Meet the President
Orientation Day, August 27

Spirits were high as 203 first-year and 14 transfer students moved into their residence halls on August 27, with help from family and friends. Forty percent of the class is from California, with the next highest representation from Washington, Oregon, Texas, Illinois, and Massachusetts. Five students are from India, two each from China and Japan, and one each from Botswana, Mauritius, Malaysia, and the United Kingdom.

Class of 2013 – By the Numbers

- **2061** applicants
- **33%** accepted
- **203** enrolled
- **38** states and **7** foreign countries represented
- **5** Scripps Academy graduates
- **4** National Hispanic Scholars
- **3** QuestBridge Scholars
- **3** Davis Scholars
- **11** National Merit Scholars*

SATs, mid 50 Percentile:
- **640-730** Critical reading
- **620-700** Math
- **650-730** Writing

- **13** first in family to attend a 4-year college
- **23** alumnae connection
- **16** different languages spoken

* reported, to date
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Our Scripps Magazine brings so much: stimulating articles, thoughtful perspectives, and reproductions of some fine Scripps work; wistful photos flaunting our impeccable campus, from lush courtyard gardens to the new field house; and profiles of accomplished and inspiring sister alumnae, current students, and those long-since graduated.

As I read each precious issue over and over in a cold and print-lacking house in the Andes, I long for my Scripps days, not only envious of shorts-wearers bearing legs carefully tanned at the scenic Scripps pool, but those surrounded by strong, animated, and invigorating peers obtaining superior education from stimulating professors.

The latest installation reminded me of another way Scripps is exceptional: in its dedication to student financial needs. Though funding higher education at a private institution continues to elude many, indeed it was ultimately a scholarship that brought me, at first hesitantly, later eternally gratefully, to Claremont’s women’s college. This recollection inspired me to write to thank not only Scripps College, but my sister alumnae for their gifts and continued dedication that made my and many women’s Scripps education possible!

I look forward to giving back, as I continue pursuing those opportunities we are able to find as Scripps women!

SARAH GOODSPEED ’07
PEACE CORPS, ECUADOR 2008-2010

The latest Scripps Magazine has it all. But the first page has all the truth and warmth that is Scripps to me. The picture of our own “power couple” [Fritz and Mary Weis] is brilliant. Makes me think they are peeking in for what is next in store for them. I know it will be wonderful. Even though I hear so much about Scripps at our [Board of Trustees] meetings, I learn so much more about our students from the magazine. And that makes me always say, this is what Scripps is about, and why we are all doing what we do.

ROSANNE RENNIE HOLLIDAY ’61
DEL MAR, CALIF.

CORRECTIONS

In the spring 2009 issue, page 31, the caption identifies a woman on the College’s athletic field as a “fellow archer.” The woman is Gerry Lahanas, associate professor of physical education at Scripps from 1957 to 1983, and CMS tennis coach from 1968 to 1981.

Nita Wishcamper Grimland ’68 died on February 8, 2009, not 2008, as published in the spring issue. We regret the error.
Celebrating the Inauguration of
the Eighth President of Scripps College

LORI BETTISON-VARGA
FRIDAY AND SATURDAY, MARCH 26-27, 2010

During President Lori Bettison-Varga’s inaugural year, Scripps College will celebrate and showcase the genius of women through our students and faculty and by bringing guest speakers, leaders, writers, scientists, artists, and other thought leaders to campus. We expect this to be a powerful and provocative year that will have lasting impact at Scripps and beyond.

Please join us at inaugural events throughout the year, including events in Los Angeles, Orange County, Pasadena, Santa Barbara, San Francisco, Seattle, Portland, Tucson, Phoenix, Denver, Chicago, New York, Boston, Washington DC, Honolulu, and London and especially on Inauguration Weekend, March 26-27, 2010.

WEEKEND ACTIVITIES INCLUDE

FRIDAY
Student and faculty presentations
Performances and exhibitions

SATURDAY
President’s Forum
Investiture of the President
President’s keynote address
Festive dinner dance on campus

Alumnae, parents, and friends are encouraged to attend any and all events. Invitations will be mailed in the weeks ahead. For more information, go to the Scripps website, www.scrippscollege.edu, or contact the Office of Public Relations, 909.621.8280.
Commencement 2009

On Sunday, May 17, 2009, the College awarded BA degrees to 228 students. U.S. Representative Gabrielle Giffords (Arizona, 8th District), a 1993 Scripps graduate herself, gave the Commencement address. Here is an excerpt from her talk:

“There will be many, many times in the course of your professional and personal lives where you will be encouraged—in shockingly plain ways—to take the easy way, to go along with the group in contradiction to your own principles. You will one day be standing in the shoes of Faust, most likely somewhere on one of the jobs that you take. But the safety of the world, in some sense, depends on your saying ‘no’ to inhumane ideas.

“Standing up for one’s own integrity makes you no friends. It is costly. Yet defiance of the mob, in the service of that which is right, is one of the highest expressions of courage that I know. A supreme value of education is the understanding that the group consensus is not always right, in fact, that it can be totally wrong and must be subject to thoughtful challenge and questioning. It is my hope for this graduating class that you will be among those self-assured enough to make personal sacrifices for what is right.”
At top, U.S. Representative Gabrielle Giffords ’93 addresses graduating seniors; center left, Jessica Garner poses for a family photo; above, Gavin Turek celebrates receiving her diploma; far left, Kelsey Tanaka in foreground; left, Whitney Eriksen.
100 years of Excellence

Three professors who have taught at Scripps for more than 100 years combined retired this year with emeritus status—after making significant contributions to their respective fields and to undergraduate education.

**Patricia Dillon** was Scripps’ first economics professor, in 1984. In 25 years, she built the department into a thriving enterprise that attracts the third or fourth largest number of majors each year. She created the popular *Money Wise Women* program, taught financial literacy, and started the Scripps College Economic Society, which brings together students and faculty from all The Claremont Colleges for dinners twice a year. She also created an internship program that for the past 10 years has given students job opportunities in Prague.

Dillon is the Gabrielle Jungels-Winkler Professor of European Studies—an appropriate title, said President Fritz Weis at her retirement send-off, because “no one loves to travel to Europe as much as she does. Who else knows the tiny country of Estonia? She’s the expert.” Dillon worked closely with the European Union Center of California, located at Scripps, on studies and programs related to European political and economic issues.

Dillon is also a fervent Claremont booster. She’s been president of Claremont Heritage, serves on Rotary, the San Antonio Gardens board, and many other community activities.

Although retired, Dillon will continue to oversee *Money Wise Women*.

**John Geerken**, professor of history, has been on the faculty since 1968. He is best known for his scholarship and teaching of Renaissance politics, particularly about Machiavelli. He grew up abroad, as his father, a foreign service officer, moved the family from country to country, including Italy. Geerken said that he saw the Renaissance—the art, the architecture, the rare manuscripts—before he had ever read a book about it.

Geerken was influential on several important College committees, including the Appointments, Promotions, and Tenure Committee; as chair, he restructured the faculty review system. A member of the Humanities Curriculum Review Committee in 1994, when the College was debating the curriculum and the inclusion of women’s studies, Geerken said: “Scripps should be among those institutions that are proactive in showing that the advent of women’s studies is not only aggregative to the disciplines, adding information about women, but also transformative, developing new concepts, categories, paradigms, and methodologies the better to accommodate, interpret, and evaluate new findings. To me, this is what feminizing the curriculum means….I hold that Scripps should bend itself to deploying a superior comprehensive curriculum, one that includes women, but is not limited to them.”

**David Sadava**, the Pritzker Family Foundation Professor of Biology in the Joint Science Department, joined The Claremont Colleges in 1972 after a year as research biologist at the Scripps Institute of Oceanography. His biology textbook, *Life: The Science of Biology*, co-written with four colleagues from Stanford, Harvey Mudd, and the universities of Washington and Texas, is in its eighth edition. A reviewer described it as “a terrific learning tool leaving no question unanswered.” Sadava is coauthor of four other books, including *Plants, Genes, and Crop Biotechnology*.

He has taught courses on introductory biology, biotechnology, biochemistry, cell biology, molecular biology, plant biology, and cancer biology. His research has resulted in over 50 papers, many coauthored with undergraduates, on topics ranging from plant biochemistry to pharmacology of narcotic analgesics to human genetic diseases.

Sadava has been invaluable in bringing outstanding students interested in science to Scripps and has served as a dedicated mentor to these promising students, many of whom have won national awards and gone on to top graduate programs, including medical schools throughout the country.
Colleges Welcome New Dean of Joint Science Department

The Joint Science Department of The Claremont Colleges has a new dean. Beginning this academic year, Professor David E. Hansen will oversee the three-member program for Scripps, Claremont McKenna, and Pitzer Colleges. Hansen, who received a ScB from Brown University and a PhD from Harvard University, started his academic career at Amherst College in 1986 and recently served there as the Rachel and Michael Deutch Professor of Chemistry.

In addition to science courses at Amherst, Professor Hansen taught first-year seminars with colleagues from the social sciences and the humanities. His research involves the creation of artificial enzymes, and much of his work has been directed toward the creation of peptidases. His administrative experience includes serving as department chair and many other appointed and elective functions.

In making the announcement to the Scripps community this spring, then-President Fritz Weis said: “Professor Hansen comes to the JSD at an important time. The growth of the department requires extensive planning for the future, including new and remodeled facilities, and the three member Colleges have just completed the drafting of a new governance agreement, including revised reappointment, promotion and tenure regulations, and a revised rotation schedule.”

Eight Fulbrights for Scripps students

Eight Scripps College graduates in the class of 2009 have been offered Fulbright scholarships by the Fulbright Foundation to teach or do research abroad for a year. This is a record number for the College and expected to be among the highest in the nation this year among all U.S. colleges and universities.

The recipients are Samantha Cheng, for a biology project in Indonesia; Fatima Elkabti for a language and literature project in Jordan; Lisa Hahn for an English teaching appointment in South Korea; Melissa Lewis for an English teaching appointment in South Korea; Amy Mann for an English teaching appointment in South Korea; Holly Poole for an English teaching appointment in Macau; and Jessica Vaughn for an English teaching appointment in Sri Lanka. One Scripps senior, who will teach English in Vietnam, has chosen to remain anonymous.

According to Professor Thierry Boucquey, who advises students on international fellowships and scholarships, 36% of Scripps College applicants were selected as finalists, and 90% of finalists were awardees. In October, the Fulbright Foundation will release the official national rankings, and Boucquey expects Scripps to do well. “With our record five scholars last year, Scripps College ranked 18th (our first time in the top 50) in the nation among all U.S. colleges and universities,” said Boucquey.

Passing the Gavel

At the final faculty meeting of the spring semester, outgoing Dean of Faculty Cecilia Conrad passes the gavel to Michael Lamkin, who returns to the position on an interim basis as a national search for a new vice president and dean of faculty is underway. Lamkin, the Bessie and Cecil Frankel Professor of Music, served as academic dean from 1997 to 2007. Conrad is now vice president and dean of the college at Pomona College.
A Runaway Success

Marina Pérez de Mendiola made an unexpected, but not atypical, move when she entered the Motley last April and found a crowd celebrating her win as 2009 Professor of the Year—she ran.

“The moment she came in the door, she walked right back out, completely surprised, tears welling up, face reddening with shock and disbelief,” notes Serena Larkin ’09. “When we finally managed to get her to come back in, students gladly took to the stage to talk about how much she meant to them.”

Despite protests that she was only doing her job, her tears quickly vanished as students, staff, and faculty cheered those who talked about Pérez de Mendiola, professor of Hispanic studies at Scripps since 1998. The consensus? A professor who loves teaching, engages her students, and never lets one rest on her laurels.

“She supports what Scripps and the CORE program are about—breaking down disciplinary boundaries to embark upon a richer process of discovery and understanding,” says Laura Loesch ’09. “Above all, she treats her students like peers—truly listening to our ideas and pushing us to reach beyond what is comfortable or easy.”

Larkin adds: “She never lets you get complacent in your intellectual or political ideology. I took a class from her my first semester of senior year, and I remember the spark she rekindled in my mind. I walked out of every class thinking, ‘Wow, I think differently about the world now.’”

Established in 2008, the Student Choice Award for Professor of the Year is sponsored by Scripps Associated Students. Students submit their nominations for the faculty member they feel best represents Scripps that year, with one selected from the five most popular candidates. Inaugural winner Tony Crowley, Hartley Burr Alexander Professor of Humanities, was on hand to celebrate the passing of the torch—and the commemorative squirrel that accompanies the victor from year to year. Pérez de Mendiola also received a plaque, a book of quotes written about her by students, and a cake with an Octavio Paz book cover as frosting (Paz is one of the professor’s favorite writers).

