

Sem Snippets

WINTER 2011-2012



Greetings from the Head of School



During a fall presentation at the Garret Club, Jody Douglass, Renata Chimes Villarreal '13 from Mexico and Tianyi Zhou '12 from China spoke on behalf of the residential program at Sem.

As we enter the holiday season, I want to pause to reflect on our mission and to give thanks to all of you who support Buffalo Seminary in so many ways. This is a remarkable school that continues to stand on the foundation laid in 1851, even as we stand among the schools which are best preparing students for the 21st century. There is general agreement that there are some basic skills and values that will be necessary for individuals and for our culture to succeed in this new world. Pat Bassett, President of the National Association of Independent Schools, calls them the "Six C's."

He and many other educators agree that students will need skills and values that include: *critical thinking, creativity, collaboration communication, character and cross-cultural competency (cosmopolitanism)*. At Sem, these are already a part of our core program, and we continue to encourage each of our students to develop her own voice. Our mission statement stands as a beacon for the young women who are students today and as a reminder that all those who came before paved a path to guide our future. I want to include it here to celebrate our commitment to Sem and the principles of this school: *Buffalo Seminary educates college-bound young women from diverse backgrounds in a vigorous and participatory environment that emphasizes development of character, intellectual independence, creativity, service, and leadership for life. Sem strives to make each girl proud of her ability to shape society rather than to be controlled by it and to awaken each student to the opportunities available to women.*

Thank you for your support for Buffalo Seminary. May you enjoy a wonderful and happy holiday season!

Best wishes,

Jody Douglass

Head of School

The Write Stuff *by Sarah Gardner '12*

Last summer, Senior Sarah Gardner attended the prestigious Kenyon Review Young Writers' Program at Kenyon College. Designed for high-school students, the intensive two-week program builds on an individual's creative-writing skills. An aspiring author, Sarah was recommended for the program by Benjamin Joplin Ph.D., Chair of Sem's English Department. Read Sarah's wonderful reflection on the experience.

Imagine spending two weeks perfecting your writing skills on a college campus with other writers just like you. Got a picture in your head? Good.

This past summer, that was exactly what I did. From July 17th to 31st, I joined 91 other teens from ages 16 to 18 at Kenyon College in Gambier, Ohio, where, for two weeks, we wrote every day. It was taxing, mentally and physically, but at the end of the day, it was more than worth it.

It was kind of like an immersion experience in the language of writing; each writer came from a different background and had a contrasting view of what "good" writing is, and the only thing we had in common was the way we spoke: through pencil and paper.

Every day, twice a day, we had a workshop. Each workshop group had 10-12 people in it, and was led by an instructor. At the beginning of every session, we would free-write for 10 minutes, or until our hands cramped up.

The more I wrote, the more I realized that to keep the pencil moving was absolutely necessary, lest I lose some of the meaning of the words. I discovered that the less I tried to self-edit, the freer I became and the better I felt about what I had written.

About midway through the two weeks, we wrote a piece called a "hellmoffing," which required five minutes of writing without stopping; there was to be no punctuation, capitalization, or pauses of any kind in the piece. In order to write one, my instructor told me, thinking should be kept at a minimum.

At first, this concept frightened me; I wasn't sure I could accomplish a task like that, much less come up with something I liked. However, to my great surprise, I quite enjoyed the experience.

This particular exercise has taught me that writing is not just an art of words on the page, but an art of pictures that the words create. Often, a free-write or a "hellmoffing," where writing things down is the only goal, can create a better picture than would a carefully crafted essay.

At Kenyon, I learned how to be confident in my writing, and how to accept critique. I also realized that writing is not just an art, but a language that we all share; now, I couldn't ever see myself living without it.

Sem's Got Talent

She's a freshman, pageant queen and aspiring singer. And in November, Mariivi Howell-Arza flew by herself to audition for "America's Got Talent." Here's more about her experience in St. Louis:

When I was in 7th grade, I entered a competition called Midwest Artist Search and won the opportunity to write and record my own song called "Learning to Bend." After I became involved with Midwest Artist Network, I found so many opportunities to perform in public events and also audition opportunities. One in particular was an audition for "America's Got Talent" in St. Louis, MO. After a lot of thinking and scouring the Internet for plane tickets, I decided I would fly by myself to St. Louis and stay in one of my friends' hotel rooms for the audition. I went to my appointment and everyone there was so nice, I couldn't believe it. I got into the audition room and there were two producers and a video camera at the front of the room and they asked me to say my name, where I'm from, and what I would be singing. I sang "Chasing Pavements" by Adele and they had me sing almost the entire song instead of sticking to a 90-second time limit. One of the producers then told me I did a beautiful job... He then told me I would be contacted in January if I had a callback. Even though I don't think I made it, it was still an awesome experience and I plan on auditioning again next year. "America's Got Talent" was one of the best, most amazing experiences of my life that I will cherish forever!

Maddie "Larkin"

Known to her teachers and classmates as Maddie Gacioch, the junior is an accomplished singer-songwriter. She recently opened for Craig Morgan at "Wrangling for a Cause," the 2011 fundraiser hosted by Ryan Miller of the Buffalo Sabres. Earlier this year, she released her first CD, "Letters From My Cold Heart." Maddie is also Sem's 2011-2012 SGA Vice President and the sister of Michela '10.



