

# AlumNotes

HUNTER COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNAE/I ASSOCIATION, INC

WINTER 2005 • VOLUME 31, NUMBER 1

Tel 212.772.4079

Fax 212.772.4074

Email [hchsalums@yahoo.com](mailto:hchsalums@yahoo.com)

Website [www.hchsaa.org](http://www.hchsaa.org)

## 1926 ALUM FUNDS GENEROUS POETRY GIFT

**L**ydya PINKUS Rochmis '26, a retired NYC high school teacher who currently lives in Virginia, recently donated \$20,000 to Hunter High to support poetry speaking and reading programs. This generous gift will fund several annual prizes for students throughout all grades, additional poetry books and materials, and speakers. The prizes and other parts of this gift will be administered by the two published poets currently on the High School's faculty—Kip Zegers and Richard Roundy.

## LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD BOARD MEMBERS...

**T**he Alumnae/i Association is seeking qualified candidates for our Board of Directors. Responsibilities of this volunteer position include attending monthly evening meetings in Manhattan and participating in on-going work such as fundraising, event planning, publicity, interaction with the high school, etc. Dues-paid members may make nominations of individuals, including themselves, until the close of business on Friday, April 29th, by writing, calling, or emailing the Association's office. Candidates must be dues-paid members (you may pay your dues at the time of candidacy). Candidates will be asked to submit a brief biographical sketch and a statement of why they would like to serve on the Board. The term of office is three years.

## YOU ARE INVITED TO REUNION 2005

**S**unday, June 5th, is the date of Reunion '05—where we will welcome the classes of 1980 and 1955 to celebrate their 25th and 50th anniversaries of graduation from Hunter High! Other milestone classes include the class of 2000 and then backward in increments of 5 years to 1930 (or even earlier—we know you're out there!)

The Alumnae/i Association has a great day planned, beginning at 9:30 a.m. with a continental breakfast and individual milestone class gatherings, followed by a general assembly and a buffet luncheon. There will be student musicians performing and a chance to see the school—particularly the library, toward which our association has contributed so much over the years.

If you're a member of a milestone class and you haven't yet heard from your class's volunteer coordinator about other class activities being planned, please check page 10 for his or her

contact information and then get in touch for more information. If no class coordinator is listed, check our Website ([www.hchsaa.org](http://www.hchsaa.org)) under the "Find Alums" button; password is *purple* or email our office for information.

As always, alums from all classes are welcome to attend the General Reunion. You'll get to see the school as it is today and meet some former and current faculty members (maybe your old science teacher will be there!). Please use the back page to pre-register (discount available) and check your dues expiration date (month/year) printed above your name and address to see if it's also time to renew your membership. Milestoners are also encouraged to make a special donation toward their class gift to the High School (which, like your dues, is tax-deductible); consult your class coordinator to see if there's a recommended amount and whether the class wishes to earmark the gift.

Hope to see you all on June 5th!

## HCHSAA TAPS ALUM'S MASSACHUSETTS FIRM TO CONDUCT STUDY

**I**mproving resources for Hunter students today and tomorrow has long been a priority of the Alumnae/i Association. The results of our recent fundraising efforts have encouraged us to explore the possibility of a significant multi-year campaign. Understanding the High School's long term needs and meshing those with the desires of alums to target resources where they feel they will be most beneficial,

however, represents an important new strategic direction. To help this new initiative get off on the right track, the Association has contracted with the Financial Development Agency, a development consulting firm based in Amherst, Massachusetts, to examine the overall situation and to create comprehensive guidelines and strategies for moving forward.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

### IN THIS ISSUE

ALUM ANNOUNCEMENTS: 15	ALUMNAGRAMS: 19	ANNUAL GIVING: 8	CHAPTER COORDINATORS: 19
CLASS NOTES: 16	HUNTERITES IN THE NEWS: 13	IN MEMORIAM: 18	LETTERS TO THE EDITOR: 3
PRESIDENT'S LETTER: 2	REUNION COORDINATORS/REUNION NEWS: 10	SPECIAL PROFILE—E. IRA MARIENHOFF: 4	NEWS FROM HCHS: 7



## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Happy New Year to our Hunter family and friends!

I am happy to report that as of the writing of this letter, the Alumnae/i Association has contributed \$103,744 to the High School since October 2004, including certain class gifts from last June's reunion. Thank you all for your generosity—it would not have been possible without you.

Along those lines, in an effort to get a better handle on our fundraising potential, we recently began working with a fundraising consultant (who is also an HCHS alum). The first step is a feasibility study to determine our Association's ability to launch a major fundraising campaign. Based on what we have heard and/or seen comparable academic institutions achieve in terms of fundraising, we as a Board felt compelled to take a harder look at how we can do more for our alma mater. Ultimately the Board decided we would be best served by working with someone with expertise in the area.

In late December, along with the PTA, we co-hosted the pizza lunch at Homecoming at the High School. The turnout was very impressive as these new alums (currently freshmen in college) returned to the school to visit and to share advice with current juniors and seniors. Dr. Laurenson graciously thanked the Alum Association for our contributions to the school as well as for hosting the pizza lunch. I was invited and did attend to say a few encouraging words to our new class of alums.

On the subject of Dr. Laurenson, I must regretfully report that he will be leaving the school at the end of the current school year. We appreciated his efforts and spirit of cooperation with the Alum Association over the past few years and wish him well in his future endeavors. A search committee has been formed to find the next Principal of the High School/Director of the Campus Schools. The committee consists of representatives from Hunter College, the HCHS faculty, parents, Hunter Elementary and one from the Alum Association. In order to find a replacement to start in the fall, the timetable is quite compressed and so committee work has already begun.

Finally, I encourage milestoners to make plans to attend their reunions this year, including the General Reunion at the High School on Sunday, June 5th. Please contact your class's volunteer coordinator (see page 10) to see how the plans for your class are progressing, or if no coordinator is listed, please contact our office if you're interested in planning your class's get-together.

Cordially,

Mimi Eng '84

## AlumNotes

Published by the  
Hunter College High School  
Alumnae/i Association, Inc.  
Hunter College, Box 373  
695 Park Avenue  
New York, NY 10021  
Email: hchsalsums@yahoo.com  
Founded in 1973

### Editor

Marge Kolb '78

### Copy Editor

Elaine Brand '65

### Design and Production

Marguerite LIAO Williams '91

### President

Mimi Eng '84

### Executive Vice President

Ruth KAUFMAN Davis '56

### Secretary

Purvi Sevak '91

### Treasurer

Marguerite LIAO Williams '91

### Board Members

Harriet WHITMAN Aufses, Jan. '44

Kari CHIN Chachkes '87

Cheryl KATZ Chiovetta '80

Barbara MAYER Lambert '64

John Marks '83

Nicole Morgenstern '75

Nina HABIB Spencer '90

Marianne Tomecek '69

Doris MEIBACH Wallace '62

Judy CHIN Wong '88

Tai Wong '88

### Office Manager

Marge Kolb '78

### President Emerita

Mildred Speiser Jan. '49

### Founding Member

Theodora Christon '42

### Founding Editor

Marjorie PEARLE Weiser '51

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To the Editor:

I loved Hunter, to which I could walk from 99th Street near Madison, sometimes meeting my mother on a Fifth Avenue bench, sometimes dropping in to see my much older pharmacist brother on Lexington and 92nd opposite the YMHA, occasionally having my parents attend a Glee Club concert. I sang with said club at every graduation in Carnegie Hall, tutored the daughters of a Dean and a Judge, breezed into Hunter College, and from there on a full scholarship to Columbia where I earned an M.A. in French and met my future husband. He was an Officer in WWII, a commanding officer of Radio Manila, and wrote over 50 books, including the GED, published by his major publisher, Barrons. We raised two Phi Beta Kappa sons like ourselves, all trained teachers but with varied professions, who between them have given us seven grandchildren. I still love my tightly circumscribed Academia—would I could do it over again!

**Anna COHEN Rockowitz, Jan. '35**

To the Editor:

Hunter High School opened worlds of experience and knowledge. It totally changed my life. I will be including the school in my will as one of the beneficiaries.

**Ginn COHEN Greenblatt '58**

To the Editor:

For me, Hunter was a made-to-order school. A small, elite place where I thoroughly enjoyed my four years. I am thankful to the 8th grade teacher who made me aware of Hunter's existence and showed me samples of the tests I would face. She selected me and two other youngsters and we were all admitted. The late Dr. Jones was one of our favorites. We adored her!

**Harriet FRUIM Starolitz, Jan. '41**

To the Editor:

When I read of the death of Dr. Mildred Lawton I remembered with great fondness a kind, almost grandmotherly woman who was my seventh grade math teacher. Dr. Lawton had to teach us "the new math," which was so new back in 1959 that textbooks were not yet published. So she had mimeographed (yes mimeographed!) pages stapled together that served as the texts. When my eldest daughter (she's now 35) entered elementary school, an introductory "new math" class for parents was held. Attending turned out to be unnecessary. As I sat squeezed into that school desk, all that Dr. Lawton had taught me those many years prior came back. She was an excellent teacher, one of many that I had at HCHS. I remember her, and so many others, with much fondness.

**Ina ALSTER Gravitz '65**

To the Editor:

I was most saddened to read, in the most recent alumni newsletter, of the untimely passing of Dr. Lester Rubenstein. Please accept this donation to the HCHS Alumnae/i Assn. in memory of "Doc," whom I remember as a great friend to the students of the High School. When it sometimes seemed that much of the faculty viewed its relationship with the students as antagonistic, Doc could always be relied upon as an ally of the students, for his warmth and his sense of humor. His passing is a great loss to the Hunter community.

**Richard S. Julie '93**

To the Editor:

I was so sorry to hear of Doc (Rubenstein's) passing. He really cared about making sure we learned how to be decent human beings and not just brainiac achievers. It was important to him that we learn to treat each other right. He was a great teacher. I wish the best to his friends and family.

**Allison Sayer '97**

## ALUMS ENJOY AUTUMN RECEPTION



The Alumnae/i Association was pleased to host our second Alum Reception at the High School on October 14th, 2004; the first was held last February. Over 50 alums attended from classes as wide-ranging as 2004 all the way back to 1942 and everyone enjoyed mingling, munching, and hearing from speakers including the High School's principal and director of campus schools, David Laurenson, three current High School students (Lily Mandlin, Lizzie Yulianto, and Wyatt Ford), and Alumnae/i Association Vice President, Ruth KAUFMAN Davis '56. A group of student musicians also performed throughout, contributing to the pleasant ambience.

The current HCHS students talked about what the school is like today and described their diverse activities, which ranged from varsity sports and working on the student newspaper to participating in theater groups and decoratively painting classrooms. They all expressed their thanks and appreciation to alums for all their contributions to the school, which they feel really contribute to the students' experience.