“It was truly an honor to have been selected by the student body for such a special recognition,” Pérez de Mendiola said as she moved through the crowd, laughing with some and crying with others. “I am particularly grateful to the students for awarding the first two of such awards to two professors in the field of humanities and the study of language, literature, and culture.” —Matt Hutaff
Scripps College ranks 25th among top U.S. liberal arts colleges, according to U.S. News & World Report

Scripps moved up two places to 25th out of more than 260 schools, according to the annual “America’s Best Colleges” report issued for 2010 by U.S. News and World Report. In less than 10 years, Scripps has successfully become one of the top 25 colleges (and one of only five women’s colleges in the top quartile), a remarkable accomplishment for a liberal arts institution that was ranked 37th in 2000.

The report also highlights Scripps’ significant achievements in selectivity, financial resources, faculty resources, and alumnae giving. More at www.usnews.com/college.

The Princeton Review also features Scripps in The Best 371 Colleges, 2010 edition. Scripps earned an academic rating of 98 (out of 100), 99 for selectivity, 98 for financial aid, and 94 for quality of life. In addition, Scripps earned #4 rankings for “Most Beautiful Campus” and “Dorms Like Palaces.” An unnamed student, quoted in the Review, says, “Scripps is a place where women are challenged to stretch themselves academically, have a strong voice, pursue their passions (whatever they may be), and love every minute of it.”

Historic Elms Live On

In his off-campus workshop, Kirk Delman shows how he is using wood from the original elms of Elm Tree Lawn to make a podium for the College, as Judy Harvey Sahak ’64, the Sally Preston Swan Librarian at Denison and member of the Elm Tree Lawn Renewal Committee, looks on. The College commissioned Delman, registrar and collections manager at Ruth Chandler Williamson Gallery, to create a podium and diploma table for Commencement 2009, so that the historic elms could continue to have a presence at future Scripps events. The completed podium is shown on page 5.

Roxanne Wilson Fund For Women’s Leadership

To pay tribute to Roxanne Wilson ’76 at the conclusion of her five-year tenure as chair of the Board of Trustees and recognize her outstanding service, the College has established the Roxanne Wilson Fund for Women’s Leadership.

“Ambitious for and proud of her alma mater, Roxanne Wilson encouraged high aspirations for all of us during her tenure as chair of the Board,” said incoming board chair Linda Davis Taylor, who succeeded Wilson on July 1. “Her inspired leadership and stunning record of accomplishment will continue to guide Scripps’ strategic vision for years to come.”

The fund will support a program to prepare Scripps graduates to serve as leaders in both their professional careers and in the organizations for which they volunteer, one of the College’s strategic plan goals. Specifically, an endowment will be established to fund The Roxanne Wilson Leader-in-Residence—an annual program in which a nationally recognized leader—a senior professional and/or a key volunteer of a non-profit organization—is invited to campus for an extended period of time to share her experiences as well as facilitate significant interaction between students, faculty, staff, and alumnae. An example of a similarly structured program is the Lois Langland Alumna-in-Residence, a highly successful initiative that has brought accomplished alumnae to campus each of the last 11 years.

The goal is to establish an endowed fund of $200,000, with the intention of inviting the first inaugural Roxanne Wilson Leader-in-Residence to campus in fall 2010.
Sam Maloof, woodworker

Sam Maloof, master woodworker and furniture maker who started out as an assistant to Millard Sheets in the Scripps art department, fell in love at first sight with first wife Freda in Seal Court, and remained a lifelong friend of the College, died on May 21, 2009, at the age of 93.

His handmade custom furniture was initially prized for its simplicity and practicality by Southern Californian homeowners in the 1950s and later valued for its beauty and timelessness by collectors, museum curators, and U.S. presidents.

Maloof turned down multimillion-dollar offers to mass-produce his original designs. He worked out of his home workshop, shaping hardwood, one part at a time, into rocking chairs, cradles, and hutches that were shorn of unnecessary adornments.

After serving in the U.S. Army from 1941 to 1945, he worked for Sheets, designer and head of the art department at Scripps College.

In 1948, Maloof married Alfreda Ward, two months after meeting her; “Freda” introduced him to Native American art, and together they socialized in the artists’ colony nurtured by The Claremont Colleges.

With Freda’s strong encouragement, Maloof started his own business, in 1949. Two years later, Better Homes and Gardens published photographs and plans of Maloof’s furniture to show readers how to decorate economically.

The seventh of nine children born to Lebanese immigrants, Maloof became the first craftsman to receive a MacArthur Foundation grant, in 1985. His designs could not be categorized as Arts and Crafts, modern, Scandinavian, or Italian. The self-taught designer would select a piece of wood—walnut was his favorite because of its texture and durability—and cut out parts freehand on a bandsaw. He refined the shape with hand tools to make the finished piece of furniture comfortable, functional, and beautiful.

Maloof created about 50 pieces a year—all on commission. Clients could wait years for delivery, although those who wanted a cradle for their babies immediately jumped to the head of the line.

His masterpiece was the house he bought in 1953 in Alta Loma, California. Over the decades, he added 16 rooms with handmade redwood doors and windows, carved door handles in the shape of flying fish or tusks, Douglas fir rafters, and toilet seats in English oak and black walnut.

In 2000, when the state of California decided to put a freeway through Maloof’s citrus grove, the state worked out an agreement to dismantle the house and move it three miles away; it now functions as a museum and as headquarters of the Sam and Alfreda Maloof Foundation for Arts and Crafts.

Maloof kept close ties to Scripps College, inviting faculty and students to his workplace, visiting Scripps, and occasionally speaking to small groups. His woodwork is prominent throughout campus buildings and offices, including the foyer of Garrison Theater and the President’s Office.

He is survived by his second wife, Beverly Wingate Maloof, whom he married in 2001, three years after Freda died; a son, a daughter, a stepson, and four grandchildren.

New Director of Public Relations

Steve Sabicer, a 2000 graduate of Pomona College, has been appointed Scripps College director of public relations and communication, effective September 15, 2009. He previously served as director of communications for Medtronic Diabetes, where he was responsible for public relations, marketing communications, eMarketing, and internal and executive communication. Sabicer replaces Mary Shipp Bartlett, who moves to director of publications, with primary responsibility for editing Scripps Magazine.

In announcing his appointment, Vice President of Enrollment, Marketing, and Communication Patricia Goldsmith said, “Steve knows and appreciates both the complexities and opportunities of The Claremont Colleges. We are particularly fortunate to entice someone with his exceptional marketing abilities and familiarity with Scripps during this dynamic, exciting time in Scripps’ history.”

Prior to September 15, Sabicer consulted extensively with the College to begin building a bold strategic communication plan designed to enhance Scripps’ national visibility, according to Goldsmith. Sabicer lives with his wife and two daughters, (one born this summer) in Claremont.

Pursuing her passion

Casey Near is a senior with a passion for U.S. history. Her proposed thesis centers on the first mass-printed newspapers in the United States, specifically Philadelphia. So what better way to extend her research than on a SHEAR Mellon Fellowship at the University of Pennsylvania’s McNeil Center for Early American History?

Near was one of only 10 undergraduates from liberal arts colleges to receive the fellowship, which allows the students to learn history research methods and do archival work. The fellowship program also helps students discover a new thesis topic or further their current research.

During June, Near found primary documents in the Pennsylvania Historical Society that showed the ways newspapers influenced how people were discussed, viewed, and treated in society.

“My absolute favorite part of the program was the time we were able to spend in the archives, looking for materials for our thesis.”

In late June, Near’s thesis reader, Professor Rita Roberts, joined her in Philadelphia, where Roberts was coincidentally doing research herself for an upcoming book.

Donor Support Steady in Shaky Times

In a year when economic times were uncertain, Scripps raised almost $10.1 million, the sixth time in the last decade the Colleges garnered annual support of more than $10 million. Alumnae participation held steady at 48.6%, up slightly from 48.5% the previous year, making Scripps the leader in participation once again among The Claremont Colleges. Scripps’ fiscal year closed June 30, 2009.

Two significant fund-raising initiatives were completed: $200,000 to finalize funding of the lacrosse-soccer field and name it “Alumnae Field,” matched by a challenge grant of $200,000 from an anonymous donor; and a $75,000 faculty-staff endowed scholarship for an incoming first-year student with demonstrated financial need, with preference given to a Scripps College Academy alumna. With 25% of faculty and 11% of staff making a gift, the endowed scholarship fund reached its goal within two years, one year ahead of schedule. An emeritus professor aided the effort with a challenge grant of $12,500 the first year and $10,000 the second.

Ana Collisson, assistant vice president for development, said: “I am heartened by the generous support the College has received from its constituents. In challenging economic times, alumnae, parents, and friends demonstrated unequivocally that they value the unique education that Scripps offers and want to see it endure.”

For academic year 2009-10, Scripps was able to hold tuition increases to 2.2%, and provide more than $11.5 million in financial aid to students.
Scripps’ 25-meter swimming pool, adjacent to the Tiernan Field House and lacrosse/soccer field, draws students and guests on a weather-perfect day in Claremont.
All but one of Scripps’ eight presidents have lived in Revelle House, designed by Gordon Kaufmann and built in 1939. The exception is Fritz Weis (2007-2009); in addition, Mary Kimberley Shirk (acting president from 1942-43) lived off campus. Nancy Bekavac lived in the house from 1990-2000 and relocated to a Scripps-owned house on College Avenue during the last years of her presidency. The “President's House” was renamed, in 2000, in honor of Ellen Clark Revelle ’31, the late emerita trustee, and used for several years by Alumnae Relations.
A long orange van pulled up to Revelle House the morning of August 5 and soon produced a stream of items: several bikes, a guitar case, tables, dressers, mattresses, and boxes—endless boxes.

Lori Bettison-Varga, Scripps’ new president, had arrived. And for the first time in decades, the house was home to a young family.

They were all there to check out their rooms and unpack, fortified by pizza from the Village: husband Bob, and their children, Matt (20, a sophomore at the College of Wooster), Will (16), and Lexie (11). Keo, the 100-lb. yellow lab, was already on the lawn making friends with whomever walked by.

We asked President Bettison-Varga a few questions about her move-in and what she’s looking forward to as she begins her presidency.
Why did you and your family decide to live in Revelle House?

I am excited about the opportunity to live on campus because it provides a unique connection to the students, staff, and faculty that we would not have from a home off campus. What better way to be immediately integrated into the life of the College? Revelle has a lovely setting, which we believe will provide us with the privacy we need as a family as well as the close connection to campus that I desire as I begin my presidency. Best of both worlds, perhaps? But, we are not naïve….We've certainly heard plenty about the Thursday p.m. social events that might result in a bit of, shall we say, delightful background noise?

What do your kids think about their new home? Have they lived on a college campus before?

This is a first for them! But, you’ll have to ask them what they think…and then check back with them a few months from now!

[Lexie reports she likes Claremont, her school, the Tiernan swimming pool, and her room, especially since it is attached to her own separate bathroom. “This is our last move, I hope,” she says.]

Your mother, Barbara Yunker Bettison ’54, will be nearby. How does she feel about returning to Claremont?

My mother is thrilled to be back in California, but particularly excited about living in Claremont. She never imagined she would be moving back so close to Scripps and have her daughter be president of her alma mater. She has wonderful memories of her time at Scripps, and no doubt she will enjoy sharing them with anyone interested in hearing stories of Scripps in the early ’50s. [Barbara Bettison is shown on p.30, bottom left, at right, with classmate Marilyn Roberts Parent]

What do you look forward to doing as president that you didn’t have the opportunity to do in former positions?

I look forward to promoting the institution at every opportunity—with friends, alumnae, parents, prospective students, the external communities of higher education, and beyond; telling Scripps’ story—talking about the fabulous students, the achievements and dedication of our faculty, and the success stories of our alumnae—and working with all constituents to enhance Scripps’ excellence.

What do you want to focus on this year? Any immediate goals?

We do have some central questions to address this year: How can we build on the ideas faculty, staff, and trustees have generated to develop a Center for Women/Women’s Leadership that best reflects the mission of the College? How do we strategically position the College in this economy, and what will it take to move Scripps to the next level? These are just a few of the questions that I’m thinking about, but I have a lot of listening to do in the months ahead to shape a vision for Scripps that will resonate with the aspirations of alumnae, faculty, staff, and students.
What you might not know about Lori Bettison-Varga:

- She has a Kindle.
- She likes to cook alongside her husband.
- She’ll eat almost any food except lima beans or liver.
- She met her husband on the Island of Cyprus at a geological conference.
- Her middle name is Ann and regrets her parents didn’t add the “e,” as in “Anne of Green Gables.” Anne is one of her favorite characters because she is “feisty, strong, and competitive.”
- Her favorite vacation is at the beach with her family.
- She loves to read Jane Austen, as well as historical novels.

How is the economy affecting what you’d like to do?

Scripps is in the enviable position of being financially quite healthy, in large part through the generosity of strategic donations to support faculty recruitment and retention and the James E. Scripps Scholars program. While we are certainly aware of the need to be sensitive to our expenditures—using common sense to guide us as we move forward in this unpredictable economy—we are not in the situation that many colleges are today, making cuts that ultimately impact academic programs and college life. Scripps has always been on the lean side and has not undergone rapid expansion, which is certainly serving us well right now!

