“My Ever Present Past”*

My mother-in-law sits at my breakfast table, nestled at the end of my avocado and mustard galley-shaped kitchen. I cook up a plate of over-easy eggs on lightly buttered toast and serve it to her with a cup of Taster’s Choice coffee, the house favorite. It is 1973.

I finish the morning’s rituals: iron my husband’s shirt, pack lunches for two pre-teens, check backpacks, and wave goodbyes. Now, it’s time for conversation with a woman I admire.

Taking a sip of coffee, the mother of my husband looks out the east window, with mid-morning light streaming into the room, and notices, I hope, the family silver mugs I recently polished on the glass shelves.

I expect compliments. “Looks like someone tried to clean the windows,” she pronounces, seeing not the shine of silver but the streaks of neglected glass. I wince. Caught again in my attempt to do it all, and failing.

Then, I laugh, because the journalist in me knows I have a telling anecdote. She is from a different age, having had a full-time job raising two sons; I am a mother working outside the home trying to balance multiple demands. My choices don’t always result in sparkling windows.

Yet, the comment stings. Why is this my “failing”? Why does what I value—only a little shining vanity in the midst of controlled chaos—pale beside her expectation of a perfectly ordered, well-maintained home?

Perhaps, it is because I was raised in the ’50s, when many mothers didn’t work, and when roles seemed natural and easy. When most women were expected to simply maintain a sparkling home, with happy children and satisfied husbands.

Then, I married in the ’60s and had children, and also wanted to find a place for myself in the outside world.

I wanted compromise between the way I had been raised and what I knew was possible—and found this hard to come by. The marriage produced two great kids and a struggle, but no solution in the balance of work and family. I still cooked and cleaned 100%, and oversaw the children; he brought in most of the money to maintain the household, and mowed the lawn. We divorced in 1987, when the children had left home.

Now, 20-plus years later, I look at the problems women, and men, face today in balancing work and family. There are many unanswered questions. Or have we just created new questions with expanded expectations?

I’d like to be optimistic, but await more answers from new generations.


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The Balancing Act

How are Scripps women coping with work and family in today’s world? Are men becoming more involved fathers and “helpers” at home? And what are students learning about balancing family and career?

The Psychology of Work and Family

A look inside a Scripps College classroom

BY MARY SHIPP BARTLETT

The Motherhood Mystique is Alive and Well

Illuminating new research by Scripps Professors Judith LeMaster and Amy Marcus-Newhall and Cal Poly Professor Bettina Casad

What’s a Mother to Do?

Members of the Scripps community share their stories

BY MARY SHIPP BARTLETT
If our founder, Ellen Browning Scripps, were alive today, I believe she would appreciate the ways in which Scripps College has progressed over time to address the challenging needs of women.

The theme of this issue of Scripps Magazine has me thinking about when I became a mother, and the demanding days and nights juggling three children and working toward my career in higher education. While my path was made easier by the trailblazing working mothers who came before me, and who had much more difficult societal barriers to cross than I, it is still a challenge for mothers to raise their children while having a job outside the home. Support systems are essential, but even with ample support (and my family provided some of the best), many women wrestle with the question of whether or not they should stay at home or go to work.

How, then, did the first women trustees at Scripps College struggle with balancing careers and family in a time when few opted for that course?

Scripps College was founded just after World War I when women were beginning to successfully challenge the norms of society. Women had had the right to vote for less than a decade; only a handful of women’s colleges existed; and Ellen Browning Scripps was one of a small but growing group of extremely successful and powerful woman in business and philanthropy.

In those early days, Scripps College was designed as an experiment in women’s education. Already established women’s colleges were structured on the premise that their curricula should be identical in structure to that at respected men’s institutions. Yet, Scripps College took a philosophically different approach, embracing the inherent differences in a women-only learning environment.

Indeed, the inspiration for the experiment was Ellen Browning Scripps, who had definite ideas about the purpose of education from her own college and life experiences. But it was the first Scripps College Board of Trustees—half of which was women—that pragmatically assumed women of their day ultimately needed to be prepared to balance both work and family. The faculty then designed a curriculum that emphasized critical thinking in an open and supportive community as the best preparation for life. As a result, a Scripps College woman could obtain the “fullest and richest life...as well as the chance to give to society her greatest contribution.”

Since Scripps’ founding in 1926, women’s political, social, and economic standing has evolved—society no longer assumes a woman must have children to be successful, although the debate about the impact of working mothers on society is still vociferous and, unfortunately, divisive.

Women have careers that would have been unimaginable 50 years ago. And, as we continue to wrestle with the issues of gender, Scripps College remains a place where women challenge assumptions, explore their options, and make choices about how they might contribute to society and be leaders in their communities.

What the original trustees and faculty of the College envisioned as an environment where women would come together in a unique, supportive community through a curriculum devoted to knowledge and understanding continues to be realized today. Scripps College encourages women to achieve their dreams as they define them, not as they are defined by others.

I know that each and every Scripps College woman leaves our campus better equipped to face the challenges of the 21st century, and to decide how she intends to live out her own vision of the work/life balance.

PRESIDENT LORI BETTISON-VARGA
Please join the Scripps College community on Friday and Saturday, March 26 and 27, 2010, for inaugural activities for the eighth president of Scripps College, Lori Bettison-Varga. Go to www.scrippscollege.edu/inauguration for details and to register for events.

Inspired by our seal, La Semeuse, she who sows the seeds of thought, action, and life, the emblem of our new president’s inaugural year joins eight seeds, one for each president of Scripps College since its founding in 1926. Together, these seeds assert the potential and fruition of the genius of women educated at Scripps College. “Here begins new life,” states our motto, Incipit Vita Nova—new life for each of our students and for the world they will lead and transform. As we herald a new era in Scripps College leadership, our inaugural emblem celebrates the genius of women and this great college’s ability to nurture it.

The inaugural year has been marked by appearances and performances of several outstanding women of accomplishment. Below are three such women: from left, Maestra Ziaoying Zheng, artistic director and chief conductor, led the Xiamen Philharmonic Orchestra, in Garrison Theater, October 9; Elizabeth Gilbert, bestselling author of Eat, Pray, Love, who spoke on September 23; and Farai Chideya, author, sociopolitical pundit, and founder of PopandPolitics.com, at Scripps College on January 26, 2010. Visit the Inauguration website (see above url) regularly for further special events this year.
This fall, Scripps College welcomed 10 dynamic and accomplished scholars-teachers to open positions on the faculty. Student photographer-reporter Alexis Vaughn ’10 asked them to comment on their experiences so far—and photographed several at their favorite spots on campus.