### Alumnae/i Website

The HCHSAA Website—[hchsaa.org](http://hchsaa.org)—provides access to an online guestbook, alum email directory, an expanded links section for class Websites and Egroups, Acrobat files of past issues of *AlumNotes*, and our online privacy policy. The common password for any page of our site requiring one is: *purple* (all lower case). If you have any questions or suggestions, please email us at [hchsalums@yahoo.com](mailto:hchsalums@yahoo.com).

# E. IRA MARIENHOFF 1922–1994

By Judy CHIN Wong '88 and Tai Wong '88

*In place of our regular prominent alumni feature, we are running a special profile on E. Ira Marienhoff, the long-serving chairman of the Social Studies Department who passed away ten years ago this past December. In recent issues of AlumNotes we asked alumni to write in about their memories of Mr. Marienhoff. We received many responses ranging from brief heartfelt notes to long thoughtful epistles as well as wonderful pictures from Robert LoScalzo '84, one of which accompanies this profile. We'd like to thank all the alumni who shared their memories. Though we cannot acknowledge or include all of them here, we appreciate it very much. Some material has also been drawn from a 1999 memorial compilation by Karen and David Bashkin.*

Ira Marienhoff served as chairman of the Social Studies Department and taught at Hunter from 1968 until weeks before his death in December 1994. Marienhoff had been diagnosed with liver/pancreatic cancer in early 1993 and chose not only to fight it aggressively but to continue to work as long as possible. This was completely consistent with his character, according to David and Karen Bashkin, close friends and executors of his estate: "Ira built his life around the trinity of school, students and scholarship." Through round after round of chemotherapy, Ira taught until he physically was no longer able to go to class. He passed away only a few weeks after he taught his final class. His funeral service was standing room only—packed with colleagues, friends, and current and former students—and surely violated fire codes with regard to capacity.

Marienhoff was a tall imposing figure with piercing eyes behind large spectacles, who always wore a suit and tie. His booming laugh was often heard down the hall from the Social Studies office. John Frazer '83 writes, "[I] remember how high he wore his

trousers, in the fashion of the '40s. Do any other old movie fans ever notice how much he looked like '40s character actor Edward Everett Horton?" [*Quite the resemblance.*]

Marienhoff was a member of a group that has come to be known as the Greatest Generation. According to the Bashkins, the two formative events in his life were the Great Depression and World War II. Ira and his mother (his father had passed away when he was two) were on home relief and his high school and college years were marked by economic need. Ira attended Townsend Harris, the elite NYC high school in the 1930s. Interestingly, Ira said that the one thing he would have done differently was that he would have attended the local high school instead, because many of his fellow students were wealthy scions from the West Side and looked down upon his poverty. Ira conserved nickels by walking from his home in Washington Heights to City College because that nickel meant lunch. Ira remained physically vigorous throughout his life; his suit size never changed according to David Bashkin, who credits this fitness as a contributing factor to his ability to withstand chemotherapy and live with an aggressive disease much longer than anticipated.

Ira was drafted into the Army in 1943 and rose quickly through the enlisted ranks when, as he related, it was discovered that he could understand and follow orders. Many fellow draftees were from the South and had not had the benefit of much education. His fellow soldiers made quite an impression on him and he remembered many fondly, imitating their draws. He particularly honored one fellow by always referring to his home state as "West, by God!, Virginia." Ira's regiment was headed for Europe when his train broke down en route to Newport News. As a result, his regiment switched places with

another and ended up guarding the Panama Canal for the balance of the war. Many soldiers from his unit were lost at Anzio, the beachhead for the Allied southern thrust in Europe, and Marienhoff's original destination.

Discharged as a sergeant-major, Marienhoff completed college and graduate school on the GI Bill and taught at the High School of Music & Art for many years before going to Hunter. Alison Goodwin Schiff, Ira's student at Music & Art and eventually his colleague at Hunter, wrote, "All the girls at M&A adored him—he was known to some of us as 'Marry-him-off.'" Marienhoff taught, among others, one of the producers for the hit NBC sitcom *Cheers*. Schiff adds that a scholarship fund in his memory has also been set up at Music & Art (now LaGuardia High School of the Arts).

At Hunter Ira became, eventually, the dean of the department chairmen, an irrepressible champion of scholarship and integrity, and a friend and inspiration to a generation of students.

Orna A. Kleiman, M.D., '94 writes "...he was one of the best teachers I ever encountered. Although he was intimidating at first, with time I got to see him for who he was: a dedicated teacher, a living monument to history, an encyclopedia of knowledge."

Robin Shafran Arnone '87 writes: "...he is the teacher who made the biggest impact on my life. I still find myself quoting him on a regular basis—I find the 'evil of the two lessers' particularly useful." [*A reference to the '88 race between George H.W. Bush and Michael Dukakis*]

Lynn Halpern Fogarty '87 shares an example of Marienhoff's supportiveness of students. "He had confidence in me when I had lost all in myself. His words of encouragement





PHOTOGRAPH COPYRIGHT 1983 & 2004, ROBERT LOSCALZO

through my challenging years at Hunter encouraged me to succeed in college, pursue a graduate degree and find a successful balance between career and family life.”

Even brief exposure to EIM often left lasting memories. Steve Hofstetter ’97, one of Ira’s last students, writes, “Thank you, Mr. Marienhoff, you taught me to be proud of my mind, and not to worry about what other people thought of it. In the two months you taught me, you were the best teacher I ever had.” Hofstetter also remembered EIM’s ever-present Delaney book which he used to record class participation. *[Marienhoff sat his classes in strict front-to-back rows in alphabetical order which was extremely unusual at Hunter.]*

Jane Resnick ’73, one of his earliest Hunter students, recalls simply, “Mr. Marienhoff was one of the most important, true teachers in my academic life.”

Melissa Rosse Dobbyn ’77 brought to mind one of EIM’s trademarks: the type-written comment and grade for a term paper, typed on yellow legal paper, cut exactly to size and stapled to the title page. *[His unwavering response to “How long does it have to be?” was “Long enough to make your point, not so long that I have to wade through it.” Several classmates of mine, convinced that the ‘old bastard’ couldn’t possibly read all these papers would put a line in the middle of a term paper—“Cross this out if you read it.” It was always, unerringly, crossed out.]*

Beth JACKENDOFF Harpaz ’77 relates a story which speaks volumes about the man. “I never had him as a classroom teacher, but one day in the cafeteria I was brushing my hair and he came over and said to me: ‘Didn’t your mother ever teach you that you never brush your hair around FOOD????!’ I was completely horrified and put away the brush immediately. Somehow I didn’t feel humiliated though. He spoke quietly, yet forcefully and there wasn’t anyone else near us when he said it. A lot of us came from middle-class backgrounds but were headed for Ivy League schools and social classes above the ones we grew up in, and I’m sure Mr. Marienhoff figured it was better if he called me on my rude behavior rather than having someone down the line snub me for it. It was almost as if there was a bit of finishing-school mentality in how Marienhoff and our other teachers saw their roles. They weren’t just teaching us, they were preparing us for life.”

Claire Marcus ’70 wrote, “He was funny, well-read and had the highest expectations of our work. He also inspired us to cultivate those qualities in ourselves.”

Elizabeth RILEY Blake ’90 wrote about the indelible impression left on her by Marienhoff’s desk. *[It sat directly against the wall as soon as one walked into the office.]* “It [the desk] was practically petrified. There was a note on an 8x11 piece of paper from a student who had graduated and was picking

up her diploma after ten years, but the note was seven years old...there were so many mementoes that it was hard to see a place where the man could actually write. It gave me such a deep reverence for him; one could see just how much teaching meant to him.”

Bob Blocker ’82 credits Marienhoff as the person who influenced his life the most aside from his parents. “Mr. M’ awakened me to the world of business and the stock market.” Blocker, a CPA, gives Marienhoff credit for his decision to become an accountant. He was also instrumental in forming his worldview: “My parents were die-hard Democrats and so was I until I took Mr. M’s class. I voted for Reagan in the 80s and have yet to stray from the Republican ticket despite the objections of my parents.” Blocker also described Marienhoff’s habit of sticking his pointer finger and pinky when making a point which differed radically from that of a student. “Marienhoff brought out the best in us when it came to debating world affairs as his views were ‘controversial’ at the time. He actually made us think as opposed to how many teachers just asked you to memorize and regurgitate.” He relates how Marienhoff gleefully thanked his students for using the telephone because as an AT&T shareholder he insisted that every time the phone rang he was making money. Blocker remembers learning about dividends through the AT&T example. *[I learned about subordinated debentures from Marienhoff through the AT&T example.]*

Marienhoff was the implacable, steadfast bulwark against deconstructionism, post-modernism and revisionist history which had become very fashionable in the 1970s and 80s. An unwavering champion of the First Amendment who pounded home Voltaire’s great admonition, “I disagree with what you say but I shall defend to my death your right to say it,” he never allowed tolerance of other opinion to devolve into moral relativism. It was always abundantly clear where the self-labeled “reactionary fascist bastard” stood, but

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

## E. IRA MARIENHOFF 1922–1994

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

he never imposed his personal opinion upon colleagues or students or penalized them for thinking differently. What he did demand, however, was integrity, hard work, competence and intelligence in his students *[and public officials]*. One of the most remarkable things I recall about Marienhoff was that he loved and was loved *[and respected]* not only by the *[few]* conservative students at Hunter but by many of the far left as well. Ira had a lot of respect for his students. After papers were returned from an ‘achievement opportunity’ *[exam]* Marienhoff and the class would often debate interpretation on multiple choice questions for an entire class and when there was a legitimate issue students would have points returned.

Marienhoff was a great sport. His appearance in a pink tutu circa 1973 is legendary. My class, when trying to decide on a senior mascot, chose with great enthusiasm “Ira the fascist pig.” He was quite flattered but our senior adviser that year scotched the effort as inappropriate and we ended up with the rather tepid Squid Vicious.

Ira was an extraordinary raconteur by all accounts both in and out of the classroom. Who can forget his semester long, optional AP American History course which consisted of Ira, on his own time, covering two hundred years of history in great detail, with excellent color and irrepressible irreverence?

Ira Marienhoff saved a last surprise and item of debate for the Hunter community. Marienhoff, who had no close family, left his entire, considerable fortune—believed to be in excess of two million dollars—to Yeshiva University. Many colleagues and students were stunned as Marienhoff was not religious and did not attend services with any regularity. Moreover, he was a vocal and ardent believer in the separation between church and state and specifically

did not have any meaningful relationship with Yeshiva.

David Bashkin, his executor, discussed neither the will’s contents nor the decision regarding the beneficiary with Marienhoff. He believes that Marienhoff’s long battle safeguarding the modest Witmer bequest (his predecessor as Social Studies department chair) from inappropriate (non-academic) use by various administrations made him very leery of entrusting his estate to an arrangement where its appropriate disposition could not be certain. Perhaps he felt, Baskin speculates, that a private sectarian institution would best be able to honor his wishes. The bequest endows annual Marienhoff scholarships which fund students through four years of undergraduate education and pays for graduate education in two divisions of the University. The principal is not touched and according to the executors Yeshiva has been faithful and conscientious in fulfilling Mr. Marienhoff’s wishes. The source of his estate was a combination of steady accumulation and modest needs influenced by his experience in the Depression, wise investment and reinvestment, and a very significant one time pension payoff to his estate after his death due to his remaining in service at an advanced age (72) after 50 years of service.

