

AADC

CLASS NOTES FOR ALUMNAE & Friends

EXPERIENCE THE IMPACT OF OUR AADC COMMUNITY



Spring 2024 AADC Class Notes

Enjoy Class Notes which were submitted to the Associate Alumnae of Douglass College by Class Secretaries by our December deadline. The AADC relies on class secretaries for the accuracy of the information. We reserve the right to edit Class Notes. Deadlines are December 15 and June 30 each year for our digital publication.

'42
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We are grateful to **Victoria Dabrowski Schmidt**, the benefactor of the annual AADC Victoria Dabrowski Schmidt Workplace and Professional Development Symposium. Her generosity has impacted countless alumnae. The ninth annual symposium will be held in person on September 28.

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The Class of 1944 will mark its 80th milestone reunion at AADC Alumnae Reunion Weekend 2024, celebrated on campus on June 7-8.

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The Class of 1949 will mark its 75th milestone reunion at AADC Alumnae Reunion Weekend 2024, on June 7-8.

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The AADC reports the passing of **Marguerite Teresa Henderson** on November 12, 2023. She earned a degree in journalism at the top of her class at NJC.

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We will celebrate our 70th milestone reunion at AADC Alumnae Reunion Weekend 2024, June 7-8, on campus.

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Hi, All! And here we are in 2024! As I'm writing this mid-January, the excitement of New Year's Eve still lingers, as the crowds thronged to Times Square to watch the Waterford crystal ball erase the last of the old year on its descent to the new. Some television channels featured the celebrations of the arrival of 2024 in different time zones around the world, reminding us of our part in a global community. In our small town, midnight was marked by only a few firecrackers, indicating no doubt that residents were safely inside watching the televised celebrations or, more likely, had already gone to bed, choosing to sleep through the annual transition.

I like my grandfather's approach. At the stroke of midnight, he used to open wide the front door and in a strong, clear voice say, "We welcome you, new year." To me that always implied an open optimism that showed he was ready to cope with whatever those next twelve months would hold ... the good days, the down days. His readiness to accept the unknown that lay ahead is an approach that appeals to me as a 1957 class member, for each day offers

a new “adventure” and making long range plans becomes trickier. When I last wrote to you, I stressed the importance of keeping in touch with classmates.

I took my own advice and called **Inez Phillips Durham** (our class president) and had a lovely visit. Nezi and her daughter Jennifer had recently spent some time in St. Kitts where they ignored many of the usual social engagements and instead totally relaxed -- - resting, eating, sleeping, and reading (three books was Nezi's count!). I also had a happy telephone visit with **Marjorie Headley Steinberg**. Marge is well and happy and counting the days until she can return to her gardening. She enjoys afternoons and evenings with friends at local restaurants and cinemas; her latest movie was “Oppenheimer”, which she enjoyed. Marge followed our phone conversation with a delightful email in which she recalled some of our experiences together as freshmen in Gibbons L and “gracious dining” lessons in Cooper. Shared memories are the best!

I also received a thoughtful email from Kim Bechler, daughter of our deceased classmate **Barbara Oberman Bechler**. Driving up from Virginia, Kim had attended our 65th Reunion Weekend as a tribute to her mother. We visited at the Friday Luncheon, and Kim stayed on to view the Memorabilia Collection and attended Convocation. Her interest in Douglass reveals not only her devotion to her mother

but also the power of the stories **Barbara** told her daughter about her years at Douglass and the impact they had on her life. Are there some stories you can share with a family member? ... a friend? ... a classmate? As I said earlier, shared memories are the best!

'58

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In November I attended the semi-annual Alumnae Council meeting virtually along with **Ellie vom Eigen Winslow** and **Sherry Weissberg Spieziele**. The meeting highlighted the very positive results of the 100th anniversary celebrations over the past two years, our successful fund-raising initiatives, the new and improved AADC website and the improved relationship with Rutgers University, now that the “The Agreement” has ended. Sherry, who is our Council Representative, has submitted her notes on the meeting which we will be happy to pass along to anyone interested. Just send either of us an email to request. I believe it is important to pass along the following from those notes: *“Douglas Residential College (DC) is not a degree-granting institution; Rutgers University grants the degrees. DRC is an opportunity for women within Rutgers University to participate in special women-centered -programs. AADC offers us opportunities for continued*

learning, a hallmark of Douglass women.”

The following messages from members of the Great Class of 1958 convey the ideas that although we are all in our senior years, we remain active, involved, thoughtful and intellectual members of society. During these very difficult times, I hope you all feel as I do, that the friendships and memories from times gone by, are comforting and rewarding. Enjoy the following messages from our classmates and consider a contribution to the column next time around. I look forward to hearing from more of you.

As always, I it was great to hear from **Judy Appel Werner**. She sends us all a very provocative message, so please read through to the end of her note. “It was a disappointment not to have our summer soiree, but all things usually work out for the best. I do my usual sub work in Monmouth and Ocean counties, but am thinking hard to really “retire” for good in the New Year. I'm uncomfortable driving at night and getting weary of the stress and pressure of responsibility. It has been a catharsis for me to get more involved in volunteer work, at my church, for Lunch Break and Habcore. There is great need out there and if anyone needs an uplift, volunteer somewhere. It brings one great comfort and feelings of being needed. May 2024 bring to each of our Douglass women good health, safety and some modicum of sanity in this screwed up world of ours. May God

richly bless each one of you!”

Ellie vom Eigen Winslow sends along this uplifting account of her involvement in her retirement community in Pennsylvania. “I continue to be co-chair of a very active Concerts Committee at Pennswood Village. There are many details involved in bringing soloists or chamber ensembles from a rich Philadelphia classical music community to Newtown. We have a file of fine artists who enjoy coming here. We also have contact with several renowned violin teachers at the Curtis Institute and arrange performances for several of their students. Pennswood Chorale, the SATB choral group which I was helping organize last year, is now about to present its second Holiday concert. The group has grown to 18, including several good men. But it's still a challenge to motivate members to learn their music. One aspect of committee participation in this CCRC is that all residents must be welcome, and it's not proper to ask someone to leave. Good trips on the Pennswood bus to Princeton and Philadelphia concerts are again available. I regretted not being physically able to attend our 65th Reunion in June, but several of you did make it, and Zoom came to the rescue. Ellen and I thank Lorrie Delaney at the AADC for all the good work she did to make our 65th Reunion possible and successful.”

As for me, **Ellen Miller Samuel**, I am reporting that all is well with my family. I submit that all four of my

grandchildren have completed their formal collegiate training and are moving along with their careers. One is a photographer and entrepreneur, one an electrical engineer who has been married almost two years, one a software engineer and one a portrait artist. My husband also has four grands, one a supply chain management specialist for a major airline, one finishing her senior year at Rutgers School of Nursing, one a sophomore at Brandeis and one a high school sophomore. All four of our children (he has two boys and I have two girls) and their spouses have successful careers and we are understandably very proud of them all. Although our travel has been somewhat curtailed since Covid, we remain active in our New Jersey community and enjoyed hosting friends and family this past summer at our home on the beautiful Jersey Shore. My involvement with our class as your Co-President and Secretary has been rewarding and a little challenging, as I wish more of you would be in touch.

Susan Koszeghy Naef is obviously keeping busy, although finding this stage of our lives a bit challenging. She sent the following message. "Alas, there is not much to report from here. I wonder if most of our classmates are doing anything interesting at our age. Today is St. Nicholas eve. It is much celebrated in Europe. Lately I attended a wonderful funeral for a dear friend and today I visited another one in the hospital.

Soon it will be my 88th birthday. I still swim three times a week in the Colgate University pool, attend lectures and concerts, I belong to a book group and manage my household tasks. Sadly our grandchildren are in Alabama, Indiana and Massachusetts. We have four great grandsons, three we have only met on Facebook. Greetings to all and merry Christmas and happy new year!"

