

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

“Quarterly” News: Winter 2017 Class Notes
by Priscilla Morse Huston

In September, head class agents Mary Victor Jones Giersch, Gretchen Wuth Hays, and Gail Simons Humphreys joined class agents Diane Kelley Fenton, Patricia Slodden Fleischauer, Gail Welch Hanson, Mary Jane (Gigi) Higgins, Priscilla Morse Huston, Jean Vnenchak, Heather Tyrie Wilcauskas, and class officers, Ellen Manfredonia Nutter, Anita Corman Weinblatt and Lily Klebanoff Blake on campus to launch the Class of 1964 Green Purse Legacy Circle Fund. The '64 Green Purse Legacy Circle reprises Mary Lyon's travels through New England in the early 1830's carrying her green velvet purse to collect small donations to establish her college. Our Green Purse will collect classmate bequests. We will pool them to endow Class of 1964 Student Internships -- a permanent gift from our class to future generations. Want to join? No bequest is too small! For more information: greenpurse64@gmail.com.

Congratulations to Georgia Smith Regnault as the newest Knight in the Order of Oranje-Nassau in The Netherlands!! Thanks to Patricia Madigan for discovering this incredible honor and surprise announcement presented by the Mayor of the Hague in front of the FAWCO (Federation of American Women's Clubs Overseas) Symposium, friends and family.

While in DC last summer babysitting grandsons Evan (7) and Graham (6 months), Ellen Nutter and Dave had a lovely Greek dinner in Bethesda with Mona Marich Hanford, Sue Koch, Mary Lee Warren, Barbara Anderson Ratigan and John, and Dee Wilson Nelson, visiting Mona.

Hope Whitaker Justman wrote: "My China tour 2017 is full thanks to the documentary that the Chinese News station made." Hope has created a shortened video of just the English portions of the documentary at <https://youtu.be/VJ2u3wFGFRI> showing 2015 tour group. Visit www.chinasgreatroads.com for more.

Laura Finne-Elonen has graciously invited us for a Mini-Reunion in Finland July 2017.

Nancy Chambers Goff held a luncheon in her new NH home (in neighborhood developed by Joan Mead Eaton's husband Austin) with classmates from surrounding areas. Ginny Smith Bornholdt, Bobbie Craig Jameson, Sarah Allen Mowitt, Barbara Scott

Mount Holyoke College Class of 1964

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Quarterly Class Notes

Nelson, Kate Paranya Ogle, Carol Nagy Theodore, Joan Eaton, Pat Fleischauer, Mary Vic Giersch, Gail Hanson, Priscilla Huston, Jean Vnenchak, and Heather Wilcauskas attended.

A few Boston-area classmates have initiated play dates. Gigi Higgins, Pat Fleischauer, Jean Vnenchak, Marilyn Brainard Hofmann, Nancy Albrecht August and Karen Anderson Chalfen participated in "Boston Play Date #1." They caught up on their lives and college issues while wandering the North End, visiting historic sites, and enjoying lunch.

See MHC64.COM for more on above plus other class news.

"Quarterly" News: Spring 2017 Class Notes

by Jean Vnenchak

Many saw the video of a Star Wars themed adoption, with the judge dressed as Princess Leia. That judge of the Family Court of Delaware was our Barbara Dallinger Crowell, who commented: In all, it has been a fun ride and hopefully spotlighted the good work we do at Family Court in addition to the negatives we deal with. The majority of cases involve children and youth at risk, including those in foster care as well as youth accused of felony crimes.

Lily Klebanoff Blake was a guest lecturer in Steve Schmeiser's Corporate Governance class, a class she discovered during a campus mini-reunion. "I attended the class and spoke with Steve Schmeiser, who subsequently asked me to be a guest speaker. This is my fourth year lecturing.

Barbara Scott Nelson has started a blog, "A Woman of a Certain Age", <https://awomanofacertain-age.org/author/barbarascottnelson/>, short essays on what the world looks like from the point of view of being seventy - joys, frustrations, wisdom, regrets. She is also writing a book on how craftsmen work with their hands.

