

AlumNotes

HUNTER COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNAE/I ASSOCIATION, INC

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Tel 212.772.4079

Fax 212.772.4074

Email hchsalums@yahoo.com

Website www.hchsaa.org

DUES DRIVE TO KICK OFF IN OCTOBER

In October, we will be writing to all alums who are not current with their dues. You can save us the postage and printing costs by checking now whether your dues are current and paying them if they're not. Your dues expiration date is printed above your name and address on the back page (MM/YY). Please use the form on the back page and mail your dues payment in the envelope provided. You may also pay online at www.hchsaa.org.

Dues support the operations of our office—including production of *AlumNotes*, maintenance of our website, and various social events throughout the year. HCHSAA is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization; dues and donations are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. HCHSAA is also eligible for matching donations from many employers—please check with your company.

SAVE THE DATES!

Autumn Reception at HCHS (see pg. 26)
Wednesday, November 1, 2006
6:00–8:30 p.m.

2006 Milestone Class Reunions

1961—Saturday, September 16: contact Helene WILLIAMS Spierman at helenespierman@optonline.net

1966—Sunday, October 29: contact Dale WOLINSKY Wolff, dsw@cloud9.net

1971—Saturday, September 16: contact Sandi Charton, chartonsm@gmail.com

50th Birthday Party for Class of '73 ('74 ICY) (see pg. 27)

Saturday, October 21, 2006

2007 General Reunion

Sunday, June 3, 2007

WELCOME 2006 ALUMS!

With this issue of *AlumNotes*, we're pleased to welcome the 181 members of the class of 2006 to our Association. We're glad to have you join us and we wish you all the best with your future endeavors.

We publish this newsletter 3–4 times each year in an effort to keep our alums informed about each other as well as our alma mater. We also maintain a website—the address is www.hchsaa.org—and have bulk email capabilities to get news to you in a timely manner. To join our email list, please send us your email address by writing to hchsalums@yahoo.com. We sponsor several get-togethers during the year; the largest is the annual Reunion each June. We request that all alums pay annual dues

to help support our activities, though we waive dues for current year grads.

Of course, in addition to our services for alums, another of our primary purposes is to help support our alma mater. Our newest members may be interested to know that during the past six years while you were at Hunter, the Alumnae/i Association contributed \$450,000 to the school to support activities, programs, and facilities and awarded \$18,000 in scholarships to graduating seniors.

Please keep us informed of your whereabouts so you can continue to receive our mailings—you can call, email, or snail-mail us with your news and/or address changes. If we can ever be of assistance to you in any way, please don't hesitate to call on us.

REUNION 2006 AT HCHS

Rainy weather and alternative dates for some class reunions may have resulted in fewer attendees than usual at this year's General Reunion on June 4, but the 200 or so who did make the pilgrimage enjoyed reconnecting to the High School and to fellow alums of varying eras. Fond remembrances of high school and visiting with classmates were joined with recognition of the overarching importance of Hunter High to all of our lives.

The day's program included individual class gatherings, a general assembly featuring

speakers from the milestone classes, and a buffet luncheon. We were also pleased to welcome former and current faculty members Richard Klutch, Fran Salzman, Marge LANDSBERG Goldsmith (HCHS '61), and Audrey Maurer (HCHS '51) a/k/a Audrey Panczyk.

At the assembly, Alumnae/i Association President Mimi Eng '84 introduced current Director of the Campus Schools and High School Principal Dr. John Mucciolo, who is one year into his position. He shared news

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PRESIDENT'S LETTER

As my term as president draws to an end, I must say I am genuinely impressed at all that we have accomplished together in the past year.

Our 2005–2006 Annual Giving drive for the benefit of the High School raised \$87,000. Milestone class gifts have also continued apace, with \$33,000 donated to date. Many thanks to all alums who contributed to these efforts.

We have also progressed beyond the initial feasibility study we commissioned on a major fund-raising campaign and are now in the earliest stages of implementing the project. The enthusiastic response was surprising and yet, not. I am excited at the prospect that the alumnae/i will raise an endowment fund that will benefit the school for many years to come (see article on pg. 8).

All of this has stirred greater strategic thinking about the long term vision for the Alumnae/i Association. We know from speaking with many of you that you want more communication, more frequent events, and more ways of connecting with Hunter and with each other. As a result of your suggestions, we have started a number of new initiatives. These have included more Young Alums gatherings and our first Social/Networking Group get-together (for older young alums!) as well as plans for developing affinity groups for alums in different professional fields. In the future, we hope to connect even more alums with each other and with the school (as guest speakers, mentors, etc.). As for events, we will continue with our popular Autumn Reception at the High School, which this year will be on November 1, in addition to the General Reunion each June.

Communication has become a key focus for the Alumnae/i Association this year. We hope you have appreciated the email newsletters and reminders about upcoming events (if you're not receiving these, please send your email address to us at hchsalums@yahoo.com). We also invite you to check out our website at www.hchsaa.org. This year, we added credit card payment capability to our website to make it easier to pay dues, purchase merchandise, and to give gifts.

Finally, we have continued to build on our relationship with the College, to seek ways in which we can work together on all of the aforementioned.

In closing, I am confident that the AA will be able to build on a solid foundation to become a more purposeful and meaningful organization, both for the High School as well as for alums. But please remember that we cannot do it without your continued support.

On a personal note, let me say I could not have made it through the year without the help of many current and former Board members and our Office Manager, Marge Kolb. I thank you all for your hard work.

Cordially,

Mimi Eng '84

AlumNotes

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Editor
Marge Kolb '78

Copy Editor
Elaine Brand '65

Design and Production
Marguerite LIAO Williams '91

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Mimi Eng '84 (*term ending*)

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To the Editor:

I attended the General Reunion on June 4 as a member of the milestone class of '86. It was nostalgic fun to visit the school. It is obvious at a glance that the school is going strong but is not rich. As an example, the auditorium walls are adorned with some quite handsome and creative posters, but they could use a new coat of paint.

At the assembly, Jonathan Cohen spoke ably for my class, mentioning the kindness he observed and enjoyed at our reunion, and he called on us to do more in terms of giving back to the school. The challenge is issued. Though speakers were instructed to limit themselves to two minutes, no one was disappointed that the rule was relaxed for our wiser elders. I was inspired to hear about septuagenarians discussing book projects, being interviewed for documentary films, the lifelong joys of their multiple careers and of their families, and the importance of raising your voice as a citizen when the times call for it. I think it was the speaker from '46 who reminded us that our political leadership cannot always be relied upon to do the right thing or to exhibit intelligence or even competence. She (or was it another speaker?) also advised us to "be on guard against junk English." Amen and Amen.

After the assembly, we had lunch in the cafeteria. One perfect Hunter aspect of the lunch was the presence of a jazz trio of current Hunter students who looked to be all of 14 years old. As the long-haired keyboardist noodled his way through some standard or other, he had a look on his face of *soigné* boredom, as if to say that playing this pedestrian stuff at alum gigs is ok to pay the bills, but he would much rather be playing his own music. You probably had to see them to get the vibe, but it cracked me up.

The afternoon ended, as it had to, with a few last conversations and farewells in the courtyard, sitting on the steps in the lazy afternoon dappled sun and shade.

James Wetterau '86

[Editor's Note: This next letter arrived completely unsolicited!]

To the Editor:

There are many givens in the world—sunrise and sunset, death and taxes, and so forth. I will now add another given—bills. I'm part of the majority who hate to pay bills, particularly to the IRS, I might add. There are others I'm ambivalent about paying, such as the telephone bill. But, there is one bill that I thoroughly enjoy paying, and that is my annual dues to HCHSAA. Every year when I send you this check, I'm reminded of the most wonderful time of my life—my years at Hunter High. Would that we had the appreciation for those glorious years when we were living them! Now, as the years fly by (yes, they FLY), the appreciation for those Hunter years grows larger and larger. Today, as I approach losing my status as a septuagenarian, I am thrilled to remember that I once was, and will always be, a Hunter girl!

Dickie KESSLER Miller, Jan. '44

To the Editor:

In the last *AlumNotes* were reports about how folks had fared during Hurricane Katrina last year. I'm working as a Food Pantry Supervisor for a Christian ministry in west Houston, and had only started in that position one month before Katrina. This area of Houston was one which received large numbers of evacuees. On our busiest day (post-Katrina), we provided food to 467 individuals, which is about eight times our normal client numbers. The business community and local residents were especially generous in donating food to the Pantry. One local grower donated 18,000 pounds of rice! Almost one year later, we're still seeing clients who relocated here due to Katrina.

Louise DODENHOFF Hauser '70

[Editor's Note: A dispute between students and the administration last spring over some items in the 2006 yearbook resulted in accusations by the students of censorship (with articles appearing in several NYC media outlets). The administration countered that the items in question were in poor taste and would not stand the test of time; a yearbook should be a lasting remembrance of high school. Students and recent grads subsequently posted a petition on the website i-petitions.com asserting a "crisis" in student freedom. Faculty member Kip Zegers, one of three Annals advisors, sent HCHSAA the following letter regarding the petition. This letter represents his personal opinion and not necessarily that of the school or the Alumnae/i Association.]

To the Editor:

I am responding to an online petition that has been signed by nearly 400 alums and current students. The petition was authored by several recent graduates. The petition offers no documentation for its assertions and the assertions themselves are broad and general, stating that the rights of students are being compromised and that the school is in decline. I had thought that Hunter students were great writers and careful readers, and I was disappointed to see that many people I thought I knew well had signed. Have people tossed thoughtfulness overboard? Have they heard both sides? Do you want unsubstantiated charges about Hunter floating around on the internet? Do alums see themselves as high school students or as adults?

I can assure interested alums that the current administration is both brainy and honest, that student freedoms and responsibilities are in closer relation to each other than in recent years, and that both faculty and student body remain remarkable. What did you think? It's Hunter: smart, strange, and unsubtle.

Kip Zegers

English/CT Department

Alum Profile: Mollie Orshansky, June '31

by Sewell Chan '94

Social Security Administration History Archives



Mollie Orshansky in 1971

What does it mean to be poor? While there are many synonyms for poverty—deprivation, want, scarcity—the United States uses an official average poverty threshold. In 2004, it was \$15,067 for a family of three. That year, according to the Census Bureau, 12.7 percent of Americans were poor. Poverty guidelines determine who is eligible for a vast array of programs, including Food Stamps, home-energy assistance, free and reduced-price school lunches and parts of Medicaid and Medicare.

A Hunter alumna, Mollie Orshansky '31, developed the federal poverty thresholds in 1965. Now retired and living in Manhattan after a 43-year career as a government statistician and economist in Washington, DC, Miss Orshansky, who is 91, has left an indelible mark on federal policy and on the social sciences. The daughter of poor immigrants who struggled through the Depression, she became

so renowned for her research that colleagues called her, as a term of affection, “Miss Poverty.”

Miss Orshansky was the third of six daughters of Samuel and Fannie Orshansky, who emigrated from Poltava, in the Ukraine, around 1906. (A seventh daughter died in early childhood.) The family settled on Tinton Avenue, in the southwestern Bronx, where Mollie was born on January 9, 1915. Miss Orshansky graduated from Hunter College High School in 1931 and went on to Hunter College, where she earned an A.B. in mathematics and statistics in 1935, at age 20, becoming the first college graduate in her family. (Her youngest sisters also attended both the High School and the College: Rose '37, who died in 2005, and Bernice '41, who died in 1987.)

Miss Orshansky did graduate work in economics and statistics in Washington, at the Agriculture Department Graduate School and at American University. In 1939, she joined the federal Children's Bureau as a research clerk, doing statistical analyses of child health, growth and nutrition. In 1942, as a statistician for the New York City Department of Health, she helped develop a survey on the incidence and treatment of pneumonia. Beginning in 1945, she spent 13 years at the Agriculture Department, collecting and analyzing records on food consumption and spending by American households. In 1958, Miss Orshansky joined the Social Security Administration as a research analyst, studying family incomes. She would spend the rest of her career there. She was “one of a respected but mostly invisible cadre of women research professionals based at SSA and other government agencies during the postwar years,” the historian Alice O'Connor wrote in *Poverty Knowledge: Social Science, Social Policy, and the Poor in Twentieth-Century U.S. History* (Princeton University

Press, 2001). “These women found job opportunities in federal government and other ‘applied’ endeavors when university jobs were largely closed off to them, although within government they were often clustered in research bureaus focusing on such traditional ‘women’s’ concerns as social welfare, female labor force participation, families and children, and home economics,” Dr. O'Connor wrote. “That experience as a career government statistician, a far cry from systems analysis, was what gave Orshansky the wholly unexpected designation as author of the government’s official poverty line.”

In 1963 and 1964 Miss Orshansky conducted the research that would become the basis of the poverty thresholds. She used the economy food plan—the cheapest of four “nutritionally adequate” food plans developed by the Agriculture Department—and multiplied the dollar costs by roughly three to come up with a minimum cost-of-living estimate. Why three? An Agriculture Department household food consumption survey showed that, in 1955, families of three or more people spent about one-third of their after-tax cash income on food. “In effect, she took a hypothetical average family spending one third of its income on food, and assumed that it had to cut back on its expenditures sharply,” according to a history of the poverty thresholds by Gordon M. Fisher, published in the *Social Security Bulletin* in 1992. “She assumed that expenditures for food and non-food would be cut back at the same rate. When the food expenditures of the hypothetical family reached the cost of the economy food plan, she assumed that the amount the family would then be spending on non-food items would also be minimal but adequate.” In fact, Miss Orshansky devised 124 different poverty thresholds, adjusting her calculations for family size and composition and rural-

urban differences. She published her research in a seminal article in the *Social Security Bulletin* in 1965.

President Lyndon B. Johnson had declared a War on Poverty, but there was at the time no official definition of the problem. In 1965, the Office of Economic Opportunity, the federal agency charged with carrying out the antipoverty effort, adopted the “Orshansky index” as the bureaucratic yardstick to measure poverty. The decision was never what Miss Orshansky herself intended. “Orshansky developed the index as a research tool, not an instrument of policy or a criterion for determining eligibility for anti-poverty programs,” the historian Michael B. Katz wrote in *The Undeserving Poor: From the War on Poverty to the War on Welfare* (Pantheon Books, 1989). “She wanted to determine the demography of the poverty population and to identify groups at risk.”

For years, the federal poverty threshold has been criticized as understating the true extent of poverty. It also seems outdated. Families spend only about 12 percent of their income on food, while housing, transportation, child care and medical expenses make up a big share of daily expenses. In 1995, a panel of the National Academy of Sciences urged several changes in calculating poverty: subtracting taxes and adding cash-like income, such as Food Stamps, when counting family income; updating the poverty line to take into account the cost of housing, clothing and out-of-pocket medical costs; and making more precise adjustments for differences in family size and composition.