What program on campus excites you the most? How might you be involved?

I have to say that I am most excited about how well the curriculum holds together. From the intellectual community generated by the common first-year experience to the early research activities in Core 3 to the capstone thesis—this is a curriculum designed to encourage creativity, risk-taking, self-authorship, and confidence. The Scripps students I have met are amazing—articulate, composed, confident, integrative thinkers.

Are you going to go to Core lectures? If so, any particular ones?

My goal is to attend as many Core lectures as possible!

What exactly does the president do?

A president’s primary goals are to continue improving the College, provide new opportunities for students, faculty, and staff, and protect and enhance the financial strength of the institution for the benefit of future students, faculty, and staff. While a president sets an agenda and leads the College, he/she does so through collaboration with many constituencies; so much of the job is about establishing strong working relationships with trustees, faculty, students, and staff and being a tireless advocate for the College, fostering the interest and support of alumnae and friends (new and old).

So, what does a president do to carry out this agenda? Meet with a lot of people! Make presentations in local, regional, and national venues about Scripps; represent Scripps at events; work with senior staff to implement strategic goals; take a prominent role in fundraising; serve as an advocate of a liberal arts education.

Any surprises about Scripps so far?

I am simply overwhelmed by the generosity of time and energy shown to all of us by the members of the Scripps community. It is certainly not a surprise to find Scripps so welcoming, but it is greatly appreciated nonetheless!
Ernest Jaqua was elected president a full year before Scripps’ formal opening and helped determine the campus blueprint for buildings and grounds. He also established the hallmark of a Scripps education: interdisciplinary study of the humanities.

Mary Kimberly Shirk, as an early trustee of the College, was asked by the Board of Trustees to “serve for a month or two,” but remained in the position for over a year, from 1942 to 1943. An “interim” president, she was never given official status as president.

Frederick Hard, a distinguished Shakespearean scholar and professor of English literature, served 20 years, the longest of any Scripps president.

Mark Curtis was formerly a professor of history for both Williams College and UCLA, where he was also associate dean for the graduate division.

John H. Chandler was president of Salem College and Academy, vice president for the Danforth Foundation, and associate professor and dean of special academic programs at Ohio University. While at Scripps, Chandler also taught courses in English literature.

E. Howard Brooks began serving as provost of Scripps in 1987; two years later, the Board of Trustees appointed him president until he retired on June 30, 1990. Brooks’ association with The Claremont Colleges extends back to 1971, as provost of The Claremont Colleges; he later became vice president of planning and development for Claremont McKenna College.

Nancy Y. Bekavac, a graduate of Yale School of Law, held the W.M. Keck Foundation Presidential Chair, established at Scripps in 1980. Prior to Scripps, she served as counselor to the president of Dartmouth College, executive director of and consultant to the Thomas J. Watson Foundation, and full partner at the law firm of Munger, Tolles, and Olson, Los Angeles.

Frederick "Fritz" Weis continued a 26-year career in administrative and faculty positions at The Claremont Colleges. He served as director of financial and business affairs and treasurer of Scripps College for two years in the early 1980s and taught the College's first accounting class. From 1982-2002, he was vice president and treasurer of Claremont McKenna College. He is currently Scripps’ senior philanthropic advisor.

Lori Bettison-Varga became Scripps’ eighth president on July 1, 2009. Previously, she was provost and dean of the faculty at Whitman College, from 2007-09, and at The College of Wooster, from 1992 to 2007, professor in the Department of Geology and associate dean for research and grants. She has a PhD and MS in geology, from the University of California, Davis, and a BA in geology, with honors, from the University of California, Santa Barbara.
Scripps College Presidents, pictured clockwise, from top left

Ernest Jaqua (1926-1942)
Frederick Hard (1943-1964)
Mark Curtis (1964-1976)
E. Howard Brooks (1989-1990)
Nancy Y. Bekavac (1990-2007)
Fritz Weis (2007-2009)
Lori Bettison-Varga (2009- )
1. Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Jaqua, at Commencement, 1931.


4. The Frederick Hard family, 1953. Daughter Beverly Hard Davies, third from left, is a Scripps alumna, class of 1953.

5. Lori Bettison-Varga and family on moving day, August 5, 2009.


8. Nancy Y. Bekavac on “Miss America” steps, with students, and Delilah and Brando, circa 2005.

An Uncommon Woman

Ellen Virginia Clark Revelle ’31
1910-2009

BY MARY SHIPP BARTLETT

Ellen Revelle, a pioneering member of the first entering class, helped make Scripps one of the leading liberal arts colleges in the nation. Ellen, at her La Jolla home, in 2003.
She had a strong mind and wasn’t afraid to use it. She was an intrepid explorer of the world who learned to snorkel in her 60s and swam daily in the Pacific into her mid 90s. She held deep loves—for family and friends, for music and art, and for several fortunate institutions. Late in life, she traveled, wrote critical letters to the editor of various publications (including this one), entertained, read widely—and was always ready to share a good story or a laugh.

No one who knew her will forget her.

Ellen Revelle died in the early hours of May 6, 2009, at age 98 of a massive stroke, hours after playing a game of dominoes and just days after attending the theater near her La Jolla home.

She made her mark on Scripps early, as a member of the first graduating class of 50 women. And although she was the great-niece of the College’s founder, she never used that to her advantage. She once turned down a chance for elected office in one of the residence halls when she learned she was nominated because of her family connection.

Ellen remained close to Scripps throughout her life. She joined the board of trustees in 1938 as an alumna trustee, and then served continuously since 1947 as a trustee and then emerita trustee. Former President Fritz Weis said: “Ellen was treasured not only for her unswerving service and devotion to the College, but for her intellect, her curiosity, and her great good humor. She continued, throughout her life, to be a role model for our students.”

As trustee, Ellen often asked the penetrating question, pointed out the overlooked consideration, and made the essential connection. When she could no longer travel the miles to the annual trustee retreat, the College came to her in her La Jolla beachfront home for advice.

A strikingly beautiful woman all her life, Ellen is remembered by her daughter Carolyn Revelle as the mother who often tucked a flower behind her ear. And for a more creative use: “Going out in the evening in a long dress with a slit up the seam, she had used lovely white flowers [gardenias] to adorn the metal pins projecting on either side of her leg, broken in a skiing accident.”

Ellen and her late husband, Roger Revelle, established the James E. Scripps Scholarship Fund in 1985 to provide merit scholarships each year to undergraduates. The fund, which allows Scripps to attract and enroll some of the most superior students in the nation, enabled the College to award half-tuition scholarships to 118 students in 2008-2009.

Ellen was married for more than 60 years to Roger, who, through his extraordinary vision and leadership, was the main force in founding the University of California, San Diego, in 1960; the first of its colleges was named in his honor. In the ’60s, Roger directed Harvard University’s Center for Population Studies, where he taught a new generation of students, including former Vice President Al Gore, about possible environmental effects of rising carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. Ellen retained a close friendship with Gore throughout her life. Roger was also a former director of UCSD’s Scripps Institution of Oceanography, and Ellen was “truly its first lady,” according to Tony Haymet, director of the marine institution.

Roger died in 1981 at age 82.

Ellen shared Ellen Browning Scripps’ commitment to community. Her son, William Revelle, said: “She believed we are stewards of the planet and our population. She cared about people.”

Her many contributions to community included service on boards of the La Jolla Art Museum, The Bishop’s School, the La Jolla Playhouse, and Scripps Memorial Hospital. She was also deeply involved with the La Jolla Music Society and the San Diego Symphony.

A celebration of her life was held May 10 at the La Jolla Museum of Contemporary Art, Ellen Browning Scripps’ former home. After her four children, several of her grandchildren, and friends reflected on “the lightness of her being,” the several hundred assembled guests joined singers and musicians in Beethoven’s “Ode to Joy” (Symphony No. 9) as final tribute to this remarkable woman.

Following are excerpts from remarks made at the memorial service in La Jolla, May 10.

Scripps College will hold a memorial service for Ellen Revelle on Saturday, October 3, 2009, at 2 p.m., in Margaret Fowler Garden. A reception follows in Revelle House.
Excerpts of remarks by William Revelle

My mother’s most enduring characteristic was her continuous adventurous spirit. She was always up for a new challenge and looked forward every day to experiencing life.

When she was what I thought of at the time as the advanced age of 64, I taught her how to snorkel. She had been a lifelong swimmer, but for some reason never put her head underwater….As much as she loved snorkeling, she had one problem with it: She enjoyed it too much. This was particularly a problem in the British Virgin Islands, where the water was warmer and the fish more colorful than the Cove [in La Jolla]. For as we all know, one cannot smile and snorkel at the same time. Given her cheerful spirit, she found this very hard to learn; she would swim with a smile with her mouth half open, swallowing water as she followed along after the fish. Several times it was necessary to rescue her and drain the water out of her….After I gave her a wetsuit for her 65th birthday to extend her swimming season, Mom would love to tell her friends how she had gone swimming in her birthday suit….We last went diving together at the Cove four summers ago, to help celebrate her 95th birthday.

She was adventurous in everything she did. She was an early adopter of the computer, as a way to organize her writings and as a way to communicate with friends and family around the world. Her writings eventually included everything from the 600 single-spaced pages of memoirs she wrote for her autobiography class to speeches about her great-aunt Ellen to letters to the editor discussing how to maintain the quality of La Jolla’s beaches to an introduction she gave for Al Gore two years ago. We tried to shame many a friend of ours into starting to use computers for email and correspondence by saying that “even my 90-year-old mother knows how to email.” Those who knew her would respond that was setting a very high bar and did not demonstrate that they, themselves, could learn.

She spent the last seven months continuing her busy schedule of going to the symphony, her play reading group, and coming here for her beloved chamber music, with her oxygen tank and a nurse trailing along. Two weeks ago, we managed to find a more portable system that she used here just last Saturday night. She was so delighted to be free again. With her perpetual optimism, she had just renewed her subscription so she would be able to use her favorite seats, M101 and M102, one more year.
Excerpts of remarks by Carolyn Revelle

My appreciation of Mother deepened during my adult life.
As an adolescent, I had found my mother less interesting than my charismatic, much admired father (though my friends inexplicably enjoyed her jokes and her company).

As a young married woman, I began to appreciate Mother. Her household tips, once ignored, proved to actually work! ("Soak dishes with egg in cold water, dear; don’t use silver forks with eggs as they will tarnish; wash the hollow-handled knives by hand since the dishwasher dissolves the glue.")

In 1991, I joined the Board of Trustees of Scripps College, where Mother was now a trustee emerita. As we drove to Claremont, shared a room, and attended meetings together, I began to understand more about her and the college that had made such a lifelong impression on her.

Three years ago, I spent five months living with Mother here in La Jolla. I had the rare opportunity as an adult with an elderly parent to be re-nurtured as well as to nurture. We watched Lehrer’s News Hour in the evenings and discussed articles in the New York Times over breakfast. I was constantly amazed at how sharp she was—this woman whose intellectual acumen and organizational skills I’d scorned as a teenager. One morning, she recalled that the quotation she’d thought of on awakening—”This above all, to thine own self be true…” was spoken by Polonius, and that he was the character in Hamlet who was stabbed behind the arras. I could confirm that by checking in Bartlett’s Quotations, which I would find in the sunroom, in the lowest shelf of the bookcase on the east wall, below the encyclopedias….Of course, she was right.

Her wit, which had embarrassed me when I was younger, now delighted me. On a trip to the hospital last fall, she startled the young cardiologist by quoting a risqué limerick she had learned from her father. She then recited her own doggerel about hospital gowns:

A less flattering garment could hardly be found
Than the hospital gown that wraps around.
It wraps around, and ties, that’s true, but leaves exposed a lot of YOU.
If it tied, instead, round under one’s face
One could clutch it together with a bit more grace!

If that doggerel exemplifies her wit, the following excerpt from a letter to the authors of a booklet about her neighborhood’s history, written when she was just short of 93, reflects her perfectionism, sharp editorial eye, and keen sense of humor:

Dear Mr. Bevil and Mr. Broms:

Your little booklet, “The Beautiful Barber Tract of La Jolla,” is very interesting. However, may I suggest that if a future issue…comes out, more care might well be given to researching the factual material. The tendency being to believe in the printed word, that word should aim to be true! …

Now I get to a really egregious error—I love that word! James E. Scripps died in May 1906. Since the freezing of sperm had not yet been invented, I could hardly have been his daughter, since I was not born until July 31, 1910! I was his granddaughter, daughter of Grace Scripps Clark and Rex B. Clark. And he was the founder of the Detroit Evening News, definitely not the Detroit Free Press—a rival paper!

The correct title of our venerable local treasure is the Scripps Institution of Oceanography—Roger used to like to joke that it was the only institution run by its inmates.

