

Spring 2023

1973 50th Reunion Committee

Marci Barr Abbot, Co-Leader

Jack Au, Co-Leader

Communications & Engagement

Tom Stamp, Co-Chair

Julie Miller Vick, Co-Chair

Tom Allen

Chris Bloom

Gay Garth Legg

Reunion Weekend Social

Jan Guifarro, Co-Chair

Pegi Goodman, Co-Chair

Gay Garth Legg

Fundraising & Participation

Ulysses Hammond, Chair

Alan Goldsmith

Barbara Johnson

Kurt Karakul

Jayne Holmes Arnold

Kay Koeninger

Jim Lucas

Dear classmates,

Thanks so much to everyone who submitted comments for this Spring Class letter -- it's always great to learn what everyone is up to -- but it's going to be even better to see many of you in person at our 50th Reunion this May. As a reminder, the reunion for our class begins on **Thursday, May 25 and runs through Sunday, May 28**. We have several great activities planned. So far 88 of our classmates have registered to attend. Registration is still open; to sign up go to <https://kenyon.regfox.com/reunion-2023>.

In the last several months we have had some fun Zoom meetings on various topics featuring classmates. **Chris Bloom**, lawyer and mixologist introduced us to a cocktail he designed for our class. **Ellyn Greenspan Leverone** and **Jackie Robbins**, both very experienced travelers, shared their tips on travel while there is a pandemic. **Kay Koeninger**, a professor of history of art, spoke twice, most recently on women artists. We expect to have one more pre-reunion event that will be a Trivia Night on what was happening in the world and at Kenyon in 1969-73 and hope you'll join us for that!

And now on to some Kenyon news. President Sean Decatur has moved to a new position in NYC as the president of the American Museum of Natural History. The college will announce the appointment of Kenyon's 20th president later this summer along with planning for the college's bicentennial in 2024. The alumni-led presidential search committee has assembled input from alumni and others in the Kenyon community to create a leadership profile that outlines the qualities sought for Kenyon's next president. For the latest on the search, visit www.kenyon.edu/presidentialsearch. As for the bicentennial, a call for proposals is underway! If you have an idea for a special project for the College's 200th birthday celebration, you can apply for funding by emailing bicentennial@kenyon.edu.

In other college news, Oden Hall — named for Kenyon's 17th president Robert A. Oden, Jr. (from 1995-2002) and his wife Teresa — opened in the spring as home to faculty from

sociology, political science, history and philosophy. Anthropology is also represented with a dedicated laboratory space and Kenyon's Center for the Study of American Democracy will also call Oden Hall home. Oden Hall is behind the new Chalmers Library which is in the spot where Chalmers Memorial Library of our day was.

In preparation for the bicentennial, members of Alumni Council have been busy working on an update to the Kenyon Songbook, which can now be viewed online at kenyon.edu/songs. Are you ready to warm up your vocalizers and try to remember the words to one of your favorite Kenyon tunes? This fifth edition of "Songs of Kenyon" continues a 166-year effort by the College and Alumni Council to both preserve and carry on Kenyon's tradition of song. Published in 1859, 1866, 1906 and 1957, the first four editions chronicle songs that defined generations of Kenyon students. The songs chosen for this edition were selected "because they both unify us in our past and point us towards our future."

Of course, this wouldn't be a class letter without asking you to continue to support Kenyon financially. You can donate through the Kenyon Fund and, of course, contribute to the Kenyon Class of '73 Scholarship Fund. More information about these options are on Kenyon's website at <https://forward.kenyon.edu/ways-to-give/>. A college fundraising goal is to encourage new estate commitments, an amazingly effective way to support the place that has truly enriched our lives. One of our classmates has stepped up to encourage gifts of this kind, offering to match 5% of the value of every new estate commitment from the Class of 1973 with a cash gift to the Kenyon Access Initiative, up to \$250,000! More information about this challenge can be found at kenyon.edu/50th-reunion. Finally, coming soon will be the "Kenyon FunDay", an opportunity to make a gift for today's student over the course of the 36-hour giving challenge.

Please enjoy reading the Class Notes as attached. And - if you haven't already - please register to attend our 50th reunion in May. It will be wonderful to see you there! I look forward to catching up with you all, sharing memories and exploring how our alma mater has changed and grown.

Sincerely,

Julie

Julie Miller Vick '73 P12 H97

Co-Chair, with Tom Stamp '73 H22, of Communication and Engagement Subcommittee, Class of 1973 Reunion Committee

1973 Class Notes

Amy Aldrich (Goodwin): My commute winds through Rock Creek Park and was unusually colorful at the end of February – hillsides were covered with daffodils in full bloom. Other than the daffodils: have been enjoying life in DC since 1980. It's colorful, sometimes. Recently, have had fun spending time with Kenyon friends in NYC and Philadelphia – special shout out to **Julie Miller Vick** for bringing a few of us together for the “Matisse in the 1930s” exhibit at the PMA: Julie, her husband **Jim Vick '74**, **Ellen Pader**, **Zoe Moffitt**, and **Pegi Goodman** (plus husband, Greg). Hope to catch up with many more classmates at our reunion in May.