As always, it was great to hear from **Mary Alice Bisbee**. She wrote the following: "Montpelier was flooded this summer, so we have been having a rather trying time attempting to get back to normal! Climate change is showing its ugly face. My church, the Unitarian Church of Montpelier, was flooded way above the first floor, with lots of mold. Everything in the basement was totally under water, the kitchen was lost as well as the elevator that I use to get up to the sanctuary, so I can no longer sing with the choir. Luckily, where I live, was not affected at all. It is a real drain on all our pocketbooks. My granddaughter was married earlier this year and I now learn that my first great-grandchild should be born in Florida, in March, a boy. Just one more blessing at this special time of year! Happy Holidays!"

It was a wonderful surprise to hear from **Jacqueline Joan Horowitz Stapleton** who communicates to us, all the way from Israel. She writes the following: "I haven't written often in our

newsletter. However, this year I feel compelled to do so. My life in Israel has been a full and rich one. My husband died 2 1/2 years ago but I have found the strength to keep my retired life robust and meaningful. I still paint in oils and have a house full of my paintings. Just last year I began playing the piano again. My volunteer work in the Israel museum continues to be rewarding. And although October 7 changed all our lives in Israel, we still keep going through the thick and thin, through the horrific death toll and ongoing hostage situation. Everyone is helping on a huge scale. We feed the soldiers, pick the crops where there are no workers, help to take care of the trauma-ridden refugees from the south Gaza Envelope where kibbutzim and moshavim were destroyed and unspeakable horrors took place. I have lived in Israel for 53 years, raised my family here and I'm not going anywhere. This is my home and I'm proud to be here. I still remember my days at Douglass. They were good times. Love to all." I'm sure you all join me in acknowledging Jacki's informative words and sending our encouragement to all in this war-challenged country.

Lisanne Armstrong James, who lives in Kennebunkport, Maine, sent the following message. "Well, aren't we all about 87 years old? And using that phrase, it's time? So I have decided to shorten my hours at our Town Library. Twenty-six years of doing many kinds of work in a

library is now down to one day. Many people have discovered Maine (post Covid) as 'the place to be.' Now that digital has taken over much of the PR work, the amount of print work has declined. But my love of creating and producing cards at home has increased. So I am not retired at all. Our small family lives nearby and we have a new great-grandson. Life is very OK in this wonderful old historical town."

So happy to hear from my roommate **Bobbi Myers Kramer**. She writes: "Life is good (best when my joints are kind to me)! My daughter Lisa has just published another book titled "Re-creating The World " by Dr. Lisa A. Kramer. Her daughter Sarah is in her Junior year at Bennington College in Vermont and will be doing her second semester in Japan with hopes to travel a little before returning to the US for her senior year at Bennington. That's it for now. Happy holidays to all!"

Vaira Pilekis Christopher sends the following: "When I retired many years ago, I became a big traveller, several times a year overseas. But since Covid I have been tied to home, mainly because of the back pain from progressing scoliosis and poor balance. However, this May I received a spinal injection of cortisone because I wanted to attend the college graduation of my first grandson in Los Angeles. And I did! It was wonderful. Unfortunately the pain returned after two months....At home

I still participate in Latvian book clubs, some of which I organize with help from a friend in Riga, Latvia. I still try to do little bit in the garden (although the weeds grow too quickly), try to clean our house myself (again, the spiders and dust and dirt are winning) but in the kitchen I am still the winner. I cook a big dinner every day a for my 91- year-old husband and a couple times a month for my grandsons! Our daughter lives in the house next to ours and she is really very helpful in giving me a hand and often sending over her goodies. I wish you all happy holidays! and health and happiness in the New Year."

'59

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Get ready to celebrate the 65th Reunion of our class at Reunion 2024! (Friday, June 7 and Saturday, June 8) Join our class officers **Lois Rabinowitz Steinberg, Lillian Zeisel Cohen, Alice Firgau,** and other classmates at this very special occasion!

Our class has a special distinction at Douglass College: we were the FIRST class to attend and graduate from the newly named Douglass College, which had been known as NJC, the New Jersey College for Women until May 1955, when the name was changed to honor Dean Mabel Smith Douglass. So while the Class of 1955, which graduated in May 1955, was the first class to

graduate from the newly named Douglass College, our class was the first class to attend from September 1955 to June 1959 and graduate from the newly named College!

Here is some news from **Ellen Sue Knopf**. "Google says: Meaning of New Year's resolution in English, a promise that you make to yourself to start doing something good or stop doing something bad on the first day of the year.

While I don't believe in New Year's Resolutions, per se, I do believe in goals for the New Year, since, for me, there seems to be a built-in failure implied to resolutions. And because last year was my first without Alan, I have written a poem about Hope, with the idea that having survived that first year, I can feel more hopeful about the year to come. Here is the poem:"

A New Year of Hope

By Ellen Sue

2023 was a tough year for me.

My husband died on 12/01/22

And I "froze" for three months.

The road seemed murky, you see.

By February 2023, the month we met in 2003, I was able to address the bills and mail, but Each day was like climbing a mountain, With the peak often cloudy to me.

I adopted a cat in July, a gift to myself.

Having Aviva as "company" means a lot;

Not coming home to an empty apartment

And feeling less lonely, not on a shelf.

I am hoping 2024 will be a happier year,
Maybe travel to see friends and family
And continue to grow as a human being,
And feel gratitude that I'm still here.

Lois Rabinowitz Steinberg shared a sampling of what is going on in her life. "I can report some really nice things in my life. My granddaughter Lauryn got married on Labor Day Weekend, and everyone had a phenomenal time. Her brother Matthew moved from San Francisco to New York so now the two of them live in the city. And my other granddaughter, Natasha started a new job at a political ad agency in Washington, where she lives with her boyfriend and my Granddog, Bartlett.

I continue to spend my time between Florida and New Jersey, living in an exquisite community in Palm Beach Gardens, and my apartment in South Orange, which keeps me close to family and friends, as well as going into New York a lot.

As a matter of fact, I had an incredible 10 days this past Thanksgiving when I spent three days in Philadelphia with my daughter and her family, three days in New Jersey where I saw my son and other family, and three days in New York City, going to the opera, seeing friends, restaurants, and museums. And then I came back to Florida and got Covid.

This holiday was especially sweet because I've had many health issues over the past three years – which have been far from sweet, with four surgeries for blockage in the intestines, including a few long stints in the hospital. And I continue weekly treatments for both lymphoma and multiple myeloma. But I'm happy to report that I am feeling great, and can now eat pretty much anything. Am working now to build up my stamina and be able to do some traveling next summer."

In closing, we remember two recently deceased classmates. **Joan Porch Gulovsen**, who passed away on July 25, 2023. **Mary Cardinal** passed away on October 9, 2023. Mary was a member of the AADC Memorabilia Committee.

'60

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Please send news to share with our classmates.

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Christine Pattee continues to moderate and host '63

mini-Reunions through virtual gatherings called “let’s talk about lots of books.” Vice President **Betsy Westermaier** is one of many classmates who participate. Some of the topic ideas shared recently include looking back, what great (good or bad) events in the world happened during our life and times; getting to know somebody you didn’t like at first; medical aid in dying; and more.

Class President **Susan Goldfine** sends greetings. She says, “I still hope to go to Morocco in the future with Alumnae Travel. It’s on my bucket list.” She also shares the other class officers: Vice President **Betsy Westermaier**; Secretary **Helen Blumenthal**; Alumnae Council Representative **Bernice Feuer**

Florence Morcheles Weisz recently exhibited her work at the Delaware Contemporary, in Wilmington, DE, which is “an art space that infuses contemporary art and creativity into our community through compelling exhibitions.”