There were former students and colleagues who criticized with some bitterness Marienhoff’s decision. Some felt that he had “left Hunter with nothing” and others questioned the veracity and depth of his love for Hunter. In response I would say that Ira gave the best of himself—27 years of his wisdom, leadership and devotion—to Hunter, teaching until he could no longer physically teach the importance of good government and history. Most importantly he ingrained in so many of us a moral compass by which to judge what is right and what is wrong. A day scarcely passes even now 20 years since I last sat in his class when I do not think of or apply

### MARIENHOFFISMS

The following are “Marienhoffisms” mentioned by former students:

“Chauncey and Ermintrude Hofnagel” *[theoretical students]*

“Next Wednesday you will have an achievement opportunity.” *[an exam]*

“The Equine Paradox: There are more horses’ asses than there are horses.” *[typically, the US Congress]*

“As useful as a pimple on the posterior of an elephant.” *[various]*

“Would it be too much if I ask you to clutter your argument with facts?” *[response to illogical line of reasoning]*

“It’s better to keep your mouth shut and be thought a fool than open it and remove all doubt.” *[many]*

“Infernal Revenue Service”

“Liberal-land” *[West Side between 59th and 96th Street]*

“If you’ve got a buddy loyal and true, stick it to him before he sticks it to you.” *[with pointer and pinky finger extended]*

“Talmudic scholar” *[students who argued esoteric points endlessly]*

the lessons that he taught. And there are times when I would have been glad to have heard his counsel on some important issue.

Compared with that, a few million dollars is a paltry sum indeed.

Echoing the words once said by a man about his great friend, it can be said of Marienhoff, “Such was the end of our friend, whom I may truly call the wisest, the justest, and the best of all the men whom I have ever known.”

## NEWS FROM HCHS

Dr. Beverly Lenny, Chair of the Counseling Department, retired in January after 31 years at the High School. In a farewell letter published in the PTA's newsletter, Dr. Lenny said that she will miss the hustle and bustle of Hunter and how much the school molds and changes a person, regardless of which side of the desk you are on. She will also miss the brilliance and generosity of the students and how good it made her feel to contribute to shaping their important lives. Dr. Lenny will be succeeded by interim Chair Lee Weinberg... The Annual Ski Trip for grades 7–12 was held February 1–3...Nanette Asher, retired English teacher and Shakespeare Club founder, and Dr. Audrey Maurer will lead a trip to the UK during spring break, March 24–April 3. On the itinerary is the popular Globe Theater student workshop in London, plays by the Royal Shakespeare Company in Stratford, and visits to the Lake District in England as well as the Scottish Highlands, Edinburgh and the Border Country. The trip is open to 10–12th graders and 9th graders if space allows...This year, 80 12th grade students are working in internships around the city through the

Hunter Scholars Program. Students work in places as diverse as museums, theatres, hospitals, courts, legislative offices, investment banks, design studios and publications offices...Many upgrades have been made or are being planned to the Campus Schools' building including: work on the facade and courtyard, the creation of a new weight room, the conversion of the old weight room into a lounge for seniors, renovations to the cafeteria (scheduled for summer '05) and auditorium (which are in the early discussion phases) and a technology project which will include upgrading the computer systems and setting up an Art & Music Computer Laboratory... Members of the class of 2004 returned to Hunter for Homecoming on December 22nd...The Debate Team recently established a Website—[www.idebate.org/hunter](http://www.idebate.org/hunter). One feature of the site is a listing of tournament dates for the current school year...The Hunter Theater Ensemble (HTE) presented the play *The House of Blue Leaves* by John Guare on December 9, 10 and 11. HTE plays are performed, directed, designed, stage managed, and produced entirely by students.

## FUNDRAISING STUDY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"The High School can certainly use our help and support and we firmly believe that professional guidance at this stage will move us in the right direction," said HCHSAA president Mimi Eng.

FDA was selected from more than a half dozen competing firms due to a combination of a strong track record and familiarity with Hunter's unique structure and student body.

FDA Principal Matt Blumenfeld '83 is eagerly looking forward to the project. "My Hunter experience remains an important part of my life and I know that the High School could certainly benefit from increased involvement of alums. I view this as a tremendous opportunity to do something significant for Hunter, and I am absolutely delighted to be able to direct the project."

The study itself will consist of a series of confidential interviews, as well as a broader survey open to the entire membership. "We are interested in finding out how alums value their Hunter education, garnering their opinions about the Alumnae/i Association, and understanding the connections between the High School, the Association and individual graduates. This will provide a solid backdrop from which the Association can then develop a more comprehensive and successful development effort," said Blumenfeld.

Alums who are interested in finding out more about the study should contact Marge Kolb in the Association Office at [hchsalums@yahoo.com](mailto:hchsalums@yahoo.com) or 212-772-4079 or any member of the Alumnae/i Association Board.

## 3 HCHS STUDENTS SEMIFINALISTS IN INTEL SCIENCE TALENT SEARCH

Three students from Hunter—David Bauer, Oliver Yang, and Walter Chen—were among 300 semifinalists from across the country in this year's edition of the prestigious Intel Science Talent Search (formerly known as the Westinghouse Science Talent Search). On January 26th, David was also named one of the 40 finalists for his project entitled *Covalent Assembly of a Nanodot-based Neurotoxin Biosensor*. In all, 34 students from New York City were named semifinalists (Bronx Science had six, Stuyvesant had five and Brooklyn Tech had three) and four were named finalists. Each of the 300 semifinalists gets a \$1,000 prize, with an additional \$1,000 donated to their school. The 40 finalists will compete in Washington for scholarships worth more than \$500,000. Overall, 1,600 students entered the contest. (You may view local news articles about this on our Website—[hchsaa.org](http://hchsaa.org)—under the News headline: HCHS in the Media.)

## Join a Special Group

Your legacy can mean a brighter future for our alma mater. By including the Hunter College High School Alumnae/i Association in your will or estate plans, you will help continue the special enrichment projects that we fund at the High School. If you have already included HCHSAA in your will, thank you! If you'd like to include us, please use the designation: "Hunter College High School Alumnae/i Association, Inc., a New York not-for-profit corporation."

## ANNUAL GIVING 2004–2005

*At right is the text of the letter sent to alums and friends in November to kick off the HCHSAA 2004–2005 annual giving campaign.*

*We would like to extend a heartfelt thanks to everyone who has already participated in this year's effort. If you haven't yet contributed, it's not too late! You can use the form on the last page of AlumNotes to send us your donation!*

*On the page opposite, you can also read the many thank you letters we have received for our previous donations to HCHS!*

Dear Hunter High Alum or Friend:

\$145,000—that's the current cost for six years at some of New York City's top-rated private high schools. Free—that's still the price of New York City's finest education.

We write to ask you to seriously consider Hunter High in your giving plans. Your vital support will help the school maintain and enhance its commitment to provide thousands of gifted young people with a world-class learning experience, free of charge.

How many times—at dinner parties, in the office, at our children's schools—have we extolled the strengths of Hunter College High School? How often have we made the point that it is one of the few schools in the city that bring together children of every ethnicity and economic background to prepare them not just for success in college, but for success in life?

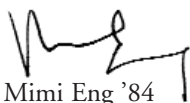
The contributions of alums have already made a significant difference to Hunter students and faculty. The Alumnae/i Association raised nearly \$70,000 during our last fundraiser, an impressive sum. In the past year, our donations have helped:

- the Science department purchase equipment for the labs
- the Math department replace equipment in one of the computer labs
- the Library replace and upgrade the study area
- the Physical Education department purchase a sophisticated fitness package that includes lesson plans, software, and heart rate monitors
- the Foreign Language department purchase software for the Language Lab
- the Social Studies department purchase new books and resource materials
- the Counseling department purchase new and updated reference materials
- fund student trips to Europe with the English, Music, and Art departments
- fund scholarships for graduating seniors

We urge you to join us in our continuing effort to directly enrich the lives of Hunter students. While last year's results were a significant increase over past fundraiser totals, \$70,000 amounts to only \$6.70 donated per alum. We know we can do better.

This year, we hope to at least double last year's total. But we can't do it without you. Please take a moment to contribute as much as you can to Hunter. Your gift is tax-deductible and will make a world of difference to the next generation of Hunter students.

Happy holidays from the Board of Directors,



Mimi Eng '84  
President, HCHS Alumnae/i Association, Inc.

P.S. If you are not current with your Alumnae/i Association annual dues, you may send your dues together with your contribution for the high school [See dues expiration date above your name on the back page]. Please note that as a 501(c)(3) organization, we are generally eligible for employer matching gifts.



## HIGH SCHOOL THANK YOU LETTERS

Dear President Eng:

When I received your check for \$67,769 in November, I was aglow for several days. The generosity of the alumnae/i body is truly wonderful and the school is able to provide the rich experience that our students deserve because of the gifts provided to us.

I have distributed the funds to the various departments according to the funding designations of the donors. As for the discretionary funds given to me for the Principal's Fund [by the milestone class of 1954], I have determined that the money will be used to acquire resources for the library, some new furniture for the faculty lounge, technology upgrades, and as seed money for a small fund to provide for those students who are needy and cannot afford to pay for their field trips and off-campus experiences. To the class of '54, I am most grateful.

Once again, my sincere thanks to you and to the alumnae/i for your generous contributions to the school.

Yours sincerely,  
**David J. Laurenson**

January 14, 2005

Dear Members of the Board:

I wish to take this opportunity to thank you for your recent gift to the school and also for the event you funded on December 22, 2004.

The funds that you donated will be disbursed to the specific areas you designated and I am most grateful to you for both the books that will be purchased for the library and also for the discretionary funds that you allotted to me. To date I have expended about half of the discretionary funds allotted to me by the Alumnae/i Association this year for items as diverse as chairs for one of the music rooms (special chairs for musicians) to installing a new floor in the weight room. The items funded by this money will be used by students and certainly add to the educational experience our students enjoy.

On the last day of the term in December before the holidays, the school hosted a homecoming event for the newly graduated students (class of 2004). We had an excellent turnout and they were all fed a pizza lunch, thanks to your generosity. It is a great way for the alums to welcome new graduates into the fold of the Alumnae/i Association and I thank you for your part in making this event a success. Getting the graduates involved in the association early is, I believe, a key factor to their future involvement and it is my hope that the homecoming event reaps benefits for you, and the school, down the line.

Thanks for everything.

