Alle Cumining

Bennington College Class of 1969

福斯

Marie .

25th Reunion Class Book

Cover Credit: Maren Jenkins Hassinger '69 Name in college: Present name:

Dian Allen Dian Rains Allen

Address:

115 San Francisco Blvd. San Anselmo, CA 94960

Telephone:

(415) 457-3533

Significant Other/Spouse/Children:

Two daughters: Acacia, 17 and Amber, 13.

What has happened since graduation that has been important to you? What would you like to be different in your life in the next five to ten years? What is your favorite quote?

Participating in the mystery and life-changing experience of giving birth to my two daughters stand out as the most important events since Bennington. Likewise, having such a front row seat in seeing the lives of two individuals unfold before me.

Two other important unfoldments have been having a private practice of dreamwork and performing writings that grew out of the dreamwork, and my creative work as artist, writer, actress, and dream shaman. Both were/are very numinous experiences that I am still trying to figure how to feel grounded in my life with.

Recently (1990) I went to graduate school at Pacifica Graduate Institute and got an M.A. in counseling psychology, and on the path to a Marriage, Family, Child Counseling State Licence. I thought this would help with the grounding -- to wear a collective coat and still practice dreamwork, visions and original works. 3,000 internship hours later -- yes, it has helped with the grounding. I've really enjoyed the colleagueship and being down to earth. I hope being more firmly planted in the collective* (Bennington wisely does not do this in undergraduate school) will allow the numinous work to flower again and give some gifts of popular published books about Dreams, Relationships and Poetic Daily Life. That's what I hope happens by the next 3 years (1 book), and I will re-find my own authority and voice after field.

My favorite quote: "The reason for The 'Other' is so there is always something ineluctable, ineffable, out of our control" from my performance on plutonium.

I also hope in 2-6 years that I will be comfortable financially from the authentic work, rather than just getting by all these years.

By the way, my life has taken place since Bennington here in Marin County. $\,$



Name in college: Present name:

Address:

Telephone:

Holly Neilson Barrett Holly N. Barrett, Ph.D. 22300 Kinzie Street Chatsworth, CA 91311

(818) 709-6893 (home)

(818) 986-4656 (office)

Significant Other/Spouse/Children: Stephan S. Zusman, Ph.D. -- husband; Josh Zusman (22 yrs.)--step son.

I am such a product of my time and place! Here are my intentions, arbitrarily divided from one another:

-To attend to family and the dailiness of life that, above all, gives me the most pleasure.

-To maintain a psychotherapy practice that is meaningful in the chilly

world of managed care.

-To develop a spiritual understanding that is both mystical and socially activist. To this end, I've forged an odd combination of T'ai-Chi practice and activism within the local Jewish community. For California, its actually not so odd.

-To be useful in Los Angeles' painful effort to become truly democratic. I'm currently working with an arts program for kids on probation. I'm looking for ways to participate as a social psychologist in urban affairs.

-To figure out a way to pay for the earthquake damage to our house. Talk about a spiritual awakening! The mountains down the street from us rose 16 inches in 12 seconds. I immediately felt horrible guilt for all the anthills I destroyed as a kid roller skating.

Name in college: Present name:

Susan Blanck

Address:

Susan Franzen

2862 S.W. Rutland Terrace

Portland, OR 97201 (503) 224-8607

Telephone:

email: 71234,703 @ compuserve.com

Significant Other/Spouse/Children:

Husband- Bob, Son - Peter (13), Son - Thomas(10).

What are you up to now?

I now live in Portland, Oregon. Professionally, I work as a psychologist in a private clinical practice. My community interests have included day care and Planned Parenthood. Although I never imagined living in Oregon I am very much at home here and don't know of any place I'd rather be.

There was some rough going when, after graduating Bennington with utopian ideas about education, I went to graduate school and found it appallingly opressive. I had to replace the idealism with a passion for endurance. Otherwise, in regard to the difficulties and the horrors that befall people, I have been an observer but not a casualty.

Can you describe your ideal day?

I like to ski, knit, work, swim, golf, ride my bike and backpack with my family. I like to talk to my friends. I like to travel and I like to stay home. Any combination of these would make for a fine day.





Name in college: Present name: Address:

Kristine Brightenback E. Kristina Baer 59 Poplar Street Newport, RI 02840 (401) 849-7109

Telephone:

What has happened since graduation that is important to you?

Between 1969 and 1981, I taught elementary school for a year, received my doctorate in French (1974 Princeton University), and taught at the University of California, Santa Cruz. I married George Baer (1978) and became a stepmother (Susan, Charles, Carolyn). Between 1981, when we moved to Newport, RI and 1991, I worked as a language education consultant, a visiting professor of French, a magazine editor, and an acquisitions and development editor for a college textbook publisher. I also published magazine and journal articles (women's golf, yachting, higher education, the arts), a children's story (Best Friends) and a book (Leo Spitzer on Language and Literature: A Descriptive Bibliography). In 1990, I founded an organization called Women in Publishing-Boston, for which I serve as general coordinator.

What are you up to now?

I live in an 18th century house near the harbor in Newport with my husband and our bichon frise, Brie. Since 1991 I have worked as a freelance editor and writer, specializing in French and German textbooks and videos. I am particularly interested in developing multimedia projects for second language education, and expect to become increasingly involved in this area over the next ten years.



Name in college:

Deborah Choate

Present: Address:

Deborah Chaote, MD 3 Peirce Hill Road Lincoln, MA 01773

Telephone:

(617) 259-4431

Significant Other/Spouse/Children:

David Urion (husband), Kara Urion (stepdaughter) 10 years old, Rufus Urion (son) 5 years old.

What are you up to now?

I am listening to my family's voices coming up from the dock, as I try to get something on paper, last minute, as usual. In the next 5 to 10 years (probably 10) I'd like not to procrastinate so. So right now, this very minute, I'm in the midst of some ideal days, vacation, on the water, where I've been every year of my life, and now I get to see my children there.

The rest of the time, I work as a child psychiatrist, live in the country outside of Boston. I am married to a pediatric neurologist, and have a 10 year old stepdaughter and 5 year old son, and a few too many animals.

What has been the biggest change or most unpredictable change you have been through?

The biggest change for me has been general outlook. I hesitate to try to explain--mostly, my life worked out to be something much happier than I'd ever thought possible. For this I am daily and deeply grateful.

What has happened since graduation that has been important to you?

I left Bennington after two years and ended up graduating from Columbia a years late, then going on to medical school quite a bit later. It has not been the fast track. I still don't "understand" war, and am on the bucking bronco of the American health care system. I want my children and everyone else to find alternatives to violence.

What is your favorite quote?

Two favorite quotes that come to mind are from John Fogarty: "Sometimes I think life is like a rodeo; the trick is to ride and make it to the bell", and "put me in coach, I'm ready to play."

*** If anyone knows where Cordelia Duke is, please let me know. I've been missing her for 24 years.

Name in college: Present name:

Address:

Telephone:

Sarah W. Cook Sarah Longacre

333 East 43 Street, #819

New York, NY 10017

No phone calls please!



Significant Other/Spouse/Children:

Daughter: Vanessa Longacre, 20, will be a junior at Sarah Lawrence in the autumn. Although accepted at Bennington, she chose Sarah Lawrence because of its proximity to NYC.

What has happened since graduation that has been important to you?

The single most important on-going issue has been how to make a living without totally sacrificing my need to feel (and sometimes even be) creative. The results of my efforts in this regard have been wildly uneven: a high point might be the photography, writing, and editing I did for a newspaper (SOHO NEWS) in the late 1970's and the early 1980's and a low point-although not the worst-was working in a photographic library as a picture cataloguer. I'd rate my current job somewhere in the middle.

What are you up to now?

For the past eight years I've been the Photography Editor for an illustrated book publishing company (Stewart, Tabori, and Chang). When the company was flourishing I felt lucky to have my job because I got to do so many different kinds of things related to all the ways that photographs can come to be in books. Additionally by running the photography department, interacting with all the other departments in a way that is unusual in book publishing, and getting to meet photographers and review work on a regular basis, I was sure that I had the best job in all of publishing. The economy has been rough on business and the only current project I can point to with pride is the editing (text and photography) I did for GARDENS: AN ENGAGEMENT CALENDAR for 1995 with photographs by Andrew Lawson.

What is your favorite quote?

In the calendar I included excerpts of poetry and prose for each weekly spread

from which I choose my currant favorite quote:

"Real happiness lies in the little things, in a bit of garden work, in the rattle of the teacups in the next room, in the last chapter of a book." W. N. P. Barbellion from JOURNAL OF A DISAPPOINTED MAN.



Name in college: Address:

Virginia Creighton '69 95 St. Marks Place

New York, NY 10009

Telephone:

(212) 473 3691

Significant Other/Spouse/ Children:

Cat, Sheela!

What are you up to now?

I suddenly realized last Spring that I wanted to work in Special Ed classes and as of this Spring I've been a paraprofessional in a High School in Manhattan. I love the work and it gives me great energy. I also continue painting and think it's getting better and better. Nature is still important to me but more so now is a figurative element.

Name in college: Present name:

Sally Dodge Mole Lathrop Lane

Address:

Arlington, Vermont 05250

Telephone:

(802) 362-2718

Significant Other:

Dale Guldbrandsen, an organizational development consultant. **Children:**

(Mine) Christopher Mole, 25, Movie producer/director in Hollywood. Just got his first feature film contract. Matthew Mole, 23, Environmental economist looking for a job in the San Francisco area. Graduated from UVM in December. **Children:** (Dale's) Gretchen Guldbrandsen, 24, nursing student at UVM. Heidi Guldbrandsen, 22, graduating from UVM in Environmental Studies in May '94. Kristen Guldbrandsen, 21, student at Culinary Institute of America.

Biggest and most unpredictable change?

Finding out who I really was after getting divorced! It was a big surprise to me, coming after 13 years of marriage which I thought was a fine one. We were farming 400 acres in Pownal, and when he left, I chose to stay on the farm and be the farmer. It was a turning point where I for once took real responsibility for my life and who I am. I found out that without him I was just fine, in fact a lot better! A much stronger woman, a much better farmer than he had been, a better mother without having to agonize over child-rearing decisions with him. I found out I am a pretty good mechanic (!), anyone can drive a tractor and bale hay; women are generally better at handling animals; having friends and students living and working with you in your household is a great way to bring up kids.

Once my kids went away to school, I gave up my farm, as it was lonely without them there. Bought a house in Arlington with my sig. other, Dale. He and I travel a lot, have a lot of fun, work hard both together and separately.

What are you up to now?

Part-owner of The Mountain Goat, three outdoor outfitting shops located in Williamstown, MA, Manchester, VT, and Northhampton, MA. It's a fun business, with lots of great people involved. Customers who enjoy the outdoors, great partners and employees who are skiers, climbers, mountain bikers, backpackers; and an industry that is young, healthy, outdoor oriented, and environmentally conscious. Having access to all this technical clothing and equipment has made me a lot more involved in the outdoors than I might otherwise have been, and has taken me on trips such as telemarking and X-C skiing in Alaska, hiking in the Grand Canyon and Switzerland, competing in the 50K Birkebeiner X-C race in Wisconsin with 8000 others.

What issues of a public nature are on your mind?

The environment, the survival of our planet, the legacy we are leaving on our kids! I am involved as much as possible in trying to help with whatever can be done to make people aware that we have to change our paradigm, work on

sustainability in resource use, business, population. I am president of Community Agricultural Center, a small organization which is working on food security and farm advocacy in Vermont. Thinking globally, acting locally, I am finding that this locally-concentrated work is indeed leading me to the global issues. I have been asked to speak for a few groups, which has been fun, interesting, and educational. I continue to try to become more aware of what we can do to make the world a better place; and I try to get the word out to others.



