

THE MUSIC PRIZE

Xinyu (Hazel) Wang '19

THE MADELENE SALA CHOIR GIRL

Mariela D'Alessandro '19

THE VIRGINIA CHILDS RAMSEY HINMAN CLASS OF 1932 PRIZE

Katherine Dunn '19

THE PERFORMING ARTS PRIZE

Mariela D'Alessandro

THE VISUAL ARTS PRIZE

Chyler Bastarache '19

Brianna-Michelle Duba '19

THE DOROTHY SILVERHERZ DANCE PRIZE

Isabella (Bella) Manganiello '19

THE ELIZABETH OLSON MARSHALL DANCE PRIZE

Nerissa Griffiths '19

THE THEATRE PRIZE

Emma Paterson '19

THE TECHNICAL THEATRE PRIZE

Jasmine Morris '19

THE VOORHEES CUP

Elise Namnoum '19

THE MERITORIOUS EFFORT CUP

Caroline Smith '19

Maisie Smith '19

THE WILLIAM C. LICKLE ATHLETIC CUP

Brianna-Michelle Duba '19

THE VARSITY CLUB

Elise Namnoum '19

SCHOLAR ATHLETES

Brianna-Michelle Duba '19

Rebecca (Becky) Morris '19

Elise Namnoum '19

SCHOLAR ARTISTS

Nerissa Griffiths '19

Jillian Jones '19

Sabrina Li '19

Isabella (Bella) Manganiello '19

Annie Sherbacow '19

THE WILLIAM C. LICKLE CUP TO HONOR FRANK O.H. WILLIAMS

Rebecca (Becky) Morris '19

THE NOBLE-UHLEIN RIDING TROPHY

Julia Luciani '20

SERVICE AWARDS

THE COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

Jocelyn Feliciano '19

THE HEAD'S SERVICE AWARD

Lucia-Hope Markoe '21

Ella Samson '20

Claire Shemo '21

Alaina Vermilya '20

THE CICERONE SOCIETY PRIZE

Rebecca (Becky) Morris '19

THE MARGARET MALLORY CLASS OF 1930 CUP

Kailyn (Kay) Lawlor '20

THE BRUNHILDE GRASSI CLASS OF 1929 CUP

Erin Corbett '21

THE CLARISSA GREEN CLASS OF 1932 CUP

Isabel (Izzy) O'Donnell '20

THE HELEN BLAIR CLASS OF 1929 MEMORIAL CUP

Celeste Davis '19

THE BARBARA BYRNES CLASS OF 1936 AND ELIZABETH BYRNES CLASS OF 1939 MEMORIAL PRIZE

Mariah Dunn '19

THE EMILY CLUETT CLASS OF 1919 PRIZE

Isabel Rush '19

THE CUMMINGS PRIZE

Elisabeth (Liz) Helmin '19

THE ISABEL JACKSON CLASS OF 1927 MEMORIAL PRIZE

Jasmine Morris '19

THE CATHERINE HENDERSON MURTAUGH CLASS OF 1996 PRIZE

Jocelyn Feliciano '19

THE CARY PAGE MEMORIAL PRIZE

Hannah Schweitzer '19

THE HENRY B. SARGENT MEMORIAL PRIZE

Alexis Berard '19

THE ALISON STONE CLASS OF 1952 MEMORIAL PRIZE

Mariela D'Alessandro '19

THE FACULTY PRIZE

Sara Fallon '19

THE HEAD'S PRIZE

Tricia Saint Fort '19

THE TRUSTEES' PRIZE

Shay Ventresca '19

Congratulations to all of the seniors who graduated with honors or high honors!

HIGH HONORS:

Laura Calandro
Guo (Isabelle) Chen
Mariela D'Alessandro
Celeste Davis
Brianna-Michelle Duba
Amanda Gould
Nerissa Griffiths
Ruoyi (Roya) Jin
Jillian Jones
Ruoning (Hester) Li

Yaxuan (Sabrina) Li
Stephanie Makowski
Jasmine Morris
Rebecca (Becky) Morris
Elise Namnoum
Emma Paterson
Cecilia Petrarca
Hannah Schweitzer
Annie Sherbacow
Caroline Smith
Maisie Smith

Caroline Stent
Phichchaya (Nest) Sutaporn
Apichaya (Plagrim) Thaneerat
Shay Ventresca
Xinyu (Hazel) Wang
Olivia Young
Chiyang (Alice) Zhao

HONORS:
Alexis Berard
Shaneice Campbell

Olivia (Liv) Charman
Jocelyn Feliciano
Elisabeth (Liz) Helmin
Isabella (Bella) Manganiello
Ellen McCarthy
Chloe Miller
Emily Ross
Tricia Saint Fort
Erin Shanly
Amanda Torres
Tiansi (Christy) Yang

Baccalaureate Chapel

On the Saturday afternoon before commencement, students, faculty, staff, family and friends gathered for a long-standing Walker's tradition, Baccalaureate Chapel. **Dr. Julia Sheldon P'20, '23** was the 2019 Baccalaureate speaker and she shared her thoughts on group projects, empathy and sonder, a new word defined in *The Dictionary of Obscure Sorrows* which means "...that moment that you realize that everyone around you has an internal life as rich and complex as one's own." She also commented on giving each other "an A" and encouraged us to interact with others without measuring them against our own standards. "What does giving an A mean to me?" asked Dr. Sheldon. "It's assuming that everyone has the best of intentions and is doing the very best they can at all times... It's about recognizing that everyone around you is actually acting rationally based on what they believe. To give them all an A, we need to be OK — really OK — with others believing different things than we do." Dr. Sheldon encouraged the graduates to "Give As all around and be amazed at what unfolds."



Dr. Julia Sheldon P'20, '23, Dean of Studies and a member of the Science Department faculty, was the 2019 Baccalaureate Speaker



Alexis Berard '19



Jasmine Morris '19

In forming the Caroline Walker Honor Society, the Class of 1958 defined the four requisite qualities for membership in the Society: kindliness, loyalty, courage and humility. The 2019 members of the Society are **Alexis Berard** and **Jasmine Morris**.



Stephanie Makowski '19

During Commencement exercises, prizes are awarded to graduating seniors. The **Prize for Scholarship** is awarded to the top student in the senior class who "is an exceptional student who has taken a remarkably difficult course load during her time at Walker's, and has excelled in each of those classes."

The **Beatrice Hurlburt Memorial Prize** for character and influence is awarded to a student of "outstanding character. Character means possessing those qualities such as integrity, honor, unselfishness. Influence means positive leadership either actively or by example."

The recipient of both of these awards was **Stephanie Makowski '19**.



Anastasia Reid '21 and Head of School Meera Viswanathan

The **Amy C. Rehfuss Award** is presented during Baccalaureate Chapel to a girl who is "a versatile and sensitive young woman. Her grace and gentle manner complement her many talents." This year's winner is **Anastasia Reid '21**.

MIDDLE SCHOOL PROMOTION CEREMONY

In the early evening of June 7, 13 members of the eighth grade class were celebrated during Walker's annual Middle School Promotion ceremony. Family and friends gathered to hear welcoming remarks by Head of School Meera Viswanathan, followed by comments delivered by Associate Head of School Amy Wheeler and Middle School class president Quinn Van Cara '23 who wove her comments around fun references to candy. In closing, Quinn commented, "You are probably wondering 'Why in the world is she comparing everyone to candy?' I wanted to celebrate the sweet ending of middle school and the beginning of high school and what better way than to celebrate that sweetness than candy. And I have some for you after."

In presenting the eight graders for promotion, each of their advisors delivered comments about the girls and the time they spent together getting to know one another. Ms. Wheeler shared thoughts about her time in middle school when her family moved from Ohio to Massachusetts, "Ohio was home. Our friends were there ... my world was rocked." She went on to say that after three years, her classmates were her closest friends and she loved to write poetry. "I learned to love learning and believe in myself as a student." She went on to say, "There are going to be times in your lives when you are pushed to do things you don't want ... Sometimes the things that you dread the most in life becomes the thing you find a passion about after all."



Middle School Class President Quinn Van Cara '23 presented remarks during the annual Middle School Promotion Ceremony. The event was capped with the singing of *The Climb* by Alexander and Mabe by the eighth graders, followed by The Ethel Walker School song.



MEMBERS OF THE EIGHTH GRADE CLASS:

Kyla Birk
Madison Donelson
Emily Franzl
Sydney Frechette
Talia Gordon Wexler

Alexia Grech
Eleanor Lardner
Etta Rathbun
Kate Samson
Darby Sheldon

Quinn Van Cara
Noa Van Der Klis
Sydney Zarb
(not pictured is
Sydney Frechette)

Associate Head of School Amy Wheeler and Middle School Director Lee Ann Harris (pictured at right) presented the following awards during the ceremony:



HIGHEST ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT
Grade 8
Darby Sheldon '23



HIGHEST ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT
Grade 7
Molly Thacker '24

What is the Gwen Couch Award?

During the early years of the Walker's Middle School, Ms. Gwendolyn "Gwen" Couch built a community based on friendship, citizenship, and a curiosity for learning. She had a way of bringing students together and encouraging them to be their best selves. Ms. Couch held dear the Walker's traditions that fostered and deepened our common bonds. For these reasons, the Gwen Couch award is given to the Middle School student who best embodies those admirable traits of our beloved Ms. Couch: a warm welcome for all, a sense of creativity, strong school spirit, a joy of learning, and kindness to everyone. Ms. Couch is the mother of Meghan "Mega" Couch-Edwards '10 and Alicia "Liss" Couch-Edwards '07.



GWEN COUCH AWARD
Eleanor Lardner '23

Walker's annual fundraising efforts garnered outstanding results thanks to the generosity of our alumnae, parents and friends of the School.

With two exceptional donor challenges, Walker's realized the largest annual fund campaign to date.

This year was the most successful Annual Fund year on record for Walker's and we are so proud of what this collective support represents for our educational mission and the experience of our students, faculty and staff.

A \$100,000 challenge was offered to grow our Annual Fund to \$1,600,000, a 15% increase from the \$1,392,000 raised in fiscal year 2018. Our loyal donors exceeded the challenge giving \$1,911,342 to the annual fund, a 37% increase in dollars raised. Overall, our donor base grew by 16.5% with 951 donors supporting Walker's this year. Trustees gave generously, totaling 33% of the dollars raised for the annual fund. Faculty and staff responded to the challenge too, with 76% making a gift.

In late spring, a \$1,000,000 pledge was made to match annual fund gifts of \$25,000 or more given from April to June. Twenty-nine donors answered the late spring \$1,000,000 Challenge as members of the Sundial Society, Head's Circle or

An Extraordinary Year of Philanthropy!

Dr. Emma Mitchell works with Nora Griffiths '21 and Lizzy Strapp '21 during Honors Physics 9



to the new Copper Beech Society, leading Walker's to a record-setting year of annual giving.

Why is support of the Annual Fund for Walker's so important to our School?

All independent schools rely upon annual giving.

The Annual Fund for Walker's represents an integral component of our operating budget, bridging the gap between tuition and the true cost of attendance. It provides support for student programming, resources in our classrooms and need-based financial assistance to admitted students. It also supplements faculty salaries, covers expenses for postseason sports competitions and arts events, snow removal, and the maintenance of Walker's facilities. And so much more!



What is the Copper Beech Society?

Earlier this year, an inspired group of alumnae leaders who recognize the importance of growing the resources of the School came together to create the new Copper Beech Society. The Copper Beech Society's name is drawn from the landmark tree that graces the front lawn of our Chapel. These donors have each committed a gift of \$100,000 or more to the Annual Fund for Walker's and completing their gift in 1-3 years. Copper Beech members are committed to supporting Walker's annually at a leadership level. Twelve alumnae joined the Copper Beech Society by June and the Society will continue to grow. These inspired donors are deeply committed to seeing giving to all Walker's Giving Societies grow each year.

Take Note

We're excited to have a number of new volunteers as class correspondents.

New correspondents are noted with a Sundial icon  near their names.

Please be sure to keep in touch with them to share your news.

There are still classes needing correspondents. Please call Director of Alumnae Relations, Marion Paterson P'17, '19 at +1 (860) 408-4257 if you are interested. A big THANK YOU! to all class correspondents, continuing and new. Your work is invaluable in keeping our whole community connected!

1939

1940 **REUNION**

1941

1942

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

1943

1944

1945 **REUNION**

1946

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

1947

Joan Ferguson Ellis

The contact information for our class correspondents has been removed to protect their privacy but we want to hear from you! Please send your news to alumnae@ethelwalker.org.

Ruth Cummings Mead

The contact information for our class correspondents has been removed to protect their privacy but we want to hear from you! Please send your news to alumnae@ethelwalker.org.

1948

1949

1950 **REUNION**

1951

1952

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

1953

Susan "Susie" Kleinhans Gilbertson
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Suzanne "Suzy" Patterson is cold and thinks maybe she should have stayed in Paris. This too shall pass. She's disappointed that she can't see our dear friend **Pamela "Pam" Price Houk** in Paris. Suzy adds that Pam is looking well.

Roberta "Bobbie" Gerstell Bennett is busy as usual and was hoping to get some travel accomplished in the spring.

Class correspondent, **Susan "Susie" Kleinhans Gilbertson** is back in Florida and in culture overload. She says, "No complaints. David Brooks lectured

yesterday and was espousing everything EWS does. He is high on community and finds it sorely lacking in the age of social media. He is noticing small groups forming to help one another and finds it especially useful for young children. Many women are leaders in this movement as well as husbands and wives. They give dinners and when you arrive the handshake is unacceptable. The hug is the password. At Christmas there was one child who had never seen a present and had no idea what the wrapping and ribbon was! Very little about politics except to say all the tribalism could be a result of the loneliness and less fury could be helped by more interactions. Politicians are good people who love their country and work hard. It's in Washington where they get mixed up. My family had a great reunion in January at Sunday River. Only four missing out of 22 including me with a cold. They skied, karaoked, snowshoed and hiked their way through a fun week of just being together again. Such fun and no fights! I join Bobbie in saying God bless the USA and thank God for EWS!"

"Thank you, Susie, for keeping all of us up to date on EWS," says **Louise "Rusty" Hodgman Huff**. She continues, "I am enjoying my years at Trillium Woods, a senior community in Plymouth, MN. Lots of activities and wonderful new friends. However, I still miss all of my Walker's friends. Love to all, Rusty Huff."

1954

Betty Richards Tripp

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First to respond to my request for news was **Anita Larsen Sullivan** who called to say that she had no news, after which she mentioned that three grandchildren have weddings scheduled for 2019 and she will be travelling to all of them. One will take place in Chicago, another in Rhode Island and a third outside of Philadelphia. Anita, who became a great grandmother in May, marvels at little Ben's progress which she sees weekly thanks to Facetime.

Katherine "Kathie"

Somerville Steele, now well settled into her new house in St. Simons, GA, says that she is looking forward to seeing **Betty Richards Tripp** in March and "welcoming in year 83 with her."

In response to an open question posed to classmates about whether age has slowed down their travel, there were interesting responses.

Karen Bisgard Alexander

mentioned some of the preferred comforts for us of a certain age: bathrooms en suite and grab bars everywhere top the list. She added, "I spent lots of 2018 visiting children and reducing my exposure in civic duties, while recognizing with joy that the young can do it all better than I."

Frannie Haffner Colburn writes, "I am still traveling; Florida in early January including a long weekend with **Maria Salome Casanova Aguero** in Miami. In February I will be in Louisiana for my niece's wedding in New Orleans and a 'road trip' along the Mississippi with my sister **Phoebe Haffner Andrew '56** and in March, a trip to Jordan."