**Adam Davis**, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF ART. BS, UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN, MADISON; MFA, UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA. "Being a professional artist requires you to balance a minimum of three full-time jobs: making art, marketing yourself, and making a living. Luckily, I teach at a great institution, which, in addition to offering a stimulating and rewarding work environment, affords me the time and resources to strike that difficult balance."

**Latika Chaudhary**, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF ECONOMICS. BA, UC BERKELEY; PhD, UCLA. "What has surprised me about teaching here is that the students are always willing to take on so much. I can assign cutting-edge, graduate-level readings, and they will always give it a shot. They are well prepared and excellent at participating in class.

Favorite spot on campus: “I love the whole campus, but Margaret Fowler Garden is my favorite.”

**Sean Flynn**, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF ECONOMICS. BA, MA, USC; PhD, UC BERKELEY. "I like the broadminded, curious humility of the Scripps student body—a group that wants answers, but knows they may be elusive, and that knows finding most answers takes a lot of hard work.

“My favorite spot at Scripps comes with a favorite moment in time. It is facing downhill standing on the concrete walkway that runs through Jaqua Quadrangle while the citrus trees are in blossom. The view is lovely and the air redolent of a hundred years of soft spring evenings. Even better, one can turn around and—still smelling the blossoms—gaze up at the mountains and a million years of snow-capped winters.”

**Ann Harley**, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF MUSIC. BA, YALE; MA, DMA, BOSTON UNIVERSITY. "The students are extremely intelligent, well-spoken, and poised to make a positive contribution to the world. Also, there is a personal touch to many interactions that one doesn’t find at every college. Everyone knows your name—and your dog’s name.”

Favorite spot on campus: “Anywhere the sun is shining—almost everywhere and every day!"

**Andrew Jacobs**, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF RELIGIOUS STUDIES. AB, BROWN; MA, PhD, DUKE UNIVERSITY. "I am delighted by the quality of the students—confident, articulate, and prepared. It’s really the best teaching situation an academic can hope for.

“Since my office is in Steele, and I’m teaching in humanities this semester, I have this fantastic walk I’ve really come to enjoy—going through Honnold Gate, rounding the corner and passing that amazing double wooden door on Denison Library, and getting that cross shot of the campus—across to the Field House, down to Malott, along Balch. That daily reenounter with the campus is just amazing.”

**France D. Lemoine**, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF FRENCH. MA, UCLA; PhD, UC BERKELEY. "The combination of intellect, humor, wit, and warmth which characterizes [both students and professors] has impressed me and made my first semester at Scripps astonishing.

“I love the stained-glass window in the Malott dining room through which
I do. I only wish I had asked them to share this knowledge with me before Thanksgiving.

“I spend a lot of time in Margaret Fowler Garden… mainly because it’s such a serene little spot. Most times, I’m the only one there, so I’ve started to feel almost as if it’s my own private space!”

**Sabrina Ovan**, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF ITALIAN. MA, PHD, USC.

“The students are what delight me the most. Since Italian is only offered at Scripps, it is common to have all the five colleges represented in my classes: it is always an interesting and lively environment. I find myself laughing to tears in class because of some clever and funny activity or presentation by my students.

“The pool at the Tiernan Field House is my favorite.”

**Robert Pedace**, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF ECONOMICS. BA, CAL STATE SAN BERNARDINO; MA, PHD, UC RIVERSIDE.

“I love working out at the beautiful field house and have been absolutely delighted by my students’ studious nature. They work really hard, turn everything in on time, and have been super welcoming of me. I also try to balance a home life—I love to spend time playing soccer with my kids.”

**Carmen Sanjuán-Pastor**, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF HISPANIC STUDIES. BA, MA, ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY; PHD, STANFORD.

“I enjoy seeing students pause on the campus paths to talk with each other—perhaps on their way to class, or a film festival in the Humanities building. As junior faculty, I particularly appreciate how involved everyone is—students, faculty, and the administration—in this common project; and how committed the College is in providing all community members with opportunities to pursue their interests in and out of class. The energy is so contagious here! Also, because people are open to new ideas and to interdisciplinary exchange, it is exciting to start thinking of possible collaborations with other faculty.”

**Gayle Greene**’s book Insomniac was on the shortlist for the nationally recognized Gregory Batson Book Prize through the Society for Cultural Anthropology.


**Charles Kamm**’s article, “Modernism and Byzantine Influence in Rautavaara’s Vigilia,” has been published by the Choral Journal.


**Elise Magistro**’s translation of historian Alessandro Dal Lago’s Fludi Feretri (Watery Graves), a polemic piece on European immigration, appears in the journal California Italian Studies, part of UC Berkeley’s e-Scholarship Repository.


Above, members of the faculty gather outside Garrison Theater before fall Convocation.
The walk from Clark Hall to Malott Commons became a stroll down memory lane in 2009 thanks to restoration efforts honoring the historic nature of Scripps College’s landscape and architecture and the generous support of trustee Gloria Holden and her husband, Ambassador Glen Holden.

Three courts—Sicilian, Iris, and Valencia—have undergone extensive renovations as part of a larger plan to recapture the spirit of original designers Gordon Kaufman and Edward Huntsman-Trout. For many, it is a fresh look at a familiar space; for others, it is like looking back in time.

Originally conceived as an outdoor amphitheatre and classroom, Sicilian Court’s location, south of Denison Library, made it (and adjoining Iris Court) a popular destination for socialization and study among early Scripps students. And that’s by design: Huntsman-Trout believed such patios were at the very essence of Scripps’ unique Mediterranean landscape, a “happy marriage of outdoors” providing “a richness of tracery in green leaf and shadow.”

As the College expanded, change crept into its landscape both naturally and architecturally; Iris Court was halved by the construction of the (now) Ellen Browning Scripps Reading Room, and Valencia Court was surrounded by the North Wing of Denison Library. Oaks grew, cypress trees were removed, and junipers added.