'64

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Think historic events, think REUNION! When I hear some mention certain “historic” events I realize I may have experienced it “live.” It’s difficult to believe we are about to celebrate a 60th reunion! We hope those who are able can come

share the uniqueness of this event with us!

My 25 year-plus marketing research project with Harris (or Nielsen, depending on the year) just ended. So I guess I am officially retired although I still help friends out in the neighborhood mom-and-pop pharmacy. It’s an education of a different sort and very helpful in understanding today’s health care environment. I also get to keep up with a lot of neighbors and meet new ones.

Additionally, I keep up our class column where I hear about such good news as **Duane DuBois Voss’s** new great-granddaughter, Maeve Christine Maguire, Duane acknowledge she is now “officially OLD.”

Sandy Brower Udasco remains active professionally as a financial planner whose clients don’t want her to retire. And when not volunteering on the library board of trustees Sandy drives to South Jersey where she helps her son and daughter-in-law out Sunday through Thursday by picking up her 6-year-old grandson from school each day and helping out with his 5-year-old brother. Sandy adds that she has recovered well from her newly replaced knee.

And thinking of our class’s contributions to libraries, **Marge Bakaisa Mingin** is president of the West Orange Public Library Board of Trustees. When we spoke, she was preparing for the December dedication of a new library building (after many delays). The new building has 32,000 square feet with 7,000 sq

feet dedicated for community use. It’s a major asset for the community. After 25 years in education Marge had retired in 2008 as Director of Technology for the local school system. Since that retirement she maintained her interests in history via memberships in a number of major organizations (to name a few, the Samuel Johnson Society in London, the Museum of the American Revolution in Philadelphia, Historic Deerfield in Massachusetts, Colonial Williamsburg). Of particular interest to her is the Fairbanks House in Denham, MA. Marge is helping her son restore and furnish a colonial vintage home in the area.

While at Douglass **Mickey Laifer Bobrow** joined a tutoring program which “opened her eyes” to the needs many faced and motivated her to make things better for others. She became a social worker, took a required training program and became a volunteer for CASA, spending over 30 years as a CASA advocate. In 1991, extending her community service, she and her husband Harold founded the Bobrow Kosher Food Pantry which operated out of their synagogue in South Orange and serves about 200 households each month. Harold, a community pharmacist, passed away in November 2022. Mickey stays active with the League of Women Voters and the NJ Coalition Against Human Trafficking.

Pat Carty has found that her move to a Retirement Community in

Pennsylvania has worked out for her but has little “exciting” to report. She does enjoy trips to hear the Philadelphia Orchestra in season and interesting classes given by fellow residents with remarkable backgrounds. (Any Douglass grads?) She still drives but questions if she can do the long distance to our 60th reunion.

As I was preparing this column **Elizabeth Troccoli Boris** emailed me about the death of **Roz Corenzwit Lieb** in November. They had gone to pre-school together and had been friends for 77 years! Roz had done impressive legal work in public interest law and written a number of papers until Parkinson’s slowed her down. Elizabeth had gone to Chicago and visited in April and they had had a good visit.

Other sad news: **Carol Starkman LoPresti** passed away in November, 2019. She had retired from the Sayreville, NJ, school system in 2001 after 30 years.

Dot Skevington Schlegel passed away in February 2023. She had lived in East Brunswick and taught children with learning disabilities during her 20 years at Bowne-Munro School and lived for over 70 years in a home in town built by her husband.

Also in February 2023 we lost **Anita Brown Pinkus**. In addition to working and raising two sons and a daughter Anita was an accomplished water color artist.

Aileen Kendall Koopman left us in October. After raising her

children Aileen earned a Master's and taught for a bit before moving on to Vanguard, retiring in 2009. Among other activities Aileen led a bunch of knitters and produced "stump socks" for VA hospital amputees and caps and scarves for Trenton elementary students in need of warm winter clothing.

Additionally, we're saddened to hear of two recent widows. **Eileen (Lee) Kiernan Zadareky's** husband, Joseph RU '65, passed away in August 2023. **Betty Wirrer Croll's** husband Dennis passed away in November 2023.

'65

Helen Lee Macaleer Hunter Potter
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Have any of you ever heard of OLLI? I never had until I had a conversation with **Karen Anderson Coghlan** recently. It stands for Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, started by Bernard Osher from his foundation. There are 119 of them across the US, mostly located at colleges and universities. At the University of Florida, where Karen lives, all instructors volunteer their time and knowledge.

Karen writes, "Our OLLI has been in existence going on 17 years. Vince and I started taking classes when it first began. There were 100 students and 35 classes then. Before Covid, we were up to 1,500 students and 300 classes. The program received such accolades that we qualified for two \$1 million grants from the Osher Foundation, the most that an OLLI can get. We

offer Ed-ventures, which essentially are adult field trips. Most of them are local. I've been to tour the Jacksonville port, our beautiful airport, and the local Federal Reserve. We broke the Ramadan fast at the local Muslim center, toured the main library and many local museums, etc. I am looking forward to a three-day one to St. Petersburg to see four museums, including the Dali Museum that is supposed to be spectacular. I have taken Greek Tragedy, Chaucer, Art History with a woman who was once a curator at The Hermitage in Russia, English History, 19th Century Authors, Banned Books, Musicals of the 1960s and their historical backdrops/connections and many more. This semester I'll be continuing my French studies (I have reached a permanent level of mediocrity there but continue to work at it), taking a music and a tai chi class. I have been the team lead for the Communications Team for about six years, responsible for the newsletter each semester, "From the Corner Office."

For those of you in the Rutgers area, **Eileen Chaborda Miller** sent the following information for OLLI at Rutgers:

Karen Hoffman Bryson and I, **Helen Lee**, took a five-week journey last summer. It began with a six-day tour of Iceland. We were the oldest in the group of 13 people and for the most part we kept up with all of our young travel companions! It is a

fascinating country with erupting volcanos, canyons, waterfalls, and glaciers. From Iceland, we boarded a Viking ship and spent 16 days traveling first above the Arctic Circle, where there was no darkness for three days! We then followed the coast of Norway from Tromsø -- in and out of beautiful fjords -- to Bergen, where the cruise ended. We then flew to Copenhagen for visits with my AFS (American Field Service) daughter (1980-1981) and her family and to Jutland to visit a long-time friend. Our trip ended in Belgium with a visit with another AFS daughter (1998-99).

Karen and I are now in the planning stages of travel with two more friends to Switzerland and Italy next Fall. How about some of you readers? What are some of your destinations? And for any who might be interested, we have a Zoom group that meets on the third Monday evenings of each month at 7 p.m. ET. We discuss books, travel, some politics, and subjects of interest. If you would like to join in, please send your email address to me at hlpotter96@gmail.com.

Sympathy of the class is extended to the family of **Barbara Little Britt**, who died August 17, 2023, at home in Manhattan. Barbara considered herself a New Yorker but resided for many years in Westport, CT, and owned a home in Kona, Hawaii. She was married to Glenn in Oct. 1975; he preceded her in death in 2014.

'66

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Co-President **Marsha Edelman Malberg** and Vice President **Eileen Stukane** share some news.

Douglass Day was held last October. **Wilma Harris**, **Marsha Edelman Malberg**, and **Eileen Stukane** attended to represent our class. Eileen's sister, **Ellen Stukane Black '71**, also attended.

Hard to believe, but we all arrived at the same time at Registration at Willets Hall on the Jameson Campus. We had a group photo taken. After registering, we participated in a Knowledge and Power Class - mandatory for all Douglass Residential College (DRC) Freshmen. The class introduces students to an understanding of the status of women in literature and leadership and provides a supportive environment for discussion of personal goals and accomplishments.