On the subject of travel, **Nell Rainer Levy** commented, "I have slowed down a lot. Arthritis runs in my family and I have it. Sometimes it seems like all over my body. I exercise twice weekly and am starting balance therapy next week. Travel is out because walking can be very difficult." Nell goes on to say, "On the other hand, my life is quite pleasant. I play bridge, go out to dinner, read, see my family (two children, four grandchildren and six great grandchildren). Four live in Florida but the rest are in Memphis. A good friend comes over several nights a week. So I am lucky in many ways." She ends with wishes for all of us to have a good 2019.

Glenn Shannon Whipple writes of her travels, "As always, we spend our summers at home since the weather is so marvelous! Then in September, we took another cruise with American Cruise Lines on a riverboat down/up the Columbia/Snake Rivers, following the Lewis and Clark expedition of 1802-04. Had an excellent river historian who lectured every day on the trail that they followed. On our ship we had a luxury that they would never have dreamed possible! Had a great time and met some really good friends! Over Thanksgiving we went to Fort Worth for doctor's appointments, etc., and Oggie's oldest daughter and her husband came in from their farm to spend the day with us on Thanksgiving. On December 6, I was downtown delivering posters for our upcoming Community Choir of which I've

been a member since we moved up here, and fell HARD on the concrete pavement! Gouged my chin out, sprained my hands and my jaw seemed all whompy, but the dentist x-rayed it and did not find any fracture. It was still sore, but I continued to sing, eat and talk until eight days later, when I was eating a sandwich before going down to Las Cruces to visit Oggie's youngest daughter, and I heard a loud CRACK! Sure enough, I had broken my jaw ... turns out ultimately in three places! My jaw was wired shut for six weeks, and as I am writing this I have one more week to go! Not an advised way to lose weight, that's for sure! I'm so sick of Ensure and soup I could scream! But hopefully, next week, he will be able to clip the wires that are joining my teeth together, and I can at least start having some soft foods.

We went ahead and traveled to Denver for Christmas, which has become an annual affair, and although I could only sit there and have soup while everyone else had turkey and dressing and beef tenderloin, we had a lovely time. Our visit was cut short because of impending winter storms in New Mexico, so we left Christmas afternoon to start heading home. Good thing we did, because by the time we reached Ruidoso, it was snowing and continued to snow for the next three or four days, totally locking us in with a total of 26"! Had been able to get to the grocery store before we were totally socked in, which was fortunate!"

Kathryn "Katie" Auchincloss Porter and Jim are ensconced in their Portland, ME retirement community. She notes that she visited with **Patricia "Patsy" Blun Deetjen** in September and stays in touch with her regularly by phone. Katie, who lives two hours from Boston, would love to meet with other classmates living in the region. If you are interested in meeting in Boston, please contact Katie or me.

Major news from **Patricia "Patsy" Kelly McCornack**: "My life is about to change, big time! I moved to a retirement community, River Mead in Peterborough, NH. I am thrilled about the move. I have promised myself the following: no more committees, board memberships, or saving of the world. I am going to read, play bridge and mah-jongg and any other game that turns up, do crosswords, listen to music, knit, take classes in pottery and pastel painting. I may do a modicum of cooking, but maybe not. In other words, I am going to become a lady of leisure and selfishly do only things that I thoroughly enjoy! I hope I can do it, as I think I have earned it! Somehow, however, I am always saying 'yes', I can help. Hopefully, a new leaf is about to be turned!

I still love the Vineyard and my friends there and will try and keep the house for summer and fall visits. This year has been like all the preceding ones; serving on the Dukes County Health Council and the Featherstone Center for the Arts until I resigned, enjoying an active enough social life, and having Stu and Nancy and their families here together for two weeks in the summer. There are, of course, other visits with them throughout the year as well as with my sisters and their families. We enjoyed a great reunion at Seddon's on Lake George this

summer with all five siblings and most of their kids — the best! We are hoping to repeat that again this year, maybe at Walter's in Denver. That's all for now! If anyone is thinking about a retirement home and wants to check out River Mead, give me a buzz!"

One of our West Coast classmates, **Pauline "Polly" Barnes Hester** notes that she and her husband have not moved to a retirement home so far. They keep busy with golf and bridge, with occasional walks for exercise. "Golf carts are a boon to us! I've been on the West Coast since 1958, first to California, then Washington and now back to California in Palm Desert. We do go to Washington in the summers — heat too much for us here. Can't complain, life is good."

A photo of the beautiful view from **Mary Stein Dominick's** porch accompanied her recounting of a fine Christmas week in Montana with the whole family (a total of 15) staying in two houses. In early January, Mary and Sven celebrated their fourth anniversary. Mary still skis and her memoir, now in the printer's proof stage, is soon to be published, once she and her memoirist complete the review process. Hoping for an update in our next Take Note.



A beautiful photo of the view from Mary Stein Dominick's '54 porch.

Take Note

A short visit in Vero Beach, FL recently has me, **Betty Richards Tripp**, in the mood for my upcoming month in St. Simon's Island, GA where I hope to spend lots of time with **Katherine "Kathie" Somerville Steele**. Just as other classmates have mentioned, when home I have cut back on civic commitments and am enjoying more time looking at my garden, which a famous horticulturist taught me to appreciate in winter as well as summer. My deteriorating back has limited my trips to New York City but I still manage an occasional visit in Boston with **Frances "Frannie" Haffner Colburn** and more frequent trips to the renowned repertory theater in Cambridge with friends.

On an extremely sad note, I end with **Helen Harvey Mills'** writing that her son, Julian, died October 5, 2018. Helen says "EWS included him in a bell ringing ceremony which was moving and comforting especially since Julian, the founder of two bands, knew a great deal about music. The bands played in a number of venues including CBGB's and even in Britain for a John Peel Session on BBC1. Now I have his whole record and book

collection." I know that all of us will want to include our deepest sympathy to Helen.

1955 REUNION

Letitia "Tisha" McClure Potter
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1956

Adrienne "A" Massie Hill
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2018 was a milestone year for many of us, not ALL of us as I am reminded, but we have celebrated with friends and family, at home and abroad. A friend hosted a birthday luncheon for me at Lenbrook, and one of the cards that I received included many facts about the year 1938: a new house cost \$3,950, gasoline was 20 cents per gallon, a new car \$750, milk was .50 per gallon, a movie ticket .25, U.S. postage .03, 2,496,000 babies were born, and the Dow

Jones average was 132. A major event in 1938 was the hurricane in September.

Serena Stewart and I have been in touch quite a bit this past year. Serena moved to a new apartment in New York, and I recalled when visiting her in her lovely apartment a few years ago that she had the complete scores of the Gilbert and Sullivan operettas that we performed at School. Boldly, I asked if she had kept them, "No," she said, and then remembered that she had! She thoughtfully mailed them to me as I had foolishly discarded them. So grateful, Serena. Serena had dinner in New York last August with **Patricia "Pat" Love Anderson** and her husband, Derek, and more recently, returned from a trip to Madagascar where she discovered the lemur! Serena faithfully continues her work at Hope Lodge.

Lorna Sergeant Pfaelzer wrote to say that last September she and her husband had plans to visit Venice with **Mary Fentress Grumhaus** and her husband, David. The two couples have previously traveled together and had great fun.

Gail Sheppard Moloney continues to move gracefully as she visits her three daughters who are scattered in England, Arizona, and Vermont! Gail spends her winters in Vero Beach, and Greenwich during the summer. Gail wrote on her Christmas card that the thought of her 80th birthday was dreadful, and so to combat that feeling, she celebrated a lot: two wonderful luncheons, one hosted by her lovely sister, **Lynn Sheppard Manger '59**, in New York followed by celebrations in Connecticut.

Phoebe Haffner Andrew moved from her home in the northern part of Seattle to a lovely area in town, called Broadmoor, where we first lived in Seattle

until 1970. It seems that our 80th year coincides with graduations of grandchildren, (my daughter Louise's son followed by two more in Seattle). "Then am off to Germany with the youngest three. On to Lake Como with all the family to celebrate my 80th. I'm stopping for two days in Geneva to see **Clarina Schwarzenbach Firmenich**." Phoebe wrote that she went to New Orleans for a niece's wedding in February, and then traveled with her sister, **Frannie Haffner Colburn '54**, while there. Phoebe celebrated Thanksgiving with her whole family at her home on Salt Spring Island, one of the Gulf islands in British Columbia, and then Christmas with all of her family in her new house in Seattle. We hope to see Phoebe this summer as we plan to be in Seattle for the month of July.

Barbara Richards Pitney, who lost her husband, Phil, last year, sent a thoughtful Christmas note. "Thank you for your support these past months as I try to find myself and fill Philip's shoes. Twenty-seven years as an item, filled with memories, wonderful conversations, and fabulous photos makes me feel so fortunate." Barbara and I shared two favorite friends who lived near her in Bernardsville, NJ.

Nancy Lanphier Chapin sent her latest news. "I had a wonderful trip to England to visit my cousin for a few days. She and her husband live in a delightful thatched roof house in Surrey. I felt a little like Alice in Wonderland as they certainly live in another world! I then went to Sweden to join my granddaughter and her mother as they toured around the country visiting my daughter-in-law's relatives. We had a delightful time visiting their various summer homes, and slipped into both Gothenburg and Stockholm to stay in the empty apartments for a glimpse of city life. Great fun!" Nancy



Jenny Stewart Chandler '55 and family celebrating her husband Bruce's 90th birthday in Upper Michigan.

is working with a local branch of the University of Illinois to develop the public history program through an exhibition hall featuring local history. Nancy and her late husband, Chick, were both immersed in the history of Abraham Lincoln. Nancy's youngest daughter moved in with her last fall "with her three horses and an 85-pound dog. It is quite nice to have someone to share things with!"

Sara Cavanagh Schwartz and I had several emails exchanges during the past year which I have greatly enjoyed. Sara writes "With the cost of printing and newsprint being so high, we (Sara and her husband, Sandy) decided in December 2016 to close down the print edition of "The Horse of Delaware Valley," but I then opened an online publication of "The Horse," which has been doing quite well. I usually put up about 8-10 stories a week, all with photos, so while doing it online has been a huge learning curve, I really enjoy it, and we're getting quite a few ads. I have a 2-year-old homebred filly who will go to Jonathan Sheppard next spring to race (I don't like racing 2-year-olds). And I have a homebred mare who won on the track and is in foal to Redeemed. I continue to love gardening and have more garden beds that I can keep up with, but it's fun. With all the rain we had last spring and summer, all my flowers had very odd reactions — the phlox continued blooming right up into fall while the dinnerplate dahlias didn't even start blooming until fall. While I still miss my dear friend, **Caroline "Cookie" Schutt Brown**, her husband, children and grandchildren remain close. They all came here for Thanksgiving, and we have an annual Christmas party where we go to Longwood Gardens which is gorgeous at Christmas, and then come back to our house for dinner." Thanks, again, Sara, for your notes, and especially for your news about Cookie.

Virginia "Gigi" Pearson

Smithers wrote that "her oldest grandson is newly married and experiencing a run of great success in the music business. His band is called Bishop Gunn, and he is the lead guitarist. They are performing all over the country as the opening act to some more famous bands. They have made one album and will be touring in Europe in March. Pretty exciting for a young married couple; his wife gets to go as she manages the band and arranges their performance dates." For many years Gigi has been creating Sailors' Valentines. One of her instructors, Constance Marshall Miller, will be featured in *The Vero Beach Magazine*. As several of our classmates are in Vero Beach during the winter months, perhaps you will have seen this article.

A great note came in recently from **Clarina Schwarzenbach**

Firmenich: "We [her companion, Dusan Sidjanski, and she] are well. I have cut down a little bit on my activities, not as much energy as before. My hospital cancer work was cut in half as the lady who directs the workshops thinks our work is not modern enough. Really ridiculous but nothing we can do, sadly. Dusan is still very active at 92!! Being passionate about his work keeps him going. We had a really lovely Christmas in Verbier as usual. The big plus was my son, Patrick's, new chalet so we got to see them every day which was a real gift. My son, Antoine, and his family will be here in February from Singapore. I'm really looking forward to that, too. Dusan's son and family live in Geneva so we see them often. The biggest joy is our little Jack Russell. She is too adorable and funny and will be two in March. We are besotted by her!"

Barbara Bidwell Manuel wrote that "60 is the new 40, so that must make 80 like the new 60!" I like that thought, Barbara! Some of us have talked about returning

to school for our 65! "**Gail, Serena, Edie Radley**" and I went back for the 60th (and were treated royally!). It is so exciting to get to know our new head of school, Meera, and her husband, Eric. Wow is Walker's lucky, is all I can say. I know the school will continue to thrive under Meera's leadership. Also went to a Walker's gathering in Boston, and again, so impressed by the vibrancy. It's been an incredibly busy summer with our Church having events every week ... Noel Coward's "Blithe Spirit," organ concerts, brass concerts, and other concerts which you, Adrienne, would have loved, including works by Arvo Part and Esenwald." Agree totally, Barbara. All of you may recall that a few years ago, Barbara came to Atlanta with the choir, including her son-in-law, a trumpeter, and the choir was outstanding. Please come again, Barbara.

2018 was another musical year for the Hills here in Atlanta. We have become aficionados of the Metropolitan Opera HD series, the live broadcast on certain Saturdays throughout the year. I can honestly say that the best experience would have to be in Santa Fe, NM, right in **Dorothy Doubleday Massey**'s Collected Works Bookstore & Coffeehouse where, before each HD showing at 11:00 a.m., there is a lecture about the opera at 9:30 a.m. We are fortunate to receive the broadcast emails from the shop, and the variety of lectures, programs and "happenings" make me envious.

Mal and I sang throughout last year, our 14th year in the choirs at the Cathedral of St. Philip, but decided that it was time "to hang up our singing shoes." Mal, at 92, is having some 92-year-old knee problems, making all the walking, standing, climbing stairs too difficult to continue as a singer and also as a lay reader which he has been for 55 years! I found that singing in two choirs was too arduous for me as the

commitment involved many hours weekly of rehearsing and singing. (I heard the voice of my father who would have said, "Are you using your head?") The happy consolation prize, however, is that I can enjoy attending the services, singing the hymns with spirit, and honestly, having more time to digest the service, not being a "working" singer. My two-piano partner and I continue to get together often. We refer to our two pianos as "The Girls."

We are enjoying living near our older son, Mal, and his family; we are eager attendees at all of their Grandparents' Days, able to celebrate every holiday, birthday, everything, so that our move to Atlanta from Seattle is reaffirmed. Our son, Gordon, a lawyer in Denver, visited here three times, and is quite enamored of his niece and nephews. The children think of Uncle Gordon as their new toy! Although we had our travel wings clipped a bit last year, we do have plans to go to Seattle for the month of July, of course planning to see Phoebe, and step back into our former lives there. It's a beautiful spot filled with many good friends.

1957

Sandra "Sandy" Lipson Ryon
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Laurie Mack McBride and her family have lived on their ranch, Lost Marbles, in Snowmass, CO for 40 years and have saved it from development. They cross-country ski right out of their back door and all still enjoy downhill skiing, tennis, hiking and ping-pong in winter after Sunday suppers. Laurie's son, Peter, showed his movie "I Take Canyon" (about the Grand Canyon) at the Gasparilla Inn in Boca Raton, FL and Rizzoli

Take Note

at Brooks published his new book "The Grand Canyon from River to Rim." Laurie and other friends from her valley take eight kids to Kenya, Africa every year for two weeks. They have to apply and donate money themselves. Two friends of the McBride's are their guides and chaperones, a teacher and a nurse. They camp out — it changes their lives! Laurie is a watercolor artist. Her card featured a wonderful African lion watercolor painting — she's very talented! Laurie, **Karen Peterson Earle** and **Patricia "Pat" Day Storm** are all meeting in NYC to celebrate their 80th birthdays! Family is happy and healthy. Cheers!

