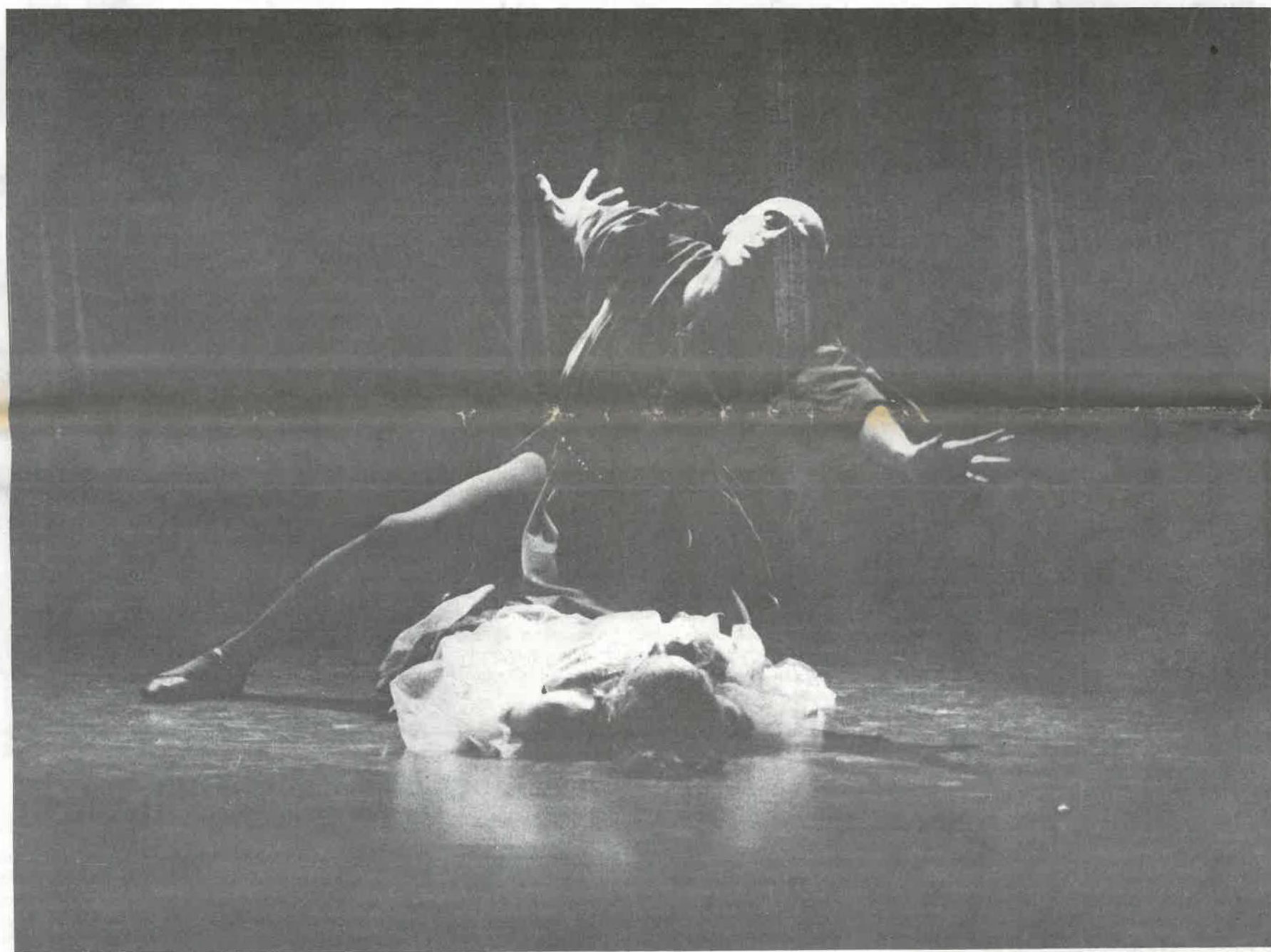


# Quadri1le

December, 1984  
Volume 17, Number 2

For Alumni & Friends of Bennington College



Daniel Lewis

Jose Limon Dance Company  
and the College  
Choreograph a Partnership p.3

Parents' Day Best Yet  
in Quantity and Quality p.6



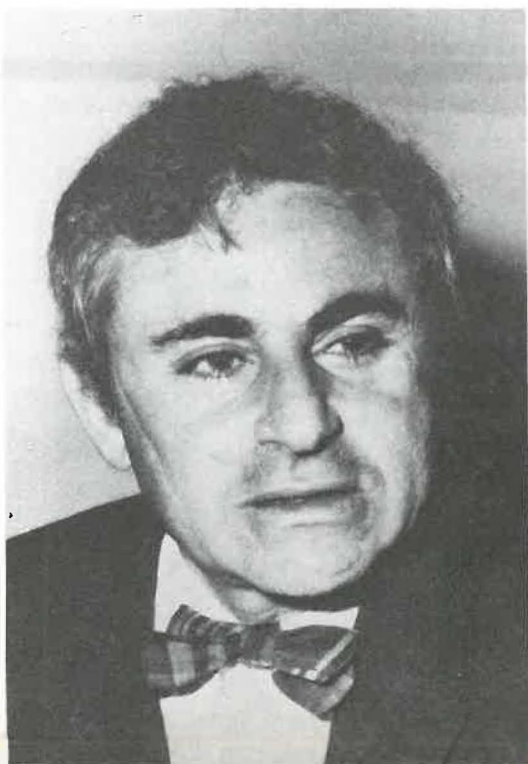


# update

## Delbanco Resigns for Michigan Writing Post

Nicholas Delbanco, novelist and faculty member since 1966, will be leaving the College effective August 31 to become director of the Program in Creative Writing at the University of Michigan. At Bennington he has directed the MFA in prose and poetry program and the prestigious Summer Writing Workshops in addition to teaching.

## Adam Yarmolinsky Elected Trustee



Adam Yarmolinsky, new trustee

Trustees at their October meeting elected Washington lawyer Adam Yarmolinsky to the board. They also confirmed the prior nominations of Marianne Byk Schnell '50 of New York and Berte Schindelheim Hirschfield '60 of Los Angeles. These additions bring current membership on Bennington's board to 28.

In the 30 years between his Yale law degree and present practice, Yarmolinsky has led parallel careers as government official, professor, consultant, editor and writer, and father of four.

Yarmolinsky is perhaps best known at large for his government work, which began with a part in the Kennedy presidential campaign. Through the 1960s he was successively Special Assistant to the Secretary of Defense, Deputy Director of the President's Anti-Poverty Task Force, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security Affairs, and chief of the U.S. Emergency Relief Mission to the Dominican Republic. More recently, 1977-79, he was the U.S. Arms Control & Disarmament Agency's counselor.

In 1966 Yarmolinsky returned to Harvard, where he took his undergraduate degree in 1943, as a professor of law and a member of the Institute of Politics of the Kennedy School of Government. He subsequently held the Ralph Waldo Emerson University Professorship. Earlier years found him as secretary of the Fund for the Republic and public affairs editor of Doubleday & Co. The first of several books was *Recognition of Excellence*, 1960; *Race and Schooling in the City* was published in 1981 under his editorship.

Obviously not lacking for demands on his time, the new trustee was asked what induced him to take on an additional task for Bennington. "Three reasons, I'd say. I've always thought of Bennington as a bright star in the firmament of liberal arts education, and I'm highly impressed with Michael Hooker; he's the kind who'll succeed at whatever he puts his hand to. And then, I've never been a college trustee before."

Throughout his years at Bennington, articles and short stories by Delbanco appeared frequently in periodicals from *Antaeus* and *The Atlantic* to *TV Guide*. His 12 novels include *Possession* (1977), *Sherbrookes* (1978) and *Stillness* (1980). He published *About My Table & Other Stories* in 1984 and two years previously *Group Portrait: Conrad, Crane, James & Wells*, his first non-fictional book.

Delbanco will direct the MFA program and Writing Workshops through this summer, after which they will be continued under a new director or directors yet to be chosen.

## Vt. Board Meets on Campus

The state board of education held its November meeting at the Commons. While their agenda was state-wide matters, they used the visit for discussions with local school board members and a campus tour.

President Hooker's greeting to the board confirmed Bennington's intention to be an active contributor to Vermont's educational endeavors. He cited the gifted children program begun last year on campus, and put such efforts into the larger context of John Dewey's precepts and Bennington's heritage.

Dewey, a Vermonter by adoption, stresses learning in and for the real world. Bennington, Hooker noted, was indebted to Vermonters as founders, "and was the first college to implement learning by doing and to integrate the arts — a tradition on which we continue to build and which can serve the mutual interests" represented by the board's visit to the college.

## Letters, Opinions urged

Letters to the editor are welcome. Criticism of *Quadrille*, pro and con, will help guide the handling of future content. Opinions on broader subjects will help assess areas of reader interest and may be published as space permits and syntax warrants.

In particular, we encourage you to write a brief (300-500 words), cogent statement on one side of an issue on which you feel strongly and which you believe is germane for *Quadrille's* readership. But — you must also enlist another reader to write on the other side of the issue with equal thoughtfulness and fervor. Just how we will handle a deluge of partisan prose remains to be seen, but the editors are game if you are.

## Investment Tip: A Liberal Arts Education

### Gordon McLendon Endorsed Grammar, Literature and the Pleasure of Learning

A remarkable man spent two days on the campus in November. Gordon McLendon of Dallas, Texas, observed Bennington with the easy style and concentration that has brought him success in broadcasting, investments (communications, entertainment, real estate, metals), writing and art collecting. While diffident about the results achieved, he was emphatic in crediting an early and continuous enthusiasm for learning as a factor in his career.

McLendon gave two talks in the course of auditing classes, attending a rehearsal and sitting for a video interview. His comments during a "Political Priorities & Economic Policies" session recalled one of his few misses, which was running for the U.S. Senate in 1964. As that venture included eluding a mental case whose intent was to curtail the candidate's career with a pistol, McLendon allowed the experience was not without its advantage.

However, it was in talking with a video communications class that McLendon waxed full on the satisfactions and advantages of liberal arts learning and of the perspective it assures. Sports broadcasting, where he first made his name, was a recurring example. The knowledge and wide

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*Quadrille* is published bimonthly for friends and alumni of Bennington College. Michael Hooker, President.

Interim Editor: Charles Yoder, Director of Information. Student Editor: Robert Gary Miller. Contributors to this issue: Erika Bundt, Eileen Elliott, Marie Parker, Thomas P. Brockway, Florence Burgraf, Katherine Kellogg, Alice Smith.

Cover photos: The late Jose Limon in "The Moor's Pavane" and student photographer Erika Bundt's appreciation of Parents' Day.

Type set by Renaissance Graphic Design, Hoosick Falls, New York; printed by Miller Newspapers. Mailed from Pittsfield, Massachusetts.

Send address changes to Bennington College, Bennington, Vermont 05201.

interests fostered by the liberal arts add "a richness to vocabulary" that makes communication more effective; they foster an attitude in communicating that sets a Vin Scully, cited by McLendon as a top practitioner, apart from a Howard Cosell, scored for "talking down to his audience."

In response, a student from California volunteered that his interest was in video but he was pursuing it at Bennington because of liberal arts, and "you've reinforced my decision." "Thank you," McLendon said, "for reinforcing my premise."

McLendon in an aside claimed that he "was really a poker major" as an undergraduate at Yale. Officially he's credited with a major in Oriental languages and a minor in Greek history. He used the first in translating as a Navy officer in World War II and the second as a collector of Greek coins, among other fields of art and history.

McLendon's visit to Bennington was arranged by his friends Peggy and Jay Schatz, Chicago Associates and parents of Lincoln, '86. Their expectation was for a mutual stimulation between the college and a notable authority on economics and communications who shares Bennington's commitment to the liberal arts. It was an expectation apparently fulfilled for all parties.



"... a natural affinity"

## LIMON DANCE COMPANY TO BE CAMPUS SUMMER RESIDENT

The Jose Limon Summer Dance Program at Bennington College starts this July, four weeks of classes followed by a residency for repertory preparation. The aim is a relationship with long-term potential for a world-renowned modern dance company and for a college with a 50-year tradition of creative dance.

Bennington trustees and the board of the Jose Limon Dance Foundation in November announced the affiliation jointly at an open house in the company's New York studios.

Bennington's part will be faculty participation and assistance with management, fund raising and promotion. The immediate gain anticipated is increased visibility for the Dance Division and the attraction of dance students for the college. Principal funding will be from enrollments. Planned registration is some 80 dance students, dance teachers and professional dancers. Ronald Dabney '77, dancer and experienced manager in arts education, will join the college in January as administrative director of the program.

Educational director will be Daniel Lewis, a faculty member of the Juilliard School since 1967 and former assistant to Jose Limon who has taught the Limon technique internationally. Lewis will head a month-long series of classes in technique, composition and repertory. Workshops, guest lectures and films will augment the daily classes. A concluding festival week of performances will draw together the work of the dance company, students of composition and the repertory classes.

In addition to Lewis, the faculty will include such luminaries as Jean Cebron, assistant director of the Folkwang Tanz School, Essen, West Germany; Lucas Hoving, choreographer and former director of the Rotterdam Dance Academy; and Barbara Roan of the Bennington Dance Division. Guest lectures are planned by Ernestine Stodelle, Hanya Holm, and Martha Hill, head of Juilliard's dance program and an original participant in the Bennington School of Dance under Martha Graham.

The Jose Limon Dance Company will join the students in residence for the last two weeks of the instruction period. They will remain through August to work on repertory for the season's tours.

Calling Bennington "a crucible for American modern dance in the 1930s and a powerful resource for a renewed commitment to dance in the 1980s," Limon Foundation general manager Frank Barth said the residency and a continuing relationship with Bennington are further means for Limon to capitalize on "the pool of resources that is the core of the company's artistic future." He was referring

to the work of Cebron, Carla Maxwell, Carlos Orta, Clyde Morgan and others of international reputation who are associated with the company as teachers and choreographers.

President Michael Hooker, attending the announcement party with faculty members and trustees, endorsed the residency for the college as having "a natural affinity with Bennington's academic programs. The concept supports our aim to be abreast of experimentation and, most importantly, it will help our contributions and tradition in modern dance."

"We are enthused about the Limon program," Hooker said. "What we are undertaking together can have an effect on innovation and the quality of dance across the country."



At the New York announcement party Martha Hill of Juilliard shares her enthusiasm for "the revitalized spark of dance at Bennington" with Michael Hooker and Daniel Lewis, educational director of the summer program.