Sincerely,
Ellen Clark Revelle
Walking into the New York Times’ gleaming new office building, we momentarily forgot that the future of the newspaper—of all newspapers—is decidedly uncertain. Surrounded by flashing digital headlines that illuminate the hall of the main entryway, we eagerly observed people we pegged for important editors and columnists; things at The Times seemed to be churning along nicely. We were in awe.

As aspiring journalists and last year’s co-editors-in-chief of voice, Scripps’ student-run newspaper, we jumped at the chance to attend the national Student Editors Conference last March, sponsored by the Council of Independent Colleges and the New York Times. Upon our arrival in chilly New York City, we discovered that we were the farthest-flung of the editors: not only were we the only representatives from California, we were the only travelers from west of the Mississippi.

The conference consisted of insightful lectures from Times editors, columnists, and photographers. A digital columnist preached the value of persistence in landing a job in journalism; a front-page photographer regaled us with stories of some of his stranger photo assignments; and a senior copy editor taught us how to craft a Times-worthy headline in 10 words or less. He gave us a handout on tricks of the trade, a downsized version of the NYT style guide, which we later passed out to our editors at a voice content meeting.

The presenters hailed from a variety of backgrounds and cities. They were eager and willing to share their own diverse career paths. Some had gone to journalism school, while others had majored in engineering. One sat defiantly at the front desk of a hiring fair until he convinced the powers that be to employ him. Each had different pieces of wisdom to impart to a band of young...
journalists who were eagerly scribbling away with bright eyes, and rapidly filling notepads.

As Scripps English majors, we’re taught to look for themes. Listening to these engaging talks, a running theme emerged: Journalism is in danger, yes, but it’s far from dead. The ever-increasing dominance of new media and Internet news sources, coupled with a bad economy, is changing the face of journalism today. The lecturers at the conference made this imminently clear, but none was pessimistic. A certain excitement about the future eclipsed the uncertainty of the present.

A senior editor, admitting The Times is in financial straits, was optimistic. While the form of newspapers is certainly changing and uncertain, he said, the need for good journalism and objective reporting will always remain. Journalism—the need to share information—predates newspapers and will possibly outlive them. And that’s okay.

Leaving the conference with a taste of what journalism means at the level of one of the finest newspapers in the country, we started discussing our own little 12-page, five-section, bi-weekly newspaper. With funding secured from Scripps and with the help of a wonderful team of photographers, writers, editors, and managers willing to work for snacks, voice doesn’t face the issues that national newspapers like The Times face this year. This freedom sets some student newspapers apart—allows us more room to breathe.

Though the two newspapers are different publications—Tiffany and Co. has not asked to advertise in voice and Thomas Friedman will probably never submit a column—they share certain similarities. We both follow the same style guide. We both, unfortunately, have typos even after many sets of eyes look over pages. We both have staffers up late before deadline. Like the New York Times, voice is meant to inform its audience: the Scripps community. Unlike the New York Times, we have the capacity to use the newspaper as a true community forum. We not only encourage submissions, we’ll probably print every one. voice is meant to create dialogue, and we’re proud to leave Scripps believing it has, and knowing it has the capacity to do more.

We’re excited about the future of voice—for its potential to expand and improve, for its ability to reflect the meaning of true, good journalism on a small college campus. This past year, we moved beyond the paper format, also publishing our issues online to make them accessible to anyone—interested parents and alumnae included—who is eager to read about the happenings on campus and the lives of the students who live, learn, and love here.

While Steele Hall’s windows are not as shiny as those of The Times building, the Scripps students working behind the scenes constantly push themselves to ensure that our product includes all the news fit to print at the 5-Cs—deadlines permitting. Voice is just what it professes itself to be in a single word. It is a forum for students to proclaim what they see as important for us to know about and discuss within our community. From hard news to staunch opinion, it is a method by which we can communicate and be heard.

Our trip to the New York Times reminded us of the importance of small papers and the power they have within a Scripps community. Although we don’t know where journalism will be 20 years from now, we hope that voice continues to empower its authors and its readership by offering a venue for community members to learn about important events within our community and providing a forum for interested, concerned, and passionate readers to share their individual voices.

Update: This summer, Latto led a community service trip in Costa Rica through Putney Student Travel, and then traveled on her own in Costa Rica and Nicaragua. In August, she moved to Boston to join the MATCH Corp, for a yearlong fellowship in urban education at the MATCH Charter Middle School. After that, “Who knows?” she admits. “I’m looking into graduate school in journalism or creative writing, but also might try to work in a writing-related field before heading back to school.”

For the next two years, Guillen will work as a 2009 Teach For America Corps member in Los Angeles teaching secondary English. She will simultaneously be enrolled in a master’s program in urban education at Loyola Marymount University. After that, her plans are uncertain, but both a PhD program and law school are in the running,” she says.
Each year, the Scripps College Alumnae Association Award is presented to one or more seniors who have made outstanding contributions to the life of the College in various areas including, but not limited to: academic/intellectual contributions, artistic/creative activities, athletics, residential life, and community activism. It is with great pride that I present the 2009 Alumnae Association Award to three extremely passionate and accomplished young women: Fatima Elkabti, Yael Friedman, and Adrian Hodos.

**Fatima Elkabti** has been president of the Scripps Associated Students this year. Under her leadership, changes have been made to the escort policy to ensure the safety of current students, among other initiatives. She has moved people with her poise as a public speaker and captivated the readers of the *Scripps Journal* with her writing. She has also served as a resident advisor. Fatima is a recipient of the Easterly Award, Davis Peace Prize, and the Ruth George Poetry Prize. Fatima's warm demeanor and passionate heart have served the students well over her four years at Scripps.

**Yael Friedman** has been a presence since first arriving on campus. During her sophomore year, Yael was selected as a Junior Humanities Fellow with the Humanities Institute, where she demonstrated her creativity and intellect. Last year, while studying abroad, she worked with the families of the Disappeared in Argentina, as well as with the people who are deeply affected by the war in Northern Ireland. Yael also found time to mentor a young woman in the local community and work with female inmates through the Women & Criminal Justice Network chapter on campus. She served as the chair of the Scripps Diversity Committee, as well as a member of the Senior Class Gift Committee. Yael can often be found in the middle of any activity, reflecting an immense dedication to be engaged in life around her.

**Adrian Hodos** has shown her engagement in the Scripps community in many ways. She has been the manager of the Scripps Student Store, worked as a Motley barista, and served on the Student Affairs Committee of the Scripps Board of Trustees. Her interest in public policy has been directly related to her involvement with the Women's Criminal Justice Network, which raises awareness about women in the prison system and also advocates for prison reform. After helping create a chapter on the Scripps campus, she organized game nights at the Motley with paroled women, united current students with incarcerated women at the penitentiary, developed a resource binder for young women to help them transition once they are released, organized weekly film screenings on campus on prison issues, and worked to educate her peers on prison ballot initiatives.

The Scripps Alumnae Athlete of the Year award is presented to a senior who has demonstrated outstanding athletic ability as well as a deep involvement with campus participation and service. This year’s award winner is no exception. She was a member of the Track and Field and Cross Country Team and the most dominant distance/middle-distance runner on the track for the past two years. She is a CMS and SCIAC record holder in the steeple, the SCIAC Cross Country Runner of the Year in 2008, and SCIAC champion four times. It is my honor to present this award to **Evelyn Ross**.

Congratulations to the recipients of these awards and the entire graduating Class of 2009. The alumnae are waiting with great anticipation to see where the next chapter in your life takes each of you.

**MERRILEE STEWART HOWARD ’70**
President, Alumnae Association
merrileehoward@alumna.scrippscollege.edu
Strong “Other Women”

What do a king’s mistress, a four-time-married Elizabethan courtier, a Parisian socialite, and a Jamaican-born nurse have in common? Why, they’re all examples of “The Other Woman.”

Mary Conroy Coman ’77 presented “The Other Woman” on June 26 to 110 spirited Scripps alumnae, who were on campus for Camp Scripps. According to Coman, “Conventional history places women in one of five categories: wife, mother, wife and mother, hapless pawn in a game of dynastic chess, or nun.” Demonstrating the defiance of such categorizations, Coman provided examples of strong, resourceful, assertive women.

These “other women” include Gabrielle d’Estrées, proud mistress to King Henry IV of France and occasional leader of his troops; Elizabeth of Hardwick, a four-time-married, prenuptial-demanding Elizabethan courtier who loaned money to men; the beauty Madame X, or Amélie Gautreau, a Parisian socialite, American expatriate, and sensual subject of the painting that caused a scandal at the 1884 Paris Salon exhibition; and Mary Seacole, a part-Jamaican, part-Scottish nurse who organized and operated boarding houses and treated the injured, in Panama and Crimea, despite facing discrimination.

These women forged their own paths and found their own voices, reminding me of another group of individuals: those strong, resourceful, assertive Scripps alumnae surrounding me that June afternoon. – Ashley Newton ’10

Camp Scripps is the annual four-day experience, where alumnae come back to campus, reconnect, learn, and have fun; according to camp motto, there is “everything possible, nothing required.”
Reunion Weekend 2009: alumnae from 25 classes (from 1934 to 2004) returned to campus to renew friendships, share memories, celebrate Scripps’ successes, and honor fellow alumnae.
Memories of Scripps

by Mary Beth Stewart Wedberg ’39

I remember Eucalyptus Court, where I heard Orson Welles’ “War of the Worlds”; the browsing room in Dorsey, where I heard on the radio the “Woman I Love” speech by King Edward VIII, on December 10, 1936; the dining room, where I waited tables; and the telephone alcove, where one manipulated the rubber cords into their respective slots to enable callers to connect.

The connecting hall with Browning and the kitchenette fostered avocado sandwiches some nights. The dances we had with one or other of the halls of Caltech—they had four and we had four. When we went there for a dance, our escort might playfully want to show off the “Ice Plant”—which turned out not to be a building, but groundcover.

The Sunday night gathering at the Darrs’ for cocoa and listening to One Man’s Family on the radio; walking down to classes at Pomona in early morning through the mist, and the sweet smell of orange blossoms. I took many science courses at Pomona, which led to a BS degree, and graduate school at Yale, where I met my husband.

I came to Scripps from Colorado Springs because of the girl next door who was attending Pomona. My mother and I went to see Pomona College in 1931; we were favorably impressed, but the woman who showed us around said that there was a “new college up the road” and that we should go see it. So we did—and that was Scripps! After one year at Colorado College, I transferred to Scripps.

Special holidays, decorations at Christmas, the lawn parties, where we wore long dresses, glee club practice on Balch Stage, humanities classes, and the “study outline” we made on our lap boards—I wish I had not erased mine.

Scripps is dear to my memory and will always be.
‘46  Anita “Denny” Denniston Bassett (Fresno, CA) My husband, composer Leslie Bassett, received an honorary doctorate from Fresno State in May 2009. Our daughter, Wendy, and her husband flew us out for the ceremonies. Our son and his wife came from New York, and former Scrippsie Mary Lee Nicholson McLane came from Sacramento. Best of luck to the new [Scripps] president!

‘47  Marlou Rau Belyea (Easton, PA) Bob and I are enjoying our “golden years” here in beautiful Pennsylvania, one day at a time, enjoying friends and family, including four beautiful great-grandchildren. I keep my mind active writing, presenting, and publishing papers on little-known, but important, American women of the 1900s. The first woman was Mary Edith Cox Maison, a California desert landscape painter of the Impressionist school, and the second is Jackie Cochran, the most important pilot of the 20th century. The paper on Mary Maison is published. Mollie Milliken Hayes (Laguna Woods, CA) I live in a wonderful 14-story senior citizen apartment building with my little dog. I love it!

‘48  Alicia Koenig Hamilton (Boulder, CO) I am currently helping develop an Osher Lifetimes Learning Institute program in west Denver as a member of the curriculum committee and advisory council. I’m also playing “golden oldies” for an hour once a week in the lobby at Lutheran Hospital and am active in LWVs, as always. I celebrated with my husband, Warren, our 61st anniversary at Christmas.


‘50  Linda Hardesty Densmore (Solomons, MD) After three-and-a-half years in the retirement community, I remain delighted with the many options for pleasurable and intellectual activities. It’s like living on a cruise ship. Katherine Hoppe Hart (Portland, OR) I moved to a retirement community, which I like very much, and am closer to my children and grandchildren. Joan Murdock Philipp (Belvedere, CA) Two of my grandsons are now driving; one to go. Philipp, the oldest, is interested in theatre production; Charley is a baseball pitcher; and Henry is just happy with everything. I went to France and Austria this summer. I have been married 58 years, as of June 21. It’s been a long time since I passed out chocolates in Dorsey.