Maddie Larkin (Gacioch) '12 at the 2011 Country Music Awards, where she attended Songwriters Series at the Limelight

We would like to thank the following for their generous support of Soiree 2011:

BENCH AND BAR

Amy Martoche '88

Timothy Hoover

Julianne Piotrowski Nery '91

Martha Buyer '75

Lawrence C. Franco

HEALTH CARE

William A. Zorn

Remembering a Beloved Colleague: Susan R. Schapiro '48



*by Harry B. Schooley
History Teacher, 1967-2010*

Sue was an extraordinary teacher who challenged her students to stretch their minds beyond what they thought were their intellectual limits. She loved her profession and lived it to its fullest, always encouraging her students and colleagues to grow and share their talents and energies in pursuit of a better future. Throughout the 43 years of my teaching experience, Sue took a genuine interest in my career and its directions, even when I was at Hathaway Brown School in Ohio. I will always cherish my memories of Sue and gratefully appreciate her love and support for Buffalo Seminary.

A MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR SUSAN R. SCHAPIRO PH.D. '48 WAS HELD AT SEM ON SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2011.

A Believer in the All-Girls Mission: Francis Faust



*by Robert A. Foster
Headmaster, 1967-1992*

Over the course of its long history, Seminary has had many friends. Few have been more steadfast than Francis Faust. As a longtime Seminary trustee, Fran was a champion of single-sex education for girls during a period when many all-girls schools were becoming coeducational, often to their detriment. It is no exaggeration to say that the existence of Seminary in its present form is due to Fran's hard work. Of course he would be the first to deny this, since his modesty and rich sense of humor would militate against any sort of praise. Husband of a "Sem" woman, father of another, Fran had constant reminders of the value of a Seminary education. He will be missed.

A MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR FRANCIS FAUST, ESQ., WAS HELD AT SEM ON SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2011.

Life and Honorary Trustees Go Back to School



Dean of Faculty Molly O'Connor '98 presents a world history lesson.



Susie Lenahan Kimberly '68 and Amy Habib enjoy the interactive technology presentation.



Marge Barney, former Head of School, and Mark Hamister are all smiles after an update from Amy Martoche '88, Chair of the Board of Trustees.

Sports Shorts



VARSITY GOLF by *Jaime Engl '12*

Golf got off to a rough start having to forfeit our first two matches because we didn't have enough people to qualify for the match, but it was good practice for the matches that there were enough players. We practiced at Bob-O-Link or Delaware Park every day. We won our last two matches and finished second last in the league. *Jasmine Foster '12*, named MVP for the season, had the lowest score in one match on our team in the entire season and was recognized in *The Buffalo News*. This year was a building year. The majority of our team had never played golf before. However, now that the girls know how to play, the team will be ready for next year. Overall, the season was filled with a lot of hard work and wonderful memories! A big thank you to our coach, Jimmy Dref, and his wife, Edi.

Team captain Jaime Engl received the Coach's Award.

VARSITY CROSS-COUNTRY by *Lea Karnath '12*

This year's cross-country team worked hard to overcome challenges because of its first appearance as a Sem sport in a long time. Only three girls participated in the first meet, but then the team grew to a solid group of eight girls competing in the final meet. The girls worked hard setting goals to reach for every meet. With a positive attitude, team members pushed each other to run their hardest, which resulted in individual and team improvements. *Weiyi Li '15* and *Katharine Dunbar '14* received the Most Improved Player Awards for their advances and hard work. *Katie Lee '15* received the Coach's Award for her positive attitude and encouragement to fellow teammates. Her sister, *Megan Lee '15*, received the Most Promising Award for her impressive times. Unfortunately, she was out for most of the season due to an injury, but cannot wait to participate next year.



The team learned to work together throughout the entire season and earned a second meet win to prove its lasting determination. A great starting point has been set for the cross-country team, thanks to great leaders who will shape the team and inspire the girls to reach their full potential! A big thank you to our coaches, Melissa Kreppeel and Laura Rutecki.

Team captain Lea Karnath '12 received the MVP Award and a plaque for 1st Team All Catholic in the last league meet.

VARSITY SOCCER by *Juliette Brown '12*

Our team started out fresh this season when we were placed back into the South Division of the Monsignor Martin League, after pushing through a rough season in the North Division last year.

Like any other team, we pursued success and were sometimes met with frustration as we battled the six other teams in our league. *Natalie Voos '14*, our only goalie, pushed through the season strong-willed and determined to deliver, despite being knocked around by opponents. *Jaci Smith '13* proved to be an excellent co-captain, one with humor and hustle. She provided the girls with a laugh during a hard game or practice, but she also had the right words to get the team back into focus. *Maddy Thompson '14* provided the team with endless energy while controlling the middle of the field and winning crucial air-balls. *Zoe Martin '15*, one of three freshmen, improved her play in every game, and I have no worries about the rest of her Sem soccer career. It's hard for me to summarize our season or our team, but if I could do it in three words, they would be: character, hustle, determination. A big thank you to our coach, Tom Morris.

Team captain Juliette Brown was named MVP, and Natalie Voos '14 received the Coach's Award. Zoe Martin '15 was named Most Improved Player.