## Uncle does it again —

New government requirements for certain types of gifts to the College go into effect next year.

Vice President for Development Ted Milek, used to working with one eye on Bennington's fund-raising efforts and the other on IRS procedures, reports the latest change in the following tax alert:

Donations of property in excess of \$5,000 will be subject to new written appraisal requirements effective January 1, 1985.

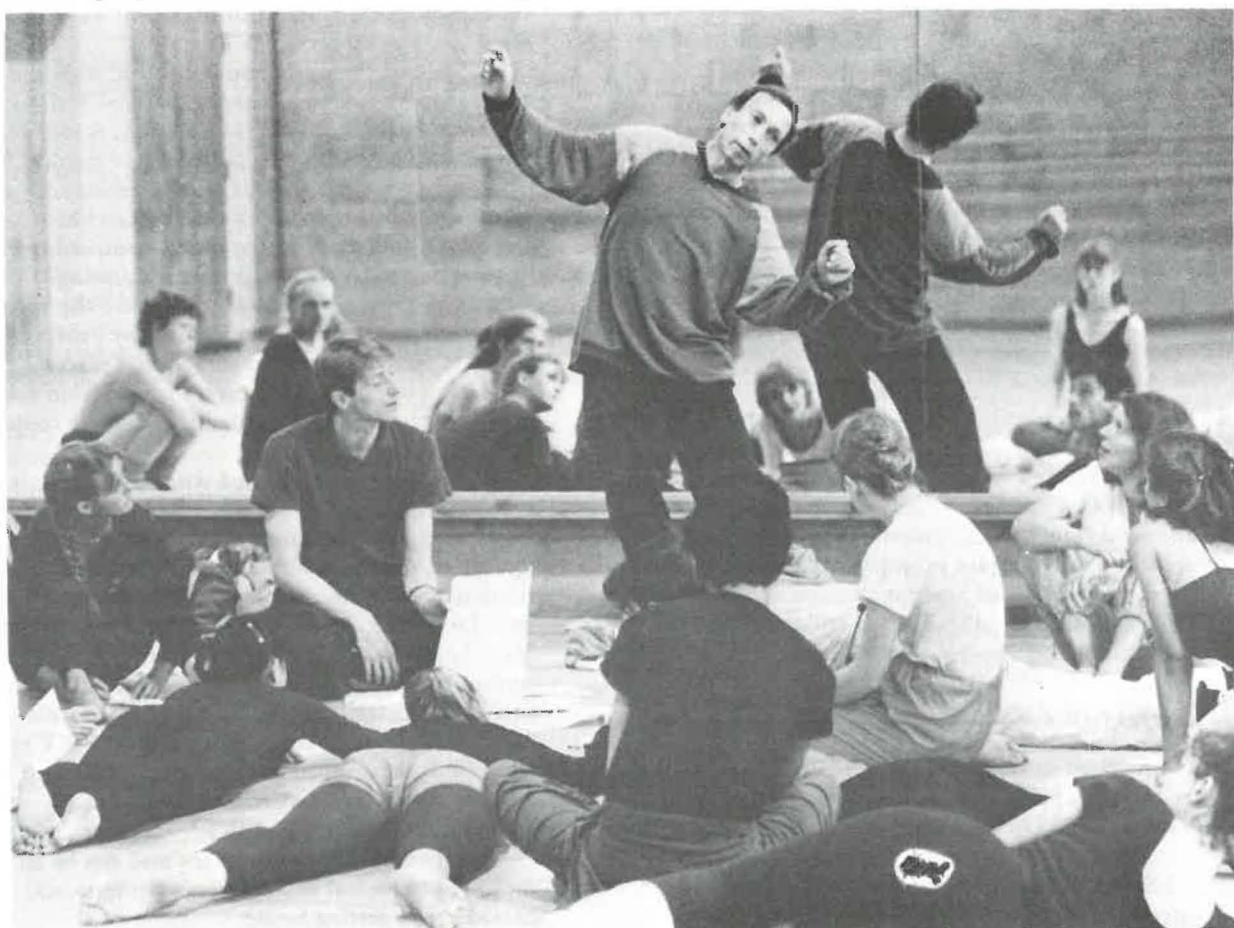
This new Internal Revenue Service rule applies to virtually all types of property, such as works of art, real estate, equipment and stock in closely held corporations. *The exception is publicly traded securities.* In order to comply with this provision in the Tax Reform Act, donors must obtain and retain a qualified appraisal of the property contributed and attach an appraisal summary to the tax return on which the deduction is claimed.

## ... And a Resonant Electronic Vibe

*"Most of education — particularly higher education — lives the delusion that the methodology of the Industrial Age will serve the Electronic Age ... most colleges and universities continue to turn out factory-oriented specialists who will not be able to adapt to the needs of the electric cottage unless they prove uniquely adaptable, confident, highly motivated, creative self-starters who probably belonged in the 'no-grade' colleges to begin with."*

*In his recent letter published in Newsday, Andrew Boracci, special consultant to Friends World College, Huntington, L.I. goes on to say: "Fortunately for humanity, these 'no-grade' colleges, often suspected in the past to be breeze-through country clubs, have ironed out the experimental wrinkles of their methodology and already are turning out creative people possessing the ability to adapt to new technologies as well as to create innovative applications for them for the betterment of mankind."*

*"Graduates from Hampshire College, Sarah Lawrence, St. John's, Antioch, Bennington, Evergreen and Reed College are very much in demand among the top graduate schools nationally, as well as within the emerging electronic cottage industries. These students know how to adjust, to adapt, to innovate. They are not anchored to a specific task, nor to a time structure."*



The Jose Limon Company in a teaching session under Jean Cebron.



The Brick House, housing the Getty Project for the Art and Architecture Thesaurus, in North Bennington was the setting of a lunch for trustees and the former trustees who had met to form the Bennington Council. Non-alumni among them were Frederick Burkhardt, John McCullough and Robert Morrison, M.D.

## Former Trustees Establish Bennington Council

Before some of the current trustees were stirring on the morning of their October meeting, a group of 20 of their predecessors had assembled and, without the benediction of a vote, established the Bennington Council.

Presiding "more or less," in her phrase, was Merrell Hambleton '43, a former chairman of the board. She led brisk deliberations that decided the council would have no officers and no regular meetings. It will, however, have a serious purpose: drawing on the knowledge, experience and enthusiasm of former trustees "to aid, abet, enhance and support Bennington College."

Preliminary ideas ranged as widely as the span of classes represented (Fletcher Wardwell Gaylord '36 to Frances Edwards '80). These included helping to identify and contact prospective board members and keeping former trustees involved; serving on ad hoc committees requiring particular expertise; and helping at large with the work of admissions, alumni relations, development, Winter Field Term and public relations.

Organization of the council was welcomed by board chairman John Williams as a "skilled and active resource with the dual advantage of continuity and new ideas." Between annual meetings, work of the Bennington Council will be coordinated by Rebecca B. Stickney '43 as special assistant to the president.



# Alumni Association News & Notes

The goals for the Bennington College Alumni Association this year include activating new regions and establishing national committees for Admissions and Field Work Term. In the past three months the Council has generated an increased rate of alumni participation and attained a higher level of leadership.

In addition to the six executive Council members listed below, Hudas Schwartz Liff '47, President, has appointed Ruth Davis Green '43 as National Alumni Admissions Chair and Jeannie Cross '72 as National Field Work Term (formerly NRT) Chair.

Ruth Davis Green is in the process of contacting alumni in cities throughout the country to identify regional coordinators who will help by attending college fairs, college nights and assisting with off-campus interviewing.

Jeannie Cross is developing a questionnaire for students to fill out in the spring on job, housing and location preferences for the next FWT in an effort to match the needs of students more closely and make specific requests of alumni.

*Continued on p. 10*

## Alumni Fund Gearing Up for Gains

Hailing the class agent as "the key to full participation," Jane Vanderploeg Deckoff '59, Chair of The Alumni Fund, reports agents are in place for almost all classes and "anxious to see their classes come through this year with more dollars and more donors."

Jane stresses the agents' role in building participation "because one person's zeal can act like spontaneous combustion, especially after a year or two on the job, which is where we've had such luck in recent years." Over the past two years the participation rate has risen from 26 percent to a high of 32 percent during the last fund year — a gain of some 350 donors.

The Alumni Fund comprises that portion of the Annual Fund which is given by alumni. In addition to the dollar goal, this year has the objective of increasing the alumni participation rate (percentage of donors compared with total alumni) from 32 percent to 35 percent. This will require 180 new donors.

"I'm sure I'm speaking for all class agents," Deckoff says, "in asking all alumni to consider a gift to Bennington this year. The participation rate is scrutinized by foundations and corporations considering grants to Bennington, which means each of our own gifts can be a multiplier. To be comparable with other schools of Bennington's caliber we should have a participation rate in the high 30s or low 40s.

"To all those who have helped us in the past, Thanks! But each individual's support is important. It would be marvelous to count among our donors the many others who have not supported Bennington in the past.

"Please give your class agent a good hearing and consider the Alumni Fund this year."

## An Appeal for FWT Housing

Our students have jobs; now they need housing, especially in New York, Boston, Washington D.C., San Francisco and Los Angeles. If you have extra room and would like to house a Bennington student for two months, please promptly contact Holly Marshall, Director of Student Placement (tel. 802/442-5401 ext. 345). There's still time for a call to do some good.

## Corrections

As promised in October's *Checks & Balances*, we are taking "appropriate action" respecting errors: Marilyn Lord Dux '48 was inadvertently omitted

and Sarah Winston Robinson '47 should have been listed as well.

Tyler Resch



Heather Thayer '85

Erika Bundt



Edward Fox '85

## Class of '44 Funds Two Scholarships

June, 1984 marked the 40th Reunion for the Class of '44 at Bennington. In honor of this special occasion class agent Adelaide Rubin Perloff urged members of the class to celebrate by creating a special scholarship program for students funded by class gifts to the Annual Fund. Special thanks go to Janet Frey Harte, Anne Lyon Klopman, Patricia Newman Nanon and Adelaide Rubin Perloff for Associate gifts of \$1,000 or more, and to all members of the Class of '44, whose gifts to the Annual Fund last year totalled almost \$13,000 and made the scholarships possible.

Recipients of the scholarship awards are seniors Heather Brown Thayer and Edward Mickle Fox.

## Regional Events

Notes from the West Coast:  
Margaret "Peg" Stein Frankel '41  
VP Alumni Association

Annual Meeting, Bennington College Alumni Association of Northern California  
No doubt about it, Carol Channing '42 stole the show at Northern California's annual meeting September 25. Following President Michael Hooker's presentation to Carol of a plaque honoring her for having pursued "the longest NRT in Bennington's history," Carol gave a 20-minute nonstop performance, warm and witty in her inimitable style!

## NRT/FWT: Let's Talk Terms

Alumni, parents and friends contacted by the Student Placement Office this winter should be primed for a double take. The NRT has been renamed: Bennington's Non-Resident Term is now the Field Work Term (FWT).

Before traditionalists rise in protest, they should recall that Article 13 of the Educational Plan for Bennington College (1929) called for "A long winter recess giving both students and faculty opportunity for travel, field work, and the educational advantages of metropolitan life" (emphasis added). Not that strict constructionists of the Educational Plan have been agitating. Rather, the name was changed to make the winter work term more readily understood by prospective students and employers in an age that places increasing importance on career preparation and practical experience. The founders deserve credit for foresight.

NRT's rebaptism, coupled with a new descriptive brochure, has brought results. As of mid-November, the Placement Office had received 1,132 job offers, of which 449 offer some form of remuneration. The placement office thanks all who have helped secure those jobs. Special thanks go to Mary Lou Schram '56 and Sue Harris '41, who continue to locate outstanding opportunities in the San Francisco area; to the Northern California Alumni Association for offering a \$600 FWT grant which will be awarded to a Bennington student this winter; and to Jeannie Cross '72, who has agreed to be National Chair of the FWT.

Metropolitan life's advantages may not be all they used to be, but Bennington's winter work period keeps getting better.

Heather Brown Thayer came to Bennington from Beaverton, Oregon. She always intended to come East, and after an interesting interview with Oregon alumna Anno Radow '74 she felt Bennington was the right school. A student in the Natural Science & Mathematics Division, Heather says that what she likes best about Bennington is "the people, the ratio of interesting to uninteresting people seems higher than most places." Heather also appreciates Bennington's small size. She has a special interest in school government, the way schools run and govern themselves. As Chair of the Student Educational Policies Committee, she spends most of her time attending meetings and talking with students, faculty and administration to pinpoint problems and suggest strategies for resolution.

Edward Fox is from the Philadelphia area and a student in the Literature & Languages Division concentrating on German and classical Greek. Asked what he finds special about Bennington, Edward stressed the beautiful and peaceful physical setting of the campus and the facilities which offer for him a "sanctuary for studying and reading." He states that his senior year is the best because everything is coming together: "I feel satisfied and enriched; my goals are being realized." Edward has begun his thesis; the first essay describes the use of figurative language in Plato's *Dialogues*. Following Field Work Term, he will begin the second essay on the *Gospels*. He plans to take a year off after graduation in order to read more Greek and to gain expertise with either Italian or German — then graduate school in classics.

San Francisco Phonothon  
Effectively organized by Joan Emerson '72, twelve alumni participated October 15 in a phonothon for the Annual Fund. The report indicates that we were successful in surpassing last year's total for both specified and unspecified pledges. Several members of the phonothon committee are continuing to make calls in an effort to increase the contributions further.

San Francisco Admissions Committee  
Dik Fishman '73, Chairman of the San Francisco Admissions Committee, met with College Admissions Director Peter Richardson and a good segment of the local admissions committee at Peg Frankel's on October 25. Committee members will be following up on Peter's initial school visits and interviewing prospective Bennington students.

*Continued on p. 9*

## Directory 'Phone Phase Begins

Beginning in January, the Harris Publishing Company will conduct telephone follow-ups to alumni for verification of the information to be printed in the directory tentatively slated for release in June, 1985. At the same time, the telephone representatives will be inviting alumni to order personal copies of the volume.

The telephone call is a follow-up to the two questionnaire card mailings sent to all alumni with verified addresses. If you have not received your questionnaire, please let us know immediately.

Since the cost of the directory is self-liquidating through directory sales, these requests are made on the part of the Harris Company with complete approval. These procedures enable us to make the book available to alumni at no cost or obligation to Bennington College and, as a by-product, the Harris Company provides us with completely updated alumni records.

The directory will provide a complete listing of all living alumni with current addresses, including a biographical sketch on each alumnus/a with name, class year, degree(s), residence address and phone number, and business or professional information where available.



