



# THE ANCHOR

A Publication of the  
Agonian Alumnae  
Association

SPRING 2012

## Agonian Alumnae Association

Letter from the President

Dear Sisters,

“Oh the times they are a-changing...” and so Bob Dylan’s words come to mind as I write to you this year. My three year term comes to an end in July, and I would like to thank everyone for supporting the Alumnae Association through your financial contributions, volunteer work and continuing sense of sisterhood that serves our organization so well.

My class celebrates its 35th reunion year, and while that number gives pause and the great memories are regaled often—the gift of seeing old friends today allows us to create new stories with laughter, sharing and amazing friendships that truly have endured through the years. I know many of you enjoy this reality, as evidenced by class news and stories from your time in Potsdam.

This is Ago’s 130th anniversary—truly a benchmark worth noting! While we celebrate the generation that started it all—I invite you to read the nostalgic articles included in this edition of The Anchor—particularly those from the Classes of ‘49 and ‘62! While you enjoy their entertaining tales—take heed with what has drastically changed over the years, but what also holds fast and true as the decades roll along.

Change can help us gain perspective and reflect on new ideas. There are several offices with the Agonian Alumnae Association which will be vacated in July, 2012 including President, Vice President and Treasurer. A Nominating Committee has begun work preparing a slate for your review at the annual meeting at the sorority house. I urge you to be a part of this meeting (note the agenda in this edition) as we move forward with new leadership.

It is an exciting time as we continue to explore ways to stay connected, new alumnae join our ranks and a shared sisterhood is enjoyed by all!

I hope to see you in Potsdam this summer!

Love in AKPhi, *Laurie*

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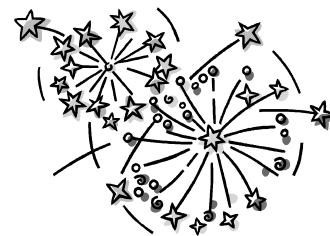
## 2012 Alumnae Weekend

Join your sisters in Potsdam July 12-15th

- Reunion Weekend will celebrate the 125th Anniversary of the Crane School of Music.  
Registration and event listing can be found on the school website—[www.potsdam.edu](http://www.potsdam.edu)
- Alpha Kappa Phi (11 Pierrepont) will be open the entire weekend. Stop by for a trip down memory lane!
- Agonian Alumnae Association Annual Meeting: Saturday, July 14th at 1:30pm (11 Pierrepont Avenue)
- Alpha Kappa Phi Board of Director’s Meeting: Sunday, July 15th at 10:00am (11 Pierrepont Avenue)
- As has been the custom the last several years, a sister or two have taken it upon themselves to graciously plan a social activity (or two) at the house. This year, Sue Duffy (Class of 1981) is coordinating social afternoons at the house the Friday and Saturday of reunion weekend.. Email her at if you’d like to participate at [susanctuf58@gmail.com](mailto:susanctuf58@gmail.com)—she is taking reservations now!

## Congratulations Ago— 130 years young!

Many thanks to our friends at Alpha Delta —the following information was cited from their current website:



“In St. Lawrence County, women were admitted to all the early public and private institutions. St. Lawrence Academy in Potsdam, NY was founded in 1816 and began receiving state aid in 1836 from the Board of Regents to instruct classes of common-school teachers. It was merged with the newly chartered Potsdam Normal School in 1868, one of the first four such state schools to train teachers. (A normal school was a school created to train high school graduates to be teachers. Its purpose was to establish teaching standards or *norms*, hence its name.) Among the many Normal School graduates were pioneer women educators who each helped establish the “Potsdam Tradition” of encouraging individual students to develop their potential.

The current SUNY Potsdam sororities evolved from the two Potsdam Normal School literary societies, the Alpha Literary Society and the Calliopean Literary Society. The main purpose of these first societies was to give women a chance to debate.

The Calliopean Literary Society became Zeta Gamma Upsilon, and in December of 1928 became Alpha Kappa Phi, the Agonian or more commonly known now as Ago.” (<http://www.alphadeltakappasorority.com/history>)

## The Tradition Continues....

While the Calliopean Literary Society set the stage for women to participate in debates, there is no debating the influence that Ago’s have had on SUNY Potsdam’s history, traditions and impact beyond the campus. We can all, once again, be proud of prestigious honors bestowed upon our own:

**Kathy White Finnerty** (Class of 1975) - Saint Lawrence Academy Medal, presented to an alumnus who has made significant contributions to the field of professional education or related fields. The honor is named for the predecessor institution to SUNY Potsdam.

**Lynne Boles** (Class of 1974) Minerva Award, presented to an alumnus who has demonstrated outstanding lifetime professional achievement.

They will be honored at the dinner on Saturday evening of Alumni Weekend. We are proud of our sisters who are so deserving of these esteemed awards!

## Ago’s Newest Leaders!

### Alpha Kappa Phi Sorority Executive Board (2012-2013)

|                         |                                   |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| President:              | Eva Mastoras—Orchard Park, NY     |
| Vice President:         | Jocelyn Zorn—Rochester, NY        |
| House Manager:          | Katherine DeBease—Westchester, NY |
| Social:                 | Carrie Hagan—Cazenovia, NY        |
| Pledge Mistress:        | Jillian Mathosian—Kings Park, NY  |
| Treasurer:              | Jocelyn Zorn                      |
| Inter Sorority Council: | Katherine DeBease                 |



## AGONIAN MEMORIES

By Joyce Moulton McAmmond-Coleman – Class of 1962

I totally ignored Fran's appeal for memories of the AGO House in the 60's, anticipating that someone else would accept the challenge. Every e-mail I received from Kate asked about my progress on the assignment – and each time I responded with some flippant remark as to who would really want to know such things? Still, Kate persisted. There was no putting off Kate! So...out came the photo albums and other detritus of college mementos – copies of The Racquette, The Pioneer, even a Junior Prom Queen poster..... and recollections flooded my senses.

The album provided countless snapshots of Agos lounging around the house, getting into costume for a skit or theme party, preparing for some special occasion. But the most memorable photos were those that pictured us dressed for action and singing. Dressed in stockings, heels, and our signature White Blazers with arms around each other singing – always singing –often *from the front porch railing!* The Children's Christmas Party with Ago elves, parents in the circle of friendship; Open Houses, Freshmen Teas, Rush Parties, Pledge Parties, and The AGO Auction – apprehension clearly visible on all of our faces, imagining being auctioned-off & no one bidding!

Living at the Ago House as a junior was a coveted opportunity – only 4 could do so, and our reward was to have a dresser and an assigned bookshelf area in the hall. Along with this honor was the responsibility to help in the running of the house - everyone had chores. And oh, yes, our one phone... with 2 extensions: the public one in the upstairs hallway, where those 4 living-in-the-hall juniors were the unofficial message-takers; and the private/ preferred one in a closet off the dining room.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> floor rooms were where everyone lived, studied, lounged (except for the 4 who *lived* in the hall) – but no one slept in those 2<sup>nd</sup> floor bedrooms! Sleeping was relegated to the dark, unheated 3<sup>rd</sup> floor dormitory of bunk beds. Wisely, the first possession you acquired upon moving into the Ago House was the heaviest down comforter you could afford or barter from a senior as she packed up after graduation. My comforter was left to me in a "senior will"!

Only one person was allowed an alarm clock in that frigid, drafty 3<sup>rd</sup> floor dorm – imagine 22 alarms and snooze-buttons! Someone (certainly not I) volunteered to be the earliest riser; thus began the daily ritual of wake-up calls. A board on the wall beside the stairway to the dorms had wake-up times and nametags. We hung our nametag on the time we wished to be awakened and removed our nametag as we staggered down the stairs by the board in the morning. Of course there was an incentive for being prompt since the final straggler was responsible for the next round of wake-up calls!

We made our own breakfasts (allotted one egg/day) and had lunch elsewhere, but the expectations were very specific for dinner. Mrs. D (our House Mother) was the subtle director of the dining ritual –no phone interruptions and no talking between tables. We could sign-out for dinner, but we were never late! The closest we came to being late, was arriving last to our assigned table. Then, the head chair would be empty and waiting! This scorned position represented the 'privilege' of serving, clearing, and cleaning up.

Even though the Ago House was technically off-campus, college rules still applied. No alcohol in the house, no males on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, a 10-mile radius travel-restriction (unless written parental permission extended it), and curfews of 10:30 and 1:00 on weekends. The porch lights blinked a 3-minute warning as curfew neared. Couples in clutches peppered the Ago front porch while others dashed across the street from the Clarkson library or desperately looked for a parking place before the lights went out and the doors were locked.

There was no thought of "cabin-fever" during the arctic cold of February. The (now long-lost) tradition of Ice Carnival encompassed every action and activity between the Clarkson and Potsdam campus. We rushed to Ice Show practice in the bitterly cold hockey arena, campaigned for Ice Carnival Queen, or took our turn in the front yard fashioning the monstrous themed Ice Sculpture, perfecting the finger-numbing skills of slush-making and ice-ironing.

Competition, community service, and leadership were an integral part of Ago in the 1960's! ...and we were competitive! We wanted to have the most candidates for Junior Prom Queen, the most Ice Carnival Queen candidates; we wanted the Queen to be OURS ... an AGO! We most certainly wanted to out-shine our biggest rivals, those Alphas! Agos were leaders in every facet of campus life – white blazers everywhere representing Ago!

## Memories of 1962...continued

But the fondest memories were the friendships and foolishness that encompassed everyday life in the Ago House. I remember being greeted as a pledge by a porch full of singing Agos. I remember being at Jane Andre's beck & call when she was my Big Sister. I remember the white formal evening gowns we wore for the Ago Initiation. I remember the thrill of climbing on those porch railings and singing to the next pledge class. I remember the chimes that were used to call a meeting to order, to call us to dinner, to signify the final moments before curfew when doors were locked.

I remember having to stuff all of Bunny's clothing under the bed when there was a room inspection. I remember May affecting her brogue and doing her Irish washerwoman routine as she tackled cleaning the dining room floor. I remember late-night discussions about this *new* thing called a birth control pill. I remember fire drills from the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor fire escape and not wanting to be the first one to "ride the ladder down." I remember occasionally watching TV in Mrs. D's room – on the only television in the house! I remember after-hours fraternity serenades when a sister was "pinned."

I remember wool knee socks, wool plaid skirts, and wool sweaters – the only time I'd ever needed that much warmth! I remember Linda's and Bunny's raccoon coats; oh, how we envied them! I remember lamenting that once again the Ago Anchor had been stolen. I remember many an early morning getting stuck on an unplowed street. I remember many a late night typing and re-typing a term paper because I couldn't white-out the *entire* paragraph I needed to move. I remember illicitly sunbathing on the porch roof and sleeping there on a sweltering June night.

I remember arriving to a 4-building campus called "the quad". And I remember *knowing* Dr. Crumb, Dr. Hosmer, Dr. Maxcy, Dr. Barrington, Dr. Satterlee - the people for whom the additional buildings are now named! But most of all I remember the pride we had in being Agos and the long-lasting friendships we formed that will be rekindled at this year's 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion!

*Joyce Moulton McAmmond-Coleman*



*For the past several years three members of the Agonian Class of '62 meet for lunch near Ft. Myers, Florida. Pictured are (L to R) Bev Eccles Levy, Fran Sardina Bliet, and Elaine Fallon Boyrer. It is always a joyous occasion filled with reminiscing and catching up on our latest family news, activities, and news of other members of our class. The three of us look forward to this time together each winter season we spend in Florida.*

## Preserving Ago's Past

As we celebrate 130 years as the Agonian Sorority, our collection of very special Ago treasures has grown! While many of our cherished items have been kept at 11 P, others may be in your personal anchor and yellow rose collections. We have noticed that our oldest composites from the Calliopean Literary Society days have begun to show their age. Composites from more recent decades have even disappeared during fraternity raids. Our beautiful white blazers are no longer part of the Ago tradition. So how do we preserve Ago's history? We have sought the help of Potsdam's Archivist Matt Francis. In the fall, we showed him an old composite from the Calliopean Literary Society that had lost its frame and had been damaged. Matt is very interested in learning more about our history and is holding this composite for us in the Archives. (Yes, we can still borrow it for our Reunions!) Matt observed that the Greek holdings in the Archives are small considering the impact Greek Life has had on Potsdam life. Matt would like to see other items of significance to our Sorority added to the Archives. He currently has Anchors from 1968-2007, but is missing our newsletters prior to '68 and after '07. If you have any of the missing Anchors, Matt would be willing to add them to the collection in the Archives (in the Crumb Library). He would also be interested in an Ago blazer, programs from old events, composites, etc. Of course, financial help would be appreciated in order to properly restore and care for our history. Matt can be reached at [francimr@potsteam.edu](mailto:francimr@potsteam.edu).

The archives will be open during Alumni Weekend—Thursday 1-4pm; Friday and Saturday 9am-5pm.

## Memories from Ago Class of '62

Just like visions of sugar plums floating in my head I have been on a mental journey of wonderful memories of our time at Potsdam since the e-mails started flying about our 50th Reunion coming up in July! "Postwood" put a smile on my face as I remembered being in the hospital Freshman year with hepatitis under the care of Dr. Ailing, .....how could you ever forget his name! My parents came to see me and I walked them down the hall to meet my sorority sister, Sue Waldron. The look of dismay on their faces when they learned she was hospitalized due to being hit in the head with a beer bottle at a party at Postwood! Like all of you I went on to have 4 very good years.

Reflecting on those years of course include meeting & marrying the love of my life, John Dearstyne. Joan Parry, Alpha, introduced us and lives a few miles from us with her husband Dave Baim so we see one another frequently. 50th this June! We are the last of that generation of longevity of marriages. One of our 3 daughters is divorced and that is another story to tell over a glass of wine.