Sincerely,  
**David J. Laurenson**

Dear All:

On behalf of the Science Department, I want to thank you for the generous donation of \$3,600 earmarked for the science labs. The department was thrilled with the opportunity to shop for needed equipment. We will use the money for a new vacuum pump, an analytical balance and VCR/DVD players to be installed in each lab. All these purchases enhance the program for our students and allow the teachers to plan lessons and labs using up-to-date equipment.

Thanks again and best wishes for another successful campaign.

**Marge Goldsmith, Science Chair**

To the Alumnae/i Association:

On behalf of the Social Studies Department, I want to thank you so very much for your generous gifts to us. It is gratifying that you remember the school with your support. We are already in the process of ordering a significant DVD library but can now go beyond our initial modest plans. Your gifts will mean we can replace some aging audio visual equipment, specifically an additional DVD player, monitor and cart. The only

way we can use videos effectively is if they are on mobile equipment, given the shortage of rooms and the necessity of teachers using several rooms in a day.

**Susan G. Meeker, Social Studies Chair**

To the Alumnae/i Association:

I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude for the Alumnae/i Association's generous contribution to the Health, P.E. and Athletic programs. Having only been here a short period of time, I have already gathered that without the unparalleled support of the Association, many of the programs here would be non-existent. I recently heard that many bright teachers get frustrated and are leaving education to go on and become entrepreneurs. You see, they are used to working with limited resources and budget. I believe through the continued and generous support of the Alumnae/i Association, our teachers will go on and become even greater teachers.

**Drew Adams, Health & P.E. Department**

Dear Alumnae/i Association:

Thank you so much for your generous donation to the Music Department. We appreciate being in your thoughts and memories.

**Eve Eisenstadt, Art & Music Chair**

Dear Alumnae/i Association:

The Hunter College High School library was very pleased to learn of your generous and most welcome donation of \$3,745 as well as the \$1,613 gift from the class of January, 1944. As you know, in a changing world, the library faces the on-going challenge of keeping its collection current. Hunter students depend on donations such as yours to allow them access, year after year, to the best in history, science and literature.

**Eugene Lim, Librarian**

## REUNION NEWS

### Class of '55: 50th Reunion Plans Are Underway!

Mark your calendars now for the weekend of June 3–5, 2005. We'll gather in full force at Sunday's Milestone Reunion at the High School and enjoy as much of the entire weekend together as we can.

A core committee has been formed and is eager to hear from you. Call, email, or write us. We need your input and your assistance. To start, please help us update the list. We're missing updated information on many of us, so you can assist with those alums with whom you've stayed in touch. That would be great! (See names and contact information for committee members under "Milestone Coordinators" on this same page.)

We're reaching out to '55ers around the globe. Help us out. Get in touch. Spread the word. Thanks to all.

#### Sunday, June 5, 2005: General Reunion at Hunter College High School

##### Location

Hunter College High School  
71 East 94th Street  
(between Park and Madison)

##### Time

9:30 a.m. to end

##### Schedule (tentative)

9:30 a.m.–11:00 a.m.

*Continental breakfast buffet and individual milestone class gatherings*

11:00 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

*General assembly with class presentations in the auditorium*

12:30 p.m. to end

*Buffet luncheon in the cafeteria*

### Class of '80: 25th Reunion in the Works!

Members of the class of 1980 are invited to join our Yahoo! group at: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Hunter1980/>. Class coordinators Cheryl KATZ Chiovetta, Lisa Foy, Nancy Lewin, and Jean Tom (see contact information under "Milestone Coordinators" on this same page) are looking for your input and ideas for the reunion as well as your assistance in finding the following "missing" class members: Elizabeth Barnes, Lourdes Batista, Miriam Bendehan, Norman Carter, Mary Chin, Amy Donner, Annette Dulgov, Laura Gilsig, Bridget Godfrey, Spring Haughton, Josephine Hernandez, Russell Hershow, Ruth Josenhans, Marcelle Mason, Gail McIntyre, Lorraine O'Neill, Diane Owens, Dina Papler, Rebecca Ritter, Elizabeth Schneider, Barbara Schwendtner, Laureen Wells, Craig Woods, and Nancy Zdunczyk.

### Class of '85: Just for Laughs...

As the grads of 1985 prepare for their upcoming 20th reunion celebration this June, those who have joined the class's e-group (<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/hchs85/>) have been enjoying reminiscing about their days at Hunter—and their favorite music. As class members remember songs of that era—*Everybody Wang Chung Tonight; Rock Lobster; Come On Eileen; Whip It*—one of them, Matt Kapklein, offered to be in charge of music for the reunion party, stating that he has a collection of about 7,000 CDs and records, including almost all of the posted songs. In response, fellow classmate, Jay Krantz, asked: "Do you have *Hot Cross Buns* in your CD collection? On recorder? Because that would get me nostalgic for Mr. Austin's 7th Grade music class."

### Milestone Coordinators

#### 2005 Reunion

**Jan. 1945:** Florence KLEIN Knopf, [rfknopf@optonline.net](mailto:rfknopf@optonline.net)

**Jan. 1950:** Phyllis LEKASHMAN Glantz, [palglantz@aol.com](mailto:palglantz@aol.com)

**1955:** Eleanor Joyce, 718-217-7393; Eva MASTER Kaplan, 609-730-0746, [evakaplan@cs.com](mailto:evakaplan@cs.com); Anita VALENTE Mule, 718-892-9734, [amule23@yahoo.com](mailto:amule23@yahoo.com); Peggy BETZ Perrin, 718-426-1341, [mperrin@nyls.edu](mailto:mperrin@nyls.edu); Ellie PRUGER Seepes, 212-749-6729, [eseepes@nyc.rr.com](mailto:eseepes@nyc.rr.com); Anita COOPER Tsamaikis, 011 30 24210 46055 [Greece], [anitac@vol.forthnet.gr](mailto:anitac@vol.forthnet.gr); Lenore ROMANELLI Valente, 772-467-0703

**1960:** Jeanette ISENBERG Bersh, [addressing@aol.com](mailto:addressing@aol.com)

**1965:** Deborah ROSENFELD Landes, 914-373-4465, [dlandes1@optonline.net](mailto:dlandes1@optonline.net)

**1970:** Susan NEIDICH Gonen, [gonen44@comcast.net](mailto:gonen44@comcast.net)

**1975:** Deborah Kahn, (w) 212-308-7697, (h) 212-772-3401, (cell) 917-544-3691, [debkahn@buttermankahn.com](mailto:debkahn@buttermankahn.com)

**1980:** Cheryl KATZ Chiovetta, (cell) 917-882-1907, [Cheryl.Katz@AIG.com](mailto:Cheryl.Katz@AIG.com)  
Lisa Foy, [ldfoy@earthlink.net](mailto:ldfoy@earthlink.net)  
Nancy Lewin, [Nlewin2@cpcus.jnj.com](mailto:Nlewin2@cpcus.jnj.com)  
Jean Tom, [jean\\_tom@merck.com](mailto:jean_tom@merck.com)

**1985:** Wendy Turchin, 212-706-7915, [wturchin@aol.com](mailto:wturchin@aol.com)

**1990:** Nina HABIB Spencer, 718-796-9456, [nhspencer1@aol.com](mailto:nhspencer1@aol.com)

**1995:** Charles Q. Choi, [choi9999@yahoo.com](mailto:choi9999@yahoo.com)  
Laurie Ehrlich Emmer, [Laurie.Emmer@srz.com](mailto:Laurie.Emmer@srz.com)  
Lou Mazzella, [LouMazzella@cs.com](mailto:LouMazzella@cs.com)

#### 2006 Reunion

**1956:** Ruth KAUFMAN Davis, [davisrk@flash.net](mailto:davisrk@flash.net)

**1961:** Helene WILLIAMS Spierman, [Helenespierman@juno.com](mailto:Helenespierman@juno.com)

*In the fall of 1974, Hunter High, which had been founded in 1869 as an all-girls school, began admitting its first male students. Those boys, now men, are alums of the class of 1980, which will celebrate its 25th reunion this June.*

On February 14, 1974, Hunter College agreed to admit boys to its all-girls high school for the first time since the school was opened 105 years prior. Hunter College president Jacqueline G. Wexler stated that the decision was made “under pressure of a lawsuit” which had already resulted in Federal District Court Judge Inzer B. Wyatt ordering, the prior month, that the plaintiff boys be permitted to take the entrance exam. Of the 24 boys named in the suit, including a number from Hunter Elementary, 18 were admitted and began classes the following September. We recently asked some of the men from that first coed class for their memories of those events and their days at Hunter High.

**Anthony Richter:** I remember that on the day of the entrance exam, my father and I set out early to walk from the Upper West Side across Central Park to Hunter College on 68th Street. There was a huge line snaking up 69th Street and down Park Avenue—giddy, revved-up kids in loud plaid bellbottoms and clunky shoes shivering with their parents, all waiting to take the Hunter test that January morning in 1974. The test was—as it still is—a big deal. There was a little extra personal pressure for me, since my father loved to tell me that in our family we were all “professional test-takers,” meaning we were expected to score well. He had learned about tests at Boston Latin, the elite Massachusetts school for overachievers. But in my father’s day, Boston Latin was an all-boys school. The bigger deal for us, of course, was that Hunter was still all-girls. By taking the test we were out to change that. Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 was one of a wave of civil rights laws aimed at bringing about social change from the 1960s to the 1990s to end discrimination based on race, sex, age, and disability.

## Girlie High Gets 1st Freshboys

By STEVEN MATTHEWS

Because of the way kids dress and wear their hair these days, it is not always easy to tell the difference between seventh-grade girls and seventh-grade boys. So it is hard to tell that there is anything different at Hunter College High School this year.

But there is. This week, for the first time since the school for intellectually gifted girls opened its doors 105 years ago, there are boys in the freshman class.

### A Look at the 7th Grade

No one is very excited about it, though. The only obvious changes at the school, which occupies two floors of an office building at 466 Lexington Ave., are that 11 and 12 year-old boys are using the men's room usually reserved for faculty members, and the Big Sister Program, in which an upper-classwoman assists an entering seventh grad-

er, has been renamed the Big Buddy Program.

To be sure, there are only 18 boys in the seventh grade, for now. But as far as they are concerned there is hardly anything unusual about attending classes with members of the opposite sex.

“Look, man,” sighed one student on his way to class yesterday, “we’ve been going to school with girls all our lives—and they’ve been going to school with us.”

If anything, the male students seem to be a little bored with the publicity and attention they have received since their parents successfully sued the Board of Higher Education last year to have them admitted to the school.

Their female classmates appear to feel the same way. Only one girl stopped as a group of boys was being interviewed in the hall yesterday at the end of their first week of classes. And all she had to say was, “Don’t let them tell you anything; they love it here.”

### View of the Administration

The school’s administration is pretty relaxed about the whole thing, too.

“I think it is a very healthy situa-

tion overall,” said Bernard Miller, the school’s director. “And I don’t think there will be any changes of consequence because we are geared to teach human beings, not boys or girls.”

Miller admits to some apprehensions, though.