But the biggest change came in 1980 when Scripps commissioned a new design for Sicilian Court. Planned by landscape architect Mark Von Wodtke, the new courtyard did away with the old so completely, even the name was changed to Bette Cree Edwards Court. To signal this transformation, the Venetian wellhead giving Sicilian Court its name was moved to Valencia Court.

The movement to bring these open spaces back to their original intent and design began in 2004, when the College completed a landscape and architectural blueprint funded by the Getty Foundation. The report championed a return to form, with work officially beginning in January 2006. Landscape architect Ann Christoph worked in concert with landscape historian David Streatfield and Huntsman-Trout’s original drawings to do their very best in making old new again.

The end result is spectacular in its attention to detail: flagstone paving flows from Sicilian to Iris Court, which provides a quiet place for reflection and beauty. Flora for both courts once again creates landscapes of contrast and shadow. The wellhead is back in its original location at Scripps.

The job is not finished. There are more plans for Valencia Court; look for changes there and outside Denison Library, as renovation efforts begin for those spaces in the coming decade.

Ellen Browning Scripps famously said, “I am thinking of a college campus whose simplicity and beauty will unobtrusively seep into the student’s consciousness and quietly develop a standard of taste and judgment.” With the return of the original design and beauty of Sicilian Court now a part of campus life, these words increasingly ring true. — Matt Hutaff
New Art Conservation Major

Scripps College now offers the only undergraduate art conservation major on the West Coast, one of five such programs in the United States. This interdisciplinary major gives students the tools and experiences necessary for admission into rigorous graduate programs in art conservation.

This fall, McKenzie Floyd ’12 became the first Scripps student to declare art conservation as her major. She said that if not for the new major, her two passions—art and chemistry—may never have met full on. “I have achieved a happy medium between the left and right sides of my brain, and am now embarking on a scientific, aesthetic, and fascinating path of study,” she said.

Students in art conservation prepare for internships at the Ruth Chandler Williamson Gallery, enroll in conservation courses in off-campus study programs, and build a portfolio of practical experience.

The major engages faculty members across disciplines—in organic chemistry, studio art, and art history—and combines existing courses offered at Scripps and other Claremont Colleges.

Above: A group of Scripps College seniors dip their corsages in the Sicilian Court well-head, June 1950. The photographer was from Life Magazine, which featured a “romantic graduation” at Scripps in its June 26, 1950, issue, with eight photos, although this particular photo was not used. According to Carolyn Groves Lindberg ’50, at far left, “Supposedly, we were using the wishing well for luck in marriage, wearing our prom dresses—never a tradition before or since.” Also in the photo: third from right, Patti Lear ’50, and second from right, Nancy DePaolo Richards ’50; others are unidentified at present.

Below: Scripps women mimic the original photograph, following the renovation of Sicilian Court, fall 2009. From left, sophomores Kelly Boyd, Katie Shackelford, Laura Passarelli, Michelle No, Emma Jaffe, and Kristina Hennig.

McKenzie Floyd, the first declared art conservation major at Scripps College, is working with conservator Donna Williams on a 15th-century wooden stature of St. Michael, shown here.
The Genius of Women in Science

Each year, Scripps College undergraduates in the Joint Science Department participate in important publishable research in collaboration with faculty.

Sara Dawit ’10 is completing a senior thesis in molecular biology that promises both personal and professional rewards. Her research addresses aspects of neurodegenerative diseases and the lack of small molecule probes that could provide novel therapeutic strategies; she is working in collaboration with Dr. Stephen Traynelis at the Department of Pharmacology at Emory University.

“Undergraduate research is what makes the Scripps experience unique,” she said. “I have long been interested in science and medicine, but it was not until my research experiences on- and off-campus that my interest grew into something more specific….This skill of approaching a problem, thinking critically, and producing real results is what graduate schools expect.”

Dawit presented her work at the Southern California Conference for Undergraduate Research (SCCUR) on November 21 at California State University, Dominguez Hills.

Dawit also traveled to Chicago in October, with seniors Clio Korn and Alexis Nast, to present posters at the Society for Neuroscience Annual Meeting. Sara presented her work titled Identifying H3 histamine receptor antagonists as novel subunit-selective N-methyl-D-aspartate receptor antagonists. Korn and Nast presented work on Identification of Circuits Involved in Vocal Learning and Communication. With Scripps Student Travel Grant scholarships and support from the Joint Science Department and Professor Melissa Coleman, the trio spent six days with 30,500 leading neuroscientists discussing the latest breakthroughs in research.

In Good Voice

Anna Salem ’10, president of the Scripps Associated Students (SAS), wants to ensure that students play an integral role in shaping the direction of the College. “That’s our central goal this year,” she said. “We hope to empower the student body to voice their concerns and desires and represent those wishes to the best of our ability.” Another of the organization’s goals for the year is to improve the utilization of student space on campus.

According to Salem, some new and noteworthy student programs include SAS Book Club, BeHeard Forums, Professor of the Year Award, SAS Snack, and Body Academy.

Scripps Associated Students (SAS) officers: from left, top row, Simrat Dugal ’10, India Mullady ’10, Mayra Ibarra ’10, Abby Jones ’12, Ariana Ceballos ’10; second row, Lauren Frederick ’11, Sasha Thrailkill ’11, Guadalupe De La Cruz ’11, Breanna Perlmutter ’11, Anne Hershewe ’10; third row, Abbey Hye ’10, Lauren Dominguez ’10, Emily Jovais ’13, Susan Segar ’10, Rachael Ballard ’10, Alex Satariano ’12; seated, Adrienne Beitcher ’12, Anna Salem ’10. Not pictured: Antoinette Myers’12, Claire Shaw’11, Melissa Mesinas’12.
Opening the Gates

Gates Millennium Scholar Antoinette Myers ’12 knew she would be the first in her family to attend college—she just didn’t know how they could afford it. Duyen Tran ’10, whose family had escaped Vietnam when she was a child, was the first in her family to be able to attend a small, private college after she was named a Gates Scholar. First-generation college students Melissa Mesinas ’12 and Berenice Villela ’12 were both humbled and emboldened by the scholarship award. As Berenice says, “It reminds me that I belong in college, and that others are invested in my education.”