JV FIELD HOCKEY by *Marissa Egloff '14*
& *Meghan Sullivan '14*

The Junior Varsity Field Hockey team had a wonderful season. Our season included many great memories. One of those great memories was brought to life by our top goal-scorer, *Alexa Rosen '15*, in the first game against Wilson, when she scored a hat trick. Another great memory from the season was *Marla Beyer '14* scoring her most important goal of the season, which helped to win the game. Probably the most memorable part of the field hockey season was our trip to Pittsburgh. It took us eight hours to get there. Talk about team bonding! We had a great defense line this year that included *Alexis Wright '15*, *Mariah Rienhard '15*, *Emily Mugel '15*, *Jane Gold '15*, *Annalise Ishwardas '14*, *Amber Chinn '14* and *Emily Cardullo '12*. Emily was the only senior on the team; however, she made a great impact on the team to say the least. The midfield line included *Caity Grundtisch '15*, *Victoria Augello '15*, and both of us. The forward line included *Marla Beyer '14*, *Ceci Bair '15*, *Alex Pfeifer '15* and *Alexa Rosen '15*. *Morgan Aiken '15* was the goalie; she was able to keep us in many games this year. Also, she was able to have many shutouts throughout the season. The Most Improved Player on our team this year was *Alexis Wright '15*, who worked very hard to achieve this level of success. We owe all of our success to Linda Mroz, Eva Cunningham and Helen Marlette. Thank you!
Sophomore captains Marissa Egloff and Meghan Sullivan led the team to a 5-6-1 record.

VARSITY FIELD HOCKEY by *Grace Clauss '12*

It all began at the end of this summer at Larkin Field. Every year, field hockey starts its season with a one-or two-week preseason. Once school began, the team split up into a JV and Varsity. The 2011 Varsity field hockey team started and ended with a great season. We finished with six wins, one tie and three losses. *Eliza Kaye '12* and I, as captains this year, are very proud of how all team members showed their effort. We came out strong, and it definitely paid off in the end. We accomplished the goals we wanted, and we couldn't have done it without each other's teamwork. Like Coach Marlette always says: play hard, play fair, play with confidence, and have fun – and we definitely did. I love you girls! I'm so proud of you all.
Co-captains Grace Clauss and Eliza Kaye earned MVP and the Coach's Award, respectively. Caroline Klein '13 was named Most Improved Player.

VARSITY CREW

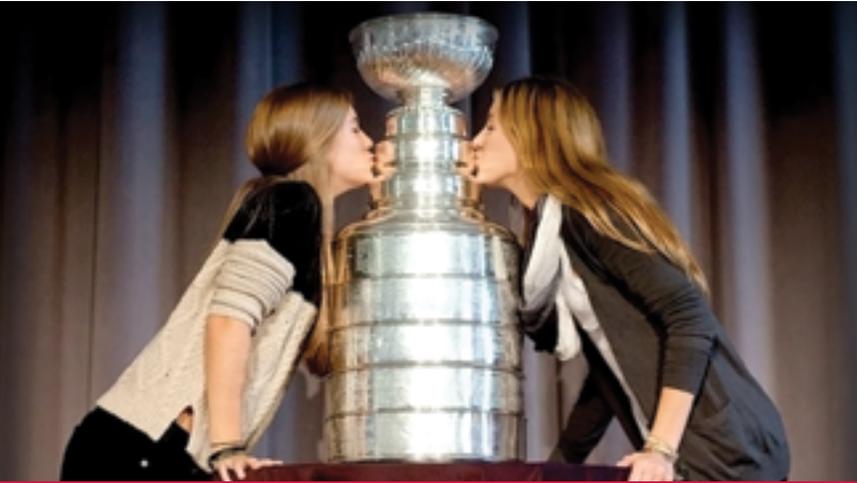
Our varsity crew team got off to a fine start this fall under new Head Coach Rachel Heckl. With a strong group of freshmen and key returning upperclassmen, Sem showed success in novice, junior varsity and varsity races in each of the season's four regattas. In October, Sem was invited to compete at the 47th Head Of the Charles Regatta, the world's largest two-day rowing event. We are already looking ahead to a productive spring crew season!

Miss Angell's House

In October Ms. Carey Miller's Sophomore Honors English class completed a month-long unit on Buffalo history. Activities included reading *City of Light*, writing a research paper, touring historic locations, creating a Google map tour and finally, walking to the former home of L. Gertrude Angell, Sem's headmistress from 1903 to 1952! Here's a picture of a few of these well-informed students in front of Miss Angell's house.



Lord Stanley's Cup Comes to Sem



On Friday, September 30, Sem students were treated to a special assembly featuring Lord Stanley's Cup, better known as the Stanley Cup. The program, made possible by the Jacobs Family, began when *Melissa Jacobs '12* and *Charlotte Jacobs '13* brought the Cup into the school chapel. Mike Bolt, Keeper of the Cup since 2000, then gave a brief history of the trophy before group and individual photos were taken with students, faculty and families. We thank the entire Jacobs Family and Delaware North Companies for sharing the Cup with the Sem community!