John was a Theta Chi and we went back for his 25th reunion. Our jaws dropped when we saw the Theta Chi house with the front door off the hinges, a sofa on the roof of the porch and a cannon pointed out of a top floor window...and this while they were still a viable(?) fraternity.

I must mention, MUSIC. Altho I was not a Crane student, osmosis & exposure worked its magic. Memories include Judy Schorge practicing conducting in front of our dorm room mirror, & beautifully playing the flute. From what I gather from Xmas newsletters there is a music gene evident in the next generation. I can't hear Ravel's Bolero without being put right back on the Quad! And aren't we ALL proud of Renee Fleming!

So, YES John & I will be back for the reunion & encourage anybody on the fence to make the leap. Pat & Bob Swanson,,, we need you !

I am calling for a motel reservation right after I join Weight Watchers! If you can still fit in your wedding dress I don't want to hear it! Love in AKPhi, Jean Urbas Dearstyne

## 2012 Agonian Alumnae Association Scholarship Award

One hundred thirty years ago, a group of Potsdam Normal School students, looking for a way to enrich their educational experience, formed the Calliopean Literary Society. Their debates and dances were held in the old Snell Hall on Pierrepont Ave. Since 1882, both the Society and the College have grown and changed in response to students' needs, and today we recognize their legacy as the Agonian Sorority, Alpha Kappa Phi, of SUNY Potsdam and Clarkson University. Imagine the pride these Calliopeans would have in the longevity of our Sorority and the impact we have had on the Potsdam community!

Agos have always held leadership positions on campus, often serving their College as Orientation Leaders, Resident Advisors, and Student Government Association and club officers. Our Sorority offers many positions as well, and we officially (for those offices with Sr. and Jr. titles) and informally (by working side by side under the guidance of other Sisters) model leadership skills. Excellence in leadership enables us to maintain our standards and ensure our future. Those involved in running the Sorority and the House know they must be responsible and accountable if Ago is to thrive.

Agonian Alumnae continue the tradition of leadership. Ardra Cavanaugh Rogers, Class of 1927, holds the trifecta for first: first president of Ago, first president of the Potsdam Alumni Association, and their first Distinguished Service Award recipient. Following in her footsteps, three dedicated Agonian Alumnae serve on Potsdam's Foundation Board and two serve on Potsdam's Alumni Board. Potsdam's Alumni Award recipients include four Agonian Minerva Award honorees, six Agonian Distinguished Service Award honorees, and one Agonian St. Lawrence Academy Medal honoree. We are proud of the leadership and service of our Alumnae Sisters!

Suzanne Wajda, Class of 1974's Social Chairman and Ice Carnival Queen, recognized the need to officially organize Ago's Alumnae. In 1976, while a graduate student at Clarkson, Sue formed the Agonian Alumnae Association and served as its president through 2001. Under her leadership, the tradition of offering scholarships to our Sisters at Potsdam and Clarkson began in 1978. Our first scholarship, awarded to an Agonian for Academic Excellence, honored Laurena Ramsdell, a long-standing member of our Board of Directors. Eunice "Brownie" Badger served as Ago's Advisor from 1921-1983, and we honored her by adding a second scholarship in 1991 for Excellence in Service. In Sue's honor, we created a third scholarship for Excellence in Leadership in 2004.

It is the Suzanne Wajda Scholarship for Excellence in Leadership that we are proud to award this year to Audrianna Vahue, a Senior from Rochester, NY. Audrianna is an Early Childhood/Childhood Education Major with a Geology Minor. She pledged Fall 2009 and has held many positions in the Sorority and participated on countless committees, including Risk Management and Recruitment. In these roles, Audrianna contributed to "discussions about ways in which Ago can change in order to continue to be a successful organization with a positive impact on the Potsdam community." She learned what it takes to "make a chapter successful, which in turn makes a community successful." She learned leadership skills from Ago when she held the Junior InterSorority Council position and shadowed the Sister in the Senior position. Through experiences over her years on this committee, Audrianna also gained extremely valuable leadership skills from Julie Dold, Potsdam's Assistant Director of Campus Life.

For this scholarship, we ask our applicant to cite a leader she admires. Audrianna credits Julie with being an "amazing leader" for Potsdam's Greek Community because she spends "countless hours working with each Chapter in order to make it the best it can be." Julie leads by "showing a willingness to learn about the Greeks' traditions and values" and by seeing all of a situation's perspectives. By responding with "thoughtful and fair decisions," Julie "respects the love and dedication the Greeks have for their community." Julie's hard work inspired Audrianna to "work with the different opinions of each House, while respecting individual traditions and beliefs," thereby uniting Potsdam's sororities and expanding ISC's mission. Witnessing Julie's "drive and dedication as she deals with difficult situations on a regular basis" motivated Audrianna enough to have the courage to run for President of ISC. Sensing that others were losing interest and fearing the College would decide the Greek Community no longer needed to exist, she focused on one goal: strengthening ISC and making people believe again." In this position, Audrianna used her leadership skills to guide Potsdam's sororities toward a common goal of raising \$6000 for the Make-A-Wish Foundation.

In support of Audrianna's application, Julie shares that our Sister has "put forth more leadership and service than any other officer from ISC," "continually providing guidance and motivation for the other sororities on campus." Recently the members of ISC expressed the desire to have a "larger purpose and functionality." In spearheading ISC's first community service project for the Make-A-Wish Foundation, Audrianna not only raised significant funds for a charitable organization, but also "gave each chapter something to work towards," thus "uniting the sororities on campus. Chapters who might not have worked together in the past are getting to know one another. She provided people, Greek and non-Greek, with an opportunity to better understand what a sorority woman is really about." Julie believes Audrianna "exemplifies leadership and service very befitting to the namesakes of our scholarship awards."

Audrianna knows that "being a leader takes strength and courage," as it is difficult to lead diverse groups toward a common goal. As an Agonian, she gained the confidence necessary to do this. Her leadership skills brought her success on ISC and during her student teaching experiences. She will continue to use the leadership skills she gained through Ago as she works on her Master's Degree in Literacy and begins her professional teaching career. Congratulations, Audrianna!

Ago's Scholarship Committee takes the time to read through our Actives' applications and thoughtfully decide who our recipient should be. Through this process, much is learned about the activities of our Sisters, who are committed to their academics, Ago, and the greater Potsdam community. Working together on this committee were: Laurie Wood Cooper '77, Rachel Gebhardt '09, Amy Hind Henry '76, Debbie Diefendorf Hind '75, Serena Krauz '07, Stephanie Allen Manuel '91, Georgie Czerniak McGlinchey '77, Lindsay Mermell '09, Licia Urtis Murrell '82, Jenna Naylor '09, Cathy O'Connor '76, Amy Rich '10, Patty Abernethy Sohl '77, and Liz O'Connor Utzig '77. Special thanks are given to them and to all of our Alumnae who support our scholarship fund. What a great way to show the Actives that we value their achievements and service to their community!



*2012 Agonian Alumnae Association Scholarship Presentation*

## A Little Business....

### Agonian Alumnae Association

#### Treasurer's Report:

##### Balances as of 3/30/12:

Certificate of Deposit \$7,647.03  
 Checking Account \$2,804.29  
 Savings Account \$5,647.34

##### **Annual Dues: \$25.00**

Checks made payable to:  
 Agonian Alumnae Association  
 PO Box 144, Burnt Hills, NY 12027

#### 2012 Annual Meeting Agenda

Call to Order

Agonian Hymn

Reports

- Alumnae Association Officers
- Scholarship Committee
- Future Alumnae (Actives)
- Alpha Kappa Phi Board of Directors

Old Business

- Sorority Rush Support
- Alumnae Association financial support

New Business

- Elections
- 2013 Annual Meeting Date

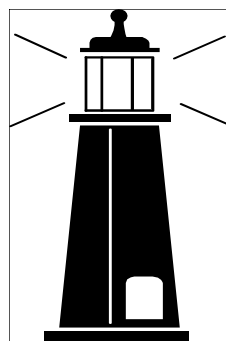
#### Officers—2011/2012

President—Laurie Wood Cooper '77

Vice President—Elizabeth O'Connor Utzig '77

Treasurer—Open

Corresponding Secretary—Vera Thurston Gibbs '78



### Alpha Kappa Phi Corporate Board of Directors

|                      |                             |
|----------------------|-----------------------------|
| Chair/Active Liaison | Jane Morale '80             |
| Treasurer            | Colleen Costello Filiak '79 |
| Asst. Treasurer      | Shelley Ives '83            |
| Collections          | Erica Pendleton Davis '83   |
| Repairs              | Licia Urtis Murrell '82     |



New Board members are welcome—for more information please contact Jane Morale at:  
 moraleje191@potdam



## In Memoriam...

It is with a heavy heart that we report the passing of:

Marianne Bennett Burns—Class of 1938

Polly Hyde Zecher—Class of 1942

Emogene Buckley Curran—Class of 1947

Kathryn Vollmer Mellen—Class of 1948

Kay Durr Lyman—Class of 1950

Barbara Fowler Prater—Class of 1957

Linetta Miller Shumanski—Class of 1961

## Class News

*If your news didn't reach us in time for the publication of the 2012 Anchor—please be sure to send along your latest updates for our next edition! A response form is available on the last page, and can be forwarded at any time of the year. Your sisters want to hear from you!*

### Class of 1947

We are saddened to hear of the passing of **Emogene Buckley Curran** who died on 10/28/00 after a long battle with Alzheimers. She was a loving wife, mother and friend who helped her husband run a family business, The Alfred Sports Center, and also played piano for the Pres White Band on weekends as long as she was able. She is sadly missed by all who knew and loved her.

### Class of 1949

**Shirley Valentine Backus** celebrated her 83rd Birthday on March 9, 2012 and although she has had 4 strokes over the past few years she is now able to live in her own home with her son, Michael and three women caregivers who share the full-time “around the clock” duty. She is able to move about the house with a walker for security. She does enjoy chatting on the phone and reliving some of her favorite memories of her Potsdam days like the year she invited five girls to her parents’ home on Lake Bonaparte for a weekend party. She talks about her roommates and remembers that Nan Rankin was there. She also does appreciate the cards and notes she receives from her AGO Sisters. Her address is 14150 Hotel Road, Harrisville, NY 13648.

**Win Stoker Pusey** says her family is all well and she and Brad “perk along”. In summer of 2011 they took a tour of several National Parks with a company that collaborates with Ken Burns. They spent the first 3 days in Salt Lake City and enjoyed the chance to explore the Mormon heritage. Then on to Yellowstone, Jackson Lake and Mt. Rushmore. In late March they enjoyed a 2 week respite in Florida and, as is the custom while they are there, had lunch with Rita Pangborn Osborn '48 and husband, Don, who are doing fine at 85 years+. Win and Brad have decided to take the 10 hour bus ride from Bangor, Maine to NYC to attend the Crane Performance of the Verdi Requiem Mass on May 1 in celebration of 125th Anniversary of Crane. Winnie says, “This brings back to me the memory of playing Norman Dello Joio's “Psalm of David” in Carnegie Hall with the composer conducting his own work. I was pretty overwhelmed to be there”. Win still plays organ and directs their church choir where the average age is about 75 years and she will probably continue until they, or she, graduates to the Angel Chorus.

**Donna Newton Johnson** and husband, Dick spent their second winter back in Williamsburg, VA having moved there in the Fall of 2010. Several years ago they had moved from VA to their retirement home in Auburn, NY. They were very happy living in the “shadow” of Skaneateles Lake and the flavor of “antiques territory” in the Mohawk Valley. However, there were no family members nearby. As time moved on they felt the “calling” to return to Williamsburg where one of their sons lives in nearby Richmond. Their new home is a cozy cottage with an additional sun room in a community where there are many conveniences for retired people. They do enjoy having dinner away from home two evenings a week. Several couples who had been their social friends before still live in the vicinity and friendships have been renewed.

**Lorraine Brown Bogardus** sends greetings and wants her AGO sisters to know that she is thinking about all the girls. She and her husband are still living on that historic ground along the St. Lawrence River which divides two great countries. It will forever keep the secrets but tell the stories of that time in the history of our country when it was vulnerable but also determined and brave - The War of 1812. The historic pre-civil war stone farm house that they live in is an icon of another era. Lorraine inherited this property from her paternal grandfather. Her mother was born across the river in Brockville, Ontario Canada. Lorraine continues to serve on the Board of Directors of The Gateway Museum of Morristown. Last August (2011) when she and two friends were attending a Board of Directors Meeting she became ill and suffered a stroke. Very fortunately she had medical attention immediately and has been spared any significant handicaps. Lorraine has authored two books, "River Reflections" and "River Reflections Revisited".

**Lila Dean Hamilton** and "Ham" returned to their seasonal home in The Villages, FL for the winter and some of the spring months this year and are enjoying it as much or more than usual. Easter was a special happy time with ten people for Easter Dinner that included their daughters, nieces and two other couples. They attended the Potsdam Alumnae Annual Florida Luncheon in late March. It was held in The Villages this year and there were 28 people there but no familiar faces. Ham plays golf two days each week. They will be leaving in mid-June to return to their home in Batavia, NY and stopping to visit their daughter and family in Centerville, VA. They will attend their granddaughter's high school graduation; Emily plans on attending James Madison University in the fall.

**Jean Johnston Brown** sends this happy and uplifting greeting: "Loving it here in sunny, 80 degrees, "Azalea", beautiful South Carolina! Living with daughter, Beth, a nurse, who keeps me healthy and walking every day. Sons, Daniel and Stephen are close by and help us in so many ways. My pride and joy are my 4 great grandchildren: Christian 12, Ava 8, Hailey 6, Caleb 1&1/2 and #5, Katherine, due in due in May - precious family! The good Lord willing I will be 85 on June 6. Still love to play the piano and sing".

