

MOUNT HOLYOKE COLLEGE

CLASS OF 1961

55th Reunion: 20 – 22 May 2016

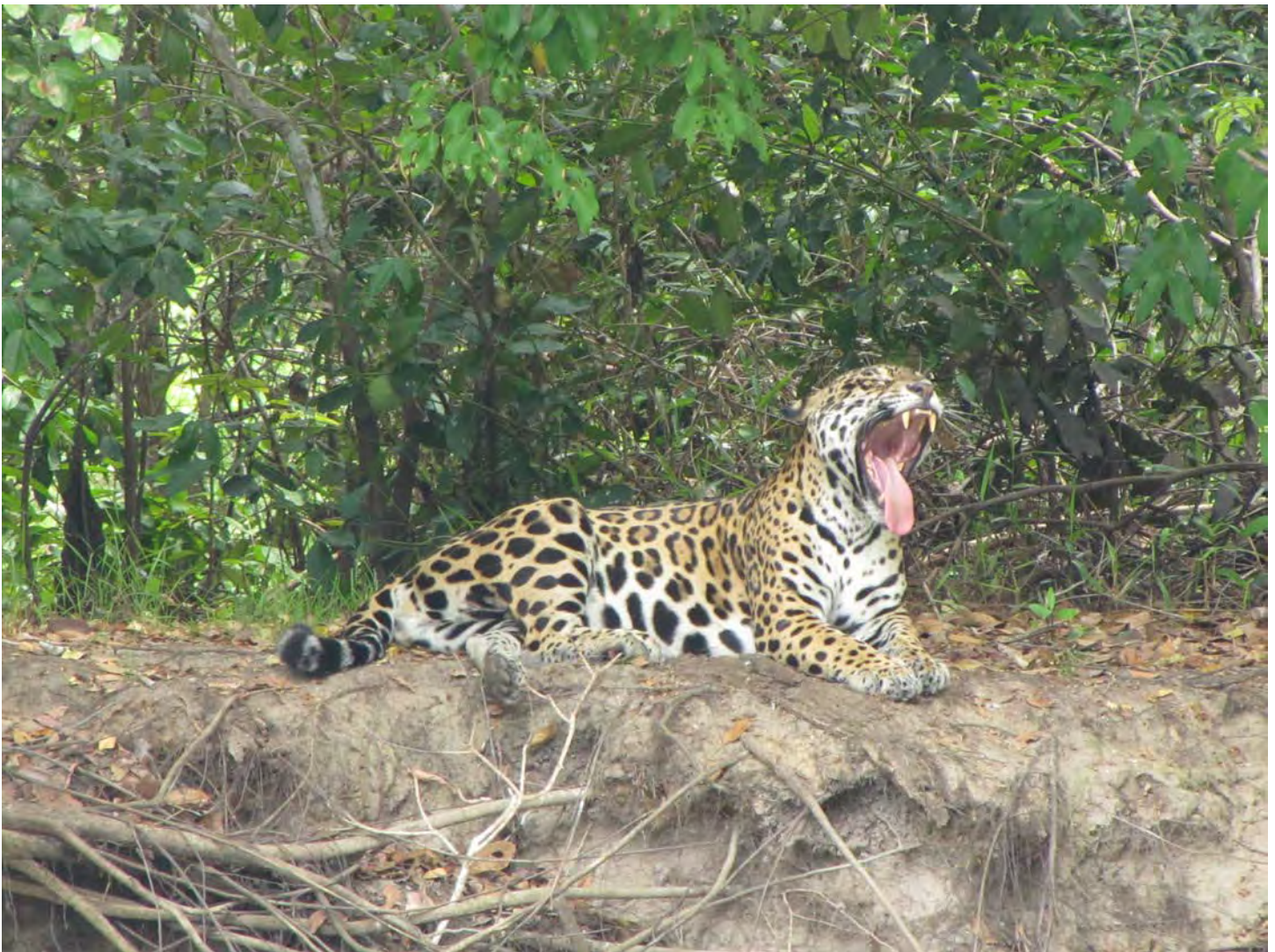
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Five years have passed since our last reunion and I find myself highlighting the same things about myself that I chose to highlight on my last (50th) reunion page. My husband and I are still reasonably healthy, despite having a few more health issues. I still “work out”, although not as often as I used to or as I would like. I’ve been rather fortunate in that all my close friends (save two) are still around and quite active. My pleasures are many: traveling (e.g. Pantanal and Iguazu Falls, Vietnam and Cambodia, Russia and Yunnan), food and wine, listening to books (while working out), Teaching Company courses, music (especially vocal), movies, theater, museums, lunching with my female friends and using email to connect with distant loved ones. I cherish my “mini” reunions with my closest five friends from Holyoke. I am perpetually distressed by the state of the world (including the U.S.) and our inhumane treatment of each other. I try to help improve things in small ways, mostly through petitions and contributions to those who have more influence than I do.