Equestrienne Pursuits



Congratulations to *Carolyn Kirsch '12*, who competed in The Grand National & World Championship Morgan Horse Show, held in Oklahoma City October 6-13, 2011. "Competing in the Grand National and World Championships was a great privilege, and it has been something I have worked towards for a long time," Carolyn remarked. She is pictured here riding a horse named Grand Cru Smoke and Mirrors.

Marathon Girl



Congratulations to *Ivey Spier '12*, who ran in the ING New York City Marathon on November 6, 2011, with an official finish time of 5 hours and 5 minutes. This was the first marathon ever for the Sem senior, who hadn't previously considered herself an athlete. In the weeks leading up to the race, she kept up her regular diet and ran five days a week for a distance ranging from 3 to 20 miles. "Crossing the finish line, I felt a sense of accomplishment that I had never experienced before," she explained. "I hope to run the New York City Marathon next year and for many years to come!" Way to go, Ivey!

Sem in the National Spotlight



Lea Karnath '12, Juliette Brown '12 and Lauren Belfer '71

Sem was honored to participate in two events for the 2011 National Preservation Conference, "Alternating Currents." On October 20, we were one of the many stops for the Candlelight Tour of Homes, showcasing the Lincoln Parkway neighborhood of the Elmwood Village. On October 22, *Lauren Belfer '71* was the featured speaker at a reception and talk held at Sem. Congratulations to co-chair *Catherine Flickinger Schweitzer '71*, as well as all the staff members and volunteers at Preservation Buffalo Niagara, for a very successful conference!



Cecilia Bair '15, Alexa Rosen '15, Ryan Bronstein '15, Erica Luciano '15 and Maiah Overdorf '15

Sem's Fall Production of "The Odyssey"



"Only at Sem can we go to Ithaca, survive a windstorm, challenge a sorceress and educate strong young women at the same time." ~ Susan Drozd, Sem's theatre instructor

The Odyssey by Mary Zimmerman, a phenomenal adaptation of Homer's epic poem, was also Sem's fall production for 2011. The spectacular show featured original music, strobe lighting, thunderous sound effects and an all-girl cast. *Kathryn Sands '13* played the role of Odysseus; Athena was portrayed by *Jane Bertelsen '13*. We congratulate the cast and crew on a theatrical success of epic proportions!

For a full cast list and to view more photos, go to: WWW.BUFFALOSEMINARY.ORG/HEADLINENEWS (*Sem Scores an Epic Win With "The Odyssey"*)



Six Inducted into Cum Laude

In Morning Meeting on Friday, November 18, six members of the Class of 2012 were inducted into the Buffalo Seminary Chapter of the Cum Laude Society: *Sarah Shafik, Erika Douglas, Jaime Engl, Sukie Cleary, Caroline Spencer and Tianyi Zhou*. We congratulate these newest members of Cum Laude!

Class Notes

CLASS OF 1934

Lois Daly Wright: "Amazing! Three strong women. H'ray for us."

CLASS OF 1939

Margaret Metzger Keane: "More proud every year to be a Sem graduate."

CLASS OF 1940

Rosemary Woodworth Whiting: "We miss *Pat "Bou" Corcoran Mitchell*, who died in her sleep on June 28th after a short illness and in the loving care of her three daughters."

CLASS OF 1944

Betty Rich Gavin: "Well, Joe and I are still around. Weather pretty hot this year. Had cataract surgery in May and just got glasses, but hope to go out golfing in about two weeks."

Joan Bozer Rehms: "I am fine, and feel lucky to watch my grandchildren grow up. My triplets have entered college this fall—each to a different university. My granddaughter is in her second year at West Point. I visited her last March. What an awesome place and school. I have one grandson, a senior in high school. I have two great-granddaughters: 2 ½ and 5 years old. Still living here in Bay City [Michigan]."

CLASS OF 1944

Joanne Howard Kouris-Bell: On August 25, 2011, Joanne received the Every Day Hero award from TV Channel 7 in Denver, Colorado. "It was to recognize my 22 years of delivering Meals on Wheels. I was filmed being interviewed and delivering meals to several of my many recipients. The film clips were shown on several of the local news shows." Also, she and Tom Bell happily celebrated their 12th wedding anniversary on August 29.

CLASS OF 1945

Mary Moot Buerger: "I am thoroughly enjoying my new home here in Hillsdale, Michigan. The small 'city' is full of wonderful folks and the Hillsdale College community provides many stimulating intellectual programs."

CLASS OF 1946

Suzanne Spaulding Rockwell: Suzanne wrote in the spring: "I hope to catch up with classmates for the 55th and Up Reunion Luncheon. (I am a 65th type.)"

Georgia Olmsted Rust: "My husband of nearly 60 years died last March 2011. I will remain here in Claremont, California, in an assisted living community where I am very well cared for."

CLASS OF 1948

Julia Smith Dutton: "I am thrilled to read of all the exciting and imaginative activities at Sem.

Studies, trips abroad, boarding and exchange students—all things we only dreamed about, if at all—are happening! I am delighted that Sem is, as always, looking to a bright future for its students. Can we start over?"

CLASS OF 1950

Jill Cornblum Alt: "Retirement looms in December."