# profile

## Enjoying Change as a Lifestyle

*Besides enjoying it, Bob Woodworth in his 50 years at Bennington has caused his share*

By Robert G. Miller

If you have any questions about the history of Bennington College, don't bother rummaging through the archives; it's easier and more fun to ask Bob Woodworth.

Woodworth, now a teaching assistant in the Natural Science and Mathematics Division, has been involved with Bennington since 1931. He has served the College as planner, professor and interim president.

Although Woodworth did not accept an offer to teach biology on the College's first faculty, he did agree to help plan a science wing for the Barn. In 1935, though, he acceded to Robert D. Leigh, the first president, left the Harvard faculty and began his teaching career at Bennington.

As he approaches his fiftieth year at the College, Woodworth can look back on a multitude of accomplishments. He has long since gone beyond his interests in biology as science to offer courses in such subjects as anatomy for dancers and artists, landscape architecture and economic botany. He served as coordinator on construction of both the Dickinson Science Building and the Visual and Performing Arts Center. He was interim president during the search for President Parker's successor.

Woodworth first heard of Bennington while he was an assistant in biology at Williams College in 1924. "I heard it was going to be different," he recalls, "but I didn't know how different."

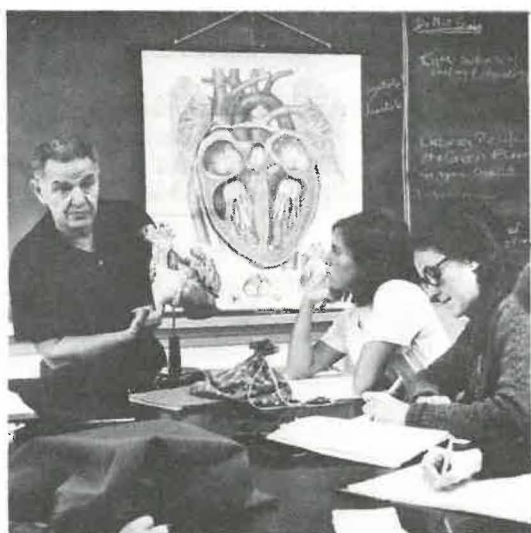
The College's founders had sent out a letter to educators nationwide requesting ideas for the creation of an ideal college. "They got a lot of response. The one response more common than any other was that no one should be appointed permanently to anything," he said.

In Woodworth's view, this idea for deemphasizing tenure, which seemed radical at the time, became a cornerstone of Bennington's success. "The emphasis is on teaching, not research. If a student in a large institution has a question, a graduate student will usually answer it because the boss is busy; the dictum is 'publish or perish,' so he has a minimum of class hours ... there is less of an interchange between teacher and student."

Despite Bennington's emphasis on teaching, Woodworth has found the time to contribute to many scientific journals and has been an innovator in the study of plant and animal growth through time-lapse photography techniques. This work is recognized through his listing among *American Men in Science* and *Who's Who in America* and *Who's Who in the World*.



The July Program's radiant logo will be appearing nationwide on posters and in advertisements. Look for it in the New York Times Magazine and Educational Supplements. 1985 July Program catalogs and applications will be sent on request. Write c/o the College or phone 802-442-5401 ext. 374.



How, at 83, does he maintain his intellectual and scientific curiosity? "The challenge to the person who's been in the field for a long time is to decide that you're willing to forego talking about things that at one time you thought were absolutely necessary. You realize more and more that nothing is static, everything is changing — sometimes fast, sometimes slow — but it's always changing. So you have to change your ideas as you go along. It's a great challenge."

Woodworth has witnessed changes in the College as well as in scientific fundamentals. "If President Leigh were to walk through Bennington's gates today, he would have mixed emotions. He was a fairly conservative guy. I think he would be delighted to talk with the faculty because he'd find that they are on the ball."

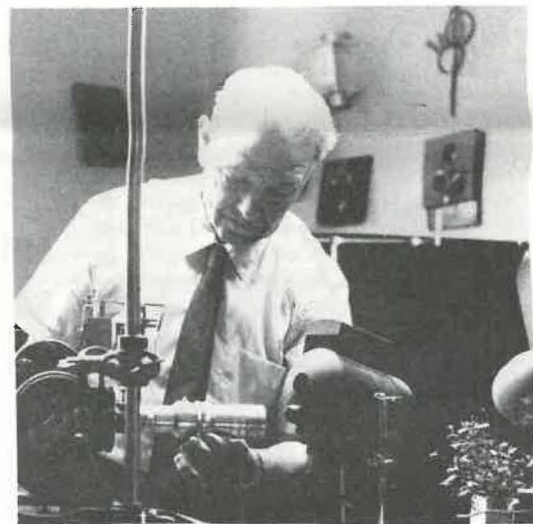
Students, he says, haven't changed much over the years. "They've always been exciting and interested



in what's going on. One of the best feelings about Bennington College is that the students are always willing to do more than you expect, at least more than you would expect at a traditional school."

Woodworth likes to point to the differences between Bennington and more traditional schools. "There's not a premium here on having the student repeat what you tell him. At other schools, the teacher stands up on his hind legs and tells the kids what's going on and they listen and write it down and then you give them a test and they regurgitate it. The whole idea here is to get the student thinking with the material and working with it and asking questions and advancing."

Were Woodworth ever offered the chance to be president of the College again, he said he'd opt for the faculty role instead. "I love teaching," a conclusion appreciatively endorsed at Bennington over the past 50 years.



## The July Program: Excelsior!

Readers of *Quadrille* will recall last December's cover story on the Bennington July Program, entitled "The July Program Expands." No projections were made for the 1984 Program at that time, but the record shows that 192 high school sophomores and juniors from 24 states and four foreign countries attended; up from an enrollment of 127 the previous year. They took courses in 16 subjects ranging from painting to pre-medical studies. Forty-nine of them liked their experience at Bennington enough to make their way to the admissions office for interviews during July. "They were some of the first prospective applicants to Bennington that I saw," reports director of admissions Peter K. Richardson, "and I was tremendously impressed by their talent and motivation."

Plans are afoot for further expansion of the July Program this summer. "If five will get you ten, ten will get you twenty," explains Philip Holland '71, recently appointed to succeed Edward J. Hines, '81, MFA '83, as director of the program. "We're offering 22 courses for next July, and we hope to enroll 250 students." New offerings will include video, journalism, philosophy, psychology, math,

design and field biology. In addition, classes in the Jose Limon Summer Dance Program will be open to July Program students with prior dance training.

"The program again received high praise from its participants, faculty and students alike," says Holland. The pre-law course made a successful debut, and pre-medical studies was again the first course to be filled. The writing division was the most popular; about half of all students took a writing course of some kind. The hit of the month was clearly drama, taught by Ann Bogart, assisted by Dan Froot '82, Shanna O'Donnell and Bill Zack '83. An elaborate production called "A Noel Coward Collection" was created, rehearsed and mounted in the Lester Martin Theater in the short space of 30 days. "I learned more about the theater here in one month than I would have thought possible," one student wrote to Holland.

"As long as I'm speaking through *Quadrille*," Holland said pointedly, "let me comment that I'm surprised we don't enroll more alumni sons and daughters. In addition to the many other benefits the July Program confers, it might also enable alumni offspring to better understand their parents."



# Parents' Day:

## A Panorama Seen in Bright Weather



An intensive sampling of what's going on at Bennington was compressed into a single stimulating day on October 13 when nearly 250 family members and friends wove through the multitude of events designated as Parents Day 1984.

The diversity ranged from academic presentations to discussions of the state of Bennington today by members of the administration, through an art opening, dance performances, and play productions. The aesthetic background of the day was enhanced by delightful weather and Vermont fall foliage at its height.

In his welcoming address, President Michael Hooker cited the many ways in which Bennington maintains and enhances the quality of the education it offers, and on how the College is working to secure its financial future.

Emphasizing parental interests, Hooker commented on how a student's progress is evaluated by faculty without grades, and how parents can be kept informed about their student's work. (By law, a student must sign consent for the Dean of Studies office to release an account of academic progress to any outside person, even the parent paying the bills.) Hooker's presentation was augmented by John H. Williams II, chairman of the Board of Trustees; Dean of Faculty Michael T. Rock; and Vice Presidents James Vanderpol (for finance and administration) and Theodore W. Milek (for development).

Parents saw a program of current videotapes produced by students — biographies of faculty members Arturo Vivante and Gunnar Schonbeck. They toured the Early Childhood Center with director Sally Sugarman. They attended a lecture by Patricia Johanson '62 on her landscape art, which was on view in the Usdan Gallery. They viewed student work in the Galleria arranged by Neil Rappaport of the visual arts faculty. They heard a performance of original works by music students directed by composer Jeffrey Levine and chorus director Randall Neale, a lecture on the Cashinahua Indians of the Amazon by faculty anthropologist Kenneth Kensinger, and a reading from his works by faculty writer Arturo Vivante. There was also a discussion of the Field Work Term, the new name for the venerable Non-Resident Term. And they watched demonstrations of science research projects by faculty chemist Thomas Reitz.

The day offered several other exhibits of student photography and art work; and, for those so inclined, there were athletic contests — a new emphasis at Bennington this fall. Both the women's and men's soccer teams played their counterparts from Simon's Rock School, and both won, the penultimate fillip of the day. Then as dusk eased across Mount Anthony, on to dinner en masse, with Michael Hooker working the crowd. The day wound up with the Woodworths, strum-tinkle-strum, on banjo and piano, and Gunnar Schonbeck on something else again; a combo later stepping in to pace several generations of attendees in dancing which, while not entirely modern in the Bennington sense, was visibly a pleasure for all.

Annual Programs Coordinator Carmela Butkas reports that next year's Parents Day will also coincide with the Board of Trustees meeting and the brilliant leaf time of Vermont's mid-October.



photos by Tyler Resch



## Heavier Traffic on Bennington's Turf Students Taking up the More Muscular Options



Beyond the many activities sponsored by the College's academic divisions, students are becoming increasingly involved in organized athletics. They are also more actively pursuing individual sports and recreation.

Under the direction of Jared Shapiro, students have organized co-ed soccer, volleyball and tennis teams. The combined schedule of these teams is close to 50 matches with such schools as Marlboro, Hampshire, and the School of International Training.

Yoga, aerobics and weight lifting are among the pursuits students are taking up individually. As a reflection of the increasing interest in exercise, the College recently purchased a 400-pound olympic weight set, fixed-weight dumbbells, benches and other equipment. The nearby slopes at Stratton, Killington, Bromley and Mt. Snow will provide the Ski Club a variety of challenges and the Hiking Club has enjoyed a series of outings with classmate and naturalist Marcelo Fiorini.

In addition, Chris Bakriges in the Office of Student Service has organized a number of community events like the annual rafting competition, bike and running races, and apple picking and cider making outings.



While the soccer team's expressions suggest ambivalence toward photography, their 5-2 game score this fall shows they're all serious about soccer.

## Esquire Lauds President Hooker's "Administrative and Academic Achievement"

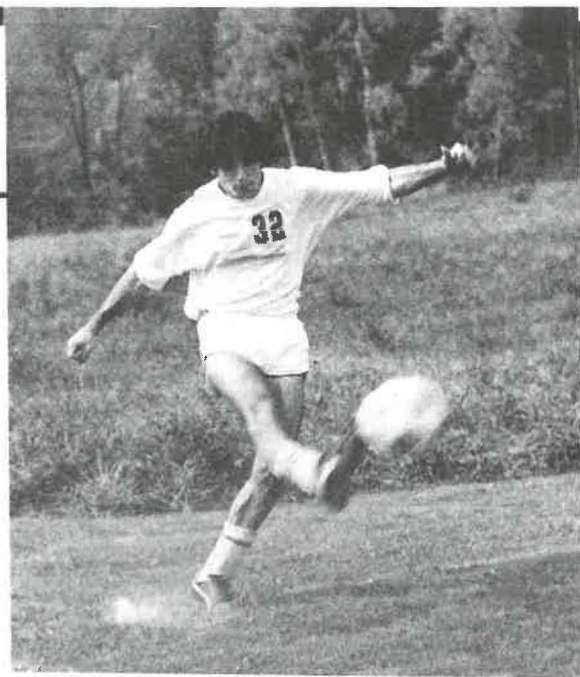
*Esquire's* December issue cites Michael Hooker as congressional advisor, college president and author in naming him among "The Best of the New Generation" to which the full issue is devoted.

The magazine picked 272 individuals in six categories from among thousands of nominees. Those chosen represent the "Men And Women Under Forty Who Are Changing America."

Editor Phillip Moffitt mulled the common qualities of this outstanding professional achievement in his preface to the series of short biographies and character studies. "Why is it such an obvious presence in some people that all those around them sense it even before the results are visible?" His conclusions: "a can-do attitude...the belief that he or she can make a difference...contagious enthusiasm

for the work at hand...the creative impulse...will-power that allows those individuals to continue to insist and persist when others melt under the heat of resistance." Beyond all of these, Moffitt perceives "a willingness to go all the way...a commitment to an effort that changes the experience itself."

In the instance of Bennington's president, *Esquire* demonstrates this perseverance by linking his academic achievements with the quotation, "At the age of five, I wanted to be a college professor." The magazine categorized Hooker as a philosopher as well as educator, noting extensive discourse on ethical issues related to his efforts as chairman of the Biotechnology Advisory Panel to Congress and *The Meaning of Life*, his work in progress on the ethical portent of genetic engineering.



One swift kick for Bennington

## Associates Program Excels This Year

The Associates program, chaired by Kay Crawford Murray '56, posted gains of 66 percent at the end of October in the number of donors and 57 percent in the amount of gifts and pledges received (\$177,417), compared with last year.

Created many years ago by the Board of Trustees, the Associates of Bennington College program recognizes all donors of \$1,000 or more and represents the philanthropic leadership of the College. The program works through the Associates Committee, formed to solicit unrestricted gift support and thus focus on the importance of the Annual Fund and enhance results of that effort.

Kay Murray is "really delighted by the results. They are beyond our expectations so early in the fund year. Much of the credit goes to members of the Associates Committee around the country who are completing personal calls and interviews effectively, and conveying the need for increased commitment."

Associates Committee activity is presently concentrated in New York, San Francisco and Washington, DC. Committee members attended orientation and training sessions held in each region during September and October.

