Front Row (from left): Christine Wiberley Goglia ’73, Mary Ann Wiberley Shattuck ’70, Florence DeLessio Marchetti ’67, Kathy McManey Younkin ’70, Susan Stay Valenti ’70, Leslie Henze Blackstock ’70. Back Row (from left): Maureen Hinke Hahn ’73, Trudie Mangiaracina Glazewski ’74, Claire Maurer ’64, Karen Mattscheck ’72, Maryann Lesso ’70, Jean Givens Denney ’69. Missing: Mary Lou Ullrich Jones ’64, Sr. Anne Higgins ’70, and Christine Roos Mehl ’70

The SJCAA Board of Trustees is pleased to bring you the Fall 2021 issue of The Valley Echo.

There are many volunteers associated with the publication of this issue of our alumnae magazine. The names of the Editorial Board and the contributors for this issue of The Valley Echo are printed below.

We hope you enjoy this edition.

-The Board of Trustees

The Valley Echo
St. Joseph College Alumnae Association, Inc.
Mount St. Mary’s University, 16300 Old Emmitsburg Road, Emmitsburg, MD 21727
Ph: 301.447.5075 • office@sjcalumnae.org • www.sjcalumnae.org

The Valley Echo is the annual publication of St. Joseph College Alumnae Association, Inc. and mailed to active members of the Association. Its mission is to inform alumnae of the Association’s activities, programs, and plans and to provide class news.

Managing Editor
Maryann Lesso ’70

Photography Editor
Claire Maurer ’64

Editorial Assistants
Trudie Mangiaracina Glazewski ’74
Ellen Krieger Smelas ’63

Contributors this issue
Trudie Mangiaracina Glazewski ’74
Kathleen Graham ’68
Karen Mattscheck ’72
Mary Ann Wiberley Shattuck ’70
Kim Herche, Alumnae Liaison

Designer
Alyssa Siford, Gateway Printing, Inc.

Cover: The “Log Cabin at Tom’s Creek” is from an original painting by W. James McGlynn of Hockessin, DE. Jim is well known in the Wilmington/Bucks County, PA area as a very fine artist whose specialty is local historic buildings and scenes. Mr. McGlynn’s paintings are in many public, corporate, and private collections.

2020/21 SJCAA BOARD OF TRUSTEES & COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

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Vice President
Kathleen McManey Younkin ’70
Finance Committee
Reunion Committee

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Trustee
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Reunion Committee / Chair Reunion 2022

Trustee
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Classes Committee / Reunion Committee

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Reunion Committee / Co-Chair Reunion 2022
Jean Givens Denney ’69
Reunion Committee
Maureen Hinke Hahn ’73
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Maryann Lesso ’70
Managing Editor The Valley Echo
Reunion Committee
Florence DeLessio Marchetti ’67
Reunion Committee
Christine Roos Mehl ’70
Reunion Committee / Co-Chair Reunion 2022

The Board meets twice a year – in September and in the spring during Reunion weekend.
Greetings to the alumnae of St. Joseph College! Another memorable year to live through, but unlike last year, things are improving as the year goes on. I have heard of many families reunited and alumnae starting to travel—much better than the lockdown we were still in a year ago.

And a big THANK YOU to the alumnae for your continued support of the St. Joseph College Alumnae Association (SJCAA). We met and exceeded our dues goal!! THANK YOU!! We have been able to continue our philanthropic work and to continue operations as an association without losing a beat. Ten years ago we projected that we would be dipping into savings by now to support the association—but with YOUR support, we have not had to do that. THANK YOU, THANK YOU!! It makes the work of the Board much easier to do. And my deepest thanks to the Board members and the Class Agents for their volunteer work to keep our association vibrant.

As we mentioned earlier this year, Kathleen Hollenbeck retired from her position as our alumnae liaison at Mount St. Mary’s University (MSM). We now have two Kims working with us—Kim Herche is the friendly voice you hear when you call the alumnae office, and I work closely with her supervisor Kim Johnson. The SJCAA Board and I are working with the “Kims” and others at MSM to support the association. Progress continues on the background work to get SJCAA information into the MSM database so our transition in 2025 is seamless. The Mount staff has been great to work with, very supportive of all our efforts.

Plans are in the works for Reunion 2022, to be held March 31-April 3, 2022 at the Wyndham Hotel in Gettysburg, PA. It will be a celebration like no other—classes ending in 0, 1, 2, 5, 6, and 7 will be the milestone classes—a first! And another first—THREE classes are celebrating their 50th Reunions—1970, 1971, and 1972! Their “Memories” will be delivered at their class dinners on Friday night, and there will be a special recognition of each class at the banquet. The Reunion Committee is meeting with the Wyndham and the Fire Academy in the fall to iron out details for Reunion. We will keep the membership advised of any other changes to Reunion that might be made due to restrictions that may still be in place, but we expect to have a full, regular Reunion. Since so many classes will be celebrating a milestone year, the Reunion brochures will be sent to all alumnae in 2022.

In October, you will be receiving your dues envelope for 2022. We ask that you continue to pay dues if possible as the number of dues payers will decrease, as expected. With your help we will make it to the planned transition to the Mount’s National Alumni Association in 2025.

It has been in our hands to continue the life of the association—the alumnae have done a MASTERFUL job of supporting us so we can “stay alive until 2025.” Please continue to do so for a few more years. Best wishes for a happy holiday season and a healthy and happy 2022. SEE YOU AT REUNION!

Karen Mattscheck ’72
President, SJCAA
Active membership in the St. Joseph College Alumnae Association (SJCAA) guarantees an alumna will receive all association mailings, including The Valley Echo, the association's annual publication. Part of your dues contribution goes to produce The Valley Echo, which includes professional layout design, printing, and mailing costs. But that is only one of the items your dues support.

We budget our dues income at $50,000 in order to cover our main expenses. In 2020, this was exceeded significantly as we received $71,632 in dues income. This enabled us to care for some increases in our expenses rather than use invested funds. Our annual expenses include Charity ($16,000); Office Expenses ($8,900: printing, postage, office supplies, credit card fees, insurance); Website ($2,200, professional services for updating); The Valley Echo ($9,000); and our Management Services Contract with Mount St. Mary's University ($25,000: Alumnae Liaison salary, telephone, computers and computer support, office space).

Dues are tax deductible as the SJCAA is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Our charitable contributions are targeted to support those in the Emmitsburg community: Scholarships for the Mother Seton School which the Administration distributes so several families benefit, Catoctin Pregnancy Center, Seton Center, and Masses for alumnae at the Basilica.

Because of your generosity, we have met our dues income goal each year. Although the number of alumnae contributing has declined, the average gift has increased. It is your generosity which will enable us to meet our goal of continuing until each class has had the opportunity to celebrate its 50th Reunion. We will continue to work to manage our finances as wisely as we can.

- Claire Maurer '64, Finance Chair

The SJCAA sends bills or invoices for Annual Dues to all alumnae in October of each calendar year to provide operating funds for the coming year.

The invoice indicates
a. The year for which dues are being collected; and
b. The date that the dues are to be received in the SJCAA office

An example to explain the SJCAA's dues procedure:

In October 2021, the association will send invoices or bills to all alumnae for their 2022 ANNUAL DUES. Annual Dues for 2022 are due at the time the 2022 dues invoice is received by an alumna. Dues for 2022 sent to the office as late as June 30, 2022 will also maintain active membership in the association.

When you send a dues payment in December for the dues year beginning January 1, please note the following information:

In order to accommodate end-of-year tax rules, all donations written and postmarked on or before December 31st but received in the SJCAA office in January will be processed and receipted according to the date on the postmark or the date of the electronic transaction. The receipt date complies with best practices in accounting procedures for donations and/or dues received toward the end of the year.

### 2021 DUES PERCENTAGES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
<th>FY21 Paid</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>1948</td>
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<tr>
<td>1953</td>
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<tr>
<td>1954</td>
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<td>19</td>
<td>20.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1975</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL 1707 641 37.6%**

Beginning with class year 1946 - Total solicitable base of alumnae (with good addresses) - 1707. Please bear in mind this number fluctuates every summer with research as we update our addresses from non-valid to no dues paid and deceased.

641 alumnae have paid dues for a total of $76,853 from October 1, 2020 through August 31, 2021.
Thank you, members of the St. Joseph College Alumnae Association (SJCAA)! You truly are an amazing group of women who remain steadfastly loyal to SJC!

Some time ago, your Board of Trustees advised that by 2021 we might be forced to tap into our savings to carry us through to 2025. That is the timeframe for holding our final annual reunion and finalizing the transition to Mount St. Mary’s University National Alumni Association (NAA). Once again, however, we issued a challenge and you stepped up. I am happy to report that, thanks to your continued support, our financials remain sound and that we have not accessed our savings to meet expenses. Your donations are making transition planning with the Mount easier to navigate, and if we maintain those contributions during the next several years, we can continue our philanthropic work, produce *The Valley Echo*, plan four more reunions and sustain our alumnae organization.

When things wrap up in 2025, any remaining funds will be donated to the charities we have supported throughout the years. I know I speak for the Board of Trustees when I say that you make our volunteer service to the association so worthwhile, even during this somewhat bittersweet time of transition—and a pandemic!

Permit me to update you on a number of other items. Our Mailing Address—Last fall we eliminated our Emmitsburg post office box so please send all mail to our new address:

St. Joseph College Alumnae Association  
Mount St. Mary’s University  
16300 Old Emmitsburg Road  
Emmitsburg, MD 21727

Please do not remit any older dues envelopes, which contain the post office box address. In addition, if you have included SJCAA in your will as a bequest, and many alumnae continue to do so, please change the bequest mailing address as indicated above. These donations help fund our charitable contributions. You should also change your will to make the bequest recipient the SJC Scholarship at Mount Saint Mary’s University, so when the association transitions, there will be no question about the recipient. We will keep the SJCAA name alive after the association transitions through support of our scholarship fund at the Mount.

**Spring Reunions** - We continue to plan reunions and have reserved the following dates:

- **2022-March 31-April 3**
- **2023-April 13-16**
- **2024-April 4-7**
- **2025-April 3-6 (FINAL REUNION)**

**2025 and Beyond** - Once the SJCAA closes in 2025, your undergraduate college affiliation will be with the Mount’s NAA, which works differently. The Mount does not request dues but asks that members support the university’s charitable efforts, which will include the SJC Scholarship Fund. We hope that SJCAA alumnae continue their generosity to our scholarship fund so that it flourishes and keeps the SJC name alive.

**New MSM School of Health Professions** - The Mount continues to plan for a School of Health Professions, driven by student interest and regional health care demands. In partnership with the Daughters of Charity, whom we know have a long history in health care, an underutilized 42,000 square foot wing of the historical St. Joseph House (former Provincial House) would be retrofitted to accommodate the new school. The cornerstone of this program would be training of Physician Assistants (PAs). The State of Maryland has only four such programs, either accredited or in development, while the State of Pennsylvania has 28 programs. The Mount plans to have its PA program accredited within two years of launch.

**Care for America** - In addition, through Care for America, the Mount would build a pipeline of underrepresented talent by recruiting and offering scholarship support. Upon graduation from the School of Health Professions, students would agree to provide expert care to underserved communities.

Care for America aligns with the Mount’s mission and builds on its success. For more than a decade, its Third Century Scholars program has implemented a similar model for undergraduate students of color. In fact, between 2010 and 2020, the Mount more than doubled the percentage of students of color on campus.

The new school is an exciting venture by the Mount, which closely aligns with several SJC majors, including nursing, home economics, and social welfare. We will continue to advise you as plans for the new school continue to unfold, as well as our eventual transition to the Mount’s NAA.

Finally, the global pandemic has prevented SJC alumnae from gathering during 2020 and 2021. We hope we will no longer be deterred! Please plan to join us in Gettysburg March 31-April 3, 2022, when we will honor classes ending in 0, 1, 2, 5, 6, and 7 (lots of honorees). If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at kmatts1972@gmail.com, or 16 Stratford Ridge, Mashpee, MA 02649. See you at Reunion 2022!

- Karen Mattscheck ’72  
  President, SJCAA
COVID-19 again caused the cancellation of Reunion. The Class of 1971 was very disappointed to miss its 50th Reunion celebration as were the rest of the alumnae. This fall we will meet with the Wyndham and plan for a fabulous Reunion for 2022.

We didn’t meet in person but some things did occur that usually happen at Reunion.

• The St. Joseph College Scholarship at Mount St. Mary’s University was awarded in August 2021 to Margaret Widman MSM '22 and Angela Vodola MSM '23.

• Kathleen “Kate” Graham, a member of the Class of ’68 received the annual Legacy Award. Kate served both St. Joseph College students and the Alumnae Association from almost her first days in the Valley in 1964. As a student she was photographer, writer, and editor of The Valley Echo and Allegra. After graduation she remained our Reunion photographer and served on the SJCAA Board of Trustees for many years.

Hope is still my theme song and I trust all of you and your families are well. **Plan now to attend Reunion 2022.** We invite you to rediscover, explore, reconnect, reminisce, and create new memories. Believe me we will really have a lot to talk about.

The Reunion Committee is back to work planning another great weekend. We plan to have triple the fun in 2022. Help us celebrate with the classes ending in 0, 1, 2, 5, 6, and 7. Remember that our Reunions are not just for the Milestone classes who will be celebrating, they are for all alumnae! Contact your friends and classmates now to meet you at Reunion 2022.

- Mary Ann Wiberley Shattuck ’70
Reunion Chair

Alhen Ehrensing Green, SJC ’56, and her husband Leo Green MSM ’54, recently attended the wedding of one of their grandsons, and had the opportunity for this family photo with their eight children. Alhen retired from her position as a Senior High School Guidance Counselor, and FINALLY retired from her decades of service as a hospice volunteer. She and Leo are enjoying lots of time with their 25 grandchildren and eight great-grandbabies. They are looking forward to two more granddaughters’ weddings in 2022, many more great-grands to come, and Alhen’s 65th SJC Class Reunion on March 31-April 3, 2022, at the Wyndham Hotel in Gettysburg, PA.
KATHLEEN (KATE) GRAHAM ’68
HONORED WITH 2021 LEGACY AWARD

The St. Joseph College Alumnae Association (SJCAA) Legacy Award honors an alumna who has made a significant contribution to the association. The award for 2021 was presented to Kathleen (Kate) Graham from the Class of 1968. Kate has served both St. Joseph College (SJC) students and the SJCAA from almost her first days in the Valley in 1964. As a student, her activities on the school’s publications—The Valley Echo and Allegra as photographer, writer, and editor—prepared her for her communications career.

She attributes her journalistic success in large measure to the SJC freshman English comp course taught by the then Sr. Margaret Ann Berry, DC, who instructed her students to write with “concise, ordered, logical development with as little pretentiousness as possible,” a mantra Kate continually paid forward in mentoring aspiring writers. She also credits SJC graduate and faculty member Sr. Margaret John Kelly, DC with supporting her career choices and providing wise counsel for decades.

A native of northern New Jersey, Kate was first a reporter on her hometown Morris County Daily Record newspaper, then a writer and photographer at Baltimore’s Catholic Review newspaper. In 1973, she was named editor and general manager of The Dialog newspaper for the Diocese of Wilmington, DE, the youngest and one of only two women to hold such a post at that time in the national Catholic press.

Other career milestones include: copy editor at the Baltimore Evening Sun newspaper, four more years at The Dialog, head of marketing and communications for the then Daughters of Charity-sponsored O’Connor Hospital, San Jose, CA, and senior writer in MBNA America Bank’s advertising agency in Wilmington. She retired in 2017 after almost 18 years as director of internal communications for Prudential Financial’s life insurance division in Newark, NJ. She also holds a master’s degree in counseling from Loyola University, Baltimore.

After graduating from SJC, Kate volunteered her services to the Alumnae Association as photographer at Reunions, editor of and contributor to the Alumnae Quarterly newsletter (later renamed The Valley Echo), and as a member of the SJCAA Board for several terms.

As editor of The Valley Echo beginning in 2006, with the future of the SJCAA uncharted, Kate collaborated with then SJCAA Director Betty McFann ’60 on the newsletter and helped transform it. At that time of transition, the magazine was the most tangible link to SJC alumnae, containing class news, association information, and SJC Board plans.

As editor and design director, Kate brought a new vision to the publication with artful covers, numerous photos, and dynamic content. She had the energy and vision to make The Valley Echo shine and continued in that role for five years. Additionally, in collaboration with then SJCAA President Ann Wyllie Mulroy ’67 and Mary Ann Carter ’72, Kate authored content for the launch of the SJCAA Website. Early on, Kate took an active role as class agent and spokesperson for the Class of 1968, later ceding that role to Mary Anne Kelly. Kate Graham embodies the best of us. Not only has Kate stayed in touch with classmates, but has remained connected to and learned from many members of other classes. According to her classmates, everyone knows Kate Graham and Kate Graham knows everyone!

Kathleen (Kate) Graham ’68
honored with 2021 Legacy Award

SJCAA’S SCHOLARS ANNOUNCED FOR 2020-2021

The St. Joseph College Alumnae Association (SJCAA) Scholarship at Mount St. Mary’s University (MSMU) is an endowed scholarship funded by alumnae and friends of St. Joseph College. This scholarship is awarded to a rising or transfer junior and/or senior who has a minimum Grade Point Average of 3.0, who demonstrates financial need, and who is recommended by a faculty member at MSMU or another accredited college or university. Consideration is given to the students’ career plans, community services, and academic awards. This year’s Scholarship winners are Margaret Widman and Angela Vodola.

Margaret Widman is a senior majoring in Criminal Justice. Margaret lives in Chesapeake Beach, MD and attended Northern High School. She is currently interning with the FBI and has worked as an FBI Workforce Trainee within various departments since the summer of 2019. Margaret plans to work with the FBI following her graduation from MSMU. Margaret has...
We are thrilled to be on campus together for the 2021-22 school year. As with many Catholic schools across the country, we have had an influx of families looking for alternative educational options. Because of our success last year, many parents chose to continue their enrollment with Mother Seton School (MSS), and many more, who heard of our success, elected to enroll their students. With 319 students, we have our most robust enrollment in several years!

Another factor that makes MSS so attractive to new families is our Seton-LaCroce Learning Center that enables students to receive early intervention when necessary. Alexis Burns, Ann Beirne, Danielle Kirby, and Sr. Maggie Scally, DC ensure that every student who comes through the Learning Center receives the extra care they need, whether due to a learning disability such as dyslexia, behavioral issues, or a need for additional enrichment. These services are available to all MSS students during the school day at no additional cost to families.

We are extremely grateful for the donations from the St. Joseph College Alumnae Association (SJCAA), especially members of the Class of 1970 and the Class of 1974, who continue to provide scholarship assistance to our students. Your gifts continue the legacy of St. Joseph College in the Valley.

If 2020 taught us anything, it was that things could change in the blink of an eye. With that in mind, we continue to look to the future to ensure that the educational legacy of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton and the Daughters of Charity remains strong in the Valley. To help do that, we have created the Mother Seton School Legacy Fund. This investment account will grow for us to use in the future to cover critical needs as they arise, including but not limited to tuition assistance, technology, instructional materials, and other operational expenditures.

Several SJCAA members have helped to plant the seeds of the MSS Legacy Fund by donating their IRA charitable rollovers and appreciated stocks to MSS. We hope that others will also bless us with a planned gift.

For more information or to come and visit MSS when you are in the area, please contact Jennifer Buchheister, Director of Advancement, Mother Seton School, 100 Creamery Road, Emmitsburg, MD 21727 or by phone 301.447.3165 or email Jennifer at advancement@mothersetonschool.org.
Members of the Reunion Committee and the Class of ’70 welcome you to a trip down memory lane.

(From left) Kathy Corley Murray, Jane Garrett Nolan, Deb Zemanick Doyle, Mary Carol Weigh Fleming, Peggy O’Brien Jansen, John Burlenski, and Marilyn Caruso Burlenski at the Class of ’71 Class Dinner.

(From left) Mary Schrecengost Martin, Suzanne Knipfing Smith, Barbara Nickels Gordon, and Susan Minsker Reid celebrate their 45th Reunion at their Class Dinner.

(From left) Jane Garrett Nolan, Deb Zemanick Doyle, Lynn Gloeckler Ries, and Peggy O’Brien Jansen at the ’71 Class Dinner.
Kathy Kirchner McCann, Mary Carol Weigh Fleming, Jayne Conrad Gallager, and Patty Brett Gallagher gather for the ‘71 Class Dinner.

Barbara Nickels Gordon, Debbie Neary Waters, and Susan Minsker Reid share memories.

Kathy Corley Murray and Suzanne Knipfing Smith admire an SJC Commemorative Plate shown by Marilyn Caruso Burlenski before the ‘71 Class Dinner.

Susan Roach Thomey ’71 and Jane Garrett Nolan ’71 represent their class in the opening procession for the Alumnae Mass at the Basilica at their 45th Reunion.
Lynn Gloeckler Ries ’71 and Marilyn Caruso Burlenski ’71 represent the Class of ’71.

Rev. Kevin J. Farmer shares thoughts at the Eucharistic Celebration at the Basilica of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton.

Members of the Class of ’71 at the Alumnae Banquet of their 45th Reunion

(Front row, from left) Dee Verrochi Cary, Debbie Neary Waters, Susan Roach Thomey, Susan Minsker Reid, Mary Schrecengost Martin, Pat Caruso Banker, Lorie Tontz Walker, Jill McCabe (Back row, from left) Patty Murray Schultz, Denise Fish Moxley, Stephanie Slagle Shockites, Barbara Nickels Gordon, and Ann Murphy Zabriskie at the Banquet Social Hour
(From left) Joanne Stahlhut Coppola, Dee Verrochi Cary, Denise Fish Moxley, Stephanie Slagle Shockites, and Pat Caruso Banker at the Banquet Social Hour

Members of the Class of ’71 at the Alumnae Banquet of their 45th Reunion

Members of the Class of ’71 at the Alumnae Banquet of their 45th Reunion
Members of the Class of ’71 at the Alumnae Banquet of their 45th Reunion

Members of the Class of ’71 at the Alumnae Banquet of their 45th Reunion

The Class of ’51 at their 65th Reunion

The Class of ’56 at their 60th Reunion
The Class of ’66 at their 50th Reunion

The Class of ’61 at their 55th Reunion

The Class of ’66 at their 50th Reunion

The Class of ’71 at their 45th Reunion
Early this year I spoke to Cecilia Gallagher Pascuzzi on the phone and later she wrote me a news report of her family. She said she has 14 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. Celie said she is still driving locally but not at night. Her daughter Mary Ellen lives about a mile and a half from her and calls or comes over every day. Two of her own houses in Brittany Beach but do not live here, however they come and cut grass and do repairs. She said she had not gotten her COVID-19 vaccine yet, but her son Bryan and his wife were eligible to get it because they are both parole and probation investigators. Celie ended by saying, “Stay well” and that she was looking forward to hearing any news of “who is left of us 47ers?”

Norma Walker Stec wrote a letter in May saying that since December this year has been like no other. Frank was diagnosed with COVID-19 on December 13th and was in the hospital until December 31st. During January 2021 he was doing very well, much better than she had anticipated. In February Frank began falling and fractured his right collarbone, left elbow, and a bone in his lower back. At the end of February, he developed complications. In the Emergency Room he was diagnosed with a severe cardiac condition which required surgery. He spent time in rehab and finally was discharged for home care. Frank required almost complete care. With the assistance of home care personnel, Mark and Norma are taking care of him. Norma said she has a lovely neighbor who brings her groceries and will do just about anything to help her. Frank always wanted to stay here in the house where he grew up, and Norma said they will try to see to his wishes. Norma said during this time paperwork has been horrendous and responsibilities seem endless, however other folks have similar problems and much worse than she has expressed. She keeps praying that Frank will improve just a little each day, but God knows best, and she accepts it. Norma ended by saying that her health seems good, she tested negative for COVID-19. She said she walks using a rollator, and has experienced that hearing aids, glasses, and masks don’t get along very well but she is okay. Lastly, she expressed her appreciation for keeping the members of our class informed over the years.

Irene Campbell Seitz sent a Christmas card with best wishes for the New Year. Since that time, I have tried to contact Irene in writing and calling her but have not received an answer from either. I hope and pray she is all right at his time.