From there, Marsha and Eileen walked to the Dean's House, now called the Douglass House, where we met the new Dean of Douglass Residential College, Dean Meghan Rehbein, who was very welcoming.

Next, they walked to Voorhees Chapel and attended a student panel discussion moderated by Dean Rehbein. Six students of different ethnic backgrounds described networking connections, grants, and internships they

received in their fields of study as well as opportunities offered by the Douglass Residential College (DRC). Compared with the larger Rutgers University community, the students indicated, DRC gives them an easier and closer connection to advisors.

After a lot of daily walking, Marsha and Eileen left Voorhees Chapel with much pride in Douglass Residential College.

Before she retired at age 70, **Carol Indursky Cohen** was the Assignment Judge for the New Jersey Office of Administrative Law, Newark Office. Since then, she has been on recall: Carol likes to keep her mind active. Carol has seven grandchildren. Her oldest is 24 and graduating from Fordham Law School and her youngest is 5 months old. Her older son is a dentist in Livingston, NJ and her younger son lives in Manhattan Beach, CA and manages rock bands.

Marilyn Vanderhoof had her left hip replaced in October. She does not let the surgery get her down and still drives between Madison, Wisconsin, from May to September and to Austin, Texas, from October to April. Marilyn lived and worked in Madison most of her life and her daughter lives there. After losing her husband to Covid in 2020, Marilyn moved from their home in Austin to an over-55 community in another part of Austin. She volunteers at her grandson's elementary school and serves on committees for the University of Texas OLLI classes (many Universities

have these Life-long Learning Institutes for the over-55 generation). Her three younger sisters spend their winters in Florida and she often visits them during the winter.

Connie Allen Nelson reports that in Florida, they have groups to share thoughts and ideas with each other. "We have time. We are retired." If you are interested in setting up a Zoom group, please let our co-presidents, **Trudy Feidelseit Burdman** burdmant@gmail.com and **Marsha Edelman Malberg** memalberg@aol.com know. I don't have the expertise to set up a Zoom group, but they may have some suggestions or connections if the class expresses an interest. Or at least, we could compile an email list of those who respond and the members on the list can take it from there.

Connie, a volunteer for the county agency for ESL volunteers, has recently taught ESL to a Ukrainian woman via Zoom. She also participates in her church's Day 4 Hope, to provide children in need with medical and dental care as well as school supplies, groceries and clothes. Connie also likes to do art, to see and feel the world around her and then paint it. She wants to leave the world around her better than when she found it: global warming is on her active radar. Connie has recovered from three serious surgeries and, sadly, her sister, Class of '65, passed away.

Barrie Weiner Levine keeps in touch with classmates through Facebook, email and in-

person visits. She loves the New England area and drove to Western MA to enjoy the foliage season. Barrie reports that she is pre-occupied with the war in Israel: her son and family live in Jerusalem. **Frances Weingarten Lobman** has the same pre-occupation: her grandson is studying in Israel this year and 7 of her family members are on active duty. May we all know peace and harmony in 2024.

We are sad to report the passing of two classmates:

Carol Wallace Orr on Jan 12, 2023, and **Suzanne Coll** on June 19, 2023. They were both members of the *Ivy Society*, which recognizes those who have thoughtfully included support through the AADC in their financial and estate plans.

'67

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Greetings and best wishes for a good year in 2024.

This fall I had the pleasure of exchanging a series of emails with some of our classmates in response to recent news regarding the de-emphasis on liberal arts in colleges across the country. The consensus of this small sampling of DC '67 graduates was that they value the breadth of exposure to the humanities, arts and social sciences that helped us develop as lifelong learners. An editorial from the Los Angeles Times forwarded to me by **Susan Auslander Spear** provided a final thought on this

subject, with this notable quote, "Socrates would weep", noting that the great philosopher of ancient Athens was among the first teachers of critical thinking.

Moving right along, here's a message from our class president, **Elaine Auerbach**, who asked, "Are you slowing down or speeding up?" She continued, "I'm both going a little bit slower physically these days and speeding up the things I still want to accomplish. I've been speaking to various groups about how to be an activist and what remains to be done, or redone, for women's rights and lives. In the past months I've met with groups at the Y in New York State, The University of California San Diego, various venues in my area and several Zoom events. Apparently, my Douglass legacy does not allow me to sit on the sidelines. I hope that as much as we are able, you are still making a difference and are living full lives."

I had a pleasant chat with **Jane Schwanwede Cowan** in November. She and Archie are continuing to take jaunts to various locations in the southern states. They're planning another cruise which will provide a change of scene. Jane contributed to our "conversation" about the importance of liberal arts education.

Barbara Poti Crooker had a lovely visit with **Gail Price** on her way to a stay at an artist colony (The Virginia Center for the Creative Arts). Gail and Barbara, "solved all the problems of the world"

during their visit. Barbara's new book of poems, *Slow Wreckage*, will be coming out from Grayson Books in 2024. She describes it as addressing issues related to aging and the body, climate change and the planet. In the spring, Barbara will be moving to a Pennsylvania retirement community, downsizing to a 2-bedroom apartment after 45 years in her current home. Join me in wishing her well as she adjusts to this change.

Diane Alberti Gallo reports that she has been enjoying traveling again. She and her husband went to Mexico in May and traveled from Mexico City to Cancun, visiting Mayan sites and colonial cities along the way. The scenery ranged from desert-like to seaside to the tropics! This fall they journeyed to Morocco, arriving not too long after an earthquake. Despite some misgivings about traveling, it turned out that most of the country was unaffected, with the bulk of the devastating damage occurring in the remote southern mountains. They found Morocco to be fascinating, with art deco buildings in the cities, beautiful mosques, royal palaces, and varied landscape from the sea to the Sahara and mountains. Diane enjoyed getting to know other tour participants from around the world. On the art front, Diane continues to enjoy painting pastels. She's happy to have received several prizes in the fall. She continues to savor time with her grandson Marco, who is now in Kindergarten and a real live wire. Diane and I enjoy visiting over breakfast

in Summit from time to time. She sends good wishes for 2024.

Nancy Bell Hohnstine is still "packing in travel" while she can". In July she circumnavigated Iceland. She spent her birthday at the Blue Lagoon. She's hoping to return to Iceland in April 2025 to catch a sighting of the Northern lights. Among other trips were Hawaii for Thanksgiving and Puerto Rico for three weeks over the Christmas/New Year's holiday. Her cruise to Israel and Egypt was thwarted by the war. They were re-routed to Cypress, Greek Islands and two days in Turkey. In August Nancy enjoyed the last performance of "Good Night, Oscar" on Broadway. This was an AADC event coordinated by our classmate **Sharon Matlofsky** Karmazin, co-producer. Nancy also attended "The Neil Diamond Musical, A Beautiful Noise," also co-produced by Sharon.

Janet Redemann Sage wishes the remaining members of our Class of '67 Sisterhood well. She said that it was a honor to serve the class from 2017-2022. She is thankful for an amazing recovery after hip surgery, a true blessing given her transformation from "crippling pain to being reborn, fully restored." She's hoping to visit our new prez Elain Auerbach in her home state of Arizona one day soon. If any mini-reunions are in the offing anywhere, Janet would love to attend, so let's keep her "in the info loop".

Judy Shapiro sent a note while in Mexico during a three-week vacation in their time share in Cancun and Playa del Carmen. They like resort living, so they are planning to sell their home in Brooklyn and move into a life care community in Pompano Beach, FL. They'll be about 20 minutes south of Delray Beach, where they have spent the last several winters. According to Judy, this is a very active community with amazing facilities and carefree living, which they hope to enjoy for a long time. Plans include keeping a small place in New York and traveling as often as possible.

