

Mount Holyoke College Class of 1964
After the Middle Ages Comes the Renaissance!
Quarterly Class Notes

“Quarterly” News: Winter 2012 Class Notes
by Priscilla Morse Huston

Mary Dee Beall and her husband, Bob, spent all of June and half of July traveling-East Coast, Spain, Atlanta, and Denver. She writes: “We loved our travels, but we were so glad to get back to San Francisco fog!” Mary Dee also mentioned she is volunteering at the San Francisco Botanical Garden nursery in Golden Gate Park.

When Rosalie (Sally) Hackley Anders commented that she was pondering whether or not to retire, co-scribe Jean Vnenchak asked if she would be willing to write more about what factors she is considering as she makes her decision. She provided an interesting response and raised some very good questions ? some of which are listed below. We have highlighted her full response on the MHC64 website. Please take a look and add your thoughts. Please see the new LIFE TRANSITIONS for more.

Sally’s thoughts: “Everyone’s situation is different, but many of us have similar questions. What purpose will my life have? Without my paid work, which involves issues that I care passionately about, will my life have real meaning? Is it better to give someone else a chance-someone with fresh energy, new ideas? Should I structure my days when I retire? Without work, will I feel as if I’m just drifting through my days? Is that okay? Is it time to let go of the to-do lists that dominate my life? Why is that scary? Will I have enough close connections with people? Will all my hobbies be as interesting when they make up more of my day? Will I have enough money?

Now I have a bit of status in the community-how will I feel when that is gone? Am I over-analyzing the whole thing?”

Ellen Manfredonia Nutter also commented on retirement, indicating, “I love the idea of initiating a discussion about retirement. I have been volunteering at the NC Ctr. for Creative Retirement as a facilitator for the Paths to Creative Retirement program It’s a weekend held twice a year. People work on setting goals and creating a plan to reach those goals. The website is www2.unca.edu/ncccr/programs/paths.” Ellen is planning a mini-reunion in Asheville, NC, for our class June 19-22, 2012. For more, see Recent News

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Libby Bradbury Pethick writes, "Patricia Napper Knudsen and I are trying to get together once a year. In the summer of 2010, she visited us during the hottest week of the summer, so hot that our excursions were confined to expeditions to the mall. This Sept., Larry and I visited Patricia and her husband, Knud, at their home near Copenhagen, where the weather was more cooperative. We met their 2 newest grandchildren and became reacquainted with the 3 older ones, did some sightseeing, ate wonderful meals, and talked nonstop. I am so grateful for our friendship that started almost 50 years ago, continues today, and includes our husbands and families." For more, see Recent News

Margaret (Meg) Cormeny O'Brien has completed a yearlong docent training program at the Cummer Museum of Art in Jacksonville, FL. The training program included lectures on art history, and learning about the objects in the museum's collection and special exhibits. Giving tours for inner-city children helps to fulfill her sense of serving the community in retirement.

We are sad to report that Susan Prugh Seward died peacefully in her sleep on May 18, 2011, after a battle with cancer. Susan was a member of the class of '64 but left after her soph. year. She lived in South Mandelle freshman year and in Abbey soph. year. Her sister is Sallie Ingham Prugh Robbins '62.

From her obituaries in the Press Democrat and the Des Moines Register (Click for More), we learn that for the last 25 years of her life, Susan was a devoted employee of the Petaluma Library in Sonoma County, CA, where her memorial service was held. She is survived by sons Jason and Morgan, and daughters Jennifer and Elizabeth.

"Quarterly" News: Spring 2012 Class Notes
by Jean Vnenchak

Ellen Manfredonia Nutter is planning a mini-reunion for our class in Asheville, NC-her new hometown. Dates are June 19-22, 2012. Planned activities include exploring Asheville's lively downtown, hiking along the Blue Ridge, and a visit to the Biltmore House. Frommer's has called Asheville one of the top dozen travel destinations in the world. Come see what the fuss is about! Contact Ellen at 828-505-8242 or elnutter@aol.com .

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Nancy Albrecht August and Marilyn Brainard Hofmann are planning a mini-reunion luncheon at the Essex Country Club in Manchester-by-the-Sea, MA, on Sept. 5, 2012. Also being planned: a campus mini-reunion with the opportunity to attend classes with students, Sept. 30-Oct. 3, 2012, and one in Oxford, England, in 2013.

Alice Ullman Dustin writes: "Following my dreams has taken a few turns and twists. I taught French for many years, English as a 2nd language, and substituted in inner-city and suburban schools. In 1999 I began to paint in oils and sell in galleries. I practiced judo for about 10 years until I moved on to the Philadelphia School of Circus Arts. I study aerials: trapeze, silks, corde lisse (rope), Chinese pole, and Chinese acrobatics. On the side, I'm practicing juggling. You can see my artwork at: alicedustin.com, and my circus work on YouTube under "Alice Dustin."