“One of the strengths of Hunter College High when it was an all-girl’s school was that girls took all the leadership roles,” he explained. “In almost every institution that has gone coed the boys have taken over, however, and I hope it doesn’t happen here.”

### He Has a Large Headache

Miller’s big problem for now is far more mundane: he must either find another location to administer the annual admissions exam or raise the requirements for taking it, because the former site, Hunter College, will no longer be adequate.

“There used to be 3,000 girls competing for 200 spaces in our entering class,” he said. “Now that boys who are two years above their grade level are eligible to, we’ll have 5,000 or more taking the test and we just can’t handle that many.”

Newspaper article published in New York City in September, 1974

Title IX was designed, rightly, to stop federally funded institutions from discriminating against girls and women. I don’t know whether hiring a woman to press our case, the well-known civil rights attorney, Eleanor Jackson Piel, was also designed to make a clever symbolic point, but just the same she turned Title IX on its head, and won the case for the boy plaintiffs. I think it was the parents of Sandy Katz, Jon Weiss and others who came up with the idea of suing. The rest gladly chipped in to pay attorney fees. I still remember going to court in the fall of 1973, and the victory party at Sandy’s apartment, replete with a 6-foot hero and all of us signing Mrs. Piel’s broken leg in a plaster cast.

Going to an all-city school meant learning to take the IRT, an education to make any city kid streetwise. Fascinated and daunted all at once, I was free to explore the subway netherworld on my own after my father first showed me the way. It was a time when the subway was truly dangerous, but highjacking public transportation still seemed vaguely romantic. Anyone remember that movie *The Taking of Pelham 1-2-3*? Getting out of a graffiti painted subway car, I marveled at the vast grimy beauty of the ceiling in Grand Central Station; transfixed by the gender-bending glam rock posters for Bowie’s “Diamond Dogs,” I hurried past the characters who gave the words

“42nd Street” the reputation of an open air bordello; never bought flowers from the semi-deranged man who hawked them for “dolla bonch.” It was all pretty seamy. The first day we came to Hunter the media was staked out to record the spectacle of the little boy coeds. Hunter was still renting two floors of a midtown office building at 466 Lexington Avenue. I wonder what the office workers made of 1,100 (mostly) girls lining up for the elevator ride every morning?

So we wouldn’t be all alone, we boys were put in groups of 4–6 in four of the 10 or so “O” classes (7th grade was called O, followed by I, II, III, IV, V, and ICY). Even though the O stood for Orientation Year we were all, boys and girls, collectively known as “zeroes.” As we began to take electives in later years, I could easily be the only boy in an entire class. Given that boys of that age talk way too much, 1:20 seemed a reasonably gender balanced ratio. Otherwise we were all just hitting the books the Hunter way. Probably only one course’s curriculum had to be changed to accommodate our arrival—Sex-Ed. I also know those classes sacrificed a good deal of their candor when we arrived. I remember hearing some pretty wild things by accident—though not to be repeated in these pages. Outside the class-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12



## SEPTEMBER 1974: THE YEAR HUNTER HIGH WENT COED

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

room, oddly enough one of the first changes boys brought was not so much in sports, but in the arts. It would take years (and moving to 94th Street) until there were anywhere near the critical mass of boys or the facilities to think about any kind of male varsity teams. But with our changing voices we added a new dimension to the chorus' rendition of "Moon River" under Mr. Campbell's baton. And there were just enough boys, too, for walk-on roles in Dr. Wekerle's production of *A Thurbur Carnival* or for speaking parts in *Our Town*. The days of drag parts for girls acting in laughably fake moustaches were over. For years, student government was completely and competently female. With leadership from young stars like Elena Kagan or Sarah Schulman, who needed a boy? I remember running for the first time for the G.O. with a campaign speech that began, "Even though I am a boy...I still deserve your vote."

We were still not an entirely welcome novelty. That Hunter fought in court to defend single sex education reflected its proud feminism. I often think they weren't all wrong to resist coeducation. It was a place to train strong, smart women. It was still a pretty bold and tolerant climate. Where else could Donna Minkowitz come out as a lesbian in *What's What?* With all the hype about our brains, Hunterites become, at a certain point, a bit too accustomed to being special. One of the great life things Mr. Marienhoff taught us was a lesson in much-overdue humility. He marched us through the great thinkers, and taught us along the way that we weren't as smart as we believed. The bitter truth came in his refreshing grade deflation and wry, biting humor. He rightly laughed at our "T&G" status—talented and gifted, ha! Marienhoff was touching a well-known part of Hunter culture: we reveled in our uniqueness, even quirkiness. In those days, of course there really weren't any jocks; we were all proud geeks, though of course we didn't see ourselves that way. Hunter always seemed

a crazy, different, special place back then, where unlike the rest of the world it was perfectly average to be bookish. Is it still so? I experience a burst of nerdy nostalgic pride when I spot a wan, round-shouldered youth squirming under a heavy backpack on a Westside crosstown bus, imagining I have picked out the Hunterite in the crowd. When most people say, "So, how was it going to an all-girls high school?" they usually mean one thing in particular. But looking back on it now, that was really beside the point. What finally made being among the first Hunter boys different was the experience of forging friendships with girls, something most teenage boys, I gather, don't get to do. There were girls who could talk to you about The Hite Report [on female sexuality] and there were girls you could just have a sleepover with. By force of numbers and circumstances, in our class, there were plenty of remarkably unremarkable relationships. Aside from the rite of graduation, I bet most normal high school students get triumphal satisfaction out of finally doing what the other kids before them experienced—leaving. One other rite of passage we basically missed was the senior prom. I recall we held a kind of half-hearted, underattended senior prom. It was for most of us, either too normal (and therefore uncool) or too weird—not enough boys. So our lot was to be the odd class out—it was after all a time of change. We couldn't fully repeat '79 traditions, and couldn't really start new ones of our own. Now that 30 years have passed since we arrived, and nearly 25 since we left, I see that we in the class of 1980 probably had a Hunter experience unlike any other. And a cherished one all the same.

**Andrew Bienstock:** Not all of the boys who took the Hunter exam in 1974 had gone to Hunter Elementary. My memory is a little vague after 30 years, but I think there were six of us who hadn't gone to the elementary school taking the test. I'm not quite sure how my parents found out, but they joined in the lawsuit, and I got to take the test. Test

day was rather dreamlike, and certainly a taste of what was coming—more girls than I'd ever seen in one place before. There were TV crews, but I don't remember if I made it on to the news. I did manage to get a pretty stupid quote into *The New York Times*, either on test day or the first day of school. (Next time I make the *Times*, I'll sound smarter.)

The first day of school was pretty terrifying—it was my first new school since kindergarten. I was separated from most of my friends, who were going to the same junior high. And going to school in an office building—how weird was that? And, finally and most overarching—all those girls. For a twelve year old—at least, this twelve year old—a school full of women was more intimidating than exhilarating—especially since not all were too pleased about our presence. As one of the boys who didn't go to Hunter Elementary, I not only had to deal with feeling adrift in a sea of women, but I had to fit into a group of guys that already knew each other. The only boy I knew was Jon Weiss, and I hadn't really seen him in five years—a much longer span than it seems now. Fitting in was a challenge, and I don't think I felt comfortable for at least a year.

That first year, the school made sure there were at least five of us in every class, and that really helped. Eighth grade Spanish—with Mrs. LoFrumento, no less—was the first time I was the only guy in a classroom, and after that, everything was easy. By tenth grade, it was sort of strange to be in a class with more than a couple of guys. And, I'd be lying if I didn't admit it was pretty cool to be de facto Big Men on Campus. For our first year, we were the Only Men on Campus. And as the years behind us filled with boys, I think we all felt kind of special. Interestingly, after college many of my closest friends were women who had gone to an all-women's college in Baltimore. I think I identified with their spirit pretty well. And when they were traumatized by their school's decision to admit men, I'm pleased to say I offered them not a shred of sympathy.



## HUNTERITES IN THE NEWS

**Sandor Katz:** My memories of Hunter begin with the lawsuit to get us boys admitted. I remember our lawyer, Eleanor Jackson Piel, who had gotten girls into Stuyvesant a few years before. I can't remember the courthouse scene, but I vividly remember the subway ride home, being awed by the experience, feeling the power of citizen action, that made me a life-long activist. I remember taking the entrance exam at Hunter College the day after a court order that we be allowed to take the test. I remember still being at the elementary school and being interviewed by a Hunter High student for *What's What*, who conveyed to me that we were not wanted at Hunter High. I remember cameras and reporters on our first day at 466 Lexington Ave. I remember 7th grade cooking class with plug-in skillets, doomed from the curriculum due to our presence and the lack of equivalent shop facilities. I remember Tony Richter beginning his speech for election to some leadership position with the words "Even though I am a boy...." I fondly remember the feminist milieu of Hunter in the mid-70s and hope that coeducation did not diminish it. I feel lucky not only to have had the opportunity to attend Hunter, but to have had the unique privilege of being in the male minority there.

**Michael Chang:** I remember being terrified of constantly being surrounded by so many girls and being chased down the hallways by the juniors and seniors who were always yelling "o-o-o-oh, aren't they so-o-o cute." I hated that. Needless to say, as we matured, this ratio turned out to be in our favor.

I have very fond memories of the teachers who welcomed the change and welcomed us, although there were those who did not like it and made their feelings known to us. In the end, I think my Hunter High experience was great and wish every kid could have the type of fun and education that I had.

**Netti ROSENBLATT Reiss '22(?)** was featured in an article in the November 12, 2004 edition of *The Jerusalem Post*. Ms. Reiss, who is 100 years old, moved to Ra'anana, Israel from Boca Raton eight years ago to join some of her many descendants. She was born in Hungary in 1904 to Yosef (Yossele) Rosenblatt, a world-famous cantor, who appeared in the film *The Jazz Singer*. Reiss's family moved to Hamburg in 1906 and then to New York in 1912. She studied business at Columbia and journalism at NYU. She married and had two children, all the while pursuing interests in journalism, tennis and painting.

**Ruby WALLACE Dee '39** and her husband Ossie Davis (who has since passed away) received Kennedy Center Honors on December 5, 2004 (telecast on CBS on December 21, 2004). These awards are conferred annually for exemplary lifetime achievement in the performing arts. Ms. Dee has appeared in more than 20 films, and her notable stage appearances include roles in *A Raisin in the Sun* (later reprised in the 1961 film), and Genet's *The Balcony*. Her acting has been honored with an Obie Award in 1971 for her performance in Athol Fugard's *Boesman and Lena*, a Drama Desk Award in 1972 for her role in *Wedding Band*, an Emmy Award for NBC's *Decoration Day*, and an Ace Award for her ground-breaking performance as Mary Tyrone in Eugene O'Neill's *Long Day's Journey into Night*. As Kate in *The Taming of the Shrew* and Cordelia in *King Lear*, she became, in 1965, the first African American woman to play major parts in the American Shakespeare Festival. She has written plays, musicals and several books of poetry, and she turned her own stories and folktales into the 1998 one-woman show, *One Good Nerve*.