More than just offering academic scholarships, the Gates Millennium Scholars (GMS) program focuses on removing barriers to personal and academic success for low-income, high achieving students from minority backgrounds. Financially, GMS covers all loans and work-study components of a student’s financial aid package. “What’s great about this scholarship,” Antoinette explains, “is that it is truly about support and mentorship, care, and networking. It’s amazing how connected we all are to each other.” A social networking site for the scholarship enables program administrators and Scholars to advise, share, and find information. —Kristina Brooks

To read more about this story, go to www.scrippscollege.edu/news/feature-stories/gates-millenium-scholars-at-scripps
Artful Interns

For 17 years, Wilson interns have made vital contributions to the Ruth Chandler Williamson Gallery program. These students learn how to care for the Scripps College permanent collection, organize an exhibition, and prepare catalogs. These special opportunities are the gift of C. Jane Hurley Wilson '64 and Michael G. Wilson, who annually support a full-time summer internship, as well as three part-time academic-year internships. This year’s interns, McKenzie Floyd ’12, Danielle Kaufman ’10, Ashley Newton ’10, and Jennie Waldow ’12, are writing essays about rare photographs donated by the Wilsons, which will be featured in a catalog accompanying a fall 2011 exhibition, “Focus on Photographs.”

Wilson interns also participate in ongoing conservation projects. For example, they met with Rob Singer, curator of Japanese Art at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and Hisaji Sekichi, a conservator from Kyoto, whose treatment dramatically improved a group of damaged Chinese paintings in the Scripps College collection.

Wilson internships have launched students into careers in the visual arts, as well as prestigious graduate programs, such as ones at the Courtauld Institute in London and the Institute of Art at New York University.

Bringing the World to Claremont

“How do you say ‘science rocks’?” asks fifth-grader Asha Penprase. Scripps students Ilona Phipps-Morgan ‘12 and Julia Berryman ’12 consider for a moment before providing the French translation. They may be less than 10 blocks from the Scripps campus, but their experience teaching elementary-school students as part of Core 3, Foreign Language and Culture Teaching Clinic, is light years away from their everyday college life.

This year 20 Scripps College sophomores are teaching in 10 elementary-school classrooms, introducing children to Chinese, French, Korean, Japanese, and Spanish. They provide much more than a language lesson, though.

“The class offers me the chance to invite kids to fall in love with a culture,” says Liz Bisi ’12, a dual major in psychology and French. “As children, we have a narrow view of the world, and college is often the time when your mind opens to other cultures. Giving elementary-school kids this opportunity is pretty neat.”

Thierry Boucquey, professor of French, has been offering the popular Core 3 Teaching Clinic for 12 years as a way of making the Core real. “Our students can impart knowledge by representing a foreign culture to these children, making the kids aware that the world is bigger than they know,” he says.

–Kristina Brooks

To read more of this story, go to www.scrippscollege.edu/news/feature-stories/opening-a-window-on-the-world

Above, Julia Berryman ’12 teaches French language and culture to Claremont elementary school students.
Scene at Scripps

Outside the classroom, Scripps women find plenty to do: from a pickup game of soccer with faculty on Alumnae Field to lunch in the Malott Commons (first-years Sonia Mehrmand, Carmen Mooradian, Emily Uau, and Tracy Layden) to a cup of free-trade coffee at The Motley (barista Shanleigh Wilson ’10 and Sophia Brooks-Ames ’13) to relaxing on the Tiernan Field House stretching porch after a workout (Katie Norwood ’13 and Alisse Baumgarten ’13).
By the **Numbers**

**What counts most to 14 current Scripps seniors?** Academically, it all adds up to mathematics—their major of choice. This is the most majors the subject has drawn in College history.

**What’s the attraction?**

“When you major in math, you can take so many other subjects as well,” says Karli Orr ’10, who finds math “exciting and fun.” While any major at Scripps provides an excellent, well-rounded education, Karli explains, “You notice the variety more as a math or science major because the distinction [between math and other subjects] is clear.”

When Karli applied to Scripps in 2006 as a high school senior, she was drawn to an article on the Scripps website that featured a record number of math majors, then seven. She chose Scripps because she “fell in love with the campus” and was relieved she wouldn’t be alone in her academic pursuits. She was getting tired of people saying, “What, math?”

Karli wants to be a leader in changing attitudes about the subject, especially young women’s, and may pursue teaching in middle school, where girls often start feeling scared of math.

She’s off to a good start as a tutor in the Math Spot, a drop-in center on campus, run by Charlotte Lee ’10. Seniors Rachel Karpman and Jen Townsend, who head off to graduate school in math next fall, are cofounders. On an average night, the Math Spot draws 20 students from the 5C’s, and “it’s packed before finals,” Karli says. And on a campus known for students helping one another, camaraderie and cooperation seem especially true among this year’s crop of 14 majors.

It’s a great equation for success.

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The Scripps College Ceramic Annual—the longest-running exhibition of contemporary ceramics in the United States—opened for the 66th year in January and continues through April 4, 2010, at Scripps College’s Ruth Chandler Williamson Gallery. Titled “Material Matters: Art and Phenomena,” the Ceramic Annual features works from celebrated master ceramists as well as new artists working on the very cusp of the art form. Artist and educator Wayne Higby is this year’s guest curator. Above, from the exhibition, **Landscape #2, 2007**, by Hongwei Li, in earthenware clay, courtesy of Schein–Joseph International Museum of Ceramic Art at Alfred University.
On an early Friday morning, a sweet aroma of eggy challah bread wafts out of the Malott Commons ovens. While most students are sleeping, India Mullady ’11 stands by, patiently waiting to roll out the warm loaves into Seal Court.

“We put all 100 loaves in the oven in the morning so they will be hot and fresh for sales. It is intense, warm, and I exit smelling like challah; it stays with me all day,” said India.

As head of finance, India Mullady is one of three coordinators of Challah for Hunger, a campus organization that sells challah bread to raise money and awareness for hunger and disaster relief. Although she oversees finances of the semester’s operations, she regards herself in simpler terms.

“When I bring the bread out and everybody oohs and ahhs, I feel like a magician,” said India. “And knowing the money goes straight to people who desperately need it adds to the magic.”

Scripps College may be known for its tranquil campus, but its social voice is anything but silent. Challah for Hunger is but one example of an organization relying on the mutual commitment of its leaders and volunteers. Frustrated with injustice on both a local and international level, students past and present have found ways to transform their personal passions into sustainable philanthropic ventures.