**Ruthie Rose Many** still lives in Hobart, NY which has been her home town all her life. She continues to live in the same house that had been the family home of her late husband's parents. Recently she was invited to attend a 60th Wedding Anniversary party for two of her friends who were in high school with her and they too, were also still in Hobart. Three of Ruthie's married children and grandchildren also live in the same vicinity. Another daughter, Rena and family live in Virginia and last but not least, the third daughter and family make their home in Hawaii. In February Ruth spent a week in Homosassa, FL with "friends who treated her like a queen". Later she spent two weeks with Rena and family in Virginia. Since returning home she goes into the school Pre-K with her autoharp to play, sing, and do finger plays (Remember "Itsy-Bitsy Spider?"). She is having "so much fun back to the little ones". For extreme diversion she plays piano at an Adult Retirement Facility across the mountain in Stamford, NY. She says, "I should have majored in piano instead of clarinet." Ruthie has also had another kind of diverse experience which was not exactly entertaining. When she arrived home from Virginia and went into the game room to tend her plants, lo and behold there were SIX large holes chewed in the ceiling. When she went back a little later the critter (alias squirrel) came into the room to be sociable but since Ruthie didn't quite see it that way she set a "have-a-heart" trap. Fortunately she was able to match the tiles and some friends repaired the damage. She does not have much heart for a critter who commits a crime in her house!

**Nan Rankin Harris** celebrated her 85th Birthday on February 3 this year and "everything came up roses." The delivery van pulled up in front of her house; the woman driver removed a cart on wheels from the rear compartment and struggled successfully to place the precious cargo onto the wagon. Then—she wheeled it to Nan's door. Happy Birthday! Nan had just received her birthday present from the one of her 3 sons who lives on the West coast and she was helpless until someone came to her rescue. The very heavy, tall, crystal vase "bloomed" with 84 beautiful long-stem red roses and one white rose. Nan's said "Sometimes your kids have different ways of doing things .....but they were so beautiful!" Frequent trips to the theatres and concert halls are still favorites for Nan and her lady friends who share their fondness for musicals, drama, movies and the Orlando Symphony --- sometimes driving 50 miles away (in the daytime). For her "Membrance" moments this year she has chosen to ask you, "Do you remember the wonderful Ice Carnivals?" The ice statues (always a theme) and how cold and wet we got? And the skating routines in the Clarkson Arena? One year we were "Sophisticated Ladies" in black, satiny costumes and then the next year we were "Muffin Men"( with white Baker's hats). "WHAT FUN"! To sum it all up Nan coined a phrase to be envied: "I treasure my days at home with no place to go! Yet I'm always happy to get up and head out."

**Jane Baumer Moore** and Jack decided in November that because they *had been* doing nothing for so long they were going to move to Port Charlotte, FL for a new beginning. They did move into South Port Square, a retirement community located on 40 acres with a number of small lakes. The apartments surround a small village with a bank, beauty parlor, town hall, arts and crafts center and a large outdoor swimming pool and fitness center. The food is very good and there are all kinds of activities. Jane and Jack think they should be finished unpacking pretty soon so they can enjoy the activities. They had lived in nearby Punta Gorda for several years where Jane had taught music. They are happy and where they want to be.

**Bev Savage Castiglione** (Class Rep) sent a lovely note: "Many times I have dreamed "an Impossible Dream" just because.. but this past November I found out what it is really like to do so and the quest became real. I travelled by car many times to Binghamton University where my grandson, Steve, is completing his Masters Degree in Theatre Arts. He received his undergraduate degree in Theatre from SUNY Potsdam where he had appeared in several productions, notably as Lysander in "A Midsummer Night's Dream". He then became a graduate student in Binghamton since Potsdam did not offer a Master's degree. Immediately he found himself in auditions and on stage in "Little Shop of Horrors", "The 3 Penny Opera", as Ligarius in "Julius Caesar" and several one-act plays. But this was the Fall of 2011 and the big production had been chosen - none other than Man of LaMancha! and Steve had the leading role as Miguel De Cervantes/ Don Quixote. It played over two full weekends with full house and standing ovations every performance. This is truly a musical with much depending on the music. "The Impossible Dream" was Don Quixote's solo. It was also truly his quest. Steve made it happen over and over again and his voice never failed him. In Potsdam he had sung with the Men's Male Chorus and I'm certain that had added great experience. This was the highlight of my life.and no words are sufficient for when Steve was seven years old he had fought and beaten cancer. He had a quest then, too....

### **Class of 1950**

**Shirley Secor Bush** writes that in 2010 she attended her 60th reunion. "It was still great being with those few of us Agos still "hanging in there!" I'll stick with maiden names since I've forgotten some of the married ones. Tibby Decker, Shirley Butler, Terry Gardiner, Laurna Millard...great visits we had! A very quick trip to the house just before leaving town. The meeting time change may be a good idea. Husband Phillip and I still happily ensconced at the Brookside Senior Community in Lowville. Wintered in N. Myrtle Beach."

### **Class of 1957**

**Betty Foster Dunn** sends her greetings to all.

**Mary Jane Flewellin Fisher** opted to stay home rather than be in Florida this past winter and with the warm weather, really lucked out! She says they are homebodies taking part in some exercise, mah jongg and garden club. "Take care, all!"

**Julie Eisenstein Hirsch** and family, including four teenage grandchildren, celebrated Norm's 80th birthday in Jamaica in April. He had arranged a surprise 75th birthday party for Julie while they were traveling in the northern states last summer. Her work as a volunteer with Backpack Buddies and as cantor at their synagogue and others, plus much traveling keep her as busy as she likes to be.

**Barbara McMahan Newcomb** is pleased to write that her love for music has been picked up by all 10 of her grandchildren. They range from college graduates in music down to just starting instruments and all are very enthusiastic music makers. When they visit Barb and Allen, everyone takes part in after dinner "musicales." Barb says that she and Allen have been very happy and are now enjoying retirement to the fullest!

For someone who never touched alcohol while in college, **Susan Smykla Udell** now has an unusual hobby: making wine from the grapes, berries, cherries and other fruits that grow on their farm outside of Madison, WI. The 2011 crops yielded 180 bottles---If you're ever in the area, stop by for a taste! Meanwhile, please stay well, everyone, and keep sending your news to her at usandj@hotmail.com. It's been 55 years.. we'll appreciate hearing from you!

We are sorry to learn that **Barbara (Barbie) Fowler Prater** of Prattville, Alabama died on March 31st. She'd had a heart attack a few years ago and lately was coping with macular degeneration. While approaching a neighbor's home, she fell, hit her head and may have had another heart attack. Our sincere sympathy goes to her family.

### **Class of 1958**

**Dorothy Runkel Dronkers** says she is still enjoying life in Florida. In August, 2011 they traveled north to Geneva to visit family and friends. She is a docent at the Conservancy of SW Florida and enjoys meeting the people who come into the Discovery Center. She and Dan agree that retirement is a wonderful thing!

### **Class of 1959**

**Jane Andre Sullivan** writes that she and Henry enjoy living near their daughter and family in Florida. They miss California but love attending their grandchildren's activities and concerts. She enjoys the newsletter and hopes to hear from more Agos around her class anniversary.

**Sylvia Anable** sends word that she and her husband will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on August 2nd. Cliff is a 1957 graduate of Clarkson.

### **Class of 1962**

**Susan Johnson Aceto** is looking forward to seeing Ago sisters in July. She and Tom love their life in Tucson, AZ in the winter and way downeast in Maine in the summer. What could be better? Sue is very active attending concerts and hiking all year round. Son Jeff is now at the University of Maine as Assistant Director of Facilities/Chief Engineer. Son Jonathan, a professional violinist, teaches at Georgia Southern University and toured China over Christmas with an orchestra performing American film music. The Chinese loved it! It was a memorable year for many reasons, not the least of which was celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary.

**Betsy Slingerland Blaisdell** and John continue to love working full time and facing the many challenges of their jobs. John enjoyed several business trips to Sweden. Betsy and John enjoyed trips to Aruba, Hilton Head, Wyoming, Florida and twice to Minnesota where they visited their son Jonathan and his family. She has two adorable grandsons Royce and Cooper.

**Fran Sardina Bliak** and Dave continue to enjoy splitting their time between the Finger Lakes of NYS and Naples, Florida. Their granddaughter Krista is a Freshman art student at Columbus College of Art & Design. Grandson Eric graduates from U of R with a BS degree in Physics in May and will enter the Optics PHD program next fall. Grandson Robert will begin law school in the fall concentrating on environmental law. Needless to say we are very proud of them. They traveled to California to visit their son and family last fall and enjoyed time with the California grandchildren. They get to see their Saratoga Family fairly often and enjoy the family time. The whole crew will hopefully be together this June for a week's vacation at Inlet in the Adirondacks in celebration of our 50 years of marriage. "Can't wait to see everyone at our 50th Reunion in Potsdam!"

**Joyce Moulton McAmmond-Coleman** and Roger traveled to South Africa to visit their son who lives and works at an Aids Centre there; their visit was so marvelous that, with Rochester's unusually mild winter this year, it satisfied their urge to ramble and escape anywhere else since. A picture-perfect summer was all they needed to enjoy alternate-weekly jaunts to their summer cottage in the hills of Wyoming County and a winter holiday visit with 2 of their girls in NC. Joyce is looking forward to Potsdam's luscious green in July for the reunion, all the festivities, but most of all: replacing occasional emails with real hugs and chatter amongst friends so dear over these 50 years.

**Kate Sheldon Cox** is living in Asbury Park in an apartment on the ocean (lucky gal)...a lot different from the Adirondacks. She really misses the woods! Her family is doing well. Susie and Julie are nearby in Jersey and Peter is in Boston. She is getting very good at traveling by train for a change of pace to visit old friends in Lyons Falls and son in Boston. Kate can't wait to go north for the reunion. She can't wait to be the 50th Reunion class. "Those old people that came on campus for reunion looked too ancient for me! Really! What happened? Looking forward to July!"

**Elaine Fallon Boyrer** finds it hard to believe that we are approaching our 50th reunion at Potsdam this summer which she is planning to attend. Aside from the usual joint aches and pains, Elaine still feels young and healthy. Unfortunately, her husband Jerry has not fared that well. He has been treated for Alzheimer's disease for about 5 years and his condition has deteriorated this year. He attends Adult Day Care 3 times a week where caretakers at both the facility on Long Island and the one in Florida are wonderful. They, in addition to her wonderful family and friends, give her tremendous support and keep him smiling. Once again this winter while in Florida, Elaine had the opportunity to lunch with Fran Sardina Bliet and Bev Eccles Levy which is always so much fun! Amid discussion of family, they laugh and reminisce about Potsdam. Memories are so vivid; it feels like yesterday. Last summer, Elaine met Kathy Canapary Kiernan in Sag Harbor. What a treat! They could not stop talking about their fun times on campus and during their summer trip to Europe following graduation. Elaine still plays golf and enjoys reading, exercising, gardening and her grandchildren.

**Jean Urbas Dearstyne** shared some memories of our time together in Potsdam, including a visit to the hospital to be treated by Dr. Ailing (who could forget his name?), Sue Waldron's party mishap, meeting her husband, John, and continued friendship to this day with the friend from Alpha that introduced them! A visit back to Potsdam for John's 25<sup>th</sup> gave them a view of Theta Chi they weren't expecting! She reminisced about how important music was to her time in Potsdam with fond memories of Judy Schorge's talents. Jean and John plan to attend the reunion and encourage everyone else to join in the fun!

*(Editor's Note: The Class of 1962 was very gracious to have supplied such lovely remembrances of their time in Potsdam. Jean's full letter is printed on page 5 of this edition for your enjoyment.)*

**May Simpson Kemp** writes that after 7 years she and Terry find their anchor just outside of York, PA. Close by is their youngest son, Darren, wife Lisa and three grandchildren. Brian, Lynne and other two grandchildren live in Palos Verdes, outside of Los Angeles. Their oldest son Kevin, a child born with the Rubella syndrome, lives in a group home in Port Leyden, NY. Terry keeps busy in retirement by serving as the Lion's Club President and as a member of the Memorial Day Parade Committee. May is on the Board of the local Dollars for Scholars chapter. She is also involved in quilting, two book clubs, antique restoration, and a myriad of other projects. This year she is looking forward to the 50th Reunion, another trip to Ireland and the chance to see her 92 year old aunt and other cousins, and their 50th Anniversary. "A special thanks to our two cupids, Fran and Dave Bliet. Wow! That's a lot to be thankful for

**Judy Schorge O'Reilly** and John are doing far less traveling out of the country now that John is retired. He still gets asked to guest conduct, but it isn't as frequent. Now they travel where they want to go and it's mostly within the US or Canada. Two summers ago they spent 3 weeks in the Maritime Provinces in Canada. They stopped to see Tom & Sue Johnson Aceto at their gorgeous Maine home right on the ocean. Sue was kind enough to play piano for them. Judy says, "She's still got it - which brought me to tears". Judy and John visited Napa's Wine Country and drove to San Francisco. They also spent two weeks in Maui, time in Burlington, VT, Stockbridge, MA and Ottawa. They will be camping in a new travel trailer, a Teton 32 ft. fifth wheel, which is stored at a trailer resort in the San Bernadino Mountains above Palm Springs. Judy hopes to see her Ago sisters at the 50th Reunion. She and John invite the Ago Class of '62 to their home in Hannawa Falls, on the Raquette River, for a get together after the planned Friday night event.

**Beverley Eccles Levy** remains very active in the Breast Cancer Coalition of Rochester and co-chaired the Artists Reception for their organization's big fundraiser "Artrageous Affair". Her husband Gail volunteers his ideas and mechanical skills at the Rochester Museum and Science Center. They spent 2 months in Florida (6 wks on Marco Island and the rest of the time on Siesta Keys, Ft. Myers Beach, and Cedar Key). Super Bowl weekend was spent with Fran & Dave Bliet and Carolyn (Marlow) and Jerry Masucci on Marco Island. Her daughter and family visited from Seattle and celebrated the holidays with them in Webster again this year. They enjoy spending time with their local grandchildren and often take them to the Rochester Museum & Science Center events. Bev can't wait to see everyone at the 50th Reunion!