None of those changes have been implemented—in part because they would have the effect of increasing the poverty rate, probably by a couple of percentage points. Politically, it would be unpalat-

able. “Federal administrators have waged a quiet but persistent campaign against increased standards and, at every juncture, have chosen the lowest possible figures,” Dr. Katz wrote. “In this way, they have both checked the expansion of benefits and minimized the problem of poverty in America.” Miss Orshansky, a lifelong liberal Democrat, never maintained that her calculations were intended as a precise measure, and she expressed sympathy with many of the criticisms leveled against the poverty line. “The best that can be said of the measure,” she once wrote, “is that at a time when it seemed useful, it was there.”

So respected was Miss Orshansky’s research on poverty that the Justice Department once invited her to testify about the effect of the poll tax on the books in several Southern states. Armed with statistics, she demonstrated that even a \$2 tax would force some citizens at or below the poverty line to choose between voting or feeding their families. In 1976, she received the Distinguished Service Award from the Department of Health, Education and Welfare for her work on income adequacy. She retired in 1982.

Miss Orshansky was always self-reliant. She never married and lived in an apartment near the Southwest Washington waterfront that she filled with a collection of wooden bears and with mementos—antique furniture, rugs and several sets of china—from trips to China, Russia, Israel and across Northern and Western Europe. She was an excellent cook. “She loved to visit us in New York,” a niece, Eda F. Shapiro, said recently. “She would come by train and bring us chocolate cakes and coconut cakes that she baked in Washington.” Miss Orshansky’s health deteriorated around 2000; she has advanced dementia and could not be interviewed for this article. In 2002,

The Washington Post reported on a legal struggle over Miss Orshansky’s care that began after she was hospitalized in the fall of 2001. A niece, Jane M. Pollack, brought Miss Orshansky back to New York, but a judge in Washington, who had appointed a legal guardian for Miss Orshansky, tried to compel her to return to Washington, arguing that her family had not moved aggressively enough to ensure her proper care. On Aug. 15, 2002, the District of Columbia Court of Appeals ruled that the judge had abused her authority and ignored Miss Orshansky’s wishes to live with her family in New York. The appeals court also canceled the appointment of the guardian. Miss Orshansky now lives and receives 24-hour care in a building on East 60th Street, a few blocks from her only surviving sister, Sarah O. Pollack, who is 89. Jane Pollack said of her aunt: “I believe she really considered Washington her home, because she lived there such a long time. But she always planned to come back to New York.”

Sewell Chan '94 is a metropolitan reporter for The New York Times. He can be reached at sewell@nytimes.com.

HCHSAA Website

Our web address is www.hchsaa.org. Highlights of our site include archives of past issues of *AlumNotes*, an alum email directory and a listing of class websites and egroups. The site’s newest feature is online credit card payment capability—check it out! The common password for password-protected pages is: purple (all lower case).

RUTH S. LILIENTHAL AS WE KNEW HER: MEMORIAL COLLABORATION

by Carolyn Hodgson Rhodes '43

Who remembers HCHS faculty member Ruth Lilienthal? Dozens of alumnae who attended Hunter College High School from the 1930s to the early 1960s are helping me answer that question. She was Miss Silverman when she began teaching Biology at HCHS in 1930; she married Charles Lilienthal in 1935. For thirty years she flourished, teaching not just biology but many health-related courses, as well as cooking, for seventh and eighth graders. Sadly though, when she died in 1997, no obituary or memorial appeared in *AlumNotes*.

The memoir I am gathering ends that silence. After my request for recollections of Mrs. Lilienthal appeared in the alums' listserv early this year, three dozen "Hunter girls" contributed memories; these ranged from single incidents to stories about several occasions. Many expressed gratitude for the lessons she taught both in her classrooms and through her character.

As students recall this memorable teacher they write memorably about her:

- "multi-talented, a modern dancer of the Martha Graham School [who also took part in] Summer Stock Theaters."
- "a spunky woman and a marvelous teacher."
- "nourished my love of seeing, of drawing, of plants and being outdoors in the botanical world."
- "a commanding presence [seeming] a foot taller than her actual diminutive height, [who] put up with no adolescent shenanigans."
- "an early advocate of feminism, physical fitness, healthy diet and good posture."
- "bold, forthright, blunt...very funny... I wanted to be like her, self-determined, tough, and a bit outrageous."

- "an amazing little dynamo of a woman...bohemian and artistic."
- "Despite all her strictness, my class liked her. We knew she really cared about us."
- "psychologically attuned to students... idiosyncratic, independent, and brilliant."
- "a small woman standing on her tiptoes explaining to us 'the wonders of life.'"
- "She made you think, and you learned and grew up a little. [After 45 years] she still has a special place in my heart."
- "I will remember her as long as I remember."

While I'm not surprised at such fervent comments, I didn't foresee that many who responded are now in their 70s or 80s. As indeed I am. This memoir is not a biography; rather it is an appreciation of Mrs. Lilienthal as a teacher, guide, and friend. She is depicted in two ways. The first draws from the impressions of her former students. I have clustered their submissions into themes and topics that they bring up. Sections that I have drafted begin with overviews describing her appearance, temperament, and teaching style, often quoting her. Other sections feature her influence on career choices, or describe memories from specific classes in biology, nature study, health and hygiene, and cooking. Some respondents discuss her as part of their experience of attending Hunter. Some offer testimonies that "she was the first one who..." or "she changed my mind about..." Many note that their memories remain vivid after so many years.

The second part of the memoir characterizes Mrs. Lilienthal in a different way, presenting her in her own words, in letters she wrote to me from 1942 to 1990. Re-reading those letters first gave me the idea of a memoir. RSL (as she signed her-

self) often writes about her activities, comments on politics, books, the arts, traveling and matters at HCHS. Across time the letters show our changing roles. During the three years while I was away at college, she wrote often and formally, replying to my more numerous letters (none of these remain.) She speaks as a mentor, even a life-coach—to use a more recent term. When she urges me to make better choices and earn better grades she sounds like an exasperated older sister, yet she tempers her impatience with encouragement. Other admiring students, I notice, also recognize our teacher's way of combining strict demands with faith in our potential, so that we often improve not just our grades but our goals and our self-discipline.

In 1945 I completed my BA and returned to New York to study Psychology at Columbia University. We sometimes met, and I introduced her to my husband-to-be, also a Psychology graduate student. After my marriage in 1947 and subsequent move to the University of Kentucky for my husband's teaching career, our correspondence continued. Her letters from 1956 to 1965 have been lost, and of course there are none during summers and holidays when we could get together and talk. Her letters after 1945 become more casual. She signs them as Ruth, and refers to her husband as Charles. She describes scenes and events that delight her, as she had always done, but she speaks more readily about matters that distress her, including some changes at HCHS. She continues to report her views on books, plays, films and politics. Between 1955 and 1974, she and Charles took three trips overseas, travels that she records joyously. After her retirement she tells of her progress into Zen Buddhism. Finally she mentions some of her struggles coping with severe illness.

Letters to one correspondent do not constitute a biography, but these letters reveal a person of such character, such charm, depth and wit that I yearn to preserve them, to make them accessible for all who treasure memories of Mrs. Lilienthal, and also for other audiences. They should appeal to readers or researchers interested in women as teachers, surrogate mothers who “mother” the mind and spirit, all-girl high-schools, cross-generational female bonding, and letter writing as an art.

This project has brought me many nostalgic joys. I so appreciate others’ recollections, and will welcome more until December. I am still searching for students mentioned in RSL’s letters, including Jolie Douglass, Marilyn Greenburg, Estelle Merriens, Irene Sagan Kleckman, Nora Levitas, and also for her colleague, Cornelia Newton, who taught English at HCHS. My contact information is: Carolyn Rhodes, 330 W. Brambleton Ave., Apt 1007, Norfolk, VA 23510, e-mail elr-chr@verizon.net, phone 757-622-5454.

Carolyn Hodgson Rhodes attended Hunter College High School from 1939–42 as part of the class of 1943 (she was not graduated). She is a Professor Emerita of English and Women’s Studies at Old Dominion University, Norfolk, VA.

Desperately Seeking Sarah Maria Jones

If you are in touch with a classmate who isn’t receiving *AlumNotes*, tell us how to reach her (or him). We rely on alums to help keep our database up to date. You can also let us know if you are looking for a “lost” classmate. We may be able to help you get back in touch. And in case you didn’t know, Sarah Maria (pronounced Mariah) Jones was the name given to the archetypal Hunter High Student.

HCHSAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS WELCOMES THREE NEW MEMBERS

Syed Ali '90 received a joint BA in Political Science and Economics in 1994 from Boston University and an MS in Actuarial Science in 2001, also from Boston University. He currently works for JPMorgan Chase in Iselin, NJ as Vice President, Prime Mortgage Portfolio Analysis. Having recently relocated to the tri-state area, he feels that this is the right time for him to contribute his time and effort in support of Hunter College High School. Hunter provided him with an opportunity to expand his horizons both intellectually and emotionally far beyond what he would have been able to had he stayed in his inner-city Brooklyn neighborhood. His experience at Hunter and the close bonds of friendship he forged both with faculty and classmates truly transformed his life. He believes that it is a testament to Hunter and its Alumnae/i Board that these bonds flourish today despite the passage of time. As he thinks about the quality of education, the dedication of the faculty, the diverse student body and the overall environment of excellence that Hunter embodies, he realizes that the opportunity to attend Hunter was an absolute privilege. He wants to ensure through the Alumnae/i Board’s mission and activities that Hunter continues to offer this kind of life-enriching experience to its current and future students.

Diane Janoff (class of '73, but left early) received a BA in History from Bryn Mawr and a JD from Yeshiva University. She practiced general civil litigation and landlord/tenant law for ten years but then switched careers, earning an MLS from Pratt Institute while working at Brooklyn Law School Library. Since 1993 she has been a Children’s Librarian at Queens Library, combining her love of literature and rapport with children. She is also an active member of the

American Library Association’s division for library service to children, serving on several committees. Diane attended HCHS from 1967–1971, when she had to leave because her family moved to Long Island. She considers her years at Hunter to have been among the best of her life. Although there was plenty of homework, she loved the challenge, and she had many happy times with her classmates. She loved the old building on 68th and Lexington, and the thriving extracurricular activities and school traditions. When looking for colleges she tried to duplicate the experience, but was never able to. Joining the Board of Directors will allow her to give back to an institution that has meant so much to her. Specifically, she will be interested in interaction with the High School, event planning, publicity, and working on *AlumNotes*.

Joan Rosenthal '72 earned a BS in Accounting from SUNY-Albany and is a CPA. She was a long-time employee of Chase Bank and a Managing Director of JPMorgan Chase; she also did some consulting work for the Hunter College Foundation from 2004–2005 where she oversaw fundraising activities for the Campus Schools (High School and Elementary School). She is a returning HCHSAA board member and was president of the board as well as treasurer for a number of years. In addition to expanding the AA’s fundraising substantially, including advocating more fundraising efforts, improving the AA’s finances, and bringing greater visibility to the AA’s efforts on behalf of Hunter to the school and its parents, she believes her past leadership contributed to both the improvement and the re-starting of the AA website, and to updating and enhancing the look, content, and organization of *AlumNotes*.

OUR FOUNDATION, OUR LEGACY—THE CAMPAIGN FOR HUNTER COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL

A CAMPAIGN TO CREATE AN ENDOWMENT AND IMPROVE HCHS RESOURCES

Exciting and ambitious developments are underway. For the past several months, a group of alums have been working diligently with the Hunter College Foundation and the High School to shape a major fundraising initiative to significantly improve school resources and to create new opportunities for students, faculty, and graduates. “We are motivated by our love of and gratitude towards Hunter, respect for the faculty and administration, and the incredible potential contained within each Hunter student,” said HCHSAA board president, Mimi Eng ’84. “Hunter deserves the resources necessary to fulfill its potential as the premier high school, both public or private, in the United States.”

“The goal of the Our Foundation, Our Legacy Campaign is to preserve and enhance the position of Hunter College High School as a national leader in gifted public education,” said Hunter College President Jennifer J. Raab ’73. “We are looking forward to working closely with the Alumnae/i Association on this historic effort. Together, we will provide critical, needed funds to improve this extraordinary institution in both the short and long term.”

Heady thoughts indeed, but as the Alumnae/i Association analyzed both the High School’s and its own long term needs, and matched these with the great feeling of connection to Hunter that so many alums have, it became clear that a bold and ambitious initiative could succeed. “This initiative has such tremendous promise and we are grateful to President Raab and the College for the resources and energy that they are devoting to helping this effort succeed,” said Ms. Eng.

The campaign’s objectives are straightforward. On the fundraising side, the objective is to work closely with the College and the Hunter College Foundation to secure \$3,000,000 over a five-year period to create a permanent endowment for the High School.

The endowment fund will be located at the Hunter College Foundation, an independent 501(c)(3) organization, where a committee comprised of the High School principal, alums, parents, staff, and Foundation Trustees will advise on disbursement. Income from this endowment will be dedicated to help Hunter in strategic areas such as faculty retention, development of innovative and leading edge curricula, broadening student support and enrichment opportunities, strengthening community outreach to improve the school’s ethnic and socioeconomic diversity, reducing student attrition, and promoting awareness of Hunter in New York City elementary and middle schools.

The campaign’s second objective is to stimulate the development of a vibrant Hunter community and network that extends from current students, to faculty and staff, parents, the College, and the alumnae/i body. These efforts will increase the Alumnae/i Association’s resource base, re-engage alums in the life of the school, and establish stronger connections between alums within and across classes.

“There are so many things we can do to build the Hunter community,” said Matt Blumenfeld ’83, who has been hired by the Alumnae/i Association to direct the initiative. “We will sponsor more frequent get-togethers and informal gatherings, make the AA website more useful, promote and encourage alums to use each

other’s professional services, and bring alums back to the school as speakers, internship providers, college guides, and mentors. I feel very privileged to be able to play a role in making this happen.”

It is gratifying to report that a number of donors have already stepped forward in support of the campaign. These include a very generous \$100,000 leadership gift to establish the endowment from Leona FEIFER Chanin ’34, who is also a long-serving Trustee of the Hunter College Foundation. “Ms. Chanin’s deep loyalty and wonderful memories of her high school years led her to make this important gift, and we are very grateful to her indeed for this early support,” said President Raab.