Following Challah’s sweet trail, SWEET (Scrippsies Who Endow Edible Treats) Bakery began its operation in fall 2009 under the leadership of Alex Satariano ’12. Founded on the belief that every child deserves to feel special on his or her birthday, the club hopes to soon be baking birthday treats for children living in local homeless shelters.

“I read an article about a mom who got her foster daughter a birthday cake. The daughter burst into tears and felt as if someone cared about her,” said Alex. “I knew this was something we could do at Scripps.”

Some organizations run smaller scale operations. Babes and Blankets has, for the past few years, run knitting parties every Tuesday and Thursday night, accompanied by challah bread and a movie, for amateur and veteran knitters to create blankets and scarves to be donated to charitable organizations.

In the spirit of charity, groups often team up to run events. While hosting 35 Bright Prospect students on campus, the Community Tutoring Program worked with Scripps’ Admission Office, Scripps College Academy, and Challah for Hunger to offer a class session with Professor Rosann Simeroth, a challah break, and a campus tour. In the classroom, the workplace, and their personal lives, Scripps students have proven that their commitment to activism is more than altruism for altruism’s sake.

For Halley Everall ’10, her activism was the materialization of an intellectual curiosity.

“I participated in the Humanities Institute last year and was specifically drawn to the topic of bioengineered food,” said Halley. “After the semester, I felt a little hopeless as far as the solutions to GMOs [genetically modified organisms] in food. When Megan Thompson Westgate ’02 told me about the Non-GMO project she directs, I was so excited to find someone who was addressing the problems that I had become concerned about.”

The Non-GMO Project is a non-profit collaboration of manufacturers, retailers, processors, distributors, farmers, seed companies, and consumers whose common mission is to ensure the sustained availability of non-GMO choices.

At Scripps, Westgate’s senior thesis, “Conscious Eating Tableware,” was a ceramics work advocating thoughtful food choices and reflected substantial study into the effects of pesticides on the human body.

Year after year, new modes of giving back are conceived, proving that among inspired students, there is no hesitation to innovation. “The Sweet Smell of Social Activism” – Michelle No ’12
The Psychology of Work and Family

by Mary Shipp Bartlett

Scripps College students seek solutions to problems that have dogged women for generations.

Elizabeth Gilbert, author of *Eat, Pray, Love* who spoke at Scripps College last November, says we’re in the midst of a radical new social experiment. In an NPR interview this January on her latest book, *Committed: a Skeptic Makes Peace With Marriage*, Gilbert ponders: “What happens if we give women autonomy, education, finances, you know, control over their sexual biology? What happens if we give you all this freedom? What are you going to do with it?....We’re all still sort of puzzling it out in a very intense way.”
When she was in college, Gilbert says, “My friends and I would sit up until two in the morning and sort of panic over how we were going to balance raising our children, being married and having careers, and I kind of don’t think the guys down the hall in the dorm were doing that when they were 19.”

Scripps College women are no less concerned today, judging by continuing interest expressed in the classroom and in career counseling sessions.

“Current students are becoming more ‘out there’ in admitting they want family and marriage along with a career,” says Julie Boone Elliott, in Scripps College Career Planning & Research office. She finds the students she counsels are having more conversations about careers and families than they did 10 years ago.

One way they are exploring their options and trying to find answers is in the popular class “The Psychology of Work and Family,” team-taught for the first time this past fall semester by Professors Judith LeMaster and Amy Marcus-Newhall.

The class offers provocative texts, empirical and theoretical scientific articles, practical discussions, and guest panels of both women and men who share their experiences balancing career and family. The professors ask students to examine the dynamics at the intersection of work and family, actively engage with course materials, and generate research ideas to further investigate unexplored areas.

Discussions are lively, especially when Linda R. Hirschman’s book, Get to Work: A Manifesto for Women of the World, is the topic. Hirschman advises women to work no matter what their circumstances, and challenges the idea that society benefits when mom stays home. “We’re having you read a diverse array of materials to get you to critically examine issues from different perspectives,” says Marcus-Newhall.

The students don’t hesitate to take on Hirschman’s arguments, offering point and counterpoint. The class has a wide divergence of opinion on whether it is better to “get to work” or stay at home to raise one’s children, and whether, indeed, women really do have this “choice” based on societal expectations. Opinions seem influenced by the student’s own home life, with students who had been raised by stay-at-home moms tending to voice that as an ideal, while students who had working parents extolling these benefits, such as learning early socialization skills, having a variety of interesting activities, and having working role models.

In one session, the class discusses traditional roles within marriage.

The professors point out that men and women’s traditional “spheres of responsibility” are the result of “social learning,” and imply that it will take more than simply recognizing the situation to change it. Marcus-Newhall points out that we still have traditional gender roles that define what we are expected to do and what we do. According to research, “women are the family providers and caretakers and manage the home responsibilities, whereas men are the economic providers. When these roles are violated, there are negative perceptions and consequences.”

She adds: “With more women are in the workplace, men have increased their household and childcare responsibilities, resulting in more overall family time with kids today than was the norm for men 20 or 30 years ago, which is a very good thing. However, women still perform significantly more of these responsibilities, even when they are working full time like their husbands.”

A few weeks later, three working fathers visit the class, and students learn that men, too, grapple with work and family balance. Two of the panelists are Scripps College professors, positions that allow more flexible hours than many working fathers enjoy. The students pepper them with questions that come from their readings, discussions, and own individual concerns:

“Do the media play a role in how you parent?” “Who pays for childcare?”* “Does having one or two kids influence the dynamics in your marriage?” “Did you see yourselves as fathers early on in life?” “What is your interpretation of masculinity before and after having children?” “Was it important for you to have a son?”

The fathers give candid answers and offer advice: “If there are conflicts, give priority to family. You can’t recoup bonds later.” “Family is the primary factor in your life; whatever you can do, do it; I feel like I’m missing out on major milestones in my son’s life.”

After sitting in on several of the “Psychology of Work and Family” class sessions, one can conclude that today’s college women are asking many of the same questions women have asked for years—yet they are doing it armed with more information and self-awareness than their mothers and grandmothers ever had.

And that’s reason for hope.