Name in college: Present name:

Address:

Telephone:

Laurie Jane Eliscu Laurie Eliscu Calahan 8 Imperial Landing Westport, CT 06880

(203) 227-2681 (home) (212) 724-2800 (service)

Significant Other/Spouse/Children:

Patrick Calahan (husband); Lili, Kathy, Christie, and Tommy (children).

What are you up to now?

I continue teaching acting part-time at S.U.N.Y.- Purchase College, directing plays on a free-lance basis, and mothering my little boy, my teenage daughter, and (sometimes) my 2 grown daughters. I'm also in the process of finding a composer for a Mark Twain musical at Sarah Lawrence College. (I'm also searching for a composer for a short film that was interrupted by the birth of baby #4). Meanwhile, I try to "get in shape"-- a life-long dream -- and broaden my skills in theatre by taking classes in dance and fencing. I hope to get back to singing lessons soon. Other daily activities include reading scripts, making phone calls, and planning theatrical projects, broken up by vigorous walks on the beach, and, lest this sound too romantic, home improvements and childcare. I did, however, just direct an Equity showcase of a new play at the Pulse Ensemble Theatre on Theatre Row in NYC and am about to audition actors for I Hate Hamlet which I will be directing for Westport Community Theatre in September. I guess I live an odd-ball life and have never ever been a "good housewife."

What is the most difficult thing you have faced and how did you get through it?

The most difficult thing I have faced has been Reality. I was ill-prepared for it due to the intense and somewhat unhealthy upbringing provided by my parents (whom I love in spite of it!) and by the ingrained social messages of the 1950s - early 60s (i.e. what every woman needs to be fulfilled is a husband and babies -- all born before she is 35, of course). This message played havoc with my true self, which I am still discovering, and with my feminist identity. I dealt with it by becoming seriously depressed several times, getting some psychotherapy, and slowly peeling away the untruths and building up my self respect.

Marriage and children are somewhat satisfying to me or I wouldn't still be married for 27 years to the guy I met in the Bennington Commons, nor would I have willingly brought four human beings into the world (now ages 4, 18, 22, & 24). Still I kept looking for more fulfillment and satisfaction in marriage and children than either can give me. Over and over I've discovered that real satisfaction can come -- not all the time, but frequently -- from WORK. You'd think that the work-term would have taught me that, but it didn't. The work-term taught me what kind of work I didn't like, not how important work would be to my self-esteem once I became married or a "mother."

Even the theatre department at Bennington kept me in a dream world, preparing me and other actresses for a repertory theatre that rarely exists in the U.S. and carefully avoiding any information or training that would enable us to fit into the ugly realities of show <u>business</u>. I do know that my daughter Kathy got a more "realistic" and thorough education from the musical theatre department of Boston Conservatory of Music. Somehow there has to be a balance between wonderful Bennington courses that expand the mind and the realities of getting published or produced or paying a mortgage.

In fact, the most difficult thing I have had to face is the fact that I am 46 years old and have NEVER had a full-time job. I have had summer jobs directing students in musicals and I have taught classes in theatre for many years, including teaching as an adjunct professor where I am underpaid, have no office other than my car, no medical insurance or benefits other than my husband's, and no job security: next term's classes can be cancelled the day before they begin if the enrollment is low. I have never known what it is to belong to an arts/educational organization as a full-time, permanent, paid employee. I have directed and acted in many productions, but they are short term positions. When the play is over, people scatter. AND YET, I CAN'T GIVE UP! I am coping with this by consulting with a career coach (who is teaching me the business of theatre) and by membership in the Society of Stage Directors and Choreographers, which has informational and support services.

I write this sitting on a beach in Westport, thanks to my husband's job and my own skill in buying and selling (and renovating) real estate. I write this leaning on a script sent Priority Mail by a producer -- while my four year old son pulls on the back of my beach chair and bangs on me with a shovel complaining, "Come on, Mom, let's go!" The picture of reality is thus complete by the lack of good reliable childcare in this country. Once again, the babysitter (hired for \$8.50 an hour) didn't show up.

I am also aware that these problems are petty in relation to the threat of AIDS, the problems of homelessness, hunger, violent crime, and the lack of basic human rights in many countries.

What would you like to be different in your life in the next five to ten years?

I intend to get my directing career into the "big league" either as a free-lance director or by starting my own company. I would like to see this

coincide with my teaching in the daytime division at S.U.N.Y.- Purchase (or at another good college). In these ways I hope to achieve that sense of belonging and creative collaboration that I long for, a HOME for my creativity.

Having brought up three daughters (the third is about to enter college) and having a son "late in life"-- I hope to spend the next few years as far away as possible from playgrounds and chauffeuring. I intend to solve the childcare situation so that I have TIME to work in theatre, or film/TV as much as I want, to enjoy the company of my husband and some friends, to read the paper -- maybe even a novel -- and to enjoy my late 40's and 50's like most people whose children are the ages of our daughters. (I also intend to enjoy seeing my son grow each day -- but with the help of someone else). I'd like to go back to painting as a relaxing activity, get a summer place near a theatre (possibly on the Cape) and find a regular routine in my life, balancing work and recreation. Ideally, I'd spend fall and spring in the New York area directing plays and teaching, winter in Sarasota, Florida directing and/or writing, and summers in New England. I'd like to keep getting younger and younger in spirit and energy as my brain becomes more knowledgeable and wiser.

What is your favorite quote?

"In the jungle darkness lurks the tiger" is the caption of my favorite poster. The picture: A pussycat hiding behind two potted plants.



Name in college: Present name: Address:

Telephone:

Diana Elzey Diana Elzey Pinover 33 Central Park West, #66

New York, NY 10025 (212) 666-1545

What has happened since graduation that has been important to you?

After college I went to law school at N.Y.U., where I met my husband, Gene Pinover. After law school I became a securities and commercial litigator, first in a large New York law firm and then in a smaller New York law firm. But the law and litigation were not for me, so I decided I would stay home with my children. I ended up having three children, Julia 14, Ben 11, and Hannah 7. Recently, I decided to go back to law and got an LL. M. degree in intellectual property and trade regulation law. The law school part was a fun change after all those years as a mother but once again I hated the practice of law so I quit.

However, stating a chronology seems to give little sense of the person. Despite my restlessness in my own on and off career, I have found a great deal of pleasure in watching my children grow. There are unexpected delights that children bring to me. The fantasy world of my youngest child leads me into thoughts of the stories I might tell as well. When the older two were at camp last summer I decided that rather than send them the usual dull letter about non-events I would find poems which we could both enjoy and that small task set me on a wonderful rediscovery of reading and writing poetry, as well as fiction. I have been fascinated lately by computers and their implications, an interest spurred on by my children's more intuitive grasp of the message of the media. One day I'm sure I'll figure it out what I'm going to do when I grow up. It's an interesting life.



Name in college: Present name:

Address:

Sylvia Fischbach

Sylvia Fischbach-Braden 1103 West 37th Street Baltimore, MD 21211

(410) 467-7947

Telephone:

Significant Other/Spouse/Children:

Spouse: Brad Braden; Daughter: Gillian Braden.

What are you up to now?

Since December 1992 I've been working at the Maryland Institute, College of Art (where I completed a B.F.A. in painting in 1981). I'm an administrative assistant for Title III projects, including a mentoring program for African-American freshman, and an experimental program to help first year students find their way into a major. I enjoy being back at the Institute, and the best part is that I design and co-edit, along with members of the Language and Literature Department, an interdisciplinary journal, *Forays*, written by staff and faculty and powered by my recollections of the *Bennington Review. Forays* is circulated to all faculty, used by the Admissions office in recruiting students, particularly those with a literary bent, and is sold at the campus bookstore. Bennington grad and MICA water media instructor Phyllis Plattner's work was included in the Spring 1994 issue.

My daughter, Gillian, is in fourth grade at Park School, where the Lower School principal, Benningtonian Deborah Corbin, writes a newsletter to parents which is remarkable for its style and wit. Gilli, who has plenty of wit and style herself, plays the piano, sings, dances, writes, and will be taking her first course (in drawing) at the Maryland Institute this summer. Brad, my husband of 14 years, is enjoying his new job at the Center for Advanced Research in Biotechnology in Rockville, Maryland. We all dabble in electronic music.

What would you like to be different in your life in the next five to ten years?

I'd like to spend far more time doing creative work, by which I mean writing and designing. I have in mind to do a book using a computer for word processing, typesetting, page layout, printing, design and illustration. (I am already doing freelance desktop publishing, but nothing very "arty"). This is an "unpredictable change" -- I've come to enjoy working on the computer. In fact, I suspect my interest has crossed over into mild addiction. I'm currently testing the waters of Internet.

We are thinking about making two trips in the next few years -- one to Eastern Europe from which my father's father fled at the turn of the century and one to India, where my mother, the daughter of American missionaries, lived until she was sent to Ohio for college. In the more immediate future, we plan to knock out a

wall at the back of our rowhouse (the neighborhood was originally a mill town and is still largely working-class) to enlarge by a few feet our outdoor living space. On a spring day like this it's easy to imagine planting petunias and sipping lemonade on the back porch-to-be.



Name in college: Present Name:

Address:

S. Elizabeth Fischer (aka Libby Fischer)

Susan Elizabeth Glynn 303 W. Oregon St.

Urbana, IL 61801 (home)

School of Social Work University of Illinois 1207 W. Oregon St.

Urbana, IL 61801 (work) (217) 344 2519(home) (217) 244 5232 (work)

E-mail address: sglynn@ux1.cso.uiuc.edu

Telephone:

Significant Other/Spouse/Children:

I have been married since 1979 to Brian S. Glynn, an Irish Quaker psychiatrist. My son from my first marriage (1967-76), Jason N. Gull, is about to turn 25. He graduated from Williams in 1991 and has been working as a paralegal in Boston for Silverglade and Good. He will begin law school at the University of Michigan in the fall. My husband and I have two daughters, Jessica Susanne, now 13 and a fullblown teenager, and Catherine Elizabeth (aka Carrie Beary), age 8. I also have three stepchildren: Siobhan, 26; Caoime (pronounced and sometimes spelled "Keva" for convenience), 24; and Connor, 20. All three live and work/study in

What has happened to you since graduation that has been important to you?

After leaving Bennington in June of 1966, I took a year off from school and then moved straight into a rather disastrous but fairly lengthy marriage to a philosophy professor at the University of Michigan. I received both my B.S. (in psychology... ha!) and my M.S.W. there. The marriage ended in 1976 and, while I have maintained at least a cordial relationship with my ex-spouse, the best things to come out of that period of my life were my son and credentials to practice as a family/mental health therapist. After a period of re-adjustment to a single life, I moved from Michigan to Ohio and continued to practice in the field of mental health, specializing in women's issues. I remarried in February 1979 and, after a brief stint living in Canada, we three returned to Ohio. We remained in Ohio, adding two daughters to our family in 1980 and '86 via adoption after I learned that I had a rather hopeless case of secondary infertility. When my son began a search of colleges, I came to the realization that I was at least as interested as he in pursuing my education further. In the fall of 1987, he went to Williams College

as a freshman and I began my doctoral education at Ohio State University. We both finished in the summer of 1991.

Brain, Jessica, Catherine, and I moved to Urbana, Illinois in the fall of 1991 so that I could begin work as an assistant professor in the School of Social Work. Our time here has been satisfactory at best and a living hell at its worst for a variety of reasons (and other answers). We eventually plan to relocate somewhere else, but at this time have no immediate plans to do so. I have labeled this summer my time to publish or to perish, though I am seriously contemplating the latter. My professional interests center around postmodern/ postpositivist feminist paradigms of inquiry for the social sciences, feminist family therapy, and women's issues.