The Alumnae/i Association and the College are also grateful to the following donors for pledging early support:

Charles Ardai ’87
Errol Bakal ’99
Matt Blumenfeld ’83
Kari CHIN CHACHKES ’87
Cheryl KATZ Chiovetta ’80
Ruth KAUFMAN Davis ’56
Mimi Eng ’84
Amy Farber ’71
Marge LANDSBERG Goldsmith ’61
Barbara MAYER Lambert ’64
John Marks ’83
Muzzy Rosenblatt ’83
Joan D. Rosenthal ’72
Purvi Sevak ’91
Susan Spector ’64
E. Mildred Speiser, Jan. ’49
Nina HABIB Spencer ’90
Maiko Tomizawa ’92
Doris MEIBACH Wallace ’62
Marguerite LIAO Williams ’91
Tai & Judy (CHIN) Wong ’88
Betty Walker ’50

Matching Gift Donors
Merrill Lynch & Co. Foundation
UBS

Grateful acknowledgement is also made to the Class of 1970. In 2005, as part of their Class Gift, \$18,000 was donated to the Hunter College Foundation to help establish an endowment for HCHS.

According to Tai Wong '88, one of the co-chairs of the AA steering committee working on the campaign, the key to success will be to encourage broad participation and to dramatically expand the percentage of alumnae/i who contribute. "One of the key aspects of this campaign will be to focus on classes that are celebrating milestone reunions, and requesting that everyone celebrating a milestone make a five-year pledge. We want to encourage each class to work closely with us as they move closer to their next milestone year and we urge every Hunterite to give as generously as they possibly can no matter what their financial position. What matters is that we all step forward together and invest in our great school to the extent we can."

Today, approximately 25% of alums contribute to the Alumnae/i Association annually, and while participation rates have climbed each year for the past decade, Hunter currently lags behind its peers, both public and private, on the giving front. Over the course of the expected five-year campaign period, that rate is expected to climb dramatically. "I believe that the great majority of us feel a strong sense of loyalty to Hunter, and will want to help once they learn more about the project," stated Mr. Wong.

Alums who are interested in participating as donors and/or volunteers are encouraged to contact Matt Blumenfeld '83, at fdamattb@aol.com, members of the AA Board of Directors, Marge Kolb '78 at the AA office, or Ann Goldberg at the Hunter College Foundation, at Ann.Goldberg@hunter.cuny.edu.

90TH BIRTHDAY OF MIRIAM WEIL RAND '32 RESULTS IN LARGE GIFT FOR HIGH SCHOOL

To mark the 90th birthday of HCHS alumna Miriam WEIL Rand, Protravel International hosted a benefit in Beverly Hills, CA this past spring. Industry leaders and generous friends and colleagues of Ms. Rand and Protravel donated more than \$100,000. These funds will be used to subsidize HCHS student travel on school-sponsored trips, based on financial need. The Hunter College Foundation has established the Hunter High School Miriam Rand Fund with the 200 contributions received.

Ms. Rand has devoted almost 60 years to the travel industry. She works in the Beverly Hills office of Protravel, drives to work every day, and has no plans to retire! Prior to joining Protravel International, she was the owner of Rand Fields Travel Agency in Beverly Hills for more than 50 years.

HELP RAISE HCHS PROFILE

As the Alumnae/i Association moves forward in working closely with the College and High School to reconnect alums to the High School and to raise additional funds for the school, one easy thing all of us can do to raise the school's profile and help ourselves is to cite HCHS on our resumes, CVs, and in other situations (e.g. casual conversations, interviews with news media, etc.). Help invigorate the Hunterite network by letting the world and each other know that you went to the best school there is!

HCHS NOT AMONG "BEST" HIGH SCHOOLS ACCORDING TO *NEWSWEEK*?

Many alums have questioned why HCHS was omitted from the list of "best" high schools in the May 8, 2006 issue of *Newsweek* magazine. The answer lies in the sub-heading of the article—which defined the list as being comprised of "top schools that help regular kids succeed in college." *Newsweek* based their ranking on a formula of dividing the number of AP and IB (International Baccalaureate) tests taken at a school by the number of graduating seniors, which they use as a measure of how committed the school is to helping kids take college-level courses. Separately, the magazine listed HCHS as a "Public Elite" school which was specifically excluded from the "best" list because so many of the students score well above average on the SAT and ACT.

Preserve the Future and Join a Special Group

Not everyone can make a large gift to benefit HCHS during their lifetime, but you can help future students by remembering the HCHS Alumnae/i Association in your will. 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."

2005–2006 HONOR ROLL OF GIVING

The HCHSAA Board of Directors would like to thank the more than 950 individuals who contributed to either or both the 2005–2006 Annual Giving drive and 2006 Milestone Class Gifts. To date, we have collected \$87,000 in Annual Gifts and \$33,000 from Class Gifts. Disbursements to the High School will be made in the coming months, both to areas earmarked by the donors and to areas chosen by the HCHSAA Board of Directors (after consideration of funding requests received from the High School). The following individuals have given \$100 or more:

2005–2006 Annual Giving

\$3,000+

Jeremiah Lane '97

\$2,000

Parents of Jeremiah Lane '97

\$1,500–\$1,999

Margreth Deissenberger Schmitt '61

\$1,000

Hester Klein Diamond, Jan. '46
Rae Wolovitz Geltman '30
Lesia Rader Giberson '74
Lock See Yu Jahnes '80
Judith C. Lewent '66
Robert Lopez '93
Despina Ploussios Patsoulakis, Jan. '52
Wendy Turchin '85
Joan Karle Varner '60
Denise Torczyner Wiseman '62
Anonymous '84

\$750

Kelly Stevens '87

\$500

Diana Cavalluzzo Bray '62
Miriam E. Burstein '41 (*retired faculty*)
Steven Chulik '85
Patricia Barber Crais '55
Ruth Kaufman Davis '56
Anne Kaufman Edwards '66
Marjorie Landsberg Goldsmith '61
(*current faculty*)
Cathy Kaplan '70
Anna Kovner '92
Benjamin Macklowe '88
John Marks '83
Elaine Sobel Mitchell '42
Laverne Lane Prager '52
Stephanie Banks Ross '57
Debby Miller Saffian, Jan. '47
Rosemarie Salerni '60
Jean Schulman '72
Claudine Friedman Siegel '52
Erin Williams '84

\$200–499

Isabel Elaine Allen '66
Harriet Whitman Aufses, Jan. '44
(*retired faculty*)
Eric Beckman '83
Aramis Antonio Bermudez '84
Peggy Blumenthal '63
Naomi Reice Buchwald '61
Eric Budish '96
Lauren McNeeney Burke '79
Charles Chen '99
Franklin Chung '02
Philip Chung '93
Sara Corello '82

Jason Criss '92
Ellen S. Dolnansky '67
Anne Ebersman '85
Yakira Hagalili Frank '39
Adrienne Cass Friedman '69
Harriet Halperin Gershon '58
Susan Neidich Gonen '70
David Isaacson '97
Claudia Kaplan '68
Marilyn Catalanotto Katcher '60
Beverly R. Katz '82
Kerry A. Kennedy '89
Emily Klein '90
Julia Kocich '69
Ann Folk Kurinskas '73
Sherman Lau '87
Miriam Barrow Lewis '36
Jessica Liberman '89
Allon Lifshitz '96
Melissa Mandor '95
Nedda Marus, Jan. '49
Christina M. Mason '74
Melissa Starlight Metz '82
Neda Loseff Michels '44
Rona Riegelhaupt Montag '76
Cynthia Nixon '84
Virginia Remington Olney '45
Jason Ourman '91
Miriam Sandberg Pellman '47
Mollie Neubauer Pflumm '59
Carolyn Hodgson Rhodes '43
Ellen Galson Rittelman '59
Cheryl Rubin '75
Corinne Schiff '85
Kathleen O'Callaghan Scott '77
Wen Shen '87
Kenny Shillingford '86
Anne T. Silverstein '55
Brenda Sirovich '81
Edmund Wong Soong '82
Vanessa R. Southern '86
Gail A. Cohen Steen '54
Juanita Lee Tam '83
Ursula Wolff Ulrich '55
Simeon Wallis '93
Frederick Yee '93
Anonymous '90
Anonymous '95

\$100–199

Frances Amitay Abramson, Jan. '50
Ellen Shaw Agress '64
Dohra Ahmad '89
Halina Korman Alter '70
Gail Ames '60
Roselyn H. Anderson '70
Kent & Patty CHANG Anker '88
Artemis Anninos '87
Laura Auricchio '86
Kyle Baker '83
Lisa Kurcz Barclay, Jan. '50

Adrienne Anderson Barnhart '53
(*retired faculty*)
Judith B. Bass '69
Denise Frank Battat '69
Susan Majors Battley '68
Varun Bedi '88
Shirley A. Cyrus Bennett, Jan. '46
Nora J. Bensahel '89
Daniel Berenbaum '87
Margaret Adlersberg Berger '49
Robin Bernstein '74
Jeanette Isenberg Bersh '60
Arlene Reimer Bessenoff '68
Ashok Bhalla '94
Frances Bilan, Jan. '50
Jean Binnie, Jan. '42 (*retired faculty*)
Edris Adams Bloomfield '38
Matthew Blumenfeld '83
David Bolocan '82
Elaine Brooks Brichta '50
Kyra K. Bromley '84
Rhoda Wiesenberg Brownstein '43
Vivian Burke, Jan. '49
Anita Schwartz Campanella '42
Benjamin Chan '90
Margaret Chan '75
Jack Chen '91
Jimmy Chin '82
John Chin '81
Joo H. Choi '87
Ling Chow '88
Horace P. Choy '83
Faith Cleary, Jan. '52
Ellen R. Cohen '68
Robert Cohen '83
Ronald James Colombo '90
Jason M. Cooper '92
Sara Corello '82
Shelagh Corporon '77
Bianca Thomas Costello '94
Patricia Barber Crais '55
Eleanor M. Sturken Curtin, Jan. '49
Alice Kerman DeLucia '62
Josephine Acocella Demarest '42
Barbara Blaho Doonan '54
Kara E. Dyrack '85
Marjorie Haas Edwards '33
Wendy S. Ader Edwards '68
Francine Abrams Eisen, Jan. '42
Sumin Eng '83
Susan Erda '64
Paulette Bernd Erde '71
Susan Cohen Esquilin '63
Joan Fabry '70
Josephine Chiaini Falkner '55
Beth Seelig Fanucchi '64
Amy Farber '71
Suzanne Fass '66
Marilyn Kryshka Fingerhut, Jan. '50
Mary Gargiulo Fiore '57 (*retired faculty*)
Katharine Davis Fishman '54

Dr. Betty L. Forest '42
Barbara A. Jennings Foss '56
Caroline Fox '91
David Friedlander '91
Bryce L. Friedman '90
Helen Finegold Friedman '63
(*retired faculty*)
Lois Czech Fries '57
Harriet Starolitz Fruim, Jan. '41
Nancy Vochis Gabriel '43
Elaine Marvin Garfield '49
Barbara L. Gerber '58
Gail Moak Gesley '72
Frieda Gradman Getzler '38
Margaret Gloster, *in memory of*
Teresa Gloster '29
Marlene Verghos Goldberg '67
Seth Goldman '00
Vincent Gong '90
Wendy Goodman '72
Andrea E. Gordon '83
Vera Julia Gordon '47
Suzanne Solomon Gossett '59
Marisa Gilliam Grant '90
Melissa Green '74
Linda Oppenheimer Greengrass '63
Ruth L. Greenstein '62
Karen Grinthal '72/'73
Caroline Ross Grossman '93
Dillie Grunauer '50
Amber Guth '74
Camille Wise Haberle, Jan. '52
Joan Greenwald Halpern, Jan. '45
Maryellen Hancock '62
Lorraine Richardson Harper '39
Patricia Pelz Hart '65
Bernice Worman Hauser '49
Dawn Hayami '73
Deborah Rosenfield Hensler '59
Andrea Eck Henson '79
Sr. Beryl F. Herdt '50
Diana Skaletzky Herman, Jan. '50
Eileen Romm Horn '64
Susan A. Horowitz '83
Leonora Lombardo Ianuzzi, Jan. '53
Mary Arevalo Iizuka, Jan. '53
Carolyn Strauss Jaffe '40
Nora Taylor Jaffe '63
Joan Geensburg Jagow, Jan. '48
Jane A. Rothenberg Jewel '60
Rita Jones '71
Claudia Justy '66
Elena Kagan '77
Deborah Beth Kahn '75
Leslie Mertz Kaplan '64
Rhonda Wexler Karlin '77
Deborah Burstein Karp '39
Judith Katz '69
Ruth Katz '67
Ronnie Katzenstein '72
Janet Kelly '64

David Kerpen '94
 Kris Kasden Kershaw '58
 Margaret Lynch Kiley, Jan. '42
 Elbrun Russell-French Kimmelman '62
 Bernice Sealy King '40
 Janice Garrecht Kirkland '60
 Bridget Goris Klein '90
 Joseph H. Ko '92
 Nancy Shapiro Kolodny '63
 Ludwika Arney Kosten, Jan. '50
 Lillian E. Kraemer '57
 Leslie Kreisman '77
 Tracy Henrich Kukkonen '85
 Florence Catenaro Laitman, Jan. '42
 Daria Bogart Lam '65
 Barbara Mayer Lambert '64
 Evangeline Lata '34
 Anna Law '84
 Susie Lebyrk-Chao '82
 Alice L. Lee '77
 Barbara Kaplan Lee Yankelovich '49
 Caran Levine Leib '53
 Inger Neustrup Leo '40
 Angela Liang '91
 Eric Lichtenstein '86
 Annette Ligot '54
 Andrew Lin '99
 Gladys Balbus Lipkin, Jan. '42
 Florence Catenaro Laitman, Jan. '42
 Leonard Mangini '84
 Douglas Mao '83
 Michelle Mart '82
 Anne McDonough '96
 Josephine McSweeney '47
 Ruth Bromberger Metzger '34
 Marilyn Band Meyers '59
 Barbara R. Miller '62
 Kathi Mintzer '71
 Lisa Molho '72
 Maureen K. Molloy, MD, JD '49
 Rona Riegelhaupt Montag '76
 Anita Valente Mule '55
 June Muller '58
 Anna Marie Napoli '61
 Karen Ng '90
 Audray Clements Noyes, Jan. '42
 Virginia Remington Olney '45
 Kenrick Ou '93
 Sharon Katz Pearlman '77
 Miriam Sandberg Pellman '47
 Dorothy Perko '54
 Judith Perlstein '67/'68
 Margaret "Peggy" Betz Perrin '55
 Ellen Ash Peters '47
 Mollie Neubauer Pflumm '59
 Marina Picciotto '81
 Chris Pieratti '65
 Lois J. Radisch '68
 Alice Schwartz Radish '37
 Shehry Rahman '91
 Gloria Hooper Raspberry '49
 Elaine Hanauer Ravich '66
 Phyllis Reisner '51
 Rose Wiesen Reiss '60
 Carolyn Hodgson Rhodes '43
 Anthony Richter '80
 Diana Gottfried Rosansky '61
 Esther H. Rose '71
 David Rosen '89