Here at the deadline date, I am reminded of midnight rounds with Ding, trying to explain my papers with cross-outs and unintelligible writing to her as she madly tried to help me finish typing my papers. Still, I often got "good paper, but untidy" from Mr Bradley. I enjoyed Judy's bucket list, so may take her idea and change it a bit.

As we near the end of our eighth decade, I think we all instinctively think of what we would like to do and be for our last years here on earth. I don't know what happens to our spirits after that, but I also know that what we do and are in this life is what lives on in those we have loved, and even sometimes those we have just briefly encountered. I have thought of this a lot, and always try and smile at people that I see on the street.

I know I want to simplify my life, so I can spend more time "being" and less time cleaning up.

I want to stop judging people and worrying about how I am being judged.

I hope to spend more silly time with my grandchildren and friends.

I'll spend more purposeful and meaningful time with Dick; traveling back to France and Hopetown, familiar places that we know and love. We'll stay awhile and re-ingest their deliberately delicious lifestyles. I'd love the Barcelona and Paris trip with Judy and Dan, too! I also yearn to see Alaska's wilderness and experience an entirely different culture somewhere; maybe Vietnam.

I would like to spend more real listening time with my children and their spouses, hearing what they are thinking about this crazy new polarized, globalized, hi-tech, terror-laden, climate-changing world in which we live, but without always comparing it to what I think. I worry that they and my precious grandchildren are going to have to live in it, and I want to fix it before they have to do it without me. Guess I need to realize that they are going to have to do it; their way.

I volunteer a lot, and I would like to channel that, concentrating on one area; probably teaching, as that is my strength and when I feel effective and alive.

I love singing in groups and drawing by myself and will do more of that. Singing enlarges me, drawing encompasses me. They both help me see things from a different perspective.

I want to savor each moment, each person that I meet, each place where I land. Not always an easy task!

Betsy Karch Wilson

Here's a picture of my family at Thanksgiving, and two more pictures of my family last summer at our country house! Katherine Kauffman Snelson.



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Less is More

In the last five years, we downsized, getting rid of lots of "stuff" from our home of thirty seven years and moved into a CCC about two miles from our old home.

We now have **Less** worldly possessions and **MORE** time to spend with family, friends, reading, doing hobbies, being creative, enjoying nature, and just Being.

Can't wait to see everyone at reunions.
More time is less worldly possessions.

Bette

CAROLYN KIMBALL HOLMQUIST Kim

Biggest change for me since our last reunion is that my dear partner, Clem Blake, passed away from liver failure in June 2013. As a purple heart recipient, he could be buried at Arlington, where he had a beautiful service complete with 21 Gun Salute, attended by many family and friends. I waited the requisite year and a half before making the move from my home in Los Angeles to a rental apartment close to downtown Santa Barbara for a change in lifestyle, but more importantly, to be near my daughter and 3 grandchildren. Couldn't be happier with the move as I love the freedom of not having to worry about a leaky roof or broken sewer lines! Downsizing was painful but cathartic and I was so lucky to



find a large, old-fashioned place that is perfectly designed to hold my treasures. As nearly everything is only about 10 minutes away, and I can walk to most downtown events, I am much busier than ever before. Best idea was joining the super-active Newcomers Club which offers more than 100 events a month, from sailing and hiking, to concerts and Mah Jongg-even a Chamber Music Group where I can dust off old classics I used to perform. I am chairman of the Performing Arts Committee and we plan varied events in different local venues. Have met many wonderful people and have made some terrific new friends, including a couple MHC grads.

Kirsten and Darrell continue to be super busy with their design firm and in addition to a list of beautiful homes, they recently completed a destination site called The Mill here in SB. It houses an on-site winery, on-site brewery, BBQ restaurant, a

small gym and a shop carrying their decorating items.

Grapes of Wrath at Newcomers Party!