Personally I am caught in the desperate effort to balance a full-time career with the middle-age squeeze of ill and aging parents, young adult children looking for financial and moral support, young children demanding more physical and emotional energy than I can often muster, and an insatiable desire to have/maintain a satisfying, exciting intimate relationship with a man whose personality seems often diametrically opposite my own. I'm afraid that I am successful at none of this, but I do keep trying. I enjoy gardening, collecting antiques, jogging (well, either the slowest running there is or very fast walking), reading fiction and professional non-fiction, watching late night movies on video, trying to become computer literate, and various political action group participation.

What would you like to be different in your life in the next five to ten years?

(Ah, what a great question!) I would like to achieve a better balance of all the same facets mentioned above. To do this, I imagine that I actually have to become not only more adept at claiming my own time and space, but find a way to feel satisfied with my own limitations. On a more concrete level, I would hope to be living and working in an environment that is both personally less threatening and professionally more supportive than the one in which I now reside.

What is the biggest or most unpredictable change you have been through?

Oddly enough, I still have a tendency to rather automatically think of my life as rather privileged and charmed. On reflection, though, it would seem that I have endured my share of tragedy and hardship. The notable "events" in this category, preceding our move to Illinois almost three years ago, would include: divorce, single-parenting, secondary infertility, adjustment to a blended family, the death (probable suicide of my youngest brother ten years ago at age 23), my older brother's battle with alcoholism and his wife's near death from kidney disease which prompted my subsequent "mothering" of their two young children (all four are now in good health, physically and mentally), my parents' fading health-especially relating to my father's post-polio syndrome, retirement and heart attack.

Since coming to Illinois, the list seems to multiply: my husband's emergency surgery and pulmonary embolism, my own cervical cancer, quitting smoking and experiencing clinical depression for a period of several months, my father's

massive stroke and total incapacitation, and finally what I call judicial kidnapping: wherein my husband I were accused of sexually and physically abusing our two daughters; the girls were placed in separate foster homes out of town for five weeks and allowed to see us only one hour per week under the supervision of one of my B.S.W. students; the depletion of our life savings on legal costs; my youngest daughter contracted hepatitis in foster care and my older daughter was taken to the emergency room twice for hyperventilation; and the "resolution" of these matters when all legal matters were dropped and the Department of Children and Family Services granted our request for an appeal of their original findings.

The last "event" rivals my brother's death in terms of its unpredictability. While my brother's death has left a permanent scar, I think that I have been able to move on and find enormous comfort and meaning in his truncated life. The "judicial kidnaping" is the most difficult thing I have ever had to face. While I don't mean to compare the happenings themselves with my brother's death, the latter event connected to a variety of social structures and supports that offer some solace and community, some acceptable avenues for trying to cope with such a loss. On the other hand, at the darkest of times surrounding the nightmare of being falsely accused of abusing one's children, my husband and I were legally advised against speaking to others about what was transpiring. Even without this legal stricture, it was peculiar to recognize that had our children been abducted by anyone else, all of the same social structures acting as our persecutors would have then been acting on our/their behalf. As I discovered even after the most salient errors were righted, most people do not want to hear this story; most of us want to believe that the public agencies charged with protecting the best interests of children are indeed doing an adequate job, thus absolving from responsibility for the larger community of humankind.

I have learned a lot from this experience, though it is one I would not wish a living soul. My husband and I are now actively involving in the formation of a a statewide task force, aimed at bringing more accountability and public scrutiny to the goings on of the Illinois Dept. of Children and Family Services. As an outspoken advocate children's rights and their protection, a twenty year practitioner and educator in family theory/therapy, an ardent feminist, and delighted and devoted mother, my life has always borne witness to concern for children who are abused. While this abuse has traditionally, popularly, and sensationally focused on children abused by those who "love" them (parents. friends, teachers, ect.) and, to a lesser degree by those sanctioned to care for them in foster care, there has been scant attention overall to those cases where children have been neglected and abused by various facets of "the system" meant to protect them. It is to this subject that I now devote much of my energy. If this can happen, as it did, to a white middle-aged, heterosexual, married, professional couple of adequate means, one can only imagine the outcomes when those involved fall outside one or more of these categories of privilege. It is my passion now that I make some impact on the system and expand the circle of public awareness to include the dangers of an ill-funded, inadequately trained, and unwatched system of child welfare.

As to the question of "how did you get through it?", my answer is still in process. I/we are not yet "through" it. Out of my dissertation research with infertile women, I have come to discard the entire notion of "stages of adjustment" as reflexive of some sort of progressive and hierarchical movement. I think of that loss (along with the loss of my brother through death, my family's loss of innocence and a sense of security, and a myriad of other "losses") as something other than things-to-be-gotten-through. I continue to reflect on how the universals and particulars of loss impact on our sense of self--both temporally (past, present, and future) and spatially (in terms of interactive relationships with other people, including the living, the dead, and the not yet born, and on many levels--individual, groups, institutions, globally). Some of this is the focus of my current professional work and some of it is just pure musing. I do know that the support of close friends and family, an invincible belief in the strength of my two daughters, a solid and secure sense of our own innocence, and a (perhaps misguided) faith that "justice" is not only possible but is likely in this country, and our own peculiar brand of belief in God (e.g. some sort of righteousness grounded in the universal tenets of humanism and community) served to help us weather the worst times. It seems vital to me that one "make meaning" of the losses experienced in life and this is where I am presently still mired.

I appreciate this opportunity to try and put down some of my thoughts on this, regardless of where this epistle lands. It is only one of my "**public nature**" interests, albeit the highest priority presently, along with Habitat for Humanity, Amnesty International, National Organization for Women, current efforts at universal national health care, and a variety of professional organizations.

What is your favorite quote?

What is to be done?

I don't think I have one, but here are a few that have recently floated by and held a special place for me:

If you mean by this question, "What is one to do?"-there is no answer. One is not to do anything. One cannot help
himself [sic], with one there is nothing to begin, with one it is all over.
He who contacts himself with explaining or discussing or asking what
one is to do talks and lives in a vacuum. But he who poses the question
with the earnestness of his soul on his lips and means, "What have I to
do?" --he is taken by the hand by comrades he does not know but
whom he will soon become familiar with and they appayer (he lister)

whom he will soon become familiar with, and they answer (he listens to there wonderful reply and marvels when only this follows): "You shall not withhold yourself." (Martin Buber, 1966, <u>To Hallow This Life.</u>)

Education is an admirable thing, but it is well to remember from time to time that nothing that is worth knowing can be taught. (Oscar Wilde).

Action is the only medium man [sic] has for receiving and appropriating truth. (Jane Addams 1860-1935).

The way to solve problems you see in life is to live in a way that will make what is problematic disappear. (L. Wittgenstein 1889-1951).

A story is a little knot or complex of that species of connectedness which we call relevance. (Gregory Bateson 1979).

I do not see how it would be possible to use our knowledge and our will better than to have always a strong and constant resolution to do exactly the things which we consider to be the best and to use all the strength of our intelligence in striving to understand them. (Descartes).

A rich life is fundamentally a life of serving others, a life of trying to leave the world a little better place than you found it. That rich life comes into being in human relationships. (<u>Breaking Bread</u>: <u>Insurgent Black Life</u>).

Narratives exist at the everyday, autobiographical, biographical, cultural and collective levels. They reflect the universal human experience of time and link the past, present, and future. Narrative links from sociology to literature and history. The human experience of stability and transformation becomes sociologically accessible. Narrative gives room for the expression of our individual and shares fates, our personal and communal worlds. ...It is the universal way in which humans accommodate to finitude. Narrative is the best way to understand the human experience because it is the way humans understand their own lives. ...It rejuvenates the sociological imagination in the service of liberatory civic discourses and transformative social projects. (L. Richardson, 1990, Writing Strategies: Reaching Diverse Audiences).



Name in college: Address:

Kathleen Lawrance Fisk Kathleen (Kitty) L. Ames

27 Walnut Place

Brookline, MA 02146

Telephone: (617) 734 9107

Significant Other/Spouse/Children:

Charles C. Ames. Brooks, 23. James, 20. Elizabeth, 17. William, 6.

What are you up to now?

I have spent the last fifteen years immersed in the public schools of Brookline-for ten years I served on our local School Committee, chairing it for the last two years of my tenure. Our four children all attended the local schools and for the past four years I have overseen the design and construction of a new elementary K-8 school in our neighborhood. Most important, I have been a mother to four great children who test my strength and imagination daily and have been thoroughly married to Charlie Ames for the past 26 years, since our junior year in college.





Name in College: Present Name: Address:

Telephone:

Carol Jean Gerbracht Carol Jean Rose HCR 1 Box 406 Spirit Lake, ID 83869 prefer written words



Significant Other/Spouse/Children:

Tom Logue, best friend of 18 years/a stepson and a stepdaughter/three granddaughters/cats, dogs and chickens.

What has happened since graduation that has been important to you? Can you describe your ideal day? What is your favorite quote?

Since graduation, I've moved to California, to Australia, to California and to Idaho. This is my thirteenth year on twenty acres near the Canadian border. In this log cabin, I've matured as a writer, self-published *The Full Four* (hymns to inner seasons), *Step Mother* (an epistolary novel), *Cycles* (a Photographic flip book of the year), and *The Tarot Gypsy Tales* (the definitive resource on The Cards), *The Tarot Gypsy Tapes* (90-minutes with the archetypes), and *PC GYPSY* (interactive software). I'm working on a second volume of poetry and a novel about gypsying, while making ends meet traveling the country giving workshops on Tarot. I love to play in this forest, to tease herb gardens out of the pine, and to canoe with kindred spirits. In my classic Winnebago nest-on-wheels, I'd love to come to lead a symbol circle with your nearest and dearest.

My ideal day is the one after my weekly trip to town, when my cupboards are full and I have a new stack of books from the library. I get up, light the wood stove, feed the animals, and tend the yard, either turning on sprinklers or climbing the tractor to plow snow. Over breakfast, I read a piece that pleases me enough to send it out in search of its ideal editor. At my desk, the words flow from our deepest knowing. At the mailbox, there are royalty checks. Divine Ones arrive for yoga class and we help each other to find our centers. Supper is simple and nourishing. Tom and I dance to Blues Live on Spokane Public Radio. I can stay home until next week's lunch with a friend, followed by a couple of Readings in Sandpoint.

My favorite quote is by Helen Keller: "I long to do great and noble deeds; it is my chief task to do humble deeds as though they were great and noble."



Name in college:

Address:

Telephone:

Kathryn Lee Girard 511 Arbor Street Pasadena, CA 91105

(818) 796 5905



Partner:

Katherine Gabel.

What are you up to now?

I know much more about what I've been up to than what I'm up to now and in the future. At the end of December (1993), I left Pacific Oaks College where I had served as the Vice President for Administration. I enjoyed much of my eight years at Pacific Oaks. I left feeling pleased about what I had accomplished: Creating a research center, establishing a partnership between the college and the local school district, raising several million dollars, improving publications and alumni programs, guiding the institution through the process of computerizing administrative functions and helping to build an infrastructure that would support the college as it grew. For all the concrete products and achievements, the most satisfying part of my work was in mentoring my staff. I think I was finally ready to Oaks offered a means. (Of course, some days, Cronedom seems just a step ahead. I do hope that I have woven my mantle of wisdom by the time my hair has fully grayed.)

I left Pacific Oaks and the never-ending meetings and the never-fully-completed to-do lists, in order to have time for my own writing, for more spiritual and healing work and for weaving (cloth, if not wisdom). I determined that I would need to work 100 days as a consultant in order to support my other time and activities. By mid-January I had contracts for the full year.