In addition, Associates receptions were held in San Francisco and Washington, hosted by Doris and Charles Muscatine in San Francisco and Phyzzie and Bob Lee in Washington. The receptions were attended by individuals interested in the Associates program and key regional volunteers. John H. Williams II, Chairman of the Bennington Board of Trustees, President Michael Hooker, Chair Kay Crawford Murray '56, and President of the Bennington College Alumni Association Hudas Schwartz Liff '47 addressed the group in Washington. Vice President for Development Theodore W. Milek brought greetings from the College to those who assembled in San Francisco. A spring reception is planned for New York City.

Members of the Associates Committee include the following:

### New York

Kay Crawford Murray '57, Chair; June Parker Wilson '37, Coordinator; Evelyn Stein Benjamin '57; Ruth D. Carter '38; Lois Schulman Chazen '56; Barbara Ushkow Deane '51; Jane Vanderploeg Deckoff '59; Marvin Deckoff; Lucy Grier Feller '57; Ruth Davis Green '43; Merrell Hopkins Hambleton '43; Hudas Schwartz Liff '47; Kathleen Harriman Mortimer '40; Lila Franklin Nields '37; Nanette Offray Rich '52; Rita Friedman Salzman '45; Marianne Byk Schnell '50; Esme Usdan '77; Suzanne Lemberg Usdan '51; Helen Cummings Vanderbilt '41

### San Francisco

Doris Corn Muscatine '47, Coordinator; Margaret Stein Frankel '41; Joel Wells Schreck '54; Sally Wells Whiteley '49

### Washington, DC

Phyllis Preston Lee '44, Coordinator; Sylvia Canova Lukens '51; Patricia Sullivan Meyers '58

In addition, the following alumni are making calls throughout the country:

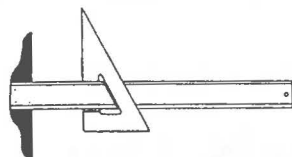
Sara Carter Balogh '41; Ruth Dewing Ewing '37; Steven Gelman '83; Berte Schindelheim Hirschfeld '60; Elizabeth Evans Munger '37; Signa Lynch Read '79; Rebecca B. Stickney '43.



## A Perspective Sketch of the 1940's

In the Jones years, 1941-47, all courses at Bennington were either basic or special. Having paid our dues to the dozen or so basic courses, we come to the more numerous special courses and, beginning with the visual arts, we find that changes came in with the new president.

In the Leigh catalogues the fields of study were listed alphabetically; art came first and science was near the end. By the time Lewis Jones became president the uninformed had come to think of Bennington as an art school with little interest in the conventional college subjects. This impression was neatly countered in 1942 when art was renamed visual arts and placed at the end of the fields of study and, ignoring the alphabet, science was placed first.



Among the arts, architecture was successively taught by Edwin (Billy) Park, Richard Neutra and Michael Czaja. Petah Cullingham Acer '46 writes that she was fortunate in having all three since each offered an important element that the others ignored. "Park gave careful, traditional Columbia-style training in (architectural) classics, and he taught me 'how to make the pencil sing.' I was on the way to it myself but he finalized it."

In 1941 Park was one of the four faculty members who dated back to Bennington's opening in 1932 and was chairman of the art division through most of the Leigh years (see my *Bennington College: In the Beginning*); but when Lewis Jones became president, Park began thinking of resignation. He wrote me in 1972 that Jones had disapproved of his way of teaching: "He did not fire me but the writing on the wall said 'Get out now!'" Park resigned in 1943 and was soon at work in the Office of War Information in New York. After the war he was free to spend his days in painting. His wife Frances had become the breadwinner as a psychotherapist.

Writing in 1955, Park expressed his satisfaction with Bennington's emphasis on the practice of art; i.e., the painter paints, the sculptor sculpts. He was satisfied that the art major "learned to think independently, hence to understand and enjoy the rapidly evolving panorama of modern art unprejudiced and with an open mind." Park pointed out that Bennington was no longer alone and that other colleges were beginning to give courses in the practice as well as the history of art.

Before turning to Park's successors we should recall Park's friend Buckminster Fuller and Fuller's association with Bennington. Several times Park had brought that apostle of technology to Bennington to lecture. In due course Fuller's daughter Allegra would become a Bennington alumna. Fuller, in 1942, gave the college a modified Dymaxion House. The house, designed for mass-production, arrived in pieces and Fuller was on hand to put it together in the apple orchard. Jean Short Aldrich '43 rounded up student helpers and took charge when Fuller was absent.

Among the helpers was Petah Cullingham, a freshman, who had just read Fuller's article on the Dymaxion World in *Life*. She recalls that she was awed by Fuller's presence "as we put the Dymaxion House together. It was quiet, sunny, magic to stand there, me on one side of the metal ribbed sheet, he on the other. I wish I had been a senior or junior so I could have discussed his views and way of life."

Soon after he arrived at the college to teach cello, George Finckel ran into Fuller at breakfast in the Commons. Finckel recalls that Fuller was eating a mix of soft-boiled egg, corn flakes and ketchup and studying a map of Rommel's campaign in North Africa. A fly was walking around on the map. With no introduction Fuller said to George, "Now you watch that fly. It is going to show us where the German army is going." This does not sound like the man who would eventually hold 2,000 patents and we can blame the fly for this momentary lapse into whimsical prophecy.

### The singular and contrasting personalities who taught architecture to Bennington's "Beautiful Coeds"

By Thomas P. Brockway

When Elizabeth Dudley Armes '47 arrived at the college with her husband she looked in vain for an apartment. Bertha Funnell, director of the Non-Resident Term, suggested that the couple occupy the Dymaxion House. Elizabeth and her husband removed rain-soaked insulation, made curtains, got castoff furniture, built a lower ceiling, installed a kerosene heater and were quite comfortable. That could not be said for Louis Horst, Martha Graham's pianist and mentor, who occupied the house very briefly one summer. Ann McMillan '45 writes that he vacated the metal structure on a very hot summer day when he was "nearly cooked alive."

Peter Drucker recalls introducing Fuller to the college audience one evening and stating that he would speak for 45 minutes and then answer questions. "Four hours later Bucky was still talking and when I tried to break in he waved me aside and said, 'I am still on my introduction!'" Eventually Bucky was stopped but Drucker admits that it was a mistake. "There is no point setting a limit on a Bucky Fuller happening...No one remembers a word Bucky says but nobody ever forgets the experience. What they experienced and what every audience since...has experienced is Bucky Fuller's vision."

Park was succeeded by Richard Neutra, who taught for one year. Born in Vienna in 1892, Neutra came to the United States in 1923. He soon achieved fame for his "functionalist" approach to architecture, which took form in California in several striking structures of glass, steel and synthetic materials. Why did he accept appointment at a small women's college in Vermont for \$5,000 a year? During the war private building was at a standstill and Neutra was relatively unoccupied. But he had a special reason for coming to Bennington. He wrote Jones that in his work on the California Planning Board he had concluded that the women on the board were more effective than the men and so he considered it important to train women in architecture.

Still, Neutra doubted that Bennington would occupy him fully and he let Jones know that he would consider himself free to take on work as a consultant so that "I could remain myself

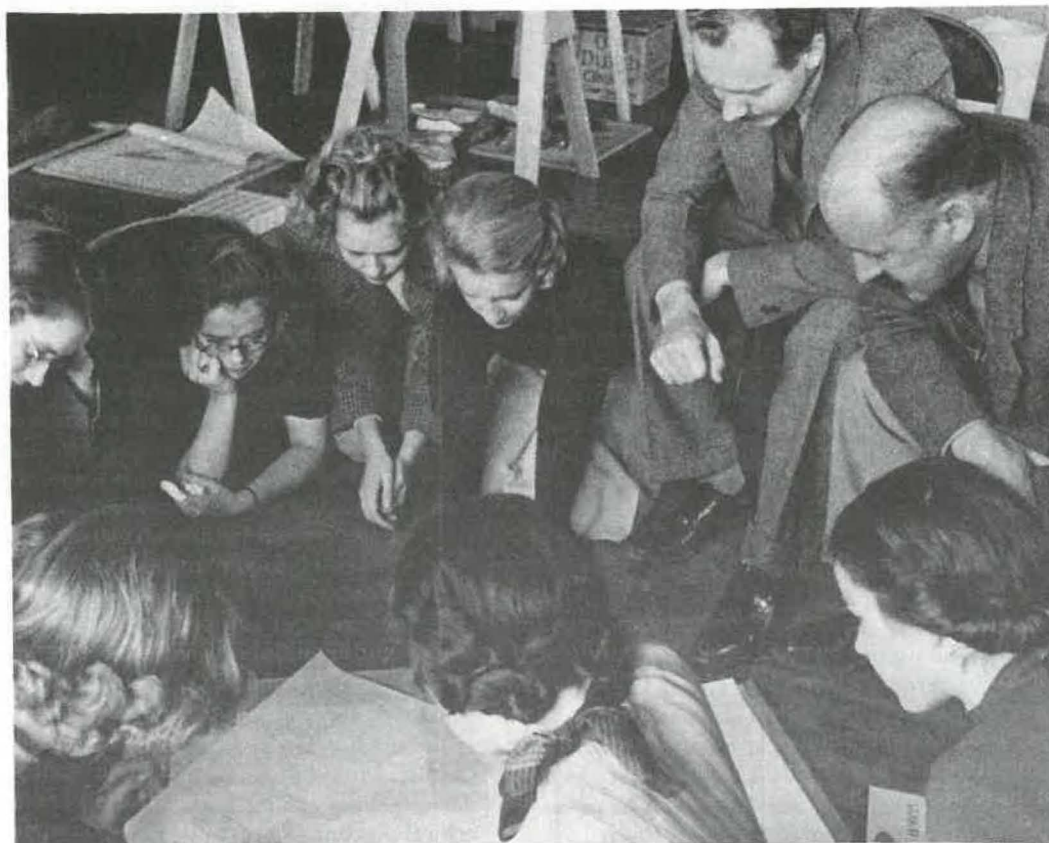
stimulating to my students." In fact, he had a full teaching schedule; but during the year he never stopped dreaming and scheming about distant projects and he was always in motion and often absent.

In architecture studio, students became acquainted with Neutra's own contributions to the art and practice of architecture and prepared reports on problems of design and construction and their solution. Joan Thompson Vogelbach's estimate of Neutra was that "he's a genius and it's just a joy to work with him." In her first year Glory Erdman was captivated by Neutra's lectures as he showed slides of his famous houses, talked about his association with Frank Lloyd Wright, described his city planning projects and propounded the virtues of modernism.

Petah Acer writes that she learned from Neutra because she did what she did when she watched carpenters or tennis players: "I became good at those things because I *felt* what they were doing by watching, and just did it. He did that to me in the architecture studio. He pushed me upwards by demanding that I just DO IT."

Kelita Boas Dinsmore '46 majored in architecture and thought of Neutra as "a great teacher...probably the high spot for me was the year he was there ... Working with him was something I will never forget. Because Neutra was practicing his craft at the time, he let his students work on real projects so that we had the combination of theory and working drawings — most unusual in an undergraduate program in those days."

Neutra was a man of boundless energy and ambition and he kept on plotting new projects. While at Bennington his secretary in Los Angeles kept him in touch with old and new business in California and his wife typed letters and sent telegrams north, south and west when letters would be too slow. In October, Neutra took a trip to Montreal to interest young architects at McGill in a mammoth housing project. To increase his chances he took along two or three Bennington students who were described in the *McGill Daily* as "Beautiful Coeds." In November, Neutra was in Puerto Rico laying plans that soon took him away from Bennington.



A literal interpretation of the floor plan in an architectural class led by Russel Krob and (far right) Edwin (Billy) Park.





Architectural students in costume typical of the period — at Bennington.  
L. to r. Jeanne Gaudy (dec.), Jean Short Aldrich and Frannie Berna Knight, all '43.

Quite early in the fall term of 1943, Neutra had begun promoting a Non-Resident Term in Syracuse for both students and faculty. He knew that Syracuse had been making economic and social surveys and thought that Bennington might help. City planning was involved, but much more. Lucien Hanks recently recalled that the aim was "a vast uplift for Syracuse." Glory Erdman wrote home that Neutra "wants us to make Syracuse such an example that cities all over the country as well as in South America will do the same."

To prepare Syracuse for the Bennington invasion, Neutra went to Syracuse and he took with him Bertha Funnell, who had just been appointed director of the NRT. She knew Syracuse well because she had been there for seven years as an officer in the United States Employment Service. Together they were able to sign up eight Syracuse men and women who were to put Bennington students to work gathering data and teaching painting, sculpture, dance and drama.

Neutra's grand design for inundating Syracuse with Bennington students and faculty ran into difficulties which doomed it from the beginning. Jean Vogelbach writes that Neutra's Bennington colleagues "were somewhat turned off by his manner," and Lucien Hanks writes that they were "miffed by this dictator." But miffed may be inadequate to describe the response of Robert Coburn, the new faculty chemist, when he learned that Neutra had assigned him whatever sewage problems Syracuse might have. Economics argued against faculty cooperation because there was no compensation to offset the cost of lodging.

Neutra vigorously promoted the Syracuse project among his students, but it was not clear what jobs would be available and it was clear that no one would be paid. Several students were tempted; in the end only two or three spent their NRT there. It is possible that Neutra himself gave the Syracuse project its coup de grace when he was appointed chairman of the Board of Design of Puerto Rico's Planning Commission.

With \$65 million a year income from its rum tax, Puerto Rico was about to embark on a six-year building program and Neutra's assignment was to set up a design office and work out a building style for hospitals, schools and health centers. In consequence, Neutra turned his attention from Syracuse to Puerto Rico. He was there for several days in November, spent the NRT there and was there off and on during the spring term. And so Syracuse was left to its own fate.

Neutra covered his absences in the spring term by enlisting Jean Short, '43, who had just won an Ellis Fellowship at Columbia to study architecture. For Neutra's sake she took leave from Columbia and, commuting from New York, taught his classes whenever he was absent. In an undated letter Neutra wrote Jean that he was very gratified "about the way you handle the students at Bennington. They sure should be glad to have you."

Lewis Jones wrote Jean on April 17 (1944) that it was not yet decided whether Neutra would be at Bennington another year, and a successor was being lined up. Jones said Neutra "is doing a fine job for us and it would be a delightful if he could stay." Neutra left with mixed feelings. His grandiose scheme for the rebuilding of Syracuse had come to nothing. He was not a fraternizer and Jean Vogelbach suspects that he found some of his students "decidedly under-educated." On the other hand he lavished attention on the students who were taking architecture seriously, wrote full evaluations of their work and kept up with them after leaving Bennington. On her part Jean Vogelbach writes that she thought Neutra "was charming and worshipped ground he walked on."