Jane Rosenbaum '67
 Emily Rosenberg '71
 Greg Rowland '93
 Masha Kabakow Rudman '49
 David Russekoff '85
 Barbara Falk Sabbeth '65
 Judith Sachs '64
 Simone Goldman Saltzman '63
 Cynthia C. Sam '77
 Joy M. Neil Samanich '93
 Richard Samuels '96
 Roslyn Abt Schindler '62
 Carol Rosenfield Schneebaum '54
 Sarah Schneewind '82
 Farimah Farhadi Schuerman '68
 Jane Schwartz Schultz '49
 Nadine Friedman Schultz '55
 Marilyn Kuperman Scott '55
 Nina Shapley '89
 Anne T. Silverstein '55
 Eleanor Schwarzbart Singer, Jan. '47
 Diane M. Diemer Snyder '72
 Donna Soohoo '82
 Neal Sotsky '84
 Nina Habib Spencer '90
 Helene Williams Spierman '61
 Doris Meth Srinivasan '51
 Gail Cohen Steen '54
 Frances L. Stern '66
 Jean R. Sternlight '75
 Carol Stewart '41
 Barbara Cohen Stratynner '68
 Carol Kahn Strauss '62
 Marlene Panzer Barasch Strauss '48
 Raquel Strauss '56
 Virginia Tong '74
 Yvonne M. Tsai '74
 Dale Olsen Tritschler '83
 Diane Levine Umemoto '61
 Maria Von Hartz '82
 Pamela Silling Wald '69
 Judith Ruskin Wasserman '60
 Moira Weigel '02
 Nanette Kass Wenger '47
 Mary Ann Werntz '58
 Karen Wexler '77
 Collin Greenfield Wild '64
 Beverly Winikoff '62
 Michele L. Winter '67
 Marlys Hearst Witte, MD, '51
 Janet C. Wolf '75
 Carol Oppenheimer Wolinsky '65
 Senta Lisa Wong '89
 Shui Ling Wong '85
 Elaine Postelneck Yamin '54
 Frederick Yee '93
 Timur Kaya Yontar '87
 Ye Zhu '01
 Vera Lenchner Zolberg, Jan. '50
 Judith Baron Zucker '46
 Cathy Hutchings Zumoff '64
 Anonymous '38
 Anonymous '90
 Anonymous '94 (2)

2006 Milestone Class Gifts

\$5,000

Joan Hansen Grabe '56

\$3,250

Anonymous '86

\$1,000

V. Lee Katonah Hansen '56
 Max Kellerman '91
 Hallie Ratzkin Levie '56
 Judy C. Lewent '66
 Aaron Panken '81
 Gail Roboz '86 & Dimitri Steinberg '86
 Anonymous '56

\$750

Rita Altchek Angel '56

\$500

David Bacon '81
 Eric Lichtenstein '86
 Geri Riegger '56
 Brenda Sirovich '81

\$250-499

Sang Yul Bae '91
 Alicia Cervini '91
 Debbie Gahr '86
 Jenna Halvey '91
 Paul Haskel '81
 Alejandro Paris Heyworth '91
 Lori Arlen Johnstone '81
 Paul Kim '86
 Joy Levien, Jan. '51
 Angela Liang '91
 Phyllis Malamud '56
 Melissa Mandor '95
 Alexandra McGinley '91
 Jason Ourman '91
 Moira Regelson '86
 Jacob Rejwan '91
 Arlene Brenner Rifkind '56
 Amy Seplin '81
 Purvi Sevak '91
 Himani Shishodia-Gupta '91
 Amy Sohn '91
 Jeannie Suk '91
 Michael Weiksner '91
 Michael Wertheim '91
 Marguerite Liao Williams '91

\$200-\$249

Alejandro Alves '01
 Spencer G. Nabors, MD, '91
 Marina Picciotto '81
 Maria Rivert Walsh '56

\$100-199

Marina Angel '61
 Laura Auricchio '86
 Emily Bass '91
 Allison Boyle '91
 Tamara Rippner Casriel, June '51
 Adam J. Cohen '91
 Marilyn "Maggie" Schneider Cohen '56
 Oliver DeWolfe '91
 Edna Selan Epstein '56
 Warria A. Esmond MD '76
 Cynthia Kords Ferguson '56

Ellen Spitzer Flamholtz '56
 Caroline Fox '91
 Laurie Friedman '76
 Helen Schiemann Gardner '56
 Rachel Gerstein '91
 Jeanette Eng Hom '56
 Arefin Huq '91
 Isaac Hurwitz '96
 Linda Rosenthal Jaffe '56
 Sara Jordan '91
 Sarah Kovner '91
 Mark Lang '81
 Judy H. Lee '81
 Barbara Friend Litter '56
 David ('91) & Tricia Liu
 Madelene Zimmerman McGuinness,
 Jan. '51
 Cecilia Meagher '81
 Michel Melendez '91
 Mary D'Amore Miller '56
 Rona Riegelhaupt Montag '76
 Catherine Savino Murray '56
 Alan Olmsted '81
 Brett Peiser '86
 Lucille Nelson Richards '56
 Joseph Rogove '91
 Ron Rothman '91
(in honor of Ms. Warner)
 Juliet Polucci Salony '56
 David Salvage '81
 Barbara Collora Schenk '56
 Kristin Sheehan '91
 Barbara Lee Suess '56
 Philip Tang '91
 Diane Levine Umemoto '61
 Trudy Werner '56
 James Wetterau '86
 Betty Wong '76
 Tenli Yavneh '76
 Anonymous '91

Employer Matching Gifts

(Annual Gifts and Class Gifts)

American Express Foundation
 Assured Guaranty Corp.
 Avon Products Foundation, Inc.
 Charles Schwab Foundation
 Citigroup Foundation
 Deutsche Bank Americas Foundation
 Johnson & Johnson
 John Wiley & Sons, Inc.
 Kraft Foods
 Merrill Lynch & Co. Foundation, Inc.
 Microsoft
 Minerals Technologies
 Open Society Institute
 Oracle Corporation
 Pepsico Foundation
 Pfizer Foundation
 UBS

*List is current as of August 15, 2006.
 Every effort has been made to ensure
 the accuracy of this list. We regret any
 errors or omissions.*

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

from the High School and read a message from Hunter College President Jennifer Raab '73. She expressed regrets at being unable to attend but reported on the exciting new initiative by Hunter College on behalf of the High School—the College is renewing its relationship and beginning to work collaboratively with the Alumnae/i Association, the High School PTA, and the High School administration. Part of this includes a major fundraising campaign for the Campus Schools (Elementary and High Schools), which has already resulted in early leadership gifts to the Hunter College Foundation from Leona FEIFER Chanin '34 and Roy M. Goodman, an alumnus of the elementary school (note: the Alumnae/i Association has also received gifts for this major campaign from HCHS alums, see article on page 8). She also reported that for the first time since the High School's budget was frozen 15 years ago, the city has agreed to an additional \$300,000 in annual public financing. An added sign of closer ties between the College and High School is that 12 graduates of 2006 will attend CUNY's Honors College in the fall.

Dr. Mucciolo assured the gathering that HCHS continues to be as competitive as ever—admitting the top 10% of the top 10% of students in the city. At a recent orientation for parents of incoming 7th graders, he told them that they and their kids had “hit the lottery” just by being accepted. The graduates of 2006 have been admitted to the finest colleges, continuing the Hunter tradition. Mucciolo expressed his pride at being able to serve as principal of a school where it's OK to be smart, do well, and achieve, and where the student body is comprised of rich kids, poor kids, all races and ethnicities, and residents of all five NYC boroughs. Where else would the Junior class choose as their mascot, *Habeas Porpoise*; where else would students be forced onto the sidewalk for an early-morning fire drill con-

duct an *a capella* chorus practice; and where else would a graduating Senior be planning to spend her summer with the Dark Energy Team at CalTech, writing a computer program for a yet-to-be-built telescope which will probe the universe? Mucciolo joked that most of the time, his job is to “stay out of the way” and simply provide the environment where these great young minds can flourish. Two issues he has been giving a lot of attention to are a 7th grade program to help younger students in making the transition to the school, and a stronger 12th grade program to address the needs of students who usually have enough credits to graduate in 11th grade. Internships and college mentoring opportunities will be improved, with welcome help from the AA and individual alums.

Matt Blumenfeld '83 spoke next, explaining that he had been retained by the AA's Board of Directors to assist in the major fundraising campaign, entitled “Our Foundation, Our Legacy,” being undertaken by the AA in collaboration with Hunter College. This campaign will be gathering momentum in the months to come (see article on page 8). Blumenfeld added that the appeal is designed to provide much more than simple financial support—it will facilitate speaker visits to the school, mentors for students, and internships for seniors. He urged alums to foster a community, and described hopes that Hunter could begin to conceive of admission to the school as entrance into a lifelong community. He touted the recent publication of the alum directory by urging alums to call on one another whenever we need a doctor, lawyer, or “rocket scientist.”

Speakers from the milestone classes touched on their classes' other reunion activities (see below) and shared memories and appreciation for their time at Hunter. There was a universal view that it is important for alums to help keep

HCHS great; many speakers mentioned enduring friendships they'd made in high school. Speaking for the 25-year class of 1981, Mark Lang noted that theirs was the first fully co-ed class (the class of 1980 admitted only 18 boys into its 7th grade), yet all their senior class officers were female! He also paid tribute to English teacher Jack McNeil, now deceased, who was a wonderful educator and special human being. Class of '76 speaker Donna Rilling joked that if the current HCHS principal thinks Hunter is a challenging school to run, he should have been around in her day, when it was all girls! The 50-year class of 1956 was represented by class coordinator and AA Board vice president Ruth KAUFMAN Davis who offered that she and her classmates are still re-inventing themselves! Many are now involved in volunteerism and sharing their many talents. They are proud that they can stand up and say what has to be said, and they are proud of the gifts that Hunter has given them.

There were also speakers from the eldest classes in attendance: Current HCHS faculty member and class of June '51 member Audrey Maurer assured fellow alums that the school is continuing to do well. Whenever anyone asks her when she'll retire she responds: “as soon as I can think of something more exciting to do than hang out with 1,200 of the smartest people every day.” Blossom STEINBERG Kirschenbaum, Jan. '51 commented that Hunter educates us to be responsible, caring citizens—a fact that needs to be emphasized now, more than ever. When she *studied* History, it was someone's *version* of the past; now, as an older person, she realizes that she and her generation *made* history by what they've done, and she exhorted those younger than her to study how to be old and to be a “wise elder.” Esther SARFATTY Confino '46 remarked that Hunter provides a superior education and graduates have a responsi-

bility, as critical thinkers, to urge elected leaders to act properly.

Following are the reports of the reunion activities of this year's milestone classes as submitted by those classes:

1991—Purvi Sevak, Michael Wertheim, and Marguerite LIAO Williams, coordinators

The Class of 1991 celebrated its 15-year reunion at Social Bar & Lounge on 8th Avenue and 48th Street. 90+ alums, spouses, children, and significant others gathered for a festive evening of catching up and meeting each other's (gulp) families! We enjoyed the company of various offspring in the early part of the evening while later on, a large group moved on to continue sharing reminiscences at other establishments. Many of us live in the NYC area but some traveled many miles to attend—from Puerto Rico, California, Colorado, Maryland, Virginia, Washington DC, Pennsylvania, and Ithaca, NY. A number of classmates expressed regret at not being able to attend. The two best excuses: "getting married this weekend" and "will be in Uganda researching for a book about AIDS and health care." Special thanks go out to Sang Yul Bae for once again documenting the evening's festivities. His photos can be viewed at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/fly91>. We are also very proud to report that the Class of 1991 has smashed all previous records for a 15-year Class Gift—the gift currently stands at \$7,657. The coordinators would again like to express many thanks to everyone who contributed!

1986—Brian Chavez, coordinator; Jonathan K. Cohen, class egrouper founder

The 20th anniversary of the Class of 1986 was celebrated with gusto. A planned Central Park picnic on Saturday was transformed by foul weather and quick thinking to an indoor gathering of alumni and families at Dallas BBQ on

the Upper East Side. That evening we saw our own Michael Holt perform live music at The Living Room before we began reminiscing anew at Onieal's on Grand Street into the wee hours. Far exceeding expectations, 86 eighty-sixers showed up for one or more events. Distance, shmistance: attendees represented 12 states, DC, Toronto (the aforementioned Mr. Holt) and Moscow (Peter Clateman).

Even those who could not make it in person this year are continuing to stay in touch via our online forum at Yahoo! Groups (<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/hchs86/>), which boasts a roster of two-thirds of the class...a class that includes an abundance of doctors and lawyers, as well as teachers, writers, actors, musicians, filmmakers, homemakers, computer wizards...a doula, a rocket scientist, and a consumer clone. The warm and fuzzy feelings continue with our Virtual Reunion and plans for annual local gatherings are already in the works.

1981—Mark Lang, coordinator

The members of the Class of 1981 were not thrilled to be marking our 25th anniversary (as we like to think of ourselves as eternally 18), but came out to gather and celebrate anyway. With the help of our online Yahoo! egrouper, we organized a Saturday night gathering at The Oyster Bar in Grand Central, and had an impressive showing at Sunday's reunion with 35 attending one or both events. In our ranks are a truly remarkable variety of professions: lawyers, scientists, writers, investment bankers, shopkeepers, teachers and university professors, moms and dads, artsy types and computer types—from David Crenshaw, who coaches and mentors kids in his 'hood uptown, to Bruce Schneier, a well known specialist in internet security. We traveled in from many interesting places...including Vermont, Pennsylvania, Connecticut,

New Jersey, upstate New York, Minnesota, Massachusetts, and Los Angeles. We are still sharing photos and staying in touch via our egrouper.

1976

Although no one was able to volunteer to officially coordinate the class's reunion, about 15 class members attended the General Reunion at the High School on Sunday, June 4th and a good time was had by all.

1961, 1966, and 1971

These classes will celebrate their milestone reunions in the fall.