Karen Peterson Earle sent an update while she was in Boca Grande, FL staying at the Gasparilla Inn — surprise! She had no photos with her but it was her third year visiting Boca Grande. Her husband, Victor, and she have eight grandchildren between them. He has three daughters and six grands, and Karen has one son, one daughter and two grands. They all get along! Victor and Karen are both retired and now live at the end of Long Island in Amagansett. They visit NYC a lot. Her son lives in Seattle and works in computers. Her daughter is the head of the art department at Avenues School in NYC. They all come together in Amagansett in the summer. Karen plans to see **Pat Day Storm** and **Laurie Mack McBride** for an 80th birthday get-together in May in NYC and also plans to see **Joanie Garver**. Maybe **Kenny King Howe**, too. Karen is still in touch with **Pat Day Storm** almost every day (since kindergarten!).

Joan Garver Anderson lives in NYC. Unfortunately she has been ill for the past several years. She has a wonderful housekeeper and uses a walker at home and when she goes out. She says she keeps in touch with **Kenny King Howe** and **Pat Day Storm**. If anyone

would like to call her, the alumnae office will be happy to connect you. Email them at alumnae@ethelwalker.org.

Tory Kitchell visited her sister for a week in Boca Grande so they were able to catch up and had a fun lunch together. Tory has two sons in Wilmington and one in Richmond plus a daughter in St. Louis. She has 13 grandchildren and her nickname is "Goomie." Tory's business is Canine Partners for Life (CPL) and she's on its board of directors. It is based in Cochranville, PA and involves highly-trained service dogs who are taught to care for disabled people. CPL is funded entirely by donations. What a wonderful service.

I, **Victoria "Ginny" McMillan Lambrecht**, am enjoying my half-year stay in Boca Grande, FL where I have visited since 1948. I miss my beloved husband, Bob, who passed away three years ago but our two sons and wives visit often and also live nearby in Michigan. We have two grands graduating from high school this year and college-bound plus two sophomores in college, Grand Valley State in MI and Indiana University in Bloomington.

Carroll Davis Manol's first grandchild was married Sunday, June 9, 2019. He was living in Australia but his company has recently moved him to the UK, which is a little closer to Canada where Carroll lives. Carroll's daughter, Victoria, is nearby, but her son, James, lives in Vancouver.

Carroll and **Angelene "Angie" Pell** have stayed in contact since they were suite-mates their freshman year at Walker's. Angie is heading up to Canada to visit Carroll this summer as she has done almost every year.

Jean "Jinny" Tilt Sammis wrote to say: "Many thanks to **Virginia "Ginny" McMillan**

Lambrecht for urging us to send you some news. 2018 was the first full year of our not owning the Three Stallion Inn in Randolph, VT. A slightly strange feeling but one of relief. We are very happy that the Brunswick School of Greenwich has made it and 600 acres a part of their academic campus and alternative learning program. 2018 was a year of two hip surgeries for me plus fighting some unknown infection. The final (third) hip replacement was done this January with no more infection — thank goodness. All is well now. Not much singing this past year, but now starting up again. Because of my hip problems we stayed around Greenwich and Randolph, VT and enjoyed our grandchildren. A happy, healthy 2019 to all!"



Cousins Jean du Pont Blair '58 and Phyllis Mills Wyeth '58 in September 2018

her fresh vegetable garden and to swim. My husband used to take her into the salt water waves of Block Island, piggyback, when she stayed with us in the summer so she could float in the salt water. Phyllis' horse that won the Belmont, Union Rags, was sold and then she had a dream that Union Rags would soon win a significant race. Phyllis bought the horse back and it then won the Belmont. Phyllis loved going to visit the stables each day where the horses ran around."

1958

Barbara Welles Bartlett

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Elisabeth Bartlett Sturges

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It is with sadness that we announce the death of our classmate **Phyllis Mills Wyeth** on January 14, 2019 at the age of 78. Classmate, and cousin, **Jean du Pont Blair**, shared these fond memories of Phyllis with us: "Phyllis and Jamie's house had every possible space available taken up with all kinds of memorable knick knacks such as the Easter eggs Jamie painted each year, to souvenirs from you name it, to everything you can imagine regarding horse racing, to a pond inside the darling farmhouse.

Everything in her farmhouse, tucked down a secluded road in the country of Montchanin, was of a memory. Phyllis loved

1959

Elena Miller Shoch

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Elena Miller Shoch '59 and her husband, James



Martyn Smith Belmont '59 and
Elena Miller Shoch '59

Elena Miller Shoch writes: "I am absolutely thrilled to report that the response to my emails and letters has been a wonderful surprise! When Lynn gracefully retired in 2015 after over 20 years as class correspondent I volunteered to take her place, but my life got complicated and I never did. I apologize for not even trying to follow in her footsteps these last few years ..."

Finally, I am at my computer and very much enjoying connecting with so many of you. Thank you to the 16 (out of 39) classmates who have responded to my request for news! As we all have grown older I am hearing that our interests have changed and our energy levels diminished.

Family and grandchildren play a very important and supportive role in our lives, and health and well being are a concern. Fortunately, most of us have gotten to our seventies in good health in mind and body — let's keep it that way and watch where we step! Happily, no broken limbs were reported ... I find I am becoming much more selective and selfish about how to spend my "golden years" and I have finally decided not to spend so much time doing volunteer and community work. To that end,

Martyn Smith Belmont and I have finally almost retired from our jobs as local representatives for the Garden Conservancy. We spent 14 years finding outstanding local gardens to showcase on an annual garden tour which involved many many hours of research, planning and tedious paperwork. I continue to enjoy the Garden Club, but do not serve on the board or take leadership positions which has given me time for my very first book club, Cereus Readers, which I really enjoy. In our very learned group we read about gardens, and new ways of thinking about gardens and gardening, not how to garden. Most of all I enjoy our home and garden and working in it — how

could I not, in this almost perfect climate of Southern California?

My son, Matthew, and my daughter, Elena Madsen, and her husband and daughters (Claire 17, and Elsa, 14) live in San Francisco. Elena and her two female partners have a very successful creative business consulting company, and Matthew is involved in real estate business development and is still, at 44, an avid surfer and kite boarder — activities that are so risky they make my hair turn grey. I visit them both often, date on my lively "Grandgirls" and we have enjoyed family trips to Europe and Mexico with my sisters, Bobby (who lives in London) and **Martha Miller De Lombera '63**, who now lives in Queretaro, Mexico. After a lifetime in Mexico City, Martha has finally given up on the smog, pollution and congestion of our birthplace.

Our frequent travels have been curtailed as my husband, Jamie, has had some serious health issues which have compromised his activities, and the kind of travel we so often enjoyed together ... no more long European driving trips. This year we hope to be celebrating our 25th anniversary with a leisurely Baltic cruise. I always thought cruising was for seniors, but now we ARE seniors, and it is a lovely, easy and very comfortable way to travel. I am grateful for the good health and energy that I still have, and family and longtime dear friends that I enjoy seeing and being with. As **Martyn**, (whom I see all the time) says in her notes, "Life is good, come to Pasadena and visit us both!"

It is hard to believe that we have had our 60th Reunion. Unfortunately, at the last moment I was unable to attend, but **Meg Lindsay, Lynn Sheppard Manger, Lucy Rosenberry Jones** and **Ann Middleton Buckley** represented all of us there.

Here in the words of our classmates, is THEIR news:

Anne (Dobbin) Bailleire: Not much news to report — I have been a widow for 3 years — Tom died January 17, 2016. I stayed in our house in Baltimore — have lived here for 50 years! Since both my daughters live in CA — Lisi in San Francisco and Alexandra in Mill Valley — with husbands and three children each, my excuse for staying is that I want to have room for them all to be able to come and stay here — even though that doesn't happen very often, because I usually go West, and they spend much more time visiting me on Nantucket! Also, I now have two grandchildren on the East Coast: Lisi's Eliza is a freshman at Colby and her son, Nicholas, is a freshman at Andover. I have two grandchildren who are now juniors in high school and are looking at colleges — maybe they, too, will end up on the East Coast! While in Florida — in Hobe Sound — I had lunch with **Abra Prentice Wilkin '60** — I hadn't seen her for 60 years, and it was incredibly fun to catch up with her and hear from her about other EWS friends whom I haven't seen for so many years!

I often speak with **Nancy Gerdeau Graves** who is living in Portland, OR. Of all our classmates, Nancy is the one who has been a wonderful constant in my life. We shared many adventures with our husbands and she often came to Nantucket in the summer. Needless to say, I cherish the many memories I have of our times together. She has never failed to make me laugh!

Elizabeth "Betsy" Cain Johns writes: "What a good surprise to hear from you. I do so clearly remember visiting you in Mexico City and what a wonderful time I had. I have lived in Texas now for many years — Houston and now a now in a small coastal village in South Texas near Corpus Christi.



Elena Miller Shoch '59 and her family

Take Note

I have been fortunate to travel numerous times to Mexico to visit friends but not recently."

Roberta Downs Sandeman Houghton — Lynn Sheppard Manger reported that she was at the engagement party for Roberta last fall before her marriage to Arthur Houghton and was glad to see Roberta so happy, and as always, still very glamorous. I had a quick email that the newlyweds are presently in Gstaad — Congratulations to both of you! I look forward to seeing you again after all these years.

Meg Lindsay has become a very well-known painter and poet; some of her paintings were shown at the Alumnae Art Exhibit at our Reunion weekend!

"My good news is that a literary press, Finishing Line Press, published my book of poems about the process of painting. It is available on Amazon if you search "Meg Lindsay, A Painter's Night Journal." My poems and paintings can be seen on my website: www.meglindsayartist.com. I continue to paint and show as I have done for over 40 (!) years now. Three of my paintings were on exhibit at our 60th Reunion. My son Nick is in Wellesley, MA with his wife and 3 children, one of whom is at Cornell in ROTC, another is graduating from high school a year early excelling in math/physics and a performing jazz pianist, and the youngest, 14, is performing jazz trumpet in state competitions. The music gene got passed on!"

Is anyone else considering moving into a CCRC? My husband Gary and I are contemplating that move sometime in the next 1-3 years and are on the wait lists for CCRC in New Hampshire because my son is in the Boston area. These are difficult issues compounded by the concern to be near the best medical care and find a more affordable area than NY metro. It would be great to hear from classmates how they are dealing with the issues of how to



Lynn Sheppard Manger '59 and her family

cope with our futures and aging. Many our age want to avoid the scenarios we dealt with in the past when our own parents faced similar issues."

Lynn Sheppard Manger says, "Life has settled into a quieter routine. Bill is not out and about so much anymore, so we read more and watch TCM movies. I still find time for my interests, but not as often. Luckily we were able to share so many wonderful memories.

Priscilla "Penny" Roosevelt — I am very sad to report that Penny and Kermit's beloved daughter Corinne, died in a scuba accident in Puerto Rico in April of 2017. Words fail us all when a child is forever lost.

News from **Martyn Smith**

Belmont: "I am still living in Pasadena, selling houses and involved in the community. I am on the Board of La Casita Foundation, a community meeting house and native garden and I am on a committee to help save the Pasadena street trees. Because I hate the gym, I stagger around the tennis court by taking clinics 3-5 days a week and regularly drive carpools for my four youngest grandchildren. My oldest grandson, Shane, was married in October, so perhaps

her brothers teaching her every bad word in the book). It is a very busy family and I help out by driving carpools and bringing up conversations their parents don't want to know about. Life is good. Come see Elena and me in Pasadena."

Esperanza "Pichi" Alfaro reports "Besides being 77 and still going like the Energizer Bunny ... I am (thanks to the Lord) working again (part time) in the same business I worked at up until 2014. This has been great for my existence as well as my 'pseudo grandchild,' Matias. That kid has filled the 'grandchild' space in my soul. My most memorable time in 2018 was spending 10 days in Madrid with my 101-year-old aunt in November where we celebrated my 77th birthday."

Winifred "Wendy" Baker Mackall shares "I live in Narragansett and my daughter lives with me, while my son and his family live about a 45 minute drive upstate. I work two jobs: one as a companion to a 35-year-old adult male, and the other doing home care. I've also been taking photos of my garden, the surf and wildlife, which I've made into cards and am selling with part of the proceeds going to the homeless."



Esperanza "Pichi" Alfaro '59 (second from left) with her youngest sister, daughter Carla (46 yrs. old), niece Christina and son Rafael (almost 51 yrs. old)

Ann Middleton Buckley

reports, "I am so fortunate to have my lovely family close by. No one is more than an hour or so away. Much of this past year has been spent enjoying time with all at Cubs or Bears games, playing sports and celebrating holidays. Although I sold my travel agency, I am still involved in developing wonderful trips and celebrations for many clients. I have been so fortunate in the last 38 years to visit seven continents and 49 countries! This spring I will visit Croatia. But my heart belongs to Africa! I enjoyed seeing my classmates at the 60th reunion. Are we really that old? Don't feel like it."

"My granddaughter, **Lucia '21**, started at EWS this past fall in tenth grade," says **Lucy Rosenberry Jones**. "Her mother is my daughter, **Sarah-Jane McCarthy Markoe '80**, so we are a three generation EWS family. Lucia loves the school. In May of 2017, my husband and I were on a music trip in the UK. We went to the Royal Academy of Music in London to see and learn about their instrument collection. We heard a very interesting talk by a knowledgeable and generous donor. In the middle



Lucy Rosenberry Jones '59 with her daughter (left) Sarah-Jane McCarthy Markoe '80, her granddaughter, Lucia-Hope Markoe '21



Nancy Rathborne '59, her son, Ned Roberts, with Ned's children, Finley and Georgia.

of that night, I thought that must have been **Elise Becket Smith**. At breakfast I found out from our guide that it was she, and he texted her about me. She suggested getting together, but we were leaving for Scotland that morning. What a small world! And thank you to Lynn and Elena for keeping the class notes going."

Nancy Rathborne shares:

"Greetings! I love living in Florida, where I moved after my youngest son, Ned, was married. He and his wife, Michelle, live near enough

to me that I see them often. I enjoy activities with their children Finley (9) and Georgia (7). The children enjoy sailing camp, tennis camp, dance, piano and gymnastics. My oldest son, Henry, and his family live in the French Alps, and Nelson, my second son, works as an Uber driver and at Jersey Mike's. Needless to say the hurricanes were frightening and affected us all. Though my building was under demand evacuation, it was finally deemed to be safe, though Ned and his family were evacuated. I kept busy

and felt useful volunteering with the American Red Cross. In early 2018, I went to Washington, DC to celebrate my Aunt Page's 99th birthday. Page was my mother's sister to whom I was very close. Unfortunately, Page did not live to celebrate her 100th and passed away in late 2018. All is well with me, and I am fortunate to be able to enjoy my life and having my children and grandchildren near enough to enjoy our time together and our activities."

Jane "Janie" Sullivan Reese

writes "Our news is nothing exciting. We sold off 90% of our farm in Pennsylvania to our neighbor who is keeping it a farm and making it beautiful, so we are happy about that. We've kept a couple of houses on a few acres so we still go there on weekends. I am fully retired now and totally enjoying it. Spent a good deal of time this past year volunteering for local Democratic women in Virginia who were running for Congress. Luckily, most of them won! David still teaches Georgetown medical students three days a week and hopes to continue till they kick him out! Other than that, we're still doing some travelling while we are both still vertical. We saw **Nancy Rathborne** when she came to DC for her Aunt Page's funeral."