I have spent the last several months writing a curriculum on conflict resolution in teacher education, training faculty from 13 colleges and universities where conflict resolution will be incorporated in the teacher preparation program this fall, evaluating the effectiveness of a community self-help program and a youth leadership program in Hopi, Navajo and Pueblo communities and evaluating a career advancement project for poor and minority preschool teachers.

I am still looking forward to finding my own rhythm and heartwork. But, then, my life seems to be largely about seeking, finding and maintaining balance in my Being.

An ideal day:

I've lived some ideal days. My dream is to live my life in such a way that days like these are the norm, not the exception. Here's an example of a favorite day from a time when I spent four months in Hawaii with no responsibilities. Each day, many times a day, I simply asked myself what I felt like doing and then I did that. The following day occured in 1985 on the Big Island, Hawaii.

I wake up and put on a pareu and decide that I feel like going to Yosha's land to meditate. (Actually, Yosha, a woman I have met on my travels who may be crazy, may be divinely inspired or may be some of both but is, nevertheless a wonderful catalyst for my own spontaneity, would like to own this unoccupied, for-sale land, but does not.) I drive there, walk out to the lava rocks and sit near the largest pool on the cliffs. I meditate feeling the life force energy of the place and the link to the Mother and my soul. I become aware that there is a presence (a physical presence). I open my eyes and see a young man, a local, standing there a few yards away. I calmly gather up my pareu as he apologizes for interupting and asks permission for the group of men standing a hundred yards away to climb down the cliffs to go spear fishing. I explain that it is not my land and of course they may fish. They do. I return to meditating, but wearing my pareu. When they return, the young man brings me a beautiful large rainbow colored fish as a gift. They leave. I leave and take the still-flopping fish back to my cabin and then to Yosha.

Yosha asks me if I will assist with a rebirthing session and I am delighted to be asked. We gather in a Japanese tub surrounded by banana trees. Yosha guides the breathing. I hold the woman as she floats in the water. At the end, I hold her singing songs of women and goddesses.

In the afternoon, a few women stop by to see if I want to go with them to the Queen's bath. I do. Miraculously, there are no cars in the parking lot and so we are able to remove our clothes and swim naked in the silky heavy water. As we get into our car to leave, two cars pull into the lot. I feel blessed.

In the evening, Yosha cooks the day's offering and whoever is around joins in the feast. I feel expanded in my energies, still at my center, one within myself, one with my surroundings, one with the Goddess. I am content. I sweep the cockroaches out of my bedroom and tuck myself in for a night of dreaming.

Days like this one taught me about my own rhythms and about the nature of time when each moment is fully lived. To live in the center from the center of my Being, that is my ideal life.

Favortite Quote and One Cartoon:

"Only a Path with Heart is Worthy of Travel."

CALVIN AND HOBBES By Bill Watterson



Name in college: Present name:

Christine Graham Christine Graham

Address: Telephone:

Shaftsbury/Burlington VT Shaftbury: (802) 447-0256 Burlington: (802) 862-1327

Significant Other/Spouse/Children:

Paul Bruhn (partner); Finnegan Calabro, 14 and Max Calabro, 9 (sons).

What are you up to now?

I live and work in Vermont, where I have been since graduation. By the time we have reunion, I'll be living in Burlington much of the time, with my "southern" weekend home in North Bennington; at this time (May) though, I'm living in Shaftsbury and preparing for this interesting transition.

My whole working life has been spent specializing in nonprofit organizations. I consult, teach, train, and work on fundraising, communications, and general management issues for nonprofits. The health, growth and activity of nonprofits is my real specialty. Within this context, I've worked with arts, education, human services, and environmental organizations. I have always been involved in helping education fit the way people learn, rather than making learners adapt. I've started several programs with this underlying theme, including the Governor's Institutes of Vermont; I am currently working with the Vermont Institute for Science, Math and Technology which approaches the same issue within the context of public school reform. My consulting tends to be on the fundraising side of things, which is always a necessary aspect of change and evolution and which usually leads to building managerial capacity. I take a rather educational approach to consulting and work to increase the capacity and skills of my clients.

This work takes me all over Vermont constantly, creating increasing travel stress for me and the kids, which is one of the reasons we are moving to the northern part of the state. Much more is there: more people, more work, experimentation, and activity. On the personal side, I have a wonderful relationship with my partner, Paul Bruhn, who lives in Burlington and whose work is not moveable like mine. We're looking foward to a more regular life together, not always commuting.

However, my roots are deeply grown here in the Bennington area. Over the years with my husband, Lou Calabro, I moved through many phases and descriptions of life here: dairy goat farmer, music copyist, house builder, orchestra founder and manager, gardner, flutist, organizer, working mother, community volunteer, friend with so many...a whole life.

But things are very different now, and I believe that I have finally begun to sort out the pieces of my life that are truly my own choice and reflection of my interests, needs and curiosities, and concentrate on those. This, I hope, is a sign of maturity! While I imagine my classmates have moved, cumulatively, some thousands of times and far further than I will, my impending move north symbolizes a piece of my growth that has been a long time coming.

As for the rest of the suggested topics for our reunion booklet, I would say that my answers to most of the questions are "life and death" in one form or another.

What has happened since graduation that has been most important/unpredictable/ difficult?

The most important thing that has happened to me since graduation is probably the birth of my children, and the life we've had growing together since then. The most unpredictable change I've been through certainly has to be Lou's illness and death, which also easily qualifies as the most difficult thing I've been through.

What is your favorite quote?

I'm not interested in quotes.

What issues of public nature are on your mind?

While I'm not heavily involved in public issues, the one that concerns me most is probably health care, particularly choice and funding.

What would you like to be different in your life in the next five to ten years?

I don't think this way. When I am dissatisfied with how my life is working out, I try to make decisions and changes that start now. I guess I'm always on the path to later, but I don't have a Big Plan. I'm not thinking of quitting everything and sailing around the world, etc.

Can you describe your ideal day?

I'm always dreaming of the perfect day which would be long, quiet and sunny with time for gardening and reading, but when it comes right down to it, when I have a free day I make the choice to work hard, talk with my children and keep in touch with my friends. I think that's probably the really perfect day. And I consider myself very lucky, because I have lots of them.



Name in college:

Present name: Address:

Margo Lynn Greene

Margo Lynn Greene Grobel 221 West 82nd Street

Apartment 10F

New York, NY 10024-5412

Telephone:

(212) 580-5419

Significant other/Spouse/Children:

Husband: Ronald A. Grobel, Ph. D. Daughter: Elizabeth Rebecca Grobel, 7 years old.

What are you up to now?

I am in the theros of setting up a composition studio in my living room. After ten years of absolutely no composing, I've resumed my musical studies with a vengeance and am currently writing a rhapsodic duo for violin and cello. My synthesizer-computer MIDI equipment will enable me to hear the music as I write it and to immediately convert it into a printed score. My goal is to compose orchestral works and my dream is to have them performed by a full orchestra.

What has happened since graduation that has been important to you?

I gave up composing after having earned a BA in Music at Barnard, an MA in Composition from Columbia, and thirty credits towards a PH. D. By 1980, I had burned out and decided to become a psychiatrist out of desperation. I finished a tough pre-med program at Columbia in 1984 and was accepted by a medical school in France; but I turned it down to stay in New York, do entry level brain research at The Rockefeller University, and marry Ron Grobel, a psychiatrist turned Wall Street bond analyst. I gave birth to my daughter, Elizabeth, in 1986 and until last year I devoted myself exclusively to mothering and running the household.

What is your favorite quote?

One of my favorite quotes is from Emily Dickinson, "If I read a book and it makes my whole body so cold no fire can warm me, I know that is poetry. If I feel physically as if the top of my head were taken off, I know that is poetry. These are the only ways I know it. Is there any other way?" I love this because this is how I feel about music.

What would you like to be different in your life in the next five years?

In the next five years I'd like to be fully immersed in composition again, with a stream of music pouring out. I would like to be back in the swing of composing music, playing the piano and chamber music, and socializing with friends who love

music, art, children, dogs, good conversation, food and wine. I'd also like to establish a second home in France as my daughter attends the Lycee Francais, I have a lot of French friends, and I love French painting and culture.

What is the most difficult thing you have faced and how did you get through it? I've gotten through and even prevailed over all difficulties through psychoanalysis, which literally saved my life and continues to strengthen me.





Telephone:

Name in college: Address:

Olga Gussow

233 West 99th Street

9D

New York, NY 10025

(212) 662-2414

Significant Other/Spouse/Children: Fred Hauptman, husband.

What are you up to now?

I've recently become overwhelmed by the realization that so much time has passed since I was in school. Last summer I tried to stop time by doing nothing for several weeks. I'm learning to accept helplessness in this situation and I help myself by not thinking about it. There has been little to mark time's passing. though some years were made memorable by what happened in them: In 1971 and 1972 I spent summers with the Apsen Music Festival Orchestra. In 1974 I was concertmistress of a community orchestra that toured Romania. In 1983 I proposed to Fred and enjoyed, in addition to the usual good feelings, what this told me about myself. In 1985 we were audited by the IRS, and THAT helps me remember gigs in Charleston (SC) and Spoleto (Italy). In 1988 I got my masters from Bank Street College in the Reading Specialization Program and later that year we moved to Seattle and stayed for two years. I taught string classes in junior high school and reading at a community college. (I hadn't been trained for either situation; when we moved back to New York I threw away the alarm clock that had gone off at 5:00AM for a year of school days.) Fred formed the Versailles Ensemble while we were out there, so I was performing chamber music with other good musicians. This year is special because I've acquired a nice old violin. and have begun an ongoing course of treatments by a traditional acupuncturist. I'm trying to deal with the problem of not feeling my age. I enjoy looking forward still (to knowing more, to greater independence, to more and better gigs...), but at other times I feel that I'm not dressed right for the party.





Name in college:

KK Holabird

Present Name:

Katherine Holabird Haggiag

Address: 17 Corringham Road

London NW11 7BS

England

Telephone:

01 455 5341

Significant other/Spouse/Children:

Michael Haggiag-married in 1974. Tara, age 18. Alexandra, age 15. Adam, age 11.

What has happened since graduation that has been important to you?

Since '70'. Furone, Michael, 3 children, London living, writing children.

Since'70: Europe, Michael, 3 children, London living, writing children's books, Buddhism.

What are you up to now?

Adapting to the challenges of mid life and departing children, also reevaluating our commitment to England which has really become home. Recommitment to Buddhism as a way of life.

What is the most difficult thing you have faced and how did you get through it?

In 1985 my first daughter, then only 9 years old, had a total anorexic breakdown. It was terrifying and nearly destroyed the family. She was extremely willful and manipulative and almost succeeded in killing herself. I had a 2 year old and 6 year old at the time and often felt I was going mad. We were saved by the Child Psychiatric Unit at Great Ormond St. Children's Hospital in London, where Tara lived for 5 days a week for 11 months and we were finally given support and shown how to unite and combat her illness as a family. I will never forget the loving kindness shown to us by the young volunteers and professionals who worked at Great Ormond. Tara is now 18 and magnificent!

Name in college: Present name:

Address:

Jean Holabird Jean Holabird 81 Warren Street New York, NY 10007

Telephone:

(212) 962-6907

Significant Others:

(at present) Giblet and Thunder -- cats.

What Has Happened?

My continued survival in this milieu -- New York/art "scene" is an amazement to me.

Up to Now?

Looking for a new gallery again.

Different?

A house. Out of town, and the energy to get there. I'd like to go around the world on the surface with my watercolors.

Unpredictable Change?