Walker, now 15, is an over 6 foot freshman at Santa Barbara High School, enrolled in the The Multimedia Arts and Design Academy and plays trumpet in the Advanced Jazz Band. Nola, almost 13, is in 7th grade and a committed performer with the Momentum Dance Group. Remy, 7 in July, is in first grade, and excels in tennis, skis, and takes swimming and riding lessons. She loves to have "sleepovers at Nonnie's" and I love them too.



Adventure travel continues to be my great passion, the most adventurous being a trip to North Korea in 2013. A fascinating, if totally "planned" excursion. Recently there have been more comfy trips like river cruises on lovely Amawaterways including 2 Christmas Cruises (The Danube and the Rhine) and a Tulip Cruise through Belgium and Holland. Also had a great trip to New Zealand in Nov.2014. Nola, Walker, Remy, me, D's son Andy



Am still singing, (though not enough!) having just done a well-received concert of Mexican and American songs for the local SB Music Club, with plans for another concert in June. A few aches and pains, but feel lucky to be as healthy as I am!

Mother Abbess at Candlelight Pavilion, Claremont, CA

Judith Marshall Kennedy

My Bucket List – Top Ten

1. Read a book a month without fail for the rest of my life
2. Rebalance life by spending two months per year in Mexico, two months per year traveling elsewhere, two months per year vacationing at home, and six months per year working or volunteering
3. Be able to play one of Chopin's piano preludes perfectly
4. Visit another world-class city for a week with Betsy (Karch) and Dick Wilson
 London Paris Prague Barcelona Johannesburg
5. Motorcycle Corsica and Sardinia with Dan
6. Visit New York City once a year and see a Broadway show every night
7. See the Kirov Ballet perform Swan Lake in Saint Petersburg
8. Live to be 100 years old and walk without a cane at my 75th college reunion
9. Spend my last dime on my last day
10. Make a contribution toward leaving the world a better place



September 2012 – Pubbing in London with Betsy (Karch) and Dick Wilson



May 2013 – Celebrating our 50th wedding anniversary with Jane (Wilson) and Bob Landau and Mette (Lian) and Dave Eglinton



April 2014 – Making new friends in the "Big Apple"



April 2015 – Performing at "24 Hours of Music" with Beethoven presiding

Some Activities Since 2011
Alice McGovern Doering



Retired from Landscape Designing
but still gardening



Biking in Germany



Visiting daughter
in Cyprus



Biking the "Great
Allegheny Passage"



Catch and release fly
fishing in Quebec

Greetings classmates! I hope those of you who are attending the reunion have a wonderful time. While you are sharing fond memories of college days, I will be watching the creation of “new memories,” attending my grandson's high school graduation.

During the last five years I have continued to enjoy visits to and from my family, watching our five grandchildren (ages 14 – 22) grow and mature. Dave and I have lived in the same house in Ann Arbor (Go Blue!) since 1968. Our daughters live out-of-state. Jean and her family live in Hendersonville, TN and Elena and her family live in Portland, OH. We are so proud of each of our grandchildren and their various academic and sports achievements. As they now attend college or are soon to attend college, I have fond memories of our college days; beautiful campus, challenging classes, excellent professors, interesting discussions with classmates, special friendships, Mountain Day, and, of course, milk and cookies.

A special event in 2014 was our 50th wedding anniversary. We enjoyed a family reunion to celebrate and, later, took a trip to Scotland with a University of Michigan Alumni Group. It's a beautiful country. We were there before their vote for independence. We were impressed with the rather “low key” campaigning (as compared to our current primaries). Billboards along the road and lawn signs are not permitted. People expressed their opinions with signs in their windows reading “Yes” or “No thanks”.

Two reminders in the last five years that I must be getting older (!) were hearing aids and cataract surgery. I strongly recommend hearing aids to any of you who are having trouble hearing conversations, TV, and/or telephone calls. The eye surgery resulted in my seeing so much more color and being able to see at night!

My sad news is that I lost my dear sister, Nancy Jean (MHC 1958). She first became ill with Parkinson's Disease and later was diagnosed with lung cancer. She moved in with Dave and me, and I became her full time caregiver. Toward the end, we were helped by home health aids, and, eventually, Hospice. She died in early 2013. We were so fortunate that she had good health care insurance as well as long-term care insurance. We continue to miss her.

In the next five years, I wish for your good health, good times, and interesting adventures. And wouldn't it be amazing if we could actually have peace on earth!!

Louise McLean Peelle

Ann Merchant Boesgaard



Ann & Hans Boesgaard, married for 50 years. Here we are celebrating our anniversary #44 in Honolulu in 2010.