Jayne Holmes Arnold: I am looking forward to our 50th reunion...and am anxious to hear everyone's journeys. We've enjoyed traveling again this past year from New England and Maritime Provinces to Florida to Hawaii as well as a few local trips. See you in May!

Jeffrey Bennett: Greetings to all of my fellow Kenyon Alumni! Things are extremely snowy today way up here in Michigan, but everything else is going great! We are enjoying our grandkids and life generally! I am still volunteering at the Sloan Museum of Discovery in Flint, Michigan in the Collections Department. I am looking forward to the class of '73's 50th (!) reunion! I really enjoyed seeing everyone at the 50th reunion of Kenyon's only undefeated football team last fall. I had a great time! Best of everything to all and hope to see everyone in May!

Peter Bloomfield: Still in Philadelphia and still working with clients designing buildings and environments and do as much painting/drawing and prints, as I can. A recent gallery opening of the “Wall Studies” series was particularly terrific because **Julie (Miller)** and **Jim Vick** stopped in. MOST IMPORTANT is my 17-month-old granddaughter, Piper Bloom McAndrew! I have given up mocking those friends who insist I look at pictures and listen to their never-ending discourse about how wonderful it is to be a grandparent. Now: I be one!!



Wall Study 50-3 is somewhat typical of the 13 pieces in the show.

Lynda Bernays: Can it really be 50 years since we were newly-minted college grads, setting off to conquer the world? Yes, it can (do the math!) but I don't know how much of the world I have conquered. Right now, these are my spheres of influence and possible conquering: volunteering at the church I used to work for; running a variety of things ("programs" is too broad a description) at the church we attend; spending time walking, hiking, and picking up

neighborhood litter with my husband Stan (and waiting for motorcycle season); traveling to Portland, OR to be with my son, his wife, and 2 young boys; spending time with my daughter, her husband, and their young son (who gets to spend a lot of time with me). I look forward to reconnecting with classmates who arrive in Gambier in late May!

Marie Charvat: I'm going, with two of my friends from Cleveland and a few other persons who will become friends, on a two-week archaeological tour of Greece at the end of May sponsored by Case Western Reserve University with one of their Classics professors as a guide. We'll go from Athens, of course, to Delphi, to Crete...etc., eating our way through as we go...dolmades, here we come... 'Sorry I will miss the fun at Kenyon, but this is a once in a lifetime opportunity....

Jean Dunbar: In February, I had a LONG overdue and suitably raucous reunion with classmates and eternal friends **Tom Stamp**, **Liz Forman**, and **Jackie Robbins** at Tom's wonderful house in Gambier. True to Kenyon form, conversation ranged over a breathtaking range of subjects, and hilarity reigned. Elsewhere and otherwise, I'm working on a project for the Tennessee Historical Commission and preparing a book about British/American landscape artist Thomas Cole (1801-1848) for publication later this year. Among other startling revelations, I disclose that Cole attended an Ohio church served by (you guessed it!) Philander Chase.

Katie Eastridge (Fishman): Although my interest in fine arts began when I could first hold a pencil, the fine arts education at Kenyon College taught me to how apply critical reasoning to studio art. Some sixty years later I am still working each day solving visual riddles. In addition, the atmosphere of Kenyon informed my future lifestyle. The charm of living in a small college town brought my husband and me to Princeton thirty years ago. I thank Kenyon College for introducing me to living a good life filled with fine arts, critical thinking, good friends, family and a community of peers.

Howard Gantman reports he unfortunately will not be able to attend the 50th reunion as it coincides with the graduation of his daughter, Ella, who has been awarded the 2023 Pyne Prize at Princeton, the highest general distinction conferred on an undergraduate. Howard and his wife Ana are so proud of Ella, who is returning to Princeton next year as a fellow at the School of International and Public Affairs, were she has received a fellowship as part of the Scholars in the Nation's Service Initiative.

Bill Gorski: We are so looking forward to our reunion this May! My wife Sue and I remember fondly our first year of marriage living at Kenyon in an apartment down the alley from the bookstore. We celebrated our 50th anniversary this past summer and also welcomed our 7th grandchild. Retirement has been great except for travels being interrupted by COVID. We both remain active in our community and relish time with family and friends. Looking forward to Gambier in May!

Anita Havas (Guttenberg): Retiring in June 2023 after 20 years working at Bullis School. Enjoy spending time with our three grandsons as well as residing 5 months of the year at our Lake George house in Ticonderoga, NY.