**Kathleen Canapary Kiernan** contemplates the fact that time seems to have a way of getting away from us or perhaps it's because the older we get the longer it takes to do less and less. Kathie finds it hard to believe that it has been 50 years since we gathered at the Ago house. Despite the passage of time, the soft touch and sweet smile of Joyce's wake up call, Jean always having her papers and assignments done a few days ahead of time, and Elaine's contagious laugh are vivid memories. Shirley had an ever present listening ear and Sue filled our ears with beautiful music. Sharon was the fashion plate and Ro and Fran seemed like sisters. "How fortunate we were to have Ago sisters like Betsy and Pat and all the others in our class, and many thanks to Fran for keeping us updated. Kathie says it will be so very special to see all of her Ago sisters from the Class of '62 in July."

**Rosemary Falbo Quadrini** describes the summer of 2011 as hot and dry in Texas. She and Dave made their annual trip in early June to California to visit their daughter, son-in-law and twin grandsons and their son. It was a wonderful time and cool! They escaped the heat again in late June for a family reunion on Cape Cod which included a thrilling whale watch. They stayed north for a second week visiting family and friends in NY. It was great seeing Potsdam friends Fran Sardina Blied, Betty Hughto Schaeffer, Carolyn Marlow Masucci and Ginny Stratt Braun. In July another trip out of Texas was to beautiful Ocean Isle Beach, NC. August brought more 100+ degree temperatures. Their annual Quadrini Camp with their seven grandchildren found them searching for indoor activities. The highlight of the week was a trip to the airport to welcome home our troops from the Middle East. Dallas is one of two airports where troops land in the US enroute to their final destinations. The children had fun making posters before going to the airport. Fall and winter found them close to home. The usual activities of book club, Empty Nesters, community group, church, volunteer opportunities and keeping up with their Dallas grandchildren filled their days. They are now hoping for less severe summer weather-wise.

**Pat Clerkin Swanson** and Bob are looking forward to their 50th reunions. She says the clichés are true – "Where has the time gone? It seems like yesterday. Even our retirement years are going way too fast." Fortunately they have lots of wonderful activities within easy driving distance of their home. They are busy taking classes, going to the gym and doing volunteer work, i.e.: The See Eye, Court Appointed Special Advocate, teaching ESL and Jersey Battered Women's Services. All this is good for them especially since their children and grandchildren live in Colorado and New Hampshire. They see them every two or three months and the last couple of years have been able to ski with them. Pat says, "Unfortunately they have all surpassed us." This August will be particularly enjoyable as all the Swansons will spend a week together at the beach in Cape May. Pat and Bob hope to see many of you in Potsdam.

**Shirley Wolf Crane** hopes to share the Thursday through Sunday of reunion weekend with all of the Ago Class of '62. She has had fun telephoning many of us and hearing our stories. Irv and she visited the northern California national parks in June. They continue to join Fran, Bev and May for a summer weekend and many evenings. It's great to enjoy their families and find new adventures together. They spend many weekends with the family and love following the grandchildren's activities when possible.

**Kathy Bernardo Grabowski** has a new address: 73 Cherin Run, Fairport, NY 14450

### **Class of 1963**

**Mary Lou Phillips Heller** and her husband Mike will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on August 18th. They are enjoying retirement.

**Marti Tallman Scott** and her husband have lived in Arizona for 7 years now. They are enjoying the Adult Community Life in Sun Lakes, including dances at least 4 times a month, playing cards, and eating out. Marti teaches water aerobics 5 mornings a week, volunteers for meal delivery once a month, helps with her Sunday School class and the Shaklee business. They have 4 grandchildren and visit KC, Kansas and St. Louis often. If you are in the Phoenix area, call 480-895-4176.

**Ruth Hammel Gove** has enjoyed a mild winter, with the golf course in town open all winter until the snow on March 1st. Ruth's activities include exercise class 3 times a week, Yoga twice and Pilates once. In the winter, Ruth plays tennis twice a week and returns to golf in April. Occasionally she substitutes in her former school. She helps a friend by "child sitting" one day a week. Ruth gets together at times with Nancy Hoffer.

**Cynthia Thisse Lehmkuhl** traveled around the East Coast this year. She has enjoyed contact with Agos near and far. For her it is a new decade this year and she says she is still breathing! It's a good thing!

**Elaine Maurer Lavery** spends 6 months in Florida and 6 months in Scottsdale AZ. She continues to serve as a lay Sister of Charity and has spent 40 years serving the Catholic Church. She has 2 children and one grandchild.

**Susan Hayes Tillotson** says that even after 49 years, she still values from Ago the sense of belonging, friendship, meeting fun, initiation ritual, the model of "Brownie", learning bridge, and more. As for 2012, she has a great husband, 3 caring and accomplished kids, 3 grandchildren, 2 church organ/choir jobs, and is learning cello. She still subs in schools and does workshops for teachers, parents, and kids. In 1997 she was a finalist for Colorado elementary principal of the year! She has traveled a lot (overseas and in the U.S.) and teaches piano and guitar at home.

**Nancy Hoffer** had a very good year...happy and healthy with continuing volunteer work 3 days a week. She will be President of the Wellesley Woman's Club for one more year. She is enjoying lots of interesting Boston activities – plays, museums and lectures and is looking forward to a trip to France in October! The best part is keeping in contact with her Ago sisters...Bev Smith, Jane Hannan Corrou, Ruth Hammel Gove, and Susan Howard Penharlow.

**Carol Bossung Schorr** and Rick have a merged family of 8 children, 7 spouses, and 18 grandchildren, spread from coast to coast, including Kauai. Carol has the oldest grandchild at 23 and the youngest at 2 ½. Her activities include duplicate bridge, gardening, serving on the endowment board for her community, being a member of PEO, and serving as its CT State President in 2003. At a Presbyterian gathering Carol ran into a 1963 graduate of Gene-seo and an Agonian! Give Carol a call if you are visiting Hilton Head.

**Beverly Smith** continues with her usual activities of golf, watercolor classes, volunteer work in a class for the Visually Challenged and gardening. She has recently added Tai Chi several times a week to her activities. She is resigning her position as Secretary of her Homeowners' Association, but recently became a VP of Delta Kappa Gamma, an organization of women educators. Never a dull moment!

### Class of 1972

**Paula Thompson Moore** spent 2011 mostly closer to home but still worked in several motorcycle trips to VA, AL, and WV as well as enjoying more day-riding in the Smoky Mountains (their back yard). This summer they're planning to try motorcycling AK again - but this time will fly up and rent bikes and skip the breaking down in Canada part. The golf and billiard matches continue with Sue Wood and the rivalry remains spirited with lots of laughs even while (according to Paula) "she beats me at golf and lets me beat myself at pool." To their delight family and friends still find the time to come visit in TN, however, they also made time to participate in the wedding of some dear friends in England and attend a family wedding in Cancun, MX. "Sometimes it seems like yesterday – well, ok, maybe last week but Roy and I are celebrating our 40th this year – in VEGAS (still not too old to have fun)...rumor has it some AGOs may be in attendance as well???"

**Marie DuPell Caschera** (Class Rep) notes that 2011 was filled with many family life events that kept them very busy! Tony had hip replacement surgery in March and another surgery in August. His mom passed away in March and her mom celebrated her 86th birthday on July 23rd, Emily's wedding day. Emily and Marie spent a good deal of the fall, winter and spring planning and shopping. The wedding was definitely the high point of the year – they had a ball! Grand-daughter, Ayva, is 3 ½ years old and is their Sunshine. Sons Steve and Todd, are both single and live locally as well. A long weekend at Cape Cod in the fall was their only travel last year. This year they'll visit friends in Myrtle Beach where Marie looks to relax and walk by the ocean and Tony can golf! They've just sold their home of 22 years and will be moving just 7 miles away to a contemporary ranch style home in a maintenance free community. They're looking forward to getting settled in the new home this spring and Tony will be golfing in his Wednesday league and on weekends (instead of doing yard work). Tony and Marie are still working – no retirement in sight just yet!

**Sue Wood** notes that this is the 4th year of her time in Maryville, TN. She absolutely loves living in the shadow of the Smoky Mountains and enjoys all the out of town visitors that stop in to spend time in the area. She continues to hike, golf, kayak, play Mahjongg, and act as a tour guide for visiting friends. Life is good!

**Charlotte Stone Aiken** says they now spend winters in St. Maarten and Hilton Head. In the past 2 years both of their children have married. Daughter Jennifer was married in Plattsburgh, NY in July 2010 and son Cory was married this past August in a beautiful castle in Edinburg, Scotland. "It was a wonderful trip with several days each in London, Edinburg, Glasgow, and St. Andrews. We are so pleased to have new family members!"

### Class of 1974

**Sue Wajda** plans to celebrate her 60th with her Ago sisters and Double Axel in Potsdam on July 13. She cherishes time with Rochester Agos several times each year at Creggs' cottage, Bills games (via limo), Frame's superbowl party, and at her Loon Lake cottage with April, Wuerdeman, Putman, Rhow, Anne, Lennon, Tami and summer resident Boles. Imagine the stories told over and over! A big thrill is catching-up visits w/Ago little sister Donna and Rocky in NH, also attempting to "bump" with a bad back but the best of the best of Potsdam friends at Axel in Syracuse. Sue lives between 3 places, mainly in Utica caring for her 91 yr old mother, in Rochester rarely and at their cottage w/hubby Tim and Welsh terrier Carrie. They may rent it out or offer Bed and Breakfast there this summer. Tim has his own business in home renovation and Sue sometimes subs but enjoys giving workshops, designing resumes and interview coaching when she is not assisting him as networking /marketing agent or roofing grunt. Tim has 2 grown kids near Toronto along with 2 grandsons, so packing and traveling are their forte. They both look forward to visiting and toasting Ago for reaching a grand ole 130th birthday in July!

**Barb Wuerdeman Wood** is enjoying her second year of retirement from teaching, and has had 2 kids get married in the last several months...daughter Alison in October, and son Brendan on New Year's Eve. They're still enjoying life on Canandaigua Lake, and took on a new sailboat renovation project this past summer. Woodie stays busy selling real estate in the area, and she is involved with some local volunteering. She enjoyed seeing Lynne Boles and April Bell Devaux at Sue Wajda's (all Ago's from 1974) last summer and catching up after all these years. "Best wishes to my old Ago friends!!"

**Pam Silk Culver** is in her 15th year as principal of Masconomet Regional HS in Topsfield, MA. She has about 1400 kids and a great staff and community. Pam keeps thinking about retiring but still likes what she does most days. In completing her 31st year as a HS principal – she says it is hard to believe she has lasted this long! She still lives in Cambridge, MA with Brian and her furry child, Tucker, who is a darling 12 year old golden retriever. She works and enjoys the occasional jaunt to Europe for vacations (most recent was the south of France for two weeks). She just got a gift of lessons at a local rowing club so might find a hobby to prepare for retirement and could someday compete in the senior division of the Head of the Charles – who knows!

**Kathy Ames Kieta** and Dennis are still in Chagrin Falls, OH. She has been working as a private tutor and Dennis has been with URS (formerly Morrison Knudsen) now for 27 years. Sarah, Andrew, and Kristen are busy with their lives. Sarah in Bangor, Maine, Andrew in Columbus, OH and Kristen in Minneapolis, Minnesota. They see them as often as possible usually in the summer at the Thousand Islands. Dennis and she spent a week in Germany this past fall and also have been sharing the care of Kathy's father for the past 5 years. After a brief hospital stay in Cleveland and a few weeks under Hospice care back in Watertown, he passed away on March 26. "It was a sad time for our family. Looking forward to retirement and the opportunity to do much more traveling."

**Elaine Whitehead Pauly** sends word that life has been wild! She sold her Worth business, stepped back as a "B" partner and now enjoys perks without responsibilities. She is now "full out" into her anti-aging business with Nu Skin Enterprises and Pharmanex. The business is growing and she loves the work. Her latest venture is coaching through their weight loss program – through which she is also getting very healthy. Daughter Dana graduated from college last May and works with an international ad agency which focuses on the medical/pharmaceutical industry. Dana lives in Columbus, OH and loves her life. Chuck, her horse, also lives in Columbus! Greg's business is rocking and he is happily building a new shop at home for his woodworking activities.

**Janine Locatelli Erickson** reports that she is well, as is her family. She is basically in her "retirement job" and loving it as a mathematics teacher at Harrisburg Area Community College. She wishes she discovered teaching college a long time ago! Janine enjoys visits to New York to catch up with family, Cathy O'Connor, Elizabeth O'Connor Utzig, fellow Agos and her childhood friends.

**Ellen Dullmeyer Fox** notes it has been a big year as she will retire from corporate life in mid-May. Will be in Hawaii in early May with husband Jerry to sell software he writes, and then hope to celebrate her retirement with a European trip with Jane Murray Wolff ('75) & her husband Bill. All is good with the Fox's and Ellen is very eager to figure out (but not rush into) the next chapter of her life.



