

1968 for November 2010 *Vassar Quarterly*

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

Lots of news, many first time contributions!

Donna Hastings Bockian, in New Jersey, is intensely involved in her Information Systems work on the data platform supporting the Morgan Stanley/Smith Barney joint venture. Her daughters, Vivian, Adrian and Lillian are launched on their own careers: EMT, teaching in France and psychological research.

Tamara Kaye Kraig feels young and continues working with her husband as a Certified Financial Planner in their boutique investment firm in Pennsylvania. She remains active in sports and enjoys relating to her two sons and daughter as adults, especially on family game nights.

Pennsylvania is where **Sylvia G. Brown** settled after her many years in Japan. She is a psychotherapist in a feminist non-profit, The Woman's Therapy Center, and in private practice in Philadelphia. In her third career, she finds everything she learned in literature and law enriches her skills as a therapist. She works on trauma issues, with a special focus on L.G.B.T.Q. communities

From Ireland, **Jane Strong O'Leary** tells me she is writing a piano piece for Isabelle O'Connell, a New York based Irish pianist and teaching composition in Dublin. Summer involved rescuing the garden and time in Italy. She's enjoying this stage of life, still learning and feeling very fortunate.

Although her son is out on his own, working as a shipwright, **Cynthia Phelps** has a house-full in Washington State: a menagerie of three rescued cats and two dogs. She is co-chairing our Annual Fund with **Laurie Stein Bigley** in Albany, New York, and staying in touch with class members by phone.

Frances Toland Kidder continues to paint in Western Massachusetts. You can view some of her work on-line at <http://www.franceskidder.com/>. Her son is a graphic designer in California and her daughter a resident in emergency medicine at Boston Medical Center. Fran has been involved in fundraising for Partners in Heath and Village Heath Works. Village Health Works was founded in Burundi by Deogratias Niyizonkiza, or Deo, as he is known in Fran's husband Tracy's *Strength in What Remains*. **Milbrey Rennie Taylor** caught up with Fran in May as the Woman's Refugee Commission prepared to honor Deo with their 2010 Voices of Courage Award.

Missie provided lots of additional news; she makes a point of connecting with classmates as she travels for service on various boards. In Sausalito, she checked in with **Cornelia Pratt**, who has added photography, painting and grand-parenting to her skill set. Together they recalled the summer that **Susan Willcox Mackay** and Missie lived with Leila and her family in Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts. Missie also visited **Edith Wilkie** in Carmel and reports that Edie, as ever, is as completely up-to-date with every foreign policy issue and political insight. In Amsterdam, Missie had lunch with **Sylvia Brooks** and Sylvia's son Carel, who is Missie's godson.

Also in the Netherlands, **Ginger Da Silva** gave an intensive 4-week multi-media training course to six print journalists from Latin America, Africa and India. A learning experience for Ginger as well, this course was tailor-made to make the young journalists more

aware of important issues in the lives of very young children. Ginger is eager to visit Connie Turnbull Nyatta '67 in Kenya, where Connie and her husband Mwasi have built a library in the Taita Hills.

Here in my neck of the woods, **Deborah Hall Coburn** emerged from semi-retirement to help **Lucinda Lee** settle into a new home in San Francisco.

Across the bay, in Oakland, and across the country, **Mayhill Anderson Fowler** is still writing for The Huffington Post, and has added her own political blog, Nattering On, at mayhillfowler.com. She completed her book about the 2008 campaign, and covered the state visit and dinner for the President of Mexico. Her latest project involves travel to Kabul to write about the State Department's citizen volunteer corps in rural Afghanistan.

Tona Johnston Barkley has been politically active herself, running for the board of her local rural electric cooperative in Kentucky.

I reported on **Marilyn Katatsky's** career, but now have even more exciting news. Marilyn married Col. (ret) Rick Kaufmann on 4 June 2010 on their boat, *Patriot Games*, in Spa Creek, off the dock at Annapolis Yacht Club. She met Rick in the parking garage of their marina 8 years ago. He is a Sergeant with the Maryland Natural Resources Police. A graduate of Johns Hopkins and the Army War College, Rick did two tours in Viet Nam, and was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross.

I'm writing from Portland, Oregon. I just enjoyed a two-day visit with **Quinton Hallet** and her husband Dennis Gould in their home and studios among the trees in Noti. Special treat: farm team baseball in Eugene. Go Emeralds!

Please keep the cards, letters, e-mails and facebook postings coming.