Neutra was succeeded by E. Michael Czaja, then in his early thirties. Czaja (Chii-a) had bachelor's and master's degrees in architecture from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy and had worked in various architectural offices, including that of the famed Saarinen at Cranbrook. While in the office of Antonin Raymond in New York, Czaja was on the editorial board of *Task*, a short-lived magazine published by architects and students of architecture and planning.

On the staff of *Task* were several Bennington students and alumnae, one of them being Jean Short. When she learned that Neutra was leaving Bennington, she nominated Czaja to succeed him and introduced him to Lewis Jones. He was hired. In his first year he taught a course in planning in addition to architecture; in his second year he added a course in theatre design and worked with Martha Hill and Bill Bales in dance production and stage lighting.

Glory Erdman took Czaja's planning course and early in the term she wrote home that Czaja was "too aggressive — his method of teaching is the exact opposite of Mr. Hanks'."

We arrive at the rare instance of a student and faculty member frankly characterizing each other in writing. Petah Acer recalls that "Czaja was young, enthusiastic, with an artistic flair" but quite different from her Bennington teachers who "had a graciousness, an educated, cultured way of dealing with young ladies." She credits Czaja with giving her a "splendid sense of design, the artistic sense, the freedom of pencil, a flamboyant touch which is represented in his delightful little book, *The Bountiful Cow*." Czaja recalls her as a bit petulant but "a gifted, productive happy student...who acted as my assistant as needed...We regarded her as a friend."

Once Czaja gave a course in furniture design and devised a toy project to teach the students how to use machine tools. In due course the class turned out tiny trucks, trains, boats and a baby carriage large enough for a three-year-old, all painted in high-gloss enamel, and presented to the nursery school, which had been low on toys.

Czaja was in demand as an entertainer. During the war a canteen in the basement of Bingham was often crowded with visitors in uniform, students and an occasional faculty member. Glory Erdman recalls an evening when Kit Foster, who taught literature, did her hilarious impersonation of Queen Victoria and Czaja demonstrated his prowess in cartwheeling and handstanding. Forty years later Czaja recalls his act as a spoof.

Czaja left Bennington after three years and writes that leaving was "really Jones' choice, but we had plans not to stay more than four years." Briefly he taught architecture at Washington State, then at Berkeley to retirement. He has taught, practiced architecture, painted, trained horses and taught riding. Following a Fulbright-Ford Foundation grant, he and his wife spent some time in Japan and in 1974 he published a handsome book on folk worship and the origins of the deities pictured in Japanese sculptures.

Czaja looks back on his three years at Bennington with pleasure. What he enjoyed most about his teaching was the counseling. He writes, "I carried a heavy counseling load and enjoyed it because I was good at it. I had learned to listen, to be sympathetic but not condoling. I was firm in sticking to the report at hand and skillful in getting the student eventually to come to the point of self-realization...I learned a great deal from my counseling and I became a teacher at Bennington. I also got a liberal education in the process, through attending lectures and performances, reading and contact with faculty who were already teachers."

## Regional Events continued from p. 4

Notes from the West Coast:  
*Margaret "Peg" Stein Frankel '41*  
*VP Alumni Association*

### Southern California

Under the leadership of Robert Sawyer '75, Southern California alumni held a general meeting November 7. Key committees are in place. Liz Glotzer '83, Hilary Baum '82, Matt Jacobsen '83 and Robert Sawyer met with Peter Richardson to plan their local admissions program during the last week of October. Many other alumni are at work finding FWT jobs and planning fund-raising projects.

### Notes from New York:

*Marianne Byk Schnell '50*  
*VP Alumni Association*

### SOHO Loft and Gallery Tour

Solange Batsell Herter '50, assisted by Ellen Prescott '64, Marianne Byk Schnell '50 and Wendy Liff Flynn '77, organized a very successful Soho Loft and Gallery Tour October 27. Many alumni and friends had the opportunity to hear artists talk about their work, visit their lofts, meet with gallery owners and enjoy lunch and conversation. It was a well organized and special day.

### New York Phonothon

The fall New York Phonothon was a spectacular financial success. Chair Jeannette Winans Bertles '49 assembled a group of enthusiastic and energetic callers and Nancy Marshall Fishkin '65 arranged for the College again to use the trading room at Wertheim, Inc. Pledges totaled 297 and \$37,266 was realized in specified pledges. The spring phonothon will be held March 27 and 28, also at Wertheim.

### Notes from New England

*Mary Anne Sgarlat '79*  
*VP Alumni Association*

### Boston Telethon

The Boston regional group sponsored a telethon in October and realized 131 pledges and a total of \$3,406. Regional Chair Beth Kanter '79's team of ambitious alumni managed to double last year's results. Good work and thanks to the Boston volunteers!

Complimentary tickets are available to Boston-area alumni for an alumna's major recital in February. Mezzo soprano Kimball Wheeler '72 will make her Boston debut in Jordan Hall of the New England Conservatory at 8:00 p.m. February 3. She will be interviewed on the event by Robert Lurtsema during Morning Pro Musica, January 30. For tickets, contact Mary Anne Sgarlat, 617/495-4564.

### Bennington Regional Meeting

The Bennington region held an organizing meeting December 2 on campus to plan events and establish committees. After the business meeting they attended the senior production, *The Matchmaker*. Jeannie Cross '72 is chair of the Bennington group.

### Notes from the Midwest

#### Chicago Graphic Arts Show

A Bennington College Chicago Graphic Art Show will be held February 1-15 at the Hunt-Wulkowicz Gallery. Included in the show will be prints, etchings, woodcuts, engravings and silkscreens by alumni, faculty and students. If you would like to submit work, contact Jason Wulkowicz, Bennington College, Box 653.



## Alumni Association News continued from p. 4

As a special feature, this issue profiles the members of the Executive Committee. Future issues will highlight other members of the Council, including class agents and members-at-large.



Hudas Schwartz Liff

**President, Bennington College Alumni Association, Hudas Schwartz Liff '47** has held many positions in the Alumni Association: Treasurer, Chair of Class Agents, Chair of the Annual Fund, Co-Chair of the 50th Campaign, and Regional Chair of New Haven and Long Island. A past president of Planned Parenthood of North Suffolk County, she was awarded the Margaret Sanger Award for "guiding as president the North Suffolk affiliate into a successful merger." Hudas was also librarian of Temple Beth El Huntington for 13 years before her recent resignation.

Her son Bradford is teaching at Arizona State. He is a Ph.D. in public health. Daughter Wendy '77 is now with Colgate in research and marketing. Daughter Janet is a real estate analyst.

Hudas reports that "I have sailed my Tartan 30, to my absolute surprise, as captain since my husband's death last September. It was fun to see I could do it, but now have decided to sell 'Brandy.' Time to move on."



Marianne Byk Schnell

**Vice President — New York Region, Marianne Byk Schnell '50** is also President of the New York City Alumni Association and a member of the Bennington College board of trustees. As a painter she has had seven one-woman shows in New York City and three shows of drawings — one at Bennington and one in Calgary, Canada. Marianne had a comprehensive show in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania in October at Monrovia College where she lectured to two painting classes. She has traveled to Belgium, Colombia and Portugal.

**Vice President — New England Region, Mary Anne Sgarlat '79** helped organize the class of 1979 Capital Campaign effort and helped with the October phonathon in Boston. Mary Anne is an assistant in the department of architecture, Harvard Graduate School of Design and is an independent architectural consultant as head of Young Architects Limited, which matches clients with young architects. She worked in Greece briefly last autumn and winter a year ago and enjoyed it immensely, but prefers Italy, Bermuda, Jamaica and England. She is also active in the World Affairs Council of Boston, the Boston Center for International Visitors and the March of Dimes.

**Vice President — West Coast Region, Margaret Stein Frankel '41 (Peg)** is also Chairperson of the Bennington College Alumni Association of Northern California. In 1956 she helped to reorganize this regional group and served as chair for one and one-half years. Between 1958 and 1969 she was active in Chicago and then Washington, D.C. In addition, Peg interviewed prospective students and helped to locate NRT jobs. She has continued these activities since returning to California in 1970.

In 1978 Peg received the Outstanding Contribution Award from the western section of The Wildlife Society and is an honorary life member of the Nature Conservancy. Since 1970 she has organized and headed an ad hoc group to promote changes in state forest practice regulations that would protect wildlife habitats. Under the auspices of the Nature Conservancy, she promoted studies and eventual state ownership and management of the Inglenook Fen, a biological area unique to coastal California. Peg also helped to establish, then headed for six years, Friends of Imogen Cunningham, a non-profit group dedicated to promoting the work of photographers of merit who are not widely known.



Mary Anne Sgarlat



Peg Frankel

**Treasurer/Chair of the Alumni Fund, Jane Vanderploeg Deckoff '59** has worked as class agent for '59 and helped organize the class' 25th Reunion last June.

Jane is production manager for Tribune Litho Company in New York City. She is married to Marvin Deckoff, president of Tribune Litho Company, and has three teenage children. Jane is an avid oboe player and comes to the Bennington campus for the Chamber Music Conference every summer. She was president for two years of the Mannes College of Music alumni association.

Last spring the Deckoff family traveled to Paris and is looking forward to a trip to Scotland or Russia this year.

**Secretary, Jane Holt Oates '54** has worked in the Alumni Association as an admissions contact to set up alumni interviews for prospective students and has been a member of the Alumni Council nominating committee and a past chair of the Boston area. She received her master of public administration degree from the John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University, in 1982. She is chair of the Hingham Planning Board and president of the Massachusetts Federation of Planning Boards, a statewide organization of planning boards and zoning boards of appeal. A practiced skater, she participates in Ice Skating Institute of America competitions.



Jane Deckoff



Jane Holt Oates

## obituaries



Barbara Deming '38, pictured in 1967

### BARBARA DEMING — Feminist, Writer, Peace Activist

Barbara Deming '38, died in Sugarloaf Key, Florida on August 2, 1984. A prominent feminist writer and peace activist, Deming spent most of her adult life fighting for social change, demonstrating for civil rights and speaking for the women's movement and radical feminist lesbian thinking.

After graduating from Bennington, she worked in the film library of the Library of Congress, was a film reviewer for *The Nation*, and, at 40, began to study works of Mohandas Gandhi and to speak out as a pacifist. Involvement in the War Registers League protests against arms in the 1950s led to her involvement in the civil rights movement. Her women's rights activism began during the time she worked against the Vietnam war.

Deming was the author of numerous poems and the following books: *Prison Notes* (1966), *Revolution and Equilibrium* (1971), *We Cannot Live Without Our Lives* (1974), *Remembering Who We Are* (1981), *We Are All Part Of One Another* (1984) and *A Humming Under My Seat — A Book of Travail*, which will be published in the spring of 1985 by the Women's Press of London.

A memorial service was held in November at the Friends Meeting at 17th Street and Rutherford Place in New York City. Before she died Ms. Deming started a Fund for Women, to be used for women artists, writers and film makers with need. This has now become a memorial fund. Contributions in Barbara Deming's memory may be sent to: Money for Women Fund, 207 Coastal Highway, St. Augustine, Florida 32084.

### MARNI GOLDSTEIN WHITE - Sociologist

Marni Goldstein White '66, died August 27, 1984. Marni was a sociologist who, at the time of her death, was working as a senior market planner at Travelers Insurance Company in Hartford. Before beginning to work for The Travelers in 1983, Marni had worked for five years as the project director of an NIMH study of the relationship between housing and health. She had also done an extensive study of the politics of urban renewal in Middletown as her Ph.D. dissertation for Columbia, and had written several papers and articles in the area of urban sociology. Before that, she had participated in the organization and teaching of the first women's studies courses at Wesleyan and had studied the effects of these courses on women students here.

From their home in Middletown, Connecticut, her husband, Duffield White, wrote the college, "Marni lived her whole life with the verve, radiant beauty, good taste, and dedication to justice that her Bennington friends remember her for."

She is survived also by her sons, Alex and Matthew, and by her father, Harold Goldstein.







wide who participated in the six-week program and was awarded the Evelyn Wood Scholarship in Photography while in Banff. Margot has been at Hood since 1983. After Bennington she earned her master's degree in creative arts at San Francisco State College. In addition to being a correspondent for *International Film guide*, she served as a communications specialist for the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Education and has taught at George Washington University and Antioch College.

**Sumiko Fujii Biderman** (Mrs. Albert D.) is living in McLean, Virginia, where she is very active in local Democratic Party volunteer work. Her sons, ages 29 and 30, are practicing law in California and her daughter, 25, is attending law school at the University of Colorado.

**Elizabeth Ann Toupin** lectured at a lyceum program in early August at the Peterborough (New Hampshire) Unitarian Church. The program was devoted to Asian Americans, "The New Invisible-Visible Minority in America." As associate dean of undergraduate studies at Tufts University, she discussed the rising strength and influence of this group on the political and social life of the United States. Elizabeth lives in Medford, Massachusetts.

## '49

**Barbara Smith Brooks**  
41 Barrow Street  
New York, New York 10014  
212-243-2264

## Reunion '50 Year

**Patricia Hansen Franks**  
25 Old Farms Lane  
New Milford, Connecticut 06776  
203 354-1497

## '51

**Suzanne Mosher**  
7207 Delfield Street  
Carriage Square South  
Chevy Chase, Maryland 20815  
301 654-9094

**Olivia Gardner Pattison Garfield**, "Bibi," is editor of *The Courier*, a weekly newspaper in Littleton, New Hampshire. She lives in nearby Lower Waterford, Vermont.

## '52

**Nanette Offray Rich**  
90 Olmstead Hill Road  
Wilton, Connecticut 06897  
203 762-7313

**June Klensch** phoned to describe an exhibition of paintings, her sixth, at the NOHO Gallery in Soho, at 168 Mercer Street, from September 25 to October 14. Her medium is abstract paintings, acrylic on canvas and water colors.

**Elizabeth Newman Ward** moved to Hanover, New Hampshire last fall to be near her family. She is working at the Hitchcock Clinic "and savoring the many and varied cultural offerings up here. Am slowly becoming acquainted with alumnae in the area."

## '53

**Carolyn Lissner Ottley**  
45 Christopher Street Apt 3D  
New York, New York 10014  
212 243-3244

## '54

**Leonard Hokanson** spent some time in the United States this summer and while here performed in Rockland, Maine. On July 12 he was pianist with the Vermeer

Quartet at the Rockport Opera House, playing the *Brahms Sonata for Violin and Piano in D Minor, Opus 108*. On July 27 he played at the Farnsworth Museum, presenting the world premiere of Walter Piston's *Sonata for Piano* and two other Piston piano pieces. Leonard's wife Rona played a selection of short pieces by Maine composer Ann Wyeth McCoy. Lenoard received his master's degree from Bennington College after graduating from Clark University and beginning his career as a soloist in a concert with the Philadelphia Orchestra. His home is in Germany, where he is a professor of piano at the University of Frankfurt School of Music.