Both **Cynthia Ozick, Jan. '46** and **Amy Sohn '91** had excerpts from their recent novels published in the New York Bookshelf column of the October 10, 2004 edition of *The New York Times*. Ozick's novel, *Heir to the Glimmering World*, takes place on the outskirts of the Bronx in the 1930s, as New York fills with Europe's ousted dreamers, turned

overnight into refugees. Rose Meadows unknowingly enters this world when she answers a want ad to become a research assistant to Herr Mitwisser, a professor stubbornly engaged in German and Hebrew arcana; she also works as a nurse to his oft-deranged, sequestered wife; and nanny to their five children. As she penetrates the family's history, Rose details their inner lives with exasperated perception. Sohn's *My Old Man* revolves around two affairs, one between main character Rachel, a rabbinical school dropout who's bartending in her Brooklyn neighborhood, and Hank Powell, a famous screenwriter old enough to be her father; the second involves Rachel's father, who is cheating on her mother with Liz, Rachel's upstairs neighbor.

**Dr. Bernadine Healy '62**, the first woman to head the National Institutes of Health and later the president of the American Red Cross, was mentioned as an example of a woman in science who attended an all-girls high school in a discussion about gender matters on the February 1, 2005 *Leonard Lopate* show on WNYC-NY (public radio). The discussion featured Leonard Sax, author of *Why Gender Matters*, and Dr. Robin Bell, director of the Advance Program at the Earth Institute, in a discussion about whether men and women have different aptitudes for science. Streaming audio of the show can be accessed online at <http://wnyc.org/shows/lopatel/archive.html>. Later that day on the same radio station, Dr. Healy was interviewed live about her thoughts on new NIH rules imposing restrictions on stock ownership and other forms of outside income by employees.

**Manohla Dargis '79** was recently named a chief film critic for *The New York Times*, a position she shares with A.O. Scott. She previously wrote for *The Village Voice*, with her initial field of concentration being the avant-garde. In 1994, she moved across the country, becoming the editor of the *L.A. Weekly's* film section the following year. Expanding its film coverage, she maintained a dedication to independent and foreign films. She subsequently

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14

## HUNTERITES IN THE NEWS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

moved to the *Los Angeles Times*, and published a monograph on *L.A. Confidential* in 2003.

**Eli Attie '85** was quoted in an article in the September 13, 2004 issue of *The New Yorker* entitled: "The Wilderness Campaign—Al Gore Lives on a Street in Nashville." Attie, a former speechwriter for Gore, is currently a producer and writer for the the NBC show *The West Wing*.

**David Woloch '85** was interviewed for an article in the August 29, 2004 edition of *The New York Times* entitled "Sidewalk Smackdown; No, You Can't Walk and Talk at the Same Time." Woloch, the deputy commissioner of transportation for NYC, discussed a new initiative by the city to alert pedestrians to the dangers of walking while distracted. The campaign, entitled "Cars Hurt, Stay Alert," includes printed posters with warnings stenciled on street corners.

**Jonathan Hoefer '88** was profiled in *The New York Times'* Public Lives column on October 19, 2004. Hoefer, a type designer, founded Hoefer Type Foundry in 1989 and has designed typefaces for *Sports Illustrated* and *The New York Times Magazine*. He recently renamed his company Hoefer & Frere-Jones to recognize his partner, Tobias Frere-Jones, who joined the firm in 1999. The firm received wide attention this past summer for its "Gotham" font which was chosen for the Freedom Tower cornerstone in lower Manhattan. Hoefer and Frere-

Jones' interest in lettering was born early—Hoefer remarks that growing up, they were "probably the only two people under 14 who subscribed to U&lc (a magazine published by the International Typeface Corporation)."

**Nnenna Lynch '89** was quoted in an article in the October 24, 2004 edition of *The New York Times* entitled "In the Region—New Homes in Old Bridgeport Buildings."

Lynch, a project manager for A&F Builders of New York, discussed the plans for a project which will convert empty factories and other buildings which currently pock Bridgeport's downtown area into 350 housing units and retail space.

**Alex Shub '90** was quoted in an article in the January 4, 2005 edition of *The New York Times* entitled "Learning Curve: Early Gains and Losses at City's Themed Schools." Shub is the principal of the High School for History and Communication on Manhattan's Lower East Side.

**Veronica Jung '93** was profiled in an article entitled "Translating the Generations" in the July 30, 2004 issue of *The New York Sun*. Jung, a Harvard-educated lawyer, abandoned her lucrative job as a corporate attorney to become the first director of the grassroots Korean American League for Civic Action, a group which spearheads voter registration drives, mobilizes community support for issues of importance and translates the Korean community's needs. Jung emigrated to the U.S. with her parents when she was 8,

learning English by carrying her dictionary everywhere and devouring books at the Steinway Street branch of the Queens library. After Hunter, she attended Harvard, where she studied social sciences. Upon graduation from college, she spent a year in Spain on a Harvard fellowship studying Korean immigrants there, and then returned to Boston for law school.

**Simon Lok '95** was profiled in an article in the November 1, 2004 issue of *Forbes* magazine entitled "(Not So) Simple Simon." Lok is a computer scientist with a "teensy" company, Lok Technology, which has developed a networking box that shuts out intruders and costs 80% less than those sold by giants like Cisco and Lucent. His six-person company has sold 70 "Airlok" boxes, assembled by Lok himself and a part-time intern working out of rented warehouse space in Vero Beach, California. At the age of 26, Lok holds three master's degrees—one in electrical engineering, two in computer science—and completed his Ph.D. at Columbia University in human-computer interaction in December. While still in high school, he worked as a techie at NASA's Goddard Institute for Space Studies; he entered college at 16 and graduated at 20 with bachelor's and master's degrees in electrical engineering from Cooper Union.

*Editor's Note: These items are based on news accounts sent in by alums or their classmates, or that the editors have come across.*

## ALUMS SEEN & HEARD...

**Cynthia Ozick, Jan. '46** talking about her new novel, *Heir to the Glimmering World*, on the Leonard Lopate show on WNYC-radio on September 29th...**Leonore Tiefer '61** testifying before an FDA advisory committee that was considering the first "female sexual dysfunction" drug on December 2, 2004. She hit the trifecta of news coverage that night (ABC, NBC and CBS evening news) and *The Today Show* the next morning, describing

her opposition to the new drug and how thrilled she was that the FDA was taking women's safety seriously...**Roberta Piket '83** playing electric piano (with Ratzo Harris on bass and Billy Mintz on drums) at the Ear Inn in NYC on December 28th... **Cynthia Nixon '84** on the cover of the magazine *Time Out New York* (Sept. 30–Oct. 7, 2004) in connection with her role in the Sundance Channel political satire *Tanner on Tanner*.

Nixon also appeared on the February 17th episode of *E.R.* on NBC...**Shola Lynch '87** being interviewed by Scott Simon on *NPR'S Weekend Edition Saturday* on September 25, 2004, about her documentary movie *Chisolm '72—Unbought and Unbossed*, which chronicles Shirley Chisolm's 1972 campaign for the U.S. presidency. The interview can be accessed on the Web at [www.npr.org](http://www.npr.org) (at top of page, under Programs and Schedules,

## ALUM ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Lois GREEN Schwoerer**, Jan. '45 was named Scholar in Residence at the Folger Shakespeare Library in Washington, D.C. In addition, her book *The Ingenious Mr. Henry Care: A Restoration Publicist*, originally published by Johns Hopkins Press in 2002, was picked up by a London publisher and brought out in paperback last summer.

**Katharine DAVIS Fishman** '54 announces the publication of her third book, *Attitude! Eight Young Dancers Come of Age at The Ailey School* (Tarcher/Penguin, September, 2004), a narrative of the year Fishman spent tracking advanced dance students at the training school of the distinguished modern dance company, to learn what it is like to be a teenager and build your life around your talent. The book, described by *Kirkus Reviews* as "both well framed and fully alive," has also been favorably reviewed by *Publishers Weekly* and *Library Journal* and is available at your local bookstore or on the Web from amazon.com or barnesandnoble.com. Many alums will remember Fishman as the author of the 1982 *New York* magazine article about Hunter High entitled "The Joyful Elite," which can be accessed on our Website, [www.hchsaa.org](http://www.hchsaa.org), under the tab About HCHSAA, Archival Articles.

**Jean HASTINGS Ardell** (class of '60, but left early) announces her new book, *Breaking into Baseball: Women and the National Pastime*, which will be published in late February from Southern Illinois University Press.

select Weekend Edition Saturday). The movie was also televised by PBS in February as part of their P.O.V. series... **Jewlia Eisenberg** '88 and her vocal group, Charming Hostess, performing at Tonic in NYC in late August. Their new CD, *Sarajevo Blues*, is a program scored for voices, beatbox, and string trio that juxtaposes music and text from the Jewish, African, and Bosnian diasporas. Check the group's Website for more

**Leonore Tiefer** '61 recently received two career awards in her professional field, the 2004 Distinguished Scientist Award from the Society for the Scientific Study of Sexuality and the 2004 Distinguished Career Award from the Association for Women in Psychology. Tiefer continues to rail against the pharmaceutical industry and its hijacking of sex research, treatment and professional education. Check out her educational Website at <http://www.fsd-alert.org/>.

**Margaret Bender** '81 announces the publication of a new book for which she is the editor: *Linguistic Diversity in the South—Changing Codes, Practices, Ideology* (The University of Georgia Press, 2004). The book brings together work by linguists and linguistic anthropologists not only on southern varieties of English, but also on other languages spoken in the region. The contributors draw on their own involvement in language maintenance or linguistic heritage movements and engage several of the fields' most pressing issues as they relate to the southern speech communities.

**Amy Sohn** '91 announces the publication of her new novel, *My Old Man* (Simon & Schuster). It tells the story of a rabbinical school dropout who falls for a man twice her age. Amy "guarantees that it is the kind of book that 'W' would not want in the hands of Barbara and Jenna." For more information, check Sohn's Website at: <http://amysohn.com/>.

**Steve Hofstetter** '97 was recently named by the magazine *Two Drink Minimum* as one of

their two Best New Faces of 2004. He was given an honorable mention for the award, credited as a "tremendous asset to the comedy community" and a "fast rising star both on and off the stage." The award was part of the first annual "Goddammies," which were given in thirteen categories and decided by tabulating votes from subscribers to the magazine. Hofstetter said: "This is my first comedy award—unless you count winning the first round of a Jewish Week contest." The last six months brought other accolades and accomplishments to Hofstetter: his first book was optioned for a possible TV series, he began hosting his own show on the Sirius Satellite Radio network, and he was chosen to showcase for organizers of the Aspen Comedy Festival. In August, [SteveHofstetter.com](http://SteveHofstetter.com) was ranked the most trafficked Website of any standup comedian, and he recently signed an exclusive deal with Sophie K, one of the top agencies on the college market. Hofstetter gained much of his early attention from his syndicated humor column, *Observational Humor*, featured in papers in nine states. His second book hit shelves in January and he has appeared at dozens of comedy clubs, including Caroline's on Broadway and the Hollywood Improv. The head writer for [collegehumor.com](http://collegehumor.com), Hofstetter is a big hit on the college market, performing at over 100 schools last year.