**Lynne Boles** says "They say you should travel in retirement." This year, they took that advice to heart and headed to the Far East, Western Europe, Latin America and different parts of North America. They enjoyed trips to Singapore; Cambodia; London, England; Ecuador and the Galapagos Islands; Maine; Oregon; Massachusetts; lots of trips throughout New York State; California; Toronto, Canada; and Washington, D.C. And that doesn't count the numerous nine hour drives (each way) from their Cincinnati condo to the Skaneateles, N. Y. lake house! Lynne continues to do independent marketing consulting to bring in a little cash to pay for all these trips, although the lure of travel does seem to get in the way of making money sometimes. They saw many Ago friends during the summer in Skaneateles, including former roommate Lori Misicka ('75), and those who attended the September Double Axel & Dinosaur Barbecue Event in Syracuse. She also attended a cookout with some 1974 Agos (Barb Wuerdeman Wood and April Bell Devaux) at Sue Wajda's lake house. They had a great time reminiscing about the "old" days. She says she's lucky to see several Agos twice a year at the Foundation Board meetings in Potsdam, including Bonnie Betters Reed ('73 and Pledge Mistress to many), Debbie Diefendorf Hind, Amy Hind Henry, Eileen Goss Whelley and Jane Blodgett Hurley ( '54 and married to Dan Hurley---Dean of Students while many of were at Potsdam).

### Class of 1975

**Sue Holland Brzowski** and Vic are proud to announce the marriage of their daughter Susan on May 29, 2011, at the Annapolis Westin in a beautiful and elegant celebration! Sue and Vic are proud to call Ronnie their son. His parents held a reception for the newlyweds in New York City the following weekend. Another beautiful celebration! Sue and Vic went to Europe in August and spent four days in Amsterdam before taking a 12-day Baltic cruise on Celebrity. They had a fabulous time, but Sue still considers the Mediterranean cruise her favorite so far! They also spent a week in Las Vegas in October and a week in Florida after Christmas. Then they made the final decision that Vic is retiring from Northrup Grumman on April 30th. They are very excited about it! Sue continues to enjoy doing art work for magazines.

**Barb Putman Cregg** reports that Michael is moving toward total retirement. It's been nearly two years since Brian and Tara moved back to Rochester, and Brian is now running their company. Michael will just have to figure out what he will do all day! They are all anxiously awaiting the arrival of Brian and Tara's second child, another little girl, on May 31. She'll join Eva who is two. Amy is a physical therapist at the University of Rochester Medical Center and has a home in Fairport. Adam works for the Boy Scouts and has a home in Chili.

**Debbie Diefendorf Hind** and Gary welcomed the arrival of Benjamin Meyers, Amanda and Brian's first child, on May 26. Being grandparents is so much fun! In Dec., Allison moved into her new townhome and became engaged. Dief and Gary enjoyed the company of many Agos at the Double Axel/Syr. Dino BBQ event and at the Troy Dino BBQ/CU-RPI hockey game. Dief also hosted an Ago pot luck (where some favorite 11P dishes were enjoyed!), attended by pledge sisters Denise Aiello Bukovan, Kathy Farrell Kane, and Amy Hind Henry; Little Sister Cathy O'Connor; Laurie Wood Cooper; Liz O'Connor Utzig; Sue Spencer Maloney; Georgie Czerniak McGlinchey; Claudia Locatelli May; Jean Lennon Schuhle; Carolyn Odell Durnin; and adopted Alpha sister Barb Francis O'Neal. Let the Albany crew know if you would like to join their gatherings!

**Donna Longenecker Neubauer** is preparing to sell their NYC apartment now that Rocky has started a new job at MIG in Acton, MA. Kelly, their oldest, gave birth to Molly Brooke Griffin on Jan. 30, and Ryan, their youngest, and his wife Kristina presented them with granddaughter Abigail Nancy on April 2. Both girls are adorable and are doing well! Spence, their middle child, and his wife Stefanie are expecting a baby in August, so Donna is already looking at swing sets with lots of swings for their gaggle of grandchildren to enjoy at the lake! Donna's mom is doing well after her knee replacement surgery. Visit Donna in NYC or enjoy some time with her in NH!

**Anne Gallagher Timpano** and John saw many of their Potsdam friends in July at Alumni weekend and again in September at Syracuse's Dinosaur Barbeque. Double Axel sounded great...we're so lucky to still be enjoying their music! In October Cathy Lennon Nealon, Bob, John and Anne traveled to Florida for a few days of Disney, beach, and fun. Their daughter Bridget teaches music in Rochester and traveled to Ghana last summer on a grant to help her students learn the music, history and culture of Africa. Their son Scott teaches a combined 1st and 2nd grade class in Beacon and is also coaching boys JV basketball.

**Carol Baitup Sweet** continues to work at the church and Hallmark. Daughter Meghan is with McKesson, traveling a good bit, and is Director of Operations at her Crossfit Gym, where she also teaches and coaches. Jon is interim director of the afterschool program for the YMCA. Kevin is working on his major courses at Central Michigan, where he also works for the Building Management Works gaining real life skills!

**Jan Whitfield** recently enjoyed dinner with Donna Longenecker Neubauer. Jan and her husband are settling into their family cottage on Green Pond Lake in NJ. They moved there last year, and Jan has a new job part time pharmacy position at a hospital in the area.

**Jane Murray Wolff** sends a note that life is good for her and Bill, especially as they are both retired. Bill does literacy volunteer work for the grammar school next door, where the kids love him. He is like the Pied Piper of the neighborhood, and the kids now call them "Mr. & Mrs. Bill!" Murray will finish up her Master's in Environmental Management in 2013, so she needs to decide what to do with it now! She is having too much fun not working - a dilemma! They have a big trip planned for their anniversary in July: a French river cruise with before/after stops in Barcelona and Paris. Murray is trying to lose ten pounds so that she can eat, drink, and make merry with abandon when there! She sends love to all of her Ago sisters and invites you to call if you are ever in Boston!

**Kathy White Finnerty** will be awarded the St. Lawrence Academy Medal, Potsdam's School of Education's highest recognition, at Reunion this year! The Class of '75 joins the Alumnae Association in celebrating Kathy's professional achievements throughout her many years of dedicated service to students in Central NY. We are so proud of our Sister!

### **Class of 1976**

**Judy Fabic Verbanic** and John are still in Pittsburgh, and both still working. Judy at American Eagle and John at HP. They are "thinking about retirement, just can't actually do it yet!!" Their younger daughter Jamie was married in November. Jamie and Julie both live in Pittsburgh and Judy says "We got lucky with our sons-in-law – both are great guys!"

**Eileen Goss Whelley** and Don (aka Zulu) are enjoying being "almost" empty-nesters. Their daughter Natalie moved to Boston and is working in sales and son Stevie is a senior at University of Denver. Eileen is still leading Human Resources for The Hartford and Don loves being a consultant and working from home. Last year Eileen joined the Foundation Board of Trustees at SUNY Potsdam. It has been great getting re-acquainted with the campus and the current faculty and administration - brings back many fond memories."

**Cindy Heinbockle Ogulnick** is still enjoying "retirement", although she teaches lessons at 3 private schools in the area. She is freelancing with her string trio in the 4 state area of Ct., Mass., NY and Vt., performing every weekend either with the trio, in symphony concerts or other concerts. Very fun! Her husband shows no inclination to retire and is quite active with mountain biking and skiing. They traveled a bit, just returning from a trip to London. Their two sons are in Boston, living together as youngest (Michael) finishes up undergraduate school at Northeastern and oldest (David) is pursuing a Master's degree in cello performance at Boston Conservatory.

**Cathy Lennon Nealon** and husband Bob are still in Rochester, NY. They had a great time in Potsdam for the reunion and in Syracuse for Double Axel; caught up with many AGOs. "Went to Florida for a long weekend in October with Anne (Gallagher) and John (aka Sparky) Timpano - Good Times." We see Wajda and Tim and Barb (Putman) and Mike Cregg at different times throughout the year.

**Amy Hind Henry** and Guy are doing well. Their son Jon married ToniAnne in August, 2011. Both Jon and Lyndsey have houses about 15 minutes away! Amy loves attending the Albany AGO get togethers.

**Jill Mayhew Ryan** still enjoys her job in the K-5 computer lab in Penfield (Rochester, NY) and works a few shifts at the YMCA, which entitles her to a free membership and little time to work out.

**Carolyn O'Dell Durnin** is still singing and playing her guitar as beautifully as she did during our days in Potsdam. You can find her on YouTube and Facebook. Their singer-songwriter daughter Molly is following in Carolyn's footsteps – you can hear her on YouTube also! Molly was the featured emerging artist at Caffe Lena in Saratoga Springs in January.

**Cathy O'Connor** is still enjoying retired life. She enjoys getting together with Albany area AGOs for dinners. Cath went on a great cruise to England, France, Ireland and Iceland. Life is good!

**Nancy Geis Wilcox** moved to the Rochester area three years ago. Nancy volunteers at Salem's soup kitchen and works at the Ecumenical Food Shelf in Spencerport. She and Doug will be married 36 years in June! They travel to D.C., North Carolina and Michigan to see their children and grandchildren. Nancy would love to hear from you.

### **Class of 1977**

**Roxanne Gaudin Holland** reports that they are "still living the dream in California with a few bumps in the road but the sunshine makes things a bit more tolerable." They lost her Godfather in May and Jack's father in December, but the happy news is that their "baby" was married at the Hard Rock Hotel in San Diego over Thanksgiving weekend. Roxanne notes it was a perfect day for a beautiful bride, and she is now working as the Manager for Sprinkles Cupcakes in La Jolla. Roxanne and Jack still have their consulting business but he deals with more energy matters and she with PR for green, eco-friendly companies – they are at both ends of the spectrum. She hopes to hear from everyone!

**Karen Kittleson Stefanski** and husband Tom traveled to Australia for three weeks and thought it was beautiful and rather large, flying from city to city to take in as many sights as possible. They met up with son Nick in Sydney where he was attending University of Sydney for a semester. They toured the Sydney Opera House, climbed the Harbor Bridge, saw the Great Barrier Reef from the air and snorkeled one full day – a wonderful time filled with great memories. Unfortunately Karen was laid off from General Dynamics after 26 years. She took the summer off and began job hunting in October. Son Tim survived the lay-offs (also working at General Dynamics). Karen and Tom's advice: get your Masters and you too can move on to another company!

**Patti Short Wilkins** writes that Bill has his own environmental engineering company which is doing very well. She is still teaching Honors Biology and Chemistry in their local high school. Oldest son, Ryan is working locally and has his own place. Brittany, their middle, co-teaches in the same high school as Patti and lives with her hubby and dog. She is soon going to make them grandparents and they could not be happier. They only live 6 minutes away which is thrilling! Aaron the baby is going to Penn State main campus next September to major in energy engineering. Everyone's health is great, thank God. They are very busy with work, church, family and traveling, took a trip to Seattle and cruised to Alaska last summer. Plans are to make the reunion but if baby does not come on time they may have to miss it again. Patti invites all to visit PA anytime. They have plenty of room, great patio with a pool. All are welcome. "Think of each of you often. Take care."

**Mary Ellen Sullivan Bucco** says things are good at their house. TJ is in his second year at ASU in EE. They are not sure who he belongs to because he is doing so well academically. His band, Buskin Cuffs just released a CD which Sully loves..google them, you can see them on Youtube! They feel very lucky that they play music we enjoy. Bernadette is working two jobs until she decides what she wants to do. She is at Buca De Beppo (of course!) and Red, White and Brew. While she is deciding she is taking trips to Mexico and California. John has just finished up a consultant job and will begin a new one in April. He has been working in AZ for the last 2 years who knows where the next job will take him. Sully is still at Banner Health loving what she does and taking advantage of doing some consultant work on the side. This month will take her to Iowa, hoping for a more exciting location next time.

"**Travels with TT**" can now be found on your local cable network - currently looking for sponsors to subsidize a whirlwind tour of Irish Castles, beginning with a renaming ceremony at Lizmore Castle (sometimes known by the common yet erroneous title Lismore) and a promising, raucous finale at the Blarney Castle. Check your local listings.

**Georgie Czerniak McGlinchey** is mushing on with "LIFE: Part II": She will be a Grammie in July, will graduate (woohoo!) in May, and be job-hunting...funny how it's about like it was in '77 all over again! She has loved seeing the Agos over the past year and looks forward to more visits although the last Albany get-together had her laughing so hard she is not sure she is recovered yet! "Loved the home part, thank you Dief!"

**Laurie Wood Cooper** and Bob love the empty nest but it was a pitiful winter in the northeast where the snowshoes never left the rafters. The kayak is looking hopeful. Oldest son Tom is a PGA golf professional in the Atlanta area at The River Club – they don't see him too often but she and Bob get down south when they can and he makes it home for Christmas each year. Youngest son Matt graduated from Boston University last year and is gainfully employed in Beantown at Business Wire. His parents visit him when he sounds hungry. Looking forward to the reunion weekend and special thanks to the Class Reps and other contributors to *The Anchor*—doesn't happen without you!

**Patty Abernethy Sohl** tried to resign her part time job in June, but was asked to stay on and work from home. The hours are much less but it has worked out for her. She has yet to tackle all the jobs she had planned on but the days are full and she is happy. They had their first grandchild, Ella, in April and she is the best! How can they be that old? Patty took a little driving trip in the fall on her own while Bill was in Ohio and finally got to an Albany dinner where she had so much fun. She is hoping to see more Ago's in Potsdam this summer and at the Dino-B-B-Q.

**Sue Rice** sent Brenna off to college in August and was happy to stand with Liam in his Senior game in the Fall. He hasn't decided on a school yet. Went back and forth to Brenna's school in Bronxville, the most notable being Hurricane Irene which was move in day for freshman. It was a windy ride home. She still lives in Potsdam, and with Liam graduating is looking to expand her horizons. She also lost her job and this year became a digital trainer and helped a physician with his electronic health record transition. She still loves economics and community development, so is busy opening up tax season as an IRS VITA Site Coordinator. The busiest year she had was 500 tax returns....too much! Happy to report Brenna had a great year at Sarah Lawrence and was in remission all year....so all the rest seems irrelevant. "Life is good, but getting here was achieved with the support of great friends in AGO."