Your class secretary **Nancy Schumann** attended two events on the Douglass Campus this year. The first was Douglass Day, a DRC activity showcasing where we met students Dean Dr. Meghan Rehbein and even partook of Douglass' foundational class, Knowledge Power: Issues in Women's Leadership, Truth & Reconciliation: Healing Wounds by speaker Rev. Nontombi Naomi Tutu. This was an inspiring session. My DC roomie **Peggy Smith** and I attended a third event, this one sponsored by the Black Alumnae Network, an affinity group of AADC. The play based on the book *Having Our Say, The Delany Sisters' First 100 Years* was performed at the George Street Theater. I highly recommend attendance of future events, so keep your eye out for information about more opportunities.

While I continue to enjoy attending musical events (NJ Symphony, HD and Live

performances at the Metropolitan Opera), I'm looking forward to resuming my participation in the Lehigh University Choral Union. We'll be performing Brahms' Requiem and other pieces in May of 2024! Last July, I traveled to Los Alamos, NM, to spend two weeks with **Eleanor Rand Giovanielli** and her husband Damon. It was great to be together again. We enjoyed visits with their friends in the area, ate delicious meals, assembled a challenging Dowdle jigsaw puzzle, and attended the local Fourth of July celebration. During my stay, El and I decided that it was time to plan a reunion with our NYC roomies. In September, El flew east to stay with me in Clinton. **Maryann Langen** joined us from the Boston area, and the three of us drove to Sewell, NJ, to visit with our fourth roomie, **Cheryl Masingill** and her sister Melissa. The five of us enjoyed a lovely lunch, during which we reminisced about our experiences in NYC. It was wonderful to be together again! Besides spending time with beloved classmates, I count as blessings the opportunities I've had to spend time with other friends and family during 2023. As many of us near the age of 79, I urge you all to make a concerted effort to reach out to classmates, pick up the phone, write a letter, make a date to get together! Count your days by friends, not years!

'68
Bonnie Conover Frost
48 Crestview Drive

Bernardsville, NJ 07924
Bfrost2@comcast.net

'69

Terre Williams Martin
terre.martin3710@gmail.com

Come celebrate our 55th milestone reunion at AADC Alumnae Reunion Weekend 2024, June 7-8, on campus. '69

Barbara Kirshenblut Kirsh retired from ETS in 2019, after 47 years. She received her sociology Ph.D. from Rutgers and postdoc from Harvard. She's happily married and lives in Pennington, NJ. She's involved in lifelong learning organizations and a local farmers market. She also travels to Europe as often as possible.

Nancy Kalish, our former class historian, passed away in 2019. She was a scholar and frequent guest expert on many radio and television newscasts to discuss her Lost Love Project.

Pat Seymour Kraft, Nancy Westerberg Pullen, and Terre Williams Martin joined the AADC in NYC for the Neil Diamond musical, "A Beautiful Noise." The invitation was through Sharon Matlofsky Karmazan '67 and show co-producer!

The sad news for **Marsha Kobre Anderson** was that her beloved son, Brian, disabled since birth, died on June 22, 2023, of sepsis. Brian lived in a group home in Las Vegas for nearly 30 years, had finished his education at Valley High School, and was in a work readiness program at Opportunity Village.

Grace Morizio Carr is now retired after 20+ years

in the work force. She went on to NYU after Douglass and entered the high-tech industry. She has been married for 55 years. Her two children have given her six grandchildren and one great-grandchild!

Carol Young has had two shoulder replacements, which haven't stopped her #1 joy of playing piano. She began her first-ever lessons at age 62. She is also an alto in the Phoenix College Community Choir, which has toured and performed in Ireland. She and her husband of 27 years will be going to Mexico to see the total eclipse on April 8.

Terre Williams Martin and her husband Doug (Ag. '67) returned to Vietnam with a group of his fellow Swift Boat sailors to tour the Mekong Delta where they served. It was a healing journey for the men, some of whom still wear the scars of battle. Although engaged during the year Doug served, the couple got to celebrate their 54th wedding anniversary while on the trip. This year they will travel with the RUAA to Peru, the Amazon River, and Machu Picchu.

Classmate **Janet Dewan** is currently in Kigali Rwanda where she is working with the U. of Rwanda to develop an MS degree in nurse anesthesia. She writes, "I'm writing from Kigali Rwanda where I am working with the U of Rwanda developing an MS in nurse anesthesia.

Sally Call Fuller shares, "I'm happily retired and loving travel. Now I have coordinated a theatre trip to London, the second of these I've done. Also, have

assumed the role of board chair of Strategies for Children, a MA statewide advocacy organization supporting early childhood education, an organization with whom I worked closely for 17+ years while working at the Irene E. & George A. Davis Foundation in Springfield, MA. Also happily serving on the board of the Springfield Prep Charter School. Continuing my passion for early childhood education and grade level reading proficiency.

'70

Linda P. Clark
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Long Branch, NJ 07740
lpclark48@verizon.net

Congratulations to **Ferris Olin**, whom the Arts Council of Princeton honored for her life's work by naming a new initiative after her: The Ferris Olin Cultural Collaborative. It is an annual summit that brings together Princeton and Trenton-area arts and educational organizations, youth service agencies, and organizations that deliver the arts to underserved populations to connect and share information. Additionally, through the collaborative, the Arts Council of Princeton identifies and funds teaching artists to implement unique cultural workshops for the youth participants in our outreach programs.

Ferris recently traveled to Uzbekistan, where she learned about life, arts and history along the Silk Route, and was hosted by a dozen artisans, who provided "home-cooked" meals and studio tours focused on their

crafts. She guest-curated an exhibition, The Brodsky Center at Rutgers University: Three Decades, 1986 – 2017, and wrote and edited the catalogue. Held at the Zimmerli Art Museum at Rutgers during the fall, the opening had the largest turnout ever at the museum. Ferris gave a private tour to our classmates **Maureen Strazdon, Alice Herman, Caryn Klevins Newman, Helen Latchaw Hannon, Susan Lester, Carol Lippert Grey, Barbara Altman Beigel, Roz Shapiro Nussman** and her husband Bruce Nussman, RU '69. Douglass Dean Meghan Rehbein, and Associate Dean of Advancement Elia Desruisseaux invited the group to attend lunch at the Dean's Residence after the tour, to learn about her administration and the work she does on behalf of the Douglass students.

Sheila Kelly Hampton is a candidate for VP for Administration for the AADC Board of Directors for a two-year term beginning in July. Sheila is a longtime alumnae leader, including as a former President. In recognition of her dedication and leadership, the Sheila Kelly Hampton Prize for Douglass (student) Leadership was created in 2009.

As for me, **Linda Clark**, In September, my sister Jill Prusko and I traveled to Nova Scotia, Canada to attend the wedding of Rachael Noah, younger daughter of John and **Gayle Stachula Noah '71**. Gayle's granddaughters Mila and Yana were two of the flower girls.

In October, my husband Robert Slamon and I vacationed in Dublin, Ireland, for 12 days. Dublin is one of our favorite places and this was our fourth visit.

Sadly, I report the death of **Jane Stapert Munro** on December 12, 2023. She graduated with a degree in economics and married her husband Jack of 53 years at Kirkpatrick Chapel at Rutgers. She was a bank officer during her years in New Jersey and in health care in Connecticut, before moving to Pennsylvania. Jane shared her talents at Sinking Valley Presbyterian Church, working at various times as bookkeeper, financial secretary and writing for its newsletter. Our sympathy goes out to her husband, brother, brother-in-law, her aunt, extended family and friends.

Lois E. Wright died on May 15, 2023. Lois was a broadcast executive and lawyer. After graduating from Rutgers School of Law, she worked for the city of Newark as an attorney in the corporate counsel's office. She was a lawyer for the Federal Communications Commission from 1977 to 1980. In 1980, she became general counsel for Inner City Broadcasting Corporation, one of the first African American-owned broadcasting companies. She later became Executive Vice President of ICBC. She joined the Board of Directors of the National Association of Black-Owned Broadcasters as Counsel to the Board in 1980, and was its longest-serving board member. Our sympathy goes out to her sisters

Debra Makins and Karen Wright as well as to the rest of her family.