**Breifne (a/k/a Anna) Scott** '98 is a writer living in Los Angeles. Her original stage play, *A Good Story Someday*, about a writer looking for her story, debuted at the Hudson Guild Theater in Hollywood on January 3rd, running through February 9th. She is also a staff writer for the webzine *Ostrich Ink* ([www.ostrichink.com](http://www.ostrichink.com)) and a regular contributor to several print publications.

*You can have your announcement published by writing or emailing the Alumnae/i office. Authors are encouraged to donate a copy of their published books to the High School library, where they will be placed in a special area with other books by alums. Send your books to: Hunter College High School Library, 71 E. 94th Street, New York, NY 10128-0798. Include a note advising the librarian that you are an alum.*

info. ([charminghostess.us](http://charminghostess.us))... **Amy Sohn** '91 reading from her new novel *My Old Man* at The Marquee on Bowery Street on February 1st. You can also read an interview with Sohn on the Gothamist Website ([www.gothamist.com/interview/](http://www.gothamist.com/interview/))... **Steve Hofstetter** '97 appearing at Stand Up New York (comedy club) on February 3rd for the launch party for his new book *Student Body Shots—Another Round*.



## 1920s

**Kathleen DOWNING Gill '29** writes that in 2002, as she approached the age of 90, she moved into "The Village," a retirement community in Gainesville, FL, to be near the largest number of her family members. She has four living children (one died at age 33), 10 grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren, with one more due in January '05. Three of Kathleen's children have Ph.D.s and two grandchildren do, with another grandchild near to earning his. Everyone has been successful in life, most married, and all happy and loving.

## 1930s

**Charlotte SALZ Fischler, Marion BERLIS Katzenstein and Sylvia SOLENDER Shapiro,** all alums of the class of '34, continue to meet for lunch in Boca Raton, FL twice a year. They are all doing just fine and invite fellow alums to join them if you can (call 561-483-2084 if you're interested).

## 1940s

**Ada FRIEDMAN Agronin, Jan. '40** of Natanya, Israel, writes that her family on both sides of the ocean are doing well. Her granddaughter, Avital, is now out of the army and recently spent three months in South America. Grandson Daniel is a lieutenant in the Logistics Corps. and two other grandchildren recently finished high school, with Erez to start college in Boston and Yael going into the army. • **Rhoda WIESENBERG Brownstein '43** was a teacher for many years. As a widow, she became a realtor and is still enjoying working in the luxury home market in New Haven, CT. She has three children, all of whom have completed their educations through graduate school. • **Lucille SIMON Fleischman, Jan. '48** is currently studying for her master's in Philosophy at San Diego State University. • **Eva KANNER Kugler '49** met **Hannah KAISER Papanek '45**, Emerita Professor of

Anthropology, Boston University and Center for European Studies, Harvard University at a Colloquium in Limoges, France entitled "Jewish Children in Limousin, 1940–60," where Hannah was a featured speaker. Both found refuge from the Nazis in the area in the 1940s before coming to New York. • **Bernice WOMAN Hauser '49** was a judge at the New York Academy of Sciences' & Polytechnic University's 2005 Science & Engineering Fair on Feb. 13th at City College. She will also be co-presenting an adoption workshop for educators on March 7th at York Preparatory School under the aegis of ATIS (Association of Teachers of Independent Schools).

## 1950s

**Rhoda KESLER Unger '56** retired as professor of psychology and director of the honors program at Montclair State University in 1999. She is currently a resident scholar at the Women's Studies Research Center at Brandeis University. This past summer she was a visiting professor at the Institute for Gender Studies of Ochanomizu University in Tokyo. The handbook of the psychology of women and gender that she edited was translated and published in Japan this year.

## 1960s

**Marina Angel '61** received the American Bar Association's Brent Women Lawyers of Achievement Award at the Annual ABA meeting last August. The award is named after Margaret Brent, the first woman lawyer in America who arrived in the Maryland colony in 1638. Marina gave her acceptance speech before 1,300 people at the award luncheon. A video about Marina can be viewed online at: [www.temple.edu/lawschool/angel/angel.wmv](http://www.temple.edu/lawschool/angel/angel.wmv) • **Joan CHARLAT Murray '61** has been made Interim Executive Director and CEO of the McMichael Canadian Art Collection in Kleinburg, Ontario. It is one of the large national collections of Canadian art. She also has

a new book on the Canadian Group of Seven Painters and Tom Thomson entitled: *Water: Lawren Harris and the Group of Seven* (McArthur & Co.). • **Helene WILLIAMS Spierman '61** writes that she was happy to join classmates **Margie Werdenschlag-Nathanson, Leo Tiefer, Carol ARNDT Wolfe, Jane WALK Meisel, Marge LANDSBERG Goldsmith, and Angela Vona** for dinner at L'Ecole in September, which was organized by Angela, who was visiting NY from France. Helene joined Angela a second time for lunch at an Indian restaurant along with **Jean Boudwin, Renee PACHTER Cafiero and Marjorie Gamso**. • **Catherine J. Ross '67** writes that her son, Daniel Ross-Rieder, graduated from Horace Mann last year and is a freshman at Harvard. She was delighted to hear one of his college friends say that it seemed as if everyone in their class came from Hunter! Catherine would like to express her thanks to Hunter for the opportunities, good times and life-long friendships.

## 1980s

**Karen Graubart '80** announces the birth of her son, Mateo, in April 2004. • **Maria Bertucci '82** received her M.D. from Drexel University College of Medicine in May 2004. She is currently in residency in Family Medicine at Abington Memorial Hospital in Abington, PA. • **Jeffrey Horowitz '82** and **Stephanie Kay '82** are thrilled to announce that they tied the knot in June after a long distance romance that began during the flurry of emails preceding their class's 20th class reunion. The very "Hunter" wedding included former classmates **Jill Cohen-Steinberg '82** as a radiant maid of honor, and **Ellen Flax '82** as the officiating Rabbi who performed a beautiful service. Jeff and Stephanie live in Washington, D.C. where Jeff is an appellate attorney for the National Labor Relations Board and a personal trainer and Stephanie continues to paint, exhibit, and teach studio art. • **Neal Sofge '85** and his wife Marisa welcomed their first child, Maia Mercedes Sofge Osorio, on Jan. 8, 2004. Neal also



received a recent promotion and is now the RAND Corporation's Web technical manager. Neal reports that classmates **Mary Jane Weigandt** and **David Wohl**, who are married, had their second child on July 29, 2004. His name is Benjamin Joseph Wohl. Their first child, Jonathan Douglas Wohl, turned three in July. • **David Greenfield '86** has been elected a partner of the law firm of Cravath Swaine & Moore LLP in New York City. • **Louis O'Neill '86** was appointed a White House Fellow for 2004–2005. He writes that the program is “amazing” and he is having a great year. Alums who might be interested in applying for this program should check out the Website: [www.whitehouse.gov/fellows](http://www.whitehouse.gov/fellows) • **John Edwards III '88** and wife Becky are thrilled to announce the arrival of John Jacob Edwards IV, “Jake,” who was born on October 20th, weighing 7 lbs., 5 oz. Jake joins older sister Rita.

## 1990s

**Tom Brown '94** married Chagit Steiner in July 2004. Classmates **Sewell Chan**, **Richard Kass** and **Sam Beharvar** were among the groomsmen, and classmates **Zoe Cohen**, **Jane Hwang**, **Grace Pasion**, **Dave Kerpen** and **Josh Levithan** were in attendance. Tom lives outside Boston and began work as an associate at an intellectual property law firm in Boston at the end of September. • **Sewell Chan '94** has returned to New York City after nearly a decade away, to be a metropolitan reporter at *The New York Times*, where classmate **Jennifer 8 Lee** has been a reporter since 2000. Sewell, who was previously a reporter at *The Washington Post* since 2000, says that the joy of seeing classmates at the 10th-year reunion last June contributed to his decision to return home. He would love to hear from fellow Hunterites in the city. • **Benjamin Sloat '95** was married this past October to Candice Ivy in Charleston, SC. They live in Boston and are both graduate students in fine art at Tufts University and the Boston Museum School where Ben is

also a teaching fellow. Groomsmen at the wedding included classmates **Anthony Accurso**, **Ajay Chanayil**, and **Isaac Esterman**. Anthony was joined by classmate **Dan Hennefeld** in playing the wedding recessional. Other classmates attending included **Jim Epstein**, **Andrew Shapiro**, **Julia Li**, **Steve Evangelista**, and Ben's cousin, **Abe Burmeister '93**. • **Susi Snyder '95** was recently appointed Secretary General of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF). Founded in 1915, WILPF works to promote a just and sustainable peace through three main program areas: disarmament and demilitarization; environmental protection; and global economic justice. Susi has recently relocated to Geneva, Switzerland and looks forward to hearing from other alums living abroad. Susi is the daughter of Hunter alum **Diane DIEMER Snyder '72**, who continues to provide encouragement and pays Susi's alumnae/i association fees. Susi would like to take this opportunity to thank all of those who made her education at Hunter so fulfilling, with special thanks to the English department's Ms. Barbara Miller who continually reminded Susi that anything is possible, including another world. View WILPF's Website at: <http://www.wilpf.ch> or contact Susi directly at: [susi\\_snyder@yahoo.com](mailto:susi_snyder@yahoo.com). • **Andria Schwartz '96** is a full-time tenure-track professor of Physics and Integrated Science at Quinsigamond Community College in Worcester, MA.

## 2000s

**Jessica Swain '04**, a freshman at Connecticut College, recently played the role of Ismene in the play *Antigone*, which was performed by an all-student cast on November 18, 19 and 20, at the Tansill Theater on campus.

*You can contribute your news to Class Notes by writing or emailing the Alumnae/i Association office.*

## Do You Enjoy AlumNotes? Help Support it by Paying Your Dues!

Your dues expiration date (MONTH/YEAR) is printed above your name and address on the back page. All alums are encouraged to pay dues, but payment is not required for membership in the Association. We use dues monies to help run our office, print and mail three or four issues of *AlumNotes* per year to over 10,000 alums and prepare for our yearly reunion. Contributions above and beyond dues are also encouraged and are presented to the High School several times per year. Dues are good for one year from the date on which they are received. If you have any questions about your dues status, please feel free to contact our office. The Alumnae/i Association is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization; therefore, dues and contributions are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. We are also able to accept gifts of marketable securities (email us to ask us for transfer instructions) and we are generally eligible for matching gifts from employers.