Robert Hayes: I have embarked on the early stages of retirement. A whole new experience. What to do with my time. Enrolled at L.A. Fitness, (no obvious results just yet...) and now, Pickle Ball and of course my new granddaughter, one Evie Louise Molder, aka " Baby Beep" currently keep me occupied. Life is good. Eagerly anticipating a return to Gambier for an unbelievable 50th class reunion. In touch with a few of the "Boys from B -1" and will meet up with **John Higgins** and **Jim Musbach**. Hopes are high that this milestone will be well attended, and that Ohio weather will cooperate as it was freezing in May at our 40th. My wife Donna and I have all good intentions of returning to Italy, the southern part this time having travelled northern Italy and having our last trip imploded by Covid. We also have our eyes on one more River Cruise and perhaps, if we can manage it, a visit to the 'Ol Sod, Ireland. Best wishes to all fellow classmates from '73.

Mitchell Jablons: My daughter Michelle was married on February 25 to Brad Warner. My 72nd birthday was the following day and I stayed up past my normal bedtime dancing to rap at the beginning of the afterparty. It was the geriatric equivalent of an all-nighter in college.

Julie Johnson: I have been busy this past year planning The Garden Club of America's 2023 Annual Meeting which will be held in Columbus for the first time. I am Co-Chairing this event which will bring 600 gardeners and floral designers to town including our very own **Gay Garth Legg** who is a wonderfully gifted, award-winning floral designer!

Kurt Karakul: I retired from my position as Executive Director of the Third Federal Foundation at the end of 2021 but have kept busy consulting on a mentoring project for the Cleveland Metropolitan School District and participating on several non-profit boards along with serving on the Kenyon Alumni Council. I really enjoyed my 15 years of work in philanthropy (after 27 years practicing law), I learned that investing in education is essential and that those communities that don't invest in education suffer the consequences. The impact of the pandemic has been traumatic on poor urban and rural kids. The project I am leading in our underserved poor urban school district creates a mentorship program to engage 4th and 5th grade students to provide role models, teach a curriculum based on social emotional learning and keep students engaged in learning. Those of us that had the special opportunity to learn at Kenyon know how crucial education can be in preparing for life. Our program, called BRAVE Engagements, makes that crucial investment to give our students a better chance to succeed in life. It is challenging but rewarding. I look forward to seeing all of you and sharing experiences at our 50th reunion (I can't believe that it's been 50 years).

Bonnie Levinson: Looking forward to seeing everyone for the reunion this year. To my surprise, I am really enjoying Florida and the beautiful water, clouds, air and natural beauty. It has inspired my artwork in new directions; particularly the palette seems to have changed in response to the lightness here. Check it out bonnielevinson.com. My niece Liza (who is like a daughter to me) and her husband are uprooting their family from NY to move near with my great nephew Jack who is now 3 and calls me Nonnie Bonnie. Excited to have them nearby.

David Linnenkohl: I am enjoying my retirement which started on April 1, 2019. I became a grandfather for the first time on March 1, 2023. My daughter, Sarah, gave birth to Leona Jean Iverson Wednesday afternoon in Minneapolis, MN. My mother turned 100 last July and has survived Covid-19 three times, without any lasting side effects, at the assisted living center where she lives. Looking forward to seeing everyone at our 50th reunion.

Mel Otten: COVID, measles, train derailments it has been an interesting year so far for medicine in Ohio. Which reminds me of the ancient Chinese curse, "May you live in interesting times". My wife has threatened to retire this year and take me with her, but I think I would be bored after a few months. Recently spoke with **Dave Snell** and **Pete Bunting '72**, both doing well. Looking forward to seeing my classmates from 50 years ago.

Philip Roy: It's hard to believe that it's now been over 50 years since I entered Show Business by opening Grendel's Lair Coffee House (originally called Ma & Pa Eclectic's International House of Chutzpah) at Kenyon College with folk acts like Michael Nesmith of the Monkees and Dave Van Ronk. Since then I have owned several other theaters in Philadelphia and Palm Beach Gardens, FL and produced dozens of long running shows in NYC and across the country & Canada including *Let My People Come* (10 years in Philly & 8 years in Toronto & 19 other cities). After a forced hiatus in 2020 & 2021 due to the Plague, we resumed touring our current stable of 4 shows - *My Son The Waiter: A Jewish Tragedy*; *The Secret Comedy of Women*; *Old Jews Telling Jokes*; and *My Mother's Italian My Father's Jewish & I'm In Therapy!* Now that I know what it's like to be 'retired', I think we'll keep producing shows until we can't!