‘51  Diana Grupe (Old Greenwich, CT) I am still exhibiting my artwork. My recent oil portrait of Tiger Woods hangs in his home. He loves it. Kenna Hunt (San Rafael, CA) I still keep my toe in theatre, and now am reading to sheltered transient kids with SAG’s “Book Pals” program. Kathleen Niven Lechner (Laguna Niguel, CA) I so enjoyed sharing some of my paintings and presenting a workshop on “Dancers, Goddesses, and Portraits” last spring at Camp Scripps. I am working to put together an art show of my work in my home to benefit autism research. Jacqueline Thompson Marsh (Adamstown, MD) Some activities I enjoy are: 18 years as a docent at the Washington National Cathedral, alto in a local chorus, leader of pastoral care ministry, leader of the prayer shawl ministry, leader of the spiritual enrichment group, and contributor to an in-house newspaper. Elizabeth Browning Witchey-Ryer (Santa Rosa, CA) I’m enjoying the wonderful music offered in the Santa Rosa area. I am also playing violin and painting small watercolors, writing for scholarships for women, and visiting my son’s active family in Australia and my daughter’s enlarging family in Idaho. I miss my husband, Jay, and square dancing, but am glad we had nine years together!

‘52  Kenna Hunt I am reading to sheltered transient kids.
‘53 Carol Prescott Harris
(Steamboat Springs, CO) I am still enjoying contact with Scripps friends, and our time is divided between Steamboat Springs and White Bear Lake, Minnesota.

‘54 Nancy Alpert Mower
(Honolulu, HI) Howard, my husband of 53 years, died on September 9, 2008, of complications following cancer surgery. He and I had four children, eight grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

‘56 Janet Reynolds Fogle
(San Pedro, CA) I have been actively involved in fundraising endeavors for the USC Norris Cancer Center. I also am going on the foundation board for Providence Little Company of Mary Hospital. I am enjoying my nine grandkids. Nancy Nelsen Rude
(Walnut Creek, CA) I performed the Grieg Piano Concerto with the Contra Costa Wind Symphony in April, at the Walnut Creek Performing Arts Center. My son, George Cook, was married in June to Sara Mast in Nicasio-Point Reyes, Calif.

‘57 Karen Gerstenzang Meltzer
(New York, NY) I was sorry to miss our 50th reunion, but am planning for our 55th. Nancy “Nan” Adams Robertson
(Belmont, CA) I am recalling my mantra for these troubling times, in the words of Julian Norwich: “All is well and all shall be well.” Still, I am very grateful for family, friends, faith, and especially for continuing good health. However, truly magical were the “halcyon days” of Scripps College. They will never be forgotten.

‘58 Ann McEwen Standridge
(Harpswell, ME) Paul and I left North Carolina and downsized/moved to Maine, where we are resident custodians of the family home. Saba McWilliams and I have been emailing after a long silence. It’s good to pick up the threads again.

‘58 Pamela Corey-Archer
(Arlington, VA) Other than a fractured hip in a freak accident, I enjoyed spring in Arlington. I am still teaching at the Foreign Service Institute, coordinating bilingual interpreter volunteers at a local hospital, and traveling to visit family in Mexico, Spain, and throughout the USA. Anne Charlotte Hanes Harvey
(Lemon Grove, CA) We celebrated our 45th anniversary last summer in Sweden, with a three-day-long party, and were so happy to see Dennis and Joanne Glass Keith ’63 and John and Susan Lovell McLaughlin there, as well as Jeff and Diane Reiner, daughter of beloved Scripps professor Jesse Swan. Susan Lovell McLaughlin
(Topanga, CA) John and I had a wonderful time in Sweden in August 2008 with Anne Charlotte Hanes Harvey and Michael at their wedding anniversary celebration. I am continuing my private practice as a psychotherapist two days a week, plus writing music the other five days.

‘60 Judith “Judy” Haley Goutell
(Marco Island, FL) In August 2008, I joined family and friends to celebrate my mother’s 100th birthday. She still lives on her own with her cat, in Oregon. Ann Shankland joined us, and we had fun together. She sees my mom more than I do! Katherine “Katie” Erickson McLeod
(Amarillo, TX) I continue to live by the side of Lake Tanglewood, and still enjoy gardening. I am inclined to do less “have to’s” and more “want to’s.” My aunt passed away in December, at 101 years. She was funny to the end, and my touchstone with the past. Robin and her husband are back in Texas, but did not sell their Scripps Ranch Home. Montana continues to be my destination!

‘61 Leila Tunis Hall
(Los Ranchos, NM) Sam and I celebrated our 32nd anniversary. I had the great luck to visit my daughter, who lives in Leipzig, and see Berlin and Dresden. I keep working on my pastels.

‘62 Maria Hummer-Tuttle ’65
Former Scripps trustee Maria Hummer-Tuttle ’65 has been named to the Board of Trustees of the J. Paul Getty Trust, in Los Angeles.

With a JD from UCLA School of Law, Hummer-Tuttle practiced law for 20 years and was a partner and chair of the management committee of Manatt, Phelps and Phillips in Los Angeles. She has served on a number of business and charitable boards, including The Music Center of Los Angeles County, The Armand Hammer Museum of Art and Cultural Center, Los Angeles World Affairs Council, Children’s Institute Inc., Pitzer College, Mount St. Mary’s College, as well as Scripps College, from 1996 to 2004. She recently co-authored the book Winfield House, published by Thames & Hudson, and serves on the board of the Foundation for Art and Preservation in Embassies. She received the Buddy Award in 1989 from the NOW Legal Defense and Education Fund, the 1994 Women of Achievement Award in Law from the Century City Chamber of Commerce, and the American Jewish Committee’s Learned Hand Award in 1997.

Hummer-Tuttle recently returned to Los Angeles from London, where her husband, Robert Holmes Tuttle, served as ambassador to the Court of St. James’s.

‘63 Sondra “Sandy” Rogers Behrens
(Ranch Palos Verdes, CA) Although I graduated from Mayfield in 1959, the school I attended for six years before that [Westridge School] has included me in their 50th reunion this year. Two of my Westridge classmates also graduated with me from Scripps. Now I get to celebrate 50 years twice! Georgia Jones Snoke
(Tulsa, OK) I have co-authored the biography, Roman Jasinski, A Gypsy Prince from the Ballet Russe, which chronicles the life and art of this famous dancer. It is available through the Tulsa Ballet.
Jessica Pierce '87
Wild Justice
In Wild Justice, Jessica Pierce ’87 asks the question: “What if animals really do have emotions—and what’s more, a sense of justice and fair play?” Pierce, a philosopher, and co-writer Marc Bekoff, a scientist, explore that question by mixing decades of field research and insights from cognitive science to show that animals feel and express a wide range of recognizable emotions, including fairness, empathy, compassion, trust, and reciprocity. Pierce and Bekoff argue that morality is an evolved trait like any other, and it’s one that we unquestionably share with other members of the animal kingdom. Published in May 2009, The University of Chicago Press.

A Royal Read, Served Straight Up
In 1831, a boy named Pyotr was born to serf parents in a small Russian village. At that time, no one could have guessed he would grow up to become the creator of the greatest vodka company the world has known.

In The King of Vodka: The Story of Pyotr Smirnov and the Upheaval of an Empire, Linda Himelstein ’84 skillfully unravels the inspiring, tragic, and powerful story of Pyotr Smirnov, creator of the vodka empire now known as Smirnoff. From his roots as a serf to his dominance of the vodka industry, and eventually to the emergence of his brand name outside Russia after the Bolshevik Revolution, Smirnoff’s life, and those of his family members, is riveting.

As the title suggests, Smirnov’s story is inseparable from that of Russia, and Himelstein successfully balances the two histories. Where details are scarce, Himelstein provides related information, or proposes a probable account of events, thereby forming an almost seamless history. Beginning with the elaborate funeral of Pyotr Smirnov, Himelstein subsequently recounts Smirnov’s life from birth to death, and continues to trace the Smirnov label until its emergence as Smirnoff in the West and its growth into the 21st century. Blended into this story is a wealth of information about Russia’s 19th- and early 20th-century political, social, and, of course, vodka, history.

The book, brimming with facts and figures accumulated over more than four years of research in the United States and Russia, is a surprisingly smooth and very enjoyable read. The amount of research and dedication that went into the work is palpable. Himelstein’s insights regarding the vodka maker’s ambitions, motivations, thought processes, and public persona enable the multi-faceted Pyotr Smirnov to come alive. Its equal parts entertainment and enlightenment make The King of Vodka a highly recommended read for history, biography, and vodka lovers alike.

– Reviewed by Ashley Newton ’10

The Inside Story
Linda Himelstein doesn’t speak Russian, never studied the nation’s history, and admits she’s not much of a drinker. Still, she traveled to Moscow for a summer to research the story of a serf who became one of the richest men in Russia by making and promoting Smirnov vodka—the #1 best selling spirit in the world.

It was Pyotr Smirnov’s story that grabbed Himelstein. She was legal affairs editor for BusinessWeek, when, in 1993, she covered the lawsuit filed by Smirnov’s descendants who sought to have the trademarks and copyrights of the vodka empire, lost in the tumult following the Russian revolution, returned to the family and to Russia. Her story earned BusinessWeek’s publisher’s award. Years later, Himelstein left the magazine to spend four years researching and writing the full, fascinating story of The King of Vodka.

“[H]e was an ingenious visionary,” she told alumnui during a reunion weekend book reading and signing in Toll Hall in May. “He realized he needed to create an image at a time when brands didn’t exist.” In the middle of 19th century Russia, vodka was a ubiquitous commodity sold and delivered unlabeled to bars and establishments. Himelstein explained how Smirnov used brilliant grass-roots marketing: he asked 15 friends—all peasants—to demand Smirnov vodka in Moscow bars, and make a scene when it wasn’t produced. Bar owners became curious about this “brand” and sought it out. He asked his friends to then go into the countryside and do the same in local bars. “The company took off like crazy,” said Himelstein.

In time, Smirnov vodka would become the favorite of the Tsars and a multi-billion dollar company.

As for the Smirnov descendents, Himelstein met some of them during her research. They say they were suspicious of what she was up to because of ongoing litigation. To date, they have lost all their cases.

– Mary Shipp Bartlett
1937 Jayne Bowerman Hall
Jayne Bowerman Hall, longtime supporter of the arts, died on April 13, 2009. Jayne attended Scripps College and transferred to the University of Oregon, where she was elected to Phi Beta Kappa. She later worked for the Department of Agriculture in Minnesota and married fellow UO graduate William O. Hall, who became U.S. Ambassador to Ethiopia, from 1967-1971. Jayne’s many volunteer and ex-officio activities with local and international organizations made her a diplomat in her own right. After her husband’s retirement, they returned to Portland, where Jayne continued her long interest in art and theater, volunteering for the Portland Art Museum and several theater groups. Jayne is survived by her three children and two grandsons.

1939 Lucile Duda Schaaf
Lucile Duda Schaaf died May 31, 2009. She is survived by her sister, children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and great-great-grandchildren. Lucile’s family suggests any memorials be made to YMCA or a charity of one’s choice.

1941 Alice Brophy McCchesney
Alice Brophy McCchesney, 88, died peacefully in her home, surrounded by her children, on June 21, 2008. “She attended Scripps College all four of her college years, and it was one of the richest and happiest periods of her life,” says daughter Mary Pat McCchesney. “She married John McCchesney, who was courting her through those years, and together they raised five sons and four daughters. Nine grandchildren followed. Family, friends, and community were the non-stop beneficiaries of her thoughts and actions. She loved to read for relaxation, and was a lifelong Arizona girl. Mom kept in touch with her closest Scripps friends all through the many years, and she was able to enjoy two of their class reunions. She deeply enjoyed, loved, and was so grateful for the many classmates who reached out to her.”

1942 Kathleen “Kay” O’Melveny Roberts
Kathleen “Kay” O’Melveny Roberts died June 10, 2009. After graduating from Scripps, Kay married John Hopkins, who was serving in the U.S. Army. While John was away, Kay worked as a nurse’s aid in Southern California. In 1954, with their children, they settled on a farm in Windsor, California, and were active in agricultural and civic life. In 1957, John died suddenly, leaving Kay a single mother of four. Kay remarried in 1973 to Tom Roberts. Together, they traveled to exotic locales such as the Galapagos Islands, Scammon’s Lagoon, and Alaska. Kay was an active community member, serving on the Windsor School Board and the Sonoma County Grand Jury. An advocate for children, she volunteered as a Cub Scout, Brownie, and Girl Scout leader, as well as a leader of 4-H and the Saint Paul’s Church Sunday School. Kay is survived by her children, stepchildren, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

1943 Rosemary Wilson Maino
Rosemary Wilson Maino, 86, died peacefully on March 30, 2009. Rosemary’s life was filled with “loving family and friends, hard work, exciting, extensive travel, and service to her community and country,” according to her family. During Rosemary’s first year at Scripps, her father died, and although her family was unable to continue paying for school, Scripps allowed her to stay and graduate. Throughout her life, she was grateful to be able to contribute to Scripps, and maintained a close relationship as an alumna. Rosemary’s volunteer commitments included Children’s Home Society, Achievement House, the Women’s Shelter Board, Cuesta Foundation, and the Foundation for the Performing Arts. As a member of Shikar Safari, she was involved in animal and habitat conservation around the world. In 1982, Rosemary’s husband, Ted Maino, became U.S. Ambassador to Botswana. According to her family, “Life in Botswana was different and exotic, and sometimes trying, and she handled the unexpected graciously and with great humor.” Rosemary is survived by her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

1943 Virginia Woolley
Virginia [Jeanette] Woolley [Quealy], 87, died peacefully at home on June 22, 2009. Virginia lived what she called “a charmed life” growing up in Honolulu. In 2003, Virginia moved to Salt Lake City to be closer to her family. She is survived by five children, eight grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren.