Mary Jane [Gigi] Higgins organized a second "play date" for Boston-area 1964s, to take advantage of Gail Simons Humphreys' visit from California. Jean Vnenchak, Sarah Allen Mowitt, Vicki Diez-Canseco, Carol Nagy Theodore, Priscilla Morse Huston, Susan Nash Rice, Gail Welch Hanson, Barbara Flesch Resnek, Barbara Scott Nelson, and Pam Lucey Driscoll participated. They visited the famous "glass flowers" at Harvard's Museum of Natural History and lunched on the

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rooftop of Harvard Square's Daedalus restaurant.

Liliane Menzi Barry still enjoys Switzerland but has been visiting New York more frequently since the birth of her grandson. On her last visit, she attended a mini-reunion dinner and Vespers in New York. Earlier she had met Lily Klebanoff Blake for tea at the Cafe Sabarsky at the Neue Galerie.

Bobbie Craig Jameson is still working full time. Her summer had its ups and downs. It began with seeing classmates at Nancy Chambers Goff's in NH and ended with her son's magical wedding in Key West. In between her husband had difficulties with knee replacement surgery and their well went dry in the NH drought! Her daughter Catherine will graduate medical school this year.

See www.mhc64.com for details on these and other class happenings and for information on the Class of 1964 Green Purse Legacy Circle, an Endowed Fund for Student Internships to which we can all contribute.

"Quarterly" News: Summer 2017 Class Notes
by Priscilla Morse Huston

Ellen Manfredonia Nutter invited the Class Officers to Asheville to enjoy spending time together exploring her historic a town and the beauty of the surrounding Blue Ridge Mountains. Ellen timed the gathering to coincide with the conclusion of the Asheville Amadeus Festival. Anita Corman Weinblatt, Mary Victor Jones Giersch, Lily Klebanoff Blake, Gail Simons Humphreys, Heather Tyrie Wilcauskas, Jean Vnenchak, and Mary Lee Warren were able to attend. Amidst all the activities, there was still ample time for conversation about Mount Holyoke, plans for our class, women's lives and life in general.

In celebration of Women's History Month, NASDAQ again invited the Financial Women's Association (FWA) to ring the closing bell. Our past Class President Lily Klebanoff Blake is one of the past presidents of the Financial Women's Association and she, along with Joan Shapiro Green '66, another past president of the FWA, helped to ring the bell to close the NASDAQ on March 6, 2017.

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

Mary Lynn Skinner Bayliss is happy to report that her two-generation biography, *The Dooleys of Richmond: An Irish Immigrant Family in the Old and New South* has been published! The Dooleys came to Richmond in 1836, built a hat manufacturing company that became one of the largest in the United States only to lose it all in Richmond's Evacuation Fire at the end of the Civil War. Their lawyer son, James Henry Dooley became a key figure in the industrialization of the New South and a great philanthropist.

Susan Bass Marcus and her husband Stephen have passed through a year of high notes and crises since spring '16. Travel produced many highs, including hikes in England, Utah, Wisconsin, and Churchill, Manitoba for the Northern Lights. The biggest crisis was their son's cancer diagnosis last December. Susan continues to write fiction and essays; and is waiting for a few of her short stories to be published.

Gail Simons Humphreys and her husband Steve traveled back to India in January for a month 28 Dec. 2016 to 26 Jan. 2017 focusing on non-tourist India. Gail writes: "India was all people and chaos--- unless it was not, as we glided through the palm-shored backwaters of Kerala both with Steph and Claire (grandchildren) and then on our own after their departure." They feel there were hundreds of great scenes. See MHC64.COM for some of Gail's special pictures and more about the Recent News items above.

"Quarterly" News: Fall 2017 Class Notes
by Jean Vnenchak

Co-scribe Jean writes:

Laura Finne-Elonen has been re-elected to the Helsinki City Council as the first deputy of her party. She is on the Buildings and Public Works sub-committee. And she has a new grandchild, her fifth! Laura arranged the July mini-reunion in Finland that was attended by more than 20 1964ers. See our website for descriptions of events around Helsinki and related classmate travels to an Opera Festival in Olavinlinna castle in Savonlinna and to Lapland.

Mary Ann Lytle Anthony was on campus in May watching her granddaughter Cassidy graduate. Cassidy wore the mortar board worn by her great-great grandmother, Helen Bell West in 1914, by Mary Ann in 1964, and by sister Brittney in 2015.