As I write this report in June all of us at St. Louise House have begun to live a normal life once again following the COVID-19 epidemic on our Albany campus. In December 2020 the first case of COVID-19 was reported in one of our Sisters following two cases among our staff members. Once again, we were quarantined in our rooms. Between December 5 and 19 we had six Sisters and five staff members diagnosed with COVID-19. Our nursing staff took wonderful care of those who were sick and made sure that those of us who were isolated received what we needed. Fourteen Sisters of our Province volunteered to assist our staff at St. Louise and served in the nursing, dietary, and other areas where needed. Christmas Day, we spent in our rooms, however, via TV I was able to attend Christmas Mass at the Vatican and at the National Shrine in Washington. At the end of December, we had the death of two of our Sisters. When Lourdes Hospital in Binghamton heard of the deaths, the CEO of Lourdes contacted us and said they would be here to vaccinate. Several of our Sisters here had been on mission at Lourdes or in the Binghamton area. On December 30th Lourdes staff vaccinated 57 Sisters and 31 staff members at the Albany campus that comprises St. Louise House, DePaul, and St. Joseph on the Hill. On January 29th Lourdes came to give us the second dose of the vaccine. Since that time there have been no cases of COVID-19 among the Sisters or staff who received the vaccine. In the middle of February our quarantine was lifted, and we were able to leave our rooms for meals, chapel, and time together with social distancing. Finally during the month of May we were once again able to go shopping, to the bank, and to limited restaurants. So, after 14 months I finally visited CVS to do some shopping! Thank God I have been well through it all and the Sisters are well at this time. I hope and pray that you have been and are well. Let us continue to pray for each other and for the members of our class that our Lord has called to “our heavenly home.”
Dear Forty-Niners—the time has come for me to hang up my hat as your Class Agent. I don’t use my computer very much anymore and, as a result, it has become more difficult to keep up with the changes. It has been my pleasure to write about the happy times in your lives and the saddest events that you have shared with me over the years.

As the old saying goes, “All good things must come to an end.” God bless you all, pray always for our deceased classmates, and stay well.

Call me any time. I am still a talker and would love to hear from you—Helene.

Not much information for The Valley Echo probably due to our being locked down for much of the year with the COVID-19 virus. So there is very little news.

I did speak to Margie Feeney O’Brien. She had heard from Anita Nevy Karwacki who said three of her four children are living in Florida. She does not plan to join them as she gets around fine where she is and still drives locally. Her sister Alma, now 96, also lives in New Jersey. Joanne Downey McManus told Margie that she had ambulatory surgery to remove screws from an operation done two years ago. She was recuperating at her son’s home in New Hampshire.

Last July Veetsie Frick Ryan told me she had been diagnosed with lung cancer back in January but plans to do nothing about it and let nature take its course. I spoke to her around Christmas and again in June and she is ok.

Charlie Devic, Peggy Bartol Devic’s surviving husband, died in November 2019 at age 95 and is buried with Peggy at their parish church in Fort Myers, FL. A note from Myrtle Sullivan Phelps said she lost her sister Mary Denise who had been in the class of ’50 for two years.

I went to Naples this April since I was able to get the vaccine early enough to head south. (I had to go to Pittsburgh to get it but that is a long story.) Did get together for lunch with Mary Carr Shea and Nancy Johnson Koerwer, both of whom were fine. I called Barbara McCrystle Miekle who said she is good, and had no news.

Two of my letters have been returned—one for Joyce McIvers Byers and one for Judy Vilanova. If you know anything about them please contact me. We love hearing from you. Of the 46 who graduated, 19 are still with us. (This includes Carolyn Eckenrode Sandherr and Kitty Kelly Fitzpatrick whom we can’t find.)

Since our Reunion was cancelled this past year, our 70th Reunion will be in Gettysburg from March 31-April 3, 2022. We will share it with the classes of 1950 and 1952. Margie, Veetsie, Barbara, and I plan to attend bringing our daughters with us. I am urging any of you who are in reasonable health and have an available daughter (or son) to please try to attend. It is always fun and who knows if we will be able to get to the final Reunion in 2025. And finally, please remember to send in your dues.

News of the class is dwindling as our numbers decrease.

We lost another classmate when Mary Elizabeth “Betty” Scanlan Wellner died on Sunday, May 2, 2021. She was living in an apartment in a personal care facility, had heart problems, had surgery, and never recovered.

I had a lovely Christmas card from Alice McGrath Conway and Dave. Their home is the same but the address has changed to 11 Gull Way, Kennebunkport, ME 04046.

Ann Doyle O’Nell’s Christmas card showed her lovely grandchildren and a big ninety showing her birthday celebration.
Claire Nelson Dale is always faithful writing. Her birthday celebration—90th went on for a week and culminated in a family dinner. She was going to start travelling again in July first to a grandson in New Hampshire, then to LA for a postponed graduation, and then to three grands in Philadelphia. She says Zooms have been a Godsend especially her high school group of faith sharing.

Dottie Green Mullen was doing OK the last I heard.

My life has certainly slowed but I’m trying to keep going. I did go to Mexico in January with my daughter and son-in-law. Went to the beach in July. My family had a lovely dinner for me which was cancelled last year so we celebrated 90 and 91--first time we were all together since last year. I hope you are all well and gradually moving your life back to a more normal and happy way. Stay well and keep in touch.

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Since the passing of our dear friend and classmate, Mary Louise Joyce-McDonough, I have agreed to gather whatever news I can from our class. There aren’t too many of us. We are all 90 years young but it will be helpful to hear from you.

I have been in touch with Mary Beth Fricano and as far as I know she is doing well and still travelling and still taking care of her family. Sue Kiser Krock is in a senior living facility and hopefully someone in her family will let me know how she is doing. Joanie Billerbeck has not responded to my “Cancer Appeal Letter” in about three years but her email still goes through--so Joanie, what’s going on?

I am still in Florida and my family has made it safely through the pandemic. Two granddaughters did get COVID-19 but were able to battle through it. My son Scott is in the throes of cancer. His surgeries have gotten very complicated and he has not healed. It’s been four years and we have been storming heaven as the nuns used to say.

You can contact me by email, which is probably the best--I hope to hear from you and if anyone has news of Betty Downey Farley, Gert Cauwels, or Thelma Redding please sing out. Wishes for safe and healthy months ahead and thanks to God for life. Love to you all--Geri.

1954

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I heard from Claire Lawless that her younger brother John A. Kirchner died on April 25, 2021. He had been in excellent health but suffered a stroke and was gone in a couple of weeks. His wife had died a year ago. Claire attended his funeral in New Jersey and then went on to her daughter’s house in Cambridge on the Bay for Mother’s Day.

I have been spending time with my family this summer. Please keep sending me your news and I will save it until next time.

1955

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When I read that Pope Francis had proclaimed this year as “The Year of St. Joseph” I felt a certain kinship! As COVID-19 made its presence known and as we lost age-old rituals, routines, and time-honored events and treasured holidays, I could remember our days at our beloved Alma Mater and the lessons of faith and hope that guided us in the true spirit of St. Joseph.

I am grateful to Cathy Connolly Persons who called me even before I sent out my annual reminder letter. Having served so faithfully as our previous class representative, she instinctively knew that it was time. Cathy has been diagnosed with Parkinson’s disease. She has accepted this fate with faith and hope. She is blessed with children nearby who are eager to help and her youngest daughter, living in Dubai, calls weekly. Nothing can compare to the love of our families!

Barbara Henner Keogh is so faithful with her Christmas letter. She does so well at sharing the vibrancy and love of her ever growing family. COVID-19 caused Barbara’s knee surgery to get postponed but periodic treatment with “chicken oil” kept her going. A kidney stone attack sent her to the hospital for six days but, eventually, surgery took care of that. The virus took away her
social life--no bridge except for playing on the computer. A recent email described the joy of Easter dinner at her daughter's and the anticipation of bridge playing soon. A family wedding is scheduled for October in Raleigh, NC so she is eagerly counting the days to this Keogh family reunion!

Elizabeth (Betty) Barbieri McClellan’s Christmas letter spoke of trips and plans cancelled but “despite it all,” she wrote, “We are thankful for our many blessings.” Brief visits from family broke the monotony and Zoom-directed exercise, walking, and the treadmill kept Betty and Bill fit. Their “wellness” led them to purge the house of “stuff” and give the garden priority. Baking bread, puzzles, needlepoint, Netflix, and bridge made for a well-rounded life. Betty and Bill hope to resume their wandering ways soon. A recent email talked of a planned 90th birthday celebration for Bill, a Jazz festival, a New Year’s cruise to Mexico, and a spring 2022 cruise to the Holy Land.

Audrey Vogel Emley’s big news is a change of address: 1707 N. Market St., Apt. 421, Frederick, MD 21701. Now, her son Eddie and daughter Meg are nearby. Cancer is “taking its toll,” she wrote, but she and son Bill “have become a good team enjoying the country and historic atmosphere” of the area. Her faith supports her well!

Clarebeth (CB) Maguire Cunningham’s news is also a change of address: 11779 East Powers Ave., Engelwood, CO 80111. CB lives with her son Michael and family and as the grands Flynn and Lochlan begin high school and middle school respectively, it was time to move to a better school district only 12 miles south of their Denver home.

I am grateful for the long email from Sr. Mary Martha (Mary T) Gardiner. I could sense her struggle with and her acceptance of the long “voluntary” quarantine of the past year. Through it all she continued to teach her ESL student two evenings a week via telephone and was looking forward to moving her class outdoors. She is still trying to adjust to retirement. She misses nursing! Reading has become her favorite pastime. She named several books but concluded that the book that Pope Francis gave to President Biden for his inauguration was at the top of her list: *Let Us Dream: The Path to a Better Future*. Her hope is “that our politicians will read it and try to put into practice those dreams.” Mary T and her sister Cathy plan to visit their sister Susan and their two brothers this summer. The siblings are eager to celebrate together, with gratitude!

Dolores (Dee) Nevy McMullen and husband Jack were enjoying the spring ritual of digging in the dirt and bringing forth their treasured flowers. Dee and I spoke of Reunion 2022, and I was delighted with her enthusiasm! My prayer is that her positive outlook will be contagious. Thank you, Dee!

It was Mother’s Day weekend when I visited with Betty Brown Shea. She was at her daughter Meghan’s home in West Virginia where she was rehabbing from knee replacement surgery. Having previously had a knee and hip replaced she refers to herself as a “bionic woman.” She is doing well and planning to be at home in New Jersey to receive her family for shore time, this summer.

Miriam Johnson Curnin wrote from Egremont in the Berkshires. In early March, 2020 she and Tom moved to their summer home and only returned periodically to Larchmont. They became addicted to Netflix for their evening entertainment. Miriam also did a lot of reading. Her vote for best read is *Hamnet*. Memorial Day weekend about 80% of her family gathered for the first time in 15 months. They will be together again Labor Day weekend and hope for 100% attendance for the wedding of their youngest son, there in the Berkshires. I join my prayers to theirs for a warm, sunny day!

Carol Murray Fuchs continues to enjoy her apartment and all the activities at her assisted living community in Rhode Island. The COVID-19 restrictions limited her visits from family but now, with vaccinations completed, her world is opening up to visits. Son Michael and family are nearby and shower her with attention.

In spite of her many health issues, Pauline (Pal) Lisella Raftopoulos was upbeat as we shared our experiences of the past year. Three of her children live with her and another is just five minutes away. The three at home are bipolar and Pal is grateful that they have each other for support. Pal has a wonderful memory and recalled her long involvement with the American Legion and with her parish. Special moments with her St. Joe’s classmates continue to bring her joy in the remembering. She feels truly blessed!

Virginia Ohlmueller Rooney and husband Bill had just returned from their six month stay in Florida when we spoke. Now home in Delaware, she looked forward to being with family. She spoke of her joy serving as lector at the Easter Vigil. This led to our sharing our mutual appreciation for Professor Waters and his gentle coaxing us to perfection in speech class.

Virginia holds the honor of being the first female lector.
in her parish. St. Joe’s prepared her well!

Monalee Overdorf Welliver and I continue our weekly Zoom visits thanks to the skills of mutual friend Sue Garner McNulty ’63. Every Sunday morning, after attending a live-streamed Mass, Monalee’s son Sean faithfully tends to her electronic set up. There are often other family members on hand to greet us. Even Monalee’s dog Dancer extends a greeting! Monalee is faithful to her exercises and is doing well. She is clearly the beloved matriarch! Plans are underway for another summer camping trip. We wish her well!

Maria (Mapy) Del Pilar Irizarry’s news was that her husband Larry Lapetina had just died after ten years in a nursing home with Alzheimer’s. His funeral was planned for the weekend of May 23. Though Mapy was divorced from Larry, she planned to attend the service and was looking forward to seeing all the children, grands, and greats together. One of Mapy’s sons is a cardiologist in San Juan and he saw to it that she was first in line for her COVID-19 vaccination. Her oldest son Larry III and his two dogs live with Mapy in Bayamon.

I am grateful to Mapy for calling me with the news of the death of Ileana Soler Torruella on November 3, 2020. Ileana and I had a very special friendship. For 66 years Ileana represented "Los Reyes Magos" (The Three Kings) in my life. She never failed to remember me on the feast of the Epiphany with some token of her Puerto Rican culture as an expression of our friendship. I was able to contact Ileana’s daughter Nina in Miami and expressed our condolences to the family.

Once again, I was unable to connect with Margaret (Jill) May O’Donnell. Phone messages were left and emails sent with no results. I pray that all is well!

As I was preparing to send in our column, I learned of the unexpected death of my sister Helene. With only two years between us, we have always been very close. We have been each other’s support during this strange time of COVID-19 isolation. One of my many special memories is of the year that she accompanied me to Reunion. She had heard me speak of my classmates and she was happy to meet you. My hope is that each of you will find someone to accompany you to the 2022 Reunion. I’m sure it will be worth your effort. See you in March, 2022!

1956

Happy news: Below you will find news about many of our classmates. And many are planning to come to our 65 + 1 Reunion next March 31-April 3!

But to begin, a sad note--Carol Maher Bechman died on October 7, 2020. We had spoken in June when she was still recovering from COVID-19. May she rest in peace.

I chatted with Joan Greco Gies in Pennington, NJ just after her children had taken her to a restaurant—a first since COVID-19—to celebrate her 86th birthday on July 21. All is well with her and her family who got through COVID!

Fran O’Brien Baldessarini and Ross are well and looking forward to a family reunion on Cape Cod. Four grandchildren, two who live near Baltimore and two who live closer to Fran in Waban, MA have great fun at their yearly get-togethers.

Nancy Meskill still drives friends for appointments. She is an active walker who is thinking about moving back to Carroll County, MD from her current senior apartment in Nottingham, MD. Nancy plans to attend our Reunion next March/April.

Mary Fran Kane still lives in the home in which she grew up in Pallatine Bridge, NY—except when she spent some winter months in Coco Beach, FL. The planes were nearly empty both ways. She walks, grows flowers, and is surrounded by family and friends.

Mary Ann Radzievich Pagano and Dan report that they have been well cared for during COVID-19 in their retirement community in Glen Mills, PA. Two daughters live nearby; their other three children live on the West Coast. When we spoke in August, Mary Ann was recovering from a spinal operation to firm vertebrae but “this too shall pass,” she said. They plan to attend our Reunion next spring.

Cape Charles, VA agrees with Chica Godbee Golibart who describes herself as a "lucky 88-year-old woman." Her three children, and two grandchildren attended Mother Seton School when she lived in Emmitsburg, and three sisters were part of her family. "Mother Seton
takes care of me," she says. And she plans to come to our Reunion next year. Chica works part-time in her daughter-in-law’s store, Periwinkles!

**Betty Taylor Claypoole** asks for prayers for Nels who is suffering from cancer of the prostate, spine, and elsewhere. He receives a four-hour infusion every week. A new great-grandchild delights them; now a great-granddaughter and a great-grandson. During COVID-19 they spent some time at their second home on Lake Shawnee, NJ, not too far from their Cranford, NJ residence.

COVID-19 came to Norfolk, VA and infected **Anne Christe Calgani** and Tony. Their daughter Stephanie spent several weeks with them in the winter. Anne credits her with their recovery. When we spoke in July, Anne was recovering from a broken collar bone but was upbeat and looking forward to our Reunion.

**Nona Murray Duvall** moved to a smaller unit in Harbor Chase, Woodbridge, VA where she is close to several children. Nona wore a mask when she managed a physician’s office so she plans to continue! Daughter Sally visited from Denver earlier in the summer. Next May Nona plans to attend Sally’s daughter’s wedding in Colorado. But first, daughter Joan will be bringing her to our Reunion.

Anne, Nona and I receive phone calls every so often from **Carmita Arqueta de Armas** who now lives with her daughter in Miami. She is quarantined, but her great-grandson spends a day a week with her. Carmita is still dealing with colon cancer but says, "God doesn’t want me yet, but neither does the devil," and then laughs delightfully. She plans to come to our Reunion too.

Many of us have moved in recent years to be closer to family. **Jeanne Beurket O’Connor** has done that in spades—from Sarasota, FL to Hillsboro a suburb of Portland, OR to be closer to her son. I caught her three days before her move when she was sorting through family photos. Jeanne’s new address: 1532 NE 63rd Ave., Hillsboro, OR 97124. Her cell phone is 941.914.5182.

My phone calls to **Fran Gillchrist Quitzau**, **Connie Ehrams Hollowell**, and **Joan Kerr Benjamin** were unsuccessful. If anyone has contact information, please let me know! **UPDATE**—new phone numbers—Joan Kerr Benjamin: 410.917.3595; **Marian Daley Schmeling**: 304.258.8361; Fran Gillchrist Quitzau: 713.703.7534 and her new email is franquitzau@gmail.com.

I saw **Alhen Ehrensing Green** a couple of years ago at her granddaughter’s graduation from Notre Dame. Although Alhen continues to deal with memory issues, she is living happily with her beloved Leo, MSM ’54 in Gambrills, MD, and Naples, FL. They recently celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary, and also travelled to the Outer Banks, NC, for a BIG Green family vacation, with most of their eight children and spouses, 25 grandchildren and six of their spouses, and eight great-grands, all staying in one LARGE house! So much JOY and FUN!! Alhen started this tradition of renting a big house in the Outer Banks for the whole family, every other summer, back in 1992. She hopes to come to Reunion next year, as St. Joe’s and Emmitsburg continue to be a very special part of her life and memories!

That is also the case with **Rose (Sister Margaret John) Kelly**. I received an email from Sister Janet Keim who reports that Rose is now living in the skill care section of the Villa in Emmitsburg. She may have had a stroke or some effect from several falls. Sister Janet reports that Rose is well cared for and appreciates those who have known her for many years.

COVID-19 also visited Fairport, NY and **Noel Stewart Rupprecht** spent a week in the hospital in January. She has recovered and has been vaccinated. Her daughter Betsy who lives in a wheelchair after an accident several years ago lives nearby and is well cared for by her husband. Noel has moved to 200 Clear Spring Trail, Apt. 310, Fairport, NY 14450. Her cell phone is 585.750.9216. Noel will have knee replacement surgery in September but says, "Everything is under control, so to speak."

After staying put for so many months, I visited my Ohio family in June for Oliver Craft’s christening. He is my fourth great-grandchild born the day after Thanksgiving. Eleven of my family live in the Grove City, OH area, so it was great to see them all again. In July daughter Chris and John Emmrich and I visited Colorado where we caught up with son Kevin and grandsons Devin and Michael. Mary and Kevin Schuck connected, so my children were all together for the first time in several years. Another trip to Ohio was for great-granddaughter Emery’s fourth birthday. Chris and I have plans to come to our Reunion next spring.

Paying dues really keeps *The Valley Echo* coming. Our class percentage of contribution is 47.6%, so I hope you’ll send dues to St. Joseph College Alumnae Association, Inc., Mt. St. Mary’s University, 16300 Old Emmitsburg Road, Emmitsburg, MD 21727.
Let’s stay in touch and try to make our 65 + 1 Reunion March 31-April 3 at the Wyndham Hotel, Gettysburg, PA with an opportunity to catch up and visit our old campus in Emmitsburg.

Meantime, stay safe and well until we meet again. With blessings and love—Ronnie.

1957

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I am saddened to report that we lost a dear classmate when Betty Kirwan Callery passed away on January 16, 2021. We will miss her quiet beauty, sophistication, and elusive humor, as she was so aptly described in Allegra 1957. Rest in Peace, Betty!

Mary Elizabeth Bustamante Anderson observes that as we age, mobility and memory issues become paramount. She and Bill are as healthy as can be expected. Bill has dementia and they both use walkers. But all in all they are grateful to be together at Riderwood, a senior facility, during the isolation of the past year. To keep herself involved and feel useful she volunteers at Meals on Wheels, coordinating deliveries by phone.

Adelaide Burroughs Campbell sends greetings to all her classmates. She is doing well and enjoying her home in Newton, PA, which is only ten minutes from her children.

Carol Knauer Pastor continues with nonstop involvement in her community. In addition to volunteering with police and library committees, she is now writing for the local newspaper and magazine. Carol says she does research and writes from a historical angle about different facets of life in Coronado and San Diego. Her kids and grandkids reflect Carol’s love of travel and commitment to “giving back.” She is looking forward to her annual fall trip to Vermont. In the meantime she and five girlfriends she calls the “Rat Pack” meet for Happy Hour and watch the ocean waves roll in.

This has been a quiet year so far, but the rumbles of travel are beginning to be felt as families gather from far and wide. Mary Elizabeth Lange Riscassi and Louis hosted three Cape Cod cabins full of grandkids, parents, and cousins. They convened from all over, from California to Georgia to Connecticut to frolic in the sand and sun.

Lucille Mariano likes to keep busy. Her latest undertaking was to replace the roof and siding on her home on Long Island. In a recent phone chat she offered up some useful advice to keep one’s mind alert. Her recommendation is to download “7littlewords” which is an app for those who love crossword puzzles. Thanks, Lucille!

Margaret Hayner Atkins writes from Albuquerque that she enjoys Zoom visits with out-of-state friends. She is an avid cook and gardener. For recreation she hits the trail and often clocks five miles at a time, some of it uphill. She has sold her Arizona home but has family there to visit when the snow flies in New Mexico. Margaret recently had some sad news. She asks for prayers for her daughter-in-law Valerie who has been diagnosed with liver cancer.

Jeanne Mitchler-Fiks, who loves nothing more than an annual trip to Europe, won’t be going this year, and probably not anytime soon due to the virus. She continues to work from home but misses the personal interaction with coworkers and clients. The programs she oversees, Naturalization and ESL, have been stymied by lockdowns and lack of staff. Her little dog CJ is good company and gets her out of her condo office three times a day, rain or shine.

Joan Stovicek Hutchison sent a detailed recap of her life and career as Administrator of the Crisis Pregnancy Clinic. For the last two years she had battled health problems, mainly falling, which resulted in a torn rotator cuff. After a lot of testing she feels her meds are finely working together to give her much needed relief from pain. Now retired, she spends her days enjoying her beautiful “nest” in Michigan while following her first love, quilting.

Jeanette Sledz Moore knows about health issues. For years she devoted many hours a day volunteering at her church where she took care of the gardens and the office. While working in the garden one day she had a stroke and spent a week in the hospital. She says she was luckier than most stroke victims in that she is back at work, albeit at a reduced schedule.

In my recent mail almost no one mentioned how they coped with the pandemic other than using Zoom. Until the vaccine was made available I was apprehensive about going out or travelling. But since receiving the shot Richard and I have flown to Omaha, NE to attend our granddaughter’s college graduation, spent three weeks enjoying family, friends, and food in Colorado, followed by another three weeks of the same in California. After a year of lockdown we were amazed...
to discover one grandson had grown about a foot, and one granddaughter was wearing makeup already (she’s over 21).

1958

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Hello to all! Marge Cantanno writes that they were up in the north country for the first time since the pandemic started, over two years. They arrived in New York, then on to Maine. They are now back on Long Island, NY until after Labor Day when they will head back home to Florida. Marge says that it was so good seeing everyone and spending time with them, especially all the grandchildren.

Faith Welsh attended her daughter’s wedding in Indiana. They spent a week sight-seeing there, spending several days at the West-Baden Springs Hotel in French Lick, home of Boston Celtics player Larry Bird, Colonel Sanders, The Four Freshmen, and Mike Pence, just to name a few. The wedding was held outside under the “Large Arch,” a Henry Moore sculpture in Columbus, IN. Columbus is noted worldwide for the city’s design and architectural innovations. Faith says that the bride was beautiful and the groom handsome.

Jill Charbonneau laments that years pass too quickly and memories are treasured. Jill and Paul celebrated the college graduation this past spring of four of their grandchildren. Three of these four are triplets. The only girl in the group is named for her and she was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship in Environmental Science. Does Jill sound like a very proud grandmother? She is! Now Jill and Paul will go forward with them as they begin more adventures in Iceland, France, Scotland, and the US. Jill remembers Mary Sheridan and her heading to DC. How can that be 63 years ago? She wishes the best to all her classmates.

Angela Rocks reports a change of address for her apartment at Charter House in Quincy Village (a short distance outside of Waynesboro) to 1501 Henrietta Lane, Apt. 2004 (in Quincy Village), Waynesboro, PA 17268. She says that the staff is friendly and welcoming and so are the residents. There are a lot of activities, major and minor. She is taking advantage of some of the exercise classes that are offered and will attend a book club meeting this month for the first time. Angela says that today they have been instructed to start wearing masks again when around others indoors. It is related to the prevalence of new COVID-19 cases in Franklin County, PA. She is concerned about the ramifications of the Delta variant of COVID-19 and reports that most of the residents are vaccinated.