1944 Marilyn Lautmann Morgan
Marilyn Lautmann Morgan died on September 16, 2008. Born in Evanston, Illinois, she fell in love with Arizona when she visited with her parents in the 1930s. After graduating from Scripps, she moved to Arizona and lived the “cowboy life,” eventually getting married and raising six children.
1947 Evelyn Calvert Beckwith
Evelyn Calvert Beckwith, an active community volunteer, died March 14, 2009. Evelyn was a member of the League of Women Voters, Junior League of San Francisco, Daughters of the American Revolution, Children’s Health Council at Stanford Hospital, and the Altar Guild at Trinity Parish. Evelyn is survived by her husband, children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

1949 Nancy Keith Tenaglia
Nancy Keith Tenaglia died at her home in Pasadena on March 10, 2009. She attended The Westridge School and Sweet Briar College before graduating from Scripps. She met her husband, Henry, on a blind date, and they were married for 50 years. Nancy was an accomplished architect and interior designer; she designed and built many homes in the beachside community of St. Malo in Oceanside, California, founded by her parents in 1926. A lifetime board member of the St. Malo Association, she was also chairman of the architectural committee. Nancy was an avid gardener, loved travel, art, and antiques. She will be remembered for her gracious manner, intelligence, and kind nature. She is survived by her five children and six grandchildren.

1954 Janet Hawkins
Janet Hawkins died January 12, 2006, in Pasadena, California. Her sister, Ann Hawkins Markevitch, said: “Janet grew up in La Canada-Flintridge. She attended The Westridge School, The Bishop’s School, and Scripps College. She graduated from UC Berkeley, where she belonged to the Alpha Phi sorority. Janet volunteered for many years with Boys Republic and was a member of PEO. She worked at the Huntington Library in San Marino for over 40 years, retiring in 2001. Janet had wonderful lifelong friends from elementary school, high school, college, and beyond who will miss her fun sense of humor and loyal friendship. She participated in alumnae events held at Scripps and continued to keep in touch with some of her classmates.” Janet is survived by her sister, several nieces and nephews, and five great-nieces and nephews.

1955 Lu Ann Anglemyer Ausloos
Lu Ann Anglemyer Ausloos died May 28, 2009. Nancy Nelsen Rude ’56 writes: “Lu Ann graduated from Scripps with an engineering degree and went to work for Lockheed in Sunnyvale, along with her husband, Mike Ausloos. Soon after moving to the Northern California Bay Area, I received a telephone call from Lu Ann asking if I would like to do some two-piano repertoire. ‘Of course’—so we began rehearsing. Lu Ann was now working on her master’s degree in music at San Jose State and found the most fabulous and obscure repertoire of two-piano music from the United States and European libraries. We performed together at many venues, including Deer Lodge, Montana, music clubs in the Bay Area, and San Jose State. We remained in contact throughout the years, socializing over lunch, spending Thanksgivings together, and reminiscing about our very special musical life and friendship. I feel blessed to have known her and shared the music that was so dear to our hearts.”

1967 Susan Davidson Remling
Susan Davidson Remling died peacefully in her home February 17, 2009, surrounded by family and friends, after a courageous 10-year battle against breast cancer. She received her master’s in social work from UC Berkeley. Susan spent the last 20 years as partner/therapist at the Marriage and Family Treatment Center, helping children and their families lead better lives. She loved spending time with her family and friends, cuddling with her dogs, reading books, traveling, and volunteering to help children. Susan is survived by her husband, Kelly, her children, and many friends.

1968 Diana “Kitty” Sheehan Boyce-Smith
Diana “Kitty” Sheehan Boyce-Smith died in Seattle on March 9, 2009. Her friend and classmate Anne Finkbeiner Crumpacker writes: “Kitty was warm, bright-eyed, intellectual, motivated, and sensitive. Her passion for history was contagious. Kitty had a love of politics. She read Time magazine religiously, interned with Congressman Brock Adams, and assembled for the Civil Rights Movement at Pomona [College]. Kitty had a way with words and could spin delightful tales that would have everyone laughing. She studied social work at Columbia [University] and tutored young students in the Pomona area. Throughout her life, Kitty kept a positive attitude, a devotion to family, an interest in world affairs, and an intellectual curiosity.” She is survived by her daughter and several siblings.

1970 Andrea Forthmann Thomson
Andrea Forthmann Thomson, beloved wife, mother, sister, and friend, died peacefully on May 5, 2009. “I remember her as beautiful, full of life, smart, and best of all, kind,” writes Scripps classmate Wendy Jackson Edwards. Andrea is survived by her loving husband, Peter, her daughter, brothers and sisters, and their families.

1970 Karen Karelius
Karen Karelius died peacefully at home on July 7, 2009, after a very short and valiant battle with metastatic cancer. Karen was a licensed professional counselor in private practice working with adults and adolescents during times of personal transitions. Her career spanned more than 25 years in California, Michigan, and Oregon. During her professional career, Karen held numerous positions in higher education. She taught undergraduate and graduate students in the areas of psychology,
women's studies, management, career and life planning, literature, and philosophy. One of Karen's favorite poets was T.S. Eliot, and one of her favorite musicians was Sting. Karen founded the Karelius Group in 1995 as a resource in psychotherapy, counseling, consulting, and coaching, serving individuals, couples, and organizations. Karen is survived by her husband of 28 years, one sister, uncles, aunts, nieces, nephews, and many cousins.

**2007 Amy Louise Vanderloop**

Amy Louise Vanderloop died May 2009 in Tucson, Arizona. In spite of depression, with the support of friends and family in and beyond the Scripps community, Amy was able to thrive in Claremont, graduating Phi Beta Kappa and with honors in neuroscience. Before she decided on a PhD program in neuroscience at the University of Arizona, Amy received numerous offers from graduate programs across the United States. Amy loved the great outdoors and rejoiced in that element of Scripps—swimming in the pool and sitting in Seal Court, *New Yorker* and Motley drink in hand. An Outdoor Orientation leader her sophomore year, Amy led entering Scripps students in the mountains. This was a natural habitat for Amy, as she spent summers working at a pack station in Golden Trout Wilderness, California.

As a research lab leader and a teaching assistant, Amy put her heart and energy into Professor Stacy Wood's neuroscience lab. At a memorial service for Amy in May, Professor Wood said: “Amy was wonderful to work with as a student. We had many scientific adventures together. Amy presented work at national conferences while still an undergraduate. ...I told her I was just going to start treating her like a graduate student and did. ...In terms of character, I would describe Amy as a ‘westerner’ in the best sense of that word. She is an independent thinker, autonomous, and highly resourceful. Yet, at the same time, she is friendly and highly collaborative.” Amy is survived by her parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins.

**David W. Scott**

David W. Scott, former chair of Scripps' art department, died March 30 at a hospice in Austin, Texas. He was 92. Scott was an artist and art historian who served as founding director of the National Museum of American Art in Washington, DC, and played a key role in expanding the National Gallery of Art. Before Scott entered college, he took a summer painting class with Millard Sheets, who was a formative influence. Scott then earned his bachelor's degree in English, with honors, from Harvard in 1937, and later studied at the Art Students' League in New York. Scott joined the Scripps art department in 1946, where he stayed until 1963.

Survivors include his wife of 20 years, Doris White Scott, two daughters from his first marriage, four stepsons, a brother and sister, and four grandchildren.

**John E. Jaqua**

John E. Jaqua, son of Scripps College’s first president, Ernest Jaqua, died May 14, 2009, at the age of 88, after a long illness. A young boy when his father became president of Scripps, he grew up in what is now Reveille House. Jaqua was a decorated WWII Marine aviator who graduated from Pomona College in 1947 and became a leader in the legal community in Eugene, Oregon. He played an early part in the formation of Nike, serving on its board from 1968 until 2004. He is survived by his wife, Robin, four children, six grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren.

1940 Margaret McKenzie

Margaret McKenzie ’40 died on Saturday, August 1, at the age of 91. Margaret served as a devoted member of the Scripps College Board of Trustees from 1974 to 1994 and as emerita trustee since 1994. Margaret credited Scripps for inspiring her career in education. She earned an MA from Radcliffe College in 1944, and a PhD from the University of Chicago in 1958, both in comparative literature. She was professor of German at Vassar College from 1961 to 1983.

She returned to Scripps in 1972 to address graduating seniors on “Humanities in Today’s World”; two years later, she was invited to join the Scripps Board. In 1998, she received the Ellen Browning Scripps Award for her selfless dedication and remarkable generosity to the College. Margaret also served as chairman of the board of Beyond Shelter in Los Angeles, member of the Executive Councils of the American Council of Learned Societies and the Modern Language Association of America, president of the American Association of Teachers of German, and on the Board of Directors of the American Foreign Language Council. Margaret is survived by her sister, Elizabeth M. Petit ’42, and numerous nieces and nephews.
Ruth Owades Receives Fulbright Lifetime Achievement Medal

San Francisco entrepreneur and former Scripps trustee Ruth M. Owades ’66 was awarded the Fulbright Lifetime Achievement Medal on May 12 in Washington, DC. Composer Philip Glass, poet Rita Dove, and civil rights activist andemeritus president of Claremont Graduate University John D. Maguire also received the honor, which recognizes distinguished Fulbright Program alumni for their career achievements and civic, educational, and cultural contributions.

Owades was founder and CEO of Calyx & Corolla (The Flower Lover’s Flower Company ™). Reinventing the floral distribution chain, she was honored by BusinessWeek as a “Best Entrepreneur” who “changed the way we buy flowers.” She was also founder and CEO of Gardener’s Eden, pioneering the direct and retail sales of fine quality gardening tools, accessories, and outdoor furniture; she sold Gardener’s Eden to Williams-Sonoma. Both of her groundbreaking companies have been immortalized in classic Harvard Business School case studies taught worldwide.

“I am deeply honored by the Fulbright Lifetime Achievement Medal,” said Owades. “This singular award validates my conviction that a strong liberal arts education is a solid foundation for leadership—in the corporation, the boardroom, and the global community.”

In 1989, Scripps College gave Owades its Distinguished Alumna Award in recognition of her many achievements. A trustee from 1992-2004, she chaired the Ellen Browning Scripps Medal Selection Committee that brought Justice Sandra Day O’Connor to campus in March 1998.

Owades was a Fulbright grantee to France in 1966-67, studying theatre with playwright Eugène Ionesco, after graduating from Scripps College. She was one of the first Scripps students to receive a Fulbright after being told by her advisor that women seldom received the award.

A “Poet” Pursues the “Impossible”

Remarks by Ruth M. Owades, upon accepting the Fulbright Lifetime Achievement Medal, May 12, 2009, in Washington, DC

It was a crisp fall Southern California afternoon, my sophomore year in college, and I was sitting in my advisor’s office. Professor Robert Palmer was chairman of the Classics Department at Scripps, a small women’s college in Claremont, California. Meeting with the erudite and intimidating Dr. Palmer was always nerve-wracking.

This day, though, I was excited. At the library the previous evening, I had met two students from Japan who were studying here on Fulbright grants. That morning, I read everything I could find about the Fulbright program, and, it appeared, I could apply to study in France—my dream.

Dr. Palmer took a deep puff on his cigar and spoke slowly. He explained how very difficult it was to garner one of these cherished grants—there were so very many applicants, especially from California. “And, of course, Ruth,” he said, “everyone wants to be in France. And, you know, being a girl is a definite disadvantage.”

“But,” I asked, “it doesn’t make it impossible, does it?”

“No,” Dr. Palmer acknowledged; “it isn’t impossible.”

So that insecure teenager from East Los Angeles, who had fulfilled one impossible dream by winning a full scholarship to Scripps, determined—there and then—to continue dreaming big dreams and apply for the Fulbright grant, whatever the chances.

Can you imagine my nervousness, and, then, my joy, when I opened the envelope and learned I had been awarded a Fulbright grant?

I spent an extraordinary year in France. I immersed myself in the culture, the language, and the daily routine of student life—classes, meals, dormitory living, and, of course, animated political discussions until the wee hours of the morning. I often found myself defending U.S. foreign policy or the American way of life—a fast way to learn a language, to be sure, and to gain a new perspective on my homeland.