*Childcare costs are usually assumed to be “paid” out of the wife’s paycheck, since the larger culture teaches that childcare is the wife’s responsibility. So, when husband and wife budget for childcare, they assume she is paying for childcare, although there is really no reason to think it comes from anything other than the family income. This non-conscious ideology often leads to the decision for the wife not to work, as her “take home pay” doesn’t warrant the expense. In Get to Work, Hirschman points out that, in making this decision, men and women also often fail to consider that by not working while the children are young, the wife’s future earnings and benefits will be decreased.
The Motherhood Mystique is Alive and Well

Introduction to “In Their Own Words: Experiences of Young Employed and Stay-at-Home Mothers,” a study by Judith LeMaster, Scripps College; Bettina J. Casad, California State Polytechnic University, Pomona; and Amy Marcus-Newhall, Scripps College, 2008.

Today, the lives of young mothers are the topic of heated debate. Books written for and about young mothers crowd bookstore shelves and include The Mommy Wars (Steiner, 2006), The Price of Motherhood (Crittenden, 2001), So You Want to be a Stay-At-Home Mother (Gochnauer, 1999), The Working Mother’s Guide to Life: Strategies, Secrets, and Solutions (Mason, 2002), to name only a few. Talk radio and chat shows on television often feature discussions of employed mothers versus stay-at-home mothers, much of which has taken on a decidedly political tone. Conservatives, such as radio host Laura Schlessinger, believe strongly that children are best served when their mothers are home full time. Feminists argue that both employed and stay-at-home women can be fine mothers. Everyone, it seems, has an opinion.
What is best for families? What is best for children? And, less commonly, what is best for mothers? Our research team decided that we would ask young mothers themselves about their experiences as employed or stay-at-home mothers and what they thought about mothers who were living lives different from their own. We studied a diverse group of young mothers (African-American, white, and Latina), both stay-at-home and employed. Using interviews and written surveys, we asked young (ages 18-30) mothers to tell us about their lives. This is what they told us:

Many, but not all, of these young mothers gave us answers consistent with the idea of the motherhood mystique (Hays, 1996; Hoffman, 1989; Johnston-Robed, 2000). According to the motherhood mystique, it is the essential nature of women to be mothers. Those few women who do not wish to be mothers are seen as unnatural; women who wish to be mothers and are not are to be pitied. Although the women’s movement of the ’60s and ’70s challenged these ideas, and large numbers of women entered the work force, some researchers believe that they have returned in a different, perhaps more stringent, form. Feminist scholars have argued that the prevailing ideology in the United States is now one of “intensive mothering.” Women today are expected to be not just good mothers, but exceptional mothers (Arendell, 2000).

Judith Warner, in her book for the popular press, Perfect Madness, calls this the Mommy Mystique and suggests that the lives of today’s mothers are characterized by anxiety, perfectionism, and exhaustion caused by the current cultural demands placed on mothers. We found evidence for these notions in the responses of our participants. When we asked women to talk about their own needs and the needs of mothers in general, the mothers in our study answered in terms of the motherhood mystique, or the norm of intensive mothering. Very few of the mothers acknowledged, or seemed even to consider, their own needs and interests, or to take into account the needs and interests of mothers in general. One said, “I know it may not be what I exactly want, but my son comes first.” Another young mother told us, “My life revolves around my son.” Several young mothers explicitly said that staying home was better for children and a mother’s duty. For example, one young mother said, “I don’t believe mothers should go back to work after they have had a child. I think they should stay with them.” When asked about the benefits of being an employed mother, one stay-at-home mother replied, “Besides actual benefits to a job, I don’t see any.” Most of the stay-at-home mothers and more than a few of the employed mothers felt that children could be harmed by having an employed mother. One employed mother said, “I think all mothers would prefer to be at home with their kids.” Many felt that daycare was actually dangerous and spoke about not wanting to have their children raised by strangers. This finding is important in that women may be forgoing employment because of misconceptions surrounding daycare. Research has demonstrated that children in high quality, accredited daycare, staffed by educated and caring professionals, do well on measures of intelligence, language, and socialization. (Galinski et. al., 1994; Helburn, 1995: Howes, Phillips, and Whitebook, 1992).

Only a few mentioned the isolation and boredom that stay-at-home mothers often face (Lennen, 1998), or the positive aspects associated with being in the workforce. This finding is particularly interesting considering that earlier research has shown that work provides a psychological buffer for women (Barnett, Marshall, and Singer, 1992). Indeed, we found this in the current research.

Finally, few mothers mentioned the financial risks that accrue to being a stay-at-home mother, although the lost income of a stay-at-home mother has been estimated at more than $1,000,000 over her lifetime (Crittenden, 2001).

To read more of the study, go to www.scrippscollege.edu/media/magazine/pdfs/young-mothers.pdf
What’s a Mother to do?

Work, stay home and raise her child herself, or something in between? How much help can she expect from her partner—and why is she calling it “help,” anyway?

By Mary Shipp Bartlett
With women now composing half of the workforce, the balance of work and family is a continuing, perplexing issue for many mothers. Some who might choose to stay home with their children can’t afford to. And those who would like to work often can’t because adequate childcare is neither available nor affordable.

The following stories of members of the Scripps community explore an issue that is sure to be with us for some time.

Each person featured has dealt with the work/family balance in her own way, because of her own circumstances and beliefs. There are many more possibilities and answers, so we encourage you to join the discussion by sending your comments or own experiences as part of an upcoming “Alumnae Speak” forum in this magazine and on the Scripps College website. Send to editor@scrippscollege.edu.
In Conflict
Jennifer Rexroth Reyes ’96

Right after giving birth to her son, Liam, last April, Jennifer Reyes thought, “What have I done?”

An assistant principal with a doctorate from UCLA in education and informational science, Jennifer had worked hard to position herself for a career where she could make a significant impact. Now, she said, “This line of work appears to be in conflict with the kind of mother I want to be. I wondered if I might have made a big mistake.”

Jennifer longs to be the caregiver who spends the most time with Liam. And she also needs to work: “I think I would go a little crazy without the stimulation of the professional environment,” she says, “and my work aligns with my value of service to others.”

Ideally, Jennifer would like to work half to three-quarters time while she has small children, yet realizes that her job demands full commitment and occasional long hours. She is in charge of instruction at her charter high school in Lakeview Terrace: coaching and evaluating the teachers, directing and delivering professional development, and overseeing the school’s academic program.

She has made compromises at work. She negotiated to end her school day a little earlier than in the past and prepared herself to “tolerate the feelings of embarrassment of not contributing enough in favor of providing for my son.” When she has two late nights in a row at school, she tries to schedule a half day at home to reconnect.