Annette Defina Strauch reports that she and her husband are doing well for an aging couple. They celebrated their 64th anniversary on August 3rd. It was not a huge celebration but several dinners with different families. It was of course great to see all the children and most of the grandchildren. They now have three great-grandsons, ages six, three, and nine months. They feel lucky to have lived this long. Annette says no more travel for them and thanks God they were blessed to be able to do so much while they were relatively young. She is still able to sing in her choir.

All’s well these days in Anne Quigley’s immediate family, though husband Steve spent several days in May in the hospital with weird, unlikely symptoms, which they were convinced were related to their COVID-19 vaccines last winter. Steve is much, much better now, back at golf and volunteer job, and Anne says he would rather take Eliquis forever than die of COVID-19. She says that more and more people are wearing masks again the last couple of weeks, though her county has been very safe, and the vaccination rate is very high. Masks are required now at the used bookstore where she works and that is fine with her. She’d like to turn over the Prayer Shawl Ministry to someone younger—but thinks that they’re all too happy meeting on her back patio when the weather is decent. Anne and Steve are still finding interesting unknown things among her brother’s “stuff.” She hopes to exhibit his remaining artwork in Frederick next spring. She offers a toast to Doey, who works hard to keep ’58 connected on a monthly Zoom.

Helen White reminded us all of the Zoom meeting on the 25th!!

On August 7, 2021, Carol Redmond and husband Ron celebrated both his milestone birthday—90—and their 60th wedding anniversary. Their four sons planned the party for the actual date of May 14, 2020. As all are aware, however, COVID-19 stepped in and stole the celebration events from our lives. After four different tries, their sons designed and emceed a wonderful celebration (with new invites). Carol reports that it was wonderful. They had both survived to see many family and friends from the four winds. Tech wise they have learned to Zoom if necessary and cherish FaceTime on their phones. Carol thanks Doey for Zooming our class
As for me, all is well in my family re COVID-19. Two of my daughters and two grandsons live in the Rochester, NY area, which is wonderful, and I am blessed with friends from my Kodak days, my choir, my book club, and my bridge club. I also serve on the board of my HOA which keeps me on my toes. Some of my groups met via Zoom last year and are just starting to meet in person. Hopefully, we can continue. I, too, have stopped travelling due to balance and energy issues; but I am so grateful to have been able to visit so many countries and learn about their cultures. It was mind changing! Keep well!--Margaret

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Welcome back to the Valley, again, as we visit with some of our classmates through The Valley Echo.

Our beloved Sister Marian Hamwey writes that her news items for this year are pretty scant since we have all been living through the pandemic, but she will try to add some adventures in her life since the beginning of COVID-19. On St. Patrick’s feast, March 17th, she had her left knee replacement just two days before all elective surgeries were cancelled at the two big hospital centers in her area, and thanks be to God, the rehab and therapy went well, and she is having no problems. Shortly after the surgery, her group of Sisters received word to start Zoom training for the Provincial Assembly in July. Sister thinks that everyone in the province has become quite proficient in Zooming since they used it many, many times and before the actual assembly, each local community held small groups of Sisters in discussion on points for the assembly. Sister found it very exciting and challenging because they combined those from the retirement community and those from the semi-active group, which provided a great opportunity for getting to know each other. She had signed to make a retreat in Canada with the Montreal Sisters, but the borders closed so she opted for Rhinebeck, NY, but that too was cancelled, so two of the Sisters, including Marian, made a private retreat at their Lake House in early August with virtual conferences with a priest in Chicago. They were in total lockdown because three employees tested positive and eventually six retired Sisters contracted COVID-19. Two of the Sisters died, but each had extenuating health issues. Their facility is not a nursing home but a residential site, subject to the regulations from CDC and the New York State Health Department. Obviously, that meant that all of their activities outside were cancelled and so they began to search for ways to be occupied within the confines of their campus. Sister volunteered to serve meals to their retired Sisters who stayed in their rooms. Each one had a separate tray prepared by the dietary staff and brought up to the second floor for distribution. It was quite a workout for their team.

Eventually Sisters from other missions in the Province came to volunteer as nurses, and aides, which lasted for SIX MONTHS! If you recall that New York was the epicenter of the pandemic at first, those who could help in any way were recruited in hospitals, clinics, shelters, and pharmacies. Sister relates that the big thing was helping each other maintain a positive and hopeful spirit, with Governor Cuomo keeping a daily TV and Internet review of the situation and being the first cheerleader through it all. In addition, Sister Marian notes that the November elections took place with its ramifications, even now. In her community, most voted with absentee ballots so only a few went to the polls. They tried to make Thanksgiving as festive as they could, especially since none of them had been ill with the virus. Getting tested was waiting for the first openings in the capital district. Their hospital in Binghamton under the direction of the Daughters of Charity for over 100 years came to the rescue sending a team to test Sisters and staff and all employees in early December. All were negative! After Christmas, the hospital team came to vaccinate them and again at the end of January. Since there are 11 living in the DePaul Residence in Albany, they have birthdays spread out most of the year, so another occasion to celebrate. They were able to go out to get cards, decorations, and gifts to make it a great and fun time for all. Sister Marian’s 83rd birthday at the end of February suddenly awakened her to the reality of getting older, with some limitations. Sister is most grateful that she has been well and healthy and that she is faithful to exercising and healthy eating and being active. The more she reads the more she is convinced that the Lord has graced her with the wisdom to do what she needs to do to keep available to serve Him. Sister Marian tells us that finally, she was able to visit her aunt Peg in Oneonta (75 miles away). “She is 95 and sharp as a card, but doesn’t go out. Her daughter and son-in-law live close by and are wonderful in looking out for her. Her granddaughters in the vicinity come and help out or do puzzles or just entertain her.” Sister’s brother and his family are in Billings, MT, so she has no plans to visit for this year. He isn’t too well but
everyone keeps close tabs on him. Sister is going to a retreat at the end of July in Rhinebeck on the Hudson. In August, some of the Sisters have signed out the Lake House for a week of vacation and hopefully; at the end of September, three of them will join a group at Cape May, NJ for a week of sun and fun. Sister Marian sends greetings to all and promises of prayers for each.

Cathleen McLoughlin thanked me for my efforts in reaching her. She relates that she has been in Pennsylvania helping her brother get his house ready to sell—a huge project. She states that “I learned enough about living in the country to know living in the country is not for me. I am definitely a city slicker.” In September she will be back to her routine as a supervisor of student teachers at NYU. She will be giving tours at the Morgan Library, virtually. Her French class continues online with the teacher being in Paris and the students being online. Her book club of which she is in charge continues each month. Recently, a friend organized a discussion group to talk about The Talmud, in which she has participated, but will probably drop out, as she finds it somewhat old fashioned. On Thursdays, she meets online with colleagues from NYU for a social meeting. On Fridays, she sets up a Zoom group with the docents from the Morgan. At times, she sets up Zoom groups with her family members. She feels that learning to participate in Zoom has been an asset to dealing with COVID-19.

Noreen Smith Reid called to let me know that she and Dennis are well, enjoying their children and grandchildren while spending most of their time at their place in the Poconos, this summer. Noreen reports no trips out west to ski, last year, but that she still does ski locally, in Pennsylvania. Angie Carl Woodhead visited with Noreen in the Poconos and she reports that Patricia Bianchi Gilroy has moved to a retirement home in Virginia.

Delia Gautier Slight reports that she lives near the Mexican border where it is very dangerous and particularly sad for the unescorted immigrant children. Her family brings her groceries and recently began visiting with her new great-grandchild. Her daughter is taking her out for lunch, once in a while.

Marcella Gibbons Wilding tells us that she and Jim are enjoying residence in their continuing care retirement home on a lake, which is near their daughter and three granddaughters. Her great-grandson, who lives in Cedar Rapids, is 18 months now. Marcella is participating in a mindfulness course and Zooming with book clubs and discussion groups.

Audrey Carr Shields visited her son in Washington, DC, who suffers from MS, but still continues to work in software technology four days a week. She tries to visit her other sons and grandchildren at least once a week near her home to enjoy summer activities. Audrey participates in a book club and suggested Barbara Kingsolver’s book, Unsheltered, for reading.

Patricia Horn O’Brien has been visiting John’s sister who is in hospice in Florida. She reports that life has been hectic with family and that one of her sons had a heart attack. Pat is still trying to continue with her poetry and writing.

Kathleen Potter Conway reports that she has been in Vermont for a couple of days with her daughter and celebrated her daughter-in-law’s birthday. “It’s kind of nice to have a daughter instead of the son with which to do different things, too.” Her news from there is that she escaped from Long Island, not that it was so terrible, and went to Vermont where it is nice, even though she doesn’t do much up there either. Her granddaughter is getting married and from now on they are starting to go out and look at bridal gowns and have all kinds of fun, as they are nice enough to invite her. They’ll be returning to Long Island where she can be reached.

Helen Lilly Johnson reports that she is looking forward to the arrival of her nephew’s baby as it will be the first in the family. She enjoys gardening when the heat slows down and visits people in a neighboring nursing home several times a week. Helen especially enjoys seeing her grandmother’s friend in her visitations. We discussed the problem with email fraud and robo calls. Many thanks to Helen for some of the beautiful emails that she sends to us and I forward to you.

Helene Coffee Bowes tells us that all is well with Joe and family.

Mary Frances Kelly Dillon relates that she and John are moving on with their lives. She is involved with water aerobics, book club, Zoom groups, and getting out. They are still living in their original house in the Washington, DC area. Her grandson is getting married in California, and they are hopeful to attend. Their youngest is an EMT with the Park Police in Washington, DC.

Jacqueline Jewell Hamilton discussed with me that she is in the crossroads of her life. She still lives in her original house of 35 years in Maine and is contemplating moving to senior living apartments in Augusta. Her younger sister lives in Florida and her children live in
Maine and Connecticut.

Our deepest sympathy to Ann Dodd Dooling on the death of her husband John on May 19, 2020.

For the most part, Jim and I are enjoying the ageing process with good to fair health on a daily basis, with wonderful friends and neighbors in our community. Along with frequent doctor's appointments, Jim at age 94, is able to lunch with his pilot buddies, once a week, and other guy groups from the area. We see family for our grandsons' lacrosse games and dinners at my daughter's house. We are also disturbed with the daunting fake calls. Hopefully, this, too, will pass. We both read and enjoy the game and mystery shows on television plus the emails we receive on the computer. I'm still volunteering to help women in addiction with their recovery.

We are starting to go to Mass in person, after online video Mass for the last year. We are grateful to God for keeping us and our family, generally well, and alive.

God bless all of you and keep in touch. Our 65th Reunion in 2024--See you there!!

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It is always my pleasure--my good fortune--to reach out to all of you and hear "the news" first hand. Funny, though, this year everyone's news is pretty much the same, same underlying item--"thank you, God, for all your attempts to end this COVID-19 pandemic."

I most always hear from Charlotte Duffy Kain first--but I'm saving her comments for the end. She might be the only one of us honestly truthful about how the pandemic has affected her. Now, don't any of you dare skip to the end right now…and that's an order!!!!

Personally, I fared well in the pandemic; I got hooked on Netflix and loved having time to read. Some family "busy-ness" too. Oldest granddaughter Morgan married to a Navy pilot is stationed in Washington State. I told her she should hang a sign out front Morgan and Dan's Hotel. Family and friends back and forth visiting. Oldest grandson Nicholas met his fiancée while matriculating at Villanova University. He and Lexi officially celebrated their engagement on the rooftop of the Empire Hotel in New York City in June. Now, hurry up April 30, 2022 their wedding date.

Really good news from Sally Grabe Poux. “All good after all the cardiac procedures last year.” Of utmost concern…Sally hasn’t seen her Seattle family in more than a year because of COVID-19 quarantine issues. But, they’re coming this summer to Sally’s place on Lake Michigan. Happy Happy Happy to be together in their favorite hang-out.

Pat Cannon Quinlan is doing very well after a total knee replacement and attributes that to the exceptional aftercare from her caregiver, husband Joe. Struck me funny, though, Joe had a Pacemaker implanted the week before. Was that in anticipation of what was to come, Joe???? Perfect timing. How lucky are the Quinlans…their daughter Jeri and son Christopher manage to check on them weekly.

Late June one day, Beth Addison Moreland made my day! Quoting her directly, “It’s Hustle Time” for news, I gather. I would imagine all class secretaries are having the same problem, trying to get news in COVID-19 times. Right On! Beth!!!! Presently her sister and Beth’s daughter are visiting from Colorado. Niece Kathleen recently received her Master’s from University of Iowa (remotely of course). All enjoyed remotely but are right now celebrating in person.” Lots of mazel.

Nancy Williams Yeager reports her family is slowly getting back to normal. Recently celebrated Bill’s birthday and, happily, all four children made it. She said it was the first time in a long time they were able to do that. Nancy reports her youngest granddaughter Grace graduated high school and will be attending Rutgers University in the fall. Grandson Will’s bar mitzvah actually took place last December but celebrations SOON.

I got lucky and found Marty Spurlock at home one day I called. She’s good despite aftercare of a hip replacement. We laughed at the fact we’re both using a cane for safety. She’s back to playing bridge and “doing lunch” with friends. I got an update on her granddaughter Arden. Arden is in the acting business but has been on hiatus, visiting with her British grandmother in London for a year. Marty is anxiously awaiting her return.
Additionally, Marty tells me Sue Corcoran Bruswitz is doing great; they talk frequently, and Marty is going to set up a date for her, Sue, and me to meet. I like that!

Gina Smith Shahade shares info that she and Al are “good.” Al is dealing with some health issues but nothing they can’t handle. The Shahades spend two months in Florida so they’re only just now up here in New Jersey. Their daughter Beth teaches seventh grade in East Orange, NJ. It’s not been an easy year for her, like all teachers, teaching virtually and “in person.” Welcome summer.

All is good with Kathy O’Donnell O’Brien’s family. They celebrated the graduation of one grandchild from Tufts University and presently have three other grandkids in college: one at the University of Richmond, the second at Bucknell University, and a third at Amherst College. And Kathy and Sue Anderson still manage to keep in touch weekly. Way to Go!

Life is good for me, reports Sue Anderson. All three sons live in Maryland so getting together is easy. Sue’s been in the same house for 41 years and she loves it. She walks three miles several times a week and her health has been good so she can extend herself. Traveling, though, is not a priority anymore. Sue most enjoys spending time with family, reading, and going out for dinner. She also loves to cook and entertain and extends an invitation to any one of us to stop in. She promises to whip up something good. Of her four grandchildren…one graduated Loyola and is in graduate school there; her sister is a junior at Loyola; another is a senior at the Mount; and her brother is a sophomore at Villanova.

Vicki Gomez Scott reports it has been quite the year for her and David but they have survived--got vaccinated back in January, have taken all precautions thus remaining healthy. Vicki does comment the stress level of the past year is like nothing experienced before. In early June they took great pleasure in vacationing in Corolla, NC--annual family reunion. Now, early July Vicki and her daughter Krissy are taking a trip to Boston and Cape Cod, an area they both love. And, get this, her son Tim and his son Tyler are climbing Mt. Kilimanjaro right now with family following them on Facebook.

Talk about Facebook…I’m constantly apprised of Nancy Gill McShea’s activities on Facebook. Nancy is still the Queen of the USTA. She still hobnobs with the big names. Wimbledon’s grass courts (presently being played) remind Nancy of her connection with the West Side Tennis Club’s grass courts in Queens (NY); place Nancy frequented in past years.

On yet another encounter I spoke briefly with Marie Gavin Dawes and Bob. Bob is retired after 50 years with Ford. They live in Ohio and their kids remain involved in the vehicle business.

Kay Saunders DeSilva tells me how fortunate she and Phil are having escaped COVID-19. They kept busy with genealogy, crafts, and Smart TV. Kay loves BritBox and foreign films, especially French ones. She says Miss Fitzpatrick would be astonished that she can say, “That’s not what he/she (actor) said” as she reads the English subtitles. Sons and families doing well, too. Grandchildren are finishing up high school or are in college except for one third grader. Kay’s goal, she says, is to see her finish high school. Easy for you, Kay. The DeSilvas happy about slowly returning to normal and grateful to have come through the past 18 months none the worse for wear.

Though she claims not much news, Gloria Defina Chisholm was indeed newsy. Love sharing her news. She’s still living in BrightView retirement home. She serves as Eucharistic Minister which includes bringing back hosts on Sunday and serving Communion at the Homes’ televised Masses. She brings residents up from the memory care unit for the Mass so she gets to attend two Masses on Sunday. She also has a small prayer and Communion service for Independent and Assisted Living residents on Monday and one in the memory care unit on Thursday. On Mother’s Day she missed a step at her son’s house and experienced internal bleeding into her thigh. Gloria spent two days in hospital but then it took several weeks to get her blood values back to normal. Other than that, she has become a GREAT fan of pinochle and probably knows more about the Civil War than most people other than historians. Add to all this that Gloria and Pat visited numerous sites and have four bookcases, mostly on the Civil War in her apartment. Now, Gloria, I beg to differ with you; you are indeed newsy!!!

Carol Gorman Hogan pleasantly surprised me with a call. We talked too long, enjoyably so ‘til Carol told me Bill still suffers with severe low back pain. She asked our prayers for Bill. Carol went on to tell me to share some good family news. She and Bill are great-grandparents! Their daughter Mary Beth’s son Patrick and his wife celebrate the birth of Augustine Rowels along with all the Hogan family.

Got a kick out of Kate White Eustice’s email. Not a lot of news with pandemic. You know it’s bad when going
to the grocery store is the highlight of your day. Kate’s enjoyably read lots of books. She mentioned being delighted to finally get her two doses of vaccine. Additionally, she is taking an online exercise class and happily resuming “doing lunches.”

Matilda Ramos Suarez treated me to a one on one conversation. Loved it! She gave me a full family update. Her oldest Mati married to Jim who runs an Entertainment company (busy busy busy at last) have a daughter Marie Sofia, 15, who is in high school. Son Jose was appointed Appellate Court judge in Connecticut and his wife is also a practicing attorney. Matilda giggled telling me they married late--she has two grandchildren so young…Nicholas seven and Isabel five. Then, her youngest son Manuel is an attorney in private practice. His two sons are in college, Sebastian at Roger Williams University in Bristol, RI and Gabriel a junior at the University of Vermont in Burlington. And now listen to this: Matilda, upon retirement was named not only the bilingual teacher of the year in Stamford, CT, but also the bilingual teacher of the year in the state of Connecticut. Lots of mazel, Matilda.

Made my day!-just heard from Maxine Hansen Olson. Several of you know I’d been asking around about Maxine because I always hear from her and I hadn’t this time around. So, all’s good. Maxine states that in Arizona they have greatly reduced COVID-19 restrictions so her family had a joyous Easter. She along with her daughter Karen and granddaughters Juliana and Claire just returned from Los Angeles. They visited Catalina Island and toured in a golf cart. What a hoot!!! Then they visited Universal Studios and the following day Magic Mountain for more rides and firecrackers. Whew!!!!! The trip home was a bit too challenging; a ride that generally takes six hours took ten hours. Yikes! Mid July Maxine will join her son Roy and granddaughter Paisley on a trip to Sea World, Balboa Park, and the San Diego waterfront. You Go Girl!!!

And now to my counterpart--Liz Phelan Burmaster. Liz is THE BEST to work with. But about her and Dick…left Florida May 26th visiting friends and family along their way. While in Baltimore, Liz “did lunch” with Sue Anderson (color me green). Two weeks on Cape Cod and time at Loon Lake near Lake George. Two virtual graduations: one a high school graduation the other Dartmouth College. After spending a week in Rochester with granddaughter Katie they’ll be heading back to Florida, their new permanent residence.

Liz has been in touch with Linda Ryan Healy. Linda sends her best and asks we keep her Tom in our prayers. Liz also talked to Iddy Nelson Bailey who is enjoying good health and not realizing Liz was Facetime her, I’d wanted to know how Liz could comment on her new hairdo. LOL. Now, and finally…as promised, Charlotte Duffy Kain. Charlotte states NO NEWS, really in this pandemic year; played a lot of bridge on PC. Went food shopping once a week and to Mass weekly…read a lot of murder mysteries. In reality, Charlotte states “she lost her mind.” Only one of class to admit that.

May 2021 continue to show marked improvements and may we all stay safe and healthy until we can PARTY HEARTY at Reunion next year. Yes, be on the look-out for Reunion reminders and sign ups. REUNION 2022 at Wyndham Hotel in Gettysburg, PA March 31–April 3.

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It was with sadness that we learned of the death of Elaine Zome Patzwell. Mary Kable Stockman lost her husband Chuck who had a long and productive life. He remained active almost to the end, writing and reminiscing. Mary thanks all her classmates for the outpouring of prayers, support, and donations in his memory. Carol Rodgers Beaugard’s family remained healthy during the pandemic, and moving to an over 55 community four years ago was the best decision. In early June Dan and Muriel Cuddy Reeves took a five-hour road trip to a resort in Bradford, PA. After more than a year of avoiding public places, it was a great way to get away and be out among people in a social situation.

Bern and Peggy Claudius McCormick’s church, St. Anthony in Fort Lauderdale, celebrated its 100th
anniversary this year. The McCormicks have been members for fifty years, and this church is a big part of their lives. The family is very active in the parish.

Hawaii beckoned Ginny Zebrowski Komar and Jack to celebrate their 58th anniversary in June.

Mary Ellen Taft Whitcomb, while recovering from a leg injury this winter, had a visit from Jeanne LaPura Beall and Jeanne’s sister, who were both very helpful to her.

Mildred Gleeson Grady’s house in Texas was hit hard by a recent hurricane. They had flooding, but repairs to the floors were made and carpeting was replaced.

Pat and I had a trip in June to visit our son Patrick and his family. We drove to North Carolina and spent a week in their new house, which they have had built. Our first grandchild will start college in the fall. Gavin will attend Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute where he will play on the basketball team and major in business.

Maureen Dugan Cocozza and Dick escaped any COVID-19 symptoms and were able to get the vaccine early in the year. Their grandson who just finished his freshman year at Rhode Island School of Design had a work displayed at the Phillips Gallery in Washington, DC this summer. She is looking forward to seeing everyone at Reunion.

Jim and Marguerite Weidner Phillips are grateful to come out of this end of the pandemic intact and healthy. Their lack of close family get-togethers was their most painful experience. Great-granddaughter Mara literally grew up behind their backs. She is 18 months old now, and they hardly saw her for most of last year. This past year they had to forgo two family weddings, but did participate in a grandson’s marriage on the shore of Lake Michigan. Jim and Margie had three college graduations, two high school graduations, and a commission ceremony in the Navy. Many new careers being launched. They played in two golf leagues in the summer and hope to start travelling again soon.

Judy Sparrow and Ed spent the winter in Florida and returned to Westford until the summer. While in Florida, they connected with Rosemarie Aellen Dunning for a delightful lunch in Stuart. Another joy for them was joining with the Daughters of Charity in Emmitsburg for a reunion with the Women of Charity. Rosie writes that she was able to spend some of her weekends at her Cape Cod home, which she shares with her daughter Margaret.

In lieu of experiencing fabulous adventures to report, Ann Fallon Lynch’s family stayed well during COVID-19 and are all vaccinated. In May her family had a fun week at Lake Chelan. A Seattle winter, it was heaven. Her son Brian joined her from Los Angeles as well as her daughter Sheila from Seattle. Ann’s grandson Nathan graduated from law school in May, with honors “if I may be proud.” He is working at the Connecticut Superior Court.

Elizabeth Strezeski La France has planned a trip back to Silver Spring, MD in the fall. The family cruise in Portugal, postponed twice, now has a third date, October 9th. We shall see. Strez is grateful to still have decent health and energy to enjoy the gulf and visits from her daughter, daughter-in-law, and her son.

David and Ann Depenbrock Holmes attended the Sundance Film Festival again in 2020 when everything changed dramatically. They were in Williamsburg where they were quarantined due to COVID-19 cases in their apartment community. Daughter Megan and family were in Saudi Arabia where conditions were extremely tight all year. This summer they have been able to have a series of visits/reunions in Bethany, DE as things have opened up. All the grandsons were doing remote work and school programs.

Once COVID-19 hit, Barbara Redding worked remotely from home. She expects to teach four courses in the fall in the RN to BSN program at the University of South Florida. She is probably one of the few still gainfully employed.