And, could a theater lover be more fortunate than to study with the great absurdist playwright Ionesco? I remember sitting with him, one-on-one, and discussing, in French, his philosophy and his plays: the importance of language—most pure in complete simplicity. How we communicate or miscommunicate—what does a word really mean? What do people hear? And who of us really listens?

I’m going to interrupt my story now to fast forward, so, please, come with me to…

My first day at the Harvard Business School, in 1973: The Dean of Admissions has asked me to come see him. He tells me that I’m part of an experimental group. “For the first time,” the Dean says, “we’re admitting 3% of the class with a purely liberal arts education. We’re calling you the ‘Poets.’ You don’t actually meet the entrance criteria, but we think you have promise.” He encouraged me to ask for help: “We have tutors available,” he said.

My head was swirling! Did the Harvard Business School see “Poets” as a good thing or a bad thing?

In retrospect, I know that being a “Poet,” or, more accurately, being schooled in the liberal arts, has been one of my greatest strengths. It has given me the context to deal with ambiguity, to ask questions and take risks, all while stimulating creativity. This was a powerful foundation for becoming an entrepreneur—which is a daily exercise in scaling obstacles, while retaining a creative vision.

I’m pleased to tell you that at the Harvard Business School today, more than 40% of the incoming class has a liberal arts education—and nearly 40% are women. And back at Scripps College, this year, eight amazing young women were awarded Fulbright grants.

My Fulbright year made an indelible impression on me. I will be forever grateful for it. I accept this award with humility and deep appreciation and a commitment to continue bringing creativity and sound judgment to the business world.
Anne Harvey Named Swedish American of the Year

There have been many notable Swedish Americans—Ingrid Bergman, Greta Garbo, Carl Sandburg, Ray Bradbury, Buzz Aldrin, Earl Warren, and, yes, Mamie Eisenhower—to list just a few.

Now, Anne Hanes Harvey ‘62 has been named Swedish American of the Year 2009, by the two Scandinavian radio program and, for six years, Project. Harvey produced and hosted a weekly program and record albums, and was one of the founding members of the Olle i Skratthult Association. Harvey is the 50th person to earn the distinction.

Harvey, professor emerita of theater arts at San Diego State University, grew up in Old Town in Stockholm. After Swedish studentexamen in 1959, Harvey studied art history at the University of Stockholm and at Scripps, where she met her future husband, Michael Harvey.

Harvey continued her studies at the University of Minnesota, earning a master’s degree in theatre arts and Scandinavian literature, and a PhD in theatre arts.

She researched the popular culture of the Swedish immigrants, documenting and presenting it in articles, on stage, in TV programs and record albums, and was one of the founding members of the Olle i Skratthult Project. Harvey produced and hosted a weekly Scandinavian radio program and, for six years, was the headliner at the Snoose Boulevard Festival concerts in Minneapolis.

Throughout the years, Harvey has presented singing tours and lectures on Swedish-American and Scandinavian-American themes.

Grattis!

68 Ellen Lockert (Bainbridge Island, WA) We just sold our second successful publishing business. We’re thinking the next business will focus on sustainability and behavior change. My goal is to make money, do good, and have fun. We’ll be splitting our time between Bainbridge and Palm Springs, beginning November 2009, and hope to see more of my California friends. I’m looking for other Scripps entrepreneurs for conversation and inspiration. Let’s help each other thrive!

69 Ellen Rumsey Bellenot (Tallahassee, FL) I’m playing with polymer clay and art sewing. It’s great fun. Thank heaven that Steve considers me an affordable luxury. My daughter, Elizabeth, chose a women’s college too, but went to Wellesley. Judith Davies (Santa Monica, CA) I’m teaching 3-D design at Mt. San Antonio College, and still doing my sculpture and sculpture conservation; I recently worked on conserving Aldo Casanova’s bronzes at the Keck Science Center. I’m combining dance, sculpture, and video these days. In December 2008, we did a dance performance with video at Pomona [College] and an Afro-Cuban piece concerning Chango, deity of fire. We take trips to Cuba yearly. Ann Woodson Laffin (Hillsboro, OR) I’m a grandma! My daughter, Kimberly Swank, and husband, Mark, had a son, Aaron Mathes, born on September 1, 2008. We are overjoyed!

69 Judith Davies I recently worked on conserving Aldo Casanova’s bronzes at the Joint Science Center.

66 Jeanne Du Prau (Menlo Park, CA) One of my books, The City of Ember, was made into a movie, released in October 2008.

Melissa Whittemore Clifford (Rancho Palos Verdes, CA) Please write an article about the passing of Sam Maloof and his connections to Scripps College through his first wife, and how she inspired him to become such an extraordinary artist. [See p. 10]

73 Jennifer Gilchrist (Evanston, IL) I returned to Claremont, as my daughter is attending Pomona this fall. I’ve left the world of psychotherapy to fundraise for my favorite local organization—Chicago Botanic Garden. I did lots of horticulture in my own garden this spring. Mary McPartland Nunan (Rolling Hills Estates, CA) Terry (PO ’71) continues to work as a lawyer in L.A., specializing in probate and trust litigation. Our older son, Tim, graduated from Princeton in June 2008 and is currently studying in Göttingen, Germany, on a Fulbright scholarship. Next year, he will move to Oxford for what promises to be two exciting years as a Rhodes Scholar. Meanwhile, I am on the go with our younger son, Patrick, who attends a school in the San Fernando Valley, an hour from our home. I was very sorry to have been unable to attend our 35th reunion.

74 Barbara Wachsman (Pasadena, CA) After 20 years working for large consulting firms, I moved over to the corporate side, and am now director of strategy and program development for Global Employee Benefits. I am still “commuting” with my husband, Andrew Oksner, between Tokyo and Pasadena.

Cynthia “Cid” Collins Walker (Laurel, MD) My production company, Black Opal Productions, is in development with its first broadcast-length documentary film, Arc of Light, about the life and work of American artist Anna Campbell Bliss.

75 Janet Gross (Brooklyn, NY) My daughter Genny was married in San Francisco in April of this year. Katie was in an art show in Manhattan, and Adam is finishing high school in three years.
Susan Fallows Tierney '73

Susan Fallows Tierney ’73, Scripps College Distinguished Alumna in 1998 and a leading expert in the fields of energy, regulation, and economics, has joined the board of directors at Ze-gen, Inc., a clean-energy company developing advanced gasification technology to convert waste streams into synthesis gas.

Tierney was the former assistant secretary for policy at the U.S. Department of Energy, appointed by President Clinton, and also served as the secretary for environmental affairs in Massachusetts. Recently, she co-led the Obama/Biden Transition’s Department of Energy Agency Review Team.

Tierney currently serves on a number of boards and advisory committees, including the National Commission on Energy Policy.

Sheri Zumwalt Freemuth '82

Thirty years ago, Sheri Zumwalt Freemuth’s interest in historic resources was fostered while a student on the beautiful Scripps campus, listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Now, Freemuth has the opportunity to combine her professional skills with her long-held interest as program officer for The National Trust for Historic Preservation, in its Boise office. Freemuth will provide direct technical assistance, advice, expertise in advocacy, and access to National Trust for Historic Preservation programs to grassroots activists, local partners and governments, preservation organizations, and community groups in the states they serve. She will also help educate citizens and public officials about the economic and environmental benefits of historic preservation.

After graduating from Scripps, Freemuth earned a master’s in city planning at San Diego State University. She worked in Idaho for more than 20 years, most recently as senior environmental planner for Science Applications International Corp.

My boys just graduated from 10th and 8th grades—college is on the horizon! We traveled to Grand Teton National Park this summer. Priscilla Brewster (St. Paul, MN) I am completing a 10-year board term at Gunston Hall, Mason Neck, Virginia, four of which have been as First Regent. I am also president of the board of the Saint Paul Parks Conservancy, a new non-profit established to improve parks and recreational opportunities in the city of St. Paul.

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New Vision for an Old Practice

Elizabeth Randall Turk ’83 transforms 400-lb. blocks of marble into fantastic and improbable shapes. Her intricate and delicate collars, pinwheels, and ribbons illustrate the tension between the inherent strength and fragility of the stone.

As artist-in-residence at the Lux Art Institute in San Diego, Turk opened its season on September 10, 2009. Turk, master of a variety of media, currently embraces and brings new vision to the classical practice of stone carving. Her exhibit at Lux features numerous examples of sculpture as well as works on paper. While in residence until October 3, Turk will be carving a sculpture for her “Collars” series. Her works will remain on exhibit through October 31, 2009.

Scripps College’s Ruth Chandler Williamson Gallery acquired some of Turk’s drawings for its permanent collection, a gift of Mr. and Mrs. Robbins, in 2007. The drawings, vertebral and plantlike designs in graphite on vellum, complement her collar sculptures. “Untitled #1,” a drawing from the collection, hangs in the Alexa Fullerton Hampton Room of Malott Commons, providing the Scripps community with a visual taste of Turk’s delicately monumental work.

Turk’s art has been exhibited at Hirschl & Adler Modern, New York; Mint Museum of Art, Charlotte, North Carolina; Santa Barbara Contemporary Arts Forum, California; and Ben Maltz Gallery at the Otis College of Art and Design, Los Angeles. They are also featured in such collections as the Corcoran Gallery of Art and the National Museum for Women in the Arts, in Washington, DC.

‘80 Katrina Breylinger Stark
(Great Falls, MT) I have come full circle academically—I have a doctorate and am the dean of graduate studies and professor of business at the University of Great Falls. I love it!

‘81 Margo Cohen McKinnon
(Burlingame, CA) I’ve seen many Scripps friends this year as we celebrate a big birthday. I saw Maggie Latimer and her family on a recent visit to Claremont for a college visit with my daughter, Rebecca.

‘83 Athene Mitchell Garfield
(Henderson, NV) The hotel business is a whole new game, but I am happy to be in the game! James turned 19—he is a freshman at San Diego State—and is thriving in his new environment. I have a bit more time on my hands, but am never “not busy.” I love to take walks and work on projects put aside for a while. I hope everyone is okay in these uncertain times. Patricia “Pat” Pickett
(Los Angeles, CA) I had a solo exhibition at the Open Gallery in Los Angeles, (February 21-March 21, 2009), “A Set of Circumstances.” Drawings were made by Wind and Trees (2002-09). I presented work at CAA (Creative Artists Agency), including a poster I made for the International Scientific Convention on Wind and Trees, 2007, Vancouver, B.C.

‘85 Carol Barksdale Gould
I love the challenge of students six to 66 years old.

Advertising Pro Inspires Others

When Rebecca Williams ’83 was a girl, she observed that her friend’s father had really great markers on his work desk. She recalls thinking that “any job that allows you to have such great markers must be really cool.”

Now, as senior vice president/executive creative officer at Uniworld Group Inc., Williams has a cool job, too. After graduating from Scripps College with a bachelor’s degree in English, Williams started her advertising career at Uniworld in 1986. She has been involved in advertising for AT&T, Burger King, Pillsbury and Walt Disney World.

During forays away from Uniworld, Williams helped start Rush Media, where she created a campaign of energetic new urban spots for the Coca-Cola Co. As creative director at Spike/DBB, Williams worked on projects for Fox Sports and Soft Sheen Products. She subsequently opened Hot Sauce, a boutique advertising agency that was instrumental in re-launching Soft Sheen’s Dark & Lovely hair colors and in creating a campaign for Bally Total Fitness.

The main thing she learned from all these experiences, she says, is that “with particular insights, you can talk with many people, regardless of race or gender.”

Williams concedes that at times her family has to take a back seat to her work. “It has been difficult,” says the wife, and mother of four. “It is almost harder now that the kids are older because I feel guilty about the things that I miss.”

At the same time, Williams recognizes that she has the opportunity to impact the lives of others. “It is really rewarding to be able to inspire people to say ‘you know what? I can do that, too!’”

Indeed, she is looking forward to being even more involved in mentoring and inspiring younger people. “After all these years of working, I am finally scratching the surface of being able to give back,” she declares. “Now I feel like I am really ready for service.”
While the attendance and participation at our years now—come join us for the fun! Corinne, is a junior in high school. I am who was such a good sport! whom did attend had a great time. Everyone else—it was great seeing all of you. always open to visitors. I am looking forward to meeting Catherine Dutcher McLandress in Greece, which we decided was halfway between Saudi Arabia and Germany. Krista

(2009, Graham Conrad) Our bellybar offices are in Hawaii, and we had our second child, Krista Head McKenna (Eagle, ID) Our bike shop is going like gang busters! Christian graduated from high school last year. Malachy will start 6th grade, and Grace will start 4th this fall. If anyone is traveling through the Boise area, I’d love to see you.

1998! 

'm really enjoying time with my kids, Sarah (11), Samantha (7), and Joshua (15).

I am a public school science and math teacher and swam for Scripps in 1982-83. I finally graduated in 1998! And I did study fish!