Lillian Osberg Fromm: "Very sad to report that I lost my best friend and love of my life, Ken, on May 8, 2011. We had celebrated our 60th anniversary on December 16, 2010. Many thanks to all my Sem friends who attended and honored Ken at his funeral service, and sent cards and memorials in his name."

Ethel Roblin Melzer: "Dear Classmates, Had a great time at our 60th, and being there with my sisters made it very special! My daughter, *Marci [MelzerWilf]*, will be in to celebrate her 40th. Where does the time go? Stay well, and let's all meet again. Still working and loving it!"

CLASS OF 1951

Ann Busch Githler: Ann wrote in the spring: "Looking forward to our 60th Reunion. Excelsior!"

CLASS OF 1952

Aldeen Burton Markle: "Herb and I celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary this year."

CLASS OF 1953

Helen C. Jones: "Am enjoying my first year of retirement after 23 years at U.Mass/Lowell."

CLASS OF 1954

Marjorie House Keller: "*Joan Dickey Taggart* and I had a lovely trip to the Italian and French Riviera in October 2011."

CLASS OF 1956

Patricia Runk Sweeney: "I am enjoying reading about Buffalo in *Buffalo Wings*, by Chuck Hobbie (Ceci's brother, Nichols Class of '63). It's well written and detailed – fascinating!"

CLASS OF 1957

Mary Louise Norton Flanagan: "Hey, Class of '57! What is up with all of you? I have just become a bionic woman with a double knee replacement. Can you believe we will soon be grads of Sem for 55 years? I remember thinking at the Graduates Supper in '57 that the reuning *class of 1907* was *old!* How thinking changes."

Susan Choate Smith McConnell: "Dear Classmates, as you can imagine, Olivia, almost 3, is a precious, lively, funny child. Who could have predicted that Kate and Kevin would be so blessed by an adoption? See you next year!"

Starr Lanctot Ramsey: "Special thanks to my wonderful friend *Iris Skoog* for her 'chatty' plea for money. How can this possibly be our 55th coming up???"

CLASS OF 1961

Holly Augspurger Donaldson: "Wonderful turnout for our 50th! But sadly missing our classmates who have passed away: *Varney Spaulding Greene, Dixie Merkle Connelly, Kathy Drown Gaaserud, Jill Rausch Plumb, Penny Spiller, Julia Barrett Silver, and Linda Baumgardner.* Exciting Reunion Weekend planned by Sem. Congratulations to Janie and Carolyn."

CLASS OF 1962

MARSHA KELLY GRAY: "I am finally retired and enjoying grandchildren, going out with friends and stitching. I am very excited about our upcoming 50th Reunion—the 45th was so much fun."

CLASS OF 1963

Mary Bergmann Weiss: "Had a wonderful time this summer attending a pottery workshop taught by *Kathie Regan Dalzell.* I got to spend some time with *Linda Hutton Hursty* going to and from Kathie's. *Susan Katz Diner* and I managed to connect in Florida last March. Our 50th will be here before we know it."

CLASS OF 1967

Caryl Fleischman Brent: "I work as a licensed mental health counselor for Kaleida. I have a 34-year-old son, daughter-in-law and two beautiful grandchildren."

Mary "Molly" Love Quackenbush: As a participant in Buffalo and Erie County Library series *Imagine Buffalo Niagara in the 21st Century*, Molly, executive director of the Theodore Roosevelt Historic Inaugural Site, gave a lecture titled 'Why Does Preservation Matter?' at the library on September 26, 2011."

Constance Schweitzer: "45th Reunion coming up?! Stay tuned!"

Judith Zeckhauser: "Looking forward to our 45th Reunion in June."

CLASS OF 1974

Mary "Memo" E.B. Oshei: Mary wrote in the spring: "Extremely busy with my mom's house as the Junior League 2011 Show House. It looks spectacular. I am working at Shea's where *Wicked* is on stage. Fabulous show! I really enjoy serving on the Sem Alum Board—it is a terrific group."

CLASS OF 1977

Molly Dellinger-Wray: "Sending warm wishes to '77ers from Virginia. You will always be like sisters to me!"



We love to stay on top of the latest alumnae news! Send your updates to gutton@buffaloseminary.org for inclusion in the next issue of *Sem Snippets*. If you're on Facebook, be sure to become a "fan" of the Buffalo Seminary Alumnae page, where you can share wall posts with old and new friends.

CLASS OF 1978

Isabella Bannerman: "Hello to all '78ers and Semmies. *Rebecca Nichols, Val Weiss* and I got together for New Year's this year."

Jennifer Prince Bronstein: "All is well and fun in Buffalo and at Buffalo Seminary. I no longer am president of the Alumnae Association but still on the board, involved in the unbelievable project of the Buffalo Seminary Archives. Another plus is that my daughter *Ryan Elizabeth '15* is a freshman at Sem!"

Leslie Pooley Heffernan: "Hello, *Class of 1978!* It is hard to believe my first son, George, will be going to college next year! I look forward to our next great Sem reunion. I hope the whole class can make it!"

CLASS OF 1980

Donna Dunbar: "Hello, Everyone, All is well here at Lake Tahoe. I am still employed as Incline Village's Resource Conservationist, spending my time educating residents and visitors about wildlife, recycling and the Tahoe watershed. Our big campaign is *SAY NO TO BOTTLED WATER, DRINK TAHOE TAP!* I am also trying to stop the black bear hunt in Nevada. Visitors always welcome; we have extra room!"