Jeff King, husband of our classmate the late **Paula Caputo King**, died on July 28, 2023. Our condolences go out to his sons Bradley and Kyle and the rest of his family.

'71

Mary Zimmerman Chyb
1106 Ocean Ave.
Lavallette, NJ 08735
marychyb@optonline.net

Greetings Douglass College Class of 1971! I wish you all the best this year and I look forward to hearing from you. If you would like to be more involved in the AADC; or if you or someone you know is not getting our emails, please reach out. The AADC needs our continued support financially, and as volunteers. Please send me class notes whenever you would like, and please contact me with any questions. The next class notes are due June 2024.

Recently published Class Notes sections are available on the Publications page on the AADC website.

I am very fortunate to live at the Jersey Shore, and I enjoy living in a small town for the first time in my life – Lavallette, NJ. Every year Lavallette celebrates its birthday on December 21; this year Lavallette turns 136 years young. This year I was honored to be appointed to our town's Planning Board.

Martha Boughner shares, "In September, I was privileged to be **Kay Turner's** guest as she was inducted as a member of the AADC Society of

Excellence. Her acceptance speech was, of course, exciting, different, funny, memorable, and even included some singing! Congratulations to this talented class member! I'm playing with the Summit Symphony as a permanent member now and was excited to accompany **Maureen Hurd Hause** last Spring as she played the Artie Shaw Clarinet Concerto. She is the clarinet teacher at Mason Gross now, and it was a treat to hear her play and reassured me that the clarinet students are in very good hands! Summit gave a concert this past December that featured famous opera arias; the soprano soloist was Sarah Stine, who is pursuing her master's degree at Mason Gross. All of these Rutgers connections for the Summit Symphony are probably due to the fact that our conductor, Michael Avagliano, will receive his Doctorate degree from Mason Gross very soon!

Linda L. Lamwers sent in an update and said she has never done so until now. She received her master's and Ph.D. from Rutgers and was awarded a post-doctoral fellowship at the University of Illinois and was a psychology faculty member at St Cloud State U (MN). She married Dr. Leonard Soroka, a geology and science educator, and started her family. She was an American Council on Education Fellow and held administrative positions at SCSU before moving to West Chester University (PA) as Provost. After 20 years and two appointments as Acting/Interim President,

she assisted the PA State System of Higher Education on academic policy issues.

Now in retirement, Linda continues to enjoy learning, international travel, gardening, volunteering and water aerobics. Her son is a graduate of West Point and Stanford University. Linda and Len have two grandchildren in whom they delight.

Prudence Zalewski shares, "Since September I have been working on the Artificial Intelligence (AI) Task Force for California State University, Fresno. We are planning a proactive approach for the adoption of AI within all areas of the University. If any of you are interested in looking at the future of AI, search on line for 'There's an AI for that.' The website lets you look at and test 9,500+ AI programs. You will be amazed."

Aliss Valerie Terrell shares, "The forest non-profit Dogwood Alliance just produced a podcast about my film on Climate Justice, which 'Leaves You Hopeful: Stories About People Protecting Their Forests.'" You can find it online at Spotify.

Marilou Terpenning writes, "It's been a while since I have checked in. After retiring in 2016 from the clinical practice of oncology with the group I founded in 1988 in Santa Monica, I've kept busy serving on the Dean's Advisory Committee of DRC, on the Advisory Board of the Cancer Survivorship Program I co-founded at Saint John's Health Center in Santa Monica and in clinical research on cancer

outcomes with Optum Health. I had the great pleasure in cutting the ribbon at the opening of the new facility for the practice I founded in 1988 which has grown dramatically and continues to provide patient-centered cutting-edge cancer care. I've decreased commitments in 2023 to permit more time to travel with my husband Terry to visit family and friends in New Jersey and spend more time at our second home in Chatham, MA. We relocated from Pacific Palisades, CA, to Eagle, ID, during Covid and have settled in there. We look forward to continuing to explore beautiful Idaho and Canada this year."

'72
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'73
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Unit 501
Wimauma, FL 33598
peabody51@aol.com

'74
Lori Krevsky Miskoff
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Edison, NJ 08837
lmiskoff@yahoo.com

Come celebrate our 50th milestone reunion at AADC Alumnae Reunion Weekend 2024, June 7-8, on campus. We will be the Vanguard Class and inducted into the Vanguard Fifty Society in honor of this milestone reunion!

Class officers President **Susan Hume**, Vice President **Ruth Toni**

Howell Armstead, and Alumnae Council Representative **Jacalyn Belafsky Kandel** have reached out to our class about Reunion planning and hope you can join the celebrations!

'75
Donna Lee Iozia Jones
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Hillsborough, NJ 27278
Donnaleejones13@hotmail.com

'76
Denise Busby
keandkb@yahoo.com

'77
Marcia Murchio Hannigan
20 Dogwood Terrace
Wayne, NJ 07470
Mmhannigan55@gmail.com

'78
Kathleen Skettini Bailey
1190 Gator Trail
West Palm Beach, FL 33409
kasbailey@gmail.com

Hello from sunny(?) South Florida! I hope you weathered this unusual winter unscathed and maybe even took advantage of it.

Congratulations to our Class President **Elena Anastasiou Rossi** on adding the title of Yia-yia to her credentials. Daughter Dr. Catherine and Jeff made Elena and husband Lou Rossi RU '79 grandparents in November of 2023 with the arrival of Joseph Jeffrey Rossi Beck.

Rochelle Saperstein Ohring continues her whirlwind 'how did I ever have time to work' retirement life. She's singlehandedly keeping

Broadway in the black by attending performances too numerous to mention. A group of friends from their Rutgers Marching Band days attended the Pinstripe Bowl at Yankee Stadium. The group has had season tickets together since graduation! She performs at the RU Homecoming football game with other Rutgers alumni, as well as at basketball games during winter break when the undergrads are away. Rochelle is the President of the Rutgers University Alumni Wind Symphony. They performed a "Holiday Joys" concert in December 2023. They are celebrating their 40th anniversary with a concert at Nicholas Music Center (on the Douglass College Campus) on Saturday, May 4th at 7:30pm. It's free! To the best of our knowledge, RUAWS is the only continually performing alumni wind symphony in the US. For more information, visit their website at RUAWS.org. She keeps current with college friends, high school peers and former co-workers through a never-ending series of dinners, lunches, brunches and high teas. Rochelle enjoyed a live event at Ocean County College with celebrity chef, restaurateur, and Emmy-award winning TV host Lidia Bastianich. Rochelle has also been Secretary of the Board of Trustees of the United Synagogue of Hoboken for many years.

Susanne Strippoli Curran is working FT at her "capstone" job in New York City for the Internal Revenue Service as a

senior-level commercial real estate appraiser and reviewer. Her husband Dave is working part-time for his long-time company in Philadelphia. They are spending as much time as possible with their granddaughter Cecily, who is now walking and lives in Philly with their daughter, her husband and their dog Charlie. Susan keeps up on Facebook postings from our many local NJ/PA classmates and hopes to get together with some Douglass ladies this spring when it gets warmer! She can be found on FB and LinkedIn.

Irene Boczar Stewart also is a frequent visitor to the Broadway theatre, often with Rochelle, as well as many concerts and smaller entertainment venues. She's a proud Mom, celebrating her daughter Maeve as she received her Master of Science degree in Counter-Terrorism and Homeland Security from American University in December of 2023. Irene also keeps in touch with her local sorority sisters from Rutgers' first sorority Delta Beta Psi. In this age of social media, I'd like to remind you that we began a Facebook group many years ago named "Douglass College Class of 1978". It was started as a way for the alumnae of Douglass College Class of 1978 to reunite and keep in touch. Please feel free to join if you aren't already a member and reach out and invite your fellow alumnae to the group!