Ann Middleton Buckley's '59 family

Take Note



Elise "Sis" Becket Smith '59 and her family on Christmas morning 2018

Elise "Sis" Becket Smith says "We are both still firing on all cylinders. My principal extracurricular activities are still mostly to do with music and young musicians — for example, I still am involved with a classical music festival I founded in 2003 (tetburymusicfestival.org). We remain involved with the Smith School of Enterprise and the Environment that we established at Oxford University in 2008 (smithschool.ox.ac.uk). We move seamlessly from Oxford to our country house in the Cotswolds and a little pied-à-terre in London. Our two children and their charming spouses have provided us with five splendid grandchildren; all nine of them demonstrate their extraordinary skiing ability on our annual holiday in Zermatt. I will not be at the reunion, I'm afraid, but I send best wishes to all those who are able to attend. The picture is of the whole gang on Christmas morning. We had a wonderful few days with the whole family, Jeremy's in-laws, and one of my nieces. For some reasons the many dogs are not in the picture."

"I am still in Italy, in the Spoleto area, and was widowed a few years ago," writes **Ann Wood Metelli**. "My life is now limited

pretty much to family matters. I take care of my granddaughter (almost 6) every afternoon. That activity, plus gym classes, and following my husband's art on the market, shows, etc. keep me busy. There is not a lot of time for much else. There is a small group of American ex-pats in this area, so we get together when possible, and I enjoy hearing some up-to-date English. I still have the hilltop Castello property I was trying to develop, but have finally put it all on the market. The last time I was in New York, I talked to Meg — we are in email contact and she keeps me up to date on what Walker's girls are doing. I would be happy to see any of my classmates if your travels include the region of Umbria. Spoleto is in the province of Perugia, and very easy to get to as it is between Rome and Florence. A presto!"



Judithe Lange Bizot '59 in 2013

Judithe Lange Bizot died on June 2nd, 2015, at the American Hospital in Paris, six months after she was diagnosed with lung cancer. I, **Elena**, took this picture of her in Paris, in October of 2013. The last time I saw Judithe was in 2014 when we enjoyed time together in Paris with my granddaughter, her husband Joseph and son Polo and his wife.

1960 REUNION

Phyllis Richard Fritts
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As of 2/14/19...

Marilyn Hodges Wilmerding has moved to Denver for the winter months to avoid the Aspen snow and ice! A small world item, her daughter Katherine's husband and **Patty Warrender**'s husband are cousins. She's coming east for a wedding in Charleston in March and then south for a sunny Florida swing.

Phyllis Richards Fritts: I hope this finds you all "healthy and happy" as we slide into our mid 70s! As for me, Guy and I have

been traveling more. We went to Seattle for the weekend of January 5th for our older son's surprise 50th birthday. (Mimi, sorry, not a minute to call you!). Off to Lisbon at the end of March, then a cruise in August from Amsterdam via Iceland to Greenland. November was a blur as I got a new knee the day after Guy had an emergency pacemaker put in ... suddenly we had 24/7 home health aides for 2 weeks ... a necessary expense. We are both fine now, but I think my tennis playing days are over, sigh!"

Margot Campbell Bogert says, "Jerry and I spend the winters in South Carolina near Savannah and I go back and forth to New York to work with the Frick Collection. I saw **Mary Anne Margaretten** in San Francisco in December which is always a treat."

Carroll Townsend Tickner writes, "Life here is fun, great and hectic. John and I now have nine granddaughters and one grandson between our six kids. The girls range from 13 to newborn and Mateo is 18 months old and lives in Peru with our son, Jared, and his wife, Gisele. We visit them as often as we can and they spend a good chunk of the summer here in RI. To say we are blessed is a gross understatement. It's quite the time when they all gather here on the farm in the summer!!"

Patty Warrender says, "Anthony and I built a tiny house close to the beach on North Hutchinson Island, FL over the last year and we are really enjoying short getaways there. So easy, which is a relief from real life. We celebrated our 35th anniversary with a trip to Europe this fall. First: heaven in Tuscany at a tiny hotel that feels like you are a guest in someone's home. It was in a very small walled town, Pienza, filled with history and beautiful buildings. Carless virtually. Then a couple of nights in Rome where we did a day's walking tour and ate as only in Italy. The main goal of our trip was to continue

working on a family property issue which has been going on since WW2. Anthony's maternal grandfather was imprisoned and his properties in Dubrovnik were seized. It should be a book. We are on the second generation of attorneys who are almost exclusively devoted to justice for those treated unjustly during that war. It took until about 10 years ago and endless appeals to clear his name in the Supreme Court and then begin the incredibly slow and arduous job of trying to recover the properties or be compensated for them. It has been a truly amazing saga since our generation took on this task. Before that it was shrouded in secrecy likely for the shame of having been imprisoned. This trip was to complete the sale of a house in the walled city of Dubrovnik, and it seemed complete except signing off. Needless to say it didn't happen, due to bureaucratic issues that are always changing. However it will this Spring, requiring another trip. I love it there and am so touched by our attorney who has devoted so much of his life to those wronged. It did pour with rain every day of this trip but we had a wonderful time nevertheless.

Now reality has joined us. Anthony is facing foot reconstruction soon and I have been under the knife of a plastic surgeon involuntarily! Skin cancers from my youth — likely exacerbated by sunning on the roof at Walker's slathered in tanning oil! Horses and dogs are very much part of our life still, and with a Norwich Terrier puppy born three days ago. Hope to see some of you soon somewhere. I might reach out this spring while in FL during Anthony's recovery. May each of you stay in good health and enjoy the things you haven't had time for before, and of course, the generations to follow within our families."

Alicia "Ali" de Bidondo says, "I am not too good about sending news and maintaining contact with all of you, but it is great to

hear from you and I read all the news I get. I continue to live in Buenos Aires, where I have one daughter. My other daughter with her family of four boys, aged 6 to 12, moved to a city called Tandil four hours away from Buenos Aires, so we still see each other very frequently as we go back and forth all the time. I am now in Punta del Este, Uruguay where I spend two months at the summer beach house my parents had and which I share with my brothers. We all get together with our children and grandchildren which is lots of fun. This summer at one point we got to be 34 living in the same house which we enjoyed, despite the work and organization to have this work out with such a crowd. We had 13 kids from ages 12 to 6 and we managed to survive!!!! Last year I went to NY with my two daughters but I hadn't been around for so long that with just the family I really had no spare time to call friends, which was a shame. Next time I have to organize it differently so maybe I can get to see some of you. I always plan to try and go to the class reunions but something always comes up and since it is a major trip from Buenos Aires, I have not been too successful. I will still keep trying. If any of you happen to come down to this part of the world, let me know as I would love to see you."

Lucy Williams Irwin writes, "Hello everyone: checking in with the Class of 1960! Seems like yesterday. Three years ago, John and I moved to a retirement community — "IL" — independent living in the lingo of senior living. As we signed up we knew it was a sensible idea. However, the closer we came to actually moving in — we began to have second thoughts. Downsizing to a two-bedroom apartment was beyond challenging as a lifetime of gathering had to be cut hard. That said, once we moved, we were relieved and thrilled all at the same time ... plumbing problem, ceiling light

burned out, sluggish drain ... call maintenance ... not to mention many new friends. Our travel these days is mostly to see my children on the west coast or in North Carolina. John's girls all live close by. The children (47 to 57) are all leading really busy lives, and we are grateful to live in a vibrant and busy community. I am in charge of the Bluebird Trail in our wildlife refuge, refurbishing the suites with the administration and just finished chairing the holiday bazaar, one of two fundraisers run by the ILs to fund some of the excellent entertainment we have at Dunwoody. In my free time? I still love to read and knit and talk! Some things never change-right? Love and good health to you all! And Good Grief! Yes — in my "mid" 70s — how did this happen?"

Christy Hoffman Brown says, "Greetings classmates from my NYC apartment in Peter Cooper Village where I have lived for 44 years. My life is actively involved as a Registered Pet Therapy Team with my two Maltese pet therapy doggies. We visit patients at two Memorial Sloan Kettering facilities two days a week. Incredibly inspiring environments where I see the positive effects that my fluffies have on patients with varied kinds of cancer. Two days a week every semester I have audited a course at Baruch College (this semester it's Social Psychology).

My yearly travels often take me on European river cruises, or more local trips to Maine and New Hampshire (family). My son's life-long interest in owning race horses has now branched out into the bloodstock area where he is now breeding race horses and selling the foals ... much more lucrative than horse racing where he started. He is in corporate communications at KPMG in New Jersey where he lives with my wonderful daughter-in-law who is a nurse. Life is great. I work with a trainer once a week doing gyrotonics which is a proven system focused on keeping spine limber, relaxing muscles, building

core strength and ensuring great posture. And with two active doggies walking a lot is a given!"

Caryl Van Ranst Dearing shares, "As to our family, it has been an interesting year ... one spent getting new parts and replacing the ones we have ... all to the better. Jim had cataract surgery which was wonderful. I likened it to a "gift from God" when I had it as it was the first time I could see across the room without glasses. After Jim, I had a total right hip replacement which was successful; hope to play tennis and golf this summer. We will be taking our cancelled Alaska trip this June which should be a great time. We have been keeping ourselves busy with island life; both volunteering with the town and organizations. I also play mah-jongg and make time to knit almost every day to keep my fingers nimble and busy; always learning something. Jim volunteers on island and town committees while also playing tennis and golf. We see our children often; one with family in Needham, MA, one in CA and the other on the Vineyard. If any of you happen to be near Walker's, stop by to see the campus ... many good things are happening! Remember we have an important reunion coming up soon ... Class of 60 celebrating our 60th in 2020 ... 60 on 60. Keep the idea in the back of your mind and seriously give thought to coming for the celebration."

Susan Riegel Harding writes, "I think I did a mid year write-up because I'm sure I bragged about my daughter, Tatiana S. Riegel, being nominated for an Oscar for best editor ... she didn't win that but she did win the other two awards she was up for: The Independent Spirit Award and the A.C.E. Award (which is her peers). I had a nice little chat with Jane Fonda at the Oscars (love Grace and Frankie). Other than that I keep up with a book club, bridge, succulent gardening, symphony,

Take Note

The Met in HD at theaters, the Y a couple times a week and a personal trainer. I went on a short cruise with a friend ... was a fun time but too restricting for me, and got through it by playing bridge when not ashore.

I do several fundraisers for the church by putting on game nights for 26, A Ladies' Lavender Luncheon for 12 and Teaching groups of 4-6 in making succulent wreaths. I went through a second round of chemo when my lymphoma raised its ugly head ... this time also doing radiation (five days/week for four weeks). I feel so good, other than the usual pains of a 77 year old, that I mostly forget the cancer ... Life is good, particularly because I live in a part of town where I have nine restaurants within eight blocks and in a one story house. San Diego is still wonderful."

Ellen Corroon Petersen says, "I just had a lovely lunch with **Ann "Nanno" Carpenter Bienstock** in NYC. She is the only Walker's alum I see at all regularly. I'm about to leave for my annual week at the Elkhorn Ranch south of Tucson. It is getting harder and harder to get on and off that horse! I do love it though. This will be the first year without grandchildren which makes me a bit sad but Finn will be able to come with me in two years when he's six. It is a particular paradise for a city child. We are well and

still enjoying our complicated property. As I write, Eric is plowing the snow."

Abra Prentice Wilkin shares: "A few nice trips — a river boat cruise last April to see the tulips in Amsterdam, Christmas in Los Angeles with my son, Anthony, and his family. Last year we were in Colorado Springs with Jim's daughter, Laura, for the holidays. Why didn't I figure out earlier that it's so much easier to visit THEM rather than have all the winter family travel hassles of gathering in Chicago in December. We didn't even put up a wreath this year!"

I still remain on a few boards and enjoy being older and sometimes wiser among my new younger friends. Last September The Woman's Board at Northwestern Memorial Hospital asked three EWS alums to chair a benefit together: **Elizabeth Borland Blodgett '91**, **Holly Legler Cortez '91** and me. **Donya Sabet Soriano '90** flew out for the festivities along with **Gaby Porta Beecher '91** and **Vera Gibbons '85**.

Meanwhile, health issues continue to creep into all our lives. Fortunately mine have been comparatively minor: surgery for a blocked bowel, a fractured knee cap and a broken toe — the last happening my final night at Canyon Ranch during a nocturnal trip to the potty, not in an advanced Zumba class! Back

in Hobe Sound, FL now for the winter where I see **Alita Weaver Reed**, who lost her husband, Nathaniel, last summer. I am so looking forward to seeing ALL of you at our 60th Reunion. No excuses. We have nearly a year to plan ahead and what fun it will be to see everyone on campus again."

1961

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

1962

Sage Dunlap Chase
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From **Harrah Lord**: "OK ... wasn't going to contribute to class notes but started reading "Waking Up White" and found myself intrigued and fascinated and horrified. Got me thinking and rethinking. A wonderful suggestion. Thanks."

And now that I've started writing you, I might as well mention the Walker's gals we met up with last year. On account of our Airstreamin' winter getaway we shared a delightful dinner with **Elisabeth "Lisa" McCluney Delafield** and her husband, Mason, down in Boynton Beach; last summer in Rockport we got to have a jolly lunch with **Catherine "Cathie" Smith Leonard** and her husband, Ralph, at our favorite coffee shop; and enjoyed harbor-side dining with **Susan Carkhuff Evans** and her husband, Shell, up in Camden. All seem to be faring very well despite being in our mid-70s! Again I am reminded by how much I savor my EWS friendships. (Did you happen to read Mary Pipher's article in the NYT, "The Joy of Being a Woman in her 70s?" So right on, eh?) Though John

and I are slowing down a bit, we are savoring our time together: playing golf (not too well, but who cares?), volunteering at the boat club, appreciating where we live and the friendships we've made. AND I found a new passion: Pickleball! We leave for Tucson on 2/13 to visit my sister, Lonna (**Lonna Lord Davis '67**) and her husband who moved there last spring. Hope to see **Elizabeth "Betsy" Balis Goodear** in Phoenix. And then two weeks in Ireland in April to connect with what's left of John's relatives in Belfast. Hope the Brits figure out how to deal with Brexit and Northern Ireland. Yikes!"

From **Susan Carkhuff Evans**: "Thank you for the recommendation of *Waking Up White*. I would like to recommend *Dreamland* by Sam Quinones that explains the rise of the opioid epidemic and subsequent arrival of cheap Mexican heroin. I facilitate a group of bereaved parents and currently have five families whose 20-something sons with promising lives have overdosed. This is definitely a suburban as well as an urban problem and devastating. Our grandchildren are at risk."

Shell and I are coming to grips with our mid-70s. We did a self-guided hike of Hadrian's Wall in Northern England this fall which pointed out to us that we needed to factor age into our future plans. As a result we are not taking our boat to the Caribbean this winter (big sigh of relief on my part) and instead will be exploring Delray for a winter getaway. In addition to my bereavement group, I'm playing tennis as long as I can hobble onto the court and writing little books for my grandchildren of whom there are seven. The oldest just started Andover, the youngest just started pre-K. As I have said ad nauseum, I knew I would like being a grandparent but the role has over-delivered. I like them better as they get older, however. I'm not into staring lovingly into babies' eyes."