In 2003 Hans was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease. We spent the next 10 years traveling, playing, having good times. This included 3 trips to Europe. And we have taken many driving vacations around the USA. We also enjoyed small ship cruises from Pittsburgh to Chattanooga; along the Columbia River; from Chicago to New Orleans; from Providence, R.I. to Chicago on the Great Lakes. It has been a very slow decline for him. Now after 13 years, he is still going strong. He is amazingly good-natured and cheerful. He's strong and mobile - no cane or walker for him. For the last 1 1/2 years he has had home health care for 13 hours a day. He has a caregiver from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. (I do the night shift.) The 4 caregivers all love him and he thrives with their one-on-one attention. I still go to the telescope and to my office for my astronomy research. We both do righteous exercise too...



Jasper, Scampi, Sparky. Our buddies.



Here we are celebrating his birthday in 2015.

Eleanor (Nony) Moore Barr

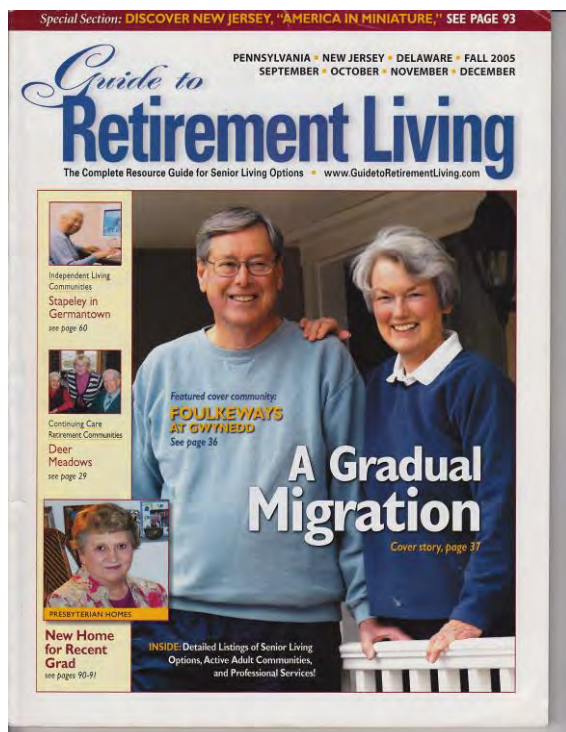
The picture at the left shows my husband Bob and me on the porch of our new home at Foulkeways in the spring of 2005, a few months after we moved in. Events in the last couple of years have convinced us that we made a very wise decision 12 years ago when we decided to move to Foulkeways at Gwynedd, a Quaker CCRC (Continuing Care Retirement Community).

In January 2014, Bob fell and broke his neck while we were on a birding expedition in Panama. With the help of our travel insurance, we came back to Philadelphia on an air ambulance. Bob had surgery on his neck at the Hospital of the Univ. of PA and then spent 5 months in a rehab hospital in Philadelphia. I took the train into the city almost every day to be with him. Meanwhile, the Foulkeways staff shoveled the snow, cleaned the house, and put dinner in the refrigerator for me since I usually did not get home until after the dining room had closed. Bob spent 3 months in the skilled care area at Foulkeways while he continued to have PT and OT right here. He came home to our house in Sept. 2014. We feel very fortunate that his spinal cord injury was incomplete rather than complete, that he had excellent medical care and therapy, and that he was able to learn to walk again.

In March 2015, I slipped on some ice and broke my right ankle, putting me in a non-weight-bearing boot for 8 weeks. I scooted around on a knee walker. Neither of us could drive so we relied on the Foulkeways staff to get us back and forth for dinner or whatever we needed to do in the community. Again, we were glad to be in such a supportive community.

I continue to volunteer in the resident-run library here and also serve on the Grounds Committee, a resident-staff committee responsible for decisions concerning resident gardens and landscaping of the community.

Our two sons & their families live in the Philadelphia area. Two grandsons are in college (Middlebury & Brown) with two more close behind. It is great to have them nearby.



March 2016, 11 years later, older and grayer but still in independent living at Foulkeways.

AFTER FIVE YEARS

Five years

Much laughter

Many tears

Family

Bands of gold

Bind us dear

Friendship

Mount Holyoke ties

Friends through the years

Aging

Eyes strain

Ears don't hear

Spirit

Strong lovers of God

Bring Holy Spirit near

Ending

No more sorrow

No more tears