CLASS OF 1981

Alice Lewczyk Smith: She wrote in spring: "Look forward to seeing all my classmates at the upcoming reunion of the *Class of 1981.*"

Gwen (Baggs) Ito "This past June, I had a wonderful time at the 30th Reunion, where I saw *Anni O'Connor, Elizabeth Zemke, Beth Davis, Kelly Petrison Knowles, Julia Morog, Cynthia Baird Stark, Nancy Moden Lambert, Alice Lewczyk Smith, Kelly Clark, Amy Lucachik Carpenter* and *Alona Mendoza*. We took some time to remember the three classmates we've lost in the past few years: *Kathy Brady, Dylana Lembitz Accolla* and *Mariann Finger Tapasto*. My daughter, Hanna, is a junior this year, and we are already preparing ourselves for the college search process. Kelly's daughter, Eryn, is now a sophomore. Sending peace and love to all!"

CLASS OF 1982

Dr. Lisa Privitera: "With our school's recent authorization as an IB World School, I am now teaching MYP and DP Biology. On weekends and holidays, I'm doing as much hiking, rock climbing, and sailing as possible. Our daughter (age 15) is still dancing ballet and now learning to drive. Son

(age 10) is active in golf and basketball. Life is very good!"

CLASS OF 1984

Lisa Faturos: Lisa, controller of McGard, Inc., was named secretary of The Buffalo Chapter of the American Society of Women Accountants Board of Directors.

CLASS OF 1986

Elaine (Baggs) Holmquist: Elaine lives in the Chicago area with her husband, Chris, and their two sons, Jonathan and David. Elaine, who works for Kraft Foods, visited Sem in October 2011.

CLASS OF 1991

Kelly Kepler Wenko: "I recently completed my Master's degree in Women's Health Nurse Practitioner and have joined Meadville OB/GYN Associates. I love working in women's health. I regret not being able to make it to our 20th Reunion."

CLASS OF 1995

Rebecca Neri Speno: From Becky's mother: "Becky is assistant coach for her daughter's U-6 soccer team, and her son, Max, will turn one year old on October 30th—almost a Halloween baby."

CLASS OF 1996

Leslie Irby Chilton: "Still living in Greensboro, NC, with my husband, twin stepsons and 15-month-old little boy. Working as the marketing director for a group of remodeling companies. Hope everyone is doing well!"

Megan Burke Witzleben: "My husband Todd and I are happy to be back in Western New York, where we have just bought our first house. I'm still writing my dissertation for my doctorate in English literature at Fordham, and I'm also teaching a class at Canisius College. I hope to see some familiar faces at reunion!"

CLASS OF 1999

Laura Saetveit Miles: Laura and her husband Randolph Miles are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Astrid Lokensgaard Miles, on March 6, 2011, in New Haven, CT. In September the family moved to Ann Arbor, MI, where Laura has a fellowship at the Michigan Society of Fellows and an assistant professor position in the English Department at the University of Michigan. In December, Laura will receive her Ph.D. in English Literature from Yale University. She can be reached at laura.miles@gmail.com.

CLASS OF 2002

Simone Sidel: Simone Sidel graduated this past year from St. George's University Veterinary School. After three years at St. George's she completed her clinical year at Ohio State in Columbus, Ohio. Currently she is working in New York City at NYC Veterinary Specialty Hospital located on the Upper West Side. Her mother reports that she loves her new life as an animal veterinarian; there is no better place for Simone to be.

CLASS OF 2004

Casey Perley: Last spring she received a National Science Foundation fellowship for her research. It pays tuition, health care, stipend for three years as well as conference travel and some other lab related expenses. Only 29 fellowships were awarded in microbiology across the nation this year. Casey is also engaged!

CLASS OF 2006

Mary Claire Worrell: Mary Claire graduated from McGill University with a bachelor of science degree. She recently spent three and a half months volunteering with an organization doing lead contamination cleanup in Northern Nigeria.

CLASS OF 2008

Hilary Epes: Hilary was one of 12 students from the University of Tennessee participating in a five-week study-internship program in Gulu, Uganda, last summer. The program focused on reconciliation as Uganda recovers from 25 years of civil war. For her internship, Hilary worked with "Girls Kick It," an organization that uses soccer to promote empowerment of women, particularly those who were victimized during the conflict.

CLASS OF 2009

Joelle Luongo: From past trustee Melanie Luongo, Joelle's mother: "Joelle has had a very good year and is applying to study art and French next spring in Senegal. This semester she has a prime time slot for her radio show—drive time on Fridays. We have had the opportunity to listen at 9 pm Friday our time. She has developed an interest in photography. Her godmother gave her a wonderful 35mm camera at Christmas, which has become Joelle's pride and joy. She will be working with a professional photographer to learn more. She has just declared her majors, Art History and French, and is considering coming back to Buffalo for graduate school to get a degree in Art Conservation."