Still, she wonders if she’s doing the right thing. “When I thought of what it takes to do my job well, that would result in my doing badly in my new ‘job’ of parenting. Conversely, doing well at parenting—having a sizeable chunk of time with my son every day—would result in my doing badly at my job as instructional leader. It actually wouldn’t be possible.

“I felt torn and really beat myself up about it, especially because I had come close to taking a less intense job with a shorter commute, but decided to push myself to grow my career. Now, I am reminded that I love my job. It is extremely meaningful to me and fundamental to who I want to be in the world. I try to take comfort in the example of dedicated working moms and in the sight of my happy, healthy boy.”

Jennifer is luckier than many working mothers in that she has an involved husband who helps with chores and housework, giving Jennifer extra time with Liam. “He would prefer to know the house cleaning was done well, and I would prefer to bond with my son,” she said. “I do more shopping, more research on baby-related issues. We divide dinner duties—one cooks, the other cleans up.”

Jennifer leaves home at 7 a.m., returning at 5:30 p.m. Marcus, a general contractor with flexible hours, takes care of Liam in the mornings. “We could never afford childcare for 10½ hours,” she said. With her full schedule, she says, “I have never been so tired, and I never would have imagined I could get by on so little sleep.”

As Jennifer struggles to find balance, her attitude toward work has dramatically changed. “For the first time, I have something in my life that is clearly more important than my career. I may be one among many who can make a difference in education, but I am the only one who can be a mother to my son.”
Prescription for Success: Multitask!
Nancy Stidham Boutin ’79, MD

Nancy Boutin’s younger daughter, Mallory, says it is impossible for her mother to do just one thing at a time.

Perhaps that is why Nancy and her husband (Rod Boutin CMC ’78) decided to have a baby between her third and fourth years in medical school. “People said this was the best time to do it, and that they’d be there to help,” she says.

She adds with a smile, “They lied.”

Nancy returned to work after six weeks of maternity leave and left her daughter, Erin, with her sister. It was tough. “I had to peel off rounds some times and go to the bathroom and cry.”

This was in 1982, a time, Nancy recalls, that was not friendly to mothers in med school. The resident-in-charge would often make her stay after hours. She needed to go to neonatal intensive care to use a breast pump. Now, it’s much easier. There are rooms for mothers to nurse at the same hospital where she did her residency.

“I was at the end of a long era where residency was boot camp—and proud of it,” she says. This has changed. Most young physicians she knows today have the attitude: “It’s a noble profession, but it’s not my life.” Even male doctors she knows are now opening up and giving reasons for leaving work early because of childcare issues.

Nancy had her second child three and a half years later, when she was a resident in radiation. For the first six weeks after giving birth, she took her daughter with her, carrying her in a small storage container, or bankers box. Later, the baby was in daycare.

Would she do anything differently? “Having a baby in med school was not the best timing,” Nancy says. “I missed out on some of her life.” However, Nancy is proud of the girls and how she and her husband raised them. She says: “I have two successful, well-balanced, capable daughters.”

A pre-med major at Scripps, Nancy earned her MD at Oregon Health & Science University, while Rod followed her and went to Lewis & Clark Law School, rather than be far away at Harvard.

During medical school, a random assignment for clinical work brought her to radiation oncology, where she found a sense of community and commitment among the patients and physicians who specialized in the field. Since then, she has been a leader—as medical director of Salem Cancer Institute, practicing physician, healthcare educator, and frequent speaker on healthcare issues throughout Oregon.

“The part of the changing face of medicine is that women are bringing traditionally female approaches to the workplace,” Nancy says. “While I consider myself a ’70s feminist, my way of contributing is in the traditional female mold: serving, building consensus, leading from the middle. I’ve gotten things done by nudging rather than blazing.”

She is still multitasking in a big way, in and out of medicine. She has taken on the managing editorship of the Los Angeles Review, a literary journal published by Red Hen Press in Southern California, and is a frequent contributor to various publications, including Scripps Magazine.

“I love learning new things,” she says.
The Power of Positive Living
Maria Mongalo

Maria Mongalo loves cleaning (she really does) almost as much as she loves “her girls”—the women of Browning and Dorsey Halls. Maria has been the building attendant for the two resident halls for the last 10 years, keeping the bathrooms spotless and living areas neat and tidy. She ventures into the individual rooms, not to clean, but to visit. The students talk to her about life and family and boyfriends, often in Spanish. Maria shares her life experiences as well. She has quite a story.

Born in Nicaragua, Maria was raised in a middle class family with five siblings on her father’s large ranch. She went to private schools, then two years at Universidad Centroamericana (UCA) to study psychology. Then came the Revolution, in 1978-79. To escape the dangers university students faced, Maria, speaking little English, followed her two older brothers to the United States and landed a job at Carl’s Jr. in Pomona.

It was hard for Maria to adjust, and she had two failed marriages to unsupportive men. With each, she had a child: Michelle, now 25, and Alfredo, 19. In the early years raising them, she had no financial help: Her first husband had disappeared, and her second was an alcoholic who lost his job and his money. Maria often held two jobs to provide a safe home. Her hectic work schedule left little time to be with her own children, something she regrets. “I was brought up believing that the most important thing is for a mother to be with her children.” She cried a lot, but persevered. “I didn’t have a choice,” she says.

A lucky break came in 1987, when she was offered a job in the Scripps’ kitchen through her sister-in-law, Sharon Mongalo. She had met her third husband, Jose, whose family she knew in Nicaragua. He was the emotionally supportive partner she had long sought. They moved to a home in Riverside and years later, Maria became pregnant with a third child. She had recently been promoted from kitchen work to building attendant, and she worked through much of her pregnancy. When blood tests showed problems, Jose said, “Whatever we have, we will have.”

A boy, Alvero, was born with Down Syndrome. At 10 months, he needed open-heart surgery. The operation was a success, and now, at 9, Maria calls him “the sweetest boy—what would my life be without him?”

Through all of her difficulties, Maria has kept a positive attitude. “I tell my girls [at Scripps], ‘When times are hard, always look for the positive. Know that something better is waiting for you.’”

Maria now makes an effort to spend extra time with her own children, and recently took a 12-day trip to New York with her daughter. “I realize the most important thing is to talk to your children,” she says. “I’m doing that more with Alvero. Maybe it’s not too late.”