Chicago reunion with Holly Legler Cortez, '91, Abra Prentice Wilkin '60, Gaby Porta Beecher, '91, Donya Sabet Soriano '90 and Vera Gibbons '85

From Catherine "Cathie"

Smith Leonard: "I recently had a long breakfast with **Harrah Lord** at a tiny restaurant in Rockport, ME, where she lives and where I was babysitting my grandchildren. She's as gorgeous as ever and loves living by the seacoast with her husband, John. In December my daughter, two of her children and I attended the Walker's Holiday Ride where about 20 horses, decorated in lights, perform intricate drills with Christmas music accompaniment. So cool. My best news is that my son, Dan, is getting married to a wonderful woman in April. They live in Los Angeles where Dan is a producer of 60-second documentaries. Check them out online. So interesting. Ralph and I are healthy and active and will be celebrating our 50th anniversary in May. Still summering on Prince Edward Island with our six grandchildren.

P.S. I recently read all the Paths Not Taken stories and am amazed how much we have all been through in our lives since Walker's and how much we have accomplished. We're fabulous!"

From Sage Dunlap Chase: "I

(make that we!) have been terrible about submitting class notes! Please send any news to me that is OK to publish ASAP! Our news: Aside from Dick's "Bear is 80" family birthday bash at a local lakeside resort last summer, and a wonderful road trip to the Thousand Islands in September, we have had a quiet year with no further health problems. Our oldest granddaughter is getting married in November, which will bring our nuclear family to 28! Yikes! Cooking for all is no longer an option on the rare times we can all be together. **Mary Goodyear Glenn** and her husband are visiting this weekend, and I am looking forward to seeing **Marcia Corbin** in Aspen in March on our way home from visiting west coast kids. Unfortunately will not have time to include **Susan "Quinta" Symonds Bodin**,

Sara Hall Fargo or Linda Hale Bucklin this time ... Hope all of

you are safe and well and enjoying your lives. Wish our political mess would resolve — our youngest son is furloughed and seething. With much love to all of you.

P.S. A provocative book I would recommend reading is *Waking Up White* by Debby Irving ... forces each of us (from our lives of privilege) to confront our unconscious prejudices about other races, religions and ethnicities."

1963

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

1964

Cindy Higgins Roby

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Carla Meyer writes: "This last year has been consumed by the continued filming of the AVATAR sequels. The strange language the characters speak is created by a linguist, but the way they sound when they speak English ... that's my area: Lots of blue people chatting with a Na'vi Dialect. Half the fun has been spending set time with **Sigourney Weaver '67**.

She makes me very proud to be a Walker's alum with her. Her work ethic, sense of humor, incredible creativity, and wisdom make our long days go faster. Apart from work, Chuck and I continue to tend to our herd of quarter horses ... our eldest is 34!! I see **Lisa Palmer** and **Cindy Roby** but never often enough."

Helen Dickerson recites her joys: "I enjoy a deeply discounted season pass at my local ski mountain. Used to be free to

ski for 70+ folks, but now there are too many of us old hippies throwing ourselves down the mountains. There are no lift lines mid week! Going on ski trips to the big mountains out west with our ski club and discovering that I can still ski the bumps when the snow is soft! Sketching and painting at home and when Bruce and I travel. A sketch done on site brings back precise memories of who we were with, what we were doing, what the weather was doing, were there bugs, did we drink beer or wine, etc. Much more meaningful than snapping a photo. Our close circle of friends — our tribe. We share meals at holidays, co-own various tools like the table saw and the leaf blower, check on each others' driveways for snow removal when traveling in the winter, tap out the trees for maple sugaring, listen to each other's 'organ recitals' (our term for physical ailments), generally support each other with laughter and love. Making handmade Christmas/holiday cards and annual calendars. Watching Bruce create his latest children's book — his sketches and text — appreciating his incredible detail and thoughtful revisions. Dark chocolate in all forms!!! Beer — I consider it food. OMG — wearing comfortable shoes — ones that actually are made to fit my feet."

Celeste Royall Niarchos

reports: "I am fully retired from practicing law and enjoying life, golfing and playing with two adorable grandchildren."

"My eldest son, Jay, his wife, Ali, and three of my grandchildren live in Atlanta," says **Cindy Higgins Roby**. "Thank goodness for technology (our weekly Facetime chats) that keeps us in touch between visits. Son, Nick, lives and works locally. I am involved with several non-profits in the community and work in Sausalito's Visitor Center once a week."

Sylvia Brooks reports: "As I grow older, I find I have less startling news for our EWS class. Perhaps what gives me the most joy are my two grandchildren, Floris (almost three) and Feiko (a little over 1 year). I am in the unique position of having them both a 15 minute walk away here in Amsterdam so I see them once or twice a week. My son, Carel, daughter-in-law, Florentine, and the boys live in my old house. I have sensibly moved to an apartment across from a lovely park. I remain busy with other activities like exercise, pastoral counseling, a Bible study group and courses at a local university. I also occasionally travel here in Europe (am on my way to Croatia in June) and get to America once every two years. Traveling, once my passion, is less at the forefront as I grow older and am less nimble. Fortunately, I live in one of the most beautiful cities of Europe where there are a wealth of cultural activities to enjoy alone or with friends."

Patricia Ladd Carega: "I am writing this from London where I am visiting Francesca and her family — 4 children ages 10, 8, 5 and 3. Very lively! Magnolias and daffodils are out ... quite different from three degrees and piles of snow in Sandwich, NH. Then to ski in Corvara, Italy where I will meet Alessia and her family — two children: 5 and 2. Francesca, Marco and Livia will also join for a ski — a family reunion! Home to begin summer plans — Gallery opening just before Memorial Day weekend and a trip to Sun Valley to help Alessia with her move west. She has taken a position at the Sun Valley Community School as director of admissions. Marco and Thalita are living in Greenwich, and Livia in NYC. Everyone well and happy. When I get home from Italy/London trip, my new puppy, a chocolate lab rescue, will move in! Very exciting! I lost my best furry friend, Paco, last November to cancer. It has

Take Note

been a long winter without my hiking, skiing and everything buddy. Hope everyone is doing well and if you find yourself near Squam Lake, I am there!"

Karen Johnson Garrison reports: "I was recently talking with someone at a bridge game who was telling me the new head of school is really good."

Suzanne "Suzi" Chapin Berl says: "Sorry, I can't make reunion — the grandkids prevail — with two graduations and a crew race at Henley to attend this spring. I continue to be active in dementia nonprofit work. My husband and I have been on this journey for twelve years now. With his declining brain, each day brings a new adventure."

Suzanne "Suzy" Sivage Borland wrote from Palm Beach in March. Son, Sam, and his family were nearby in Boynton Beach; her daughter, Elizabeth, has a son at Pomfret.

1965 REUNION

Sarah Elting Doering
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From Joan Scherman Dorr: "I retired from being a home health aide, which I loved for 28 years, about 1-1/2 years ago. Now I can devote more time to being a hospice volunteer, volunteering at a nearby senior living facility, going to Virginia to visit my mom who is 95, crafts, walking and playing with our rescue dog and spending more time with my husband at our cottage in Northwood, NH. Life is good."

From Helen Frederick: "I'm off to Alaska to see the aurora borealis! I'm hoping that I don't freeze to death while I'm in Fairbanks, the Arctic Circle, and

a glacier near Denali. Some of the temperatures are even above ZERO. Yippee! I'll be doing some cross country skiing, hiking, and snowshoeing!"

From **Lacey Neuhaus Dorn:** "Not much news just yet. Is there a reunion plan in the works? If so, do you know when?"

From me, **Sarah Elting Doering:** "Fred and I are continuing our travel adventures between non-profit board commitments and fun with grandchildren. We sailed around the Society Islands in French Polynesia after New Year's this year — what a wonderful way to unwind after all the year-end holiday frenzy. We then spent five days 'unwinding' from that cruise on Moorea, snorkeling, exploring and kayaking. So lucky to be able to do this. Having our health in retirement is a blessing.

Yes, our 55th reunion is planned for the weekend of May 15-17, 2020. Let's all make an effort to be there. Walker's has changed so much (for the better) and for those who have not yet met our Head of School Meera Viswanathan you are in for a real treat. We had a wonderful time at our 50th, so let's add to our group for our 55th. More about that to come. Have a wonderfully happy and healthy 2019!"

1966

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

1967

Dianne "Dia" Wasley Chigas
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Jesseca "Posy" Ferguson '67, cover of pamphlet sewn artist book, cyanotype with drawings on Ontario Flax paper, 2018; 21x15 inches (opens to 21x30 inches). Photo credit: Jared Kuzia

Artist **Jesseca "Posy"**

Ferguson's handmade photography was included in the following exhibits and publications:

- **Interstellar Sanctuary**
"Run of the Mills" series, Mills Gallery, Boston Center for the Arts, Boston, MA.
My handmade artist books were part of the gathering of visual and performance artists, which I co-curated with artist Anna Wexler. The books accompanied the premiere of Mark Pevsner's composition, "Moon," a setting of Emily Dickinson's "The Moon was but a Chin of Gold" performed by Sonja Tengblad (soprano), Javier Caballero (cello) and Jonathan Hess (percussion). Light artist John Powell's "Firmament" illuminated the performance.

- **Sténopés Exquis**, Can Basté Civic Center, Barcelona, Spain.
An international group exhibition of pinhole photography organized by Marie-Noëlle Leroy, pinhole photographer and educator.

- **New Dimensions in Photo Processes: A Step by Step Manual for Alternative Techniques**
The fifth edition of this classic on handmade photography by artist/educator Laura Blacklow,

2018, Focal Press. Artist/photographer/educator Walter Crump and I co-authored the section on pinhole photography.

- **Make Better Pictures: Truth, Opinions, and Practical Advice**

The latest book by photographer, educator, author and all-around photo guru, Henry Horenstein, out November 2018.

- **Cyanotype, the Blueprint in Contemporary Practice**

The latest book by handmade photography practitioner, educator and author, Christina Z. Anderson, out spring 2019.

1968

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

1969

Gurukirn Paulus Khalsa

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Gillian "Jill" Reighley

Christensen wrote, "Dear Gurukirn: Thank you for taking on the job of class correspondent. You are obviously doing a great job because the turnout for our 50th reunion was amazing. I don't have a lot of news. Since both my husband and I are now retired, we are spending more time travelling (mostly to Florida and Nantucket), and we are keeping busy with my six grandchildren — ages 2 to 11. They are the joy of our lives, and being grandparents is the best job of all! I'm still playing tennis and bridge, and generally enjoying life in California. We were glad to miss the deep freeze that affected so much of the country recently."

Ruth Harrison Grobe: "With regards to an alumnae update, Rich and I are so fortunate to be in good health — albeit aging

health — and we have sold our home in Farmington and moved to an “active adult” community a mile and a half away. We love our new home because it is so easy to maintain and frees us up to spend a lot of time traveling to be with our four children, their spouses, and our four grandchildren. We also fit in travel with friends, and we just got back from a trip to the Galapagos Islands, which was a wonderful experience. We are both still working but as volunteers. Rich still organizes construction volunteers to help with disaster recovery; in November of last year, we organized a group to go to Puerto Rico for a week and help rebuild in the mountainous areas that still have not recovered from Hurricane Maria. In addition to helping Rich, I am engaged in a lot of advocacy work and awareness raising about the issues facing people with disabilities in our country. I send my love and appreciation for your persistence in getting us laggards to write in with our news.”

Katherine “Katy” Murphy Ingle writes: “Hi everyone! I have been busy these last few years: painting, caregiving, and grandmothering! First, I’ve been doing mostly landscapes, and my website is www.ingledesign.com if you’d like to look at them. Second, my husband, Bill, had two triple spinal fusions (the first one was unsuccessful) but is now back to full health. Third, my daughter, Gina in Switzerland, got married and had three children in the past five years and I’ve been going over to Bern spring and fall. Daniel got married too, and I now have two stepchildren in San Diego. I’ve also been very active in our church in various capacities, lastly heading up the graphics and publicity for our 150th anniversary last July. Bill and I have been married 13 years now and he was finally able to join me in Bern last October for a wonderful visit with family and old friends. I wish everyone a great 2019!”



Gurukirn Paulus Khalsa '69 with her daughter, Guru Dev Kaur, at Guru Nanak Dwara in Phoenix, AZ

Gurukirn Paulus Khalsa says, “There is definitely an historical line between my putting up a poster of Swami Satchidananda in my dorm room at Beaver Brook to my current practice of the Sikh and Kundalini Yoga lifestyle. I am the director of the management team for Guru Nanak Dwara, our Sikh Gurdwara (temple) here in Phoenix, AZ. I never really saw myself in the role of building manager, program manager, or fundraiser, but those roles occupy much of my time now. I am grateful that we have created such a beautiful spiritual center, which offers amazing sacred music, yoga classes, and cultural events. All of my family members have been critical to its success, especially my daughter, Guru Dev Kaur, who has applied her architectural eye to all the fine details of design and beautification. When I can, I also spend time plein air painting in nature, which is a good balance to the administrative work. I would love to connect with EWS community members on their travels in AZ, whether in Phoenix, Sedona, or the Grand Canyon, etc.”

Andrea Marschalk Scheyhing says, “In early June 2018, I enjoyed a wonderful trip with three ladies to Southern France where we rented a car and drove around to visit friends and museums. In August, Peter and I

stayed several weeks with our dear friends at their home in Bremen, ME. Later in September we traveled to Oahu for my nephew’s wedding. What a treat for the senses! My normal routine at home consists of hours of painting in my studio, usually happily. I will try to exhibit in a local gallery with my new work this coming year.”

Susan Nichols Ferriere writes: “After many years when our business and family obligations required us to remain near home, Patrick and I have been indulging our shared passion for travel and trekking all over the world. This has allowed us to spend important time with our typically global family and friends where they live rather than waiting for them to come to NYC. Beware, we may turn up one day soon in your hometown!”

Virginia “Ginger” Bevis Littleton tells us: “I have lived in Colorado Springs since 1980 and am now retired from a 30-year teaching career focusing mostly on elementary general music (Kodaly music education) and choir. My husband passed away in 2008 from an autoimmune disease which he had for 12 years. I remarried last year and am now enjoying being a step-grandma to 3- and 5-year-old grandsons. My oldest daughter lives in Denver and is expecting her first child in January. My younger daughter lives in Colorado Springs and is a high school English teacher. I played soccer until I was 60 and now get my exercise by doing dog agility with my 8-year-old Border Collie mix. I have sung in a small group in town since 1980. I have been trained as a CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate) and am enjoying the frustration and joy of working with children who are involved in dependency and neglect cases. I plan on returning for our 50th reunion and look forward to seeing old (in a good sense) faces!”

Evelyn “Evie” Carter Cowles: “Hi! Still living in Free Union, VA outside of Charlottesville on a farm with three horses, four dogs and two barn cats. I still spend some time painting and Reynolds and I both enjoy fly fishing, working the bird dogs, riding and fox hunting. We try to spend at least six weeks at our place in MT and we have two adventures planned this year: fly fishing in Cuba and riding into the South Fork of the Flathead River then floating and fishing our way out.”

Jan Muller Finn writes, “My husband Paul and I moved from the wintry climes of Connecticut in the beginning of the year and now are happily settled in Charleston! We also greeted our new granddaughter, Elena, in January! Her parents live in New York so our move was not well timed in that regard but we make frequent visits to see her and our son, Tyler, and our daughter-in-law, Lucia. Tyler is finishing his last year at Columbia Law School so, as you can well imagine, he has been very busy! Our eldest daughter, Courtenay, is moving to a new job in the art world. Leaving the Aspen Art Museum as senior curator, she is taking on the role of chief curator of MOCA in Cleveland. She is very excited to return to Cleveland where she attended art school and where the more urban environment suits her interests. Our other daughter, Ashleigh, who lives in Denver, will be missed but she is very happy as the lead librarian at Graland Country Day School. The Rocky Mountains are ideal for her as she is very enthusiastic about any outside sports. The Finn children seem to be thriving! Happy 2019 to all of you!”