At the initial lockdown Joanne Fontana Kini went to Sonoma with her daughter Tara’s family where they stayed in Tara’s new country home where there was room for two families, four grandchildren, and herself. Memorial Day weekend, her eldest granddaughter Mariah visited for a fabulous weekend. She is 22 and graduated a semester early from Rutgers University with a degree in Criminal Justice. All was remote and no ceremony. Joanne travelled to Boston in June for three weeks to visit her two eldest children and other relatives.

Please pay your dues. Remember that the Alumnae Association is planning a mega Reunion for the classes which were not able to celebrate their 50th celebrations. Reunion 2022 will take place March 31-April 3, 2022. Lots more information will be sent to you.
Kitty Fulcher Allen is thankful she and her family survived COVID-19 and were among the first in their area to get vaccinated. They hope to attend an annual reunion at the Outer Banks with friends from Virginia this fall. Future plans include trips to Clearwater Beach (daughter’s retirement home) and Charleston, SC (grandson’s wedding). Paul plays golf a couple times a week, and Kitty participates in her sport, bridge, several days a week. She complains about aches and pains, but nothing major.

Jackie Buonagura Baggett is definitely hoping to attend Reunion. Perhaps others from New York might be able to forge some type of travel plan. Her family fared well thru COVID-19. On June 21st, three grandsons graduated high school and will be off to college. Her granddaughter Alex will be in her third year of Vet school at UPenn.

Vi Barkauskas continues to participate in volunteer activities with her Church, international teenagers, and University of Michigan retirees. She is willing to continue to serve as class secretary for the foreseeable future, so please send news to her. She reminds classmates that 2022 will commemorate a really big Reunion—our 60th!

Mathilde Zambaka Bellmer thanks God her family has survived COVID-19 and are fully vaccinated. They missed their annual trip to Paris, but are planning one for the fall. Her granddaughter Sophia is 15 and grandson George is 14. They are the delight of her life, as are their parents: Angelique their youngest daughter and David her husband. Their oldest daughter Adrienne is finally emerging from a very aggressive type of ovarian cancer. The family has been blessed by a miracle, considering that the prognosis had not been very optimistic. She believes that her family’s prayers, together with those of all friends and relatives, helped in this miraculous recovery, after two extensive surgical procedures followed by chemotherapy. She will not be able to attend our 60th Reunion.

Kitty Dignan Chrismer reports a horrible year! But at the end she states that her family survived and are healthy. She can’t remember any highlights or lowlights! It all runs together. Her family has stayed close to home, avoiding COVID-19 and were in an area that did not take to following the CDC guidelines. She has had very little contact with friends this year, but is looking forward to the idea that a bunch of us will go to Reunion, March 31-April 3, 2022 in Gettysburg.

Kathie Seely Davis reports all is well in Southern California and that she has had some good visiting this month with children and grandchildren. She does some volunteer work with the San Diego Symphony and is part of a new outdoor concert hall opening on San Diego Bay next month. Very exciting for the city! She is planning on going to the Army/Navy Game in December in New Jersey and she hopes to Reunion in March, 2022. She looks forward to seeing one and all!

Pat Ryan Donovan wrote her note on a bus bound for Boston. The next day she flew out to Jackson Hole bound for Yellowstone and the Grand Tetons for two weeks. She is travelling with the new (old) man in her life Phil. His wife Mireille was an engineering professor who started at UMass the same day as Jim (Pat’s deceased husband) in 1979. Jim and Mireille were close friends for almost 40 years, and died a few months apart. Phil visited Pat about a year later, and, much to both of their surprises, there was quite a spark and they have been driving back and forth between Boston and the Cape ever since! They have been dating for over two years and a half years now. Pat hopes to make Reunion, but it’s hard to plan too far ahead these days. As Art Lin-kletter said, “Getting old is not for sissies.” But fingers crossed. It would be wonderful to see everyone, or at least all of us who are still kind of hale and hearty and thinking the 60th is a better bet than the 70th!

Cathy Schmid Nestor hopes everyone has been vaccinated and is staying safe and healthy. She has been having a grand summer so far. Her retirement apartment community has almost returned to normal. Tomorrow night they are having their Christmas in July holiday dinner outside since they didn’t have it in December. In other years it had been a big deal and everyone dressed up, but this year it’s going to be outside and casual. In June the community was allowed to have overnight guests again, so their son Kevin flew down from DC for a few days after the school year ended. It was the first time they had seen him in 16 months. They will see him again in less than two weeks when he’ll fly down and join them for a week at the beach. Their other son Brian, his wife Rachel, and grandkids, who live less than a mile from them in Tampa, will also be at the beach house in Anna Marie Island on the Gulf of Mexico—a wonderful place. There will be lots of paddle boarding, kayaking, swimming in the gulf and
Geri Legendre Ralston writes that thankfully her family all came through the pandemic with their health intact. She credits daily walks with helping to maintain sanity. She states that it is now a relief to be fully vaccinated and be out and about again. She still hasn’t travelled but is hoping to go down to Jacksonville, FL this summer to visit a daughter Shannon and granddaughter Madeline. She and her husband haven’t seen them in two years which has been very hard. Maddie is now 16 and has changed a lot since they saw her when she was 14. Geri would definitely like to attend Reunion. She would be interested in knowing if people plan to attend the class 60th or wait for the final Reunion. Because she lives less than an hour from Gettysburg, she probably could go to both but would prefer to attend the one that most of our class will attend.

Jean Brady Worna reports she has chronic fatigue and rarely leaves home. However, she is not complaining because she is healthy otherwise and enjoys her 11 grandchildren and working in the garden. This year she looks forward to her 80th birthday and 50th wedding anniversary. She won’t be able to attend the 60th Reunion.

Ellen Caulfield White spent every summer at her family home Valley View from childhood until she graduated. Her father bought Valley View in 1946 and had spent time there in the ’20s. He had graduated from Mount St. Mary’s and was Chief of Surgery at Providence for many years. Recently Ellen travelled to Virginia to visit her son and his family. For 15 years, Plano, TX has been home base, near her daughter and family there.

Margaret Collins Ervin’s family has been closely associated with the Daughters of Charity and Providence Hospital since the ’30s, and her father also was on the staff at Providence Hospital. She had always wanted to go away to college and become a nurse, so she selected SJC. After two years in Annapolis because of COVID-19, Margaret and her family planned a July vacation on Ocracoke Island.

For Linda Carr Kenny, it was very much a foregone conclusion that her future always involved going to college. Her parents valued education for their girls since theirs had been very limited. They were very insightful as to education’s value. When it came time to apply to a college, it was an easy choice for her, since her sister Audrey was at St. Joseph’s. Linda and Bill were looking forward to a full family reunion on Memorial Day as well as a vacation in Bethany Beach. Linda is arranging an area luncheon for us at the Lambertville Inn on October 7, and all of us are so happy to get together in person again.

For Mimi Chesley-Cora, her mother and her aunts attended the high school in the ’30s after their own mother had died. Mimi remembers coming to her Aunt Ida’s graduation in 1945 when she was four years old. From then on, she wanted to go there. Her godmother and cousin Bernadine Jones also went there as did her sister who was Sr. Helen Jones, DC. Seven family members preceded Mimi. They all have a “brick!” As an SSND, Mimi finished college at Notre Dame, but separated from the student body. Thus, when she remembers college, it was her two years living with us. As for this pandemic year, Mimi was able to continue to
Our Lady of the Valley High School friends Maureen Codey Caputo, Joan Codey Durkin, and Mary Lou Williams Feeney chose SJC because Mary Lou’s sister Nancy, class of ’60, was already there. Then their own sisters followed in their footsteps.

Claire Baril Green’s story of coming to St. Joe’s has family roots also. Her two older sisters preceded her—Deede, class of ’58 and Franny, class of ’60. Son Matt lives in Virginia, daughters Margaret and Kate live in Ohio, and the youngest lives in Manila until this summer when she will move back to Virginia. Claire also has 13 grandchildren, ranging in age from 25 to one. They look forward to family reunions at least twice a year, this summer a beach vacation in North Carolina.

After Pete died unexpectedly in 1983, Claire went back to teaching, first at preschool and then to an alternate high school. She truly loved it and retired in 2005. Claire counts her blessings every day.

Susie Boland Southwell’s mother and sister attended SJC. Her mother and Sr. Mary Ellen were classmates, thus she is certain that Sister Mary Ellen watched out for her. Susie always wanted to be a nurse as her father died from MS when she was ten. Other than her family, her nursing career is her greatest joy. “I am sure God has used me many times to carry out His plan. I loved the school and the teachers and my fellow classmates. We got an amazing Catholic education.”

Mariellen Halberstadt Marchione’s father passed away when she was a junior and he had wanted her to go to college. Mariellen wanted to go away, but her mother was not happy about that idea. Her aunt was a Daughter of Charity and gave a very convincing argument for SJC. Cathy Parrott Kryzanauskas, Carol De Vaughn Coyle, and Mariellen did go to high school together.

For Mariellen, the best part of moving down to Virginia is being close to her family, and since Joe’s passing, they have been her lifeline. Her daughter Danielle and her husband Scott live in Virginia and have granddaughter Leigh, 16 and grandson Kyle, 11. Daughter Kara and her husband Tyler live in DC and have six-year old twins Lena and Colin who love to FaceTime.

Cathy Parrot Kryzanauskas came to SJC because her parents limited her to a four-hour drive! She had wanted to go out to Indiana or up to Scranton, PA. Then her family visited the campus and she loved it. And was assured that she could get the biochemistry major that she wanted, but it seems that chemistry was the final option. Cathy and Mariellen are lifelong friends.

Mary Lou Spurrier lived in rural Howard County, the nearest Catholic school was far away, and her Sunday school teacher suggested a Catholic college. Fortunately, Mary Lou received a teacher training scholarship, and SJC also had an arrangement with an insurance company which paid for room and board. When her father died in 1961, the insurance company continued their payments. Without that, she would not have been able to attend SJC. A few years ago, she moved to Chestertown, MD near her SJC friend Joyce Schauber Kim, who had moved back to her historic hometown following her husband Kap’s death in 2016.

After college, Mary Lou Murray taught home economics for 43 years, then became an assistant principal in her school. Her route to SJC was with a high school classmate Rita Noebels Murphy, both from Long Island. Mary Lou Zooms with us also.

The Daughters taught at Immaculate Conception High School in DC where Pat Lieb Mudd, Andrea Brophy Marchal, Judy Myers Schaeffer Schell, and Joan McNamara Trentham attended. For Pat, high school retreats on campus coupled with the desired sociology major, made SJC her first choice. During her career at Catholic Charities, Pat arranged for the adoption of 132 babies. Pat’s husband Richard is back at home but immobilized with Parkinson’s. Her family—Shannon, Rick, and Shane have been their support. Bill and Andy Marchal welcomed their newest grandchild, Mary’s daughter Abigail on May 26, joining sisters Cecilia and Maggie with an anticipated meeting in early June in Boston.

A similar exposure for Loretta Byrne Henderson, Angela Bialczak Parent, and Ellen Krieger Smelas who all attended Seton High School in Baltimore. For Ellen, it was a dream come true with a tuition scholarship from an anonymous Daughter of Charity, combined with a Maryland State Teachers Scholarship. Despite many inquiries and letters of appreciation, Ellen never learned her benefactor’s identity and imagines it was a teacher from Seton. Sr. Margaret Flinton’s strong French program, the joyful campus life, the cherished friendships, her beloved Jim, her three children and their families—the happiest results.

Because SJC was “near” Washington, DC, Tobie Gibbons thought SJC would be exciting and glamorous.
Her family had just moved from Woodstock, IL to Washington, DC. She did think that any school around DC would be exciting. After a tour of the campus with a darling little senior, her Dad decided that he had found the perfect school. Tobie was thrilled and had no idea the school was so far from DC and that the rules were so strict. She didn’t visit the school beforehand because she was so busy sewing name tags into her sweaters and blouses and sheets and towels. Ever our eloquent spokesperson, Tobie beautifully captured the best of SJC in her speech at our 50th Reunion, including our enduring friendships.

Mary Ellen Gill Purkis always wanted to be a nurse and her mother wanted her to go to a BSN program at a Catholic school. While attending a function at St. Bonaventure, her Mom met a professor who had taught at St. Joe's and learned about the program. Other nursing programs were at men's colleges without residences for women. “Therefore, sight unseen, on a hot September day in 1959, I started my life in Emmitsburg and Washington, DC. A decision never regretted.” Mary Ellen is back on LBI for the summer with lots of family visiting, her own sisters as well as her children and grands.

Kathy Johnson Raby came to SJC thanks to a Daughter of Charity at Providence Hospital. Sister Margaret Albert oversaw the program when Kathy started there as a volunteer, later earning 88 cents an hour as a nursing assistant. Her parents were thinking about St. Agnes in Baltimore, but Sister Margaret Albert encouraged them to visit the campus. Being close to DC was a plus, and they loved the campus and area. After her junior year SATs, Kathy was accepted along with two high school classmates, Judy Markey Gallagher and Mary Hannon Kelhart. Post pandemic, Tom and Kathy were looking forward to a visit with son Tom and his family from Virginia. Their daughters are both in Florida.

From little South Amboy to Emmitsburg, Nell Gelsinon Carvell had quite a journey. She had planned to study nursing at St. Vincent's hospital in NYC. As the oldest of five, it was attractive since they would pay a stipend every month, but her feminist mother directed her to a BSN, and Joe's was reasonably priced at $1080 yearly. When her father, her boyfriend, and some siblings drove down to Emmitsburg in the fall, they mistakenly arrived at the Motherhouse where the Daughters were welcoming the new postulants. An immediate loop to the campus!

Sheila Degnan McCarron had two points of contact with SJC. In seventh or eighth grade she came to Washington for a family wedding, and her mother had a teacher friend whose niece attended the SJC nursing program. She came down once for an interview at the campus, was hooked even after she was accepted at two schools in New England. In the spring of '60, Sheila wanted to go home for an event, and put her name on a list to share a ride with a Mountie, who of course had permission to have a car at school. She met Bill for the trip back to school at the Danbury, CT train station, and they married in November 1963.

Kaywood Greeve Fuqua was an Army brat who went to kindergarten in Occupied Japan in 1945 after arriving with the first wave of American troops on the Independence. After that, four years at St. James in Falls Church, VA, four years in Brooklyn, NY, then high school in Williamsburg, VA. Kaywood came to SJC because an advisor at Catholic University mentioned that the nurses at Providence Hospital attended SJC. Not wanting an urban campus, the next weekend her family went to visit St. Joe's where The A was in all its glory. "Never asked any intelligent questions! And that’s my story. I didn't know a soul! But I made up for it! Have no regrets!” Kaywood is very happy to be home after an extended rehab, especially visiting for a week with Sheila who flew out in June.

Alanna Higgins McHugh's family had been looking at colleges in Maryland when they learned about SJC through her mom’s friend Marge Gdula. Daughter Gladys, SJC ’62, had already seen the school and raved about it. Shortly thereafter, Alanna’s family visited and also loved it. Her husband Matt went to the Mount, and they will celebrate their 58th wedding anniversary in July. Her sister Pat graduated in 1964.

Kathie Daniels Risen learned about St. Joe’s by going through the popular Guide to US Colleges. In the late summer of 1958, her family took a trip to Washington, DC and decided to stop at St. Joe’s on the return trip. They went unannounced, without an appointment, and ended up in Sister Rosemary Pfaff’s office, who had family in Kathie’s home town. She gave them information and an application, suggesting it be filled out and returned as soon as possible. Kathie received an acceptance letter by the end of October, never filled out applications for any other schools.

For 43 years, Bill and Kathie lived with their family in Rumford, RI and have been living in Venice, FL since August 2010. Their older daughter Mary and her husband Steve Doyle live in Westfield, NJ with their three daughters, twins Paige and Shannon and their younger sister Lindsay, all are students at Westfield High School.
Their younger daughter Ann and her husband Peter Katis, live in Fairfield, CT with their son Will who is finishing sixth grade.

Susan Williamson Swartz attended a college fair at St. Peter’s High School, learning about a small student body, good teacher to student ratio, lovely campus and friendly atmosphere. She arrived on campus in September ’59 along with five classmates—Karen Lyons, Julie Rowe, Barbara Pressler, and Valerie Smith. Of course, only Julie and Susan stayed and became proud and grateful members of the Class of 1963. Susan’s beautiful family recently honored her at the Metuchen Inn with a lovely birthday luncheon, and Ellen happily joined them.

When asked by her Dad about her plans after high school, Anne Dondero Prinn responded immediately that she wanted to be a nurse, but also to go to college. She remembered that the captain of her basketball team went to SJC to study nursing, and when they went to visit, she loved everything about the school. Sister Mary Ellen interviewed her and her parents together in a parlor, and she was accepted on her birthday, February 8. Her father nixed the BC program since the nurses lived next to Boston City Hospital, however Anne did get to Boston in 1966 for a graduate degree at Boston University, then taught pediatric nursing at the then coed Boston College. She met her husband while in suburb of Boston. Their three children are all in Massachusetts.

On the advice of a high school English teacher, Jane Metze Freeman had written for a catalogue for a beautiful Catholic school in the Blue Ridge Mountains, Mount St. Mary’s. When she was alerted to the fact that it was an all-male school, a note referred her to St. Joseph’s. Her memories are bright with gratitude to her beloved French teacher Sr. Margaret Flinton, Nicky Nightcheck who ignored the cigarette smoke flowing from their Rosary Hall window, and the fact that no one checked the Listerine bottles where she and Una kept the gin they mixed with Tang. Wherever she goes, Una’s paintings follow. Jane and Neal recently moved, again on Amelia Island, FL and she invites us all to visit.

When she was ten years old, Maureen Lynch Gucciard’s family took a cross country road vacation. After visiting family on Long Island, they arrived in Emmitsburg and stayed overnight in the White House. Years later, choosing St. Joe’s and the nursing program, Maureen remembered seeing the lovely Queen Anne’s Lace and open meadows beyond the Home Ec House with Sr. Julianna. For her “significant” birthday, Maureen’s entire family, children and siblings, hosted a lovely dinner.

Ann Knowles Harmon attended high school in Messina, NY, only 20 miles away from Sue Garner McNulty, and basketball rivals. Ann’s father was to be transferred to Baltimore, so SJC made sense. And St. Joseph was her patron saint. Ironically, her father’s job took the family to Cincinnati just as Ann started college.

Sue was 16 years old when she first learned of St. Joseph College. One Saturday morning in the spring of 1957, her parish priest and close family friend, Father Joe, stopped by, “Come up to church. I want you to meet our new Church School teacher.” Sue quickly replied that she did not want to meet anyone. He left the house, saying, “I want you to grow up to just be like her.” Over the next few weeks, Fr. Joe kept badgering Sue who agreed if her mother, an excellent conversationalist could be there. The following Saturday, the Church School teacher stopped by and Sue could see that she was so knowledgeable, confident, and a very kind person. By the end of the conversation, Sue was in total awe of the Church School teacher, and yes, she wanted to grow up to be just like her. So that day, for the very first time in her life, Sue set a significant goal: “I will attend St. Joseph College. My former Church School teacher is Marthe-Marie (Martie) Methot Meadows SJC ’55. I am very grateful that Martie took the time to stop by our house in 1957. It was a life-altering visit for me. Because of Martie, I became a nurse, made the best lifelong friends ever, and joined an elite club known as Joe’s girls!”

So many paths led us to our Valley Home.

Other news…

Jean Lentz underwent total shoulder replacement in early June, the result of years of competitive swimming. Tina High Goldsmith’s family will have a reunion in August at Lake Havasu. She and her sister plan a river cruise in Southern France. In early April, Maryanna Freiberger Keller and her sister started an extended road trip, from home to Florida visiting their sister in Seminole, stopping along the way. In Emmitsburg, Sister Judy Parkin appreciates all our prayers and notes.

We lost two dear classmates this year: Mary Colombrita Capece, March 18, 2021 and Marjorie Roberts Tautkus, March 27, 2021. All of us remember how
Mary's lovely eyes sparkled. After our 50th the talented Marjorie wrote an insightful essay published in The Valley Echo, “The Value of a Liberal Arts Education.” We enjoyed her smiling presence at all our Reunions. We also remember the warm and wonderful Chrystie Damico Goles, SJC '64 and her lifelong devotion to SJC. Mary Schwartz Flanagan, formerly Sister Louis, known by our nurses at Providence Hospital, died in 2018. In July, we learned of the death of Joan Codey Durkin’s son David. He is the fourth of her five children and leaves a family of four, the youngest five-year old twins. We all pray especially for Joan, and for the families of our dear classmates.

Come to Sue’s Zoom and keep in touch with us, more than ever, we stand together! Reunion 2022!

1964

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It is most fitting, I believe, to begin this column with a tribute to Chrystie Damico Goles, the classmate who kept us “all together” in so many ways over the past 30-plus years. Her legacy of leadership, compassion, and unselfishness drew us in and made us all feel welcome. As she said to me many years ago, it doesn’t matter who we “hung out with” in college, at this point we are simply all just members of the class of ’64.

Mike and I attended her beautiful memorial Mass, and SJC was well represented. In addition to the 12 members of the class of ’64, there were some spouses and friends plus at least three members of other classes. Our own Anne McAllister LaBoon, Chrystie’s dear, dear friend, did a wonderful job as one of the lectors.

In the words of Mary Rocks, one of the many who watched the live-stream, Chrystie’s sons’ tributes were very touching.

The responses to my request to share personal memories of Chrystie were more than moving! The general consensus is that she was self-effacing, so she would no doubt be embarrassed by all the praise. She definitely was special and a real gift to all who knew her. Anne LaBoon shared that there is a commemorative brick outside the chapel on our former campus with the inscription “Chrystie and Annie; Forever Friends; SJC Class of 1964.” Annie wrote that she was blessed to have a caring “sister” friendship for six decades, and they shared an unconditional love. Mary Lou Schreck

Blumer, another close friend, recalled that she and Chrystie were roommates for three and a half years (they lived in the Home Ec house at different times) and remained close even though they were separated by 3,000 miles. Mary Lou recounted a humorous tale concerning her son and three of his friends taking a post-high school graduation cross country trip and ending up at Chrystie’s Ocean City condo where she fed them and put them up for the night. Now that is a friend!

Jackie Jermyn Azzarto expressed what many of us thought--it’s hard to speak just a few words about Chrystie. Jackie spoke of her support and lack of judgment and that she always responded with love. She spent many summer vacations with Chrystie, who taught her to knit and make Italian food. Bobbie Davis Speace came into contact with Chrystie while serving on the alumnae board years ago. Since that time, Reunion planning meetings, Reunions, and yearly summer vacation breakfasts or lunches at the ocean with Chrystie and Claire Maurer developed into close friendships. As Bobbie stated, Chrystie was always interested in everyone else’s lives and rarely talked about herself unless asked. Claire reiterated what Bobbie said and added that what she treasures most is the fun she and Chrystie had planning our 50th Reunion and how they rejoiced together every time they heard that another classmate was coming. Another recollection came from Judy Foley Furlong. Not only were she and Chrystie friends, but Pat and Judy’s late husband Jay were also friends, and Pat was a groomsman in their wedding. Judy’s favorite pre-wedding picture is of Pat “dragging” Jay into church.

A few more reflections: Mimi Ratke Cochran rightly affirmed what a wonderful woman we had among us for many, but not enough, years. Rita Welty Bourke said that “Chrystie had it all: a loving husband, four wonderful sons, a can-do spirit that was an inspiration to all who knew and loved her. She was truly a beautiful soul.” And I think Beverly Jones Wyatt summed it all up by writing “Chrystie--Our Sunflower. Looking at the sunflower we see the best in nature, and smile. So, too, when we envision Chrystie, we see the best in womanhood and we smile because we know she is smiling back at us.”

As to Bev’s life, she rejoices that COVID-19 is behind us and we can see whole faces again! The Wyatt clan is once again celebrating events that they lost in 2020. In 2021 there will be five grandchildren away at college with three closely following. In Bev’s words “OMG. We really are that old!” Speaking of grands, Jackie

Classe News
Melroy Shiring and husband Paul will be in California in early September to visit their two sons and two grandkids. Both grands were adopted from South Korea, and Jackie and Paul have yet to meet their granddaughters in person although she arrived a year ago. Thank God for FaceTime!!! Jackie spent a wonderful five days with Claire Maurer at Claire’s Ocean City condo. In early July Claire accompanied the Melroy clan to DC to witness the swearing-in of Pam Melroy, Jackie’s niece, to the office of Deputy Assistant at NASA, making her second in command. Pam, a test pilot, astronaut, and commander of one of the shuttle missions, will be inducted into the Astronaut Hall of Fame at the Kennedy Space Center this fall. Meanwhile, Claire began her beach season in mid-May, giving her long blocks of time to read. In addition to serving on the SJCAA board, she is also president of her condo board in Ocean City. During the last two years that has meant dealing with two different construction projects which did not go as smoothly as she would have liked.