**Sue (Friedman) Miller Mc Gowen** is working on her master's degree at the Art Institute of Chicago.

## Reunion '55 Year

**Helen Burgin Buttrick**  
90 Elm Street  
Canton, Massachusetts 02021  
617 828-2812

Residents and neighbors of West Concord Street, Boston, Massachusetts, celebrated the installation of the brightly colored steel sculpture "Cityscape III" by **Miriam Hermanos Knapp** and the completion of the West Concord Street Park renovations as part of the first South End Site Works park project. The project was initiated by HOME, Inc., a non-profit arts organization in collaboration with the West Concord Street Homeowners Association and Rutland Housing. The Knapp sculpture was selected unanimously from sculptures presented by three artists. It was installed temporarily in April 1983 and was approved for acquisition by the city's Edward Ingersoll Browne Fund in July 1984. This latest work is part of a series of sculptures by Miriam which is based on a city skyline. It is built of heavy steel plate and painted red, yellow, white and black, and provides a strong counterpoint of color in the predominantly brick neighborhood setting.

## '56

**Jane Thornton Iselin**  
Burtis Lane  
Syosset, New York 11791  
516 364-2054 (hm)  
516 249-1100 (wk)

Recent paintings by **Carol Kardon** were shown at the Hahnemann University Gallery, Philadelphia, October 12 through November 12. The exhibition was courtesy of Gross McCleaf Gallery. Carol lives in Wynnewood, Pennsylvania.

## '57

**Anne "Suzie" Gremer Smith**  
Indian Hill Road  
Canton, Connecticut 06019  
203 693-8549

Watercolors by **Stephanie Brown Carleton** were displayed at Winthrop College near Rock Hill, South Carolina, during September. She deals with soft-edged and reflective "things for all the symbolic reasons one could dream up." Stephanie lives in Chapel Hill, North Carolina.

**Natalie Feiler Podell** wrote that she and her husband were in Middlebury, Vermont, in June to attend the graduation of their second son, Nick. "My husband Mike graduated from Middlebury in 1956. Our oldest son, Steve, a recent graduate of Swarthmore, is working as an electrical engineer in Silicon Valley. Our third son, Andy, hopes to be a writer and is a junior at the University of California, Berkeley; and our fourth son, Alex, is a 10th grader at the Robert Louis Stevenson School in Pebble Beach. I practice land-use law in

Burlingame and am active in politics and the arts. My husband is a real estate developer and builder in the Bay Area. We are a very busy family!" They live in Hillsborough, California.

**Laura Skoler** has been travelling since her three daughters moved away from home, yet she has also taken an active role in their company, which makes hobby arts and crafts. She is a trustee of the New Museum of Contemporary Art in New York, "and very involved in collecting works by young artists." A few years ago Laura completed the New York City 26.2 mile marathon. "I am now race walking and enjoying the sport." Home is Maplewood, New Jersey.

## '58

**Jane Berry Vosburgh**  
5805 Torreon Drive NE  
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87109  
505 822-8445

**Marilyn Kropf Kurtz** has gone back to school and is studying for a Ph.D in English literature. Marilyn lives in Bayside, New York.

**Anne Fulton Magai's** son John (also known as Jack) started his Bennington career in September. "Molly," wrote Anne, "plans to finish hers in December. Amazing!"

**Anita Schaffer Margrill** sent an announcement of her June 5 — 13 show at A.I.R. Gallery in New York City, saying it had been extended through June 23. An acrylic painting and wood construction piece entitled "Agora" was illustrated, with the notation: "Concrete form work is a fleeting gesture which creates its own singular impression in space." The show, "Project Model," was part of a juried group show of women architects. Anita lives in New York and San Francisco.

## '59

**Mrs. Jane Vanderploeg Deckoff**  
1060 Park Avenue  
New York, New York 10028  
212 534-6191

**Helen Coonley Colcord** wrote that she was sorry to miss the reunion. "Jane Vanderploeg Deckoff '59 and I arranged a cocktail party for our class, which was an amazing evening ... Bennington was everything for me. While I was not prepared for a competitive urban life, it gave me the courage and curiosity. I think that is all one can ask." Helen lives in New York City.

**Vijaya Gulhati Duggal** has been named to the faculty at Widener University, Chester, Pennsylvania. She was appointed visiting associate professor of economics in the School of Management. She has been a senior economist with the Wharton Econometric Forecasting Associates, Philadelphia; a visiting and substitute lecturer at the University of Pennsylvania; and a researcher for the Brookings Institution, Washington, D.C. In 1963 she was a lecturer at the University of Delhi, India. Vijaya earned a Ph.D. in economics at Harvard University in 1967.

**Helaine Feinstein Fortgang** is director of San Francisco's first Jewish Art Museum, which opened October 8. It is the culmination of a two-year dream. The building which houses the museum is also the home to several Jewish groups, including the American Jewish Congress, the Jewish Bulletin and the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith. The objective of the museum is to take the values, traditions, rituals and ceremonies of Jewish culture and give them to the Jewish community and the community at large. It is located on the historic and scenic Embarcadero, facing the Bay and the San Francisco Bay Bridge.

**Joan Allan Horrocks**, president of the Potters Guild of Central Pennsylvania, was the special guest of Cape Cod Potters, Inc. at a meeting in Yarmouth Port, Massachusetts, on July 27. Joan presented a slide show illustrating her methods of raku firing as well as slides of her wall pieces, tiles and table sculpture. Born in Montreal, Canada, Joan studied with Canadian painter Fritz Brandtner. After graduating from Bennington College she studied with and worked as assistant to Edward Waldo Forbes, director emeritus of the Fogg Art Museum at Harvard, and as assistant to Edith Standen, curator of textiles at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. She works full-time these days in her studio in State College, Pennsylvania.

## Reunion '60 Year

**Virginia Weed Smith**  
Golf Course Road  
Washington, Connecticut 06793  
203 868-2502

**Gloria Dibble Pond** participated in the Yale University visiting faculty program in New Haven in June. She is a professor in the arts and humanities division at Mattatuck Community College in Southbury, Connecticut. Gloria holds two graduate degrees from Wesleyan University, where she concentrated on political literature. She is the author of two textbooks on writing and numerous journal articles. She has been on the staffs of *Newsweek*, the *Houston Chronicle* and the *Rockland Independent*.

## '61

**Nancy Markey Chase**  
Box 684  
Norwich, Vermont 05055  
802 649-1486

In 1982 **Susan Marvel Norris** began attending a long series of meetings that culminated in the creation of the Northampton (Massachusetts) Center for the Arts. She had felt a need to take part in civic life, "a real community desire," and she took a year's leave of absence as music teacher at the Leeds and Ryan Road Schools to make her work possible. Council members consider her an "inspirer," saying, "She aims high and is willing to put her work where her mouth is."

After raising her two children she went back to school and received a master's degree in education from Smith College in 1972, and has been teaching music to children from pre-school to sixth grade for nine years. Last year she sustained a broken back when a barn door fell on her, and wore a back brace for several months and learned to value the simple things in life more than ever. Both of her children are in college, Nathaniel, 21, at University of Massachusetts, and Sarah 17, at Smith College. Susan and her husband, attorney William Norris, live in Northampton.

**Sandra Albinson Zapinski** has returned to school to get certification to teach art to school children from kindergarten through 12th grade. She is a senior at the University of Wisconsin in Milwaukee and lives in Wauwatosa.

## '62

**Barbara Marcus Spraffkin**  
941 Comstock Avenue  
Syracuse, New York 13210  
315 422-7753

**Marilyn Brooke Goffstein's** publisher, the Harper & Row Junior Books Group, sent a copy of her latest: *A Writer*, by M.B. Goffstein. A small book, 32 pages, it complements her earlier book, *An Artist*. Its opening words: "A writer sits on her couch, holding an idea...." The jacket message: "Here is M.B. Goffstein's clear and sensitive



interpretation of what it means to be a writer — to be an observer, a shaper, a collector of images gleaned from the everyday world." "Questions," she said, "were the seeds of *A Writer*, which grew for many years, until it was time to 'set words upon paper, to cut, prune, plan, and shape them.'" A quote from *Washington Post Book World*: "Like porcelain, there is more to M.B. Goffstein's work than meets the eye. Beneath the delicacy and fragility is a core of astounding strength."

## '63

**Sandy Perlmutter Greer**  
381 7th Street  
Brooklyn, New York 11215  
212 788-3387 (hm)  
212 686-2032 (wk)

Arlene Heyman's first child, Jacob Heyman Kantor, is just starting at the Bank Street School. He is four years old, and her second child is imminent. Arlene continues her half-time psychoanalytic practice. "With the idea, and sometimes the reality, of writing fiction, I have two stories making the rounds." She and her family vacationed in Spain last June: "My first trip back since my Fulbright after graduation ... I remembered many of the human interactions, but almost none of the physical surroundings ... One's type of sensibility remains constant." The Heyman-Kantor family lives in Manhattan.

## '64

**May L. Vaughan**  
1519 33rd Street  
Washington, D.C. 20007  
202 965-9862

Karen Jackel Wunsch is writing fiction and non-fiction, and teaching English at Queensborough Community College. Husband James is an urban planner with the regional planning association. They live in Highland Park, New Jersey, with their daughter Emma Lucy, eight-and-a-half, and son Jacob, five-and-a-half.

## Reunion '65 Year

**Jill Underwood Bertrand**  
31 Love Lane  
Weston, Massachusetts 02193  
617 647-5288

Diane (Globus) Edington has had a life-long, deep involvement with nature in addition to her cooking career. It took form a few years ago when she authored *Digging It: How to Grow Things Naturally*, a manual on organic gardening. Now she has produced a series of ecology films and authored a nuclear power film script. After several years of photographic exploration, she developed an affinity for landscapes and floral detail; the result is an exhibition of her landscape work in Soho, New York City. Her photography show, "Country Light," in October, was at the River Cultural Center of the Arts in Cold Spring, New York.

## '66

**Karen McAuley**  
910 West End Avenue  
New York, New York 10025  
212 749-4646

Barbara Matthews Spar Furstenberg married Dr. Michael Furstenberg in May. "He is also a psychologist. I am currently a staff psychologist at the Charles River Counseling Center in West Newton, Massachusetts, and I am beginning a private practice. My son, Josh, will be nine this summer." Barbara and her family live in West Newton.

Elizabeth Mason Luckey of Stony Creek, Connecticut, received a master of arts degree in liberal studies from Wesleyan University, Middletown, at commencement ceremonies in June.

Kathran Siegel was invited to exhibit two large wood sculptures as well as one maquette in a show titled "Animals!" at the Washington Square Building, Washington, D.C. The show, sponsored by the Public Art Trust, opened September 20 and continues through January 29. Earlier this year the trust awarded Kathran's "Solar Shrimp" first place in the American Craft Council's Southeast Regional Exhibition, which was held in Lexington, Kentucky. Kathran lives in Jacksonville, Florida.

## '67

**Susan K. Bryant**  
85 East India Row Apt 38A  
Boston, Massachusetts 02110  
617 227-9581

Victor Bumbalo is a playwright whose plays have been produced throughout this country and in Europe and Australia. Recently a collection of his work, *Niagara Falls and Other Plays*, was published by Calamus Books. He is also the co-author of two screenplays, and is the recipient of a MacDowell Colony Fellowship and a Yaddo Fellowship. Victor lives in New York City.

Tracy K. Harris began teaching Spanish, French and linguistics at Stockton State College this fall. Her new address is care of the Division of Arts and Humanities, Stockton State College, Pomona, New Jersey 08240.

A confirmation from Joyce Keener (Cherones): "The Associates for Troubled Children sponsors the Scott Newman Drug Abuse Prevention Awards, two of which in 1984 go to *Knots Landing* and its production company, Lorimar, including honorable mention for last season's episode 'Forsaking All Others,'" also written by Joyce.

Carol Kinne sent a list of her exhibitions and appearances during the past year:

Summer 1983: Artist-in-residence, Sculpture Space, Utica, New York, funded by NYSCA and the Utica Foundation. For it she completed an installation, *Mysteries of Spaceland #1*, 32' x 23' x 14'.

Fall 1983: Installation at Munson-Williams-Proctor Institute, Utica. *Mysteries of Spaceland #2*, 20' x 16' x 12'.

Spring 1984: In group show at Munson-Williams-Proctor; also one-person show at Utica College of Syracuse University (funded by NYSCA).

Summer 1984: Installation at Cooperstown, New York, *Rhomboid Anarchy*, 20' x 20' x 8'; and installation at New Berlin, *Holstein Gallery*, 20' x 20' x 4½', with 6 Holstein heifers.

January 1984: Installed *The Five Platonic Solids*, 1982 in a new building at Hunter College, New York City. This piece was purchased by Hunter.

Susan Mintz Super is enjoying her eighth year of living in Alaska and her job as coordinator of the state's litter reduction and resource recovery program. "Litter is especially repugnant in a state renowned for its natural beauty, and the fight against litter becomes more challenging as the state's population keeps increasing." Susan and her husband Randall live in Juneau.

## '68

**Barbara Fisher Williamson**  
322 Central Park West  
New York, New York 10024  
212 663-1158

Marguerite Saslow is taking a leave from her job of counseling and art therapy to be a full-time mother to her daughter Sarah, born in June 1984. "My partner (and husband) in this adventure is Richard E. Brown, whose work is architecture." Marguerite lives in Portland, Oregon.

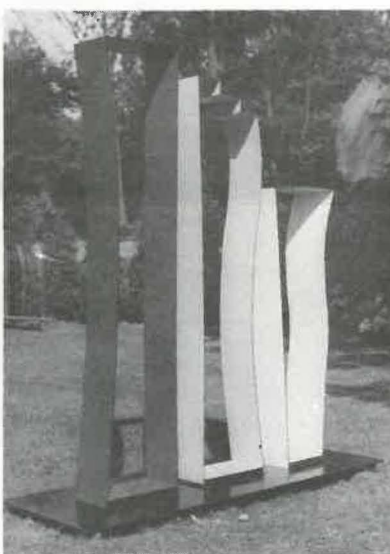
## '69

Now that Mary Crowe has finished co-authoring the new edition of *Our Bodies, Ourselves*, she is back to teaching prepared childbirth classes and attending births. "Our second daughter, Jessye, was born at home on July 25, 1983. What a wonderful event! Our first child, Megan, is three and a half now." Mary, her husband Peter Rothstein, and their children, live in Lincoln, Massachusetts.