No longer obsessive about body weight gains/losses. Eat bread and spaghetti/excercise.

Difficult Thing Faced?

I have a feeling the worst is yet to come. Trite as it sounds, making art has pulled me through the rest. I trust that process to stay with me.

Quote:

"She always nursed a small, mad hope." Nabokov, Pale Fire

Public Nature?

The environment. Recycling. The tiny things one person can do.

Ideal Day?

Tomorrow, I hope, but will I know when it happens?





Name in College:

Annice Jacoby Address 24 1/2 Prospect Street San Francisco, CA 94110

Telephone: (415) 648 6980

Significant other/Spouse/Children:

Children: Kaj Larsen (son), 16. Jaiva Larsen (daughter), 13.

What are you up to now?

I have Tasted and Tested a life in the arts and the art of life since June 1969, a very hot long summer if, I recall, a time spent in an uncertain cloud of self- doubt following graduation. But without answering any direct questions, I have managed a life of high adventure and drama, with the stages, public or private, always switching. Lots of theatre, writing, working as director of performing arts center, pr director at SF Museum of Modern Arts, founder of City of Poets, ect., ect. But, for the last decade, as a single working mother of two adored and adoring kids, it's always been hard to taste the glories or add them up past basic management. But theatre is an opportunity to surprise yourself, so I continue to share the ecstasy of the communion awe, travel and work as a cultural investigator.





Name in college: Present name: Address: Risa Jaroslow Risa Jaroslow 65 Greene St.

Telephone:

New York, NY 10012 (212) 941-9358

Significant Other/Spouse/Children:

Husband: David Tobis (Williams College '66) Daughter: Mara, 17; Son: Samuel,

What are you up to now?

I am writing this in Bytonia, Poland where I am doing a choreography residency with the Silesian Dance Theater under the auspices of the National Performance Network. I was here exactly one year ago and that trip had a profound effect on me both personally and professionally. Being Jewish in Poland is a deeply disturbing experience. All the people I met and worked with were wonderful but the palpable absence of Jews and of any trace of their significant role in the history of Poland is eerie and tragic.

I am finding on this trip that the hardest thing is the separation from my children. My daughter Mara is 17. A few days after I return in June she will graduate from high school, take off for the summer and then for Bates College in the fall. My son Sam is four and a half and will start kindergarden in September. I can only think that my daughter's impending departure for good (it feels that way) is making me extremely sensitive to being away from them. Leaving was painful and so far, I can't get past it. On other trips I have relished my time alone but not this one. My husband, David, is happy to be in charge of things at home and I often do that when he travels. We go through periods like this spring of "sequential parenting." We both like having time alone with our children. David has been traveling in Eastern Europe as well, particularly in Romania where he has been working as a consultant for UNICEF. We met when I was a freshman at Bennington, and he a senior at Williams. We've been together, mostly happily, since then. I think we both consider that a major accomplishment in our lives.

Life in New York is challenging, exhausting, often exciting. I continue to choreograph for my company, teach dance in many different situations from other dance companies to senior adults and children in the NYC schools. I direct the Arts Program at University Settlement where my company is in residence. This has solved the problem of a place to work. We have a beautiful space which is on its way to becoming a fully equipped theatre. The company will be at Jacobs Pillow this summer, touring in Eastern Europe in the fall, and at Dance Theatre Workshop next winter.



Name in college:

Address:

Betsy (Elizabeth) Johnson 666 Greenwich Street #648

New York, NY 10014

Telephone:

(212) 633 1847

Significant Other/Spouse/Children:

Bob Niederman, husband.

What has happened to you since graduation that has been important to you?

My journey, my struggle. and my goal for the 25 years since my graduation have been to learn to accept and absorb the love and respect which is so forthcoming from the people in my life who truly care for me, and in so doing to learn to love myself. This journey has been full of pitfalls, of two steps backward and one step forward: heartbreaking relationships of all sorts, broken promises, betrayals, unrequited love, and most importantly, the terrible but necessary realization that my parents have never been able to love me the way that I needed to be loved. Until as recently as a year ago, I was convinced that my inability to get what I needed from my parents was my fault. My resulting self loathing and desperately futile need to get their approval led to a paralysis out of which I am only now emerging. This was a very dark time, in which I disclaimed and rejected almost all adult pleasures and gratifications, both love and work related, in order to chase after my impossible dream. I went through the motions of adult living: I had an unhappy first marriage; I played at being an actress and director without much success; I had a six year love affair with a totally unavailable man; I had a very late and devistating abortion.

On a much happier note, it is most appropriate and auspicious that my 25th College Reunion should happen now. With the staunch support and unconditional love of my therapist for some 20 years, Richard Robinson, I am literally on the verge of turning the corner into a whole new life of self-appreciation, and awe at the wonderfulness of those who love me, and the immense joy of artistic creation. My only regret is that I am 47, and therefore have so much less time than many other people to live this brand new life. Last August, having been single for ten ten years, I married Bob, my second husband. This very presence makes me anxious and upset because I am still convinced I don't deserve him. He is very dangerous because any minute now, he is going to make my fragile house come tumbling down. (Perhaps by the time we all see each other in October?) He is pushing me, kicking and screaming and protesting all the way, inexorably toward the goal of my journey; he loves me to much-and I him-that I am finally learning to love myself. Until I met Bob, I would never have believed there was anyone quite like him-certainly no man. As a biochemist, he is far removed from the theater,

but he is completely emotionally involved with and interested in every aspect of my life, while still allowing me the privacy and separateness to pursue my own dreams in my own way. Thanks to his nurturing and encouragement. I am in the process of re-awakening my dormant potential as an actor and director; I have even begun to write a play! This pattern breaking is all terrifically scary and anxiety-producing, and I still start awful fights with Bob to try to stop him from helping me and loving me. But he, bless him, will not be stopped! He is the opposite of an "enabler". He loves and cherishes the real me, and sees through all the garbage. We are taking this amazing journey together and he tells me that I have changed his life in wonderful ways, too. Miraculously, at age 47, having spent most of my life trying not to get pregnant, we are trying to have a baby. He is the only man who has ever wanted to have a child with me. This, I finally learned, is the essence of love: Bob sees me far more clearly and truly than I see myself. I have always felt painfully inadequate as an artist, a lover, a friend, a wife, and as a potential mother. Bob countenances none of these self doubts. He pushes them aside and becomes my mirror; he coaxes me to see myself the way he does. Little by little, I am allowing myself longer and longer looks into this mirror; I turn away and hide my eyes, terrified, but then am drawn to look again. Maybe some day, with Bob's guidance, I will be able to look at myself proudly in his mirror with a long, steady, peaceful gaze. He will be able to have his way and enhance me, and I will no longer pull away. In closing, my favorite quote: " For one human being to love another: that is perhaps the most difficult of all our tasks; the ultimate, the last test and proof, the work for which all other work is but preparation." Rilke





Name in College:

Liz Lerman

Address:

1612 Ballard Street

Silver Spring, MD 20910

Telephone:

(301) 587 0472

Significant other/Spouse/Children:

Jon Speman, husband. Anna Speman, age 6.

What are you up to now?

Mostly I am trying to come to terms with how to understand and live with constant contradictions.

*The relationship of independent thought and community and

responsibility.

*The achievement of artistic vision through collaboration with dancers, designers community needs, private visions, and public realities.

*The ever present feeling of insecurity, of not being enough of something and demands of pushing ideas and action forward.

*The absolute love and complete absorption of work and the absolute love and complete absorption of my family.

I am so surprised to wake up each day and find that dancing/art is still the organizing principle of my life.

What is the most difficult thing you have faced and how did you get through it?

The most difficult moment/period was the death of my mother in 1975 which climaxed a very rocky 7 years. It catalysed a deeper understanding of my relationship to dance, to performance, to the participatory power of artistic experience and made me courageous.

Gay J. McDougall 1450 G Street, NW Suite 400 Washington, DC 20005 (202) 662 8600



Gay McDougall is a well respected international human rights lawyer. In September, she will begin work as the Executive Director of the International Human Rights Law Group. Most recently she served as one of only five international members of South Africa's Independent Electoral Commission which successfully organized and administered that country's first non-racial elections.

With the inauguration of Nelson Mandela as president of South Africa, she has returned to her position as Director of the Southern Africa Project of the Lawyers' Committee For Civil Rights Under Law, where since 1980 she has financed the defense of thousands of political prisoners in South Africa and Namibia, worked with human rights lawyers in those countries to challenge through litigation apartheid laws and practices, and raised concerns about human rights and political process in Southern Africa with decision-makers in the U.S. Administration and Congress.

By enlisting pro bono services of several major U.S. law firms, she supplied critical assistance to parties negotiating with the South African government for a transition to a post-apartheid democratic government. She also organized a series of conferences, held in South Africa, which facilitated a detailed examination of constitutional options under consideration by negotiators by bringing them in contact with experts from other countries who have practical experience in implementing similar systems in their own countries.

In 1989, Gay McDougall founded the Commission on Independence For Namibia, a bipartisan group of 31 distinguished Americans who monitored in detail the 12 month process to independence mandated by the United Nations. The Commission successfully intervened to force modifications in critical legislation, which as drafted, threatened the fairness of the election process.

Ms. McDougall testifies regularly on human rights issues before Congressional Committees and various bodies of the United Nations. She lectures frequently at universities and international coferences, and appears often on television and radio programs.

Gay McDougall earned her J.D. at Yale University Law School and LL. M. degree in public international Law at the London School of Economics and Political Science.

Name in college:

Robin Ann Newhouse

Present name:

Robyn Ann Newhouse, Ph D.

Address:

55 Meadowbrook Road Longmeadow, MA 01106

Telephone:

(413) 567-2093

What has been the biggest or most unpredictable change you have been through?

After years of study and training establishing myself as a psychologist, even though I enjoyed and was good at the work, I changed careers again. I decided to go into the "family business", and spent the next 2-3 years learning every aspect of a newspaper.

What would you like to be different in your life in the next five to ten years?

I would like to take on more of a leadership role in my local area-to be able to make a difference.

What issues of public nature are on your mind?

1. Finding solutions to the violence in our communities and nation.

2. The "information highway" to use a cliche. Trying to get a fix on evolving, shifting, transformation in the ways we communicate and learn.

What are you up to now?

Living in Massachusetts with my husband, Paul Covert and two cats. Working as a newspaper executive. Volunteering at a battered women's shelter. Serving on the board of the Community Music School of Springfield. Getting ready to send my step-son Jason, a student at Connecticut College, to Australia for the first semester of his junior year.

Name in college: Present name:

Patricia Nice Patricia Nice

Address:

Vogelenzangseweg 16 2111 HR Aerdenhout

The Netherlands

Telephone:

023-248306

Significant Other/Spouse/Children:

Frits Mansvelt Beck, Eisso, Floris, Mariah, Morgan.

What are you up to now?

I'm living in Holland, 6K from the North Sea at the edge of a flower field bordered by the dunes. After two and a half years here I'm still struggling to improve my Dutch, to make Dutch friends and adapt to the sometimes subtle cultural differences.

My daughters are now well adapted. They speak Dutch fluently and are doing well in Dutch schools. Frits is once again running a small energy consulting firm and I help a bit with the administration.

The biggest change in my recent life is our decision to move to Europe. We came suddenly when Frits was offered a two year contract with McKinsey Amsterdam, and the adjustment to the move from Harvard, MA was at times difficult. We decided to put the girls, then 8 & 10, in Dutch schools and although children are adaptable and can learn languages easily it was a stressful time for all of us. At the same time we've enjoyed the cultural opportunities here and visited other countries. Our travel opportunities have been somewhat limited by our menagerie -- 2 Icelandic ponies, a guinea pig and two cats. However we've enjoyed the Tunesian sun, skiing in France, hiking and camping in Switzerland and are packing to head off to Denmark.