Jackie Azzarto is glad to be back to normal after COVID-19. She’s travelling again—to Boston for a grandson’s high school graduation, to Hoboken and the Jersey Shore, and then to Seattle and Oak Harbor, WA to visit her brother and his family. Locally, she will direct her Music Club show “Radio Days” and will also be joining in her chorale group rehearsals for “Dancing through the Ages.” Jackie also continues to write and report on grants for the Treasure Coast Community Singers. In her words, “Who knew when I was studying chemistry at Joe’s that I would be doing show biz in retirement?” I seem to remember her composing songs for our freshman response. Could there be a red carpet in her future? Jackie is planning to attend our mini in September as is Bobbie Speace. Bobbie wrote that during this past year she developed a deeper appreciation of all of her blessings as she watched others suffer so much from the effects of COVID-19 and isolation. Annie LaBoon enjoys working two or three days a week for a small family owned company that is a national distributor of wine and spirits in the United States. There is a true team spirit and the owners value the team’s dedication.

There was lots of news from our California classmates. Mary Lou Blumer is helping with the outreach food program at St. Mary’s Center in Oakland, CA. They pack 250 bags of groceries every week and deliver them to the seniors in their program and to the homeless people on the streets of Oakland. She hopes to do more as programs open up. Judy Furlong has lived in Benicia, CA, a “New England-y” town about 25 miles NE of the San Francisco Bay area, for the past 35 years. She has been a widow for 30 years and has two daughters. Caleigh, an English teacher, has lived in Warsaw, Poland for the past seven years and was in South Korea for two years before that. Judy spent two months with Caleigh two summers ago and loves Poland. She’s hoping to return next summer. Amy is a social worker and lives nearby. She and Judy have lots of fun together and Amy can “reach high shelves in my kitchen!” I can certainly relate to that!!

After receiving her degree in chemistry, Sharon Lazzaro Dougherty did some immunology/nephrology work in San Francisco. She then married, had two daughters, moved to Santa Rosa, and spent 28 years managing winery labs. As she says, “A great lifestyle and a great life.” She retired in 2009 and now volunteers at a food bank and at an Alzheimer’s Memory Care facility. She’s healthy, active, and enjoying life! She recently saw Judy Furlong and Marty Kuehneman in Vallejo at a “celebration of life” for Judy’s late brother-in-law. Marty, who lives in Vallejo, has her own bookstore and does volunteer work. Sharon gave me Marty’s phone number but it is a landline, but since I typically waited until the last minute to gather information, I was unable to speak with her. Next year, Marty!

Rita Bourke’s second book, Islomanes of Cumberland Island, will be released on November 16. Rita’s family has visited Cumberland Island every spring for the last 15 years, and the book is about that as well as the wild horses, the Carnegie family (Thomas and Lucy, not Andrew) who once owned most of the island, the biologist who “offed” her former lover, the wedding of JFK Jr., and much more. “Islomane” is a word invented by the writer Lawrence Durrell to explain the feeling one gets when one is on an island: as if they have come home, they belong there, they are at peace, and they are safe. Mary “Max” Gillespie has three grandsons and a seven-month-old Cavapoo puppy who keep her hopping. She is looking forward to once again teaching ESL classes at a local church.

Mimi Cochran contacted several classmates for news which was a tremendous help. Thanks so much, Mimi! She keeps in close touch with Pat Higgins Brennan who has been busy caring for her husband Jack. We all have been praying for him, and those prayers will continue. Lee Ann Clement Frankel and her children and grandchildren are doing well. Bruce was facing surgery, and hopefully that was successful. Mimi reported that Cookie Kaheny Costanzo and Joe are still laying low as the number of COVID-19 cases in their area is rising. They have been working hard on a new house that they enjoy having but which needs much
 loving and “patting” into 2021 condition. Mary Olivia Duffy Bowers and Steve’s granddaughter will enter Boston College this fall, and they have a grandson who will enter his final year at the Naval Academy. I did receive a call from Olivia and she alluded to an upcoming gathering of classmates in Charleston. However, I failed to get the details, so I have nothing to pass along. I’m so sorry! Mimi and Chuck’s grandson Ben is entering his third year at the Naval Academy, and his brother Shane just graduated from high school and will enter a Naval Academy prep school and then attend the Academy next year. The Cochran’s children and grandchildren and their families will all be in Ocean City with them at some point this summer.

My old roomie Jo Carter Moore has been beyond busy! She retired from being an activity leader at Elderwood Nursing Home in Waverly, NY in April, 2019 due to her husband Hall’s health issues, including an aortic valve replacement. Their daughter Cathy was treated for breast cancer, and Cathy’s husband Matt had triple bypass surgery a month before Hall’s surgery. Wow! Jo’s older grandson Matthew is a senior at Catholic University in a five-year program leading to a Master’s in Mechanical Engineering. Stephen, his brother, will be a junior in high school. Jo has returned to serving as lector in her parish, and she and Cathy spend time together each week enjoying each other’s company.

As for the Jones family, we are well. Our three grandsons graduated from high school this year and we were grateful to be able to attend their graduations in person. Jack, the oldest of the three, is presently (late July) in Marine boot camp in Parris Island, SC. Mike and I have planned another “dream” trip—a cruise from San Diego to Sydney—and we hope this one isn’t cancelled. We have enjoyed some visits with Mimi and Chuck Cochran when they have come to Ocean City, and I am looking forward to attending our mini-reunion in September. Please stay in touch with each other. Friendships are too valuable to lose and communication helps us to stay “all together.”

1965

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"Now the winter of our discontent made glorious summer by this sun... And all the clouds...in the deep bosom of the ocean buried." Richard III, Act I

We made it to more hope-filled days and we have cheerful news to report from classmates beginning with Nancy Boemanns Fratini. Nancy learned at the end of last year she is the oldest of eight Boemanns! She has seven siblings from her father’s second and third wives. She met six of them in June during a visit to Georgia. On Father’s Day weekend, three of her newly found siblings brought her Costa Rican sister to Dayton. Nancy is “blessed with a lovely new family”! The past year has been difficult for the Fratinis. Al has slowed down and uses a walker almost all the time. Daughter Amy had a “rough year” and continues to have physical and mental difficulties from prolonged winter and spring health challenges.

Three classmates have new addresses. Kathy Kearney Walczak has moved to Naples, FL to be closer to daughter Mary and her family. Her new address is 4876 Lasqueti Way, Naples, FL 34119. Phone number is 443.454.7660; email address remains the same. Sister Carol Czyzewski, FSSJ has retired and is living at her order’s motherhouse in Hamburg, NY about 10 miles south of Buffalo. New address 5229 So. Park Avenue #1058, Hamburg, NY 14075. Her phone is 716.649.1205, extension 1058. Sister intends to continue offering spiritual direction and retreats during her retirement. She is working to improve her watercolor painting and hopes to become involved in volunteer social justice work in the area. I doubt she will stay idle long; Sister Carol is an immensely talented
woman. And yes, Sister told me she has lots of warm clothes for the Buffalo/Lake Erie winters! **Anne Nichols Gildea** and Jim have made the big move. By the time you read this, they should be settled comfortably in their apartment at Harbor's Edge, a new high-rise tower CCRC in downtown Norfolk. Many of us have gone through the trauma of sorting through what seems like a century of belongings and precious “junk” in the process of downsizing. It is quite a chore! New address for the Gildeas: 801 Southampton Avenue #726, Norfolk, VA 23510.

Bob and **Helene Brown Hess** plan to transition to the Assisted Living section of their retirement community. Helene has some physical and mental challenges and Bob was diagnosed with Stage Four lung cancer. The Hess “kids” are thriving and, according to Bob, “they all qualify for AARP”. **Karen Langer Carr** and Jim enjoy their North Carolina life and stay active with their neighborhood and church communities. Jim’s health is the focus right now. Main concern is chronic kidney disease with some discussions about dialysis; exact timing to be determined. Daughter-in-law Teree lost her dad to COVID-19 last year; Karen was looking forward to a visit from the Carr’s oldest son Jim and Teree along with Ada, the first and only great-grandchild. The Carr grandchildren are happy and well and moving into further education or careers. Karen loved seeing **Didi Bremer Corrigan** last summer. She reminded us all that Thursday morning is “our” time to be All Together in a special way. **Nancy Nemith Haupt** is grateful things are going back to “almost normal”. Last year Nancy had intestinal surgery; a tumor was removed. She’s on oral chemotherapy now. Her children and their families are well. Nancy stays busy with church, jigsaw puzzles, playing chauffeur, and audio books. She was anticipating right shoulder replacement in late June. Cat Sammy is a much-loved buddy. **Eileen Sekerak Sullivan** sent a graduation update. When I read the list of Eileen’s grandchildren, it’s like reading the CT Post school listings! There is quite an array of Eileen’s and Frank’s grandkids represented at lots of schools. Happy news for the Sekerak family tree: Eileen’s “little” brother’s son, Richie Sekerak III, graduated from medical school. That’s three generations of doctors for the Sekerak family!

**Ann Smith Flynn** and Pat ventured out at the end of May for a short trip to Lauderdale-by-the-Sea. Ann always said it was a good way to catch-up on your Vitamin D! She and Pat are “reasonably well” and spend a lot of time gardening. Families and grandkids are well; two of the grandchildren did get the virus but neither had a severe case. The whole family is vaccinated now. **Dee O’Connor Cosquer** is enjoying good health and family celebrations. She and her husband Armand are happily digging out after last year’s masks and more-than frequent handwashing. Her brother and his wife celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary in June and the whole family was able to gather and celebrate. To quote Dee “it was joyous”! **Maggi Mullahy Yates** and Bob entertained son Jeremy from San Francisco for a whole month. They had not been able to visit for a year. The rest of the brothers and their families were to join the Yates clan as well. When all quiets down, she and Bob will return to playing Mahjong and their restful life on Cape Cod.

**Kathy Murphy Clarke** and Mike escaped COVID-19 and were vaccinated early in January. Isolation from their large family was hard but they managed to have a holiday buffet in their yard. Kathy wrote she felt like she was “eating my way” through the quarantine but she has remained healthy. Mike had a bout with sepsis and was hospitalized. He recovered at home with physical therapy. A provider comes into the home three times a week, allowing Kathy to get out of the house for some down time. All the Clarke daughters are well and the grandkids are flourishing. **Dede Koudelka Rogers** looked forward to seeing daughter Jennifer and family in early June; it had been a year since they saw each other. Dede’s Mozambique family will visit in the summer and grandson Noah will remain in the states for a year. Noah spent extended time with his grandmother Dede when he underwent medical treatment in North Carolina a few years ago. Son Bruce and wife Kathy are empty nesters and moved to the mainland. Dede is hoping to re-start her volunteer work taking Communication to nursing home residents and the home-bound soon. Grandson Evan experienced some medical problems this summer; the ‘65 prayer line jumped into action and we continue to pray for Dede and her family.

**Mary Beth (MB) Boisseree McDonell** began painting again as the shut-down began to subside. She wrote her days were “now approaching normalcy” after experiencing what we all agree felt like a year-plus of shell-shock. Good news: she sold two oil paintings at a local gallery during this spring. She is planning to fly again and visit classmates at Reunion 2022.

**Margo Honey Keesler** and Gene were back in the North Carolina Mountains this spring with garden chores on their agenda. They have “reluctantly” decided to put their North Carolina house on the market. It has become more difficult caring for both properties. Margo’s home island of Aruba was impacted greatly by the quarantine periods. The tourist trade literally stood still and so did the cruise ships. She is not sure when she and Gene will make a flight back to visit.
Everyone in the family is well; second son Matthew and his wife both had mild cases of COVID-19. The rest of the family, also in healthcare fields, fared well. **Marsha Martindell Moffitt** was heading to North Carolina in July to visit nursing buddy **Kathy Steigerwald Ingerslew**. Marsha then planned to visit friends in Tennessee. Her health is OK, “with all the usual aches and pains”.

**Jean Tierney Terza** finally decided to do something about her “bad feet” so she opted for foot surgery. She traces the origin of her problem to standing on hard cement floors in hospital kitchens. She spent part of the summer recuperating. Her two adult grandchildren are gainfully employed and the two “baby grands” are entertaining! She looks forward to Reunion 2022.

COVID-19 prevented the annual Florida reunion this past winter but **Maggie Quayle Bellew** and **Mary McIntyre Lear** and **Barbara Merson Tyne** were all in Naples. They all were vaccinated so were able to meet for lunch a few times. **Mary Brandon Rummele** and John are planning their 2022 Florida stay for January and February. Mary will send out more information closer to Thanksgiving. The Rummeles are back in Wisconsin now and “catching glimpses” of their busy grandchildren. Mary sent along pictures of the purple tomatoes growing in their garden. We once grew a variety of purple-ish tomatoes in the Adirondacks and they were absolutely delicious! It was a bit strange to harvest a ripe purple tomato but I have ceased to be surprised at anything. I agree, Mary, the tomatoes look sturdy and your “haphazard care” seems to be working. Mary reached out to **Eugenia McAuliffe Kelly**’s daughter to inquire about Eugenia. Her daughter Dierdre emailed the good news that Genia very strong and up and about. She is still residing at Lyncroft and able to enjoy phone calls and emails! Her email address is empress0424@hotmail.com. We are glad to hear Eugenia has improved.

I had a nice conversation with **Sue Lowe Kayes** during the winter. She was taking a new medication and both she and Bob were pleased with the difference it made. She is still staying close to home but feeling much better. Also talked with **Kay Ehringer Mufalli** after the Philly Girls luncheon. Kay is well and was looking forward to time with Kim and her family in southern Maryland in July. Her gardening business has been challenged with accommodating local health restrictions and securing labor but she thoroughly enjoys planning and planting lovely gardens. The “Philly Girls” resumed quarterly luncheons this summer. The event was a team effort, with Kay getting the ball rolling, **Jane Manning Brennan** emailing the group and **Janet Welaj Klaer** organizing the venue and directions. The group has expanded. In addition to Kay, Maggie Quayle Bellew, Janet, Jane, and **Eileen Hayes Hurley**, **Sue Flanigan Conrad** joins in whenever she can. David Klaer and John Hurley are now ex officio members. The group welcomed Jane’s friend Barbara Vassallo who was visiting Jane. Unfortunately, they were unable to contact **Re Hussar Sohonay**. The weather was perfect for outdoor dining and they spent hours gabbing. Next Philly Girls luncheon is scheduled for Wednesday, September 15th. Any and all SJCiennes and their spouses are welcome.

Charlie and I celebrated our 55th anniversary in June which is a bit scary because I am quite certain I just turned forty! Our granddaughter Jaden was married in October; her brother Jacob was married this January. One grandson joined the Marines a year ago and is in Ukraine now. Hopefully all will be well and he will be home as scheduled. I keep busy reading and never tire from finding good books. Maggi Mullahy Yates keeps suggesting good titles. I make time to re-visit an earlier hobby--writing. We joined a writers’ group and it’s been fun. I fool with watercolors and I should pick up my knitting needles again. Yes, yoga is still part of my exercise routine; it’s been 19 years of “down dogs”! We have a garden and the best crop of tomatoes ever. It has to be a fluke; there are no green thumbs here.

Mary and I would love to hear from you all so keep us on your phone and email contacts lists. It appears a 2022 Reunion is really going to take place. Please mark March 31–April 3, 2022 on your calendars.

**Our 1965 Class News column always follows news from the Class of 1964.** Chrystie Damico Goles was the class secretary/agent for decades, and we always read Chrystie’s ’64 chatter. She was an outstanding lady and St. Joe’s “girl”. Please note a separate memorial to Chrystie in this edition of The Valley Echo. She is one of those people who touched many with her goodness and steady smile. She loved sunflowers and carried their brightness with her. Rest in peace.

**1966**

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**Sally Gwynn Evans** and husband Dale of Annapolis, MD celebrated 53 years of marriage this year. Stacks of jigsaw puzzles helped them through COVID-19. Sally continues volunteer work--now five years--for Hospice
of the Chesapeake as her sister and brother both benefitted from this local, supportive organization. Sally started gardening after turning 70 and is enjoying nature’s renewal and what comes up each year. Sally feels very fortunate in many ways. She is always inspired by SJC class friendships and individual accomplishments. She characterizes the Class of 1966 as “…a room full of really nice ladies who all want to help…” Life continues to be full of the unexpected for Rose Serio Sheheen of Camden, SC. She tripped during the second hour of her sisters’ weekend in Charleston. The left femur was shattered. Her sister spent the Spoleto/Memorial Day holiday at the Medical University. Despite everything, she enjoyed family time. There is nothing like family, friends, and pain drugs! Rose continues to count herself lucky!

For Valerie Kochis Werzyn and husband Tom of Centennial, CO, 2021 has been wonderful so far—except for the brutal heat that hit during summer. Their younger grandson graduated from high school in May and reported for Marine Corps basic training in July in California. One of their granddaughters visited and went sightseeing. Val’s parish has in-person worship and she has resumed her Eucharistic work. Tom’s Vietnam Veterans chapter meets monthly. She and Tom continue to be blessed with good health and are enjoying their hobbies—Tom’s is woodturning, hers quilt making.

During the pandemic Brenda Nalley Feehan’s life has been very different as prior to COVID-19 she subbed regularly at the Catholic school where she was principal. She’s looking forward to normal school days beginning in September when she will sub as she misses the children and the teachers. Her husband Ed turned 86 last summer and is recovering after being hospitalized for dehydration from yardwork. Brenda walks two to three miles daily with her neighbor and best buddy who is 93 years old. Brenda’s daughter Jennifer and her family who live in Tennessee came out for a week in the spring. Son Adam and his family visited for several days during the summer. Brenda and Ed have called Merced, CA home for 50 years! She laughs that it’s “boring, stable, and paid for!” They’ve remodeled over the years and love the people in the town where Ed was a pediatrician for 41 years before retiring. Brenda says Ed cured them and she taught them…full service. Now they go to the grownup children’s weddings.

It has been a good year for Melinda Bloom in Fairfax, VA with daughter, son-in-law, and granddaughter living with her and husband John. The “kids” were out of work due to Broadway’s COVID-19 closure. Broadway opened in July so daughter and family moved back to New York City and work. Melinda and John are getting back to quieter lives. She’s playing bridge in person again with the vaccinated players and has been to patio restaurant lunches—and one indoor lunch with Jane Davis Marden. She plays bridge online with daughter Sharon in Arizona who has graciously been conducting Zoom calls for the class of 1966. Melinda and John are grateful for their physical health. Meanwhile, Sharon is literally digging out her home due to rain and serious mud slides.

Jeanne Moriarity in Belmont, MI is happy to be going out sans mask and seeing smiles. She’s involved with her first community vegetable garden with neighbors and enjoys tending the elevated plots of veggies of all kinds. In July, the spinach and broccoli were up and delicious! Jeanne is planning a Caribbean cruise originating in Florida in November with her brother and sister-in-law.

Carol Sheheen Pappas in Columbia, SC reports that husband Harry is recovering and improving from bypass surgery. He works with physical therapists four times a week. Carol, his personal Uber, takes him to doctors’ appointments. Daughter Venetia is finishing up summer school courses at Michigan State and planning to go in person in August. Son John-Frank has decided not to return to Virginia Tech and will go to a local community college then transfer to Clemson.

Good news about Clare Schombert Hawkins’s (Florence, OR) and Barb Seiler Byme’s (Plymouth, MA) hearts: they are healthy and fine! Both had short hospital stays, and we pray for their continued recovery and clean bills of health!

Simplifying life by selling her house in St. Michael’s, MD, Kathleen Smith Franke now calls her Salt Pond, DE residence near Bethany Beach her only home—no more commuting!

Betty Depenbrock Martin and husband Herb are celebrating a family gathering the summer of 2021 at their home in Bethany Beach, DE with their children, spouses, and grandchildren—the first since COVID-19. Betty is active in a local organization that assists paying members with a variety of activities including minor home repairs, car rides, and other activities.

After months recuperating from a broken ankle, Jane Davis Marden of Falls Church, VA is back to the tennis courts and volunteering weekly at the Equine Rescue League in rural Virginia. Grandson Davis heads to James Madison University in Harrisonburg, VA in late summer.
to study cyber security. Originating at the Historic Pleasant Grove Church in McLean, VA--built by and for African and Native Americans in the late 19th century--her diversity book club continues to thrive and attract readers. Her in-her-house doggy day care is thriving again having started in 2009.

Recently Maureen Mullin Klein, Great Neck, NY, attended Genius Exchange Breakthrough, a virtual, two-day workshop of lectures, brainstorming, and speakers for the design community sponsored by Gail Doby Coaching and Consulting (gaildoby.com) to provide its clients with business strategies. Notable among presenters Charles Spencer, brother of Diana, Princess of Wales spoke on The Art of Storytelling and Your Brand. Maureen highly recommends Doby Consulting for exciting market insights and business strategy advice. In her “spare time” Maureen cares 24/7 for husband Bob who has Alzheimer’s. Son Bobby helped with his Dad while Maureen enjoyed a much needed and stimulating break.

1967

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Greetings to the class of 1967!

We all have lived through a most unusual year!! Each of us has learned to isolate and now, to reacclimate to a new normal, as they say. Our children and grandchildren will have unique stories to tell to those who follow for years to come!

Thank you to all who submitted class news. It was impressive how many of you framed your remarks, whether sad or happy, with the underpinning of “togetherness” that was fostered during our time at SJC. We hope you enjoy the news that follows.

Suzanne Geho Rymer writes that her family has fared well during the pandemic and has been able to safely visit extended family in Delaware, Tennessee, Georgia, and Florida in the past year. She is now officially retired. She and her husband Jim have taken several virtual college courses and have enjoyed the subject matter as well as the honing of their computer skills. They are getting out to play golf often. They continue to support their Church Food Pantry weekly, and Jim is on the Parish Finance committee. They have enjoyed being with grandchildren and also attending (in person) the final two track meets of their grandson, who is now the seventh fastest one-miler in the country. Suzanne and her husband have enjoyed getting together as couples (post-vaccine!) with Ginny Werber Hartmuller and Ginny Greene Murphy.

Nicki Norris Lingg spent the year caring for her two-year-old grandson and has enjoyed doing so. It became “what Grammies do” when faced with the challenge of safe childcare during COVID-19. She and her husband visited the Seton Shrine often during the pandemic, always offering prayers for her SJC friends. She gave a little report on the news in Emmitsburg. The statue of Mary at the Grotto has been temporarily removed for “freshening up.” She also reports that there is a “new dairy/bakery opening within walking distance and a health food smoothie bar across the street!!!”

Rosa Diaz Schmid has had a most difficult year. Although they have avoided the virus (for which they are most thankful), many around her haven’t been so fortunate. Saddest of all, Rosa’s younger sister Teresa Diaz died of COVID-19 related issues in July of 2020. In Rosa’s words, “We will not forget 2020, it has left deep scars. I wish each and every one of you a better year, health and happiness.”

Louise Gorman Manetta writes from Bethany Beach, DE where she and her husband spend their summers. The rest of the year, they live in Tulsa, OK. Louise retired from working as a NP at the VA recently after 31 years of service. She continues to care for her husband who developed Alzheimer’s Dementia seven-eight years ago. They also have an unmarried son living in Delaware, and Louise prays daily for his continuing recovery from drug abuse. Louise and her husband have 13 grandchildren in three states and enjoy seeing them as often as possible.

Mary Carroll Ebaugh continues to live in Las Cruces, NM and frequently visits Winston-Salem, NC where extended family live. This past year, she transferred her volunteer ESL tutoring to Zoom and WhatsApp. Seen as a true vocation, she is able to reach motivated young women to improve their English skills. She has students locally as well as in Guatemala, Ukraine, and Iran. Recently she began teaching a group called “Friday Talking Party” spanning from New Mexico to several overseas locations. Mary Carroll reported that son Mark
is a nurse practitioner in Harrisonburg, VA while son Tim works as a computer consultant, now living in North Carolina.

Florence DeLessio Marchetti has been working at the hospital throughout the entire pandemic and has just finished converting the COVID-19 units back to regular Medical units. She commented on the many gifts of food sent in by their patient’s families. She is on the Reunion Committee that is already in the planning stages for Reunion 2022 March 31-April 3 and is hopeful that many classmates are planning to go.

Margaret “Cookie” Fissell Donahue saw her family for the first time since lockdown on Mother’s Day. She writes, “Like the cicadas here in Northern Virginia we feel like we’re coming out of hibernation after a very long year.” She and her husband are both in good health for which they are very thankful.

During the lockdown Kathy Skidmore Philipp and her husband Bill joined the Church of the Nativity, an online faith community where they can attend Mass anywhere, anytime. She writes “great sermons, great music! Check it out!” She celebrated Easter with her family and six grandsons.