Christine Graham and Louis Calabro are the parents of Max David Calabro, born August 17. Max 9 lb. 13½ oz. and was 21½" long at birth.

Liz Lerman's book, *Teaching Dance to Senior Adults*, was published in March 1984 by Charles C. Thomas. Liz lives in Washington, D.C.

Bonnie J. Van Damme was named assistant director for public affairs of the Brooklyn Museum, effective July 1, 1984. She joined the museum staff in 1976 as special events coordinator and advanced to special assistant to the director in 1977. Former positions have been program coordinator at the Smithsonian Associates and museum program manager at the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden. Bonnie lives in Brooklyn, New York.



"Cityscape III" by Miriam Knapp, '55.

Photo by Steve Button.

## Reunion '70 Year

Susan Toepfer has been named arts and entertainment editor of the New York *Daily News*. She joined the News in 1978 as TV Week editor, and has also served as the paper's features editor and book editor. Susan lives in New York City.

## '71

**Barbara Abercrombie**  
92 Macy Street  
Raynham, Massachusetts 02767  
617 822-0725

Lane De Moll's recent note said: "As always, I wish I could give more but all my extra money and time are going into the little Fire Mountain School, which we've started on the North Oregon Coast. It's an exciting project — parent-run, progressive education at its best. It's fun to watch our children sparkle. I am a co-founder and director (working full-time for half-time pay). Very demanding work. Best wishes to you all." Lane lives at Neahkahnie Mountain, Nehalem, Oregon.

Christopher Johnstone sent a long letter recapping his eight-and-a-half-year stint at the National Galleries of Scotland and reporting on his new post as assistant director-curatorial at the Art Gallery of Western Australia in Perth. On his way, in California in September, he stayed with Jil Gotlib Korn '71 and spoke by 'phone to Jane Plimpton Hindrew '73. "When in Paris recently I saw Robert Kovic '72, who was choreographing a new piece for the Pompidou Center." The Art Gallery of Western Australia is a modern gallery with collections covering Australian and Western Australian art, including Aboriginal art, European and American painting, sculpture and works on paper, and design and craft. My job includes the direction of the curatorial departments, education and conservation ..."

Heidi Koring received a 1984 Faculty Development Award at Lincoln, Tennessee, Memorial University. The awards include a plaque of recognition and a cash grant and are presented annually for exceptional and exemplary professional achievement. Heidi received a master of arts degree in teaching from Fitchburg, Massachusetts, State College and completed additional graduate study at the University of New Hampshire. She is now enrolled in a doctoral program in literature at Indiana University of Pennsylvania.

## '72

**Mr. Samuel Schulman**  
Box 447  
Haydenville, Massachusetts 01039  
413 268-7262 (wk)

Anne Bergstorm's second child, Isabelle, was born August 18 "in an exciting three-hour labor, followed by homecoming later the same day. Even more dramatic has been our adjustment as a family, especially for two-and-a-half-year-old Claire." Her younger stepchildren are at home, Rene, 15, and Nicole, 13½; and two older children are at college. "Louise was married in April, so our lives are filled with baby care, night wakings, playgrounds and tricycle rides ... raising toddlers and teenagers together is a little unusual... Through my involvement with LaLeche League I've been able to meet other women committed to full-time mothering, which I find very rewarding ... by far the most challenging and satisfying career I've had. I'm not in a big hurry to return to flute playing... My husband, Camille Gallant, is now a senior partner with Barrow, Nicoll and Company, Chartered Accountants, here in Halifax, Nova Scotia."

Heather Langdon Brown is a dancer with Ellen M. Webb '70, and a masseuse in New York City. She has been studying the Rosen method of massage in Berkeley, California.

Sharon Ott is the new director of the Berkeley (California) Repertory Theater, succeeding the theater's founder and artistic director, Michael Liebert. At the time, Sharon was producing director of the Milwaukee Repertory. When asked about the Berkeley theater's change she said, "The board took a brave step to look outside the community. They felt that the theater was at a place that it could benefit from another point of view. I think the board is courageous. They wanted to move ahead."

Sharon comes from the small town of Corry, Pennsylvania, near Erie. She was considering, at Bennington, a career as an anthropologist and then embarked on theatrical work as an actress. This led to association with director Herbert Blau, study at the California Institute of the Arts with him, and finally into directing with a number of theaters (one of which was her own). She has had some rave reviews in her relatively brief career, including the support of director John Dillon for *American Buffalo* at Berkeley, a joint effort by Berkeley Rep and the



Milwaukee Rep — one of Berkeley's major successes. Her goals for the theater: "We're in a strong position ... not fantastically rich, but we should begin to stretch, with new plays and reworking of classical plays. New writers are out there. They just need discovering. We're a not-for-profit theater. We should take risks. That's why we're here. We shouldn't think that everything we do must be transferable to commercial theater. If we can't take risks no one in theater can."

Gail S. Rothman sent the good news that, beginning in August, she is attending Brooklyn Law School. Gail lives in Manhattan.

Martha Siegel lives in Brooklyn, New York, and is string teacher at the United Nations International School in addition to teaching cello privately. She plays with the trio Three Part Invention, and is cellist and arranger for the Argentine singer Suni Paz, with whom she has recorded four albums on the Folkways label. Martha told a regional paper, *Sojourner*, "Reaching an audience as a cellist is a real luxury I never thought I'd be a part of," and the author concludes: "If you love the cello, or want an introduction to it, find an opportunity to meet and hear Martha Siegel!"

## '73

Anna Shapiro  
155 Bank Street  
New York, New York 10014  
212 989-5703

Richard Fishman, San Francisco chairman of the admissions committee, met with college admissions director Peter Richardson and members of the local admissions committee at Peg Frankel's home on October 24. Committee members will follow up on Peter's initial school visits and interview prospective Bennington students.

From Jeanne Ginsberg: "Another long-lost alumna is resurfacing and would like to receive *Quadrille* ... I am living on Long Island and have returned to graduate school at NYU, and am now a special education teacher and administrator at a wonderful school for emotionally and neurologically delayed children ... It's good to re-connect. I think of the lilacs and hills and meadows and many people." Jeanne asked for information on "NRT positions ... there may be the possibility of such (unpaid) ..." Jeanne lives in Huntington, New York.

Suzanne Owens and James Michael Koenig were married May 27 in Grace Church, Utica, New York. James, a graduate of the University of Maryland and the Cooperstown graduate programs, is curator of the Renfrew Museum and Park, Waynesboro, Pennsylvania. Suzanne, a graduate of Bennington and the Syracuse Graduate School, is employed at the Smithsonian Institute, Washington, D.C. They are living in Harpers Ferry, West Virginia.

Richard Rotman married Nancy Lerner in Toronto, Canada, in July. The couple met on a blind date, Richard wrote. "She's a learning disabilities specialist who was studying in a master's program at Northwestern University" when she met Richard. Richard has been suggesting public relations ideas to Michael Hooker as he climbs the ladder at Ruder Finn & Rothman, Inc. where he is now a member of the board and manager of the Chicago office.

## '74

Susan Still  
Mr. Peter Bergstrom  
15 Sellers Avenue  
Lexington, Virginia 24450  
703 463-6684

Lori Barnet brought us up to date: "I've returned to the District of Columbia area, where I grew up, after two years in Augusta, Georgia. I was principle cellist in the symphony there, and played chamber music as well. Also gave several solo recitals. Saw *no* Bennington folk in the Deep South. I have a new recording out of American compositions and have also been busy delving into the baroque."

"On the family front, Bill and I are restoring a 1876 Victorian house and are learning all about plumbing and tin roofs. We have two sons — Seth, 6, and Clark, 2½ — who are likewise acquainted with old house woes. They also consider themselves accomplished musicians."

"My sister, Elna Barnet Elsea '72, is still an attorney for the agriculture department. She also has new twin boys, Paul and Warren, born January 10, 1984."

Lori is living in Rockville, Maryland.

Sarah Jane Rodman finished her Army contract this summer. She is now relaxing with her family, which includes her son, Charles, now one, and her husband, Mark Sterling. Sarah and her family live in Ridgewood, New Jersey.



Deborah Gladstein '77, performed in the October Alumni Dance Concert in Martha Hill, along with other performers Meg Cottam '80, Harry Whittaker Sheppard '69, David Jon Krohn '83, Penny Larrison Campbell '70 and Susan Meyers Sgorbati '72.

## Reunion '75 Year

Deborah Bornstein  
900 West Wrightwood Apt. 3  
Chicago, Illinois 60614  
312 528-3806 (H) 222-9350 (W)

Carol Lazurus and her husband, Paul Donovan, report the birth of Sam Edwin Donovan on August 22, 1984. The family lives in Watertown, New York.

Susan Lee Marcus and Morgan Halperin were married June 24 at Le Club in Manhattan by Rabbi Mark Goldman. Susan is a reservations sales representative for United Airlines in San Francisco. Morgan is in the musical production field and began studies late this summer at Hastings College of the Law at the University of California in San Francisco.

Pamela Morgan was remembered by George Plimpton in his July 1984 *Vanity Fair* article about "Fireworks!":

"Curiously, the small, more intimate shows are the ones I remember most vividly ... one that John Serpico and I did in the mountains of Vermont — an occasion to mark the graduation of the class of 1975 from Bennington College ... one of the members of that class, Pamela Morgan, asked if there was any point in trying to persuade her senior tutor to let her do her senior thesis on the history of fireworks ... Alas her tutor did not share

my enthusiasm. She ended up doing her thesis on the poems of Paul Eluard."

Susan Roehrich (stage name Seus Edwards) and her mime partner Tom Pierce appeared in concert at Hamilton Auditorium October 17. The concert was sponsored by the Cental Kentucky Art Series and in part by the National Endowment for the Arts through the Southern Arts Federation. *Variety* magazine has hailed the performers' "classic pantomime technique, nightclub slickness and theatrical acting ability. Ranging from broad slapstick to subtle mime, their pieces reflect many facets of human experience. With their well-crafted silent stories, they bring mime with a twist to their audiences."

Robert Sawyer, leader of the Southern California alumni, held a general meeting on November 7 and his key committees are at work. He will be meeting with Peter Richardson, college admissions director, and area committee members Liz Glotzer '83, Hilary Baum '82 and Matt Jacobsen '83 to plan a local admissions program. Other alumni are at work finding Field Work Term jobs and planning fund-raising projects.

especially interested in sports medicines and dancers' injuries.

Ruth Griggs and Charles Fontana were married August 18 at the Park Hill Meeting House in Westmoreland, New Hampshire. Charles is a manager in sales promotion at Avon Products in New York, and is a graduate of New York University. Ruth, an assistant marketing manager at American Express, will retain her name professionally. They live in Manhattan.

## '77

Elisse Ghitelman  
68 Freeman Road  
Yarmouth Port, Massachusetts 02675  
617 362-3096

Allyn Elizabeth Bridgeman was married June 17 to Daniel Andre Petit in the first Congregational Church of Madison, Connecticut. Daniel is employed as a press relations manager with Saab-Scania of America and is a graduate of New York University. Allyn is a photo editor with Gamma-Liaison Agency. They are living in Madison.

Deborah Gladstein '77 flies through the air in this Dance Theater Workshop photo by Johan Elbers. Since moving to New York City in 1977 she has presented her work at Dance Theater Workshop, the Kitchen Center, Danspace and the Cunningham Studio. Most recently she premiered *Burning Through*, an evening-length work with music and video by Sam Kanter, commissioned by Dance Theater Workshop under a grant from the Jerome Foundation of St. Paul, Minnesota. The video portion was funded, in part, by Dance Theater Workshop's "Dance/Video Access" project, under grants from the National Endowment for the Arts and the New York State Council on the Arts. She was awarded a Fellowship from the National Endowment for the Arts in 1984 (her earlier awards were 1981 and 1982), as well as a grant from the Creative Artists Public Service Program (1982).

Lise Motherwell has received her master's degree in educational technology from Harvard University. This fall she entered a doctoral program in arts and media technology at Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Lisa is working on a "randomly accessible" documentary of the civil rights movement from 1960 to 1975 to be put on videodisc as a resource for college students, professors and researchers. Lise's home is Somerville, Massachusetts.

## '79

Lexey Lee Russell  
Box 59  
North Bennington, VT 05257  
802-447-1864

## Reunion '80 Year

Kim Kafka  
1600 E. Anne Street Apt 3  
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104  
313 761-1961

Kim-yok Chea and Michael C. Tarbox were married at the home of the bride's brother in San Francisco in July. Kim-yok is a wire service operator at Prudential Bache Securities. Michael is a senior employment representative for the Chinatown Resources Development Center. The couple lives in San Francisco.

Julie B. Tessler and Eugene Thomas Pelham were married in August. Julie received a master's degree in social work from Boston College and has been employed by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts as a systems analyst in the Department of Elder Affairs. Eugene is director of planning and community development for the city of Somerville. He graduated from Tufts University and

## '76

Edith "Ish" Bicknell  
665 West 160th Street  
New York, New York 10032  
212 923-4092

Robin Brickman continues to be busy illustrating various natural science books and magazine articles, "from horticultural subjects, to human anatomy, biology, and most currently insects. The variety is great."

"Jeff and I are moving as of September 1. He has a post-doctorate at Bell Laboratories. My new studio will be bright and spacious, and I'd welcome visitors! My new address will be: 32 Second Avenue, Atlantic Highlands, New Jersey 07716.

Gillian Angle Drake is working at Arena Stage in Washington, D.C., and directing plays "around town. Some dramatic changes are in the works, so I'll have to let you know more soon."

Maura Wolfson Foster had a five-week adventure with her five-year-old daughter this summer — they went to Scotland. Home is Jacksonville, Florida.

Lynne Froome, M.D. is a third-year resident in orthopedic surgery at Brown University Affiliated Hospitals in Providence, Rhode Island. Lynn is



**HOT, COOL AND SPONTANEOUS**, the Black Music Division's Fall Concert Series in November featured faculty members and alumni among the notable artists appearing in five Paul Robeson House performances.