'79
Anju D. Jessani
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ajessani@dwdmediation.org

Come celebrate our 45th milestone reunion at AADC Alumnae Reunion Weekend 2024, June 7-8, on campus!

Congratulations to **Dr. Debra Lynch**, AADC Board of Directors Vice President of Alumnae Relations, named a 2024 New Jersey Women of Achievement Award recipient by award co-sponsors New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs (NJSFWC) and Douglass Residential College. She will be honored in May at the NJSFWC annual convention in Atlantic City.

'80
AADC
classnotes@
douglassalumnae.org

'81
Randi Greenberg
17 Catherine Court
Laurence Harbor, NJ 08879
Rsg224@optonline.net

Congratulations to AADC Executive Director **Valerie L. Anderson** who will be inducted into the Rutgers Loyal Sons and Daughters in April.

'82
Maria Vitale Loos
62 Lincoln Drive
Clementon, NJ 08021
formavml@yahoo.com

'83
Elizabeth A. Asaro
51 Delaware Avenue
Lambertville, NJ 08530

'84
Lisa Berry
106 Yardley Pl, Apt. 5B8
Hockessin, DE 19707

Come celebrate our 40th milestone reunion at AADC Alumnae Reunion Weekend 2024, June 7-8, on campus.

'85
Kim Thompson Demopoulos
914 Willow Avenue
Hoboken, NJ 07030
Kim_paul_nyc@yahoo.com

Congratulations to AADC Executive Director **Mary Kelleher DiMartino** who will be inducted into the Rutgers Loyal Sons and Daughters in April.

'86
Anne Dudajek Fogarty-Santomauro
227 Cold Spring Lane
Bridgewater, NJ 08807
anne9598@gmail.com

'87
Marie Arnold
1101 Overlook Terrace
Union, NJ 07083
mearnold@verizon.net

'88
Marianne Ficarra
33 Tyson Drive
Fair Haven, NJ 07704
ficarra@aol.com

Hello Class of 1988. Please send notes to share.

'89
AADC
classnotes@
douglassalumnae.org

Come celebrate our 35th milestone reunion at AADC Alumnae Reunion Weekend 2024, June 7-8, on campus!

Lisa Dorio Ruch serves on the AADC Board of Directors as VP of Administration through June. She is on the Official

Ballot as a candidate for President of the AADC.

'90
Victoria Sonshine Pasher
v12sp@aol.com

'91
AADC
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'92
Carla Haynes Harper
19 Dudley Court
Sterling, VA 20165
CarlaHaynes@msn.com

'93
Carol K. Dougherty
1204 Wynnbrook Rd
Wilmington, DE 19809
museumchick@yahoo.com

'94
Haydee Perez-Livingston
hycpus6@msn.com

Come celebrate our 30th milestone reunion at AADC Alumnae Reunion Weekend 2024, June 7-8, on campus

'95
Mary Hrywna
38 Lenox Avenue
Green Brook, NJ 08812

'96
Tara M. Strickland
1822 Ravens Crest Drive
Plainsboro, NJ 08536
taramorgan@aol.com

'97
AADC
classnotes@
douglassalumnae.org

'98
Jean L. Cook
jeancook@gmail.com

'99
Stephanie Kaminetsky
sorr2@mac.com

Come celebrate our 25th milestone reunion at AADC Alumnae Reunion Weekend 2024, June 7-8, on campus.

'00
Christina Vassiliou Harvey
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Hamilton Square, NJ 08690
christinajv@yahoo.com

Lena Repousis reports that she submitted knitted works for the Middlesex County Fair, and came home with ribbons, five first place and one second place! She learned to knit fifteen years ago at an AADC Cabin Fever event! It's so nice to read about how our alumnae network is the gift that keeps on giving. Lena also shared that she and **Mary Ellen Cook Sarno** met up last June, when she was in town for her sister Jean Cook's 25th. Lena also shared that she informally reunited with **Ariadne Gourometsios-Jaffe** at a birthday party. They had not seen each other since 2000 in a seminar class as English majors at Douglass. They learned that they attend the same church and caught up during the holidays.

I am excited to report that I, **Christina Vassiliou Harvey**, was re-elected to the Hamilton Township Board of Education.

'01
Rebecca Springswirth
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Cherry Hill, NJ 08034
bspringswirth@gmail.com

'02
Aimee Slabinski Linke
294 Gatzmer Avenue

Jamesburg, NJ 08831
aslinke@aol.com

'03
AADC
classnotes@
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'04
Nicole Givelekian Donnolly
nicole419@gmail.com

Come celebrate our 20th
milestone reunion at AADC
Alumnae Reunion Weekend
2024, June 7-8, on campus.

'05
AADC
classnotes@
douglassalumnae.org

'06
Stefanie Lachenauer
steflach@gmail.com

Stefanie Lachenauer '06
shared a post on social
media: "I am humbled to
share that I have been
named the 2023 Upper
Middle School Governor's
Educator of the Year."

'07
Lauren Braswell Smykle
Class President
laurensmykle@gmail.com

'08
Ariana (Ria) DasGupta
arianada@gmail.com

Tynisha Coleman launched
a boutique professional
services firm, Exalt
Consulting, and is growing
her business. She was
recently awarded the
Torchbearer Award for her
work in Diversity, Equity,
and Inclusion by the Rutgers
University Committee to
Advance our Common
Purposes. She is still an
avid reader, community

volunteer, and trying not to
be a helicopter mom. She
recently gave the AADC
Smart Talk about
empowerment in the
workplace.

Mallorie Medley
celebrated her 12th year with
TransPerfect, and has been
recently promoted to
Director of Strategic
Accounts for the Medical
Device Solutions division.
Additionally, she is the
proud owner of Fortuknit, a
handmade knitting
company. In addition to still
learning the cello, she
continues to be actively
involved with the AADC,
serves as a General Board
Member, is our our Class
President, and is on the
Victoria Dabrowski Schmidt
Symposium Committee.

Sharae Allen is getting
used to being a toddler
mom, spoiling her husband
with hot tea and working on
her next romance novel
series. This year, her
second novel came out to
rave reviews and her next
novel will be published in
the fall.

As for me, **Ria
DasGupta**, I am at The
Juilliard School as their
Director of Equity, Diversity,
Inclusion, and Belonging
Initiatives. I am busy
planning (and refusing to get
stressed about) my wedding
to Rutgers alumnus, Eric
Schkrutz.

'09
Brittany DeRonde
Brittany.deronde@gmail.com

Come celebrate our 15th
milestone reunion at AADC
Alumnae Reunion Weekend
2024, June 7-8, on campus.

'10
Kathryn Jenkins Cooke
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'11
Alexandra Anastasia
215 East Mountain Road
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Alex.anastasia11@gmail.co
m

'12
Karin Oxford
Karin.oxford@gmail.com

'13
Melissa Gabilanes
mgabilanes@gmail.com

Our class celebrated our
10th at AADC Alumnae
Reunion Weekend 2023.

Gwendolyn Baxley,
Ph.D., shares, "I am an
assistant professor in the
department of educational
leadership and policy within
the graduate school of
education at the University
at Buffalo, SUNY. My
research explores
community-engaged
educational leadership and
spaces that center the
affirmation, well-being,
critical consciousness, and
self-determination of Black
youth and families. I also
explore how AntiBlackness
manifests and is disrupted in
education to shape the
experiences of Black youth
and their families. My most
recent research projects
explore these areas within
the context of historical and
contemporary community
schools.