## Email Us Your Email Address

Having your email address on file with the Alumnae/i Association gives our office a great way to contact you about upcoming events. We can also pass it on to milestone reunion coordinators so they can get in touch with you about reunion plans. We already have email addresses for about 55% of our 10,000+ alums—so why not join us?

Simply send us an email to let us know your current email address—we'll enter it on our database where it can only be accessed by fellow alums. If you want to display your email address on our Website—[hchsaa.org](http://hchsaa.org)—click on the “Find Alums” section and then the “Alum Email Directory” section. This area of our Website is password protected with our common password (purple) so only other alums will have access.

## *In Memoriam*

**Joan STRUNSKY Lewin** '42 died on May 27, 2004. She attended Hunter Model as well as the high school. She is survived by her husband, Michael, her daughters, Andrea Lewin of San Francisco, and Meryl Lewin of Santa Cruz, and two granddaughters.

**Patricia A. Coleman Lovett** '49 of Framingham, MA, died on Jan. 22, 2005, at the Stanley Tippet House (hospice) in Needham, MA. Her friend Phoebe (Bibi) MARGULIES Joseph '49 writes that Patricia was the wife for over 52 years of Gabriel H. Lovett. She was born in Brooklyn and attended Hunter College High School (Class of June 1949), and Hunter College. She received her R.N. degree from Newton-Wellesley Hospital and worked as a registered nurse at Glover Hospital in Needham, Leonard Morse Hospital in Natick, and Milford Hospital in Milford, MA. From 1960 to 1965 she lived in Spain with her family, assisting her husband. She was also a former member of the Unitarian Church in Brooklyn. In addition to her husband, she leaves three sons, Dr. David R. Lovett of Marston Mills, Richard H. Lovett of Worcester, Andrew M. Lovett of Randolph, and a daughter, Deborah A. Lovett of Dedham, and eight grandchildren, all in Massachusetts.

**Elga KRON Stulman** '50 died in September 2003, after a year's battle with a brain tumor. She was a graduate of Pembroke College (now Brown University) and received an M.A. from The New School in NYC. After her children were grown, she worked at

Hunter College in the teacher evaluation department. Elga was a wonderful wife, mother, friend, hostess and pianist and she is remembered for her charitable and caring endeavors, her sparkling personality and her beauty.

**Diane Lynn Schenkein** '65 died unexpectedly on Nov. 4, 2004, at St. Marys Hospital in Madison, WI. In her youth, Diane was a swimming instructor at summer camp and synchronized swimmer. She received her bachelor of arts and a master's degree in psychology at the University of Wisconsin. Diane was an active participant in Yahara House and a founding member of Cornucopia. For 15 years she assisted in the production of the public access television program *Non Compos Mentis*, in which she presented art and poetry. Her artwork has been displayed at the YWCA and in local coffee houses. Diane volunteered at the children's museum, with MC Video, and attended numerous consumer mental health conferences. She loved to read and write poetry. Diane was always anxious to help others and has been an organ donor. Diane is survived by her longtime friend, Eric Peterson; and her sister, Ronnie Schenkein (HCHS '68). She was preceded in death by her parents, Arthur and Edna (Lewis) Schenkein. Memorial donations can be made to Cornucopia, 306 N. Brooks St., Madison, WI 53715; or Chrysalis, 844 Williamson St., Madison, WI 53703.

**Nancy Carol Thompson** '67, a/k/a Zia Avila, died on December 1, 2004, of breast cancer with complications from

fibromyalgia and childhood scoliosis. She did her undergraduate work at New College in Florida, received a Masters in Special Education at the University of British Columbia at Vancouver, and practiced law with a degree from Arizona State University in Tempe, Arizona. She was surrounded by beloved friends for the joyful celebration of her last birthday, which fell on Thanksgiving.

The Alumnae/i Association also has been advised of the passing of the following individuals: **Lillian SIMON Welkowitz** '13, **Pearl ROSENTHAL Kelleher** '25, **Muriel G. Leahy** '25, **Diana FRANKFURT Weiss** '25, **Cecilia M. Egan** '27, **Selma BLOCH Grossman** '27, **Helen Eberlin** '28, **Maria-Elvira ABERG Rosenberg** '28, **Stella EBERLIN Lieberman** '30, **Bertha GOMBERG Kirsch** '32, **Bernice ELSON Kaufman** '33, **Adrienne GELARDIN Makinen** '33, **Beatrice POLONSKY Jaye** '35, **Antoinette MIELE Wilkinson** '36, **Martha GINSBERG Karig**, Jan. '37, **Barbara SHTOULSKY Levy** '38, **Frances ROSENBERG Oppenheim** '38, **Ruth VODNOY Auerbach** '39, **Maria S. Camerino** '40, **Eva BURGER Eller** '40, **Ellen Ann O'CONNELL Gordon** '40, **Myra Rose Mahler** '40, **Elaine CHASE Williams** '42, **Ruth DRESCHER Reilly** '45, **Sally COWAN Stout** '45, **Nancy STEINER Saunders** '48, **Bernice COOPER Barofsky**, Jan. '49, **Monique NUREMBERG Fisher** '53, **Stephanie Hill** '70 (died in 1998), **Susan Solomon** '70 and **Timothy C. Young** '84 (died in 2000).

## CHAPTER COORDINATORS

### New England Region & Greater Boston

Nancy Weissman '76  
617-439-0110, nweissman@aya.yale.edu

### Northern New England

Dorothy ALTMAN Solomon '57  
603-447-1199

### Southern Connecticut

Melissa ROSSE Dobbyn '77  
203-324-2828, rosse@gandb.com

### Northern Westchester (NY)

Marie Ciaiola '45, 914-276-0159

### Hudson Valley (NY)

Deborah I. Dorwitt '77, 914-562-0457

### Ithaca/Rochester (NY)

Barbara STAMM Nosanchuk '57  
964 Cayuga Heights Rd., Ithaca, NY 14850  
jsn7@cornell.edu

### Washington, DC Region

Deanna GORKIN Okrent '60  
301-754-1001, d.j.okrent@worldnet.att.net

### Southern Florida

Edythe WERNER Rishin '41  
954-978-9824

### Chicago Area

Andrea BOCKMAN Stack '72  
847-498-5627, stackm@ix.netcom.com

### Texas

Gail LEINKRAM Folloder '69  
ladygail@houston.rr.com

### Southern California

Ann DECHTER Litvin '54  
testsmart@yahoo.com, fax 714-990-1916

### San Francisco Area

Caverlee Cary '73  
cari@uclink3@berkeley.edu

Marcia Feitel '73  
marcia\_feitel@hotmail.com

Jane Resnick '73  
janeresnick@attbi.com

### Israel

Lorell FELDSTEIN Blass '45  
Agron Street, Jerusalem  
lorell@netvision.net.il

### Young Alums (classes of '89-'02)

Kari CHIN Chachkes '87  
kchachkes@mestel.com

Note to chapter leaders: If you have any news or notices of meetings or get-togethers that you'd like us to publish, please let us know by April 15.

## MERCHANDISE



## HCHS Merchandise Helps You Display Your School Spirit!

The Alumnae/i Association offers four different logoed items: teddy bears, T-shirts, aprons and mugs, so you can display your school spirit for all to see. Our teddy bears are soft and cuddly and sport an HCHS embroidered turtleneck sweater; our T-shirts are purple cotton, Beefy Hanes; our two-pocket purple aprons are inscribed with "Gifted Cook" and our insignia; and our mugs are super for all your hot beverages. One alum we know liked her teddy bear so much, she bought four more for her grandchildren. Another recently wrote, "The HCHS Gifted Cook apron is SUPERB! I wear it when all my family members are together and they think it's great. It's well-made and gives plenty of coverage." Prices and order information are on the form on the back page. Shipping and sales tax (if applicable) are already included in the price.

## AlumnaGrams

**Jeff Lane '97** runs a NYC-based tutoring company called **Schoolhouse Tutors**, which provides one-on-one, in-home tutoring in all middle- and high school subjects. Contact Jeff at 917-974-4997 or via email to [schoolhousetutors@yahoo.com](mailto:schoolhousetutors@yahoo.com)

**DO YOU HAVE A MESSAGE TO SEND?** Send your 135-character AlumnaGram to 10,000 Hunterites for just \$10. Add another \$10 for more than 135 characters; a maximum of 270 characters total is allowed. To send an AlumnaGram, please send your name, address, daytime telephone number, check made payable to HCHS Alumnae/i Association, Inc., and, of course, your message, to: HCHS Alumnae/i Association, Inc., Hunter College, Box 373, 695 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10021. PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY!

Hunter College High School Alumnae/i Association, Inc.  
Hunter College, Box 373  
695 Park Avenue  
New York, NY 10021

Non-Profit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
New York, NY  
PERMIT NO. 5508

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

**If you are responding to any of the items listed below, please send us this entire page.** Jot down your news for Class Notes and make any necessary changes or corrections to your name and address in the area above. Please also provide the following information:

Year of Graduation: \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Check here if you do not want your name and address given out to other alums or members of the HCHS community.

#### REUNION REGISTRATION: JUNE 5, 2005 AT HCHS

##### Classes of 1955–1999

- ☐ Dues-paid member (You may pay dues now to receive this rate!) \$25  
☐ Non dues-paid member pre-registration rate (\$35 at the door) \$30

##### Classes *prior to 1955 and after 1999*

- ☐ Discounted rate \$15

☐ **MILESTONE CLASS GIFT:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

#### DUES

- ☐ Classes of '00 and earlier \$30  
☐ Classes of '01–'03 \$15  
☐ Class of '04 FREE  
☐ Senior/Fixed Income \$20

##### ☐ Premium Membership—\$75

Includes choice of one: Entry to Reunion / T-shirt / 2 mugs / Teddy Bear / Apron.  
Please indicate choice and size, if applicable: \_\_\_\_\_ (The value of your gift will decrease the amount of your tax-deductible contribution; you may also choose to give your entire contribution to the Association.)

#### ANNUAL GIVING 2004–2005

☐ **DONATION AMOUNT:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Please indicate if you'd like your contribution earmarked for a specific area.

☐ Enclosed is my **EMPLOYER'S MATCHING GIFT** form.

#### MERCHANDISE (includes postage & handling and NYS sales tax)

- |   |                |            |               |          |            |            |
|---|----------------|------------|---------------|----------|------------|------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Adult's T-shirt \$21 | Circle choice: | S(34-36)   | M(38-40)      | L(42-44) | XL (46-48) | XXL(50-52) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Child's T-shirt \$15 | Circle choice: | XS(2T-4T)  | M(10-12)      |          |            |            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coffee Mug \$11      |                |            |               |          |            |            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Teddy Bear \$24      | Circle choice: | Dark Brown | Midnight Blue | Gray     |            |            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Apron \$20           |                |            |               |          |            |            |

**TOTAL ENCLOSED:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (Make check payable to: HCHS Alumnae/i Association., Inc.)

Office Use	Received	Entered	Letter	Merch. Sent
------------	----------	---------	--------	-------------