Lily Klebanoff Blake received a Galaxy Award from the NY Women's Agenda—a coalition of women's groups in NY—at their Dec. star breakfast, in recognition of her "inspirational work for the women of NYC."

Having retired in 2006 after teaching h.s. history for 38 years, Mary Pugh Clark feels that in 2011 her life gelled. Her photograph of the sidewalk graffiti "Become Your Dream," coupled with her shoes, was selected to be shown at, and to be the invitation for, a photography show celebrating Women's History Month in Jersey City. Remarkably, in Aug. a little pale pink ranch house became a dream come true for Mary and her 14-year-old cat, Dante. Enjoying the light, space, and serenity of her new place, Mary has begun a book of photos taken around her home. The tentative title is: Tasty Pink House Treats.

We are sad to report that Jeffrey Neil Bloomer, the son of Anne Macintyre Bloomer, died in Oct. He was passionate about making independent films, serving variously as actor, producer, director, editor, and cinematographer. We send our deep condolences to Anne and her husband, Joseph.

Mary Victor Jones Giersch and husband, Charlie, went to Vietnam for the traditional Vietnamese wedding of their son. After the wedding, they traveled with the bride and groom through Laos.

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Nancy Chambers Goff, Priscilla Morse Huston, Sarah Allen Mowitt, Edith Prentice Mendez, and Lenore Wadzinski Yousef are planning to travel to the whooping crane migration in TX near the AR Wildlife Reserve. Check our website at MHC64.com to see if their trip materialized, and to get more details on the items in this column, including the forthcoming mini-reunions and the new feature, Life Transitions, with Rosalie (Sally) Hackley Anders's reflections on whether or not to retire.

"Quarterly" News: Summer 2012 Class Notes **by Priscilla Morse Huston**

Mary Lee Warren will help our class forge connections with the class graduating in 2014 on our 50th reunion year. First initiated by the class of '60, each pair of classes has created their own special "grandmother/granddaughter" relationships since then. The 2014s are enthusiastic, and things are moving forward. Lily Klebanoff Blake, Jean Vnenchak, and Mary Lee attended the 2014 rings and roses ceremony (presentation of a rose and class ring) in Apr. We will meet with the 2014s at our mini-reunion on campus in Sept. At this point, the project needs your interest, support, and voluntary participation, as well as proposals for a better name than "the grandmother/granddaughter program." Visit Recent News for an Intro to our 2014 Project and for Impressions and Pictures of Rings and Roses. Please send email to Mary Lee Warren Mary.Lee.Warren@Alumnae.MtHolyoke.edu to voice your interest in this project.

Marj Long Longenbaugh wrote: "Dwayne and I lived in a tiny house in CO for years. We sold it and moved to a larger house over the state line in Farmington, NM. The new house seemed to have endless empty cabinets, but in 6 years we filled them up! When we sold that house and moved to Albuquerque, it was back to a small house. We had what we termed a pre-estate sale to shed all the possessions that would not fit in the new house. Having a small house helps to prevent accumulation?new stuff just won't fit! Rather extreme, but we have never missed all the stuff we sold. I did take an anti-clutter class that also helped." See the travel section of our website for Marj's fascinating travels to Hawaii, India, Brazil, Tanzania and Panama to see birds, big cats, butterflies and more.

Gretchen Beck Green wrote: "I broke my hip in Hong Kong on Mar. 24. That's the bad news. The good news is we were there to board the Azamara Quest with 9 of our friends. The ship sailed on Mar. 26 for the Philippines and Indonesia. A fire broke out

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in an engine room, and thank goodness we were not on board. I spent 5 days in the hospital, then 2 nights at the hotel before we were flown home. A Travel Guard insurance policy authorized us to fly business class in seats that totally recline. I'd still be in Hong Kong if we had not had that benefit! I know many have never taken out any travel insurance. We only started recently. Needing medical care in a foreign country is a huge eye-opener! I would love it if my experience helped someone else! Visit the travel section of our website for more about Gretchen's story and advice.

Lily Klebanoff Blake visited Lil Menzi Barry in Lausanne, Switzerland, in Jan. They toured along one side of Lake Geneva, looking at the vineyards and mountains, and had an elegant tea at the Hotel du Lac; yes, the same hotel as the novel with that name. Seeing Switzerland through Lil's eyes, who has lived there for so many years, was a very special experience. Lil Menzi Barry visited New York in Mar. and met Mary Pugh Clark, Mary Sinclair Rothenberg, and Lily for a fun lunch at a Turkish restaurant. It was a wonderful opportunity for friends to catch up. Visit Recent News for pictures and more.

Check out Mary Vic Jones Giersch's son's wedding in Vietnam under Travel on our website.