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

Boston Play Date #3 was lunch at the Omni Parker House in May with Mary Lynn Skinner Bayliss, who was in Boston attending the Biographers International Organization Conference. Lynn's book, *The Dooleys of Richmond*, was published in April. Mary Jane (Gigi) Higgins, Priscilla Morse Huston, Barbara Flesch Resnek and Jean Vnenchak were fascinated by Lynn's stories of unusual coincidences and happenings while researching her book.

Barbara Scott Nelson, Sarah Allen Mowitt, and Vicki Diez-Canseco organized Play Date #4 in beautiful Gloucester, Massachusetts. Sixteen classmates enjoyed the Cape Ann Museum and lunch on the Harbor. The Museum features art, history and culture of the region, including a collection of Fitz Henry Lane paintings. It had special exhibits: *Rockbound: Painting the American Scene*, and the work of the Folly Cove Designers.

Ellen Manfredonia Nutter's May visit with Lily Klebanoff Blake in New York City was a catalyst for several events including: dining with Barbara Rosen and her partner Pat Martone, and visiting the *Age of Empires: the Qin & Han Dynasties* exhibit at the Metropolitan Museum with Hope Whitaker Justman and Sarah Allen Mowitt, followed by tea at Lily's with Jane Zuckerman, Gail Hunt Reeke, Donna (Dee) Wilson Nelson, Robin Gramlich Gordon, Caroline Webster Bernard, Edith Kaar Payne, Elizabeth Crowell Howe, Gena Reisner, and Hope and Sarah.

Susie Gaynor Day, in New York from Portland, OR, to visit her daughter and family, met with Anne Greer Garonzik, Katrina Hellebush Looby, Mary Jane (Gigi) Higgins, and Debby Newcomb Nightingale for lunch and exhibits at the Museum of Modern Art MOMA. These five classmates have maintained their college friendships by gathering frequently through the years.

Sadly, three of our classmates have recently died:

- **Jeanie Kinney Small** on April 25. Jeanie came to Mount Holyoke from Manchester, MA. She was in South Rockefeller senior year. She married William (Bill) Small and they had two children. Although an English major in college, Jeanie thrived teaching middle school science, winning honors in this role. She worked for years as a science specialist in the San Ramon Valley California Unified School District.

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Quarterly Class Notes

Echoing Jeanie's favorite quote from "Mary Poppins" - "practically perfect in every way," colleagues labeled her their "practically perfect science teacher." Jeanie loved travel and the outdoors, including kayaking with her sister on the Mississippi River. Leslie Raissman Wellbaum, Laraine Masters Glidden, and Christie McDonald remember her as a caring friend and a gentle person who also could be hilariously funny. Jeanie is survived by her husband Bill, their two children Jennifer and Peter, her sister, and several grandchildren.

- **Susan Schuck Hirst** on May 6. Susan came to college from Minneapolis, MN. She was in Porter senior year, majoring in zoology. Susan earned an MAT from Northwestern. She and Eric married in 1968, taught at Tuskegee Institute, then lived in Oak Ridge, TN, raising their two daughters. Susan earned an MS and thrived as a middle-school guidance counselor. In 2002, they moved to Bellingham, WA, to be near children and grandchildren. Susan was very active in HIV/AIDS education, both in the US and in Ghana. Throughout her life she loved the outdoors, especially canoeing. She and her family traveled extensively in the US and abroad. She went with classmates to China, and to Bhutan, Nepal and India. Her activities included: rowing, choral singing, gardening, knitting and hiking. Participating in the lives and activities of her four grandchildren was a major priority. Her husband, daughters Sarah and Cheryl, sons-in-law, and grandchildren survive her.
- **Margaret [Meg] Cormeny O'Brien** on May 19. Meg was born in Philadelphia and came to Mount Holyoke from the Baldwin School in Bryn Mawr, PA. Meg was in South Mandelle senior year and majored in Economics and Sociology. She got a Masters in Demography from U of Pennsylvania and a Doctorate in Sociology from Cornell. Meg used these degrees in a variety of jobs. She was a demographer for the Boston Redevelopment Authority for 25 years. Her research was described as being "key to overturning the de facto segregation of the Boston schools by its School Board." Meg contributed her skills to our class in many roles, including being class secretary during our 50th reunion and its years of planning. Her outstanding summary of our 50th is available on our website, mhc64.com. Meg is survived by her sons Thomas Peter of FL and Robert of CT, and by four grandsons.