Marion Bierwirth Woolam writes, “My husband, Chris, and I are still living in Albuquerque and loving it. I retired from teaching elementary school last spring and am enjoying retirement! My son and his family live in Albuquerque

Take Note

so I see those grandkids frequently. My daughter and her family live in California, but we see them occasionally."

Marian "Mally" Cox-Chapman writes: "What a period of transition this is! I am fumbling my way into understanding how I might use time when I am no longer on banked wheels. I have given most of my family foundation clients to younger colleagues, who I enjoy mentoring. My last book, on garden design on the coast of Maine, came out several years ago, and I don't seem to have the itch to write another. So I help in a sewing program at the local Boys and Girls Club, have joined the board of the Wadsworth Atheneum, and adore my very young grandchildren. I have kept my biggest client because I love the mission. We support groups committed to lowering the carbon footprint of the world, and arts for the underserved. Ironically, my church has asked my husband and me to facilitate a workshop on retirement, while I am personally perplexed by how I will use the gift of time. Is travel and family enough? Or is there a whole new learning curve to embark on? Looking forward to talking to classmates at reunion!"

Cate Lord is still living in NC and working full time as a hospice nurse. She plans to return to the west as soon as possible, hopefully summer of 2019 after celebrating her mother's 90th birthday in July. Cate is studying for national certification for HPCN (hospice, palliative care nurse) which she's planning to take in September if not in the middle of a move. She writes, "I'm wading through my personal email on a rare consecutive day off. Clearly several months worth of accumulation. would not have known this was here except Katy gave me a heads up. I am so grateful that you have taken the effort to do this. I hate seeing an empty Class of 69. I

work 40-60 hours a week most weeks and there's no way I can take it on now, however I miss hearing from everyone and I really miss the sense of connection. As a hospice nurse, I form connections that are so quickly dissolved by death. Definitely seeking a sense of balance in my life. I had that in CO because the nurse wages are so much higher there and the cost of living actually less than here because I had owned my home for so long. The Carolinas are notorious for low wages and Asheville area is notorious for high cost of living. The math is simple: low wages + high cost of living = long work weeks and fewer breaks. I love what I do but have been inundated with messages from the Universe today telling me to 1.) find some balance in my life, and 2.) open myself up to new possibilities.

I am packing for a move. Have no idea where I'm going, only know that when middle daughter, Molly, moves out in a few weeks I cannot afford to stay here on my own. And that's fine. We have been living in a lovely 2nd floor condo but I need terra firma to garden. Gardening and the outdoors provided my connection to God and soul in CO. Both are missing here. No garden to play in and the weather is too awful to spend much time outdoors. It rains more than any place I've ever been and the summers are too hot and humid for me. Plus I sorely miss the wide open spaces of the west, the prairie and smell of sagebrush, the blue skies and mountains, the wildlife. So I am about to embark on yet another adventure, just don't know the when, where, or how. I wish I could take time off for our 50th. I'm attending Yale reunion last week in May. Have never been to one and it's my 45th. I think Walker's is mid May and I don't see how I can manage two weekends flying north in May. Please be sure to send everyone my love and tell them how much I miss seeing them."

Barbara Burke Valk lives with her husband, Lance, in Wilton, CT and works part time in a local library which keeps her busy. Her daughter, Joanna, is engaged to Anthony. She gets out to San Diego about once a year to visit her brother. Life is good!

We were so saddened by the death of our classmate, **Pamela Axelsson "Pixie" Gifford** who passed peacefully on February 7, surrounded by family after a long battle with cancer.



Pamela Axelsson "Pixie" Gifford '69

1970 REUNION

Gail Chandler Gaston

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Gail Chandler Gaston: All still well at Chez Gaston. Frances' cottage in Milford, PA is now almost finished. Jamey's aerie in Sherman, CT, overlooking Candlewood Lake still down to the studs (though next to an airfield!). I am enjoying genealogy, travelling, and co-producing a documentary, and research for a book on Scofield Thayer. Spending more time in various libraries than I ever did in school! **Our 50th Reunion is coming up May 15-17, 2020. Please mark it on your calendars and plan to join us on campus!**

Cynthia "Cindy" Emerson Keeler is totally enjoying her move to the west coast. Skiing, bicycling, kayaking and pickleball! Also, travels to Canada and Scandinavia. Cindy continues as "Tasting Ambassador" for Wente Vineyards Winemaker's Studio, and warmly welcomes all coming through San Ramon, California.

Pam Constable and Tigger House are still going strong. Pam founded Tigger House 14 years ago to rescue stray animals — originally dogs and cats and now expanded to donkeys — in Kabul, Afghanistan. Through her efforts, so many have found loving homes in the U.S., or care when delivering or in the last stages of life. You can read about her endeavors at www.afghanstrayanimals.org.

Mary Morehouse Ethington

— All is well here in Glenview. I am still working as an educational consultant, but do dash out to San Francisco and Denver whenever I can to see my grandchildren — 3 in SF and 2 in Denver; all under age 5. Lots of fun!

1971

Cynthia Smith Evanisko

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Marie "Betsy" E. Ballenger The contact information for our class correspondents has been removed to protect their privacy but we want to hear from you! Please send your news to alumnae@ethelwalker.org.

Deborah A. Seaman The contact information for our class correspondents has been removed to protect their privacy but we want to hear from you! Please send your news to alumnae@ethelwalker.org.

Leila Baroody moved to Snowflake, AZ. She says, "I'm involved in furnishing and improving my house in



The Heard Residence Master Suite in Perrysburg, Ohio for which Katherine Bentley MacPherson '74 of MacPherson Architects / 2MA received a 2019 Kitchen & Bath Award from Architectural Record

Snowflake, enjoying Big Sky country, getting back to riding and getting involved in vital advocacy efforts on continuing with the shenanigans with GMO food faux regulation at the federal level, as well as state and federal electromagnetic radiation health issues, which will increase dramatically with 5G."

Marie "Betsy" Ballenger let us know that classmate **Prudence Fenton** was featured in an article in the Vassar Quarterly. After attending Walker's, Prudence went on to Vassar. She then received a graduate degree in art and taught herself animation, photography, and drawing. Here's an edited excerpt from the article:

Prudence is Executive Producer for Cinematic Reality at Magic Leap, a spatial computer that lets you see and become immersed in an augmented reality. In the article, Prudence said, "[You wear goggles that] map your environment and allow you to add in other things." Prudence's involvement

in augmented reality is just the latest project in a career that includes acting as an animator, producer, voice artist, project manager, and consultant in television, film, and games. She spent more than 11 years as a think tank consultant with The Walt Disney Company, where, in addition to doing TV and feature animation, she worked in the Imagineering arm of the company on location-based games in the parks and, in the late 1990s, produced an interactive "future of television" demo using technology that anticipated programs like Who Wants to Be a Millionaire. Prudence earned a Grammy Award for her highly innovative animation work on Peter Gabriel's "Steam" music video and three Emmy Awards in graphic and title design — one for MTV's Liquid Television and two for Pee-wee's Playhouse. More recently, Prudence has been writing novels.

1974

Vanessa Guerrini-Maraldi Wilcox
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Laura Gordon Stromberg, now living in Nebraska, visited the Walker's campus for the first time in 40 years! On September 26, 2018, Laurie, her husband Steve, son Richard, daughter Stephanie, daughter Deanna, and grandsons Henry and Nathan, enjoyed some time on campus with Director of Alumnae Relations Marion Paterson P'17, '19. They also met Head of School Meera Viswanathan and Associate Head of School Amy Wheeler. Laurie

was one of the first four day students admitted to Walker's.

We discovered that MacPherson Architects / 2MA, a firm founded by **Katherine Bentley MacPherson** and her husband, D. Scot MacPherson, received a 2019 Kitchen & Bath Award from Architectural Record for a Master Suite renovation in Perrysburg, OH. Hooray Sunray! The design is one of three projects worldwide to be recognized for the award this year and is published in the February 2019 issue of *Architectural Record*. Katie's firm is committed to creativity, exploration, and professional achievement in architecture, planning, and its related disciplines. Katie and her husband have resided in Perrysburg, OH since 2001.



Prudence Fenton '71 as featured in the Fall/Winter 2018 edition of the Vassar Quarterly.

1972

Joanna Betts Virkler
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1973

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



Laurie Stromberg '74 visited campus in September 2018 with her husband, children and grandchildren.

Take Note

Starr Winmill Shebesta: "I am sorry to say I was not able to attend Reunion due to a schedule conflict with a week-long art workshop in NC. As you may remember, I dabbled a bit with art while at EWS but not much. Now, I'm doing a push to do more and more, especially with watercolors. It's one of the joys of my life!"

Here are some recent pictures of me and my husband, and my art. It would be great to connect with you on FB (Starr Winmill Shebesta) and LinkedIn (Starr Shebesta)!"



Starr Winmill Shebesta '74 and her husband, Tarry



Holiday artwork by Starr Winmill Shebesta '74

1975 REUNION

Dr. Doris "Veda" Pendleton
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Class correspondent, **Veda Pendleton**, wrote to tell us that she and her daughter, Lauren, visited with **Mary Melvin Fleming** on Thanksgiving Day at Mary's place in Paris. Veda adds, "It was wonderful catching up after 40-plus years."



Veda Pendleton '75 and Mary Melvin Fleming '75 on Thanksgiving Day, 2018 at Mary's Paris home.



Dolly Hall '78, Tracy Denney Hritz '82 and Robin Lortin Danell '81

1976

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

1977

Juliet "Julie" Ward Flood

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We were so saddened by the death of our classmate, **Janis Curry Tripp**. Janis died on January 17, 2019 at the age of 59 at her home in Port Charlotte, FL.

1978

Katharine Swibold

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From **Dolly Hall**: "I just returned from Aspen where I was staying with my cousin **Tracy Denney Hritz '82**. We happily went for après ski at **Robin Lortin Danell '81's** gorgeous mountain top home!! Robin pulled out some old Peppermints and we had some belly laughs."

From **Ashley Lickle O'Neil**: "Our wonderful Class of 1978 continues to connect!"

We were so saddened by the death of our classmate, **Nancy Felton Hughes**, on December 29, 2018. Nancy was 58 years old and passed away at her home following a long and courageous nine-year battle with younger-onset Alzheimer's disease.



Our wonderful Class of 1978 continues to connect! First Row: Alisa Miller Skakel, Ryland Burnett, Sarah Johnson Redlich, Dolly Hall, Suzie Josephson Horgan, Lili Hoodes Bender, Ellen Fauver Reimer, Helen Hummer Feid. Second Row: Ashley Lickle O'Neil

1979

Karen Polcer Bdera

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From Lela Schaus Philip:

"Our son, Nick, and daughter-in-law, Hayley, were married this past August in Manchester, VT. A beautiful wedding in the Green Mountains. Classmates **Lisa Danforth Hurst** and **Dar Reimer Barrett** were there as guests. Our son, Sam (27), lives in NYC and is working at JP Morgan and daughter, Lily (19), is a freshman at St. Lawrence University. Tom and I still live and work at the Brunswick School in Greenwich, CT."

This in from Ellen Gerry Breed:

"My news is that I will be a grandmother for the first time at the end of February or early March. February 26 is the due date. My eldest daughter, Caroline, and her husband, Rory Cunnane, are as excited as am I."

From Marie "May" Herkert Bogdanovic:

"Aside from a 40th reunion (!), family life is healthy

and strong. Wedding plans for the oldest and college graduation for the youngest!"

Nora Goodhue Barton

Cascella sends this quick update: "Youngest son, Andrew, got engaged recently. After 3.5 years at Regional Hospice, I made the connection that one of our board members is EWS alum **Mary Bebel Schinke '81!** Very proud of the work we're doing."

This in from Jill Ashbey

Pejoves: "On June 21, 2018, we welcomed our first grandchild, William Tucker Forman, into the



William Tucker Forman,
grandson of Jill Ashbey
Pejoves '79

world. He is a joy and a delight whose smile can melt even the hardest heart."

Wendy Buck Brown

writes: "My husband Jack and I just celebrated our 32nd wedding anniversary and still live in Charlottesville. I am doing a bunch of board work and consulting with start-ups, which is very satisfying. In my spare time, I have enjoyed trying my hand at ceramics again for the first time in 20+ years (a constant lesson in humility) and getting excited about our daughter, Nina's, upcoming wedding. Otherwise, we enjoy traveling to see both Nina and Nicholas (son) who live on the west coast and are planning a trip to Machu Picchu this summer."

This in from Lisa Danforth

Hurst: "The last of the Hursts graduated from Middlebury in May 2018. All three kids live and work in NYC and mom and dad are enjoying a pay raise. Lisa is working as a writer for www.dirt-to-dinner.com, a blog that covers agriculture, the food supply chain and how your food is grown and processed. It's a lot of fun and a constant learning curve. We are always looking to connect with

farmers and anyone involved in agriculture."

Katherine "Trina" Jones Stillwell

says: "I don't have much news. My son, Hodge, ran the Boston marathon for City Year in 2018. We are downsizing since our kids are 26, 25, 23, and soon to be 21. We will still be living in the town of Dedham. I continue to volunteer for The Home for Little Wanderers, helping mentor young girls looking for forever families."

This is from Ashley Smith Washburn:

"While my husband, Jay, and I remain in Connecticut, most of the time, our sons are spread around the country and world. Our oldest, Jack, is working in Denver, our second, Sam, is getting his Masters in Mental Health Counseling in Portland, OR. Our third, Ben, is teaching in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam and our youngest, Nate, is a senior studying filmmaking at Elon University in North Carolina. My husband continues teaching in Glastonbury and I continue my work in Tanzania. 2018 was an amazing year for our foundation, Asante Sana For Education, Inc. Two of the primary schools we built held their first graduations and I was fortunate to attend one during a visit in October. Our own BEE Montessori Preschool (named for **Betsy '77, Emily '07** and **Ellie van Gemeren '09**, my sister and nieces) also held our first graduation in October during my visit. Our little school has grown from 15 students when we first opened in 2017 to 45 children now. This past year we also partnered with Days for Girls International which provides menstrual health education and reusable sanitary kits to allow millions of girls worldwide to stay in school every day of the month. We are proud to say we were able to educate and provide kits to over 700 girls this year. Our hope is to reach over 1,000 more in 2019.



Family of six wedding pic from Lela Schaus Philip '79

Take Note



Karen Bdera first ran the New York Mini 10K in 1984. It was life-changing.



Before running tights were available, runners like Karen Bdera wore hosiery under their shorts to stay warm.



Ashley Smith Washburn '79 and BEE Montessori Preschool students

I will be returning to Tanzania in March with Jack and his girlfriend, Colleen, where we will meet our new Students Empowering Students secondary students and the new BEE preschoolers as well as continue the Days for Girls program and go on a quick safari in the Serengeti. I look forward to introducing Colleen, and participants in our summer ASFE Cultural Immersion Service Trip to the wonderful students and people we work with and their country. Recent Walker's graduate **Emma Paterson '19** joins us on the summer trip this year!"

And a quick update from yours truly, **Karen Polcer Bdera**: "I continue to volunteer, race walk, travel, read, and work on craft projects. Husband, Nick, continues to teach his exercise classes for older adults at Isabella Geriatric Center. We still enjoy our twice-yearly trips to Aruba, and this year, I will also be going to England with my stepmom for some fun times."