### Class of 1978

**Pam Pendleton** shares news of several trips – to Las Vegas in April, San Diego/LA in Aug - spent 2 days at the Zoo, and then 5 days with friends in LA. She also spent Thanksgiving at her sister's in Florida. Pam retired in June - had a great party with 75 people attending! It was quite the send off - taught summer school and just as she was "planning" some retirement trips they asked if she'd do one more year for the gal filling her spot who had extended her leave. So, she's teaching until June and reports it's actually okay and she is enjoying the kids. The dogs still come into school with her and they love it as do the kids. She notes how it's amazing that a child will read to her dog without a fuss, yet give her every excuse to not read aloud to her! She still goes to hockey and has her "girl's night out" once a month.

**Bonnie Johnson See** sends news of a good year and they are thankful for good health and fun times with family and friends! The year started with a trip to NYC for a long (cold) weekend to see their son Bill. Then to London with Gary for a week with their daughter Jennie and her husband, helping them in their new flat in Hampstead...NW London. They invited them down for a few days in May to celebrate their 1st anniversary back on Kiawah Island, then a second trip back to London in June to help them with their two English Bulldog puppies. They were lucky this year to go to their family lake house in NY for some time with friends in July then back in August for two weeks when the kids could join them. They loved being together but that 14 hour ride with two dogs is tough... bit of excitement being there with the hurricane and the kids trying to get back home. Snuck a quick trip back up to NYC to go to the WTC Memorial and watch the marathon while celebrating Gary's birthday. Rob was in town for business so Jennie flew over and they enjoyed being together once again. They did manage to work in between the trips and sold their business this fall so Gary is back to consulting and she is hoping real estate will pick up again. They continue to enjoy playing tennis, golf and hiking with friends and dogs. Bonnie enjoys keeping up with AGO news through facebook..."see you there!"

**Lori Gremmels Wackenheimer** says it's hard to believe it is that time of year again for news. She caught up with Suzi on Facebook. Brandon graduated from high school and started college at Clarkson majoring in Chemical Engineering. He absolutely loves it there and has acclimated well to the whole experience. She never doubted he would love it! He joined the crew club and is heading south for spring break to row. It has been fun going back after so many years away. Tom and she went up for parent's weekend and attended a few hockey games. The new ice arena is fantastic! She hopes they can make it back this summer for alumni weekend. She didn't get a chance to stop at the house but drove by it. "Oh, the memories being in Potsdam brings back!" They have been keeping busy with the grandkids who love their overnights. They try to have them over as much as possible. She is still at Paychex but is looking forward to retirement. When that will be, she is not sure but it is fun to dream! They went to Tennessee this summer to visit her dad and brother, had a great time and spent a lot of time golfing. Her golf game got a little better but she says she is still pretty bad at it although she had fun.

**Amy Whalen Sadlik** says she and Craig are doing well. He is still working for Rochester Precision Optics and she is in her 11th year at Penfield United Methodist Preschool. Both are looking forward to retirement! Their big news is that Kyle, their oldest, is getting married 9/1/12. They love Christine and her family and are getting very excited for all the festivities! Corey is 20 and a junior at Alfred University studying Mechanical Engineering. Cortney is a freshman and studying Business at Fredonia and playing on their soccer team. Now that the kids are out of the house Craig and Amy got their 1st puppy. Lexi is a Cavalier King Charles Spaniel. They can't believe they waited so long!

**Donna Passarella Bonomo** "Has it been 34 years since we graduated?" She is finding it harder to believe except for the fact that she is back at school fulltime with classmates that are 34 years younger! Donna is in her second year at their community college going for a 2<sup>nd</sup> degree in Exercise Science. She loves it and feels blessed to have this opportunity. Four more classes to take and she is done with hopes to work with seniors (a lot older than us!!) and keep them fit and healthy for as long as possible. She and Bob are making plans to move down to North Carolina to begin a new chapter. Their youngest Amy leaves for UNC at Charlotte in August and that leaves them ready to change the scenery but not retire. Exciting but prayers that God guides them on this journey. Still in store is the sale of one house and building another. Their oldest daughter Lisa, is working in the Ski and Snowboard industry and is currently looking to change jobs and scenery too! Donna's parents are in Florida half the year and then back to NJ. Slowing down but doing well. Her siblings and their families are promising to come see them in NC! Bob is ready to move south and fill spare time golfing and working on their future home, still working with United and his down time will be exactly what he needs! "If anyone is thinking of going South to "slow down", come see us in Southport, NC!"

**Sue Difulgentiz Dee** is enjoying the 60 degree winter days this year in the low country which is why she moved there. She continues to work hard educating the youth of America. Her biggest praise is that both daughters are graduated and gainfully employed! Alyssa is still living at home and working locally as a Customer Service Representative at a Benefits Management Company. Deirdre lives in Manhattan and works at Harlem Promise Academy as a counselor. The Defo clan welcomed the next generation last April with the birth of Ella DiFulgentiz. Defo and Joan became grandparents. The family celebrated Thanksgiving together in Wichita, Kansas at Defo and Joan's home. Her parents are 80 years strong! Most of her trip destinations coincide with seeing family or friends in Breckenridge, NY or Michigan. "As I get older I thank God everyday for good health. One can have all the riches and fame but it is useless without good health. So my hope and prayer to you all is good health, and happiness will follow. susanjdee@yahoo.com Friend me on Facebook!"

**Cindy Darrow Kohl** notes they are grandparents and loving every minute of it! Daughter, Kristin, and her husband Luke had a baby boy named Jack on Jan. 23rd. He is so awesome and since they live in Liverpool Cindy is able to visit with him often. They actually just finished a "nursery" in one of their spare bedrooms. Son Kevin and his wife Jen, also in Liverpool, are expecting a baby in July, so she'll have 2 grandbabies to spoil. Youngest son, Eric, is currently living and working in Manhattan and they will visit him over Easter break. She and Joe took their first "European vacation" to the Bavaria region of Germany and Austria last year. They had a great time and are looking forward to planning the next trip – maybe Italy. She is still teaching at ESM which is fine, but NYS really doesn't help teachers by changing the math curriculum every couple of years! Hopes everyone is well. She made it to her 1st Potsdam night at the Dinosaur with Double Axel and saw a bunch of Ago's in the fall – "it was nice seeing everyone."

**Sue Hoffman Ospelt** writes that her family is doing really well. Sam continues to thrive in her job and has an awesome boyfriend. She has grown into a beautiful, calm and engaging young woman. She seems to have gotten the best traits from both of them, and luckily left some of the others out of the mix! Emma is a junior, so her baby has only one more year of high school. She attended a youth leadership medical camp this summer in Boston and loved the learning! She picked the one camp where the students stayed in a Sheraton rather than old dorm rooms, and for those of you that don't know Emma, that's pretty typical! She met other kids from all over the country and showed herself what she is capable of doing. It was a worthwhile experience. Art has taken on some more responsibilities with his company and has purchased yet another house. His mini-kingdom is growing. Sue is doing great and currently teaching - year 28! She added AP Biology which keeps her on her toes while being fun and mentally stimulating. They took Emma and a friend to Europe, spending time in Paris where the girls showed off their knowledge of Art History, then on to Liechtenstein to meet Art's family. It was an amazing trip and they are thinking that some of year 31 might be spent in Europe (minus the road trip over the Alps...) "Hope everyone is healthy, happy and doing well!"

**Nadine Gager Compisi** has had a great year especially because she had the good fortune to see many of her class including Amy at RIT for a Fredonia College soccer game. Amy's daughter and Nadine's niece play on the same team! She also saw little sister Sue Cancilla Witkowski last summer. The time flew by while they chatted up a storm. Tony and she enjoyed their travels: Hilton Head in March where they played golf and had dinner with Defo. "She defies gravity!" They were in Ithaca in August for the wedding of her nephew Benjamin and also traveled to Chicago in the summer to spend time with kids and grandkids. They welcomed grandchild # 7 in February. That is technically 2012 news but they're very excited over the joy of Tessa Grace. "I miss you all and I do hope we find a way to get together sooner rather than later."

**Vera Thurston Gibbs** sends their latest updates: She and Steve are in the same jobs Steve at Roth USA as a Manager (Radiant, Solar and Geothermal Technologies) and Vera is at the Carrier Dome working with the Concessions and Catering Departments. Youngest daughter Kate graduated in May from Niagara University with a double major in Communications and Tourism Management, 2<sup>nd</sup> granddaughter was born to our daughter Erin and her husband in 2011 on Easter Sunday morning - Julianna Hazel Pease. Son Matthew is getting married July 24<sup>th</sup> to a wonderful girl from Syracuse who also went to SU. He is working for Bitzer, a Supply Chain Management. Sarah is still living at home doing well. They have had a busy year! Last summer a trip to NYC to see their son Dave who lives in the Bronx and is a Food Service Director for NY law school, two of their nephews and brother-in-law got married, so many trips to Rochester including a family reunion. They went to Niagara Falls twice to move Kate, who is now living on Grand Island. NY. They had a wonderful trip to Vermont where Jeannie Finnegan, Nadine Compisi, Donna Bonomo, another couple (not Ago) and of course their husbands met for the weekend. The years melted away, they reminisced over scrapbooks, laughed till their sides hurt and caught up on family. "We were reminded how special those college years were and how lucky we were to meet there and find such wonderful friendships.". Vera would love to see a 1978 reunion happen. "Missing all of you. 2013 will be 35 years. Let's plan something!"

### Class of 1979

**Janet Polsinelli** wrote that her big sister Jean Schuhle (Lennon), Donna O'Hara (Salvitti) and she had a great time catching up at Donna's house in Bridgewater, Ma recently. They spent most of the time hanging out and talking. They also made it into Boston for the day and ended up in the north end at an improv club. "It was a lot of fun and we vowed to get together again soon."

**Barb Lanzano Combs** says DB and she are now "empty nesters" - although their puggle, Fergie, adores the boys, she seems to love being the "only child" at home. College football was their main entertainment with Wills (20) at WVU and The Mountaineers Big East Champs & Winners of the Orange Bowl; while Andrew (18) at BAMA and The Crimson Tide Winners of The National Championship - Roll Tide! DB is with a local engineering firm now and she's still working part-time at a small event management & consulting company in the same town. "If anyone is in the Northern VA / Washington DC area, please look me up."

**Cookie Scalise Balme** says all is well with the Balme family. She and Chip are working hard...Cookie at Monroe #1 BOCES and Chip at Gleason in Rochester NY. She is also teaching graduate level courses at SUNY Brockport in the Educational Administration Department. Both Lisa and Rob have their undergraduate degrees and are working on their Masters. Went to five weddings last summer with four of them family weddings and they have a few more this coming summer! They periodically vacation in Naples, Florida and hope someday to spend more time there.

**Debbie LoBello Burhans** is thankful to report that all is well with her family...Karen (26) and Gretchen (23) are both still living and working in Boston. Karen is working long hours at her law firm; but is also finding time to travel and is planning a trip to Southeast Asia. Gretchen passed the CPA exam and is VERY happy to be done with school. She is living in "Southie" with UCONN friends and enjoying life! Lauren (19) is a sophomore at UNH and has pledged the Chi Omega sorority. It has been a lot of fun to hear about her sorority and share AGO memories with her! Debbie would like to thank Sharon Keating Heiligman for hosting a Rochester area Potsdam/AGO get together this past Fall while Linda Connelly was home. "It was GREAT to see everyone! Special thanks to Sue Duffy for traveling all the way from Michigan. It was also wonderful to see Susan Gibson Lawton while Linda was here and I am looking forward to re-connecting with more AGO friends in the upcoming year!"

**Sue Cancilla Witcowski** and Jim had great fun spending time in Potsdam last July. Great way to spend a vacation catching up with old friends and dancing to Double Axel. Sitting in the AGO living room for a meeting brought back many memories. Loved reconnecting with everyone on Facebook. Her working days are filled with ways to deal with healthcare for those in her county without insurance. Jim is enjoying retirement. "Please stop by and visit if you are in South Carolina. Looking forward to seeing AGO sisters this summer."

**Becky Monckton King** has no complaints. Her three children are all young adults. Allison is working at a charter school in Boston and attending Simmons College for her master's degree. Greg will be graduating from Quinnipiac University this May. Dan is in his sophomore year at the University of Central Florida in Orlando. All are doing well. She is still working full time for a local generator service and singing with the local Sweet Adelines chorus. Kenny and she are starting to enjoy more time together as the kids are moving on. Her family is all well. "Would love to connect with AGO sisters, find me on FaceBook as Becky King in Canton Massachusetts."

**Shanon Fowler Schneider** says things are busy as always. Jim is still with Kimberly Clark as an energy manager. She still manages North Atlanta OB/GYN and has her art studio/gallery in Roswell. Dane works for UPS as a marketing specialist and is getting married in June to a girl he met at Penn State. She is a reporter / anchor with the CBS affiliate in Macon, Georgia. Brett is a senior majoring in electrical engineering at Auburn. He is on an NROTC scholarship so will commission next year. He is slotted to work intelligence with Seal Team 2 and 8 this summer in Virginia so he is very excited. He went last summer to train with the Seals in Coronado Beach, Calif. but was injured on day two and had to come home so that was a huge disappointment. Trey is a sophomore at Georgia Tech majoring in chemical engineering. Life is very busy and it is nice to have the boys within a couple of hours. Dane has been living with them for the past year to save money for the wedding. Not sure where Dane and Amy will start their married life but she suspects it will be quite a bit farther. Her contract is up in June and she will be looking for positions with another station wherever there are openings.

**Melinde Mospaw Poupore** is still teaching at Franklin Academy in Malone. She is the High School Band Director and Co-coordinator of Music for the district. Her two daughters are doing well, one is in Law School at Seton Hall, the other will be graduating from Saint Anselm in May and opening her own business in Plattsburgh. Kevin is a cosmetic dentist in Malone and they are having fun with the empty nest thing! "All is well!"