Mary Rosenberger Lynch and her husband Larry have recently moved to a CCRC (Continuing Care Retirement Community) on St. Simons Island, Marsh’s Edge. They continue to be very active in their church related activities. Mary has continued with the Haiti ministry as Corresponding Secretary which involves communicating with the pastor via WhatsApp, publishing a monthly newsletter, publishing PR articles to promote fundraising efforts, and hosting a Facebook page, “Helping Hugs Inc. for Haiti.” She writes, “Since we don’t have children, it’s gratifying to have meaningful volunteer tasks.” Mary keeps in touch with Katherine Skidmore Philipp, Ginny Werber Hartmuller, and Nicki Norris Lingg.

Marg Cloney Wood and her husband John are “just taking it easy and doing things around the house.” She is looking forward to much clearer vision since her decision to have cataract surgery.

Ginny Werber Hartmuller and her husband Roger are living at Bayside in Selbyville, DE on the Eastern shore. Their community was able to continue to offer many activities outside and online. In the midst of the pandemic, Ginny had a knee replacement and a gall bladder attack which was corrected with “robotic surgery.” Roger had a serious vertigo experience.

Fortunately, they are both doing OK at this time. COVID-19 hit their community hard and Ginny writes, “Neighbors pitched in and we all helped each other get through the tough times.” She sent photos to be added to our class Shutterfly page. Check it out at sjcclassof67.shutterfly.com.

Beth Macpherson Rowe retired from teaching in 2010 and has been globe-hopping with her husband John to Alaska, Iceland, Morocco, The Galapagos, Machu Picchu, Italy, and France. A trip to New Zealand is planned for 2022. She has been popping up as an extra on movie sets and TV shows. She writes, “Look carefully if you ever watch Alpha House, Jessica Jones, the Punisher.” She continues to enjoy being a Storyteller and has been featured in various New York and New England venues. She encourages us to “check out Storytelling events in your area.” Her two wonderful sons enjoy bachelorhood; one building movie sets, the other a chiropractor. She and John continue to act in community theatre productions when they are not spending time at their home on Galway Lake, NY.

Maggie McGrath Yerkes and her husband Tony were in Mazatlan, Mexico at the beginning of the pandemic, and fortunately were able to return home in March despite limited airline flights. On Memorial Day she led “God Bless America” for a concluding hymn at their local parish in Minnesota. They look forward to returning to Mazatlan and seeing their Mexican “families” again. Maggie sends her “prayers and sympathy for those of you who have had to say God speed to family and friends. We hope those attending Reunion will have a great time. We will be there in spirit.”

Kathleen Flynn Gaffney and her husband Michael have moved to Vienna, VA where they are “a bike ride away from some little grandkids...definitely a dream come true!” Kathleen is now retired from George Mason University where she taught nursing to women from the Middle East and Africa. Reflecting on her years there, she came away with a strong appreciation for life for women here in the US. Currently, she volunteers at a local pediatric clinic that serves low-income families, particularly immigrants from Central America. She writes, “Again, I am impressed, as I know you are, how fortunate we are. I have many fond memories of Joe’s and our nursing experience at Providence. While we were all different in so many ways, we seemed to have a common core.”

Rita Gisriel Cole and her husband Dennis were able to safely celebrate the holidays outside with blankets and a fire pit. In June, they enjoyed a long awaited and
Mary Alice Friede Mauser reports that she and her husband Fred stayed relatively healthy through the past year of social distancing, wearing masks, and restricted travel. Delaware was very efficient in reaching out to the senior population with vaccination efforts. Mary Alice continues to enjoy living near Bethany Beach—a hot-weather draw for beach-going family and friends. It’s busy for three summer months and then, mostly quiet in the off season. Their first trip now that lockdown is behind us is to visit friends in Upstate New York with a side trip to Niagara Falls. Their family weathered the past year fairly well, despite a few contracting COVID-19. Everyone recovered with no apparent aftereffects and are back to normal, for which they are very thankful. The old adage of “live each day to the fullest” has taken on renewed meaning.

Some of the recurring themes written in your letters are….advancing age….shedding of responsibilities….online classes…reuniting with family….real hugs….virtual Mass….returning to volunteer activities….exercise….looking forward to Reunion 2022!! The dates are set for March 31–April 3, 2022 and let’s plan to celebrate our 55th “All Together.”

1968

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At the time we’re writing this—July 2021—things have begun to “open up” and family and friends are finally getting together after over a year not being able to do so. However, the pandemic is not yet over, and the Delta variant of COVID-19 is pervasive in those parts of the country with low vaccination rates and jurisdictions are considering reimposing mask-wearing. This is how, as of July, members of our class survived our pandemic year—with Zoom calls, learning new languages, cooking, baking, gardening, volunteering, reading…

Susan Moroney Taylor, who lives in Corolla, NC on the Outer Banks, and Will, were housebound for a year—such a problem—with the beach, their porches, and their yard. Susan learned a lot about gardening and her resultant garden was beautiful—despite starting with sand. She was amazed at how well the teachers who teach at Water’s Edge School—the school she helped found in Corolla—did as they taught virtually and in person when she evaluated them on Zoom. After she began to concentrate on cooking, she felt sure she could out-cook most chefs. She walked her dog for miles and lost ten pounds in the process. When they were “freed” she and Will got haircuts and went to their favorite restaurant for raw oysters. The past year was a learning process; she appreciates her husband more, she is thankful for a comfortable home, and grateful for friends who gathered masked for driveway socials. In spite of the fear and isolation of the pandemic, she feels she is a better person for it, but would not want to do it again!

The past year was uneventful for Patti McKay Bufalino and her husband who stayed home, ordered groceries to be delivered, and took care of their health through telemedicine. In June, things began to open up in California and their children and granddaughters were finally able to visit them, and now, all is good with the family. Patti and her sisters set up a weekly “double Duo” calls when the four of them chat. They had always been good about phoning each other in tandem, but through Zoom, everyone is on the same call. They enjoy seeing each other on the calls and checking out what is going on in South Carolina, Florida, Tennessee, and California and getting caught up on the news from each branch of the extended family. Some exciting news: each of her sisters was expecting a new grandchild around the same time! Patti is the oldest sister and her children and grandchildren are the oldest of their generations. Her three granddaughters are interested in their studies and travel, and none have expressed an interest in starting families of their own, yet. But, Patti says, participating in Zoom baby showers is fun.

Mary Louise Libby Palm said Bill had major back surgery March 10, 2020, a week before everything shut down. The hospital did not allow visitors, even spouses, while he was there so Mary Louise dropped him off and didn’t see him again until six days later when she picked him up, although they did talk on the phone each day. They drove to Baltimore twice last fall to see Bill’s mother. The first visit was to help her celebrate her 100th birthday in September. They were able to talk a little with her although she had severe dementia and was on hospice care. Two weeks later she died peacefully and they returned to Baltimore for her funeral.
On both trips they were able to see their brothers and sisters. No one in their family had COVID-19 and all the adults got immunized as soon as they could—March for Mary Louise and Bill. Their two granddaughters each had a classmate or bus mate who tested positive, so they were in quarantine until they got tested and fortunately both were negative. They ate out at restaurants about eight times throughout the year, but only at those places they felt practiced good cleaning and spacing. In July, Rhode Island began to open up and, because their immunization rate was so high, Mary Louise and Bill went out more often to restaurants. They are both relieved that they were retired and didn’t have to contend with teaching online. Their publishers asked for a new edition of a textbook they had written, a good news/bad news situation that kept them busy and thinking, although searching for resources was challenging. Fortunately for her, URI has good textbook and professional journal resources online and she could research from home.

The isolation caused Joanne Ekhaml and Jim to be creative and to make fun in spite of limits. When she wrote in July, she was on her 454th unbroken day of learning German via the Duolingo app. Their son and family live in Leipzig, Germany, so her trying to learn the language was a real pleasure (and lots of laughs) for her granddaughters who loved helping and quizzes her. She looked forward to practicing her German in person when she and Jim planned to go to Germany in August to celebrate her 75th birthday. Joanne, her son, and granddaughters Anna and Zoey had fun on FaceTime: one time making a Wacky cake, another time making peanut butter cookies. They also read chapters in books to give the girls’ parents a break between working at home and making dinner. Although she sees her granddaughters often via FaceTime, it did not make up for not seeing them in person since December 2019. Joanne and Jim’s weekly breakfast group moved to Zoom and they included friends in Chicago and Florida. They also played games on New Year’s Eve and Valentine’s Day, when traditionally the ten couples have shared dinner for 30 years.

Despite being fully vaccinated, both Joanne and Jim were diagnosed with COVID-19. They had been with someone who had been in Mexico and was not feeling well upon arrival in Boston a few days later. Because they were vaccinated, they primarily had bad cold symptoms. There were six positives in the people the man encountered and, as advertised, the vaccine prevented serious disease. However, the ten days of isolation meant they had to cancel a planned trip to Pennsylvania, Delaware, and DC to see family and were going to try again in the fall.

The pandemic period started out with a bang for Carol Healey Haran on Saturday, March 14th 2020, the day before most of the states went into stay-at-home mode when she flew home from Ft. Myers, FL to Chicago O’Hare. Both airports were jammed with multiple long lines for car rental return; the planes were full; people were rude; international arrivals waited in line for three hours or more to go through Customs; and no one was wearing a mask, yet. Despite the chaos, she made it home safe and sound. She figured if she could do that, and stay well, she could travel to her house in New Hampshire where her Massachusetts and New York kids and grandkids were staying and working remotely. Because everyone had been quarantining, they felt comfortable being together. She and Carol Carluccio Griffin who has a place nearby, had a chance to visit, socially distanced, on her porch.

The family also had a wedding during the pandemic. Carol’s youngest daughter Megan and her fiancé were originally scheduled to get married on June 27, 2020, but when everything cancelled, they selected October 24th as their alternate date. By mid-October, virus numbers were increasing again, but they managed to have a wedding with fewer guests and a lot of rules. The mom of the bride said the wedding was lovely although everyone wore masks and you couldn’t see their faces. However no one got sick, and Carol heaved a huge sigh of relief that it all worked out. That day was the last time she saw any of her family until after they were all vaccinated.

Susan Romanowski Redding did what many folks did during the pandemic days—learned to paint, studied a new language, read a lot more, and did a lot on Zoom. It was also a time for reflection too for her, on many levels. She shared this quote attributed to Janine Benus, an American science writer: “This pause has allowed us to look at our surroundings and set new intentions for what kind of world we want to live in. We’re becoming more and more aware that organisms have learned to adapt after disturbances. We’re seeing massive cooperation. We’re seeing what’s possible. Natural selection chooses what works over and over, so when we get back, we have the glorious choice to bring back only what we’ve found to make life worth living.”

In July, Bev (or Bève, as the French call her) Eagan and Larry Tuteur were still living in Toulouse, a pretty city in the southwest whose “only flaw is it isn’t Paris.” They hoped to return to Paris in October but that depended on when they could find an apartment they liked.
Toulouse was much safer in regard to COVID-19, so they were not in a hurry to find a place in Paris. The two of them were very serious about limiting their chances of infection, so, she said, “the year has been boring” because they were cut off from people. “During that time, the French people had more time to practice this language that challenges us,” she said. “Then when we emerged, they were wearing masks that lowered our ability to understand by at least 50%. This has not been a French immersion experience. It has been a Netflix and books immersion. Disappointing!” France has a strong anti-vaxxer group but with wider use of the “vaccination pass,” French president Macron made it unpleasant for those who were not vaccinated. The response was more people being vaccinated (almost a million people made an appointment to get vaccinated after his speech), which she hoped meant there might be, at last, an end to this.

Jan Brett Hafey and Jim moved south from Connecticut to Virginia in the fall to be closer to their son, his wife, and their new grandson outside the Roanoke area, near Smith Mountain Lake, a beautiful area where they planned to enjoy being Southerners for a change.

The pandemic was not a real hardship for Pat Burdinski Meeker and Mike who were content at home and always found things to do. Being in Florida, they weren’t as homebound as others in a colder climate. They’re on a lake with a trail alongside it, so they’re always able to get outside. They managed a few socially distant visits with their grandkids who had COVID-19 tests beforehand and they adopted a dog born with bilateral hip dysplasia in April 2020. Within a week of the adoption, he had a hip replacement and the post-op period was difficult because he couldn’t walk on bare floors for eight weeks and they had no carpet. The workaround was a patchwork of area rugs throughout the house.

Pat’s former hospital rehired her to administer COVID-19 vaccines and, over the course of three months, she guesses that she probably gave 2,000 vaccines! She was grateful to the hospital for hiring her back and says it was a joy to be part of the solution.

Besides Pat turning 75 this year, she and Mike planned to celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary with a Pacific Northwest tour from Seattle to San Francisco at the end of September, when Pat’s hoping the triple-digit temperatures will be a thing of the past.

I reached out to our classmates in the northwest—Susan FitzMaurice Gibson in Idaho, Gina Shableski Crumbaker in Seattle, and Norma “Sam” Corristan in Oregon—to see how they were surviving the extremely hot temperatures this summer.

Sue and Paul tried to confine their outside time to the cool hours in the morning and evening. Carol “Casey” Kakalec Kohn and Hal had dinner with them in June after visiting Casey’s daughter in Sun Valley. Luckily, the weather was perfect for sitting on the deck. In July Sue went to the Sun Valley Writers’ Conference with her sister, a practice they’ve been doing for years. This past year, the conference reopened with a shorter format and fewer people. While it was great, the weather was unusually hot and she was exhausted when she returned home.

During the extremely hot weather, Sam was lucky to be able to stay at a house with central air and returned to her house regularly to water her plants and ensure that everything was okay. One of the days when she was at her house, her outdoor thermometer read 118°F and the indoor one read 95°F. During this time, her daughter and her family were visiting from overseas. While it was great having the family together, they cancelled most of their planned activities because of the unpleasant heat. Sam’s mother celebrated her 100th birthday in May and was doing well physically although she was on a downhill path mentally, which was not helped by the isolation of the pandemic.

Gina and Greg were doing well although this summer was unlike any Seattle summer she could remember. Looking on the bright side, she predicted she’d have a bumper crop of tomatoes, something rare for their neck of the woods. As the heat got extreme, they left Seattle for their house on Camano Island. Their son Matt came from Portland with his two girls a week before July 4th; and son Pete and his family arrived the Thursday before the 4th. Pete and Matt went crabbing several times and managed to catch 33 crab “keepers” (males of a certain size). The entire family had a great time together and did a good job cleaning up too.

Sister Maureen McGuire is grateful for, and inspired by, the tremendous dedication of all who served in the Catholic health ministry of Ascension during the pandemic. Not only did she turn 75 in February 2021 but February also marked her 25th year in Ascension. She says “serving in Mission Integration in this ministry, dedicated to special attention for those who are poor and most in need, has been a great blessing in my life as a Daughter of Charity.”

Maureen says it’s always good to hear about our class-
mates and to recall many good memories. She signed off with "grateful prayers for our classmates and for those who were our faculty."

Pat Harris Miller and George were in great health but were thinking of selling their home of 42 years and moving to a smaller place. Their daughters are executives in careers they love. Their third grandchild Zane planned to join his cousins, Jessica and Jocelyn, at the University of Nebraska. With the world starting to open up, Pat found herself on event planning committees for three organizations, all planning events in September. Pat follows many of our classmates on Facebook, especially Pat Greeley Collins and Lorna LaChapelle and says if anyone comes to Omaha, let her know.

Two effects of the pandemic for Ruth Lynch Buchwalter and her family were the delay in Stan's hip replacement and what that would mean for his long term mobility, and her granddaughter's loss of over a year of in person schooling. She was amazed at how quickly everyone pivoted from in person events to video. She volunteers with a group that provides Medicare and Affordability Care Act counseling. They used Zoom and felt that it worked better than in person interviews because the upfront process produced the needed information beforehand. Her income tax volunteering with the AARP foundation, however, was not as successful using technology, which she blamed partly on the unreasonable standards the IRS imposed on them. For example, a volunteer working from home had to partition her router so the income tax preparation software and video conferencing was entirely separate from any other use of the router, even if only one person in the household would be using the router at any given time.

She ordered groceries online a few times, but in the end, used the order function to see if a store carried a product that she wanted. Because they couldn't go out to eat, she tried at least one new recipe a week and the result was many good recipes and a few rather awful ones. She now has more ethnic condiments than ever and may need a separate refrigerator in which to store them.

Ruth stays in touch with Marge Bertoni Barkocy who is still working a few days a week from home. In the beginning of the pandemic, she was not a fan of work from home to having a commute.

In late June, my sister and I drove down to the north Georgia mountains to spend a few days at Mary Brown's cabin on Lake Rabun with Mary, Cathy Carroll Loy and a couple other friends. To break up our trip, we spent one night in Asheville and the next day, en route from Asheville to Mary’s, we visited a cousin in Greer, SC and then Andie Archdeacon Howard in Greenville, the next town over. Andie made time for us as she was in the process of packing up her house for a move with Bill, who has Alzheimer's, to a retirement community in Celebration, FL. Andie's sister had recently moved from Long Island to Celebration and talked Andie into moving closer to her. Their move south was somewhat difficult but Andie said she was holding up and knew she was going to love being there near her sister. The retirement community is “lively and lovely” and the meals are so good she may never cook again. So, another classmate in Florida!

Our time at Mary's cabin was great. Mary gave us a tour of the 13-mile long lake on her pontoon boat. We spent many hours talking late into the night, first thing in the morning over coffee, over at the boathouse on the lake in the afternoon. We had dinner at a nice restaurant on a hotel on the lake on Saturday night. That night a tropical storm passed through the area and we woke up to no electricity. Where the previous days we lingered over cups of coffee, that morning with no electricity, everyone packed up and left as soon as they could—headed out to find the first place that had electricity, coffee, and a restroom.

Mary's son Sean recently got engaged to Serina and they planned to get married at the lake in August, so Mary was busy making plans for the celebration. Cathy still works, at home, but also stays busy with her seven grandchildren.

1969

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Another year has gone by, and what a strange year it was! Masks, social distancing, travel restrictions, vaccinations, and we are still dealing with COVID-19. It will not go away. We have all tried to cope as best we could with varying degrees of normalcy depending on where we live.

Pat McIntyre Burton kept busy last school year assisting her granddaughters with their virtual work. Recently, she got a job working with her husband's company. It’s kept her busy and she is learning more about computers than she thought she’d ever need to
know. In July, they were in Myrtle Beach with family and friends, 21 in total. “Crazy, but amazing to see cousins having so much fun.”

Wendy Crann Newcomer has six grandchildren and became a great-grandmother for the first time July 2020. She is moving with her daughter and family to a house in McKenney, VA in Dinwiddie County. It will be a huge change and a lifechanging experience for her but feels it will benefit all in the long run.

Micki Lipps Freeney was grateful for the opportunity to take five ballet classes a week during most of the crisis and was overjoyed to be back in the studio for classes. She taught a pre-ballet class by Zoom, which was quite an experience with four-year-olds! In July she returned to doing story time for families with babies and toddlers, mostly outdoor programming for now with lots of social distancing. Being free again, mostly to enjoy lunch with friends, cut into her reading time. From March to December, she read 100 books! I asked Micki to send me her top picks and I posted them on the Class of 69 Facebook page. If you are not on Facebook, please email me and I’ll send her list to you.

Wanda Robek Power reports from New Hampshire that their lives have been quite uneventful since the pandemic began. They have kept close to home and plan on continuing that for a while. They spent time working around the house they moved to six years ago. She left her 35-year-old perennial garden in New Jersey and had to start from scratch. She grows many of her perennials from seed and cuttings which keeps her busy in the winter and saves tons of money. They looked forward to a lot of visitors in the summer and fall including their three sons from California. She and Mike both participate in a volunteer program called “Day Away” involving people with dementia. The pandemic closed that program down, and they hope it begins again soon. Last year Wanda started a new activity and has been posting on Facebook just about every day, one of the photographs they have taken with a quote that she finds meaningful. Personally, I’ve been moved by some of these posts and think she should publish a book with all of them. Check them out on Facebook.

Quarantine was difficult for all of us, but some more so. Jean Givens Denney retired to the Chesapeake Bay four years ago. Pre-pandemic she visited family, travelled, and returned monthly to the DC area so was only at the cottage half the time. She reports that she is definitely a city girl. She says, “I was bored, bored, bored, and depressed. I tried to become a birder and sat on the deck every evening with binoculars and books but still can’t identify many. Arthritis flared and curtailed my walking and needlework, so I went joy riding in the golf cart, read, and started playing cards with neighbors. I learned Zoom, got a medical OK for marijuana, organized photos, and finally unpacked the last storage bin. Having my old life back makes me realize how very low I was.” But she is resilient, is visiting family again, and volunteers at a family homeless shelter and has booked another winter Caribbean cruise. Jean acquired a 15 lbs. black Havanese puppy named Rickey (short for Rickey Ricardo), and her sister is training him in herding, tracking, and agility. Jean and Becky Snyder Peters will be working the registration desk at the 2022 Reunion and would love some help from any of our classmates. Reunion in Gettysburg is scheduled for March 31-April 3, 2022.

Early in the pandemic, a group of us started a weekly Zoom, and sixteen months later, we are still Zooming every Wednesday night. These weekly chats have provided great laughs, tears and support through the last year. It’s been wonderful to spend some virtual time with Lynn Koerner, Mary Pat Cohill, Kathy O’Donnell Ellis, Ann Mooney Kirmil, PJ Heaven Reilly, Joan Denerry Casey, Faye Stank Anson, and Beth Dignan Blumer.

Ann Mooney Kirmil and her husband John retired a few years ago to Bethany Beach, DE and this summer they feel particularly blessed to be at the beach which is definitely in post-COVID-19 mode. “The crowds have returned, the restaurants are full, the traffic is heavy, and contrary to our usual annoyance with such things, we now have a true appreciation for how alive it all is. Bring on the tourists. Now if it would just stop raining so much.” They usually travel in the summer, but this year are staying close to home. Her daughter Emily visited with her family including baby Eloise who is six months old. Ann can’t wait to see her first reactions to the beach! Her daughter Julia and her family came the last week in July. “As my granddaughter Charlotte would say, this summer rocks.” Dick and I took a two-week road trip to Chicago in early June to see our daughter Ashley and son-in-law Peter. We made numerous fun and interesting stops along the way and had a great visit in Chicago just as restrictions were lifted. Our first stop on the return trip was with Reil and PJ Heaven Reilly in their new home in Carmel, IN. After more than 43 years in one home, they moved a few miles to a great spot with the master on the first floor. PJ finally retired from Carmel High School in July, but Reil is still doing work for the Actors Theater of Indiana. They celebrated their 50th anniver-
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sary in 2020. Due to COVID-19, a celebratory trip to Europe was cancelled, as well as the reschedule trip in 2021. They have now scheduled for 2022 (this time on our side of the pond)—hopefully, the third time will be the charm. Their two oldest grandkids graduated from college in 2020—one from the University of Virginia and one from the University of Dayton. We had such a fun visit that was much too short. As PJ wrote and I agree, “two years as roommates, and 52 years of friendship have been invaluable!”

On one of the very few sunny days in July, Liz Reaves Ellison and I visited Linda Nastanovich Clark in Scituate, MA. Linda had just returned from two months at her cabin in Maine to enjoy the beach in Scituate and for doctor appointments but planned to return to Maine in August. She had a reunion with her kids mid-July in Ogunquit, ME—Brian, coming from California with his girlfriend, and Amy, pregnant with a baby boy due in November. Amy’s daughter Waverly is three and they just bought a house in Westfield, NJ.

Liz is still providing therapy remotely (by telehealth video) a few hours a week, but really ready to retire again. Her husband David is still teaching but they headed to Ithaca and Corning for a week when the school year ended to visit her son Chris and his family and David’s three sisters who live in the area. Their daughter Anna has two children and lives in Princeton, NJ, where she works at the university. Liz’s mother passed away during the year at age 98 and her younger sister spent much of the pandemic living with Liz and David in Mashpee, MA, while recovering from cancer surgery.

John and Beth Dignan Blumer travelled to Salt Lake City in May for a family wedding and extended their trip with a visit to the Grand Canyon and an air trip through the canyon. In June, her daughter Kristin was sworn in as an Administrative Law Judge for the State of Maryland. Beth still works part-time, seeing therapy clients remotely but trying to scale back. Recently, Beth and John visited with Alan and Mary Faller Duxbury in Carlisle, PA.

Keep in touch, stay safe, and hope to see everyone at the next Reunion.

1970

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Reunion 2022 is just around the corner, and it looks like we will finally be able to celebrate our 50th anniversary. I hope many of you will be able to attend March 31-April 3, 2022 at the Wyndham Hotel in Gettysburg, PA. So until we meet in person, here is some news.

Ann Faraday Hook is happy to report that all is well with her family. She continues to fill her days with pleasant activities like quilting, gardening, and household chores that she actually enjoys. In October she plans to be together with Diana Moon Hylton, Kathy Boyle Coughlan, Valerie Klimas Rouleau, Janet Orsini Kelly, and Marianne Grizez for a week in Santa Fe.