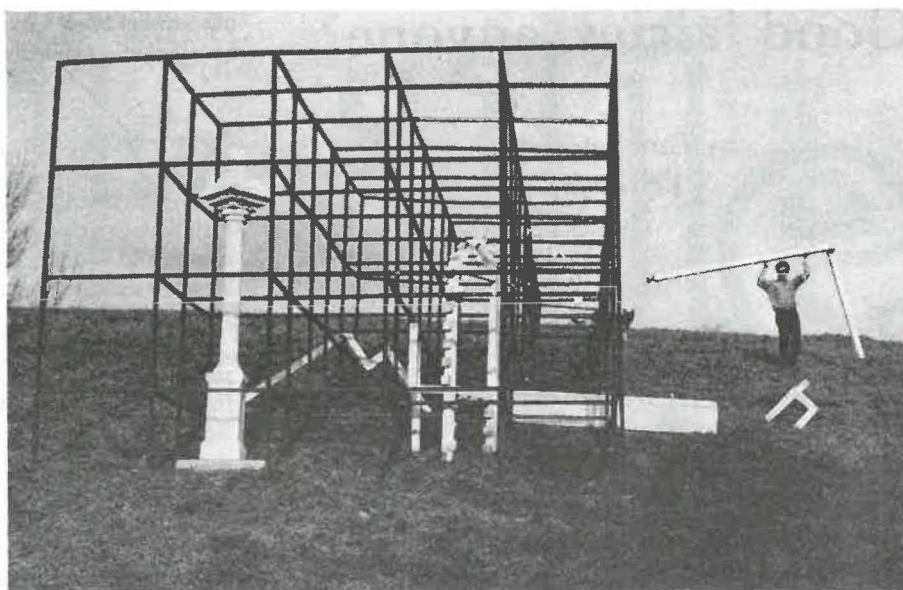
Percussionist Milford Graves and his quartet led off. Artist-in-residence Marco Eneidi, tenor sax, and his quartet were on the next night. The third evening's concert was collective improvisation with faculty member Arthur Brooks on trumpet and flugelhorn, accompanied by Eneidi, guest percussionist Sydney Smart '75 and Dan Gorn, bass, the only student taking part in this year's series. Alto saxophonist Jimmy Stewart and his septet were up from Philadelphia for the second-last night. The series closed with Bennington's Bill Dixon on trumpet, joined by bass players Lawrence Cook and Peter Cobalt and Marco Pravone, drums. Their forays in sound drew expression up through the roots of Black music using, in one reviewer's phrase, "the sparest and barest essentials to say what needs to be said."

Two other alumni who were Series participants are dancers Penny Larrison Campbell '70 and Susan Meyers Sgorbati '72.

With plans proceeding to meld Black Music into the Music Division, this year's event was the last to be sponsored by the Black Music Division as such, but hardly the last for enjoying music and artistry adjudged by consensus "really great."



Bill Dixon, on stage with his Series quartet, and on Black music: "... a way of using musical materials as another kind of inflection. When you hear it, you know it."



"My intention was to set up a series of sculptures along College Drive to enhance the experience of movement, space and time."

"The imagery, especially the grids, was supposed to deal with the landscape — monumentality, gradient, and structures juxtaposed against landscape. Signs and symbols, reinterpreted in the sculpture, are very important to the piece in its entirety, as are spatial definitions." — Rob Barnstone, graduating senior



photos by  
Erika Bundt

Early in November, the open pastures on either side of College Drive started sprouting painted constructions, some of striking proportions and colors. By December, there were several dozen sections in place, and the sense of a full-blown installation took imaginative hold. About-to-graduate art and architecture major Robert Barnstone began to take down his project piece by piece at the close of the term. Marie Parker of the Information and Publications office had a representative reaction to the outdoor art: "Every day when I drove up the hill it would change, spreading further and further up and down the fields. It was exciting. I'm really going to miss it."

holds a master's degree in city planning from the Harvard Graduate School of Design.

Jennifer Westberg is an art student at the Art Students League in New York City, studying painting with Frank Mason. She graduated from Sarah Lawrence College in 1981.

**'81**

**Donzia Franklin**  
13 Hughes Place  
New Haven, Connecticut 06511  
203 332-2026

Pat (Patricia) Levings offered one short course early in November at the Park-McCullough House in North Bennington: The Motel Alternative. Pat has an international career background in food service management consulting. She is the author of *Profit from Food Service*, published in 1974, and of trade magazine articles on management problem-solving. She lives in Bennington.

**'82**

**Michele Plaut**  
237 Bergen Street  
Brooklyn, New York 11217  
212 858-7824

Jill Beckwith appeared in concert early this summer at the Park-McCullough House. She debuted at Carnegie Hall, New York City, with dancer Barbara Roan of the dance faculty in 1982. Jill lives in Bennington, Vermont.

Pamela Docters has completed her final year of school and moved from Washington, D.C., to New York City to join Grey Advertising, Inc. as an assistant account executive in their international department. "I'm looking forward to working as well as getting together with Bennington friends there." Her new address: 860 United Nations Plaza N16-C, New York, New York 10017.

**AH! Anyone else yearning for news only *Quadrille* can give them . . .**

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Make checks for \$12.00 payable to Bennington College, and while you're at it enclose some news about yourself!

Christine Fries is living in Padova, Italy. She is working and studying, "not just vacationing ... I'm teaching English to individual students, which offers more freedom for schedules than teaching in a school. All of my current students are doctors who work with my host, a visitor in my home for six months last year." She works on her Italian daily and is also taking a German class as "I'm applying to a business school in France for '85 and the third language of the school is German complete with a proficiency test. The good news is the class is *not* at 8:30 a.m., the bad news is that Reinhard (Mayer) isn't teaching it ... Italy is as lovely as ever ... we have been to Venice for the Film Festival and the Vivaldi Festival." Christine offered to interview prospective students in the area, if needed. She also requested that *Quadrille* be sent to her even "if I have to pay for it."

**'83**

**Jean Maguire**  
Box 102  
Tesuque, New Mexico 87574  
505 984-1294

John Shepler, Kevin Zoernig (Special Student) and Spin Dunbar '85 have been playing as the Delta Trio for about a year. John began playing jazz in high school and collaboration with Zoernig began in his sophomore year. He and Dunbar work for a real estate firm; Zoernig teaches privately and is resident accompanist at the College of Santa Fe, New Mexico. All three live in Santa Fe.

**'84**

Michael Shari sent clippings of two articles he wrote for the September 27 issue of the *Villager*. He says he realizes how lucky he is to have had the experience of writing for *Quadrille*. "I am going to be returning to India eventually to 'write another book,' borrowing the phrase of those who have asked me to do so."





# crossett column

## Good fairies, anyone?

by Toni Petersen,  
Librarian

It boosts a column writer's morale to know that her efforts are actually read. How do I know? Last December, at the very end of an article describing some collections of books that had been donated to the library, I noted our desire for a donor to fill in missing volumes of the *Best Plays* series. A reader as donor emerged in the person of Sol Jacobson of New Hope, Pennsylvania. Sol has theater interests and is proud of his connection with five Bennington women: his first wife, now deceased, and his present wife are alumni, as are his two daughters and a stepdaughter. His donation of the needed volumes filled a gap in our resources for the theater program and inspired me to search for more donors to help with specific needs.

Random gift books are always a mixed blessing to librarians, especially with a collection as selective as Bennington's. Each one must be checked against the library's holdings and evaluated as to desirability for inclusion. Such checking and processing take a great deal of staff time. At Bennington, however, it is a measure of the quality of the books that come our way that two things can be said about them: many are duplicates of books we already have, and most of the books not duplicates are desirable and are accepted for processing. Books that are not needed are sold in

our annual book sale and so benefit the library in another way.

We are especially interested in strengthening our collections in the visual and performing arts and in literature. It is our aim to become a regional resource in these areas of excellence in Bennington's academic program.

A recent and poignant example of donors' support for this aim is the gift of almost 300 books from the library of Michael T. McHenry, a Bennington student during 1981-82 who died last summer. His parents donated the books in Michael's memory, and have in addition been responsible for setting up the Michael T. McHenry Library Fund, which has already had a large number of donations from friends and associates. As I look over the wonderful books Michael collected, I find myself thinking of the impact Bennington might have had upon him. The books are a silent but eloquent testimony to a lively, artistic and sensitive mind. They deal with art — the very latest currents — and literature and a little philosophy. What part did Bennington play in setting such high artistic values for this student? Even though our contact was brief, we can be proud of Michael, and of Bennington.

Other recent gifts also reflect the fact that our donors are special people. Much-appreciated collections came this year from Eugene Goosen, former faculty member in the visual arts who gave many volumes of art journals; Victor Weinblatt, a friend of the college with interests in literature and linguistics; Helen Cummings Vanderbilt '41, who sent sets of Shakespeare and major 19th and early

20th century authors; Anna Hooker, whose donation of children's books will aid those who work in early childhood education; Marcia Carlisle, former faculty member in social studies who gave works on political science and women's studies; and Eleanor Rockwell Edelstein '47 who, together with husband Mel, chief librarian at the National Gallery of Art, often supplies us with boxes of books.

I should point out that because Crossett is the beneficiary, our staff is not able to provide evaluations to donors for their gifts or books. Nor will we always have the expertise to assess the dollar value of old or special items. However, we are often able to guide donors to reliable sources.

When I asked the library staff for a small wish list, they responded with a few of the additions they feel we really should have but can't afford right now, several of which have also been noted by faculty:

*DICTIONARY OF THE MIDDLE AGES* — 12 volumes

*GRANDE DICTIONNAIRE ENCYCLOPEDIQUE LAROUSSE* — 10 volumes

*DEUTSCHES WORTERBUCH GRIMM* — 33 volumes

Missing years of *THE NEW YORK TIMES* on microfilm — 1939-1944

*THE PERSONAL NAME INDEX to THE NEW YORK TIMES INDEX 1851-1974* — 22 volumes.

Perhaps there is another good fairy out there?

## faculty notes

Bernard Malamud, Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist and short story writer, read from his memoirs and recent works as part of the Ben Belitt Lecture Series in October. In "Short Life, Long Work — A Memoir," he spoke of the highlights of a writer's career. "The writer," he told the audience, "searches for his own truth ... where there is no work, there are no words."

At Williams College last spring, Joe McGinnis spoke about some of the research he has been doing for his next book, unnamed, which will be about Los Alamos. He told of the prodigious mobilization of personnel and material that brought Los Alamos into being, the efforts of secrecy, the kaleidoscope of personalities, the reactions of scientists and generals to the results of their intense labors. Some were exultant at the casualty estimates from Hiroshima, others were appalled and suffered dislocations of conscience. One of the latter, he said, was Joan C. Hinton '42, a physicist. In 1952 she urged at the closing session "the outlawing of atomic bombs, bacteriological warfare and all weapons of mass destruction." He had been corresponding with her in preparation for a visit to Peiping this fall and plans to interview her for an *Esquire* article to appear some time next year.

Neil Rappaport's collective photographic portrait of a small New England community was on view at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art for four weeks from mid-July to mid-August. Rather than establish a dialogue between photographer and subject, Rappaport has sought to document a specific place in the tradition of many anonymous or obscure 19th-century photographers. The town's architectural heritage is also evident in many of the photographs.

Louis Calabro and Vivian Fine have been chosen as recipients of 1984-85 American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP) awards, designed to "assist and encourage writers of serious music" and support the "development of our nation's musical future."

Tony Carruthers was at the Architectural Association in London from January to July of this year. While there he developed a number of video projects, including tapes on Lisbon, Portugal; Canvey Island in Essex; and architect Cedric Price, to be the first in a series on contemporary architects made with Dennis Compton and Peter Buller at the Architectural Association. Future projects include a collaboration with architect Will Alsop and artist Bruce McLean. Meantime, the Judson Dance Theatre interviews are being distributed by the Kitchen in New York for Bennington College. They were made in collaboration with Wendy Perron and a number of Bennington students, and are also housed in the Lincoln Center Library of Performing Arts Dance Collection.

Ed Flaccus, Natural Science and Mathematics Division, attended the 1984 annual meeting of the Ecological Society of America held in conjunction with the American Institute of Biological Sciences at Fort Collins, Colorado this past August. He did not lack for friends:

"Bennington graduates were much in evidence. Peter White '71 was coorganizer of the symposium 'Vegetation in Time and Space: Developing the Paradigm of Scale.' He was also coauthor of three papers presented. Peter got his Ph.D. in plant ecology at Dartmouth, did post-doctoral work, and is currently a research scientist at the Uplands Field Research Laboratory, Great Smokies National Park, Tennessee.

"Evan DeLucia '79 coauthored a paper, 'Photosynthetic Inhibition after Long-term Exposure to Elevated Levels of Atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub>.' Evan earned his master's degree in plant ecology at the Yale School of Forestry. He is currently a Ph.D. candidate in plant ecology at Duke University, doing his research on Englemann spruce in the Medicine Bow Mountains of Wyoming. During a pre-meeting weekend in the Medicine Bows, Evan took a group of us on a tour of his research sites.

"Sally and I had a mini-reunion with Paul '77 and Saralee (Bess) Bloese '79 near Fort Collins. Paul has just finished his master's degree in forest genetics at Colorado State University School of Forestry. He has a forest genetics job with Michigan State University. Both literature majors at Bennington, they have a lovely daughter, Caitlin."

Ed and Sally Flaccus also made the acquaintance of a first grandchild, Brian Hance Flaccus. Later in the fall, Ed gave an illustrated lecture, "Botanizing in Crete by Foot and Balloon," at Harvard's Botanical Museum.



Remy Charlip premiered *TEN MEN* at Brooklyn Academy

### Former Faculty

Dr. Wallace Fowlie, the James B. Duke professor emeritus of romance languages at Duke University, delivered the annual Phi Beta Kappa lecture at Randolph-Macon College on October 15. His topic was "Picasso's Paris at the Turn of the Century." Earlier in October he gave a talk in Burlington, North Carolina, at Elon College, entitled "On the Art of Autobiography." Fowlie is described by *The Nation* as "perhaps the most prolific of Americans who have written on French literature for the past four decades." He has received two Guggenheim fellowships, three Newberry Library fellowships, and was the first recipient of the Vursell Memorial Award from the American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters. He has taught at Yale, the University of Chicago, the University of Colorado and Duke, as well as at Bennington College.

Sophia Healy, teacher of drawing and papermaking from 1968-1982, will have a show of paintings and handmade paperworks at 112 Greene Street, New York City, opening January 8, 1985 and closing February 2. She is director and owner of Trout Paper, a handmade paper shop in White Creek, New York.

Remy Charlip, who taught dance at Bennington in 1976 and 1981, performed at the Brooklyn Academy of Music's Next Wave Festival on October 17 and 21. Charlip, a dancer, choreographer and prize-winning artist, presented the world premiere of his first full-evening work, *Ten Men*, incorporating his new solo, "Before Me Peaceful."