1956—Ruth KAUFMAN Davis, coordinator

The class of 1956 was thrilled to celebrate its 50th reunion at a number of events held over June 3–4. The celebration began with a 4-course luncheon at Quatorze Bis on E. 79th Street, which was attended by 40 class members (and one brave husband!). Each member spoke of how Hunter inspired attempts on untrammelled paths. The gathering continued afterward at the E. 88th Street home of Marilyn "Maggie" SCHNEIDER Cohen, with some additional attendees who'd been unable to make the earlier luncheon. The next day, more than 30 class members attended the General Reunion at the High School and were proud to have their class's reunion coordinator, Ruth KAUFMAN Davis, who is also the Alumnae/i Association's Vice President, speak on behalf of their class and act as Mistress of Ceremonies for the other milestone class speakers.

Jan. '51—Deborah Bezahler, Helen Kinslow, and Joy Levien, coordinators

Twenty-two class members gathered at HCHS on Reunion Sunday. The planning committee made the event extra special by providing champagne and commemorative tote bags, and decorating the room where the class gathered.

CLASS OF 2006 COMMENCEMENT

“Love clarity” was the exhortation given to this year’s graduates by Judith JARVIS Thompson ’46, who added that they should “make good judgments about what institutions, ideas, and people to trust—don’t love something because of its perceived significance.”

Dr. Thompson, a noted philosopher and professor emerita of Philosophy at MIT, accepted the 2006 Distinguished Graduate award and gave the keynote address as the Class of ’06 gathered for graduation ceremonies on June 26 at Hunter College’s Assembly Hall. Dr. Thompson noted that it was the 60th anniversary of her own graduation from Hunter, and joked to the new graduates that they too can survive 60 years after Hunter. She stressed that the training the students had received at Hunter and their own natural abilities should guarantee that they will do well in college. Therefore, she encouraged them to “look around intellectually,” not lock into one field, but instead sample a range of college courses and be open to other experiences made available to them. She stressed that the graduates have been born into a complex culture and they must make a serious effort to find out about all aspects of it.

The graduation also featured a salutation by Simon Schreier, who reminded his classmates of their beginnings at Hunter High six years prior—and asked them to think about what the school has meant to them and who has helped them along the way—teachers who kindled and fed their intellect, parents who fed and clothed them, and most of all, the friends they’ve made. The special experiences—like Spirit Day, Carnival, dances, performances—complete the memories and have become a part of who each graduate is. Simon noted that they must all face the bitter-sweet knowledge that as good as it’s been, it must come to an end. He stressed that all the resources that have been given to

DISTINGUISHED GRADUATE JUDITH JARVIS THOMSON ’46



Named by a committee from the High School, the 2006 Distinguished Graduate, Judith Jarvis Thomson ’46, is a professor emerita of Philosophy at MIT. She held the Laurence S. Rockefeller Chair in Philosophy at MIT between 1990 and 1996. Her work has been in the fields of moral philosophy and metaphysics and she authored the seminal article, “A Defense of Abortion,” which appeared in the Fall 1971 edition of the journal *Philosophy and Public Affairs*. In the article, Thomson presented philosophical arguments in favor of a woman’s rights over her own body, including the right to choose an abortion. The text is available online at:

<http://spot.colorado.edu/~heathwoo/Phil160,Fall02/thomson.htm>. Thomson is also the author of “Self-Defense,” which appeared in *Philosophy and Public Affairs* (Fall 1991), “On Some Ways in Which a Thing Can Be Good,” which appeared in *Social Philosophy and Policy* (Spring 1992), and the book *The Realm of Rights* (Harvard University Press, 1990). She earned her BA from Barnard College in 1950, her MA from Cambridge University in 1956, and her PhD from Columbia University in 1959. She also taught at Barnard and Boston University.

To see a complete list of HCHS Distinguished Graduates, please visit the HCHSAA website: www.hchsa.org. Click on “About HCHSAA” and then “Distinguished Graduates.”

them will amount to nothing if they don’t take action—they must have a will to overcome apathy.

Hunter College President Jennifer Raab (HCHS ’73) addressed the assembly and extended congratulations to the families of the graduates—she knows first-hand that getting through Hunter is not easy and the support of family is most important. Although many things have changed since she was a Hunter student, the superb teaching has remained constant, as have the exceptional graduates.

The class presidents, Anika Fischer and Anna Schneider, presented the class’s gift to the school—items for the Senior lounge (including a foosball table, ping pong table, and couch) and a portable loudspeaker system for the gym. They also extended thanks to their Senior class

advisor, Linda Aboody, who had an impact on every member of the class.

In the class speech, Grace Gilles commented that the college application process over the past year had her and her classmates looking forward to college—after so many years, Hunter had begun to feel oppressive. But visiting colleges and listening to current students talk about their schools had made her think more about Hunter and what it’s meant to her. A building with no windows, no money, no paper and with “small animals nesting in the walls” invites its students to take joy in denigrating it. But it was also a place where heated discussions about Hawthorne or oxygen reduction would take place in the hallways and seeming “ditzes” would come out with statements such as, “You like totally take the second

derivative, duh..." They wrote so many "why I want to attend" essays for their prospective colleges, but never one for Hunter. Of course, they couldn't have done so prior to 7th grade, because they didn't know what to expect—but in retrospect, Hunter, in all its quirky, gifted glory will never leave any of them.

In addition to all the speeches, there were several musical performances, both choral and instrumental. Past HCHSAA president Margaret "Peggy" BETZ Perrin '55 attended as a spectator. She writes: "*Danny Boy*, performed by the Graduation Chorus, was absolutely the most moving performance of it I've heard—just beautiful. What voices, what enunciation! The instrumental quartet which performed could have been from Juilliard or any of the fine music schools in the city. For me, though, the highlight was our *Alma Mater*, transposed to a singable key, stepped up a bit, with a razzle-dazzle ending that I believe [former HCHS faculty member] Charlotte Hochman would have loved. I can just imagine her—hip jutting to the side, her left arm bent and resting on it, her eyes narrowed in observation, her lips together and concealing a bit of a cynical smile (so, you're jazzing up MY piece), and her foot almost tapping."

FIVE STUDENTS AWARDED HCHSAA SCHOLARSHIPS

Each year, the Alumnae/i Association awards \$1,000 scholarships to the winners of the Thomas Hunter Prize and the Mildred Busch Award. The winners are selected by the High School's Honors and Awards Committee and the awards are presented at the Honors and Awards Ceremony, which was held this year on June 5, at the High School. The students honored this year were: Daniel Appel, Zachary Friedman, Elizabeth Leshen, Ryu Matsuzaki, and Tara Umbrino.

NEWS FROM HCHS

The HCHS Counseling Department has identified several priority areas for change. Chair Dr. Chris Rogutsky reported on the changes at the May PTA meeting: Middle School Transition (two counselors will now specialize in grades 7 and 8, and a middle school committee will be established); Special Education (getting an on-site person to do evaluations and creating a Student Support Team to address behavioral, academic, or emotional problems); College Process (the addition of a sixth Counselor will enable the Chair to relinquish counseling a grade and concentrate on greater outreach in the college process, including travel to colleges and acting as a host to the college reps who visit Hunter); and Substance Abuse (work on a 7–12 curriculum with 2–3 workshops per year for students, as well as parent meetings)...Beginning with the class of '07, the number of private college applications allowed has been increased from six to eight. There is no limit on public or international school applications...Director of Admissions and Communications, Lindy Uehling, has adopted as her two primary goals: increasing the pool of applicants who sit for the admissions exam by expanding recruitment and outreach activities, and utilizing and generating data from HCHS students to enhance research efforts on how best to serve gifted students. She is also working on admissions-oriented efforts including an Ambassadors' Club (for current students to visit with prospective ones), an outreach video and a transition committee to help support new 7th graders...The NYC Department of Health will now provide HCHS with a school nurse, freeing up funds for another purpose, most likely for additional staffing for the Counseling Department...Miriam Charney, HCHS parent and professional musician, is helping plan a concert for the benefit of the PTA featuring professional parent and alumni musicians. It is hoped the concert will be held in the Hunter College Auditorium next winter. Interested alums can contact Miriam at mircharney@aol.com...The Senior prom took place on June 8 at The Lighthouse at Chelsea Piers

...14-year-old Alice Xie attended MathPath camp in July, held this year at the University of California, Santa Cruz. MathPath is for upcoming 7th–9th graders who are profoundly gifted in math. This year, 400 applicants took the test and only 71 won admission; Alice was one of just 15 girls. The camp, and Alice, were profiled in a July 28 article in *The Wall Street Journal* entitled "Dear Mom and Dad: Please Send Cookies and a New Calculator"...Senior Grace Gillies won a Seinfeld Scholarship, a four-year award from Jerry Seinfeld and his family for NYC public school graduates to attend the college of their choice...Junior Natasha Plotkin was one of three NYC winners of the second annual The Laureates of Tomorrow–Nobel Essay Contest and was honored at a ceremony held on June 12 at Theodore Roosevelt Park in Manhattan. The winners received an all-expenses-paid trip to Sweden to attend the Nobel Prize ceremonies in December. Natasha won in Chemistry for her essay entitled "Richard Ernst and the Transformation of NMR Spectroscopy"...Twenty-two seniors were awarded National Merit/Achievement Scholarships...Chiara DiLello '06 was awarded 4th place in the annual poetry contest for high school students sponsored by the University of Buffalo College of Arts and Sciences. Entries were received from more than 1,148 students; each student was limited to one entry of an original poem of 25 or fewer lines...Both the boys' and girls' tennis teams finished second in their divisions...The girls' soccer team finished with a 7–4–1 record, placing third in their division. Senior and team captain Liz Friedman scored her 100th goal on May 15...Boys' volleyball had a regular season record of 12–0, but lost in the quarterfinals of the playoffs to the eventual champion...The girls' outdoor track team finished third at the Manhattan borough championships, and the boys' team fifth. Freshman Sam Telzak placed second in the city among freshmen in the 1600 meter run, and third in the 3200 meter run.

Mollie Orshansky '31 was written about in articles in the April 3 issue of *The New Yorker* ("Annals of Economics—Relatively Deprived," by John Cassidy) and in the March 12 issue of *The New York Times* ("Economic View: A Poverty Line That's Out of Date and Out of Favor," by Anna Bernasek). As a statistician at the Social Security Administration in 1963, Orshansky published an article in the *Social Security Bulletin* entitled "Children of the Poor" which proposed a method for determining poverty, which ultimately became the Federal poverty line. Fellow alum Sewell Chan '94 saw the articles and was inspired to write a profile of Ms. Orshansky, which appears on page 4.

Rosemarie COSTA Sepanski '53 was featured in *The Long-Islander*, a weekly mid-Island newspaper, in an October 20, 2005, article entitled "Getting Out the Vote." Sepanski has devoted 25 years of her life to fulfilling the presidential duties of Huntington's League of Women Voters association and was issued a Town of Huntington Proclamation, as well as a New York State Assembly Citation, for her long and selfless career. In her professional life, she is vice president, portfolio manager, and registered options representative at Benjamin Securities.

Michele LEVENBOOK Kohler '61 and husband Chris, who are antiquarian booksellers, made news in England when they sold the world's largest and most comprehensive collection of books by and about Charles Darwin to Britain's Natural History Museum. It includes almost everything Darwin published from 1829 onwards. Assembled over 20 years, the Kohler Darwin Collection comprises almost 3,500 items in total. There are copies of almost all editions, issues and bindings of Darwin's publications, including a wide foreign language selection.

These are complemented by a number of autographed letters by Darwin and his peers, and a range of other printed and original material that traces the growth of our understanding of evolution through the twentieth century. The collection will be cataloged, conserved and re-housed over the next three years, and will be available to visiting researchers during that time. Items from the collection will form a part of a Darwin exhibition the Museum is hosting in Fall, 2008.

Dr. Deborah Tannen '62 was an op-ed contributor to *The New York Times* on July 1. She wrote about men groping women on public transportation—and recalled one of the first academic papers she published—an analysis of how Greek women talked about such experiences. Tannen noted that while Greek women described experiences similar to American women's, the difference was in their reactions. Americans said they had felt humiliated and helpless and had done or said nothing, while most Greeks had yelled, struck back or both.

Pauline Reich '64 was featured in a July 8 article in *The Japan Times* entitled "Waseda on Cutting Edge of Cybercrime." Reich, a professor at Waseda University in Tokyo, is characterized as a pioneer in the field of cybercrime; last year she helped open the Asia-Pacific Cybercrime and Internet Security Research Institute at her school.

Dr. Amy Newburger '67 was quoted in a May 11 article in *The New York Times* entitled "The Oprah Treatment." Newburger is a dermatologist in Scarsdale and a consultant on the FDA's General and Plastic Surgery Devices Panel, a committee that issues recommendations on whether new devices should be approved.

Ruth Levi '75 was the subject of a June 14 article in *The Jerusalem Post* which chronicled her marriage to Rabbi Bob Carrol and subsequent migration to Israel. Levi continues to run her gourmet food company via internet from her home in Baka.

Jonathan Plotzker '82 was featured in a May 1 article in *Business 2.0* magazine entitled "A Sex Toy Story" about Good Vibrations, the San Francisco-based retailer of toys, books and videos. Plotzker was recently promoted to Senior Director of Operations & Merchandising and prior to that was the Director of Merchandising, leading the buying group in efforts to expand the business, as well as help manage store growth. Before joining GV, he was the Director of E-commerce at Restoration Hardware, another Bay area retailer; he also worked previously with Bare Escentuals and Pottery Barn.

Louis O'Neill '86 has been named the OSCE (Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe) Ambassador and Head of Mission to Moldova, a former Soviet Republic; he began his post on July 24. The OSCE Mission is charged with resolving the Transnistrian conflict, facilitating the withdrawal of Russian troops and weapons from Cobasna, fighting human trafficking, and promoting the rule of law and democratic development in Moldova. O'Neill has a BA in Slavic Languages and Literature and a Master's in Russian and East European Studies, both from Stanford University, and a Juris Doctor from Harvard Law School. From 1992–1993 he worked at *The Moscow Times* as a journalist and designer. After law school, O'Neill joined the Harvard Institute for International Development as Project Associate for a legal reform project in Moscow, Russia. He helped draft market-

based laws and regulations for the Russian Duma and Federal Securities Commission. From 2001–2004, he worked as an Assistant District Attorney at the Special Prosecutions Bureau of the New York County District Attorney's Office and in 2004 he became a White House Fellow. In that capacity, he served as Special Assistant to the Secretary of State and was assigned to the Office of Russian Affairs. O'Neill also handled special projects for the Secretary of State, one of which was an assignment as U.S. expert to the OSCE Minsk Group's

Fact Finding Mission to the Occupied Territories of Azerbaijan Surrounding Nagorno-Karabakh. Most recently, he was part of the Policy Planning Staff of the U.S. State Department and was responsible for long-term U.S. policy towards Russia, Ukraine, Moldova, Belarus and the Caucasus.