On May 25, 2012, Martha Kate Thomas (born Martha Kate McCrumm) lost her struggle with Ovarian Cancer and died peacefully at her home in Boulder, CO. In addition to our class website memorial, see the website at <https://www.lotsahelpinghands.com/c/620496/> for information regarding Martha during her inspirational time with Ovarian Cancer. Lotsahelpinghands will ask you to register for Martha's Army which will be used to send out future notices including plans for her memorial etc. When our class has more information we will also include it in the In Memoriam section of this website.

“Quarterly” News: Fall 2012 Class Notes
by Jean Vnenchak

This has been a season of mini-reunions for our class. On May 30, Nancy Chambers Goff hosted a luncheon at her home. Susan J. Koch, Mary Lee Warren, Mona Marich Hanford, Marilyn Wong Gleysteen, Katherine Pfeifer Mack, Virginia Klemm Wells, Barbara Anderson Ratigan, and Josephine Bennett Domingues attended. Many had not

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seen each other for quite some time. They talked well into late afternoon reminiscing about college experiences, and celebrating Mona's birthday.

On June 19-23, Ellen Manfredonia Nutter and husband, Dave, hosted a mini-reunion in Asheville NC. Mary Dee Beall and Bob Frank, Lily Klebanoff Blake, Barbara Dallinger Crowell, Meredith Dobyns, Shari Fitzpatrick, Marilyn Hastings, Priscilla Morse Huston, Wendy Lycan Jackson, Hope Whitaker Justman, Alison Harmer LaCalamito, Kate Shockey Lafrance, Edie Prentice Mandez, Mary Lee Warren, Anita Corman Weinblatt, and Lisa Liffers Wenzler attended. Classmates experienced the city's culture, sights, and great food while they shared ideas and life experiences in many hours of informal conversation. Since Asheville has no local Mount Holyoke club, Ellen invited area alums to a cocktail party. 17 alums from the classes of '60 thru '99 attended. All appreciated the opportunity to meet with fellow uncommon women.

In September, minis were held in Boston, in Napa, CA and at the college. Details and photos of these events will be posted on our Class website, www.mhc64.com. Please also check the website for information on future mini-reunions.

Margaret (Peggy) Ross Wormuth writes: that she retired as a teacher of students with autism in 2003. Her daughter-in-law had twins, and she ostensibly retired to help. When the twins moved to MN, she returned to teaching 2 to 3 days a week at her old school, and she volunteers at a church-run preschool/daycare center when she and her husband winter in FL. This activity she finds satisfies her need to nurture and play silly games! READ MORE

Mary Ann Lytle Anthony writes: my youngest granddaughter, Cassidy Anthony (16) spent a month at Mount Holyoke as a participant in the inaugural session of the "Women's Academy for International Leadership Development" (WAILD). She was awarded one of five \$5000 scholarships available to daughters and granddaughters of alums! She spent four intensive weeks focusing on leadership and professional and personal success. Cassidy's sister Brittney is a rising sophomore at MHC, and they both hope that Cassidy will be admitted to the Class of 2017. READ MORE

Your scribe, Jean Vnenchak, has learned that Alice Ullman Dustin has a new video, "Inchworm", on Youtube, It is a delight to see what someone our age can do on the silks: <https://youtu.be/jcyI9yufHRs>

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In July, your co-scribes, Jean and Priscilla, along with Nancy Chambers Goff, Susan Nicholson, Betsy Beatty Gable, Vicki Diez-Canseco, and Nancy Albrecht August visited Sarah Allen Mowitt and Barbara Scott Nelson in Rockport MA. In addition to the usual good food and wide-ranging conversations, we had spectacular displays by Mother Nature: first an amazing electrical storm and eventually a dazzling sunset. We also visited a Gloucester gallery where we saw Sarah's pottery and Vicki's mixed media artwork, which imaginatively combines painting and photography. [READ MORE](#)

Priscilla Morse Huston sadly informs us that Martha McCrumm Thomas died peacefully on Friday, May 25th, 2012 after a valiant fight against Ovarian Cancer. Martha attended both Mount Holyoke (Freshman and Sophomore years) and Swarthmore and was a respected financial advisor in Boulder, CO. To the end, her love of life, adventure and friends never wavered. In her nearly seventy years she lived many lifetimes of adventures. All those who knew her were inspired by her spirit, her smile and her love and appreciation of life. Martha is survived by her beloved Peruvian Paso horse, La Pinta Alegre; her brother, Tom McCrumm tom@southfacefarm.com and his family; her "like a" daughter Jamie Sladky jamie.sladky@raymondjames.com, and Jamie's husband; and those lucky enough to have shared moments with her they will carry forever. Her full obituary can be found [HERE](#). For more information and pictures, visit the In Memoriam Section of www.mhc64.com.