My own life here is quite self indulgent. I've learned Dutch through Dutch sports. I row in a four on the Spaarne, I've become a dedicated speed skater and I run regularly in the water conservation land behind our house.

Several hours per day is filled with caring for and helping the girls with our two Icelandic ponies. Although I've enjoyed my own time and the respite from the working world, I'll soon start looking for a part time job in education.

What issues of a public nature are on your mind?

Living in such a small overpopulated country has made me much more aware of the need for a global environmental and energy policy. Nations need to work closely together to solve the environmental problems we've created. There is a need to recycle, reuse, simplify and do without.

What is the most difficult thing you have faced and how did you get through it?

One of the most significant experiences of the past five years was helping my difficult mother die at home. My mother had lung cancer and an obstinate character. She tried one course of chemotherapy and when the aggressive small cell carcinoma reappeared in another site, decided to forego visits to the hospital and live out her days at home. Her doctor predicted six weeks but mom had us plant tomatoes and annuals with the help of a fantastic Hospice nurse and great neighbors and slightly annoying children -- she managed to last six months and see her latest grandchild walk. Even though I was never close to my mother because of proximity, I became a prime caretaker. Dealing with her perfectionism and criticism with a sense of humor was difficult and important. By the time she slipped away in October we were ready and at peace. I have great admiration for the caring professionalism of the Hospice organization which allowed and empowered us to help mom die quietly at home. I would be happy to correspond with anyone going through similar circumstances.



Name in college: Present name:

Address:

Susan deVere Paris

Susan P. Borden

(home) 417 Muskrat Street

Banff, Alberta, Canada

(mailing) 1501 300 Fifth Avenue

Calgary, Alberta, Canada T2P 3CA

Telephone:

(403) 762 2621 (home) (403) 266 9700 (office)

Significant Other/Spouse/Children:

Husband: Bob Borden. Stepchildren: Deborah Scripps, Melissa Viallon, Anne Lewis, Lizy Matthews, Kate Lewis. Grandchildren: Sara (15), Tessa (11), and Emma (7) Scripps; Lydia (4) and Olivia (1) Viallon; Bill (4) and John (2) Matthews.

What has happened since graduation that has been important to you?

Since I last saw the most of the Class of '69, the most difficult change I have been through, I suppose, was a malignancy in 1975 resulting in a hysterectomy and for many years, an unpredictable outcome. Many good things ensued, but the loss of the possibility of giving birth to children was (and sometimes still is) enormous. However, since my husband, Bob, and I were married after the death of his first wife, his daughters have produced a flock of children; I have embraced grand motherhood with unbounded enthusiasm!

My life long interesting politics and issues of a public nature persist. After the McCarthy campaign in 1968, I became a founder of the National Women's Political Caucus, vice chairman of the National Women's Education Fund, co-chairman of the Platform Committee at the 1972 Democratic convention, vice chairman of Common Cause, and thought seriously about a life in politics. At the same time. Bennington economist Harry Pearson had launched me on a series of inquires linking economics and natural resources. (As I write, I am remembering the project I was working on when I left Bennington-test the hypothesis that the growth in this imaginary indicator, GNE, was greater than the growth in the GNP! Sheela Harden single-handedly supported such wild ideas. I need her still.) This interest led to writing a few articles on energy policy after the first Arab oil embargo in 1973 and the subsequent invitation to become the Senior Energy Fellow at the Aspen Institute for Humanistic Studies (based in New York for most the year and in Aspen during the summer). I met my husband in Aspen who, as an independent oil and gas producer, was a seminar participant. Since then, we have lived in Banff in the Canadian Rocky Mountains, but are in pretty constant motion tending business and family interests in Alberta, California, New York, and France.

My emotional ties to the United States remain powerful and I still make a pilgrimage every four years to my old polling place in New York to cast a vote for president. After a long dry spell, I finally got my pick in 1992 and am a strong Clinton enthusiast. It is desperately worrying that the country is so unwilling to join the President in forging a few structural changes that are long overdue. I also despair over the distorted view the press seems to have of its obligations as the fourth estate. Internationally and domestically, we need a practical, hard-headed, radical vision, I think, that directly confronts the unsustainable gap between the running out of time.

Bennington is, at long last, ready to reclaim its proper role as a college riveted to what matters. Many years on the Board of Trustees struggling with issues of survival now seem poised, with Liz Coleman at the helm, to reap deeply satisfying rewards. The last fifteen months have been spent on the Symposium, an enormous effort to ask, "If the College were being founded today instead of in 1932, what should it be like?" To realize the vision that emerged from the Symposium, the next twelve months will be spent in transition, melding new ideas with ongoing realities. Our reunion in October will be a perfectly timed opportunity to explore the priorities established by the Symposium and to begin talking with the President, faculty, and each other about Bennington's next decades.

My dominant intellectual interest now-and probably for the remainder of my life-is to better understand the nature of the human mind and especially to grasp its biological origins and substrate. For me, this has led to a fascinating exploration of neurobiology, psychoanalysis, and developmental psychology as neuroscience begins to put together a theory of how the human brain works to engender perception, emotion, memory, learning, and imagination. I currently sit on the Board of the Neurosciences Institute and the Neuroscience Research Foundation and am leading a project to bring some of the theorectical ideas and experimental findings of the Institute to multiple audiences (and vice versa). If I could arrange my life to live in one place, I would puruse this inquiry with abandon by training as a psychoanalyst and a theoretical neurobiologist simultaneously. As it is, I feel very fortunate to have some several mentors at hand, especially Lydia Katzenbach, a psychoanalyst and Bennington alumna, Class of '45, and Gerald Edelman, 1973 Nobel laureate in medicine. Members of the Bennington science faculty have also been especially encouraging. Perhaps after the new Bennington is launched and my trustee responsibilities have subsided, I will be able to seize the opportunity to work with some of them as well.

For a while, I was making regular trips to London (where our company was being sued by a Hindu god in the form of a stone phallus-another story altogether) and loved seeing my old chum and roommate, Katherine Holabird. Just in case K.K. doesn't write, she is as beautiful and thoughtful as ever, a mother of three, and the prolific author of the wildly successful children's books about Angelina Ballerina. Sheela Harden, by the way, is living in Pownal and still thinking very big thoughts, espescially about the nature of learning. As fro the rest of you guys, I would love to see you every one, and just take the time to hear what you care most about.



Name in college: Present name:

Address:

Wendy Perron
Wendy Perron
441 West End Ave.

Apartment 7C New York, N.Y. 10024

Telephone:

(212) 873-7316 (Day)

Significant Other/Spouse/Children:

Jim Siegel, Nicholas Perron-Siegel, 6.

What is the most difficult thing you have faced and how did you get through it?

The most difficult thing that I faced was a double loss of love and work about ten years ago. I'd had disastrous relationships before -- in fact, they seemed the only kind I had -- but this time the person in question refused to speak with me, and I found out how essential communication is to my emotional survival. I was spinning out of control, going up in flames at my typewriter, and sustaining a seige of silence, obsession, and rage. It took a year to calm down. During that year the offers for my dance company to perform dwindled to almost nothing (I had resigned from teaching at Bennington to "choreograph") so I felt doubly devastated. The way I got through it was by crying, keeping a journal, continuing to rehearse, and telling myself things would be different someday. Over a year later, I gave a concert at The Kitchen and my future husband was in the audience. Somehow, he helped me recover and flourish in both the love and work areas. But not before I learned that I had an ovarian tumor that had to be removed, and I'll always wonder if the emotional war inside me took its toll on my organs.

What would you like to be different in your life in the next five to ten years? / What issues of a public nature are on your mind?

Much is on my mind of a public nature. I am active in Physicians for Social Responsibility, which started as an anti-nuclear group, but has broadened its focus. For a while I was giving talks on the massive environmental damage caused by nuclear weapons plants. But I slowly shifted my interest to the public health challenge of violence prevention, and now I dream of ways that artists could direct their energies into conflict resolution, peer mediation, and other ways of opening kids up to alternative ways of settling hostilities. I see a direct connection between the glorification of violence in our media and government, and the violence on our streets. In five to ten years, I would love to be working with kids and be part of an effort to bring up a more peaceful, tolerant generation.

But of course, I want to continue dancing and choreographing, and imagine trips to Europe as guest choreographer in between my gritty inner-city work with kids. I also wouldn't mind choreographing for film and theater, so I don't always have to come up with the goods from scratch.

Also in five years, I want to be leafing through the second printing of the book I'm working on now, which is a compilation of quotes of artists of all diciplines.

What has been the biggest or most unpredictable change you have been through?

The biggest and most unpredictable change might have been when I became gay in 1977. I just fell in love, and it happened to change my sexual orientation for a few years. But really, the more profound change was settling into a lasting (heterosexual) relationship and having a child. I never imagined myself in the role of wife, and, the way things were going, I thought the child decision had been made subconsciously. But I find the equal partnership to be a tonic, and it is a great relief and energizer to build a life together. It is a terrific challenge -- and pleasure -- to bring up one tiny fraction of the next generation with ideals that have gotten more sure over time.

What is your favorite quote?

One of my favorite quotes is from Yvonne Rainer: "I guess the overall question is how do we understand the world in which we live? And how do we resist other people's answers?"



Name in college:

Erica Robin

Present name:

Erica Robin Clark

Address:

7955 West 4th Street Los Angeles, CA 90048

Telephone:

(213) 021-1775 (Day)

(213) 658-5864 (Evening)

Significant Other/Spouse/Children:

Husband, Dr. Bill Clark

What are you up to now?

The fact that it's already May 14, 1994, and several months have hurtled by since receiving the invitation to write an entry in a 25th Reunion book, is the best way I can think of summarizing Life Now, a quarter century after Bennington: so much, so fast, too little time to contemplate the stream. This is certain to be echoed by my classmates, and especially those of us who work. Too little time, too much to do, most of it fascinating, but too much overall. If there's anything to the cliche of "peak" years, we're living them now. There are worse problems than a schedule so full that you know exactly where you're going to be on a Tuesday morning two months away -- but it's a bit scary when that Tuesday arrives and you realize the two months have disappeared in a blur. Thus have 25 years passed, with increasing momentum.

I remember little of my life before Bennington -- too painful -- and think of my life as having started at, and since, those years. Not that the quarter-century has been a lark; the happiest time has only been the past thirteen years, since my second marriage. The first ended in 1975, barely seven months after the ceremony, as I saw my husband die of a gunshot wound. We had lived together three years before the wedding so at least we had that. Having decided to go on, I knew I would never "be the same," whatever that means: that I had been altered in ways so profound that for the rest of my life I would continue to make discoveries about this event and the way I saw the world based on the ongoing ripples.

Paradoxically, I can't imagine being with anyone else but Bill since our marriage in 1981. The more we're together the closer we become; we are deeply, deeply fortunate. We're exactly 10 years apart in age, to the day, and it's also somehow apt that we have the same blood type and could literally give each other transfusions, along with all the other nourishment. My sadness at not having children has mostly faded because life with Bill is so rich -- and because it's simply too late so there's no point in dwelling on it. Forcing that issue always seemed slightly obscene to me, a bit blind. There are other great things in life, at least for us.