We were delighted to discover that Karen was featured in an article on www.womensrunning.com in June! Here's an excerpt from that article: "The New York Mini 10K on June 8, 2019 marked Karen's 36th consecutive go at the event which was considered

the world's first women-only road race when it was created in 1972. The Mini has become a powerful place to bring women together to celebrate each other. "The lack of testosterone at the start line makes it very welcoming, very inclusive, and to me, it was a really special thing," Karen told Women's Running. In addition to doing the Mini every year, Karen has racked up an impressive number of finishes at New York Road Runners' races — 542 of them to be exact. They've ranged in distance from one mile to 30 miles. She has also participated in scores of other running and walking events in the region, raising \$255,000 over the years for breast cancer organizations. Karen said that as she gets older, she hopes other women will find inspiration in her unflagging drive. 'Women can run the world,' she said. 'It's important for me to be a part of that as long as I can.'

1980 REUNION

Jennifer "Jennie" Hetzler
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1981

Veronica "Roni" Leger

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Veronica "Roni" Leger writes, "I'll start with my Walker's news. I was able to see **Shelley Marks** a few times this year at her house in Wingaersheek, MA including Thanksgiving when my mom and I went for a few days and had a fantastic time.

Then at Christmas when I was in New Canaan, CT with my sister, **Marion Leger Murphy '80**, we had a mini reunion with **Laura Whiteman, Pam Safford, and Hooey Stuart Wilks '82** at a local coffee shop. It was great to catch up on what each of us is doing."

Lisa Levis is now **Lisa Weldon**. She got married to Smith Weldon in Colorado. How they met is fun. She wrote, "We met on Craigslist personals (now defunct) — I designed an ad that asked for a gentleman to escort me to summer stock — after sorting through the replies, I came up with a winner, very low miles."

Betsy Schreier Davis writes, "my son and I are about to launch our new company, Envi Threads. First round of products have been shipped to me. I'll hopefully have our website up and running soon. I've enlisted my computer savvy daughter to get it ready. Sales will be through Amazon. Stay tuned. The web address is www.envithreads.com"

In May, 2019, **Mary Bebel**

Schinke was appointed as volunteer chairperson of the board of directors of Regional Hospice and Palliative Care (RHPC). Here is an excerpt from an article on Mary's appointment featured on RHPC's website:

"Each hospice role I've had has dovetailed with my professional life," said Mary. As an estate lawyer, Mary advises clients on services such as wills and trusts, health care advance directives, powers of attorney, and even the future care of a beloved pet. "Discussing death and dying are part of my everyday routine. They're issues I'm comfortable with."

Mary began her relationship with RHPC by taking the agency's 24-hour family support volunteer training, with the goal of visiting hospice patients in the community with her certified therapy dog, "Charlotte," a sweet and loving Bichon Frise. Joining the volunteer board only a short time after, Mary's connection to RHPC has grown deeply and with remarkable range. "Mary's passion and commitment to our patients and families is unsurpassed," says RHPC president and CEO, Cynthia Emiry Roy. Roy went on to say "She is a special volunteer because she has served in so many capacities at our agency." Since beginning, Mary has volunteered over 110 hours of her time to RHPC.

1982

Cynthia T. Vega

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1983

Anna Perkins de Cordova

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1984

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1985 REUNION

Elizabeth Potter Giddings

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Esther Pryor

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1986

Tahra Makinson-Sanders

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Veronika Durner and her daughter, Josephine, visited campus in April for a tour of all that is new. She met Meera Viswanathan and the current ASSIST students, and former faculty member Rich Prager came to campus to visit with Veronika.

1987

Lori Stewart

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Lori Stewart '87, godmother to Cheyenne Watts '17 in the Summer of 2002. "Notice the vibrant orange tops. We Suns loyal ever be!"



Lori Stewart '87 (right) and Cheyenne Watts '17, Lori's goddaughter, on Cheyenne's move-in day at Boston University. Joining them are Phyllis Watts P'17 (Cheyenne's Mom) and Caiden Stewart (Lori's son, and cousin and godbrother to Cheyenne)

While I'm traveling down "memory lane" with my goddaughter at the fore, I had to also share these two pictures. Please indulge me!

Thank you, dear classmates, for indulging me. I hope this encourages all of you to send in information, updates and photos, so that this does not become the **Lori** and **Cheyenne** column. LOL. I look forward to receiving all the information you have to share and more.

The Class of 1987 Check In Challenge —

In that vein, among the typical categories of interest (births, pets, career, travel, weddings, etc.), our future Class of 1987 notes will also include a simple "Check In" section. Even if you don't have anything specific or particularly lengthy to share, please just check in to let us know you're out there! We really want to hear from you. Simply make the subject heading of your email/text "Check In," include your name, and don't worry about expounding further. I would like to receive a 100% Check In response for the next edition...let's go!

More thoughts from and about our class — So far, I have heard from **Julia Wilcox** and the two

Wendy's of our class: **Wendy Martin** and **Wendy Wheeler Smith**.

Julia Wilcox sent a quick hello with a thank you to me for serving as class correspondent again and updated contact information. Thank you, Julia! I am pleased to do so once again. Julia noted that she is frequently in touch with a handful of our classmates and will reach out again soon with updates and photos.

Wendy Martin popped in to share a quick "Hello!"

Before I move on to our second Wendy, I would like to share a "teaser." On March 16, 2019, **Kelly Schmidt, Josey Ballenger, Liz Ortecho, Pansy Cheng, Amy Benussis, Heather Rems Korwin** and I will be celebrating together in Canton, CT at one of Heather's two yoga studios, Sanctuary Power Yoga. As an FYI...one studio is at 23 Franklin St. in Torrington, CT and the second is in Canton, CT. Can't wait to share further details with you next time! Stay tuned...

In closing, **Wendy Wheeler Smith**, who has relocated from NYC to CA, wrote to say hello and to make sure that I was okay. I am well. Thank you, Wendy! Wendy noted how she "was lucky to...see **Lamonda Williams**

Take Note

and **Ailsa Veit Foulke**" and a few other folks from time to time while she lived in NYC. Wendy relocated to Santa Barbara, CA a few years ago and is still in contact with a few of our classmates. She loves traveling to San Francisco to see friends and family, including **Debbie Flagg Smith**, who is married to Wendy's brother, and **Julia Flagg Leaver** whom she also affectionately references as her sister-in-law. Wendy is self-employed as a consultant with a small company, Creative Animal, and she volunteers with Planned Parenthood. She also shared wonderful, colorful political commentary which I chuckled while reading almost as much as she must have chuckled (yet meant every word) while writing.

On a more somber note, Wendy also recounted special conversations and times which she had shared with our classmate, **Hilary Clark**, whom she remembered fondly as a "sweetheart and a good human... (who exhibited) such dignity" in the midst of her very real health challenges. Wendy also mentioned having spoken to **Liz West Glidden** to whom she expressed her love and condolences in Liz's loss of such a dear friend.

I would like to take a moment at this time, on behalf of our class, to also acknowledge the



Standing: Liz West Glidden, Lori Stewart, Kelly Schmidt and Elizabeth Ortecho Rose

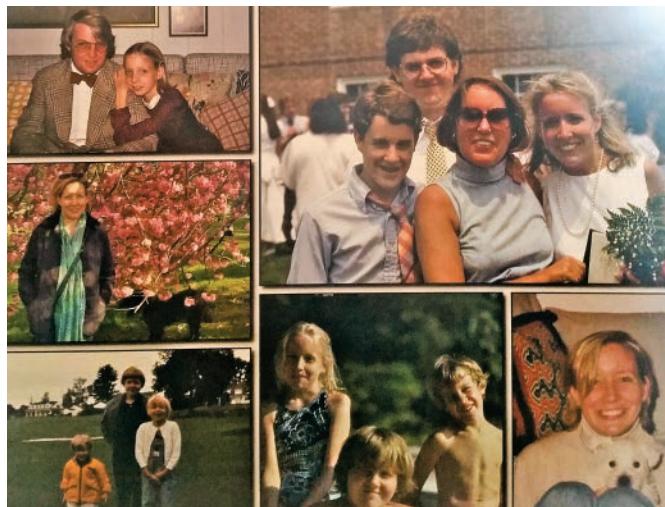
Kneeling: Heather Rems Korwin and Pansy Cheng Zalinsky

loss of our very sweet classmate **Hilary Clark**, the first member of our Class of 1987 to have passed away. A few words were oft-repeated in describing Hilary: "kind, sweet, gentle soul" and also "a bridge" as a few classmates shared their reflections with me via email. I recall coming together on a snowy day in March 2018, in Greenwich, CT with **Kelly Schmidt, Deb Whitfield Wiese, Cindy Sebrell, Pansy Cheng, Ailsa Veit Foulke** and **Liz West Glidden** to bid Hilary farewell. May we continue to cherish her memory. Our loving best to the Clark family.

Classmates **Lori Stewart, Liz Ortecho, Heather Rems, Pansy Cheng, Liz Glidden**, and



Kelly Schmidt's '87 son, Thomas Francis Brophy, IV



Remembering our dear classmate, Hilary Clark '87

Josey Ballanger gathered for a baby shower for **Kelly Schmidt** at Heather's yoga studio the week before her baby was born!

A few days after the shower Kelly went into labor and delivered a handsome, healthy baby boy! Thomas Francis Brophy, IV was born on March 23, 2019 and weighed in at 4 lbs 2 oz. He has done very well since birth and is now weighing close to 13 lbs at 3 months. Kelly reports, "He is very sweet and easy, which is a blessing since I am a very old first time mom." Congratulations also to Kelly on her marriage to Thomas Francis Brophy, III on May 25, 2019.

1988

Carolyn "Carrie" Pouch

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Carrie Viko Wilcox sent the Alumnae Office a holiday card with a beautiful photo of her family that we've included. In the card, Carrie added, "Can't believe my kids are almost done with high school! Missing all my Class of '88 EWS friends. Let's get together soon." We are happy to report that Carrie's florist business is a thriving success. In



A Class of 1987 mini reunion was held in May at the Berkshire School graduation! Left to right, Maria Paleologos Green, Julia Wilcox, Pamela Johnson Gammill, and Stephanie Budlong Paul



Carrie Viko Wilcox '88 and her family, John, Maggie and Charlie

2018, she worked on the First Lady's luncheon in DC and in January 2019 she got to work for one of the float companies for the Rose Parade. What an amazing experience!

1989

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

1990 REUNION

Amanda Pitman

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1991

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1992

Whitley Ram Schoeny
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1993

Augusta Morrison Harrison

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1994

Philippa Eschauzier Earl

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1995 REUNION

Nicole Lewenson Shargel

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Leander Altifois Dolphin was a panelist at a discussion hosted by the University of Saint Joseph in West Hartford. The discussion, "#MeToo: Preventing and Responding to Sexual Harassment in the Professional Workplace" was held in November in the Crystal Room in Mercy Hall on the campus of the university. The event was sponsored by the



Leander Altifois Dolphin '95 was a featured speaker on a panel discussion about the #MeToo movement



Rachael Rosselli '98 (right) and a friend on the streets of Firenze.

student-led Women's Learning Community and the Backpack-to-Briefcase program at the University of Saint Joseph. The discussion was led by NBC Connecticut reporter Leslie Mayes. Leander is an attorney/partner at Shipman and Goodwin and a Walker's Trustee.

1996

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1997

Alicia Benedetto

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Karen Crowe

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1998

Brooke Berescik-Johns

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Rachael Rosselli: I've been enjoying my development

position of regional philanthropy officer at the American Red Cross of Massachusetts. I'm inspired by the humanitarian mission every day, and have found great joy volunteering at their Boston food pantry. My other volunteer activities keep me engaged in the community. I'm a member of the New England Aquarium Dive Club and (finally!) am the proud renter of a garden plot at the Fenway Victory Gardens. Hopefully, I'll be able to grow veggies and flowers instead of weeds. The arts, live music in particular, are still a big part of my life. I'm also trying my hand at drawing again since I don't want to lose what Mr. Coster (AKA Big Mike) taught me over 20 years ago. (I can't believe I just wrote the number "20"). Three of my recent, favorite moments were: going to Italy for the first time with my childhood friend Janelle; hosting **Meredith Davison** on her last visit to Boston; and meeting **Jackie Harris Mercurio**'s daughter, Pia, last month. I hope to see more of my classmates in the coming year, so please look me up if you're in Boston, Naples, FL or Westerly, RI.

The Class of 1998 was heartbroken to hear of **Emily Broidrick**'s passing and will be

Take Note

making a named donation to the School in Emily's honor. For more information, or to contribute, please contact class correspondent **Brooke Berescik-Johns**.

1999

Vivienne Felix

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2000 REUNION

Allison Quigley

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2001

Alicia Little Hodge

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2002

Holly Jackson

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Terri Booker: Hello ladies

of EWS. I am proud to report that I will be running for judge for the Court of Common Pleas in Philadelphia this May. Please visit my website, <https://terribooker4judge.wixsite.com/terribookerforjudge>, to support and/or volunteer. Additionally, last year I worked closely with Senator Cory Booker's legislative aide on the S.2465 bipartisan bill. I am thrilled to announce that the bill was passed and signed into law on December 18, 2018. This law

will allow sickle cell approximately \$4.4 million in grant money for research, surveillance, outreach, and awareness. I am a sickle cell patient advocate and I continue to advocate for the rights and privileges for the sickle cell community. My health is maintaining well. Thank you, Walker's, for your continued support in this journey called life. TUNE IN on PQRADIO1.com for my Legally Terri segment, every Monday at 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. (ET). God Bless and #pursuehappiness !



Dr. Lindsay Wolcott '05 and her dad, Hunter Wolcott, at her 2017 graduation at the University of Edinburgh from its veterinary program

2003

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2004

Averill Wyman-Blackburn

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2005 REUNION

Emma Bedford-Jack

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From **Lindsay Wolcott**: "It has been nearly 14 years since I walked down the aisle in my white dress to receive my diploma. Since that day I earned my B.A. in Business Administration from St. Andrews University in NC. After college I spent six months living in Portugal as a working student for a dressage trainer. Upon my return, I got into the veterinary field as a

tech in Florida which led me to go to veterinary school in Scotland. After four wonderful years at the University of Edinburgh (Class of 2017), I am now officially Dr. Wolcott and living stateside in SC. I am excited for the future as a small animal vet in the wonderful city of Greenville with my dog, Kora. For those of you who remember Roger, I still have him (at a grand old age of 21) and he is loving retirement."

2006

Ebony Moses

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The wedding festivities of Reema Dedania '06 and Christopher Taylor in Washington, DC, September 2018

Alle Shane

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Lots of exciting things going on in **Reema Dedania's** life. Reema is still in Nashville and will be finishing her residency at Vanderbilt Medical Center in June 2019. She plans to practice as a psychiatrist in Nashville afterwards. Reema married Christopher Taylor in September 2018 and reports: "We had a great Walker's showing including



Andrea Coggins Toivakka '06, Reema Dedania '06 and Emily Sappington '06 at Reema's September 2018 wedding in Washington, DC sporting their Walker's Sundial henna tattoos

former Head of School Susanna Jones (who was my advisor), my former history teacher, Meg Mahoney, who is now retired and several girls from my class. We had a combined Catholic-Hindu wedding in Washington, DC." Reema generously added "We are always happy to have visitors so let us know if you're ever in the area!"

2007

Emily Casey

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Jeanette Pelizzon

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Sarah Puckhaber '07 and Fernanda Gilligan Jess '96 met for coffee last November in London

2008

Kathleen Kirby

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A chance encounter all because of a Walker's sweatshirt! See the Class of 2009 notes below for details.

2009

Caitlin Moss

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En route to a conference in Orlando, FL, Advancement Office staff members Genie Lomba P'13, '16, '18 and Princess Hyatt spotted a Walker's sweatshirt and got to meet **Heather Carley** and her fiancee, Marie.