Kathleen Quinn-Leslie '84, Gianna Katherine Triolo-Finn '84, Dawn M. Glunz '83 and Lynette Blacher '82



Class Agents Wendy Williams McKay '62 and Pati Hoag Bingenheimer '62

A Message from the BSAA

Gabrielle P. DeRose '74
President, Board of Directors,
Buffalo Seminary Alumnae Association

How fortunate I am! As a member of the Buffalo Seminary Alumnae Association Board of Directors, I have the pleasure to work with an amazing group of talented, intelligent women.

Our 25-member board, representing classes from 1950 through 2006, brings a wealth of professional experience from a variety of fields in both the non-profit and corporate sectors, ranging from the arts and education to finance, health care, sales and marketing, real estate, retail and more. The common thread ... besides our tremendous wit, intelligence and good looks ... is our love for and commitment to Sem.

To that end, we dedicate ourselves to preserving and promoting the heritage and traditions of the school while supporting its mission, goals, and objectives. We serve as a communication link between alumnae and Sem, and we encourage support and involvement by alumnae in both the association and school. We also provide opportunities and activities for alumnae to meet, interact and remain in contact with one another, one of which is the annual Fall Luncheon.

This year, placing emphasis on the heritage portion of our mission, our Fall Luncheon coincided with the celebrated National Trust for Historic Preservation conference held in Buffalo this past October. We were privileged to have Susan West Montgomery, the Trust's Director of Information and Training, as our guest speaker. Susan, a WNY native and the daughter-in-law of *Kate Truslow Montgomery '57*, got her start in preservation as the first Executive Director of the Buffalo Friends of Olmsted Parks, the precursor to the Buffalo Olmsted Parks Conservancy. Her talk on the importance of preserving the past

resonated with our members, particularly our Archives Committee chaired by *Phyllis Gabbey '58* who has painstakingly toiled over the past few years to protect and secure our school and association's history.

During the course of the past eight months or so, Phyllis, along with the Board's immediate past President *Jennifer Prince Bronstein '78*, has concentrated much of the committee's efforts on preparation for the National Trust for Historic Preservation conference, in particular the Candlelight Tour, one of the many highlights of the conference. On display in West-Chester Hall on the night of the tour were original blueprints, along with a variety of artifacts, enlarged archival photos of the school, and a slideshow that included several photos dating back to the days of the original Buffalo Female Academy.

Earlier this fall, Phyllis also had the privilege of presenting to *Gwen Baggs Ito's '81* senior-level history elective class, *Her Story as History: A Survey of the U.S. Women's Movement Since 1848*, during which she had the opportunity to give them a tour of our archives and provide them with a concrete context to our history.

Other events in which we are involved during the year include the Holiday Bazaar, which raises funds for our scholarship, the Senior Induction Luncheon at which we formally welcome the graduating class into the Association, and Reunion Dinner, which this year will celebrate those who graduated in class years ending in -2 and -7.

We invite any alumna interested in getting involved or who would like more information about the Board to contact us directly at semalum@gmail.com or contact Carolyn Clark in the Sem Development Office cclark@buffaloseminary.org.

We look forward to hearing from you!



Gaby DeRose '74, Susan Montgomery, Citti Barrell '75 and Beth Reich



Luella Harder Johnson '57, Mary Hanrahan Berlow '57, Alison Coatsworth Johansson '44 and Jeanette Kelly



F. Curtis Miles '72 and Gigi Pooley Helliwell '76

On October 21, we held our annual Alumnae Fall Luncheon in West-Chester Hall and the Margaret L. Wendt Performing Arts Center. In addition to welcoming guest speaker Susan West Montgomery, we were happy to have Beth Reich (Elizabeth Lynn Designs) as our guest vendor.

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Your generosity is our foundation

The 2011-2012 Annual Fund campaign, led by Board of Trustees member **Jane Hopkins Carey '75**, is well underway. With a goal of \$420,000 this year, volunteers will be seeking support from all members of the Sem community. We have good news to report already: again this year, 100% of the school's faculty and staff have stepped up with a gift or pledge! Thank you for considering a gift to Sem!



With your help, Sem can continue to offer an exceptional education to girls from different parts of our city, our region and our world.

DONATE TODAY AT WWW.BUFFALOSEMINARY.ORG/DONATENOW.

Taking a Stand on Hydrofracking

by *Jennifer Goetz-Bixby, Ph.D.*
Science Faculty

The girls in this year's Scientist for Life class have taken on hydraulic fracturing in New York State as part of our study of Alternative Energy

sources. While we began with a balanced approach, exploring the advantages and disadvantages as explained by trustworthy sources, we all became enraged after viewing the documentary "Gasland" by Josh Fox. The girls wrote very impassioned letters to their state legislators regarding their views on bringing hydraulic fracturing to New York State in general and Western New York in particular. Many of the girls wrote quite eloquently. *Emily Cardullo '12* was especially concerned about the effect that processing the wastewater associated with hydraulic fracturing at the Niagara Falls Water Treatment plant would have on her

beloved Niagara River: "My entire community sits in the middle of the Niagara River. It pains me to think of what being exposed to these hazardous chemicals could possibly do to my river. Will I and other fellow boaters need to limit our time on the water?" *Kendall Priebe '12*, outraged at the number of carcinogens found in hydraulic fracturing fluid, wrote: "When I heard about the carcinogens being used in the fracturing fluid, I was terrified. If people's water is being affected by this mix of chemicals, then they are being exposed to the carcinogens, too. I understand the pain of losing a loved one to cancer, and I would never want anyone else to feel the pain..." One of the goals of the Scientist for Life program is to teach students how to find reliable information and then create a well-reasoned opinion based on that information. Another goal is to educate the leaders of tomorrow. We have hopefully worked towards both goals in this letter-writing campaign.