My empirical and
conceptual research has
been published in *Race*,
Ethnicity and Education,
*Journal of School
Leadership, International*

*Journal of Qualitative
Studies in Education*,
*Journal of Cases in
Educational leadership*,
*Research in the Teaching of
English* and in an edited
volume."

**Justine
D'Souza** shares, "I taught
English in France after
graduating. I then taught
French in a few different
New Jersey public schools
and later moved to working
full-time in international
education for a not for profit
in New York City. I worked
in New York for five years
and then returned to school
to obtain two master's
degrees (an MPP and an
MSW). I now work full-time
for the Government
Accountability Office in DC.
For the past eight years, I
have also worked part-time
for a youth helpline as a
Phone Support Counselor.

I lived in France and
traveled in Europe shortly
after graduation. I have also
traveled to many spots in
the US, like Tanglewood,
Pittsburgh, Las Vegas, San
Francisco, Napa, the UP,
Chicago, the Poconos,
Saugutuck, and various
other locations. For purely
tourism purposes, I have
visited Spain, Morocco,
Singapore, Thailand, and
Chile. I sang with the
Monmouth Civic Chorus in
Sweden, Estonia, Latvia,
and Lithuania and did social
work fieldwork in India.

I am looking forward to
getting involved in AADC
Young Alumnae Network
(YAN), networking and
mentoring."

'14
Leslie Holt
leslieholt@gmail.com

Our class will celebrate our 10th milestone reunion at AADC Alumnae Reunion Weekend 2024, June 7-8, on campus.

Congratulations to **Gabrielle Anastasiou Rossi**, who earned her Rutgers School of Public Affairs and Administration Ph.D. and was recently married.

'15
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Meghan King Stratton reports, "I'm happy to share that I'm starting a new position as Supervisor of Instruction, Humanities (Grades 6-12) at Boonton, NJ, Public Schools!"

Elizabeth "Liz" Davis, a Pediatric Registered Nurse, recently earned a master's degree in nursing administration at Monmouth University.

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Our class will celebrate our 5th reunion at AADC Alumnae Reunion Weekend

2024 on June 7-8, on campus.

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Catherine Sackey served as Chair of the Eighth Annual Victoria Dabrowski Schmidt '42 Workplace and Professional Development Symposium Committee.]

Lily Juhasz presented a workshop, "Your Personal Brand, Your Legacy," at the Symposium last fall.

Sandeep Patwalia is working with Lily as co-chair of the AADC Young Alumnae Network (YAN), which hosted an ice cream social, its annual YAN-O-Ween fall gathering, and co-hosted the popular Cabin Fever at the Alumnae Center with AADC Bunting Connections Affinity Network.

'23
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Bunting Notes

Marianne Ficarra '88
33 Tyson Drive
Fair Haven, NJ 07704
ficarra@aol.com

The December 2023 Annual Bunting Holiday Party and Attic Treasures Gathering

was organized by AADC Bunting Connections Affinity Network chair **Jeanne D'Amore '09** and was well attended (see photo) and, as always, full of food and desserts donated and shared by all participating.

They also teamed up with AADC Young Alumnae Network (YAN) to host another popular Cabin Fever at the Alumnae Center. All were invited for a cozy afternoon full of knitting and crafts.

Mark your calendar for AADC Reunion Weekend 2024, on Friday and Saturday, June 7-8, which will be held on campus and herald the Class of 1974 on its 50th

Vanguard Reunion and the Milestone Classes ending in 4s and 9s. Since we Bunting alumnae have a wide range of graduating years, we are sure to have a large showing. All alumnae are welcome.

News from **Dori Miller '17**, an oil painter, papermaker, and teaching artist, writing from upstate New York, where they had just accumulated 8-10 inches of snow. Dori writes that she was honored to be interviewed by *Hand Papermaking Newsletter* about her *Paper Wing Forest* installation in the Summer of 2023, which was the culmination of an intense artist residency at Hartwick College in Oneonta, NY. [*Hand Papermaking Magazine*, (No. 145) January 2024, pp6-7.]

We are saddened to report the passing of a dear

Bunting friend **Barbara Duffy Hamilton '85** on December 16, 2023, in Bethlehem, PA, where she had moved a year prior to be closer to her daughter, Barbara majored in American Studies, she was employed at Rutgers Medical School and the State Theatre, while remaining active in numerous civic associations, as well as attending many Rutgers, Douglass and Bunting events, and keeping in close contact with Douglass alumnae friends and other



lifelong friends. Barbara is survived by her four children, Bill Hamilton III, Brian Hamilton, Sheila Caballero, and Michael Hamilton, and their spouses/partners, in addition to her nine grandchildren, who knew her as "Grammy."

Upcoming AADC Events & Programs

Monday, April 8

Virtual Planning Meeting for Reunion 2024

Monday, April 15

AADC Black Alumnae Network Virtual
General Body Meeting &

Evelyn Sermons Field '49 Literary Society Book Discussion

Saturday, May 4

Young Alumnae Network & New Jersey Regional
Connection Group Spring Gathering,

Hosted by Broadway Producer

Sharon Matlofsky Karmazin '67

(limited space, event full)

Monday, May 6

Final Virtual Planning Meeting for Reunion 2024

Thursday May 9

Virtual AADC Sisterhood Book Club: "Lessons in Chemistry"

Monday, June 3

Fellowship Application Deadline for
Graduating DRC Seniors

Friday, June 7, to Saturday, June 8

AADC Alumnae Reunion Weekend 2024

Saturday, June 8

AADC Awards Presentation Hosted at Reunion

Saturday, September 28

AADC Presents the Ninth Annual Victoria
Dabrowski Schmidt Workplace and Professional
Development Symposium, featuring the 2024
Society of Excellence Induction Ceremony
Luncheon

Saturday, October 26

AADC Black Alumnae Network Jewel Plummer
Cobb Sisters Conference

AADC Alumnae Travel

Italy – Charm of the Amalfi Coast: June 19-27

Scotland – Stirling (sold out): August 14-22

Havana: Afro-Cuban Experience: November 15-22

For updates and registration, visit www.douglassalumnae.org/upcoming-events/

douglassalumnae at



Mission:

The AADC is an independent 501 (c)(3) organization. The AADC develops and promotes connections among Douglass alumnae by providing programs, services, networks and life-long learning opportunities that represent the interests and needs of our diverse alumnae. The AADC provides prudent stewardship of the Douglass Fund and other endowed funds held by the AADC for the benefit of Douglass; distributions from these funds contribute financial support to Douglass and her students.

AADC Board of Directors

Note: Listing as of February 1, 2024

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President

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Vice President for Administration

Mary Zimmerman Chyb '71
Vice President for Development

Debra Lynch '79
Vice President for Alumnae Relations

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AADC Annual Appeal Chair

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Alumnae Engagement Chair

Members

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Linda P. Clark '70

Linda Caldwell Epps '73

Lauren Nathan LaRusso '03

Ikecia Lenese Mapp '01

Dianne Mills McKay '69

Mallorie Medley '08

Liz Murray '87

Christine Esposito Sargent '09

Tiffany Toliver '04

Jennie Vila '07

AADC Staff

To phone staff, call the AADC at
732-246-1600, enter staff extension
number noted below:

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Executive Director, Ext. 10

Susan Wallace
Vice President of Finance and Operations, Ext. 16

Anne Marie Russo
Director of Marketing & Communications, Ext. 15

Lorrie Delaney '18
Director of Alumnae Relations, Ext. 17

Andrea Adams
Associate Director of Development, Ext. 12

Beata Souder
Associate Director of Annual Giving, Ext. 14

Cathleen Fitzgerald
Finance Administrator, Ext. 13

Lizethe Martinez '13
Associate Director of Programs and
Administration, Ext. 18

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FEBRUARY 2024

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