Chuck Semple: I remember a particular day in Mr. (William) Klein's Freshman English class. He was discussing Thoreau's evolution from being a hunter of animal life to more of a vegetarian stance, no longer even catching fish from the pond. Mr. Klein described a similar change in his own life, and the kind of "fellow feeling" he had developed with all creatures of the natural world. It was quite moving. Then, like a period to his closing sentence, a fly landed on top of his bald head. There was a pause. Then a sharp slap as he went for that fly. Another pause, then "I don't have that same feeling for flies," as he and the whole room erupted in laughter. I believe he missed the fly.

Tom Shantz: Although I retired from my paying job 19 years ago, I never really retired, only redirected after I concluded my career in journalism. For the last 17 years, I have volunteered

my time serving on the boards of various community organizations and groups, either as an officer or director. Apparently, the critical, multi-disciplinary skills I honed at Kenyon remain very much in demand. Too many of my professors to list here in thanks for that--and my father (**G. Thomas Shantz '49**) for introducing me to Kenyon in the first place. Certainly, a legacy that far exceeds the four years I spent on the Hill!

Ann Starr (Wiester): So sorry I'll miss a reunion I would miss only because my daughter's growing family needs me in May: such important competing claims. Wish I would be there and hoping there will be lots of happy documentation.

Julie Miller Vick: Jim Vick '74 and I still live in Haddonfield, NJ which is 15 minutes across the Delaware River from Philadelphia. We recently returned from a week in St. Croix, fulfilling our need for a warm sun. We swam, sat by the beach reading, did some hiking, visited the island's two cities and a beautiful botanical garden, and just relaxed. We followed that with a trip north to Toronto where our daughter, Emily and husband, George live with our Canadian grandkids; Athena will be 10 and Theo will be 8. Our third grandchild, Agnes, and her parents, John Vick and Amanda Jaffe live in Philadelphia. Our youngest, **David '12** lives in Los Angeles where he works in television production. It was a thrill to see 1973 classmates in person in October: **Patti Eanet, Amy Goodwin Aldrich** and I had a wonderful lunch together on a beautiful sunny day in Washington DC; **Pegi Goodman** and husband Greg Leeds, **Zoe Moffitt, Ellen Pader, Amy Aldrich** and her husband Bob joined us in the Poconos for hiking, eating, drinking and a lot of talking; and soon after that we had the pleasure of a visit from **Caroline Nesbitt** and partner Bob Butcher. We also enjoyed seeing **Chris Finch '71** and partner Eleanor Miller for dinner in December in Philadelphia and last month we viewed a wonderful art exhibit by **Peter Bloomfield**. I look forward to seeing many classmates at our 50th Reunion in May!!

For alumni events, please visit kenyon.edu/for-alumni/events

Some Kenyon Faculty Notes:

Thomas B. Greenslade, Jr., Professor Emeritus of Physics, 1964 to 2005

Tom Greenslade turned 85 two days before Christmas, but age has not kept him from writing more articles for the physics teaching journals. In the middle of February, he decided to count some of them and discovered he had five articles accepted for publication this spring. There were seven more submitted but not yet fully accepted. A recently published article was about the calculating devices in the museum housed in a wing of this house in Gambier. The oldest is a huge form of slide rule dating back to the 1870s. The smallest is a tiny slide rule used by his father, a chemistry major at Kenyon College who graduated in 1931. [His great uncle was an 1876 graduate and Tom was awarded a D.Sc. in 2002 when he retired from full-time teaching.]

The biggest one is a 24-inch-long slide rule that was given to him several years ago when he and Sonia spent several days at Amherst College identifying early apparatus in the Amherst collection. He may have used this in an optics laboratory in his junior year. At the present time he is working on a lengthy article about the Electricity & Magnetism Laboratory that all physics majors took; he has examples of all of the apparatus for this lab in his Collection, which now has about 800 items. A recent addition was a long loop-the-loop demonstration that dates from 1875, when it cost \$7.50. Most visitors of the Collection gravitate toward it!

Clifford Weber, Professor Emeritus of Classics, 1969 to 2008

Cliff Weber and **Robert Stoddart '73** have collaborated on a contribution of Latin and English verse to the journal *Arion*. Dating to his first year at Kenyon, Robert's response in rhyming English to Cliff's Latin elegiacs was written so long ago that he initially could not recall having written it. "It's too good [to be mine]," he wrote to Cliff, denying authorship. Robert's droll couplets, though full of innuendo, sanitize Cliff's blunt Latin, which aims to shock even more than Ovid does in his erotic verse.

Peter Rutkoff, Professor Emeritus of American Studies, 1971 to 2022

I'm still engaged in several arenas, especially in assisting my wife in creating a project in Ghana where we will bring American teachers to several small rural schools there to give workshops on project-based and experiential learning. But to accomplish this we are trying to establish internet connectivity in a provincial district where none yet exists. It's quite a challenge and I welcome all forms of support.

To see more faculty notes, go to pages.e2ma.net/pages/1892644/40590