**Sharon Keating Heiligman** and husband, Dan enjoy their continued traveling. On a recent trip to Florida she contacted Dede Bennett Haines for a rendezvous! They were able to meet her fabulous husband, shop in one of her business locations and have a long overdue catch-up lunch. AJ's (CU '06) solar and geothermal business is booming in Rochester and surrounding areas. Lots of people looking to "Go Green". Kim will be graduating from Optometry School in NYC this June. Hopefully they will have good news soon of a job in a Rochester area practice! Last October they had a great AGO / Potsdam get together at her home. "So fun to see Linda Connelly, Debbie LoBello Burhans, Sue Duffy, Jane Morale and Cookie Scalise Balme. I have enjoyed catching up with High School and college friends on Facebook! See you all in July in Potsdam."



### Class of 1981

**Linda Aylward Robey** keeps busy working now full time from part time at John Hancock, and also with her two teenage boys, Mitch and Chris. They are approaching college years - a year away so they've been visiting colleges. Mitchell is 18 and has his license. It's nice to have another driver in the family. As the boys are becoming more independent and do their own thing. Linda is learning to knit. They say that knitting is next to yoga for relaxing the mind and body. She also continues to do watercolor paintings in her spare time and has transformed an extra bedroom into her studio. They went on the annual vacation with the larger family clan to Cape Cod and Linda had a business trip to the Tax Conference in Vegas. She took the bus tour one day to the Grand Canyon and walked a couple of trails there. "What an incredible experience it was. The Boston Bruins won the Stanley Cup which was an exciting time for all of us in Boston!"

**Patrice DeLaus Scully** lives in Mahwah, NJ and last summer celebrated 30 years with IBM! She is an empty nester now that both her children are in college but her mini-poodle Nikki keeps her company. Her daughter Jacquelin graduates from Lehigh University in May. In the fall Jacquelin will be heading to UCLA to earn a dual Master's Degree in Public Health and Social Work. Her son Charles is completing his freshman year at Northeastern University in Boston where he is studying business and marketing. In her spare time Patrice continues to do volunteer work with several local organizations and enjoys attending the Metropolitan Opera and seeing Renee Fleming and Stephanie Blythe, both Crane School of Music graduates, perform.

**Margaret Farrell Benedetto** writes "what a year it has been." She moved from the family home after putting Tom in long term care (Aug. 2010) for his advancing Progressive MS. Their youngest, Elissa, went off to University of Vermont. Caitlin (Cornell) and Audrey (Skidmore) graduate in May. She continues to teach gifted and talented and enrichment classes in Fairport. She is having fun exploring the new village neighborhood with their Boston Terrier Sadie. Kayaking, gardening, home projects, biking, snowshoeing, spinning (bike), facebook, and Pinterest are some of the other things that keep her busy in her free time

**Susan Duffy** is hoping to see some alumni this year and would like everyone to know that there will an "Alumni at the House" over the weekend. She would like to have a get together for all class years on either Friday afternoon or Saturday. Contact her if you interested in getting involved! [susanduf58@gmail.com](mailto:susanduf58@gmail.com)

**Robin Landrigan Smith** reports that not much has changed! She still lives on Lake George and loves every minute of it. She is still in Healthcare IT as an independent consultant in the Albany/Glens Falls area and also owns the marina, FR Smith & Sons, in Bolton Landing. She works part time there during the season when she and her husband migrate to Marco Island, FL where they spend much time walking the beach. They have a dog, Gracie, who keeps them entertained on a daily basis!

**Stacy Smith Nichols** says sons, Jason and Andy, have graduated from RIT and are working for their dad's business. Her daughter Emelie just started at RIT this fall and is pledging the sorority DFE. She did not like the quiet house so went back to school at Bryant and Stratton to become a medical administrative assistant and will graduate in December. She is hoping to find a job in a Doctor's office. Son Andy is engaged to be married in July 2012 to his college sweetheart Chelsea.

### Class of 1982

**Cathy Ellia Bennett** keeps busy with her part-time job at the local college. Husband Jim travels a lot for work. Daughter Kristen graduated from Cornell in May and then moved to NYC. Son Steven works for Windstream, and Alyssa is looking at colleges for the fall. Cathy traveled to Ohio and the Adirondacks and is hoping for a better ski season next year. Cathy is looking forward to the reunion in July

**Laura Huther Farnham** is living in Milwaukee, WI and works as a vice president at Johnson Controls. She will see everyone at our 30th!

**Cindy Tettament Franciso's** year has been very busy and filled with changes. She recently lost her job. Her daughter Michelle got married and Cindy became a grandmother. During her free time she plans on traveling with Vern for business and watching her grandchildren.

**Ellen Bartis Gambae** works part-time. She also volunteers at the food pantry, works out at the gym, travels with Mike and really enjoys her grown children. She loves keeping in touch with everyone on Facebook.



**Lisa Goller Gratri** is getting ready for another busy sailing season. She and Bill married in Marblehead at the National Championship overlooking the harbor and all the boats. She's been enjoying some time off after being Director of Catering and Events with the Ritz-Carlton. Lisa worked in Dallas, Puerto Rico and England. She will be in Potsdam in July.

**Michele Derocher Hall** lives in Hickory, NC and has been happily married to David for 26 yrs. They have 3 kids, a son in college and twin daughters who are sophomores in high school. She works for Corning in product management. On weekends she travels for volleyball and/or soccer games. She hopes to make the 30th and see everyone.

**Judy Biviano Lloyd** is loving Danville, California. Husband Tim has started a new business utilizing medical device monitoring and social networking to care for sick people so they can stay in their own homes. Son Michael (14) is a baseball star and coached by World Series Champion Lance Blankenship (Oakland A's). Judy is politically active. She's helping Mitt Romney, met NJ Gov. Chris Christie and Condoleeza Rice, and is advocating for legislation to increase pancreatic cancer funding before Congress in honor of her Mom.

**Licia Urtis Murrell** lives in Marietta, Ga and teaches chorus, music, and music theater to middle and private school students. Her three sons are grown. Ben relocated to Virginia. Andrew and Mike are still close to home. Her hobbies include photography, gardening, home improvement projects, and ballroom dancing. Licia is still very active in our sorority. She talks to Actives in the house and various construction crews in Potsdam to help preserve our Ago House. She spent a wonderful weekend with old Roomies Helen Hymers Grzymala and Laura Huther Farnham in July and then spent time with Jane Morale and Cathy Bennett in Rochester celebrating Connie's life.

**Karen Lorenz Walker** is an empty nester with all the boys either in college or working in their careers. She keeps busy playing tennis and volunteering at an Equestrian Therapeutic Riding Stable and with an association helping families of children with cancer. Karen also chairs the annual tennis pro-am fundraiser. She'll see everyone at the reunion in July.

### **Class of 1984**

**Anastasia Glasheen** says that after six years studying choral music and teaching musical theatre at the University of Southern California, she finally received her Doctor of Musical Arts in Choral Music. Her dissertation entitled, "The Application of Multimedia and Theatrical Elements" is now published and can be available for viewing (a google search will find it...). She is now working on getting it produced for the stage worldwide. As an aside, she works part time as a script consultant for the only show she's faithfully watched since childhood, Days of our Lives.

**Irene Jezsik Rauchenberger** is doing well & busy with keeping up with 12 year old daughter, Jacqueline & 6 year old son, Gregory. Jacqueline keeps them travelling around with her continued participation in competitive dance. Gregory is an active kindergartener who just received his orange belt in Karate & is going to be starting Tball. Steve continues to enjoy his work at Estee Lauder. The highlight of last summer was a family trip to Walt Disney World. She would love to hear from any Agos visiting the NYC/Long Island area. Her email is [israuch@optonline.net](mailto:israuch@optonline.net).

**Cheryl Johnson Welles** has been enjoying life in Syracuse, NY. She is the Community Relations Director at Empower Federal Credit Union. She sees Jane Judson Mistur throughout the year – at Syracuse University football games and other events and visits. Cheryl and husband Ron just returned from a great trip to Ireland, Wales, Scotland, and England – no, she did not see the Queen! – just hundreds of sheep! Cheryl extends a huge "hello" to all her Agonian sisters and wishes everyone well!

### **Class of 1993**

**Cecile Grapard Retrosi** and Chris (Sigma Pi) have been married almost 16 years and have three amazing and athletic boys. Joey is almost 14 (8th grade), Michael is 12 (6th grade) and Matthew is almost 9 (3rd grade). They live in Canastota, NY where Cecile is in her 15th year teaching 3rd grade. Cecile and the boys flew to Denmark this past summer and spent two weeks there visiting family (Cecile's mom is from Denmark.) A favorite family activity is downhill skiing and snowboarding. They spent a week at Smuggler's Notch this past February where they got over 3 feet of snow while they were there! What a joy since CNY has had little snow this past winter. Hoping to see some AGO sisters soon - unfortunately, they've been unable to make it out to Albany for recent gatherings. "Glad to be in touch with so many of you through Facebook!"

**Laurie Sweet** moved back to Albany via Dallas about 5 years ago, bought a cute little cape and spends a ton of time up north at Friends Lake. She left MapInfo after 13 years and now works from home for a business intelligence software company out of Irvine, CA. called Alteryx. She travels a ton and loves it! She emailed her news from Heather Boudreau's new business in Superior, Colorado! "I love visiting my Ago's!"

**Brigid Terpko** and her husband moved to Massachusetts about 5 years ago. He is from Mass. and they love it. They have 2 children- Ella is 7 and Jack is 4. "Hope all is well."

**Elaine Rood Pappalardo** and husband, Tim and have 2 boys - Domenic, 11 and Anthony, 9. She is in grad school and enjoying being a stay at home mom.

**Karen Smith Davis** and Bill have 2 girls, Maggie 5 and Meghan 2. She stays at home with the kids and plays on a volleyball league for mommy time. Bill flies for Alaska Airlines and is a Pilot for the Navy. They plan to move to Seattle in the fall.

**Kelley Marsh** is divorced and raising Jordyn (16), Jack (14), and Mason (9). Kelly is working at Four Winds Hospital teaching 4 th-5th grade inpatient students. They are loving their new home.

**Cherie Williams Dragomani** and Rich are still living in Victor, NY with their two great kids. Owen is 11 and will be entering 7th grade in the fall. Madison is 8 and will be in 3rd grade. They spend most of their time transporting the kids to hockey, soccer, lacrosse, or dance. Very busy, but so much fun. She had a great time last summer spending a couple days with Lisa Pettinelli Mackenzie and her boys. Would love to get together with some Ago girls this summer! "I can't believe that it has been almost 20 years since graduation."

**Nancy Pitaniello Hyde** and Michael have been married 16 years and are living in Clifton Park with their 3 boys Jack (12), Ben (10), and Henry (6). She has been working part-time as a school social worker for 12 years in the Burnt Hills/Ballston Lake school district and is going to hold out on going back full-time for as long as possible! Life is fun and busy with the boys who are involved in baseball, football and lacrosse and they ski together as a family now that the youngest has finally graduated from the bunny hill. They put in a pool last summer and are anxiously waiting for the weather to warm up so they can enjoy it again! "Would love to plan an Albany weekend as there are so many people in the area and maybe a few who may travel for a chance to catch up?!"

**Denise Indick Friebely** and John have been married 16 years and still live in NJ...about 25 min outside of NYC. She recently went back to teaching again, loves it, but it is such a change after being home for 12 years. Her children are the love of her life. Jack is 13, Jessica is 11 and Lily is 7, and their yellow lab Sawyer is 4. They keep them very busy with lacrosse, football and gymnastics competitions but she wouldn't trade it for anything. "I try to get back to Syracuse every few months to see my family and I'd love to see more Agos."

**Debbie Rose Urban** is still living in South Jersey with her husband Scott and two kids Jude (7) and Alexandra (4). She is a stay at home Mom and couldn't have asked for a better life!

**Heather Boudreau** is still living in and loving Colorado with Frank and kids. Olivia (11), and Malea (8) are doing great and keep them busy with all their sports. She opened a new business in August, doodlebugs. Check it out on Facebook or beadoodlebug.com. She is excited to hang out with Lola a few times a year. "My door is always open."

### Class of 1995

**Jodi Meyer Eyer** is living in the Saratoga Springs area and teaches 4th grade in Glens Falls. She is busy with Kristen (7) and Kelly (4). Andy continues to work at Andritz.

**Julie DeStephano Stephens** is living in New Hartford, NY with her husband Jim, 2 daughters, ages 10 and 8, and 1 son, age 3. Julie loves being a full time mom, and is thinking about returning to her teaching career soon, and starting a business that deals with food allergies to help her 10 year old peanut, tree nut, and dairy allergic daughter. Life is busy, but wonderful! Julie misses all the Agos and hope you all have abundant blessings in your lives.

**Emily Gerepka Whelan** is settled in California with her family... finally! In June, Emily had a baby girl, Alexa Monica Whelan. Allison, William and Brenna are all such awesome helpers and thoroughly love their baby sister! In October, Emily, Jen, Kerri and Tammy had a girl's weekend in Chicago which was awesome! They are planning another trip for 2013, so let Emily know if you want to join! She would love to hear from you!

**Eva Dechario McGee** is in her second year teaching 8th grade Language Arts and really likes the age group. She's still getting used to the change from the elementary age. Ryan is now 9, and Laura is 6, so it's the usual running around to all the sports and activities. Eva would love to reunite with more Agos soon!

### Class of 2000

**Jaime Conroy Kaufer** lives in Encinitas, California with her husband Kurt and dog, Jeffrey. She is currently a Physical Education Teacher in an Elementary School. They recently purchased a house and are loving life in California .

**Kara Korkus Klink** lives in Stamford, CT with her husband David Klink (Sig Pi) and dog Wrigley. They recently purchased a home in Stamford and love that they are so close to NYC! Kara recently moved from International Sales back to Domestic sales due to a promotion with her company, Marc Fisher Footwear. She is planning a trip to see Jaime (Conroy) Kaufer with Jennifer (Gibbs) Rozell Memorial Day weekend!