Gloves up for a cleaner Buffalo



On a Saturday morning in late September, members of the Sem community came together to collect trash along the Buffalo River. The cleanup initiative was part of Buffalo Niagara Riverkeeper's Shoreline Sweep.

In Memoriam*

MELISSA WICKSER BANTA '43 (August 18, 2011)

MARIA M. BOS (October 19, 2011),
mother of Kathryn M. Bos-Burdall '91

HELEN WORTMAN STRAUB BOSWELL '35 (August 18, 2011)

JOHN BRADY (September 24, 2011)
husband of Grace de la Plante '41

BERNICE BRONSTEIN (July 26, 2011),
mother-in-law of Jennifer Prince Bronstein '78,
grandmother of Kilby Bronstein '10 and Ryan Bronstein '15

SALVATORE "SAM" BUSCARINO (August 31, 2011),
grandfather of Olivia Buscarino '08
and Bella Buscarino '12

GRACIA CAMPBELL '48 (September 24, 2011),
sister of Marjorie Campbell Campbell '52,
sister-in-law of Virginia Klopp Campbell '45

VIRGINIA B. "BETTY" CORNELIUS (October 16, 2011),
mother of Trustee Linda Cornelius '71,
stepmother of Carol Cornelius Walker '55
and Bonnie Cornelius Spitzmiller '59
stepgrandmother of Sandra Spitzmiller Ferrick '84

DOMINIC DICICCIO (August 3, 2011),
grandfather of Gabrielle Fiorella '14

FRANCIS S. FAUST, ESQ. (September 22, 2011),
Life Trustee, father of Catherine M. Faust '72,
grandfather of Carolyn Faust '03,
uncle of Susan Fox Priebe '68, Sarah M. Fox '69,
Cynthia Fox Youngman '72, Jean Johansson '79
and Kendall Priebe '12, brother-in law of
Alison Coatsworth Johansson '44

NANCY WILLIAMS FISKE '44 (July 30, 2011),
sister of Betty Williams Eslick '42,
aunt of Carol "Casey" Eslick Bacus '69,
Nancy Eslick Ungar '72 and Susan Eslick Irion '75

ELIZABETH "BETTY" M. HAMLIN (September 10, 2011),
mother of Amy R. Hamlin '64

CHARLES WILLIAM "BILL" HART (September 4, 2011),
brother of Nancy Hart Terrell '81

NANCY HENRY HENRICH '37 (August 18, 2011),
sister-in-law of Honorary Trustee
Mary Henrich Botsford, '33 M.D.,
aunt of Molly Henrich Person '61,
Janet Botsford Thrush '67 and Hannah Thrusch Magnolia '95

SUSAN S. JOHNSTON (July 31, 2011),
mother of O. Abbott "Abby" Schoellkopf '87

MARGARET SMITH KEW '58 (September 5, 2011),
sister of Susan Smith Cooley '66

THE REV. EDWARD KRYDER (August 27, 2011),
husband of Sally Larkin Kryder '41,
father of Anne Kryder Almy-Webber '78

THE REV. JOHN D. MEARS (August 13, 2011),
father of Kathleen Mears Carmichael '59
and Charlotte Mears Stovall '72

LANE MONTESANO (August 22, 2011),
father of Jennifer S. Montesano '89

BETTY LEHMAN OPPENHEIMER '37 (August 8, 2011),
Life Trustee, mother of Jill Oppenheimer Brown '67

DR. ANTHONY PELLERITE (September 23, 2011),
grandfather of Erica Pellerite '13

DIANE OPLEY POST '46 (November 6, 2011)

TRUDITH NOEHREN RISHIKOF '64 (October 6, 2011),
sister of Nancy Noehren Melling '60

KARIN B. ROACH (October 25, 2011),
mother of Molly Roach '74, grandmother of Sarah Miller '11

SUSAN RUBENSTEIN SCHAPIRO '48, PH.D. (November 11, 2011),
Life Trustee and Former Teacher at Sem

JILL CRANDALL SHARPE '82 (October 7, 2011)

BETTY E. TARAJOS (September 18, 2011),
mother of Linda Tarajos Suchocki '77

*Based on information received through November 18, 2011



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Grandparent Day at Sem

On Wednesday, November 9, nearly 70 grandparents spent the morning at Sem. After a special Morning Meeting and presentations by class presidents, our guests toured Sem's 102-year-old school building and enjoyed refreshments with their granddaughters.

For more photos, go to <http://on.fb.me/tLKgK3>.



Amber Chinn '14 and Shirley Baker



Anna '15 and James Magavern



Catherine '12 and Sara '13 Sanderson with Mary Lou Rath



Jessica '13, Mary Ellen and Jack Phillips



Helen Marlette, Herb Ladds, Liza Marlette '13 and Dolly Ladds



Elizabeth Harris, Brianna Harris '12 and Theresa Jordan