Sewell Chan '94, a reporter for *The New York Times*, was featured in a June 26 article in *The New York Observer* entitled "Byline Beast of N.Y.: *Times*' Sewell Chan Racks Up 422 in Year." The article reports on Chan's prolificacy in publishing items

in the paper, including the tidbit that on June 20, his byline appeared on four items; he primarily covers transit and City Hall issues.

Hope Reichbach '06 became a plaintiff in a lawsuit filed by the New York Civil Liberties Union against the Department of Defense in federal court in April. The suit charged the Department with violating American high school students' privacy rights and federal law by maintaining an unauthorized database of personal student information for use in military recruitment efforts.

ALUMS SEEN & HEARD...

Margo Lee Sherman '62 appearing in the play she created, *What Do I Know About War?*, at the Theater for the New City in March. For the one-woman show, Sherman assembled about 40 minutes of fragmented stories from accounts by American soldiers who have served in Iraq. *The New York Times* reviewed it on March 14, stating "At its best, the experience of this brief evening in the black basement of Theater for the New City is like eavesdropping on a small, sorrowful town."

...**Dr. David Salvage '80** (early graduate of '81) on *The Bio-Blurb Show* on WPS1 (Art Radio) on May 2. The discussion on the show explored "psycho-physical space," altered states of consciousness, and psychopharmacology as it interfaces with visual art practices...**Cynthia Nixon '84** at a rally for public schools on March 23 on the steps of NYC's City Hall. She also attended the Tony awards on June 11 to accept the award for Best Actress in a Play for *Rabbit Hole*. A few days later, on June 19, she appeared at the Hammerstein Ballroom in "A Memory, A Monologue,

A Rant and A Prayer"—the world premiere of pieces written by Edward Albee, Tariq Ali, Michael Cunningham, Ariel Dorfman, Michael Eric Dyson, Nicholas Kristof, Anna Deavere Smith, Alice Walker, Howard Zinn and others for V-Day activities—part of a two-week festival that brought the issue of violence against women front and center...**Sam Bardfeld '86** playing violin with Bruce Springsteen and the Seeger Sessions Band on *Great Performances* on PBS in July...**Michael Holt '86** performing at The Living Room on June 3. For information on his CDs, visit www.michaelholtmusic.com...**Sandi Dubowski '88** at a fundraiser on June 12 at the Ronald Feldman Fine Arts Center in NYC to support the new film he has produced—*In the Name of Allah* (working title). The film is the first-ever feature length documentary to explore the complex global intersections of Islam and homosexuality; it was made in twelve different countries and in nine languages. Dubowski's previous film was *Trembling Before G-d*, which was about Orthodox

Jewish homosexuals...**Amy Sohn '91** at the Merkin Concert Hall on April 6 reading from her novels *Run Catch Kiss* and *My Old Man* as well as from articles she published in the *New York Press*...**Steve Hofstetter '97** on ESPN2's *Quite Frankly with Stephen A. Smith* on June 29. Hofstetter is a comedian currently living in LA. He was also included in the April 16 edition of *The New York Times* in an article about his use of sports in his comedy. His album, *Cure for the Cable Guy*, hit #22 on the Billboard Charts for comedy last spring and was #12 on iTunes...**Michael-Sean Spence '00** (a/k/a Mic Sean)'s song, *If It Could Sing*, featured in the Hip-Hop musical *Samurai* which debuted at the University of Maryland—College Park in April. Mic Sean was also chosen by Motorola and Boost Mobile as one of 25 tastemakers from across the U.S. to be brought to NYC to participate in various panels where he conversed with some of the industry's heavy hitters, including Timbaland and Questlove.

ALUM ANNOUNCEMENTS

Lita LINZER Schwartz, Jan. '47

announces the forthcoming publication of two books: *When Adoptions Go Wrong: Psychological and Legal Issues of Adoption Disruption* (Haworth Press; Oct. 2006) and *Child Homicide; Parents Who Kill* (CRC/Taylor & Francis; Aug. 2006), which was co-written with Natalie K. Isser.

Louise NEUWIRTH Jaffe Gerber, Jan. '53

announces the publication of her book *Feminine Prerogatives: 3 Tales of Empowerment* (Xlibris Publishing). Jaffe is a widely published poet and Professor Emerita of English at Kingsborough Community College; this is her first fiction book. The trilogy of novellas concern women's choices and survival, sometimes humorous, sometimes painful, and always insightful. Her characters are everyday earthy heroines who seek solace and recognition in their world.

Rudean Leinaeng '55 announces a new film, *Twelve Disciples of Nelson Mandela*, for which she is a co-producer. It is based on the story of the first wave of South African exiles who left Bloemfontein (one of South Africa's three capital cities) in 1960 to keep the anti-apartheid movement alive from their new homes in East Africa, Europe, America, and Cuba. In their heroic journey, this group of twelve—and the thousands of young South African freedom fighters who would follow them—helped to create a global seismic shift that ultimately toppled the apartheid system in South Africa. The New York premiere was at BAM on July 5 and the film has been invited to many international film festivals including Toronto, Cape Town, Bermuda, PanAfrican, and San Francisco. The film was also screened in Morningside Park on July 13 and will be televised on PBS's P.O.V. series in September.

Susan L. Schulman '62, a theatrical press agent, has an excerpt from her upcoming book *Ain't Show Business Grand?* in the

Summer 2006 issue of *Show People Magazine* (a Time Inc. publication). The chapter deals with the ill-fated Broadway production of *The Merchant*, a pro-Jewish re-imagining of Shakespeare's *The Merchant of Venice* which saw Zero Mostel, cast as Shylock, fall ill during a tryout performance in Philadelphia and die soon afterward.

Hannah Reich '70 is a newly minted Brennan Healing Science Practitioner with a Bachelor of Science degree in Brennan Healing Science. The Barbara Brennan School of Healing teaches energy healing and has been granting diplomas for more than 20 years, but only became a college in 2003. Of the 77 graduates in the class of 2006, eleven, including Reich, received college degrees; this was the first year the Bachelor of Science degree was granted. Reich also received a BA in philosophy 30 years ago from Brooklyn College, but her present studies reflect her true passion. In addition to developing a private healing practice, Reich's greatest desire is to create safety around cancer, to downgrade it emotionally from "the Big C" to a "little c." She wants to shift public perception so that cancer is viewed as a temporarily debilitating illness rather than a death sentence. She believes this changed perception can ease much suffering, since our deep fears contribute to the ravages of this disease, not specifically in individuals with cancer, but in all of us, in the collective unconscious. Reich adds: "To the extent that we are afraid to talk about cancer or be present with it in ourselves and our loved ones, we attempt to distance ourselves from it. Within this distance is great power—power we can reclaim and give ourselves, power we can use for healing and contact. I would love to connect with anyone interested. My email address is concord3j@yahoo.com. For more information on what I've studied, here's the web address of the school I attended: www.barbarabrennan.com."

Vivian Reiss '70 was one of a select group of international artists invited to create a site-specific art work for the international art exhibition, the Echigo Tsumari Triennial, which runs from July 23–September 10. What the Whitney Biennial is to the U.S., and the Venice Biennale is to Italy, the Echigo Tsumari Triennial is to Japan. It is unique in that in an isolated rural part of Japan, north of Tokyo, Japanese and international art lovers flock to experience inspiring and experimental exhibits by renowned Japanese and international artists, taking place over many square kilometers—encompassing rice fields, villages and small towns. Reiss' exhibition for the Echigo Tsumari Triennial will take place in the art and music room of an abandoned elementary school in the village of Hachi. Reiss' project is called Satoyama Storehouse: satoyama referring to man's relation to the land; storehouse referring to the kiri, the abandoned grain stores that once served as a measure of wealth and now lay disused, dotting the countryside. Reiss will explore this shift in connection to the land through the portraiture and products of the villagers. The storehouses that once stored wealth will now store culture. Reiss will do all of the work for the show in the small village of Hachi, living there for three months in a house the teachers used in the old days. Every day, a villager will stop his or her work, and go sit for a portrait in the music room of the old elementary school, which will serve as Reiss' studio. The villagers have already begun to decide amongst themselves who will be painted, and have agreed to determine half the participants themselves, but believe the other half should evolve out of Reiss' relationship to the villagers. Many are elderly and all share a last name—they are all Mr. or Mrs. Omi. The villagers will be painted with the objects that tell a story of their lives and the lives of the community.

The final showing will place on sale villagers' products beside the paintings that depict them. These might be objects of their own design, or produce from their farms and gardens. The items will be tagged with labels sporting the portrait of its creator, thereby strengthening the idea of the individual's relationship to the land, differentiating them from the mass-produced supermarket product. The curators felt that in this economically depressed region of Japan, Reiss' work, through its sophisticated use of composition and color, and the intimacy expressed in her work between the artist and subject, was uniquely suited to understand and bring to the community a rejuvenation of spirit through art. In tandem with her Triennial showing, Reiss also had a solo exhibit of portraiture of Canadians in the Arts at the Prince Takamado Gallery of the Canadian Embassy in Tokyo.

Jane Dubin '74 announces that Double Play Connections, a production company she heads, will be presenting *Count Down*, by Dominique Cieri, at the Bank Street Theatre in downtown Manhattan in November 2006. For more information, please contact Jane@mentalpause@att.net.

Polly Shulman '81 announces the publication of her young-adult novel *Enthusiasm* (Putnam Juvenile, February 2006). The "engaging narrative" (to quote *Booklist*) details main character Julie's trials and rewards stemming from her firm friendship with Ashleigh, an enthusiast who over the years has taken up one craze after another, from military strategy to ballet, from Harriet the Spy to King Arthur, dragging her best friend along. But when Ashleigh begins sophomore year speaking Jane Austen's prose and crashing an exclusive prep school's cotillion, she commits a double fault: she takes ownership of Julie's favorite book, *Pride and Prejudice*, and she sets her determined sights on the boy Julie

secretly adores. Shulman "captures the agony and the irony of Julie's struggles to find her own way as she navigates the conventions of a culture that, for all its twenty-first-century trappings, still leaves young women hoping that the young men of their dreams will recognize and return their unspoken affections."

Sarah Schneewind '82 announces the publication of her book *Community Schools and the State in Ming China* (Stanford University Press, Spring 2006). It is a study of state-society relations. Using the institution of village schools as a case study to assess the nature of Ming autocracy, the book argues that it is public participation in the state—for a variety of reasons—rather than tight central control which accounts for the longevity of the Ming dynasty and for loyalism after its fall. The book is directed against those who argue that the Chinese people are accustomed to despotism and unsuited for democracy.

Nina Davidovich '85 was the screenwriter of the recent film *When Do We Eat?* It is the story of the "world's fastest Seder" gone horribly awry. Michael Lerner plays an old-school dad who's as tough on his sons as his father (Jack Klugman) is on him. On this night, however, one of the boys (Ben Feldman) slips Dad a dose of special, psychedelic Ecstasy in order "to give him a new perspective." Meanwhile, Mom (Lesley Ann Warren) brings a handsome stranger to dinner and the kids take sides. By the end of the night, however, Dad's visions turn him into a modern-day Moses intent on leading this hungry group to the promised land of family forgiveness. Of course they're all so stubborn, it'd be easier to part the Red Sea! The film won the award for best feature at the DeadCenter Film Festival in Oklahoma City, the award for best screenplay at the San Diego Film Festival, and the award for best director

at the Tahoe/Reno International Film Festival. It was released theatrically on April 7 and was released on DVD this summer.

Sam Bardfeld '86 is featured playing violin on Bruce Springsteen's latest recording *We Shall Overcome: The Seeger Sessions* and is currently touring with Springsteen. Bardfeld also recently released his second jazz recording as a leader—*Periodic Trespasses: The Saul Cycle* (FreshSound)—which *The New York Times* called "coolly evocative." He lives in Brooklyn with his wife, Jessica Gerson '86, a clinical psychologist, and their daughter Daisy.

Mora Stephens '94, Joel Viertel '93, and Alek Friedman '93 have gotten together to make a feature film entitled *Conventioneers*. It has been making the rounds of the festival circuit after its premiere at last year's Tribeca Film Festival. In March, it won an Independent Spirit Award, the "John Cassavettes Award," for films with a budget under \$500,000. The film, produced by Viertel, directed by Stephens, written by Viertel and Stephens, and starring Friedman, centers on the 2004 Republican National Convention. It tells a Romeo-and-Juliet love story about a conservative delegate to the convention and a liberal activist protesting against the president. Friedman plays a sign language interpreter, once a liberal activist himself, who is offered a chance to interpret for the president at the convention. Viertel and Friedman attended Hunter for 14 years and went to college together at Wesleyan. Stephens began at Hunter in 7th grade and she and Viertel were married three years ago. Together the three have formed Hyphenate Films and have produced three movies in the past year and a half, including *Ready or Not* and *Strictly Sexual*. Information about *Conventioneers* can be

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ALUM ANNOUNCEMENTS

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accessed at www.conventionersmovie.com. Hyphenate is at www.hyphenatefilms.com.

Jeremy Blachman '96 announces the July 25 publication of his debut novel, *Anonymous Lawyer* (Henry Holt & Co.), a satire about a hiring partner at a large corporate law firm whose secret weblog about life at his firm threatens to destroy his career. *Publishers Weekly* is calling the book "side-achingly funny." In Blachman's own words: "During my second year at Harvard Law School, having just gone through the interview process for a summer job at a law firm, I started a weblog called Anonymous Lawyer, from the perspective of an evil hiring partner—an exaggeration of the attorneys I'd been meeting throughout the process. I thought I'd play around with it for a week or so, but as I started writing, the readership quickly built. The frightening thing was that the more over-the-top I thought I was getting—partners locking associates in the document room, not letting them leave the office for days—the more emails I got from readers who said I was describing their lives. I worked for a firm that summer and kept the blog going, and the following December, *The New York Times* ran a story about it (Sunday Styles, 12/26/04) and I heard from agents and publishers who wanted to know if I had any interest in writing a novel based on the character. The book introduces a whole cast of attorneys at the fictional firm—The Jerk, The Suck-Up, and The Woman Who Missed Her Kid's Funeral, just to name a few—and a plot, as Anonymous Lawyer schemes to become chairman of his firm without being unmasked as the writer of his secret blog. Looking back on my time at HCHS, I have fond memories of eighth grade English class with Mr. Zegers, who was probably the most rigorous and inspiring English teacher I had, even through college, but at the time I didn't expect I'd

ever be writing a novel. The book's companion website parodies a real law firm website, at <http://anonymouslawfirm.com>, and also links to reviews and more information. Or you can check out the blog that inspired the novel, at <http://anonymouslawyer.blogspot.com>."