**Kelly Doane Gunderson** and her husband Dustin, of Sig Pi, welcomed their son, Odin Ray in September. Kelly is on leave from her position as Media Coordinator to take care of her 2 yr old Cate and new son. She is also pursuing her MA of Library Science from Appalachian State University in Boone, NC and will finish in December.

**Devon Cummings Natapow** lives in Rochester, NY and stays at home with her 2 boys Jack 4 and Tanner. Jeff and Devon are busy gutting their dream home. "Would love to have my Ago girls at our first party there at the end of the summer. Miss everyone!"

**Jennifer Gibbs Rozell** is still living in Atlanta, GA. She works with her husband Nate Rozell (Sig Pi) in the recruiting area for corporate positions. She has two beautiful girls, Ellie, 4 and Brynn who will be turning 2 in June. They keep her on her toes. Jen would love for Agonian sisters to visit her in Atlanta! Jen is heading to San Diego for a mini reunion to visit with Jaime Conroy Kaufer and Kara Korkus Klink the end of May!

**Tara Fiacco Toomajian** is living in Wynantskill, NY with her husband Casey (Psi Phi) and her 2 beautiful children – Logan 4 and Stella 2. Her job is keeping her busy and she was recently promoted at SEFCU. She is excited for the 2012 boating season to begin!

### Class of 2006

**Allison Autry** lives in Rochester and graduated from Brockport with her Bachelors in Science. She is planning on going to grad school next spring to get her MPA, is on the board of Eight 4 Third World Hope and also the volunteer coordinator. She works at The University of Rochester Medical Center as a secretary and also at Heritage Christian Services with individuals with developmental disabilities.

**Lindsay Buchta** is working at Columbian Financial Group in the accounting department in Binghamton. Daughter Mattea (future Ago) just turned 7, and they are busy traveling all around for her competition level gymnastics meets. Lindsay is getting very close to becoming a Weight Watchers Leader and training for a Warrior Dash and Dirty Girl Mud Run. She looks forward to seeing some of her sisters over the summer for 5K's and Stand Up Paddling tours!

**Rachel Cajigas** lives in New York City and works as an archaeologist at the American Museum of Natural History. She will be attending the University of Arizona in the Fall to obtain her PhD and has also received the National Sciences Foundation fellowship award so she will be fully funded for her graduate study. She notes it will be a long road ahead, but already can't wait to be Dr. Cajigas! This summer before she begins school, her boyfriend is taking her on a cross country train trip to celebrate.

**Shawna Infantino** just moved to Charlotte, NC in January with a friend from back home. So far she loves it where the weather is awesome!! Currently she is a manager at a restaurant and loves the job! She started just serving but has already moved up. If any Agonians are ever down her way let her know!

**Maria Potenza** says, "Teaching is my passion and I'm in my fourth year!" She is currently teaching 5th grade at Jefferson Road Elementary and is incredibly happy with her boyfriend Kyle Jackson. She is still living at home in Rochester saving up money to buy a house in the near future. She loves to workout, run outside and stay fit!

### Class of 2007

**Serena Krauz** currently lives by herself with her kitten, Khaleesi. She works full time as a certified pharmacy technician at a small family owned pharmacy. Serena is still living in Ogdensburg. When she has free time, she likes to take on DIY home projects, like building furniture and tiling.

**Nicole Brust Jones** is doing well living on the Sacandaga Lake with her husband Matt and their one and a half year old daughter Grace. Nicole recently finished her Masters degree in Literacy and is subbing while looking for a full time job. Nicole gets together with Ago sisters whenever possible and is enjoying having Lindsey Gonzalez and her

**Liz Henderson** recently moved to Hoboken with one of her best friends and loves it. She just started a position in Finance at Morgan Stanley. Liz wants to say she sings 'Goodnight Dear Sisters' every time she has an Ago sleepover!! She is certain she'll have a boyfriend any day now.

**Brianna Blackburn** was promoted last March as Patient Care for the hospital where she works. She has added a new puppy to her family. Bri is excited to announce she just purchased a new house! "Love in AKPhi!"

**Tanya Kszystyniak** is teaching and working at a nature center. She is living in Ithaca with her boyfriend Jaime and puppy Luka loving life.

**Katie Dion** is currently residing with her husband, Andrew and their 2 yr old princess, Mikayla in South Glens Falls NY. Katie is currently employed by Warren County as a social worker in the foster care department. Andrew is currently in his 5th year with TRC Solutions as an Electrical Engineer. Katie and Andrew are expecting their second child this coming August and are very excited! They enjoy going on family vacations and watching their beautiful princess grow. Katie can remember just 5 short years ago building a bond with her Ago's and having so many memories that she will cherish forever! "It's wonderful having Ago sisters around to watch my family grow and can't wait to see what journey comes next! Love in AKPHIZZLE!"

**Julia Quinn** was just promoted at Amtrak as the Social and Digital Media Director. She is living with her new husband Matt and dog Penny in Old Town, Alexandria and gets to see her pledge sister Jenna almost every week now!

**Michelle Clark** has her Masters in Social Work and is currently studying for her licensure. She works as a psychiatric rehabilitation counselor for a non profit in the New York Capital District. Michelle is currently living with her puppy Archie in a new apartment in Latham, NY and is looking forward to living solo for the first time ever!

**Jenna Novak** is living in Baltimore, MD with her boyfriend, David, and friend from Potsdam, Brad. She just got a new job at the Polaris Project in Washington, DC working with victims of human trafficking. Jenna would like to thank Jenna Naylor for leaving her high and dry in Baltimore alone with just boys.

**Lindsey Gonzalez** recently finished her Master's in Public Administration. She finally got off of Long Island and moved up to Saratoga to be with other Agonians with babies. She just got a job working for the Saratoga City Mayor's Office. Lindsey does take flight whenever possible to visit her friends down south.

### **Class of 2009**

**Cheryl Halsey** is living just outside of San Francisco. She's been working for Bechtel for the last 2 years in the telecoms industry. She's still unsure of what she wants to do in the future but she's loving the Bay Area for now!

**Rachel Gebhardt** is currently living in Lake Placid (with two other Ago's) and in her third year as an Enrollment & Financial Aid Counselor at North Country Community College. She started post-grad studies at SUNY Plattsburgh in their Organizational Leadership program and plans to be done by August 2013. She has been spending her free time traveling, and in the last year has been to Maine, Utah, Oregon, and her favorite trip, Lake Tahoe, where she traveled to with her best friend who she loves and adores, Jenna Naylor!

**Nicole Wilson** is currently living in Lexington, SC. She is an Elementary Special Education teacher working with students from Kindergarten - 5th grade. She is also a Coach for Girls on the Run, a girls' confidence building and health program that incorporates running, at her school. One of Nicole's highlights this year was participating in her pledge sister, Lauren Zona's, wedding and getting together with her pledge sisters and lots of other AGO sisters.

**Lindsay Mermell** is working in New York City at a financial advising and investment firm called Montrose Advisors, Inc. She is contemplating her future in or out of the industry but will apply to graduate school for Fall.

**Heather Taylor** is currently going to school for Massage Therapy in Rochester, NY. She is also lead vocal and flute player in a band "The Crawdiddies", a blues band formed in 2011. Their first album will be released this summer!

**Jenna Naylor** is living in Saratoga Springs where she teaches Kindergarten. The highlight of her year was traveling with great friends to the Outer Banks, NC and Lake Tahoe, CA. She would also like to give a shout out to her cousin, Sara DiLandro, and asks that she reproduces at least once more. The best looking one year old in the world wants a sibling!

**Christina Rawady** is living in Alfred, NY and teaching Instrumental Music grades 4-8 in the Hornell City School District. This year she has become an advocate for cats and now owns 7!

**Maureen McCullough** lives in Syracuse and works as a Case Planner for Preventive Services at The Salvation Army in Syracuse, NY. She is applying to graduate schools for the fall of 2012.

**Sarah Big Paparella** lives in Manhattan, NY and is currently enrolled in school full time, pursuing her Masters in Public Health (MPH) along with working full time at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center as a Rehabilitation Assistant. In her spare time she is busy planning various events and is an active volunteer for the Bowery Mission, an organization that has served homeless and hungry New Yorkers since 1879.

**Erin Wilkinson** currently lives in Buffalo, NY and is attending Physician Assistant school full time. She is an avid skydiver, motocross racer, and has taken a liking to knitting.

**Amy Rich** is currently lives in Bolton Landing, NY and is substitute teaching part time. She also manages childcare across the country on the weekends for the Army's Strong Bond Events which are military marriage retreats. She is finishing up her last 12 pre-requisites for graduate school. Of which she has been conditionally accepted to Utica College's Occupational Therapy program upon completion of her pre-reqs.

**Lauren Hearne** is currently living in the North Country where she teaches K-12 instrumental and general music. She and her husband, Kenny, are enjoying their first year of marriage!

### **Funny Memories shared** from the Class of 1962

From Sue Johnson Aceto...

Tom Aceto and Bob Kuba played a prank on the Ago House when they lived across the street at Psi Phi They climbed on the Ago porch roof, plugged a blinker to the outlet and put red bulbs in the anchor. Poof! A Blinking Red Anchor!

Joyce Moulton Coleman and Sue Johnson Aceto raided the Psi Phi House while no one seemed to be home. They brought a few of their Psi Phi composite photos over to the Ago House for a few days. Sue can't believe they were such scamps; upstanding students that they were... "Joyce the Editor of the Racquette and me, Miss Priss herself."



*In February Bev Mikel Kneessy flew from Rochester, NY to Estero, FL for a visit. While here, Mary Carey Munhall invited a bunch of us to her house in San Antonio, FL for a girls' getaway weekend. Here we are pictured: (l to r) Bev Mikel Kneessy, Gail Roach Davi, Dotty Runkel Dronkers, Sue Conant Young and Mary Carey Munhall. We ate, laughed, shopped, laughed, reminisced on the "old" days, and laughed some more. The class of '58 is still hanging in there!*



## This Old House....has had some upgrades!

The Alpha Kappa Phi Board of Directors has been busy with upkeep of the sorority house at 11 Pierrepont Avenue. Come and visit the house when you're in Potsdam, and pay special attention to the home repairs completed in 2011-2012! Accomplished work includes:

1. Purchase of a hot water heater instead of rental. This will help bring down the cost of running the house.
2. Replacement of windows in the dining room and racks (3rd floor).
3. Replacement of light fixtures in the kitchen ceiling.
4. Total remodeling of the upstairs bathrooms from the studs up. The bathrooms were gutted, some joists and studs replaced, special wallboard was installed in walls and ceilings, new showers, toilets, sinks, floors and fixtures were then added.
5. Repair of the cabinet under the kitchen sink.
6. Repair of the island in kitchen.
7. Replacement (in May) of steps on the front porch.

## More Potsdam Memories...

"I'm 82 but still love my Ago sisters and recall happy years in the Ago House – 11 Pierrepont. "

Lila Hamilton, Class of 1949

One good date (plus movie) on Sunday night was "cabbage rolls" at a restaurant in Norwood. Yummy! The returning vets were the only guys with any money. But they were very experienced compared to us 17 and 18 year olds. One couple was kicked out of school for staying overnight together from their way back from vacation.

Also, the returning vets were a lot for us young gals to handle but handle them we did or the inter-sorority council took away late (weekend hours) for punishment!

Our hours were 8:00 weeknights until we earned a B average, then 10:30. Sunday night was 10:30, Friday and Saturday, 12:00. As sophomores we moved up to 10:30 weeknights, weekend the same. Needed special permission from Inter-Sorority Council members to go out of town – any time!

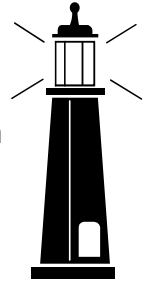
Sunday afternoon and evening hangout was McManus' Diner where music guys kept a jam session going all the time. (no money) The diner was next to the Alpha House on Main Street. Remember, we were all at the old campus – one building at the corner of Main and Elm, across from the county building.

No one could afford lots of clothes so we traded off – especially gowns. Both PSTC (as it was then) and Clarkson frats had several formals a year. I attended 13 one year! I owned a very popular black suit!

The music guys furnished music 4-6 on Friday afternoons for dancing in the gym. Always crowded! No refreshments, just dancing.

We had to sign in and out every time we left our house so someone always could find us if necessary. Always!

**Opportunities to Help the Alumnae Association**



The Agonian Alumnae Association works because of people like you! If you are looking to stay involved and connected with the gold, white and blue and the friends and memories from your time in Potsdam, please consider helping out in small ways so that our organization can continue to maintain contacts, award scholarships and help support the Agonian Board of Directors.

The AAA is looking to recruit individuals to help with *The Anchor* and a number of projects. If you would like to consider becoming a class rep, we are always looking to include classes that are without representation in the newsletter. If you are interested, we would also like to hear from sisters who would like to take a turn as an officer of our organization. Check the activity or area of interest, or include a talent or gift you'd like to share with your sisters!

- Write notes/Phone calls                       Help with *The Anchor*                       Fundraising
- Web/Database Maintenance                       Class Representative                       Board of Directors
- Let me know where I can be of help: \_\_\_\_\_

|                  |                     |
|------------------|---------------------|
| Your Name _____  | Class Year _____    |
| Address _____    | Big Sister _____    |
| _____            | Little Sister _____ |
| Phone/Cell _____ |                     |
| Email _____      |                     |

Annual Dues (\$25.00) Please indicate where you would like your dues or additional contributions directed:

Rush                       Newsletter                       Scholarship  
 Repairs/Renovations                       Emergency Fund                       Where Needed

**Please complete & return to: Agonian Alumnae Association, P.O. Box 144, Burnt Hills, NY 12027**

Here is my latest news:

**AGONIAN ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION  
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BURNT HILLS, NEW YORK 12027**

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