Helen Burke Rasmussen is happy that everything is opening up again. This year she continued her Zoom tutoring in English, especially for writing, with middle and high school students. She still enjoys having them in her life. Helen and husband Dick treasure their time with their immediate family. They recently attended a niece’s wedding in Boise, ID. It had been postponed for a year. Seeing many of the Rasmussen clan members was wonderful. They were very impressed with Boise and were in awe of the surrounding hills, dams, and nature at the edge of the Rockies. They are now preparing for a visit from their two grandchildren and getting ready to see many more Rasmussens at their annual Hilton Head Island family reunion.

Kathie Robinson Moritis and family are doing fine in the great Pacific Northwest, except for the massive heat wave they have experienced this summer. Temperatures were predicted to go up to 112 degrees, sounding more like Death Valley than Seattle. Kathie and husband Alan decided to put in air conditioning about 20 years ago, thinking they might need it occasionally. When they moved to Seattle in 1974, hardly anyone had AC. You didn’t need it. Good thing there’s no global warming, right!? Kathie says that life is otherwise returning to what passes for normal. They are back to hosting groups of friends on their new back deck, and their two grandsons are spending the weekend while their daughter and son-in-law visit friends. Wesley is now six years old and Thomas is four. They have rescheduled already rescheduled planned trips to 2022, and they do plan to come back for the SJC Reunion. Quite a few positives came out of the pandemic for Kathie. She got another
Cavalier King Charles Spaniel whom they named Ramses; went through 35 albums of photos and reduced them to eight; scanned the digital photos of her last seven or so overseas trips and made them into Snapfish books; started seriously playing the piano again after a hiatus of about 40 years; and finally used Duolingo to brush up and maybe improve her high school French. So Kathie feels that she did not entirely lose the last 15 months.

Alberta Johnson Baker did a great job of staying home from March 15, 2020 until April, 2021. Now that most people around them are vaccinated, they are venturing out a bit. Alberta spent most of the pandemic building an outside screened-in room so that she could see people outside, at least six feet apart and wearing masks. She says that it is a great space that she will enjoy for many years. Kathy McNaney Younkin was one of the many outdoor visitors. In May Alberta ventured out for her first trip in more than a year! She met two friends and spent five days at the beach. It was fantastic to get away!! She plans another short trip for August and another in September. Alberta’s California family visited at the end of June!! So many hugs after such a long time with none!!! She looks forward to seeing everyone at Reunion!

JoAnne Cartagena Windle writes that she was glad that Maryann Lesso and I were able to meet Mary Ann Wiberley Shattuck and her sister Christine Wiberley Goglia, SJC ’73 for lunch in Frederick. She was sorry she missed lunch but was able to spend time with Mary Ann the day before. JoAnne is happy that most people around her have been vaccinated for COVID-19. What a difference that makes. She has been spending a lot of quality time with her sisters and their families. The last week of June they all spent a week in Fenwick. Between them they rented four houses. Their grandchildren had a great time with their cousins. It gives JoAnne joy that the young Cartagenas will be as close to their cousins as their parents are to their cousins and she is to her sisters! JoAnne also spent time in Kennedyville, MD picking raspberries. She says that she has gained much respect for raspberry pickers and will never complain about the cost of raspberries at the grocery store again. JoAnne is still playing pickleball in her community a few times a week with some of her neighbors. She says that learning to play the game made a big difference for her during COVID-19. Being able to be outside and be with other people was a blessing. JoAnne plans to go to Puerto Rico in September. Obviously last summer’s trip was cancelled. She is really looking forward to going home.

On July 30, nine of us met for lunch at the Carriage House in Emmitsburg: Alberta Johnson Baker, Bridget Bradley, Susan Stay Valenti, Maryann Lesso, Christine Roos Mehl, Arlene Seeber, Carmen Richardson, Kathy McNaney Younkin, and Anne Higgins. Maryann Lesso was just back from a niece’s wedding in the UK and filled us in on the quarantining and numerous COVID-19 tests that were necessary to enter and stay in the UK. She told us if any of us were planning to go to Europe to postpone trips until next year. Susan Stay Valenti is hoping she will be able to take the cancelled trip to Italy that was planned for last summer with a group of high school friends (friends since 3rd/5th grade). The airline gave them until September 3, 2021 to use the tickets. They were scheduled to leave on August 26 but found out the original direct flight was cancelled so now they were scrambling to make connecting flights. Susan is still in Virginia living with her son Patrick’s family being their au pair. Their new au pair still can’t leave South Africa. Susan loves spending time with them but hopes that trip to Italy is a go.

Since March 28, 2020, Carol Ervin Sharkey has led Zoom meetings with some of us. For that first year we met on Tuesdays every other week. Now that we are out and about more, we meet on the second Wednesday of each month. Some who have participated are: Alberta Johnson Baker, Joanne Snyder Caye, Connie Mauro Barnett, Carmen Richardson, Christine Roos Mehl, Leslie Henze Blackstock, Kathy McNaney Younkin, Mary Ann Wiberley Shattuck, Maryann Lesso, Susan Stay Valenti, Sue McKenna Clifford, JoAnne Cartagena Windle, Jacque Tennessee Carter, Arlene Seeber, Coni Dugas, who passed away from ovarian cancer on February 10, 2021, and me.

Carmen Richardson writes that meeting with classmates on Zoom these many months has been a bonus. As for her family, their fifth grandchild was born at the end of March 2020. He and his three year old sister are great fun and they are happy to see them in person now. Last summer, their oldest granddaughter decided not to come back to the states from Germany for college; she took a gap year and will study art and design at the Norwich University of the Arts, UK in September. Her 16 year old brother is earning college credits (dual enrollment) at Embry Riddle Aeronautical University, is learning to fly, (he has taken two solo flights but is too young to drive a car in Germany), and will continue college at Embry Riddle after high school. Carmen states that their mom did an awesome job homeschooling but their 12 year old sister decided to go to regular school last March. After many hours, unexpectedly on Zoom, Carmen’s daughter just completed an executive MBA program at UMD. YEA! All three of her kids are now
officially smarter than Carmen and Gary. They are thankful that, post-COVID-19, the family is still healthy and employed. Gary is more fit than when COVID-19 started and Carmen finally organized their photos, went through boxes that hadn’t been opened in two household moves, did some minor household repairs herself, and cooked more than ever before. Apparently, YouTube videos can teach you to do almost anything.

Mary Person Hrbacek, who works as a contemporary artist, represented by Elga Wimmer PCC, New York City, posted some of her work on Facebook, and said, “I have been doing tree drawing with a human presence since the 1990s.” Like many of us, she is also a gardener and posted: “Growing up, in Catechism, we were taught that God is, was, and always shall be; when my perennial flowers, my Phlox and my Golden-glow bloomed on August 1st, same day as last year, I consider that proof enough of a higher organizer. Who would bother to make the flowers bloom on the same date every year? Who else would actually bother to care enough to do this?”

I’m still teaching at the Mount—21 years! I’m down to teaching just one class, and teaching that on Zoom for the last three semesters and again this fall, although the Mount is planning on going back to the in-class teaching. They are short on classrooms, though, because enrollment continues to be good, and they are expanding the Knott Academic Center, allowing for more classrooms, and high quality technological access. Also, I don’t know if you all have heard this, but the Mount has been moving forward with plans for a graduate school of Health Services, starting with an MS program for Physician Assistants. They are talking about a program called “Care for America” along the lines of “Teach for America” hoping for graduates to serve in an area of need, and offering scholarships for marginalized students. They’ve been raising money to do this for about five years now, but still haven’t begun the actual renovation of the space. They are going to use a whole wing of our Provincial House! So all the labs and classrooms would be there, hopefully starting in the fall of 2023. I will try to keep you posted as this all unfolds.

On a sad note, please keep Sister Margaret John Kelly in your prayers. She is 87 now and is in failing health both physically and mentally. She doesn’t know me anymore.

1971

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Kathy Corley Murray—During COVID-19 I sold my house and moved into Fairhaven, a continuous care retirement community two and a half miles away. I’m in a cottage with a small front and back yard, and the residents and staff are very friendly. We have lots of activities including ten nature trails. New adventures!

Mary Stewart Powell—Yes, we are now “old” since we are out of college 50 yrs. We have a new grandchild Gage who is five months old and already 17 lbs. They grow them big these days. Otherwise just trying to stay away from the plague. Hope you are healthy and are able to enjoy retirement.

Anne Bohan Seil—Really looking forward to Reunion next year! Met up with my sister Mary (class of ’72 nursing) in Paso Robles this past April. Had a wonderful visit with her, her husband, and a cousin who joined us from San Francisco! Looking toward our local kids going back to in-person school this month! Hoping the Delta variant does not derail that plan. Have been in communication with several classmates via Zoom (Debbie Thomas, Kathy Murray, Judy Caratenuto, and several others who evidently are planning on coming to Reunion…yeah!! Can’t believe we will be having our 50th Reunion finally!!!!! Can’t wait. We are planning a good time!

Judy Frere Dement—Cannot wait for the Reunion—finally! I finally retired in June from being an NP in Cardiology! Long time coming! Johnny and I are anxiously awaiting the arrival of our second great-grandchild Piper any day now! We celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary in June. We took the whole family (28 of us) to Bethany Beach for a week! We had a great time together!

Marlene Giorello Johns—Last month we were in Gettysburg for a Johns’s family reunion that was postponed from 2020 due to the pandemic. Family come from all over the country and the reunion location is selected by whomever has volunteered to coordinate the event. Many family members had never been to Gettysburg and really enjoyed the historic sites. While we were there, Butch and I went to Emmitsburg to visit the Seton Shrine and see our college campuses. In October we will be celebrating our 50th wedding
anniversary. We are hoping to plan a trip next summer with our children and grandchildren to celebrate the occasion. Hopefully, travelling will be easier next year! Speaking of next year, I am really looking forward to seeing everyone at our 50th Reunion!!

Marilyn Caruso Burlenski--After 44 years, we are moving out of Cheshire to a condo in Middlebury, CT. Looking forward to being in the new setting but moving out of our house after 35 years is a challenge (to put it politely!). Our four granddaughters continue to be the delights of our lives. They are five, four, three, and two--two girls for each of our children. Really looking forward to Reunion—March 31-April 3, 2022. It will be great to see everyone again.

1972

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Well, class of ’72, we MADE it…only a few months until our 50th Reunion! Who would have thought that those fresh-faced freshman who met in September 1968 would still be going strong almost 50 years later? And living through a pandemic!

Some class news--Susanne Palmer is enjoying life in Florida, remembering the swings in temperature up in Boston where one year it went from 92 to snow two days later. Susanne had a bathroom project going on over the past few months and says the new room looks much better! She had planned to go to Eastern Europe but will be spending three weeks on the Jersey shore this year. She hopes to see Mary Pat Bohan Kelly, and visit friends from Boston University, high school, and Widener University. Susanne does volunteer work for scholarships for local students. Even with COVID-19, they were able to give six students scholarships.

Jayne Bianco Cohill had a right knee replacement in May 2020. She is pleased with the outcome and the left knee is scheduled for November 2021. Jayne and husband Mike went to Folly Beach with Jane Clifford and husband Tom and Mary Pat Bohan Kelly and husband John in May 2020, visiting Clifford’s lovely home. They had a wonderful time. Jayne also saw her daughters Maureen and Megan and their families in the summer of 2020 for a short vacation. Grandson Jack is a senior this year. As the COVID-19 epidemic worsened, Jayne started giving the vaccine--she said it was an enlightening experience being back at work! Mike and Jayne went to California in April 2021 to visit her daughter and family, then on to Hawaii for six weeks on the Big Island.

Debbie Curley-Reid reports that Brianna and Austen had a son Maverick Charles on December 15, 2020. Austen had been a Marine so yes it’s “Top Gun.” They live about 20 minutes away and Debbie gets to watch him two days a week. She said that now she really understands why you should be young to have babies! Debbie has moved but is staying in the same town now. They are just right-sizing and hope to still go to Naples for six weeks next winter.

Julie Lombard wrote that she is still working four days a week. She is also on call every other weekend and every other night. Julie still loves what she does (and says her mind hasn’t failed her) so she will keep at it a couple of more years. Her youngest Nick just turned 20 and will be a junior at Berklee College School of Music. Vinny, 22, is a marine biology major and will be a junior at Coastal Carolina (he had to slow down academically due to a severe concussion playing ice hockey). Julie’s four oldest are all married, healthy, and Julie has four grandchildren. Julie moved to an old historic home in West River, MD with her four cats and three dogs, saying life is full and BUSY!!

Mary Leatherman Mindel reported that she spent part of the “stay at home” mandate, decluttering, cleaning, and organizing and came to the realization that not only is she getting older but that her clothes are getting older…outdated. She can always tell when she is putting on “old” clothes…there is a tag on the back. Mary had many interesting comments about her wardrobe, she spent a lot of time reflecting on how things have changed in clothes! She is looking forward to seeing everyone at Reunion and wondering what she will wear!!! She is starting to wear more of what she considered her “work or good clothes” just to look nice around the house. Her son Jeff and wife Heidi are doing well. They are married 15 years and have four children. Jeff’s practice is back to pre-pandemic levels, and Heidi works two days a week as a pediatric dental hygienist. Mary and husband Iver watch the children while Heidi works. Son Matt and wife Katie are having another child in August. They recently purchased a new home in Howard County.

Our adopted classmate, Mary Ellen Halstead, (mother went to SJC, Mary Ellen was accepted but didn’t come) has now moved into the wing of the old Provincial House in Emmitsburg that has apartments--so we have
Veronica Turosecey Stack wrote saying the family was doing OK, her son the doctor is working with COVID-19 patients.  **Barbara Klein Mank** wrote that their vacation plans were cancelled for 2020/2021.  Barbara and Greg stayed at home mostly and spent time reading books, watching a lot of TV, making jigsaw puzzles, and Greg finished his most recent book project.

Linda Raudenbush reported that this is her first time in the US in many many years (maybe 25??).  Anyway, Linda decorated this year (she got a tree from **Jo Ketner Gallagher** who is the expert on decorations, trust me).  And Linda got to enjoy cooler holiday weather, since she is usually in Australia during the middle of their VERY HOT summer.  She will have to spend the 2021 holidays in the US also, Australia is still very restricted in who is admitted to the country.  **Marion Wirth** is hoping that 2021 brings better times and a return to a bit of normalcy!

My former roomie **Karen Haggerty Socha** wrote that she and husband Gerry were temporarily living in the DC area.  Their son and daughter-in-law had to work, not from home, and all three grandchildren are home learning remotely.  So Karen and Gerry stay with them during the day.  Karen said her son Gerard and his wife did get the virus but only had mild symptoms.  Two of her grandsons are graduating from college this spring, and all three grandchildren are graduating from college.  I have to say, Karen's handwriting is as neat as it was in college (mine has deteriorated for sure!).

**Pat Walsh Bader** said they really didn’t have any earth shattering events thus far in the COVID-19 era.  They did get everyone together at a VRBO on Lake Hamilton in Hot Springs, AR.  Pat and Ray took a leisurely drive to Hilton Head Island and spent time with her brother and his wife.  They also have been exploring Arkansas by car with a few light hiking stops.  They babysit granddaughter Adella a couple of times a week.  Pat is waiting for the local Hospice House to allow volunteers again.  Ray occupies his time with recording audio books, commercials, and video games.  He set up a nice little studio upstairs.

**Jodi Youngstrom Henderson** wrote that she got involved in a 12 step food recovery program and has been free of sugar, flour, and wheat for over six months.  Instead of the typical COVID-19 pound weight gain, she lost about that much.  She did replace her eight year old Toyota with a four year old Honda, intending to give the older car to her daughter in Massachusetts whose car had died.  Then the pandemic hit and Jodi was stuck with two cars.  Finally four months later, with no end to COVID-19 in sight, she paid a professional driving service to take the car up to her daughter.  Imagine having three children and no wheels for four months!

Debbie Curley Reid was inspired to declutter also!  During the pandemic, she went through the puzzle phase, read a book a week, watched all seven seasons of *The West Wing*, and ended up decluttering.  Debbie's daughter Brianna (28) gave birth on December 15 to their first grandchild Maverick Charles Minor!  Debbie has a Maverick corner with gates, high chairs, walkers, etc.  Husband John is officially retired but he works in the meat department so is in constant contact with bleach.  Debbie is slowing down with real estate as they will be taking care of Maverick when Brianna is off maternity leave.

**Linda Ciborowski** (Cibby) had a reaction to all the class talk of decluttering--she doesn’t want husband Rich to know it is a possibility!  She reported that since she hasn’t had any guests during the pandemic, her house got to the stage where there was barely room to walk around.  (Cibby, you don’t need to declutter when I come to visit!)  With their move to Connecticut, she has been able to hike or snow shoe in the woods every day so far and it's been a great substitute for house cleaning.  Every so often they climb into ravines that are sort of steep or get stuck on one-way trails with downed trees and have visions of the helicopters coming to rescue the crazy septuagenarians wandering in the woods.  Cibby is always shocked to realize that we are now them!

Bernadette Ackerman Benninger said she also has been in the cleaning mode, but also caught up on a lot of shows.  Bern and husband Pete were seeing the Clarkes (Mary Kay Hughes and husband Jimmy) and Dohertys (Mary Mehl and husband Joe D.) for dinner outside but cold weather came and ended that.  Kay and Bern also walked when we could (Kay moved into the same neighborhood).  Bern reports all is great health wise!

**Mary Morel Ingram** and husband Kevin spent the summer at their new place in Maine!  Morel posted right away eating lobster chowder--looks like they enjoyed their time in New England.

**Gail Fickes Williams** and husband Bob have been hunkered down in New Mexico.  Gail enjoys her pool in the summer.

**Chris Mele** is still working full time, hopes to get to part
time someday. She had cancelled several trips, but went to Aruba in the spring. Chris enjoys fishing, she has done scalloping and has a stake in using a boat on a routine basis in the rivers around Tampa.

Noree Dolphin enjoys hearing from classmates. She talks to Marcia Minton Bollwage weekly just to gossip.

Jo Ketner Gallagher and husband Dick also cancelled several trips over the past year. They started doing a little travelling in the spring, visiting a friend at the shore and going to a time share in Virginia for a week in June. They also drove to Iowa to visit a work friend of Jo's in July. I actually ventured out of Massachusetts for a few days in June, going to work for a day (to meet a new employee I had hired over the phone and catch up with people there I hadn't seen in 18 months). I stayed with Jo for a few days and then went to see my mom in Lancaster. She is in skilled nursing and they finally opened up (and stayed opened after a few quick closings). I got to spend some time with her on her 97th birthday. I will be back down in September for SJC Reunion meetings and to stop in at work again.

The class of '72 Reunion committee and I are working on plans for our celebration. We are planning some “class social time,” a remembrance of our deceased classmates, and organizing the suite (we will have the large suite at the Wyndham, plenty of chairs). I will update the class via e-mail as Reunion gets closer. One thing, if you haven’t contacted me and have an interesting tidbit or story about SJC or a classmate, please contact me with it—I can use all the input I can get for the class talk I will be giving…If you aren’t getting e-mails from me, please send me your e-mail address so I can make sure you are included in class e-mails.

Thank you for your continued support of the association—the class has excelled in paying dues, which allowed us to keep the association going, so we could have our 50th Reunion. Please continue to do so, to make it easier to get to 2025—when we will have a final celebration of SJC. We are still taking donations to our class gift (the scholarship fund at MSM) and hope to have a nice donation to announce at Reunion. If you have questions about Reunion, or the scholarship, please let me know.

Have a great fall, a happy holiday season, and hope to see you at Reunion 2022–March 31–April 3. Please plan to be there, I would love to see all of you.

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Gail Scavangelli was selected as the USA Pickleball's Leader of Officiating for the Eastern Section of the United States. In this role she oversees USA Pickleball referees for one third of the country. She is also a certified referee evaluator for the USA Pickleball and Head Referee for the Pickleball US OPEN held in Naples, FL.

Andi Miller Stewart's family, nuclear and extended, has gotten through the past year in good health and mostly good spirits. They are all fully vaccinated—with the exception of one stubborn individual. Her two grandchildren were lucky enough to go to school all year! They went in person four days a week and had virtual learning each Wednesday. The building got extra cleaning and students and teachers both stayed comfortable with online learning. There were a few instances of quarantine, when a classmate tested positive for COVID-19, but the kids took it in stride. Andi and her husband tolerated the lockdown well, both being retired and introverted. She sewed many masks during the peak of COVID-19. She continues to knit, crochet, and sew for Knit Michigan, a charity group that makes comfort items for cancer patients. They have missed extended family and are planning a trip this fall to see relatives.

Dotita Cartagena volunteers at her Church as an usher at Masses and is also chairperson for the Parish Library Committee. She is still interpreting but has not done many jobs recently due to COVID-19. She also spends time coming to Maryland to visit family and friends and helping with the grandchildren. She imagines many of us probably helped out with parents working from home and kids having virtual school. Daughters Katie and Sara, and son Evan and families visited over July 4th weekend. Her grandkids are 15, almost 11, ten, eight, and six. Dotita is planning a trip to Puerto Rico in
She attended an outdoor beer festival on July 10th that hosted a lot of people—there were at least 200-300 folks there at any one time. That was a huge step for her, and she is actually still biding her time to be sure the vaccine protected her!

Marella wrote about the challenges of this year. In March there was a shooting at her grocery store, a mile from her home, and she knew four of the victims; and one of her friends was in the store at the time but managed to escape. That whole incident was extremely unsettling as she always felt safe at her home in Boulder, CO. Then two months later there was yet another shooting in a suburb not far from Boulder and a police officer, who was her good friend’s neighbor and friend, was deliberately targeted and killed by someone who went out of his way to kill police. That also was an extremely hard-to-deal-with incident. She, however, has some wonderful spiritual practices that help tremendously during such times of stress. Her little group has been meeting online now since the pandemic. It’s also helpful to send the prayers/energy to the outer world, to help keep the balance of the good of the cosmos on the rise, rather than lamenting and dragging the energy down. It is important to remember that each one of our little bits of the universe is small and there are many other situations/places that deserve our attention to unconditionally send light and love.

Marella is also doing yoga and dancing on Zoom or outdoors in a park! Her biggest news is that she finally retired, and that has posed many challenges and lessons. It is definitely a transition! So far, she loves it. She is working to create meaningful schedules and hopes next year to “really” get back to travelling and seeing her family and friends again.

Sue Christman Williams managed to work virtually assisting in educational programs regarding the Maryland General Assembly during the Legislative Session from January to mid-April. She admits that it was quite a learning experience in terms of technology learning to use Google Meet, Zoom, and Microsoft Teams etc. Once the world opened up and all her family were vaccinated, she has been able to spend time in Glen Allen, VA with her oldest son R.J. and his family. John her grandson lives and breathes baseball so she spends many hours watching him play and R.J. coach. Unfortunately her younger son Drew and family are in Texas, and they haven’t quite made that trip yet. Other than that she continues living in paradise on the Chesapeake Bay and gardening. Oh, and really got into watching the birds at the feeders over the winter!

Barbara Pios Werschkul’s eldest son Jason and wife Danielle celebrated the first birthday of their twins Isaac and Lucas in March. They’ve come a long way, as they were born two and a half months early at three lbs. each! She loves being a grandma even if long distance as they moved to Boise, ID in January 2020. She is earning lots of air miles!

Suzan Koch Corwin is still living in New Hampshire. She celebrated her 70th at the beach with all her kids and grandkids! She just retired from hospital case management and has taken a job with the hospital’s Parish nurse program just two mornings a week so perfect retirement job! She is also the wedding coordinator at her Parish Church.

Marella Colyvas is doing well, just struggling to give up fears about re-entering activities and regular daily life. She attended an outdoor beer festival on July 10th that hosted a lot of people—there were at least 200-300 folks there at any one time. That was a huge step for her, and she is actually still biding her time to be sure the vaccine protected her!

Marella wrote about the challenges of this year. In March there was a shooting at her grocery store, a mile from her home, and she knew four of the victims; and one of her friends was in the store at the time but managed to escape. That whole incident was extremely unsettling as she always felt safe at her home in Boulder, CO. Then two months later there was yet another shooting in a suburb not far from Boulder and a police officer, who was her good friend’s neighbor and friend, was deliberately targeted and killed by someone who went out of his way to kill police. That also was an extremely hard-to-deal-with incident. She, however, has some wonderful spiritual practices that help tremendously during such times of stress. Her little group has been meeting online now since the pandemic. It’s also helpful to send the prayers/energy to the outer world, to help keep the balance of the good of the cosmos on the rise, rather than lamenting and dragging the energy down. It is important to remember that each one of our little bits of the universe is small and there are many other situations/places that deserve our attention to unconditionally send light and love.