Eric and I had our second child, Nicola Mara, on March 5. Our son, Marsden, is two-and-a-half years old. I’m still working in advertising, but am enjoying maternity leave. While the attendance and participation at our joint reunion was very disappointing, those who did attend had a great time. A special thanks to Shawn, Cynthia Hasson’s husband, who was such a good sport! And thanks to everyone else—it was great seeing all of you.

We are living in Germany again. Our home is always open to visitors. I am looking forward to meeting Catherine Dutcher McLandress in Greece, which we decided was halfway between Saudi Arabia and Germany.

Anne Matthias Torza (APO, AE)

Leslie Sagalowicz Barber (Menlo Park, CA) After starting Bellybar [a company that produces nutritional bars for pregnant women] a few years back, I married Steve Barber on April 7, 2007, in Hawaii, and we had Emily on July 4, 2008. Our Bellybar offices are in San Mateo.

Gauntlet

In the gauntlet
I have seen them all,
Slender arms,
Pale to the sun,
Bent fingers,
Not with writer’s cramp
Nor bent with carpel tunnel
But bent on capturing
Revenue stream.
Power the engine,
Oil the institution,
Non-profits have their place,
Visioning and then revisioning
The long-dead founder’s dreams.
May they sleep undisturbed,
Their visions cast as by fishermen on a pier,
Bending back and casting,
The hook, line and sinker,
Into a match-my-vision sea,
To catch a dream.
Til some day,
A bright young girl,
Fueled by my donation,
Grows wiser, richer, older,
Stopping by the pump,
One last time,
To add more fuel,
And more mileage,
Into this splendid vehicle

By David C. Sands, professor of plant pathology, Montana State University; son of Marie McSpadden Sands ’34, and father of Claire Sands Baker ’93.
2009 summer law clerk with Texas Civil Rights Project (TCRP)

Kristen Gonzales ’07 put her summer break from law school to good use as a law clerk with the Texas Civil Rights Project (TCRP). Gonzales is a third-year student at Thomas Jefferson School of Law in San Diego and has her BA in music from Scripps.

“My original intent in attending law school was to pursue a career in the entertainment industry,” she said. “I spent the summer after my first year of law school providing assistance to the business affairs/legal department at a small entertainment/distribution company. I am very excited to be spending my summer with South Texas Civil Rights Project, as I feel strongly about providing tangible assistance to those who may otherwise be unaware of their civil rights, and also look forward to expanding my advocacy abilities and experience in different areas of law.”

TCRP relies heavily on the assistance of law clerks—for either semester-long or summer-long clerkships, or both. Students do client intake, interviews, and in-field investigation. They also draft discovery, pleadings, briefs, and assist at trials. Internship credit is available with the student’s university or college.
anniversary on May 10, 2009. We were wed in Alexandria, Virginia, with Michelle Kwok '98, Lauren Smith, Felicia Ortiz '02, Elizabeth Znameroski '02, Sarah Nelson, and Mathew Douglass (PO '99) in attendance.

‘02 Dominique Chitiea Cantwell (Poulsbo, WA) I thought you might get a kick out of this picture (see below). First, she grabbed Camus, then Kerouac, then Mill; she’s clearly getting an early start on her Core I reading. Evelyn (class of ’27?) says “hi!” In other news, our son, Rex, was born on March 13; perhaps we’ll have two fourth generation Claremont graduates someday!

‘03 Kelly Knight (Oakland, CA) In the last year, I moved from New York to the Bay Area, got a new job in brand marketing, bought a house, and got married. Change is good, but I’m missing the NYC Scripps book club.

‘00 Vaidehi Campbell (Santa Cruz, CA) I gave birth to my first baby on December 5, 2008. It’s a boy! Makawi Kai Williams was born a month early, happy, and healthy. My husband, Sarma, and I are loving being parents and learning “baby language.” Heather Collins Roe (Los Angeles, CA) I recently married Travis Roe in Colorado in a small family ceremony. I continue to live and work in Los Angeles while he serves in the military. Abigail Ley (Carmel, IN) was awarded a 2009 Indiana University School of Medicine research grant for summer study in clinics in Ecuador. Ley was a 2001 Fulbright Scholar to India, and was the 2002 Jungels-Winkler Foundation Fellow to the Courtauld Institute in London. She is currently a second-year medical student at Indiana University School of Medicine.

‘01 Julia Baumann (Portland, OR) Asa Sarver and I are “hobby farming” this year and raising poultry and produce to sustain ourselves. I’ve also started my own health and wellness coaching practice.

‘04 Caroline Johnson (Chapel Hill, NC) I recently got married in Malibu, California, on October 19, 2008. My husband, Matthew Priselac, is a 2004 CMC grad.

‘07 Sarah Holden (Boulder, CO) Graham Chamness and I got married in May after seven years, and it truly was the best day of my life! We were both received into the Eastern Catholic Church in April and were married during the Divine Liturgy. I designed and made my own wedding dress; I also installed my senior art project in the yard where we had the reception. Jessica Pottle ’08, Christine DuBois ’08, Krystyna Wamboldt (PO ’07), and my brothers Matt Holden (PO ’04) and Sam Holden (PO ’12) were all present. I have been working in theatrical costuming at the Denver Center Theater, Opera Colorado, and the Santa Fe Opera. Danielle M. LeFevre (Los Altos, CA) I received an MFA in creative writing from Chapman University, earning a 4.0 GPA. I served as secretary of the local chapter of Sigma Tau Delta international English honor society and was selected to read two of my short stories at their annual convention in Minneapolis. I was also inducted into Gamma Beta Phi society, a national honor and service organization.

‘08 Sara Jane Gershfeld (Pomona, CA) Alex Cohen (PO ’08) and I were married on June 7, 2009, in Beverly Hills. Our bridal party included our siblings and closest friends, including Julia Kramer, Christopher Pong (HMC ’08), and Jacob Ziemann (PO ’08). Also in attendance were our other close friends from the 5Cs: Sabrina Arora and Elizabeth Obreza Hurst. I am currently working on my PhD in developmental psychology at CGU. Alex works as a business analyst for Deloitte & Touche and is applying to law school in the fall. We love being near Claremont.

Margaret McClintic (Indianapolis, IN) After teaching English in China for four months following graduation, I moved to Indianapolis to live with my boyfriend. I am planning to return to China in the next year to improve my Chinese.
Outstanding Young Women Wanted!

If you know an outstanding young woman applying to college, encourage her to investigate Scripps. As an added incentive, present her with the certificate below—a waiver of the $60 application fee.

Applications for the Class of 2014 are due November 1, 2009, for Early Decision I; January 1, 2010, for Early Decision II; January 1, 2010, for Regular Decision. Other deadlines are as follows: Scholarship deadline: November 1, 2009; Midyear Admission deadline: November 1, 2009; Fall Transfer deadline: April 1, 2010.

SCRIPPS COLLEGE
APPLICATION FEE WAIVER
This certificate entitles the applicant named below to a waiver of the $60 application fee.

NAME OF APPLICANT

ALUMNA’S NAME AND CLASS YEAR

ALUMNA’S ADDRESS

Angelique “Lilly” McGuire ’04, on her wedding day in Bristol, Indiana, on May 10, 2008, with her husband, Sam, and Scripps friends. Pictured, from left, top row, are Connie McMahon ’04, Sam, and Jacob Ziemann (PO ’08); second row, from left, are Chris Pong (HMC ’08), and Jill Delsigne ’04; bottom row, from left, are Khalia Cole ’03, Pandwe Gibson ’04, Lilly, and Emi Saito ’04.

Sara Jane Gershfeld ’08 and Alex Cohen (PO ’08), on their wedding day, June 7, 2009, in Beverly Hills, California. The bridal party includes their siblings and closest friends: from left, Nathan Gershfeld, Nathalie Neches, Michael Raanan, Hanna Raanan, Sara, Alex, Julia Kramer ’08, Chris Pong (HMC ’08), and Jacob Ziemann (PO ’08). “Alex actually proposed to me in Margaret Fowler Garden,” said Sara. “Thanks to the colleges for bringing us together!”

Chavienne “Chenney” Gruber ’00 married Nicholas Chope on an unseasonably warm November 1, 2008, in Minneapolis, Minn., at the Mill City Museum, formerly an old flour mill on the Mississippi River destroyed by fire in 1991. Chenney reports that Nick proposed under the nearby Stone Arch Bridge, which was used to bring grain to the mills, and is now a bicycle path frequented by the couple, who live only a few miles away.

From left, Ivy Grey ’01, Karla Brustad, Sarah Nelson ’99, Chenney, Heidi DeCoux, Jessica Heaton ’01, and Samantha Crosby; Kendra Kern Ohlson ’00 (not pictured) was also in the wedding party.

Ruth Pisingan ’03 and her husband, Marco Palmeri, on their wedding day, June 27, 2009, in San Mateo, California; pictured with the couple are Class of 2003 friends: from left, Janice Chou, Becky Tsai, Lindsay Fendrich, and Jennifer Sala.

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Hope is in Listening

Alina Shaw ’07

As the taxi winds up through the labyrinth of brick homes that fit together like puzzle pieces perched on the hillsides surrounding Medellín, Colombia, I am startled by the dramatic impoverished living conditions. Although the city has carried out incredible social and economic programs to overcome stereotypes of drug lords and kidnappings, a drive through the barrios populares confirms that the money funneled into public programs like a new Metro and public libraries has not improved the dire conditions in which a large segment of the local population barely subsists.

Eventually, the paved road ends, and I get out at a compacted dirt soccer field. Continuing into the Caña Negra settlement on foot, I pass houses standing precariously on tree trunk stillets and young boys throwing rocks at each other. The yoke of poverty confronts me at every turn. Uniformed schoolchildren greet me at a school, and they lead me to a small room overlooking the muddy river where I will participate in a health brigade. A doctor, nurse, and two community health planners from Profamilia, the local counterpart of Planned Parenthood, are organizing a portable hospital bed, boxes of medication, and processing stations to attend to the patients already lined up against the wall. I am ready to work.

Urban settlements like Caña Negra contain floods of displaced people forced from their homes in response to violence targeted against them by armed groups. Colombia has the second largest population of internally displaced peoples in the world after Sudan—an estimated 3.5 million people, or 7.8% of the overall population. They are staggering figures. As a Rotary Ambassadorial research scholar studying public health at the Universidad de Antioquia, my main academic focus and volunteer initiative is to improve access to maternal healthcare for pregnant, displaced women. But I’m also here to listen.

Today, I walk down the line of women waiting to be attended and hear their stories. One mother tells me how she has been displaced for two years and is pregnant with her fourth child. She wears threadbare clothes, and a tired expression belies her optimism as she explains her hopeful search for a job. Another woman tells me she has not been able to attend any prenatal visits because she cannot afford the bus fare to the clinic and is worried that something might be wrong with her unborn baby. These women do not have access to healthcare or family planning methods, so Profamilia distributes cards that will enable them to see an obstetrician in a nearby clinic, hands out condoms or birth control pills, and leads informational sessions on reproductive health.

While conducting my research in Caña Negra and
shelters for displaced Colombians, I am consistently dismayed by the expansive trickle-down effect that the armed conflict has on Colombia’s poor. These women, my informants, share their accounts of fathers and husbands who are kidnapped and taken to fight in the paramilitary or guerrilla, leaving families torn apart by wartime violence. They tell me that they feel like they are drowning in their sorrows. The psychological impact of surviving such traumatic experiences has created alarming public health problems among women and children, in addition to the increasing maternal mortality rates.

As I listen to these women unburden themselves of their agonizing stories, I hope what I accomplish can be just as productive as the promised cure of a doctor’s antibiotics. I believe my listening pulls them up out of the oppressive pain so they can breathe again.

I feel that the root of the Colombian problem lies in a collective history of suffering, causing an angry cultural undertow that is a potent catalyst for perpetual violence. After understanding the needs of these displaced women, I can dedicate my time, resources, and fruits of a Scripps education to improve their access to basic healthcare and ensure that their children will have a better future. I hope that by diminishing structural inequalities, Colombia’s young generations will be less likely to propagate the violence ravaging their country.

From the schoolroom window, I have an excellent view of the city nestled into the Andean valley below, and the startling natural beauty inspires in me the hopefulness for peace. Medellin is ready for change.

Alina returned to the United States this summer to work in international health and give Rotary presentations across the country for a year; she then hopes to pursue a doctorate in medical anthropology.
Scripps Welcomes SCA Alumnae to Class of 2013

The Scripps College Academy (SCA) promotes higher education and academic excellence among young women in Los Angeles and the Inland Empire through an extensive college preparation program for students in grades 7-12. This fall, the College welcomed five SCA participants into the class of 2013. Since 2005, 18 SCA alumnae have enrolled at The Claremont Colleges, including 14 at Scripps.

From left, SCA alumnae Anna-Marie Wood, from Warren High School; Jessica Baker, Upland High School; Amy Tran, Montclair High School; Lyanne Dominguez, Montclair High School; Jasmine Johnson, King Drew Medical High School.

For more information about the Scripps College Academy, please visit www.scrippscollege.edu/academy