

## 1968 for June 2010 *Vassar Quarterly*

Lucey Bowen  
145 Campo Bello Lane  
Menlo Park, CA 94025  
650-619-3227  
lucey.bowen@gmail.com

What a delight are far-flung correspondents! **Milbrey Rennie Taylor** returned from Kabul, Afghanistan. Missie last visited there in 2004 and reports so much has changed. She has been on the Asia Foundation's Board of Trustees since 1999, and recently traveled to Cambodia for their Board Meeting. She managed to meet up with **Margaret (Marnie) Ryan** in Phnom Penh. You may remember that Marnie both teaches law at the Royal Cambodian law school and directs a residency scholarship program for rural girls to attend school in Phnom Penh. Missie has traveled to Cambodia since 1992, so she and Marnie had a fascinating time talking about the changes there, and of course re-hashing our 40th Reunion.

When I moved to California just after our 25th Reunion, **Lydia Quillen McCloskey** lived across the Bay in Oakland. Now she too, is a far-flung correspondent. She had to miss our 40th Reunion because she was traveling with Elderhostel. Then in October she packed for another adventure, as a Peace Corps volunteer in Jordan. November and December were taken up with In-Country training, as in learning Arabic and visiting current volunteers at their sites. In January she settled into her assignment, teaching English at a technical college in the north of Jordan. She says, "My work is fun. I like my village and I like my job. This is a once in a lifetime experience no matter what age you choose it." Lydia's apartment now has Internet; you can friend her on Facebook.

Our own Class President, **Elizabeth (Betsy) Howland** has also been doing far-flung correspondent duties for us. In January, Betsy visited **Cheryl Mehlich Schmitz** in Lake Forest. Cheryl had just returned from the holidays in Wyoming with sons Roger and Frederick. Cheryl often travels East to see her parents and Roger in New York, and Frederick at Furman College in South Carolina.

In February, Betsy and husband Dennis traveled to Florida in time to attend **Caroline (Candy) Dern Johnston's** Mini-Reunion at Candy's home in Vero Beach. **Linda Rathbun Taylor** and her husband joined them. Betsy reports that Linda was especially happy to be in Florida: she had spent the previous week in Virginia, where she single handedly minded a stable of snow-bound horses. Among the highlights of the evening: nostalgia for the Dutch, when Candy's husband, Waldo, sang "Bottle of Wine, Fruit of the Vine."

Motoring north, Bets and Dennis visited **Barbara Cesery** in Jacksonville. Barb continues to be involved in developing urban infill projects, such as The Lofts San Marco, a former elementary school. Barb hopes to spend more time with her horse at the farm she's transforming from wetland to pine plantation, closer to St. Augustine. Plans include a painting studio, so we should look forward to seeing more of Barb's work in that area.

Belated congratulations to Chancellor Emerita of the University of California, Santa Cruz, **M.R.C. Greenwood**, who became President of the University of Hawai'i System in June 2009. Another classmate not yet ready to retire is **Marilyn Katatsky**. Marilyn, now a Senior Vice President at Morgan

Stanley Smith Barney, was recently honored to be invited to Barron's Winner's Circle Top Women Advisors Summit.

Whether surging ahead in careers or enjoying retirement, family continues in the news for many of us. **Nancy Dante Bennison** emailed that for her the highlight of 2009 was the wedding of her daughter, Sarah Bennison '99 to Simon Frumkin. The outdoor wedding took place on June 27th at Camp Angelos in Oregon's Columbia River Gorge. Vassar alums played important roles in the wedding. In addition to the bride and mother-of-the-bride, the maid of honor, Emily Bennison '02, one of the bridesmaids, Kerstin Beyer Lajuzan, '99, the officiant, Darian Santner '99 and many guests were Vassar alums. "What joy it is to see your daughter so happy," she wrote, "Surrounded by people who love her and her new husband."