Maureen Hinke Hahn has been retired for three school years now. She has spent much of that time helping her 93-year old mother sell her house, move into a senior apartment, and then assisted living. She occasionally babysits her grandchildren. Her seventh grandchild (first granddaughter) was born in April 2021, and she’s very much into Paw Patrol, Blippi, Legos, and potty training! Volunteer work with Church is resuming which is nice. Maureen occasionally takes a ride to Emmitsburg to visit the Seton Shrine and Mount Grotto. She says that the Seton Shrine has added a new section to its museum with more of Mother Seton’s personal belongings and is very nice. She likes to do a little personal retreat through the Grotto area…so peaceful there.

Pat McAlarne wrote that surviving is a perfect word for 2020/2021. Late September 2020, a mass was found resulting in surgery. She had the remainder of her left kidney removed (the first partial removal was back in 1982 due to an infection causing stone that would not pass, ouch!) as well as part of her liver and part of her diaphragm. Fortunately there was no cancer found. Pat spent 11 days in the hospital. Recovery was slow but fortunately uneventful for the most part. She lost quite a bit of weight so she became one of Amazon’s best customers! In April 2021, she had a colonoscopy, which resulted in another surgery for a colon resection and the successful removal of some cancer found there (only required three days in the hospital). All seems fine now though she still makes sure not to overdo anything or lift anything heavy! Pat has finally returned to birding, though for quite a bit of time many of the birding “hotspots” were closed due to the pandemic. Pat also
reports that son Patrick completed his PhD in Mathematics at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore in May! They were even able to watch his defense thanks to the wonders of Zoom! They celebrated with him in Vero Beach, FL in June. Patrick took the Auto Train down with friends. They flew in later to join him and enjoyed some time fishing with her brother Matt who lives in Vero and a few walks on the beach!

Toni Doherty Kellison and Steve have resumed their national parks bucket list. By the end of the summer they will have eight more to go. They are having a lot of fun with this project. Toni believes that turning 70 isn’t going to be so bad. She is planning a long spa weekend with her sisters, niece, and daughter. Facials, massages, and lots of laughter will be enjoyed.

Chris Carignan Natali retired in June 2019 after 20 years as a guidance counselor at Commack HS on Long Island, NY. Before leaving many asked her what she planned to do. Spending more time home was at the top of the list, but 2020 wasn’t what she had in mind. They finally got to see their son, his wife, and reports that son Patrick completed his PhD in Mathematics at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore in May! They were even able to watch his defense thanks to the wonders of Zoom! They celebrated with him in Vero Beach, FL in June. Patrick took the Auto Train down with friends. They flew in later to join him and enjoyed some time fishing with her brother Matt who lives in Vero and a few walks on the beach!

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Kathy Kramer Callahan and family are all well and survived the lockdown. Luckily her sons’ families live nearby and were all in the same bubble. Some worked remotely and some were essential personnel. Since schools and preschools were closed and their office was no longer being used (retired) they turned it into a preschool classroom for the three four year olds. The daughters-in-law found a teacher and so they had preschool three days per week there. They will be entering kindergarten in August!

Kathy made lots of masks for family, friends, a local hospital, and a daycare. She found a number of quilt-a-longs and quilting instructions on Facebook Live. Her small quilt group started meeting via Zoom once a month, and her quilt guild went virtual with meetings and classes via Zoom. They had speakers from across the country. Their 2020 quilt show was cancelled and the 2021 show was virtual. Their Dalmatian made sure that Kathy and her husband got out for regular walks. Tim has been working on his N scale model train set up with some help from their sons. And of course there is the vegetable garden that Tim does every year. The tomatoes are in now!

Martina Sabo’s life has become a whirlwind and it’s not just aging as many younger people have noticed it as well. Matthew 24 speaks of this acceleration of time and to some extent that is comforting. Martina lost 70% of her income at the onset of the shutdown. She was grateful to have 30% left as it supplemented her prudent reserve of four months of funds just in case. She had food storage and hygiene products too and must admit that she has developed toilet paper paranoia and seems to want extra on hand. Storing things is a good hedge against inflation as well. Martina took care of a terminally ill friend until her departure to the Ever Cemetery. The kids came and the grandchild and indeed he is Grand. She doesn’t think the house is pulled back together yet.

Candy Long Hubbs and Norm travelled to Rehoboth Beach for two weeks in June. The first week all of their children and grandchildren were there. With 14 in the same house it was pretty loud and crazy. The six grandchildren range from two years to 12 years. That’s where she celebrated her 70th birthday--lots of fun. The second week was just Cathy and Norm so they could recoup. Next month they will spend two weeks exploring the national parks in the west. This was a rescheduled trip from last year. Hopefully the hot temperatures will be cooling a bit. In September they will head to Rehoboth for two weeks. If you didn’t
guess--they love the beach!

**Nicky Young Rachin** officially celebrated her 70th birthday with her brother and sister at the San Antonio Zoo in May. In a few weeks, she leaves to go hiking at Glacier National Park in Montana for a week. Her last trip will be to San Diego in October. Her oldest son Danny, daughter-in-law Brittany, and grandson Harrison are being transferred to England for three years in October. She plans to visit them in April 2022. She started providing four hours a week of respite care to two 90-year-old women. This has given their daughters some relief. This reminds her of her old nursing days without the paperwork. She loves listening to their stories. Last summer, she found two kittens three weeks old. The Humane Society would not take them until they were eight weeks old so she became a foster parent. Harry and Calli are additions to her family. They join their German Shepherd rescue sister Maggy. Arizona is finally getting rain. Nicky lost a 110-foot saguaro cactus at the end of summer because it was too hot and dry. The cactus was only six feet tall when she moved in. She quilts in her spare time, is making a wedding quilt for her niece, and redecorating her backyard.

**Leah Rosenbrock Birch** tried to describe the effects of last year. She was fortunate that her family stayed healthy and even added two grandsons in the process. She was recruited to return to the hospital to help with the Employee Health COVID hotline. She has never left! The health system has 20,000 employees and the call line was for all. Some days, there were over 750 calls. Some folks were more seriously impacted than others. Leah is now mostly case managing some of the “long haulers” back to work. Mike's law practice took a hit and he decided it was time to semi retire. They are still figuring this out. Their children weathered things well, two lost jobs but have found new employment, but health is good and the grandchildren are the highlight of their lives.

**Shirley Berrian Salzbrenner**'s husband Dick passed away on November 16, 2020 from Parkinson's disease.

**Cynthia Parker Sims** was with us only one semester freshman year but would like to be in touch with classmates. She lives in California.

For me, **Christine Wiberley Goglia**, I have been kept busy this past year with a part time job, mostly working as needed and picking my grandson up at school two days per week. Driving Ben has been the best part—we have had wonderful conversations in the car. I also continued to take classes at Renaissance Institute at Notre Dame of Maryland University in Baltimore—all on Zoom. Hopefully in the fall, some of this will be in person. I have been in the studio this summer for ballet and it has been great to see people in person. I also golf weekly in a league from May to September. Some normal has returned.

In June 2021 my daughter-in-law Beth, grandchildren Annabella and Ben, and I along with my brothers, sisters, nieces, and nephews all gathered in Myrtle Beach, SC for a family reunion. It was wonderful to see everyone and finally travel. I have also taken Annabella to Mt. Vernon, VA to visit George Washington's home. More day trips are planned.

A big thank you to all who wrote with news. It is always good to hear from you and stay in touch. Please remember to pay your dues and keep us “All Together” until 2025. Reunion 2022 will be held at the Wyndham in Gettysburg, PA March 31 to April 3, 2022. Our 50th Reunion is scheduled April 13 to 16, 2023. --Chris

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Greetings everyone! What a crazy time 2020 & 2021 has been! I hope this fall finds you all healthy and happy and full of excitement for adventures in the future as we all get vaccinated so that we can end this pandemic as soon as possible!

Sadly, one of our beloved classmates, **Rose Gattuso Clayton** passed away on June 22, 2021. **Mary Ellen Kirchner Pluemer** wrote that "with a sad heart I share with the SJC community the passing of our dear friend..."
Rose Gattuso Clayton. Rose was the “back door” neighbor of Debbie Mitchell Kraponik. They both had two years with us at St. Joe’s, Rose in Home Ec with Mary Ellen! Rose was a member of a close group of SJC friends for 48 years. Rose fought a strong, positive fight against ALS, commonly known as Lou Gehrig’s disease. Debbie, Barb Callan Bogia, and Mary Ellen travelled to Texas on July 1, 2021 and represented their small group of friends in a celebration of life. Rose was living in Texas with her son Russ and his wife, her grandkids, and her 101 year-old mother. Mary Ellen expressed that the ladies discovered and were comforted by the warmth and love that surrounded her there. Rose lived a free-spirited positive life until ALS stripped her of speech and mobility—but never her spirit! Rose had made quite a name for herself over the years in the floral industry. Her professional name was Rosie Flowers. She was surrounded at her funeral with 34 fabulous bouquets as her son encouraged people to send flowers. Barb, Debbie, and Mary Ellen were touched and thrilled to be able to attend. The day they returned, they got word that Rose’s mom passed peacefully at home, so they are both together again. Mary Ellen imagines Rose up in Heaven arranging flowers even as God says, “But I like those just the way they are.” We will always keep Rose and her beautiful smile in our hearts.

Donna McCarthy Feld moved to Virginia in 2020 to care for her two grandchildren—an 11 month old and a two and a half year old—during the pandemic! Donna loves every exhausting minute! She says that she will travel to Cape May in September to spend some time with “Irish” Eileen McAlarnen. They are also in the midst of planning a trip to Scotland together in the near future.

Francine Loreto Redman is still working part time as a Family Nurse Practitioner which she says was a blessing during the past year. Her seventh grandchild, “I guess he would be considered a COVID-19 baby,” was born in March 2021. Francine met Jean Connors Muhler at the Grotto in Emmitsburg on June 22 after two years. What a great place to meet a friend, and timely since the gold-leaved statue of Our Lady of Lourdes at the Grotto was temporarily removed to be refurbished in July 2021. There are some great pictures on the Mount St. Mary’s University Facebook page. They plan to return the statue to its home by fall 2021.

Rosie Fama Waugh shares that her seventh grandchild arrived in Brazil during the pandemic, which delayed Rosie’s ability to meet her until she was one year old! Like everyone, Rosie has missed family and normal life but is easing back into it now. Rosie retired from teaching after more than 30 years after working 17 years at her current school. During the last few years she was working part time at implementing Mindfulness school wide. Rosie coauthored a book on the topic Mindful School, Mindful Community, which is now being sold online on Amazon and Barnes and Noble. “I am now a St. Joe’s graduate who is a published author!” Maureen Sommar Milde visits Rosie in Ocean City, MD often, and she will be connecting with Becky Rutherford Dacey soon to catch up on good book titles to read. Becky and Rosie will also participate again this year in the Marine Corps Marathon 10K which will be held in October.

Patti Touhey Bargnes retired in September 2019 and moved from Michigan to live full time in Falmouth, MA, which is on Cape Cod. Patti loved spending her COVID-19 days with close proximity to bike paths, beaches, boating, and lots of outdoor dining. Patti exclaimed that the “Happiest day of this year was getting Pfizer vaccine in March!” Patti’s sister and a couple of high school friends also live in Falmouth so they are able to get together often. Patti and husband Oscar now have four grandchildren, including two grandsons, and finally after raising four wonderful sons they now have two beautiful granddaughters and they all love Cape Cod! Patti and Oscar enjoy escaping from the frigid Northeast every February for a month in Hawaii. She looks forward to seeing the Joe’s girls at Reunion in 2022!

Eileen Cassidy Hartman was in Edinburgh, Scotland for several months in 2021. When Eileen’s daughter Kristin gave birth to her four pound premature baby at 32 weeks, Eileen flew over straightaway to help. Following the rules of mandatory quarantine for 10 days, including two negative COVID-19 tests, she expressed that grandson Teddy was only in neonatal for two weeks with no problems at all, just so incredibly small! By July 2021, being fed breast milk, he was four months old and weighed over ten pounds. Thank you Lord!

Paula Kozloski Swetley wrote to say that the Swetley family is doing just great. From the beginning of the pandemic, Paula and husband Mark have had the wonderful privilege of watching their 20 month old granddaughter Anna while their daughter and her husband work. “We feel so blessed to have seen her reach so many milestones right in front of our eyes and are looking forward to more.” In May and again in July they had the opportunity to reunite with their other daughter and her family from Florida. Many phone calls and FaceTimes helped get them through 18 long months, but how great it was to be with them again.
Their grandson Jack is 11 years now is almost Paula’s height! Both daughters and their families also enjoyed several days together as a whole family! Paula looks forward to Reunion and celebrating with our fellow classmates! Paula reminds us all to “Remember…Joe’s is love!”

Kathy Oliver Kadilak reports that as so many of us did during the pandemic, she and husband Steve "hunkered down" and found new ways to pass the time and fill the void of little or no social interaction. They played chess; watched lectures on the national parks and medieval society; exercised with walks, hikes, and bike rides; watched YouTube videos; and spent LOTS of time on Zoom with family and friends. Kathy also continued her political activism while dealing with the challenge of virtual meetings and the inability to canvass and do other tasks typically carried out in person. She is happy to say that all went pretty smoothly, but “our work is far from done.” She is chairing a local “letter to the editor” group and is involved with writing postcards to get out the vote, etc. Kathy and Steve were fully vaccinated in March and have been taking a few short trips to visit family and friends. One of their first visits was with Kathy’s younger daughter Christine who they hadn’t seen in more than a year. “Did I cry? Absolutely!” The final “reunion” trip will be in August as they visit a dear friend (who lost her husband of 35 years to COVID-19 right before Christmas) in Tennessee and to see some family in Georgia. Although it’s been a challenging year, they are so grateful for their lives and the well-being of so many of the people they love. Kathy hopes that all of you have made it through without loss and are enjoying a semblance of normality. “Can’t wait for the next in-person reunion!”

Kathy Kerns “Kernsie” Raubens, Jamie Lowe Huber, Jane Davis Gallagher, Barb Wurster Reiprish, and Trudie Mangiaracina Glazewski have been having weekly Zoom calls since April 2020 and love seeing each other and catching up on activities! Jamie and “Kernsie” were able to see each other in person in Delaware in June 2021 and reported lots of laughing and fun! They are all trying to plan on getting together in person soon!

“Kernsie” and husband Harry live in Rhode Island and have been preparing to get their boat into the water so they can enjoy some lazy summer days! Jane and husband Jim are in the midst of building a new home that they will hopefully move into this fall. Jamie is a super busy grandmom and attends a multitude of sports games whenever her grandchildren play as well as providing babysitting services, while redecorating her house and working in her garden.

As for me, Trudie Mangiaracina Glazewski, I am living the dream as I enjoy my first year of retirement from teaching my wonderful students with multiple disabilities. I truly miss the students and my friends there, but not the early hours or paperwork! I have been filling my days with plenty of activities including walking, watercolor painting, playing guitar, outdoor photography, and dreaming up travel arrangements! Life is good and the possibilities are endless!

SAVE THE DATE!! Our next Reunion is March 31–April 3, 2022--our 48th Reunion!! Wishing you all health and happiness as our world is opening up again.

SJCAA’S SCHOLARS ANNOUNCED FOR 2020-2021 continued from page 7

been on the Dean’s list every semester from the fall of 2018 until now. She recently received the Reverend James T. Delaney Award and is a member of the National Society of Leadership as well as Alpha Phi Sigma and Delta Epsilon Sigma.

Angela Vodola is a junior studying Elementary Education and Special Education. Angela lives in Sandy Hook, CT and attended Immaculate High School. She plans to apply for fellowships for her first year after graduation and hopes to become an elementary or special education teacher while attending graduate school. Since 2019, Angela has been a work study receptionist at the Center for Student Involvement and Belonging at the Mount. She received the Monsignor Hugh J. Phillips Prize and the Edmund Ryan Memorial Prize and has been on the President’s list since her first semester at the Mount.

For more information about the SJCAA scholarship program at MSMU, please contact Kimberly Herche in the Alumnae Office at office@sjcaa.org or 301.447.5075.
IN Memoriam

Alumnae Deaths

1948  Mary Agnes Jennings  December 13, 1919
1949  Mary B. Witmer Walsh  July 25, 2021
1951  Catherine Wittmer Dyer  January 18, 2021
1952  Kathleen Clifford Mulcahy  December 16, 2020
Mary Elizabeth (Betty) Scanlan Wellner  May 2, 2021
1953  Kathleen Nelson Kelly  May 8, 2019
Mary Louise Prehn Joyce-McDonough  April 23, 2021
1955  Ileana Soler Torruela  November 3, 2020
1956  Mary Elizabeth Lloyd Metzger  March 21, 2018
Carol Maher Beckman  October 7, 2020
Barbara Rosensteel Arnold  March 19, 2021
1957  Elizabeth (Betty) M. Kirwan Callery  January 16, 2021
1958  June Shillen Melder  March 26, 2019
1961  Elaine Zome Patzwell  May 21, 2021
1962  Ann Meanerhan Seargeant  January 18, 2021
1963  Mary Schwartz Flanagan  September 2018
Mary Colombrita Capece  March 18, 2021
Marjorie Roberts Tautkus  March 27, 2021
1964  Catherine (Chrystie) Damico Goles  April 20, 2021
1967  Jane McCullough Sneed  September 13, 2016
1969  Patsy Garrity Prunkl  June 3, 2021
1970  Corinne (Coni) Dugas  February 10, 2021
1972  Jan Flanagan  June 4, 2021
1974  Rose Gattuso Clayton  June 22, 2021

Family Deaths

Charles J. Devic, husband of Peggy Bartol Devic ’51 – November 30, 2019
John A. Kirchner, brother of Claire Lawless ’54 – April 4, 2021
Helene Methot Araujo, sister of Marthe-Marie (Martie) Methot Meadows ’55 – June 2, 2021
John Dooling, husband of Ann Dodd Dooling ’59 – May 19, 2020
John F. Bailey, Sr. MSM ’59, husband of the late Marion Fries Bailey ’60 – December 4, 2020
Charles (Chuck) Stockman, husband of Mary Kable Stockman ’61 – February 21, 2021
David Codey Durkin, son of Joan Codey Durkin ’63 – July 27, 2021
Teresa Diaz, sister of Rosa Diaz Schmid ’67 – July 2020
Sean Michael Casey, son of Joan Dennery Casey ’69 – February 27, 2021
Wilda Lee Karnes, mother of Toni Doherty Kellison ’73 – March 5, 2021
Dick Salzbrenner, husband of Shirley Berrian Salzbrenner ’73 – November 16, 2020
One of Chrystie Damico Goles’ sons wrote that St. Joseph College (SJC) was part of Chrystie’s DNA. That was perfectly evident, considering the many roles she filled for the St. Joseph College Alumnae Association (SJCAA). She served as President from 1999-2001, chaired the 100th Anniversary Reunion in 1997, served on the Board of Trustees for numerous terms, and chaired the Baltimore Club for many years. She instituted the annual Mass and Luncheon on St. Joseph’s Feast Day for the Baltimore Club. Chrystie served as Class Agent from 1989-2020 and gave 31 years to keeping the Class of ’64 “All Together.” She took great joy in co-chairing the class’s 50th Reunion in 2014.

In 2019, Chrystie received the SJCAA Legacy Award, honoring SJC alumnae who have made significant contributions to the association. In addition to specifying the many roles she accepted in serving the SJCAA, the citation also commented on the manner in which she served. “Whatever task Chrystie took on, she did with quiet competence. No matter the complication, she found ways to resolve it. Focused on the objective, she encouraged others to participate or assist with no concern given to receiving credit.”

At SJC, Chrystie majored in Home Economics, met and married Pat Goles, MSM ’64, and welcomed four sons. While Chrystie was devoted to SJC, her greatest love was her family. She once reflected in a journal, “My most treasured possession is my family. These people are my life and I love to make them smile, be happy, and do things for them. Nothing gives me more pleasure! I am happiest when my family is happy.” Another love was the beach. She and Pat had the good fortune to have a summer home for many years in Ocean City, MD and, more recently, at Bethany Beach, DE. There she would delight in having the grandchildren gather and share beach activities with them.

Chrystie’s definition of family was not restricted to those to whom she was related; it was extended to all who crossed her path. She certainly considered the Class of ’64 family as well as all other SJCienues. In a tribute to Chrystie in the program for her memorial service, her dear friend Germaine Hughes wrote: “She was the energy behind many social gatherings for the sheer joy of being together with the people she loved. Her life extended beyond her precious family. She left a legacy of knowing how to reach out to others with neither need nor want of recognition; only the personal joy of giving.”

Through the years Chrystie also dealt with numerous health issues and never used them, regardless of their severity, as an excuse to not serve or take on an assignment. In fact, unless you asked her, her health was not a topic she was eager to discuss. Chrystie would simply report that all was going well, even when it wasn’t. Again, Germaine Hughes shares her insight: “Having undergone eleven major surgeries over the years, all needing long recuperations, she lived without fear in the face of suffering, without making her anything but gracious.”

Chrystie was born in Jersey City, NJ on June 12, 1942 to Jack and Agatha Damico. Her family later moved to Fair Haven, NJ where she spent her formative years. She was the oldest child, preceding her three brothers. She graduated from Rumson Fair Haven Regional High School in Rumson, NJ. Outside the home, Chrystie held various positions: Telephone Operator, Home Economics Teacher, John Carroll High School (Bel Air, MD) Bookstore Manager, Realtor, and Volunteer. In addition to her service to the SJCAA and her Class, Chrystie also served on the St. Joseph Hospital Auxiliary Board (Baltimore) and volunteered with Pat at CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) of Harford County, MD.

During the past year, Alzheimer Disease took much from her, but not the SJC DNA. Her family reported that she could still sing all the words to the alma mater, All Together.

Chrystie is survived by her husband Patrick; sons: Chris; John and his partner Gabrielle; Michael and his partner Brian; and Greg; her grandchildren: Nick, Alexandra, Sonee, Lila, Magdalena, and Luca; her brothers: Jack; Greg; and Don and their families.

Chrystie donated her body to science. A memorial service was held on June 19, 2021. For those wishing to do so, the family suggests donations in Chrystie’s memory to CASA of Harford County, 101 South Main St., Suite 303, Bel Air, MD 21014 or Alzheimer’s Foundation of America, 322 Eighth Ave. 16th Floor, New York, N.Y. 10001.
The Reunion Committee is back at work planning a great weekend. We invite you to come back to the Valley to be “All Together” once again! Help us celebrate with the classes ending in 0, 1, 2, 5, 6, and 7. Classes of ’70 and ’71 will be celebrating their 50th a little late but still with much enthusiasm. Remember that our Reunions are not just for Milestone Classes they are for all alumnae! Contact your friends and classmates now to meet you at Reunion 2022.

Here's the schedule.

THURSDAY, MARCH 31, 2022
Return - Register at the beautiful Gettysburg Wyndham Hotel. Check in at the Reunion Registration desk, attend a welcome wine social, and then meet friends and classmates for dinner. A list of area restaurants will be available at the Registration desk.

FRIDAY, APRIL 1, 2022
Reconnect - Visit SJC’s campus for a boxed lunch in the Pines followed by an informal guided tour of our old campus. A self-guided Heritage Tour: St. Joseph’s Valley and St. Mary’s Mountain is available at the Registration desk for those who desire a more comprehensive walk down memory lane.

Rewind - Join classmates at a Friday evening class dinner prepared specially for each Milestone Class. During the past Reunions at the Wyndham, groups large and small have held Friday evening class dinners there with great success. Class agents please contact Reunion Co-Chairs Christine Roos Mehl ’70 or Leslie Henze Blackstock ’70 to arrange a private dinner.

SATURDAY APRIL 2, 2022
Recharge - Your day begins with a Buffet Breakfast including the Annual Meeting. Even if you decide not to participate in the Breakfast you are still invited to attend the Annual Meeting. All are encouraged to attend, learn about new opportunities, and share ideas for the future.

A highlight of the weekend is the Alumnae Memorial Mass at the Basilica of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton at 4:30 p.m. Milestone Classes participate in a rose procession and ceremony honoring our college, Mother Seton, and our deceased alumnae.

Remember - Return to the Wyndham for a social hour, then go on to our Banquet and listen to memories of our Golden Jubilarians. Photos of Milestone Classes and all honorees will be taken following the Banquet.

SUNDAY APRIL 3, 2022
Our final event is a Continental Breakfast, before bidding farewell to friends and classmates.

Other Weekend Opportunities
Visit Gettysburg’s great shops and outlets, the Emmitsburg Antique Mall, or play a round of golf. Relax at the hotel pool and exercise room. “Remember when” at the Wyndham as you view yearbooks and class memorabilia.

Remember–Reunion weekend is the time to relax and reconnect!! We look forward to seeing you March 31–April 3, 2022 at the Wyndham Hotel in Gettysburg, PA.