Marianne Pettit '10 with Catherine Pettit '17 at Marianne's wedding on September 29, 2018 at Walker's chapel

2010 REUNION

Marianne Pettit

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Caroline Kieltyka '10, Marianne Pettit '10 and Marianne's husband, Richard Watt, at their wedding on September 29, 2018.

2011

Kelsey Ballard

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2012

Jordana "Monet" Clarke

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Ajay Pittman passed her first bill on the Oklahoma House of Representatives Floor with bipartisan support! She is grateful to have constituents in her district that are committed to bringing new economic development. Hooray Sunray, Ajay!

Monet Clark has been named a 2019 Pickering Fellow and is beginning her career in the foreign service through this prestigious program.

2013

Ameena Makhdoomi

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Take Note

Paige Williams-Rivera

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Sam Gonzalez has been working at Bonobos since 2015 and recently received a promotion to the training team. As the guideshop training associate, he is responsible for all training development, delivery, and follow up for all of the company's stores across the US. He's also gotten to work closely with the marketing team to help raise awareness around LGBTQ representation in their marketing campaigns, including bringing on USA athlete, Chris Mosier.



USA athlete, Chris Mosier, and Sam Gonzalez '13

Sahra Ibrahim is currently studying for her Masters in Public Health at Adelphi University and preparing to begin her Ph.D. Program at Columbia University next year!

Karen Macke is now halfway through her double Master's degrees at the University of Toronto. One is in Information with a Concentration in Archives and Record Management. The second Master's is in Museum Studies. She still plays soccer and currently lives in Toronto with her two dogs.

Brittany Sawyer is currently engaged to Tyler Girard.

Paige Williams-Rivera is in the last year of her Master's

in Organizational Psychology program and recently started a new position with Otis Elevators World Headquarters in Human Resources.

2014

Olivia Aker

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Taryn Anderson

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Brittany Camacho

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Artemis Talvat

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Lisa Volg

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2015 REUNION

Emily Mauldin

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Talia Basch

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Talia Basch was among the 265 students recently honored as University Scholars at Susquehanna University in

Selinsgrove, PA. To be named a University Scholar, students must have earned a cumulative grade point average of 3.75 in full-time study for the past two semesters or equivalent credit hours of part-time study. Basch is a communications major in the Class of 2020.

and remain an active travel team member. In the past, I have also been involved with Tastemakers Magazine and the CSSH Peer Mentor Program. In my free time you can find me whipping up some comfort food, scanning flight prices or wandering Boston, camera in hand."

Ella Ross will be graduating from Bates College in June with a degree in psychology. She has received a number of honors including induction into Sigma Xi, Phi Beta Kappa, College Key, and was 19 senior intern of Bates' Bonner Leader Civic Engagement Leadership Program. She has recently been named a Civic Engagement Fellow which will have her staying in Maine after graduation to work on campus for a year in partnership with Bates, the town of Lewiston and AmeriCorps. Hooray Sunray, Ella!

2016

Georgia Paul

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Rhiannon Bird's daughter, Aria Lindsey Bird, was born February 2, 2019 and weighed in at 8 lbs and 3 ounces. Rhiannon hopes



Aria Lindsey, daughter of Rhiannon Bird '16



Rhiannon Bird '16 and daughter Aria Lindsey

that one day Aria can go to Walker's like she did. (And hopes she loves horses as much as she does!)



This summer, four recent graduates worked in Walker's advancement and external affairs offices doing special projects. They include from left Mackenzie Hine '16, Kathleen Quinlan '16, Holly Paul '18, and Emma Paterson '19.

2017

Idabelle Paterson

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Members of the Class of 2017 at Walker's 2019 commencement exercises: Alyssa Nazmi, Idabelle Paterson, Alora Foster and Emily Cazares



Members of the Class of 2017 met up with former teacher Elyssa Michael Barrett (third from right) in Boston for a viewing of King Lear with Ian McKellan. L to R: Nina Zhang, Cheyenne Watts, Lexi King, Elyssa Michael Barrett, Eshita Rahman and Idabelle Paterson

2018

Caroline Strapp

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Walker's Director of College Counseling Clarissa Basch P'15 attended a counselor program in California in early February where she visited Chapman University and had the opportunity to have lunch with **Ernestine "Tina" Chatman**, a first year student there. Clarissa reports that Tina is studying Creative Production in their Dodge School and loving it!



Ernestine "Tina" Chatman '18 and Walker's Director of College Counseling Clarissa Basch P'15 at Chapman University

Stay in touch!

We love to hear from our alumnae and want to know more about what you are doing out in the world. Send us your news and be sure that we have your most up-to-date contact information on hand so that we can share news about what is happening in Simsbury. Please email us at alumnae@ethelwalker.org or contact us by phone at (860) 408-4259.

Take Note

Births & Adoptions

- 1987 **Kelly Schmidt**
Thomas Francis Brophy, IV
March 23, 2019
- 2016 **Rhiannon Bird**
Aria Lindsey Bird
February 2, 2019

Marriages & Unions

- 1981 **Lisa Levis Weldon**
To Smith Weldon
- 1987 **Kelly Schmidt**
To Thomas Francis Brophy, III
May 25, 2019

In Memoriam

Alumnae of The Ethel Walker School

- 1942 **Frances Barber Dorrance**
Daughter: Katharine B. Hanson '69
Daughter: Elizabeth Hanson Lawlor '71
Daughter: Barbara Hanson Maropis '74
- 1942 **Anne Beach Jackson**
- 1943 **Linda Bailey Searle**
- 1945 **Loise Baldwin Chapin**
Daughter: Loise Wickser Toland '79
Daughter: Alexandra Wickser
Ballantine '73
Daughter: Hope Wickser Lufkin '82
Sister: Joan Baldwin Oakerson '40*
Sister-in-law: Hope Baldwin McCormick '37*
Sister-in-law: Sara Chapin Winston '39*
Niece: Suzanne Chapin Berl '64
Niece: Susan Cartwright Due '63
Great-niece: Hilary Hunt McCutcheon '83

- 1945 **Charlotte Wright Osgood**

- 1945 **Penelope Hall Porter**

- 1946 **Raquel Hevia Sanchez**
Sister: Alina Hevia Felix '48*
Sister-in law: Ana Maria Gamba Sanchez '47

- 1946 **Margot Wheelock Schlegel**

- 1946 **Emeline Lynch Wittman**

- 1947 **Penelope Etnier Dinsmore**

- 1947 **Joan Glover Gorman**

- 1947 **Evelyn Twiford Potter**

- 1951 **Avis Ashcraft Nungesser Wierzba**
- 1953 **Diana Waud Kruglick**

- 1953 **Nancy Kitchell Lickle**
Sister: Victoria Kitchell '57
Sister: Leslie Kitchell Bullock '62*
Cousin: Jane du Pont Kidd '57
Cousin: Michele du Pont Goss '59
Niece: Sydney Lickle Jordan '70
Niece: Kemble Lickle O'Donnell '79
Niece: Ashley Lickle O'Neil '78

- 1953 **Ellen Scranton Linen**
Mother: Sara Scranton Linen '30*
Sister: Marion Linen Dawson Carr '58
Aunt: Marion Scranton Isaacs '26*
Aunt: Katherine Scranton Rozendaal '26*

- 1954 **Elodie Huntley Tilney**

- 1955 **Betsy Hendryx Perrier**

- 1958 **Phyllis Mills Wyeth**
Cousin: Margaretta Bredin Brokaw '66
Cousin: Jean du Pont Blair '58

- 1959 **Leslie Higgins**

- Daughter: Julia Newlin Smith '83
Sister: Tanis Higgins Erdmann '55
Cousin: Cynthia Higgins Roby '64

- 1969 **Pamela Axelsson Gifford**

- 1976 **Monica Boyd**

- 1977 **Janis Curry Tripp**

- 1978 **Nancy Felton Hughes**

- 1978 **Marcia Devendorf Morrell**
Sister: Andree Devendorf Welsh '74
Cousin: Cynthia Gowen Crawford '79
Cousin: Lee C. Gowen '82

In Sympathy

Members of the wider Walker's community

- Peter Waller Anson**, Husband of Sally Ankeny Anson '48

- Richard Bermúdez Cabrera** and **Lorena Garduño Peraza**, Parents of Valentina Bermúdez Garduño '19

- C. V. Ethington, Jr.**, Husband of Alma Haggins Ethington '58

- Freeda Foreman**, Sister of Natalie Foreman-Wynn '98 and Leola Foreman Grant '05

- A. Frederick Gerstell**, Brother of Roberta Gerstell Bennett '53

- Patrick Henry Hayes, Jr.**, Husband of Kazie Sheridan Hayes '84

- Joan M. Hewitt**, Mother of Susan Hewitt Fischer '66

- Nancy Britt Juliano**, Former EWS Faculty

- Daniel Cauffiel Lickle**, Husband of Nancy Kitchell Lickle '53*; Brother-in law of Victoria Kitchell '57 and Leslie Kitchell Bullock '62*; Uncle of Sydney Lickle Jordan '70, Ashley Lickle O'Neil '78 and Kemble Lickle O'Donnell '79

- John William McDonald**, Husband of Esther Johnson McDonald '44

- E. Merritt McDonough**, Father of Virginia McDonough Gasho '78, Elizabeth McDonough Shannon '82 and Jennifer McDonough Albanesi '83

- Grace Viqueira Nelson**, Grandmother of Elizabeth Reyes '16

- Margaret E. Normann**, Grandmother of Margaret Wierdsma '18

- Richard A. Pancavage**, Grandfather of Lauren Pancavage '21 and Alexis Pancavage '24

- Philip H. Pitney**, Husband of Barbara Richards Pitney '56

- William P. Rayner**, Husband of Katharine Johnson Rayner '63

- Yves Henri Robert**, Husband of Mary Hutchinson Robert '52

- Barbara Theo Allen Roberts**, Grandmother of Sumner Wick '15

- Steven P. Schinke**, Husband of Mary Bebel Schinke '81

- Barbara Talmadge Sieber**, Mother of Jennifer Sieber '09

- Gretchen Skelley**, Mother of Joan E. Skelley, EWS Faculty

- Richard E. Swibold**, Father of Katharine Swibold '78

- William Scott Tiernan**, Son of Lynda Scheerer Stokes '44; Father of Cary Tiernan Butterfield '01

- Jean Baldridge Uehlinger**, Mother of Jean-Alice Uehlinger Koch '69

- Frances Eisener Wentworth**, Grandmother of Kristen Lashnits '04 and Caitlin Lashnits '06; Mother of Janice Wentworth Lashnits, Former EWS Staff

- Nelson Charles Wolf**, Grandfather of Samantha Wolf '20

*Deceased

Names reflect those received through 6/15/19.

LYNN LYONS, LICSW

2019 Margaret Huling Bonz Women of Distinction Speaker

Join us on campus for a presentation by our Margaret Huling Bonz Women of Distinction Speaker, Lynn Lyons, LICSW.

Monday, September 16, 2019

6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

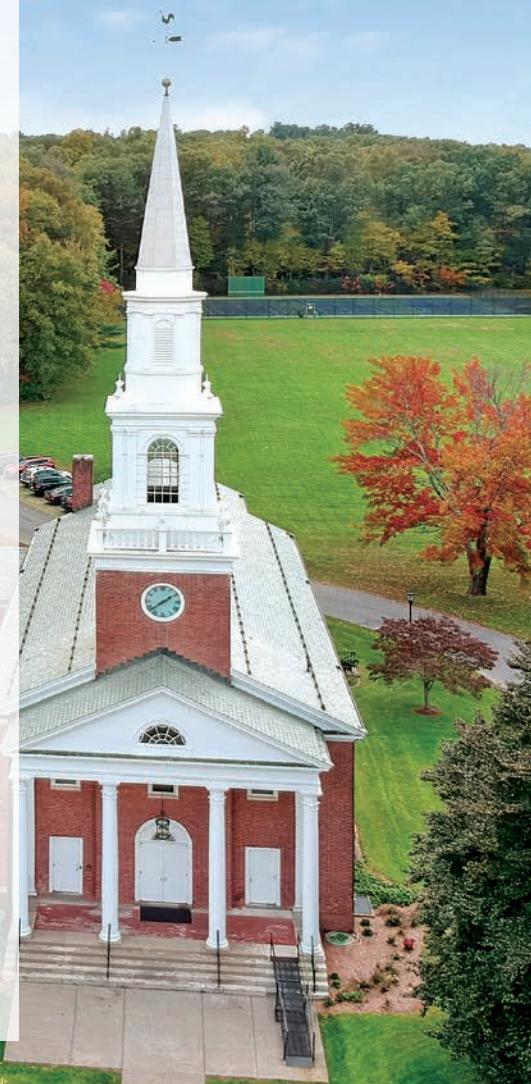
LYNN LYONS is a licensed clinical social worker and psychotherapist in Concord, New Hampshire. With a special interest in breaking the generational cycle of worry in families, Lynn is the coauthor of two books on anxiety: *Anxious Kids, Anxious Parents: 7 Ways to Stop the Worry Cycle and Raise Courageous & Independent Children*, and the companion book for kids, *Playing with Anxiety: Casey's Guide for Teens and Kids*.

Learn more and RSVP at www.ethelwalker.org/bonzspeaker



Save these Dates!

- | | |
|----------------------------|---|
| September 15, 2019 | Combined Test at Walker's |
| September 16, 2019 | Margaret Huling Bonz Distinguished Speaker
<i>Lynn Lyons, Author and Psychotherapist</i> |
| September 25, 2019 | Former Trustee Dinner |
| October 14, 2019 | Admissions Open House |
| October 18-19, 2019 | Family Weekend |
| October 24-25, 2019 | Visiting Writer
<i>Paisley Rekdal, Poetry and Non-Fiction</i> |
| November 11, 2019 | Admissions Open House |
| November 21, 2019 | Thanksgiving Vespers and Banquet |
| December 8, 2019 | Linda Langmeier Clinic at Walker's |
| December 9, 2019 | Admissions Open House |
| December 13, 2019 | Holiday Vespers and Ride |
| January 9, 2020 | Young Alumnae Pizza Party |
| March 23-27, 2020 | Visiting Writer
<i>Alison C. Rollins, Poetry</i> |
| April 2, 2020 | Revisit Day |
| April 29, 2020 | Grandparents' and Friends' Day |
| May 15-17, 2020 | Reunion for Classes Ending in 5 and 0! |
| June 5, 2020 | Middle School Eighth Grade Promotion |
| June 7, 2020 | Commencement |



HOORAY SUNRAY!



Together,
alumnae, parents and friends
raised a record-breaking \$1,911,342
for the Annual Fund for Walker's.

THANK YOU!



Annual Fund
for Walker's



The Ethel Walker School

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FROM THE ARCHIVES: Fun in the Sun!



We are excited to share that a renovation of our archives is now underway. We hope to find many treasures to share, and will likely be asking for help in identifying photos and other items. Our institutional history is important to the understanding of who we are and where we came from, as well as being full of fun discovery. Thanks to the father of one of our students, we now know that The Ethel Walker School "Beach" was a popular swimming and sunbathing spot in what is now the pond area behind the horse barns. Much of the larger original pond was dredged and filled, and the "beach" was planted over to enhance the School's riding facilities, but a small pond remains in its place. This scenic pond is now a gathering spot for bullfrogs and red-winged blackbirds but this photo from the early 1950s tells a different story!

Do you know anyone in this photo? Have memories of the "beach"?

Please share your photos and memories with Kim Thacker kthacker@ethelwalker.org.