Boundless interest in the world and in work, for one. Bill is an immunologist at UCLA and a prolific writer. For the past 7 years I've been director of

development at the Museum of Contemporary Art (MOCA) in Los Angeles. Everything you hear about the art world is true and then some, but at least it's always a fascinating zoo. The Museum is a young, vibrant, charged institution with a brilliant director; as one of a small core of senior staff, I have worked extremely closely with him and thus have the incredible luck to spend my 60-70 hours per week at the museum with a person who is truly inspiring. Similarly, I have a terrific staff of 12, and in many classic ways they have become my "children," closer than members of my real family. "Blood is thinner than water" I'm fond of saying, and mean it. Much of my intense loyalty to my staff is based on the discoveries they've enabled me to make about my own capabilities: before coming to MOCA I never even had a secretary, so in the past 7 years I've learned that I can not only manage other people but love it; can handle a multitude of demands and tasks: and most importantly, can actually help lead a complex organization that has something to give to society. This is definitely not something I would have envisioned when I graduated from Bennington -- at that time I don't think our education there, even with (or especially because of?) its splendid openness and freedom, prepared us for the "realities" of working life. That really was a quartercentury ago, perhaps the most telling sign of a different era. So the years at MOCA have been a kick, and more than that, a truly formative time.

And like other formative times, this one feels like it's about to catapult me into another one. Feeling that I've proved myself in one realm, it's becoming increasingly urgent to me to get along with the other, much deeper business of heeding the need to do what really matters to my inner core: music and writing. Again, I bet I'm not alone among my classmates at this point in our lives. As a writer friend (and Bennington alumna) who also works at other jobs said to me recently, "If I don't write that book I'll get cancer." If I don't go back to the piano and re-learn how to be there for hours each day; if I don't go farther than my Monday evening writing workshops and learn how to sink, unafraid, into my stories and let them come out; if I don't re-learn how to be quietly and deeply in each day instead of skittering around like a mad waterbug, checking off lists of tasks (interesting as they may be) -- then life will just continue to hurtle by, all sound and fury, leaving a terrible emptiness. So I feel that while I'm still healthier and stronger than ever (truly -- I didn't feel this energetic in my twenties), I must leap off, drop out, fall in, whatever.

Happily, this <u>will</u> be possible soon. A few years ago we bought land in the San Juan Islands, north of Seattle, where we will build a house, and just this month we're buying a house in southwestern France with a friend who lives there. Within a few years we'll divide our time between the two places — and perhaps spend part of each winter in LA as well (it shakes here occasionally but we do have fabulous winters). Many musicians and writers live in the San Juans, so there will be ample opportunity to do chamber music, give recitals, readings, etc. as I did before my time at the Museum. As for France...ever since 1983, when Bill and I lived there for a year in a village by the sea, France has been home that we've revisited as often as possible. We <u>had</u> to live there again.

This is a nice place to end, and thinking of the past 25 years I can hardly believe it's me I'm writing about. Life is so good now. There's no way to know the future, but I feel that the worst is over, that there is tremendous delight to come. I hope this is true for most of us, 25 years since we were young women at Bennington, and that 25 years form now we'll still be full of delight.



Name in college:

Present name:

Address:

Barbara Rudnick

Barbara Rudnick Glass 2435 Springview Trail

Chapel Hill, N.C. 27514 (until 7/1/94)

Telephone:

(919) 929-5101

Significant Other/Spouse/Children:

Husband: J. Peter Glass; Children: Alexandra, 16; Oliver, 13; Maxim (aka Max), 9.

What are you up to now?

We have been living in Chapel Hill, NC for the past year because my husband has been working for Duke University Medical Center. We may be here next year, but at this point our plans are somewhat uncertain.

The well-being of my family is my primary concern. My children have had to make some major adjustments and have required most of my time and attention.

The year certainly has been busy and interesting. We've met some lovely people and have enjoyed the opportunity to travel in this area and learn a bit about the region. My teenage daughter particularly valued an experience serving in the Governor's page program (it provided many insights into state government). Also, we recently had a delightful time hosting a visiting foreign student.

What is your favorite quote?

"Common sense is not so common." -Voltaire

What issues of public nature are on your mind?

1. Crime

2. Responsible reform of immigration policy.

3. Somehow addressing the increasing pervasiveness of "the ends justify the means" mentality eroding much of our society.

4. Health care (particularly women's health care issues and patients' rights).





Name in college: Present name: Address:

Telephone:

Doreen Seidler

Doreen Seidler Feller 10750 Wenllworth Avenue

Los Angeles, CA 90042

(310) 208 6280, office (310) 470 8647, home

Significant Other/Spouse/Children:

Chaim, husband. Shulie and Shaul, kids.

What has happened to you since graduation that has been important to you?

Since graduation in 1969 I made a conscious decision to take a year off. I had graduated early-at the age of 20-and wanted to think more seriously about whether I wanted a career in medicine or in clinical psychology. It was a momentous time. I didn't fully understand how powerful the process of separating from one's "ground-note" could be. I am still appreciating how potent that career choice was as an emotional declaration of independent status. Of course, I chose psychology my first and real love and, in the wake of that choice, lies a great family tale.

After a lengthy and eventful graduate education, replete with drama, loss, and richness, I earned my Ph. D. in 1980. During and briefly after the dissertation writing, I enjoyed a brief career in academic psychology. I found it insufficiently rewarding, intellectually and financially, to pursue. Since the early 1980's we've been involved in the practice of clinical psychology. My work focuses on long term ambitious reconstruction of character, on marital therapy and couples work and supervision/teaching of young colleagues and psychiatry resident. I have an adjunct professorial appointment in the Psychiatry Department at UCLA. I spend my days doing work I regard as important, absorbing, and sacred--thinking about people's most intimate problems in life.

In 1975, I married an unlikely candidate in some ways and a predictable one in others, a passionate, learned rabbi with whom I have lived ever since and with whom I have two children. Shulie, my first born daughter is almost 11 and Shaul, my mid-life son is almost 5. Much can be said about each of them! Suffice it to say that they are an enormous source of joy, pleasure and pride and the most rigorous and relentless teachers I have ever had! Everything I do and say (or don't) really matters with them. I still wish for a 3rd child, and to that extent, I regret not having begun child bearing sooner.

That regret was deepened by the death on November 11, 1993 of my mother. Those who knew me well at Bennington (and elsewhere) know what an incredibly significant force she was in my life. Her death has been a piercing free fall experience and a kind of quicksand of rapid, barely comprehended losses. Most of all, I miss being her child--having the certain knowledge that someone loves me in that unique way mothers do. Adults can and do become orphans too. When she first died, I was so shattered, I couldn't imagine recovering a sense of the fullness

and wholeness of love again. Some days still my heart cannot contain the pain. But I am finding a thread through it, slowly.

There are natural therapeutics which are helping me through the thistles. Jewish mourning ritual, talking with friends--espescially those who've lost mothers and reading have offered the greatest consultation. Currently, I'm reading Nuland's How We Die, which evokes great feeling in me even as it offers perspective. I'm also reading insightful glimpses, notes, and essays in illness, death, burial and legacy literature. Among these is a book called Loss of the Ground-Note women writing about the loss of their mothers. In this protracted and painful passage way, my husband my children and my women friends have knowingly and unknowingly offered me the deepest love and help.



Bonnie (B.J.) van Damme 61 East 77th Street #4D New York, NY 10021 (212) 249 0661

In 1969 I graduated from Bennington as an art major. Subsequently I created awareness of and developed support for the collections and activities of four major U.S. museums, earning two professional awards. During the 1970's and early 1980's, I worked at The Smithsonian Associates, the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, then at The Brooklyn Museum, where I served for nine years and achieved the rank of Assistant Director. In 1985 I went to The Metropolitan Museum of Art to help launch their new, 22-gallery, 110,00-sq.-ft. modern art wing that opened to the public in 1987. I am a consultant in visual arts communications and marketing in New York, and, most recently, attending graduate school at New York University.

*photo caption:

B.J. van Damme briefing (former) Mayor Edward I. Koch at a New York museum exhibition opening. 1985 photo by Holland Wemple.





Name in college: Present name:

Address:

Martha Weiss Martha Weiss 85 Hyde Avenue Newton, MA 02158

Telephone:

(617) 964-7406

Significant Other/Spouse/Children:

Children: Hondo, 15; Nick, 9.

What are you up to now?

-Divorced/separated for past 3 years. Living with my 2 sons, still good friends with their dad, Lee Richmond.

-Working hard and happily and successfully as a psychotherapist in private practice.

practice. Developir

-Developing a task force to raise awareness and increase support for single, and divorced and stepparent families within my son's school and the city of Newton.

-Spending free time outdoors when I can, trying to maintain many loving friendships.

What has happened since graduation that has been most important to you?

Since graduation -- most important things have been the birth and growth of my 2 sons and our relationships, and the discovery of my own spiritual self.

What is your favorite quote?

"The supreme joy, the profound lessons and learnings, the greatest of all experiences of life, are available only in the present moment."

Yogi Amrit Desai

"Happiness is not a distinction, it is a way of travelling."

Yogi Amrit Desai

What has been the biggest or most unpredictable change you have been through? Most unpredictable change(s):

A. Deciding to separate from my husband after being together 25 years. Everyone has benefitted and feels way happier -- the <u>bravest</u> thing I ever did.

B. Beginning a long overdue quest about spirituality, I never consciously knew I would go this path. I feel like I have finally "come home." Spending a lot of time at Kripalu, in Lenox, Mass. -- an ashram devoted to spiritual growth through yoga and meditation. Recently went to conference there on spirituality and psychotherapy and will be meeting with like-minded therapists in Boston area.



Name in college: Present name:

Address:

Eda K. Zahl

Eda K. Zahl

2124 N. Beachwood Drive, #16

Los Angeles, CA 90068

Telephone:

(213) 465-0587

What am I up to now?

In April, 1994, my first novel, *Fluffy Butch*, is being published by Heinemann-Mandarin in Great Britain.

And I'm 215 pages into the writing of a second novel.

My Ideal Day

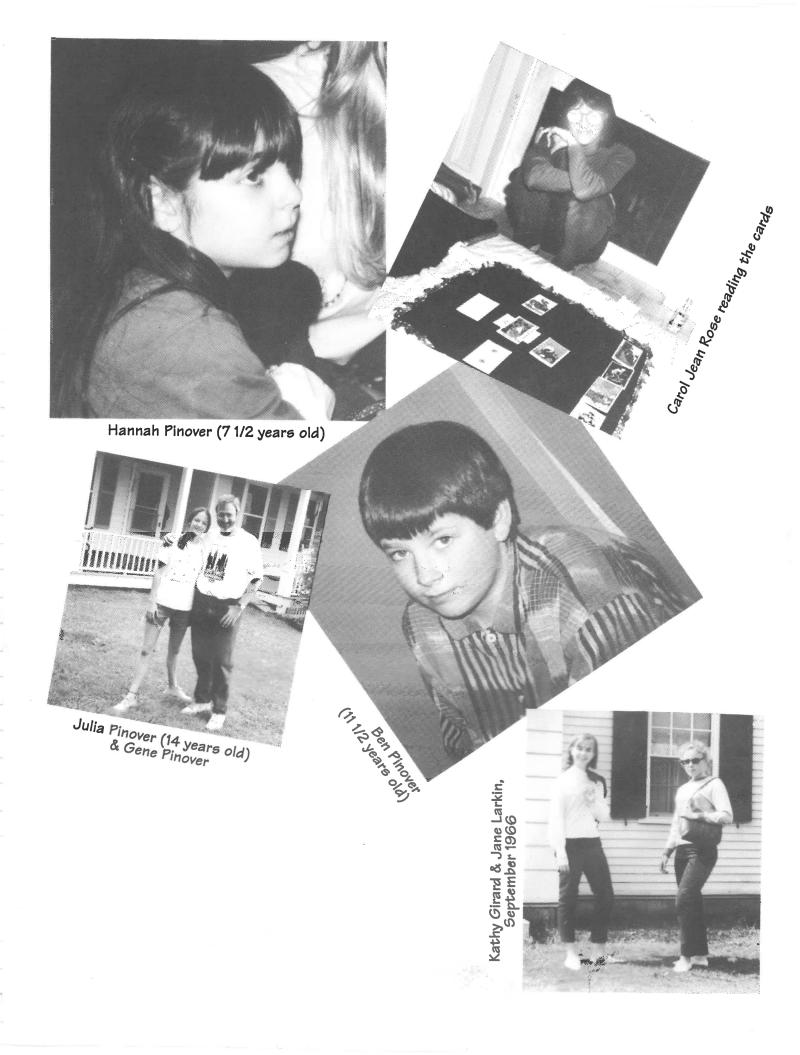
I'm in a horizontal position in bed with a cable remote in one hand and a VCR remote in the other. Food isn't even that important, or sex. With 99 channels, I get politics, religion, entertainment, news, learning, exercise, cooking, foreign languages, sharks, bugs, wars, yoga, reality, shopping, and talk.