Christopher Rojas '00 is a multi-platinum record producer and songwriter living and working in New York. His career took off shortly after graduation when he co-produced the #1 AC single from recording artist Jim Brickman's Grammy-nominated instrumental pop album *Peace*. Signing with Zomba/BMG publishing in 2003, he has gone on to write or produce songs for P!nk, Jessica Simpson, Nick Lachey, The Backstreet Boys, Joss Stone, Fat Joe, and many others. His most recent chart successes include P!nk's *I'm Not Dead*, which opened at #3 in the U.S. and #1 in many European countries, and newcomer Teddy Geiger's debut *Underage Thinking*, which bowed at #8 on the Billboard Top 200. For those who remember him most for his contributions to Hunter's musical ensembles as a violinist, they can be assured that he hasn't forgotten about the instrument: Rojas has written and recorded many string arrangements in the past few years and has recently performed as a violinist for AOL Sessions and on ABC's *Live with Regis & Kelly*.

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. The address to which to send your books is: Hunter College High School Library, 71 E. 94th Street, New York, NY 10128-0798. Enclose a brief note to advise the librarian that you are an alum.

ALUMS IN IRAQ

The HCHSAA office has recently been in touch with three alums who have served or are currently serving in Iraq:

Brian Laguardia '92 was involved in education and NGO work overseas when he was called off the IRR (Individual Ready Reserve) after being out of active service for five years. He is currently working Convoy Security (his tour ends in May 2007) and is looking forward to getting back to what he enjoys most, working with inner-city kids and Third World countries. Brian can be reached via email: laguardiab@hotmail.com.

Alejandro Alves '01 graduated from West Point in May 2005, and was deployed to Iraq in February 2006. At the age of 23, he is leading a Cavalry Scout platoon of 34 soldiers, some as young as 19. He writes: "The missions we are doing vary greatly, from raiding houses to taking prisoners, to meeting with government officials, to visiting schools to give out supplies to the children. I knew that we'd be covering a broad spectrum of activities so I suppose I tried to prepare myself mentally for all of them. We don't think much about the dangers involved because that would simply be too distracting. In truth, I don't feel too threatened most of the time. I just focus on the task at hand. The local government here needs a lot of guidance from us, and help in providing security for the citizens, so that is our current focus."

George Gatling '84 traveled to Baghdad in October 2004, as part of the Battle Command Training Program (BCTP), while he was stationed at Fort Leavenworth. He was sent to talk to soldiers and units that had received training prior to going to Iraq to determine if the training they received was adequate. Gatling is currently at Ft. Dix in New Jersey.

1940s

Alice MOVITZ Warwick '47 writes with the sad news that her husband, Norman, passed away on May 1, 2005. • **Dr. Nanette KASS Wenger '47**, a professor of medicine (cardiology) at the Emory University School of Medicine, and Chief of Grady Memorial Hospital in Atlanta, GA, was included among the more than 330 women physicians honored in the National Library of Medicine exhibit, "Changing the Face of American Medicine." The exhibit recently traveled to the Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta, GA. Wenger currently serves as Chair of the Board of Directors for the Society for Women's Health Research and has been honored by Emory University with the Emory Williams Distinguished Teaching Award and the Evangeline Papageorge Alumni Teaching Award. This year, the Distinguished Service Award to be conferred on faculty by the Department of Medicine has been named the Wenger Distinguished Service Award. • **Bernice (Bunny) WORMAN Hauser '49** wrote a nursery/primary article entitled "Clothing On & Off"—a science curriculum for young children published in the Winter/Spring 2006 issue of *Teachers' Clearing House for Science and Society Education*. She also conducted an adoption workshop in March for the Association of Teachers of Independent Schools. • **Helga REISS Justman, Jan. '49** was recently married to Jack Miklos, a retired American diplomat. She continues her private psychotherapy practice in SF (www.helgajustmanpsychotherapy.com). Also, she has been enjoying developing her business in jewelry design, utilizing pearls and semi-precious stones (www.helgajustmanjewelry.com).

1950s

Alice TERNLUND Bennett, Jan. '50 recently retired after working for 50 years

as an RN. Most of her career was spent as an assistant professor at baccalaureate programs in CT. She is also a member of Sigma Tau, the nursing honor society, and has been active in the American Association of Nurses, AAUW, and the League of Women Voters; she was a past president of District 3 of the Connecticut Nursing Association. • **Raquel Strauss '57** is the proud grandmother of 6-year-olds Natalie and Sophia and nearly-one-year-old Zoe. Raquel is the Director of the Bilingual Speech and Language Center at North Carolina Central University. She would love to hear from old friends. • **Virginia BIRKENMAYER Svane '54** writes from her home in Pouzols, France, that her son, Erik Svane, recently published a book entitled, *La Bannière Étalée* (*The Outspread Flag*). It details how anti-Americanism has influenced French politics and the French press for the past 60 years. An English-language version is in the works and should be available soon from Amazon.com.

1960s

Susan LEVINE Fuhrman '61 was recently named the new president of Teachers College at Columbia University. She was previously dean of the School of Education at the University of Pennsylvania. • **Pat BERNSTEIN Weiner '62** and her husband, Stephen, are both retired and have recently moved full-time to their home in Jaffrey, NH. This is the realization of 30 years of planning and they love it. Pat retired from a management position with the Social Security Administration in 2000. Their daughter, Samara, is a trained chef in NJ and their younger daughter, Toby, just graduated from college and is planning to relocate to San Diego to pursue a writing career or legal career (or both). Pat would love to hear from classmates, especially those in New England, via email to wpat18@msn.com; she also wonders if



anyone knows of the whereabouts of Phyllis Gladstein? • **Elizabeth BACHARACH Lipman '63** submits the following item: "A group of Hunter '63 graduates who live near (or not so near) New York City have been gathering for annual get-togethers for a few years now. This year we realized all six of us have daughters, and so we decided to have a mother/daughter luncheon. Our group consists of **Carol CUTLER Aaronson**, **Sue PINCUS Burk**, **Evelyn SCHWARTZ Erenrich**, **Beth BOEHM Kava**, **Laurel WEINBERGER Steinherz**, and myself (group pictured above). We met at the Great American Health Bar, and later spent some time in Central Park. Our daughters, most of whom are in their early 30s, include a pediatrician (who is married and has three children), a lawyer who specializes in trusts and estates, and an assistant editor who writes for *Popular Science*. All of them are bright and accomplished young women who are also good people (clearly a completely unbiased view). Although our daughters had never met before, they all enjoyed each other's company. We mothers enjoyed talking amongst ourselves, and took pleasure in seeing the adults our children have become." • **Madeline FOREITER Alpert '65** has just started a new career as a life coach, working primarily with Americans retiring abroad. She and her husband, Ron, are planning their own move to Nicaragua this summer. Madeline also informs us that her fifth grandchild was born in April. •

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Sara ROBBINS Schoenwetter '65

writes that her daughter, Shaina Doherty (Brooklyn Tech '01) graduated in May from Stevens Institute of Technology with a Bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering and was accepted into the New York City Teaching Fellows program to teach math in a New York City public school this fall. Her son, Glenn Doherty, graduated in June from the Bronx High School of Science and will be attending Rochester Institute of Technology in the Biomedical Photography program. •

Heather Kaney '66, who lives in Berkeley, met up with **Anita STOLLER Cocomello '66**, who lives in Florida, when Anita was visiting her son, Matt Lessinger, in the San Francisco Bay Area. Anita is a proud mother—Matt has just come out with his first book, *The Book of Bluffs: How to Bluff and Win at Poker* (Warner Books). They both were very excited about their upcoming 40th reunion in October and promised they would be in attendance, representing the “girls who rode the Woodlawn-Jerome from the Bronx.” • In between teaching at CSUSM and SDSU, **Dr. Jacki DAVIS Leak '66**, has been honored to play a small part in a great endeavor, the opening of San Diego's community-grounded, African-centered K–6 charter school, The Fanno Academy (Fanno means guiding light in Amharic, one of the languages of Ethiopia). The school opened its doors to its first “guiding lights” in the Fall of 2005. • **Gail LEINKRAM Folloder '69** and husband Mark would like to announce a hat trick of happiness. Their son, Harry, married Ms. Jordan Gold on June 3, 2006; son Daniel has graduated from the University of Texas (Austin) with honors from the Business School; and son Andrew has graduated from Westside HS and is headed to University of Texas in Dallas. Gail has also co-chaired Victory's Children's Party, a division of the American Cancer Society. Next year

she will co-chair physical arrangements for the Cattlebarons Ball.

1970s

Lisa Braiterman '74, a school business administrator with School Administrative Unit 34, has been named to the 2007 class of Leadership New Hampshire. Leadership New Hampshire exists to increase civic engagement and strengthen communities through connecting and educating a diverse pool of engaged or emerging leaders about the state of New Hampshire. Through this uniquely interactive, nonpartisan, educational experience, Leadership New Hampshire Associates explore the issues and challenges critical to the state of New Hampshire. This year-long program allows Associates to interact with top state officials, judges, educators, prison inmates, students, artists, corporate leaders and others who receive, deliver or make decisions and policy that affect services. Lisa has also been named to the Executive Committee of the NH Association of School Business Administrators. She received the ASBO International/MetLife Bridges to the Future Award for promising school business leaders in 2005. • **Katharine Schmidt '79** gave birth to her third child, Michael Alexander, in March. Katharine (known as Kathi back at HCHS) and her husband have two older boys, Nicolas and Jacob, who do a great job of entertaining the little guy. Katharine lives on the outskirts of Stuttgart, Germany, where she has been working as a freelance journalist for more than 10 years, writing about everything from the automobile industry to the pope. Last year she made the sports pages in *USA Today* with a couple of features about American football players in the NFL Europe League. For the past year and a half, Katharine has also been writing a language column for an ex-pat magazine. She recently got together in Frankfurt

with **Donna MORGAN Hastings '79**, and would be happy to hear from other alums in Europe.

1980s

Melissa STARLIGHT Metz '82 recently became the Manager for Unix and Email Systems for Columbia University Information Technology, following a department merge, a new Vice President, and a reorganization. Almost simultaneously, her husband's company was acquired by IBM. Their daughter, Jenny, continues to enjoy attending The School at Columbia, having just completed the 3rd grade. • **Carrie COSTELLO Yang '82** writes that within the space of three weeks she celebrated a bat mitzvah, had a hysterectomy, and received tenure. Her daughter, Nina, was kind enough to share her bat mitzvah with Carrie and the joint ceremony was a very satisfying occasion. Carrie's spouse, Pekka, said to her on the morning of the event, “Today you are a woman, and five days from now you'll be an old lady.” The hysterectomy did follow closely on the heels of the celebration, and was successful if not enjoyable. Tenure followed soon thereafter, and she is now officially mature on the spiritual, physical and career levels. • **Carrie NOBEL Kline '84** is a folklorist based in West Virginia, and with her partner Michael Kline, she works in several states to chronicle and celebrate regional culture. Together they have produced 12 audio CDs of spoken history and music, told and performed by locals. Carrie and Michael have also released a CD, *Eyes of a Painter*, featuring their own music—ranging from a song collected in WV which dates back to the 8th century, to songs of resistance in the coalfields, to music of the great outdoors. Carrie has produced a staged reading, *Revelations*, which tours periodically and gives voice to Appalachian resiliency through the words of gay, lesbian, bisexual and trans-

gendered West Virginians. Carrie's website is: www.folktalk.org. Carrie and Michael recently visited **Ada TURRUELAS Downing '84** and her husband, Jack, and daughters Julia and Isabel. They all look great and are doing good work in the Annapolis area. Ada teaches Spanish to Baltimore transit workers and she and Jack, who speaks many languages, are instrumental in creating an infrastructure to embrace the burgeoning Latino population. • **Noel Rabinowitz '87** was married to Ilana Kohn on February 20, 2005, and their son, Jonah, was born March 12, 2006 (wedding photos at www.ilananoel.net). Noel and Ilana recently moved from NYC to San Francisco and will be moving to Sacramento to live near his brother **Jason Rabinowitz '85**. Noel has worked for a decade for the Communist Party, USA in communications and organizing and he's also a freelance consultant in IT management, web design, video engineering and production. Ilana is an attorney practicing in class action securities fraud.

1990s

Lots of news from the Class of '90 as compiled by **Nina HABIB Spencer**: "It was great to hear from **Jon Lyness**, who got married to Elena Finoedova on May 2, 2005. They live in Astoria, where Jon is discovering that NYC apartments can have more than one room. He's a graphic designer at SJI Associates, Inc. It's pretty interesting...check it out. **Emily Klein** just finished her first year as an Assistant Professor at Montclair State University at the School of Education, while both **Maya Gottfried** and **Thisbe Nissen** have essays in an anthology titled *Half/Life*, edited by Laurel Snyder. The company founded by **Alejandro Crawford** just got its new website up and running: www.nolej.net. **Michele ROONEY Harriman** and her husband, Mark, are ecstatic to announce the birth of their daughter, Kaia Swain Harriman, on