This is my definition of family.









In Memoriam

Ellen Cholfin Elbaz

Holly Harris

Gerry Kaplan

Elizabeth Meyers

Harry Whittaker Sheppard

Elinor Siegel

CLASS addresses

Pauline Adoue

(Scanlon) 3300 Lealand Lane Nashville, TN 37204

Cheryl Aldridge

(Pounds)
393 West End Avenue
Apartment 8D
New York, NY 10024

Dian Allen

115 San Francisco Boulevard San Anselmo, CA 94960

Frances Antmann

240 West 98th Street Apartment 5E New York, NY 10025

Daiva Balkus

1115 North Pitt Street Apartment 2C Alexandria, VA 22314-1433

Holly N. Barrett

22300 Kinzie Street Chatsworth, CA 91311

Rose Basile

22 Bright Street Northampton, MA 01060

Elizabeth Bassett

4237 North Mozart Chicago, IL 60618-1532

Louise Baumgarten

(Maffitt) 3401 Calle de Monte NE Albuquerque, NM 87106

Margaret Beauchamp

RFD 1

Worcester, VT 05682-9801

Janis Beaver

19 Deerpath Road Flemington, NJ 08822-8939

Ermetra Black

(Thomas) 8401 Dorchester Avenue Chicago, IL 60619

Susan Blanck

(Franzen) 2862 SW Rutland Terrace Portland, OR 97201

Carole Bolsey

Lost

Kristina Brightenback

(Baer) 59 Poplar Street Newport, RI 02840

Beverly Brown

(Red)

Post Office Box 135 Vergennes, VT 05491-0135

Carolgene Burd

3015 West 81st Terrace Shawnee Mission, KS 66206

Janet Capron

Lost

Deborah Choate

3 Pierce Hill Road Lincoln, MA 01773

Caroline Cochran

(Boynton)
12 West 96th Street
Apartment 17C

New York, NY 10025

Camille Conwell

(Long)

6410 - 127th Street SW Tacoma, WA 98499

Rebecca Cook

31 Walmer Road Apartment 10 Toronto, Ontario M5R2WF CANADA

Sarah Cook

(Longacre)
333 East 43rd Street
Apartment 819
New York, NY 10017

Virginia Creighton

95 St. Marks Place Apartment 5 New York, NY 10009

Anna Cronin

(Ormsby) Lost

Mary Crowe

66 Bedford Road Lincoln, MA 01773

Claudia Davis

(Frain)

290 Drake Avenue New Rochelle, NY 10805

Victoria Davis

101 Chapin Parkway Buffalo, NY 14209-1103

Lucia de Leon

(Johnson)
Lost

Judith de Marsh 6027 19th Avenue South

Seattle, WA 98108

Sally Dodge

(Mole) Lathrop Lane RR 2 Box 2337 Arlington, VT 05250-0000

Deirdre Dole

(Golani) 1488 La Playa Street San Francisco, CA 94122

Eleanor Druckman

Post Office Box 1358 Norwich, VT 05055

Cordelia Duke

Lost

Laurie Eliscu

(Calahan) 8 Imperial Landing Westport, CT 06880

Diana Elzey

(Pinover)
333 Central Park West
Apartment 66
New York, NY 10025-7108

Rose Erck

(Lockwood) Lost

Randi Farkas

1325 Barlow Lane Sebastopol, CA 95472

Linda Feldman

(Brown) 21 Mountain Avenue Maplewood, NJ 07040 Sylvia Fischbach

(Braden)

1103 West 37th Street Baltimore, MD 21211

Susanne Fischer

(Glynn)

303 West Oregon Street Urbana, IL 61801-4125

Kathleen Fisk

(Ames)

45 Warren Street Brookline, MA 02146-5925

Marsha Flum

(Taylor)

501 Dorset Road Apartment D

Devon, PA 19333-1810

Jane Fox

(Costello)

710 Hancock Way El Cerrito, CA 94530

Kathryn Girard

511 Arbor Street Pasadena, CA 91105-1612

Christine Graham

60 Bartlett Bay Road

South Burlington, VT 05403

Peta Gray

Lost

Margo Greene

(Grobel)

221 West 82nd Street

Apartment 10F

New York, NY 10024-5412

Susan Greenthal

(Hurd)

1000 Peachtree Dunwoody Ct. Atlanta, GA 30328-1603

Olga Gussow

233 West 99th Street

Apartment 9D

New York, NY 10025-5054

Sheela Harden

Mount Anthony Road

RR 1 Box 190

North Pownal, VT 05260

Jean Holabird

81 Warren Street

New York, NY 10007

Katharine Holabird

(Haggiag)

17 Corringham Road London NW11 ENGLAND

Gwynneth Howell

(Greenberg)

9258 Biscayne

Dallas, TX 75218

Lucinda Hoyt

Lost

Marjorie Isaacs

(Newman)

77 Norwood Street

Sharon, MA 02067

Annice Jacoby

24 1/2 Prospect

San Francisco, CA 94110

Risa Jaroslow

65 Greene Street

New York, NY 10012

Maren Jenkins

(Hassinger) 9 Rowman Court

East Hampton, NY 11937

Ann Johnson

Lost

Elizabeth Johnson

666 Greenwich Street Apartment 648 New York, NY 10014-6334

Gay Johnson

(McDougall)

Post Office Box 43307 Washington, DC 20010-9307

Rachel Kahn

(Fogel)

741 Rue Crozat

Baton Rouge, LA 70810

Jane Kaufman

180 Blackwood Lane Stamford, CT 06903-4706

Jane Kitchell

(Angermeyer)

Academy Bay Santa Cruz Isld

Galapagos Islands

ECUADOR

Karen Krieger

1383 Hayes Drive

Yorktown Heights, NY 10598

Brenda Kydd

4155 Perlita Avenue

Apartment D

Los Angeles, CA 90039

Lorraine Lawrence

(Wixon)

3 Timberland Drive

East Greenbush, NY 12061

Elizabeth Lerman

1612 Ballard Street

Silver Spring, MD 20910

Lauren Levey

Post Office Box 64

Spring Glen, NY 12483-0064

Jean Liebenberg

Lost

Sally Lloyd

(Woelfel)

442 Vista Del Mar Drive

Aptos, CA 95003

Sara Lukinson

345 East 69th Street

Apartment 5G

New York, NY 10021

Janis Lyon

Lost

Judith MacDonald

(Curley)

34 Skyline Drive

Essex Junction, VT 05452

Michele Maddox

(Jones)

6 Mayflower Lane

Weston, CT 06883-2632

Sarah Magee

209 West Highland Avenue

Sierra Madre, CA 91024

Margaret McCain

(Wille)

RFD 2 Box 184

Brunswick, ME 04011

Ellen McCulloch

(Lovell)

5020 Smallwood Drive

Bethesda, MD 20816

Linda Mockler

Lost

Ruth Morris

(Thomas)

Post Office Box 727

Rosebud, SD 57570-0727

Ida Mower

(Burns)

Lost

Diane Natko

Lost

Joyce Nawy

545 West 11th

New York, NY 10025

Robyn Newhouse

55 Meadowbrook Road

Longmeadow, MA 01106

Patricia Nice

Vogelenzangseweg 14

Aerdenhout 2111HR NETHERLANDS

Elizabeth Niebling

(Dawson)

Spring Street

Exeter, NH 03833

Kathleen Norris 407 - 3rd Street W Post Office Box 570 Lemmon, SD 57638-0570

Susan Paris
(Borden)
Post Office Box 1759
417 Muskrat Street
Banff, Alberta TOLOC
CANADA

Margaret Parker
The Castine Inn
Post Office Box 41
Castine, ME 04421-0041

Janice Paul Lost

Andrew Peck
Post Office Box 65
Shokan, NY 12481-0065

Wendy Perron 441 West End Avenue Apartment 7C New York, NY 10024

Susan Phillis 528 4th Street Brooklyn, NY 11215

Jane Platt 627 3rd Street Brooklyn, NY 11215

Sandra Popik 5545 South Richmond Street Chicago, IL 60629-2124

Bonnie Portnoy (Rega) Lost Alice Purnell (Cannon) 406 North View Terrace Alexandria, VA 22301

Verna Rakofsky 58 Marshall Street First Floor Needham, MA 02192-1940

Daphne Ripple Lost

Diana Robbins
705 San Anselmo Avenue
Apartment C
San Anselmo, CA 94960

Merrilee Roberts (McCabe) Lost

Erica Robin (Clark) 7955 West 4th Street Los Angeles, CA 90048

Barbara Ross (Greenberg) 1674 John F. Kennedy Blvd. Jersey City, NJ 07305-1842

Barbara Rudnick (Glass) 2439 Sedgefield Drive Chapel Hill, NC 27514-6811

Sylvia Savage Lost

Janis Schneider 113 Mercer Street New York, NY 10013 Evelyn Schroeder Lost

Mary Seaman (Taylor) Lost

Doreen Seidler (Feller) 10750 Wellworth Avenue Los Angeles, CA 90024

Deborah Shapiro (Krasner) RD 3 Box 664 Putney, VT 05346

Jacqueline Shatz 86 Kings Highway Tappan, NY 10983-2009

Emily Sheean (Van Ness) 6 Springwood Drive Princeton Junction, NJ 08550

Wendy Shomer 2318 Stuart Street Brooklyn, NY 11229

Starr Siegele 415 West Aldine Avenue Apartment 5A Chicago, IL 60657

Barbara Silverstein 207 Churchill Drive Wilmington, DE 19803

Meril Smith (Deane)
Lost

Ronnie Steinberg

32 East Sedgwick Street Philadelphia, PA 19119

Barbara Sternberg

1585 Overhill Street Yorktown Heights, NY 10598

Sharon Stockard

(Martin) 1574 South Hayworth Avenue Los Angeles, CA 90035-3971

Sherry Stodola

(Rapport) 11410 NE 124th Street Apartment 476 Kirkland, WA 98034

Deborah Toan

(Patton) RD 1 Box 134 Bakersfield, VT 05441

Bonnie Vandamme

61 East 77th Street Apartment 4D New York, NY 10021

Martha Weiss

85 Hyde Avenue Newton, MA 02158

Shelley White

17 Church Road Ardmore, PA 19003-3205

Jane Willis

1449 Lakeview Avenue Minneapolis, MN 55416

Margaret Wise

(Auer) 120 Iroquois Trail Medford Lakes, NJ 08055

John Yeo

Lost

Eda Zahl

2124 North Beachwood Drive Apartment 16 Los Angeles, CA 90068-3421

Judith Zenge

(Grumbacher) 307 Yoakum Parkway Apartment 1222 Alexandria, VA 22304

Names are alphabetical by "Bennington" name.
Married names are indicated in parentheses.