November 2, 2005. She is now a happy, healthy and incredibly smiley 8-month-old who already has a stamp on her passport after visiting relatives in Japan this month. Kaia is a wonderful travel companion and Michele hopes to continue to take her on adventures all around the world. **Naomi BERNER Derner** is expecting her second child with hubby Ethan in November. She plans to take a break from corporate life to become a full-time mom for a few years after this baby comes (whew! so it's not only me!). Their daughter Veronica is now 17 months old. **Abigail Hornstein** and her husband, Seth Bittker, welcomed their son Zachariah on May 21, and **Kinsey Dinan** and her husband, Bobby Pineiro, had a baby girl in April, Evelyn Ana Pineiro. **David Neiderman's** second child, a son, is due July 28. **Josh Spirn** and **Camilo Ortiz** are both daddies now: Josh and his wife had their first child—a boy, Matsen—at the end of May. They're doing well and living in the Boston area. Camilo and his wife, Betty, welcomed Gabriel Will Ortiz on June 10. For something completely different, **Ayan Owens** backpacked across Europe in June and July to see the World Cup in Germany. He wrote a blog about it at www.drinkingacrosseurope.com. My buddy **Chen-Li (Anthony) Sung** is still an Army doctor in Honolulu, doing surgery. He's about to begin a year in research working on a novel technique to control arterial hemorrhage, and may be able to attend Airborne and Air Assault school next year. **Lori Hoepner** was happy to report that her son (with dad **Jeb Harben**), Aiden, got to know **Keisha Sutton James'** daughter, Nola, after the moms ran into each other in the elevator at Fairway. "Nola is so pretty and has a huge smile and wanted to give Aidan a hug!" Lori writes. The babies are only three months apart in age. Lori is sorry to report that her fantastic pediatrician, none other than **Dawn Li**, is going to be

leaving her practice in NYC to move to Chicago with her fiancé. **Greg Goldstein** has recently started consulting at American Express on their advertising and media contracts in addition to keeping his law firm going, and **Stephen Nachamie's** theater productions can be seen regionally across America this summer—*Chicago* in Sharon, CT, *The Full Monty* at Maine State Music Theatre and *Urinetown* at Barnstormers, NH. Ironman **Joe Lazauskas** participated in the annual 26-mile marathon/march at White Sands missile range in New Mexico to commemorate the American and Filipino soldiers killed during the Bataan Death march of World War II. It took a grueling eight hours to complete. **Mark Kondraki's** business is doing well: in June he completed a huge project for McGraw-Hill including songs and music for kids, books on tapes, and audio for educational video games. He also had the opportunity to re-master six hours of original John Lennon interviews for *Rolling Stone*, and scored the animated short film *The Meatrix2* which can be viewed online at www.themeatrix2.com. Finally, **Melinda Lopez** would welcome the warm thoughts and prayers of everyone in our class for her second child, Joseph, who was born in December with a life-threatening heart defect. Little Joseph has already had two open heart surgeries, one at four days old and one at five months at Boston Children's Hospital, but surgeries are not a cure. He will need at least one more surgery before he's three. This has been an understandably difficult time for Melinda and her husband. Visit Joseph's care page at www.carepages.com under JosephEdwinLopezTavares to send your well wishes." • **Leila Gerstein '90** writes that she just started her second season writing for the Fox television show, *The O.C.* She adds that it's fun, but she misses working with **Adam Horowitz '90** with whom she wrote *Life as We Know It*,

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which aired on ABC in 2004. Leila adds that she's getting married in August. •

Marc Borbely '91 has filed as a candidate for the D.C. Board of Education, a nine-member nonpartisan body overseeing Washington's 60,000-student public school system. The election will be held on November 7. He'd be grateful for any help to his campaign, including feedback on his website, MarcForSchoolBoard.org. Marc taught Biology, French and DC History in the Oakland and DC public schools, for a total of about 5 years. He is currently on leave from law school at the UDC David A. Clarke School of Law.

He and his wife, Tammi, are planning to have children soon. • **Garnet Seraile '92** got married in Christ Church, Barbados on May 5 to Dane McKenzie. They spent a month in Barbados on their honeymoon and then a week in Italy exploring Rome, Florence, Venice, Pisa, Pompeii and Naples. • **Macauley Peterson '97** will be moving to Amsterdam, The Netherlands, in August, to pursue a Masters degree in Film Studies at the Universiteit van Amsterdam. He can be reached at www.MacauleyPeterson.com.

2000s

Jake Itzkowitz '04 is a student at McGill University in Honours Political Science; he is also the undergraduate student representative on the McGill University Board of Governors and a Senator. He is currently a New York State Democratic County Committeeman and Campaign Manager for Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney, who represents Manhattan's East Side and part of Queens.

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

HCHS ALUMS ON JEOPARDY!

Rich Vehlow '87 was a contestant on an episode of *Jeopardy!* which aired in NYC on June 2. He writes: "Appearing on Jeopardy was a fun way to put what I've learned in life to the ultimate test. Many of the academic answers I got on my show, from Sun Yat Sen to Goethe, I can attribute to what I learned at Hunter almost 20 years ago. Unfortunately, two very worthy opponents, one with lightning reflexes, proved to be quite the challenge, and I was only able to muster second place. It was great to hear recently that two other alums were on, and on a show that was broadcast the week before my tapings. There have got to be more Hunterites out there who are alums of *Jeopardy!* and the like! I dare say that most alums have the potential to be formidable competitors on the show. Go for it!" Coincidentally, the AA office also received the following email from Louise DODENHOFF Hauser '70: "I was a contestant on an episode of *Jeopardy!* which aired March 24, 2006, and one of the other two contestants on that show was also an HCHS alum, Lars Jacobsen '86! Alex Trebek even commented on the coincidence at the opening of the show. Unfortunately, neither of us wound up as the champ."

ELVIRA HAND DOMAN '51 INDUCTED TO HUNTER COLLEGE HALL OF FAME

Dr. Elvira HAND Doman '51 (Hunter College '55) was inducted into the Hunter Hall of Fame this past spring by the Alumni Association of Hunter College. Dr. Doman is retired from the National Science Foundation (NSF). After graduating from Hunter College with honors, she earned advanced degrees from Columbia University, New York University, and Rutgers; she was awarded postdoctoral fellowships from Sloan-Kettering Institute for Cancer Research and the Population Council at Rockefeller University. Her teaching appointments were at Douglass College of Rutgers University and Seton Hall University, where she was chief pre-medical adviser. She has served community churches and schools as a role model, guest speaker, board member, and science fair judge; she also served as president of the D.C. Metropolitan Organization of Black Scientists and is currently vice president as well as co-editor of their monthly newsletter.



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. Order today—online at www.hchsaa.org or use the form on the back page! Shipping and sales tax (if applicable) are already included in the price.

In Memoriam

Correction: With regard to the passing of **Esther RICH Mandel '40**, which was published in the last issue of *AlumNotes*, it should be noted that Esther is also survived by her sister, **Elsa RICH Schatzberg '48**.

Helen F. KLINDT Rubenstein '24 passed away on December 12, 2005. Her niece writes that at the age of 98 years young, she died in her sleep with a smile on her lips. She is buried next to her husband, Nat, in Fairlong Cemetery, NY. She often spoke of her happy years attending Hunter College High School.

Estelle PEARLMAN Thaler Yourke, Jan. '42 died on December 24, 2005, in Boynton Beach, FL. She earned a BA in Physical Education from Hunter College. Her great loves were motherhood, reading, tennis, and bridge, in which she was a Silver Grandmaster and which she taught extensively. She is survived by her husband Hannon Yourke, two children, and five grandchildren. Her friend, Jean Binnie, Jan. '42, writes that Estelle was proud to be a graduate of Hunter College High School.

Selma KRANE Stargot, Jan. '44 passed away suddenly on January 8, 2006. She was a devoted wife to Jerry, and a devoted mother and grandmother. She will be sorely missed by her many friends, including classmate Norma BERCOVSKY Horowitz.

Helen MISSIRES Lorenz '46 has passed away. She was the Chair of the Language Department at The Hockaday School in Dallas, Texas. The North Texas Chapter of the American Association of Teachers of French (AATF) established a teaching excellence award in her honor which was first awarded in October 2005.

Babette PILZER Fulton '50 died in January 2006, from ovarian cancer. She was born in Austria and with the rise of Nazism, fled with her family to Italy and then NYC. She earned a BS in Physics from Radcliffe College, then taught math, including as a faculty member at the University of MD, from which she retired in 1983. She was an avid downhill and cross-country skier and enjoyed other outdoor activities; she climbed the Matterhorn when she was in her 30s. Upon her death, she donated her body to the state Anatomy Board and did not want a funeral or memorial service. She is survived by her husband of nearly 54 years, Thomas Fulton, two daughters and four grandchildren.

Leslie Bloom '60 died on May 26, 2006, six days after being struck by a stray bullet in the Inwood section of Manhattan. The bullet was fired during a dispute among a half-dozen men outside a barbershop; the killer has not been caught. Bloom worked at the city's Administration for Children's Services, adored the New York Mets baseball

team, treasured books, loved music and had a passion for bird-watching. Her sister, Deborah Bloom, is also an HCHS graduate, from the class of '66.

Dr. Benny Lee '82 died on July 11 after a long battle with pulmonary fibrosis and lung cancer. A son of Chinese immigrants, Lee grew up on the Lower East Side, where his parents worked in garment sweatshops. He earned a bachelor's degree from the Sophie B. Davis School of Biomedical Education at City College and a medical degree from SUNY Buffalo. He and his wife, Cynthia Wong, did their residencies at Long Island Jewish Medical Center and subsequently joined the Staten Island Medical Group at its Annadale Center. His ill health forced him to retire in 1996. Lee was described by his wife as a "strong believer in individual rights and tolerance." He was a member of the Unitarian Church of Staten Island, a Yankee fan, and enjoyed science fiction and comedy. In addition to his wife, he is survived by a son, a daughter, and two brothers.

The Alumnae/i Association also has been advised of the passing of the following individuals:

Florence WILSON Londin '26,
Edith LIEBERMAN Korn '34,
Sylvia ALVES Barton '38,
Lucille HEINRICH Dansky, Jan. '41,
Jane RIES Pitt '56, and
Pat SCANARELLI Mathews '64

ALUM EVENTS ROUNDUP

RECEPTION AT MACKLOWE GALLERY



More than 50 alums attended a reception on April 4, graciously hosted by Ben Macklowe '88 at his gallery on Madison Avenue. The evening was devoted to mixing

and mingling and to hearing about the beginning of the Our Foundation, Our Legacy Campaign. Attendees heard from HCHSAA representatives Tai Wong '88 and Matt Blumenfeld '83, Hunter College president Jennifer Raab '73, and Hunter College Foundation trustee Tracey GREENE Riese '74. The Macklowe Gallery, which showcases Tiffany lamps, estate jewelry, and Americana art, including vases, statues, and furniture, was a wonderful venue for the evening's gathering. Thanks so much to Ben and his wife, Hillary (*both pictured above, with Bobby Lopez '93*), and the Macklowe family for their generosity in sharing the gallery with us.

YOUNG ALUMS (CLASSES OF '90-'02)



When heavy rains and subway outages limited attendance at the June 2 Young Alums Happy Hour, a rain check was issued by Mike Stevens '98 (*pictured at right, with Young Alums coordinator Errol Bakal '99*), co-owner of Local East on 2nd

Avenue and 53rd Street, for everyone to come on back on July 13. That second event attracted 50+ and a great time was had by all. The group plans to hold another event in the fall. If you're not on the email list for this group, email Marge Kolb at hchsalums@yahoo.com and she'll be happy to add you.

NEW! SOCIAL/NETWORKING GROUP (CLASSES OF '80-'93):

This group held its first-ever event on June 15 at Punch (Broadway btw. 20–21st Streets). This group of so-called “older young alums” enjoyed meeting with fellow Hunterites from a range of classes and having the opportunity to talk (and talk and talk) about careers, kids, politics, and of course, Hunter. The group was a great mix of men and women, marrieds and singles—the best turnout was from the class of '88, but there were several members of nearly every class in attendance.

HCHSAA Office Manager Marge Kolb, not officially a member of this group since she graduated in '78, nevertheless “snuck in” to act as co-host with Kari Chin Chachkes '87 and thought it was a great addition to her (heretofore non-existent) social calendar. To receive information on future events, please email Marge at hchsalums@yahoo.com to be added to the email distribution list.

SURPRISE PARTY FOR COACH RANDOLPH

David Davidson '98 organized a party on June 24, at Bohemian Hall and Beer Garden in Astoria, Queens, for HCHS Science Department faculty member Asumana Randolph to celebrate his 50th birthday. Although this wasn't an “official” AA event, our office was happy to help send out the e-invitations to the classes of 1995–2005. David writes: “Mr. Randolph, affectionately known as ‘Coach’ to many of his students, was something of a patron saint and mentor to our class, so we thought it only fitting to gather as many Hunterites as possible in his honor. The party was a huge success, bringing together over a hundred alums as well as several teachers. Mark your calendars for next year, when we'll have the second installment of Coach's 50th birthday party on June 23, 2007, at 8 p.m. in the Beer Garden. Anyone interested in helping me spread the word or do some planning should contact me at: david.davidson@aya.yale.edu.”

MARK YOUR CALENDARS! HCHSAA AUTUMN RECEPTION AT THE HIGH SCHOOL

HCHSAA's annual reception for alums and friends will be on **Wednesday, November 1**, from **6:00–8:30 p.m.** in the **High School Library** (94th Street and Park Avenue).

If you haven't yet attended one of these (free!) informal get-togethers for alums of all ages, please mark the date on your calendar now so you don't miss this one. (Invitations will be sent via mail and email to alums living in the tri-state area.)

2007 MILESTONE CLASS REUNION COORDINATORS

1957: Vicky SILVER Hiller, 212-772-0909, Vihiller@aol.com
Rosalind PERLOW Kaplan, 212-535-2723

1982: Steven Nussbaum, xsir@aol.com
Sara Corello, scorello@pobox.com; (h) 212-982-7867, (w) 212-765-2100
Ronit Setton, Katherine Frink-Hamlett, and Jill COHEN Steinberg

1987: Send your contact information to Derek Chu at: derek_chu@hotmail.com or call 908-872-1894. The class is looking for one or more Reunion Coordinators to help plan reunion events. Contact Derek or join the class's egroup: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/hchs87/>.

1997: Maryanne BUTLER Nelson, mbnelson99@yahoo.com
Tony Benetatos, tony_is_tony@hotmail.com
Easter Wood, easterzee@yahoo.com
Liz Bernstein, Elizabeth.bernstein@world.oberlin.edu
egroup: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/karatesquid/>

SPECIAL NOTICE TO CLASS OF '73 ('74 ICY) RE: 50TH BIRTHDAY PARTY PLANNING GROUP

This message is for the class that started at Hunter in 1968 and graduated in 1973 or 1974: As we muddle through this big birthday year and contemplate the meaning of the big 5-0, we thought that no one would get it quite like our Hunter friends. So, a few of us are planning a dinner and communal birthday bash on October 21 somewhere in New York City (place to be determined) to celebrate each other. This will be a great opportunity to reconnect for many of us and we hope that you can join us. Please pass the word to your Hunter friends. If you are interested in getting involved in planning this event or simply attending, please email Nancy Lashine at nancy@lashine.net or Shelley Gunner at Rmg7109@aol.com.

AlumnaGrams

Linda WEISS Spiegler '59 invites alums to spend a week or longer in a Tuscan house on the Italian Riviera. For photos and rates, email Linda at: Linda@portfoliotravel.com.

DO YOU HAVE A MESSAGE TO SEND? Send your 135-character AlumnaGram to thousands of 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, day-time 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!

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 Dobbryn '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
testsmt@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

Social/Networking (classes of '80-'93)
Kari CHIN Chachkes '87, kchachkes@ctnet.com
Marge Kolb '78, hchsalsums@yahoo.com

Young Alums (classes of '90-'03)
Errol Bakal '99, theerrol@hotmail.com
Kari CHIN Chachkes '87, kchachkes@ctnet.com

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

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

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☐ Class of '06 FREE
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