Her “many gifts” returned fourfold
Barbara Yunker Bettison ’54

The importance of family is a recurring theme in the life of Barbara Bettison, mother of Scripps College President Lori Bettison-Varga.

Family was never more essential to her than when she found herself a single mother of four young children, in 1970. As the children grew up in Long Beach, nearby relatives, including her parents and her two brothers, provided critical role-modeling and emotional support.
Her children are now engaged in significant careers: the eldest, Cindy (Pitzer '80), with a doctorate in anthropology, is the director and archeologist at Western New Mexico University Museum; Bonnie is a principal engineer for the Department of Public Works in Pasadena; Bill is a marketing manager for Enterprise Rent-A-Car at LAX; the youngest daughter, Lori—well, we know about her.

How did a single mom raise four such accomplished children? It wasn’t an easy task, Barbara says, but her parents and other family members “gave my children roots—I don’t know what I would have done without them.”

After graduating from Scripps with a BA in Spanish literature, Barbara studied at Thunderbird School of Global Management in Glendale, Arizona. She met her husband there; they married after a whirlwind courtship, moved to St. Louis, Missouri, with Monsanto, and had four children by 1965.

After living several years in Caracas, Venezuela, the couple divorced, and Barbara and the children moved to Long Beach, California. Soon, Barbara was able to buy a house six blocks away from her parents with proceeds from the sale of a former home. She managed to get by with minimal child and spousal support and says, “I was very lucky to be able to do that.”

She did volunteer work in the schools and community. “I tried to be at home when the children were at home. I gave them plenty of responsibility—I owed it to them.”

The hardest part about being a single parent, Barbara said, was not having another person help make decisions or deal with household problems. And although she describes her situation as “difficult” and at times “traumatic,” she followed her own advice of never letting children think you shouldn’t have married their father.

When the first two children were in college, Barbara worked in various fields, and eventually became vice president of research for an investment advisory firm in Long Beach. When the company was sold, Barbara entered real estate, even though it was “one of the worst times for the market,” she says.

All the while, she remained close to her children. When Lori and husband Bob Varga invited Barbara to move to Wooster, Ohio, where the Vargas were on the faculty of The College of Wooster, Barbara accepted. And when Lori went to Whitman College as provost and dean of faculty, in 2007, Barbara followed.

Family remains central today as Barbara takes on her new role as “first grandmother” at Scripps College; she lives three blocks away on College Avenue. She relishes her role, babysitting on occasion, and loves being in close contact with family, as well as friends from grade school, high school, and college.

Daughter Cindy speaks for all of Barbara’s children when she says: “I am who I am today due in no small part to my mother. She served as an outstanding and inspirational role model to me and all my siblings when we were growing up, and continues to do so to this day.

“Talk about ‘the genius of women’—that is my mom in a nutshell. She persevered through good and bad times to raise four incredible kids. We are all like her in perseverance and persistence, and our zest for life!”

The Bettison children, clockwise, from top, Cindy, Lori, Bill, and Barbara.
“Just Get it Done”
Melinda Jo Sanchez

Don’t be fooled by the big smile, wavy blonde hair, and charming manner. Melinda Jo Sanchez is one tough lady.

She has to be as office manager of the Scripps College Maintenance Department, the person who sees that the inner workings of Scripps buildings are in top shape—from replacing curtains before they’re too worn to painting rooms on schedule to fixing broken fixtures before anyone notices the defect. “If I’m good at my job,” she says, “you don’t know what I do.”

Melinda Jo is a working mother of two who relishes her full-time job—and wouldn't have it any other way. “I signed up for this,” she says. “I wanted to be a parent.”

Work has been a way of life for Melinda Jo, whose mantra is “just get it done.” From the age of 7 to 14, she lived with her parents on her grandparents’ ranch in the central California foothills above Fresno. While the grandparents had a trailer, her parents lived in a large tent, and she and her older brother each lived in a 6 x 6 foot Army tent, with just enough room for a bed and dresser. There was no electricity and no running water. Television was allowed for one hour each night on a small set hooked up to the car battery.

Her stepfather was a ranch hand and her mother cleaned houses; they bartered their services for food and supplies—real "hippies" according to Melinda Jo. Chores began at 4 a.m., rain or shine, sick or not. She left for school at 5:15 each morning, riding her horse part way before catching a bus.

At 14, she'd had enough of that life. She used her saved babysitting money to buy a one-way Greyhound ticket to Azusa to live with her mother's sister. Shortly after she arrived, her aunt broke her neck in a car accident, and Melinda was asked to care for her, a huge task since the aunt required round-the-clock nursing. It took three hours just to bathe her. Melinda Jo lost many hours of normal teenage life in order to live there. But, she said, “You just shut up and get your stuff done.”

When she went to Claremont High School for her junior and senior years, Melinda Jo was mocked by one girl for not having designer jeans. She dealt with it in her trademark style: “I can wrestle cows, kill, gut, and butcher animals,” she said. “I learned not to sweat the small stuff.”

Melinda Jo came to Scripps in 1991, after working for a small dress shop in the Claremont Village. One day a customer mentioned an opening in the Scripps dining services office. Melinda Jo applied and was hired as an administrative aide. She moved to the Maintenance Department in 1998 as an employee of Sodexo, the food service and facilities management company.

She and her husband, Ralph, consider themselves both strict parents; they discussed how they wanted to raise their children before starting a family and bought a large house in Corona before either child was born. The couple has what Melinda Jo calls a “cooperative” marriage: “Things fall down if we’re not working together.” Theirs is also a traditional home, with nice furnishings, and on festive occasions Melinda Jo sets a table with china, silver, and linens. She conscientiously works to make a home of comfort and stability for her family, something she did not always have. “I don’t put things away to keep them from the children,” said Melinda Jo. “They need to learn to be careful of nice things.”

The hardest part of being a full-time working mother for Melinda Jo is finding time to play and interact with her kids, Sophia Jo (3) and Luke (6).
Julie Boone Elliott, a consummate professional who counsels students on career planning, did the unimaginable for her: she broke down in tears of pain and frustration in her supervisor’s office.

Why? She was trying to do it all: be a fully engaged mother of two small daughters, a wife and partner—and full-time director of Career Planning & Resources at Scripps College.

“Way too many times my kids were the last to be picked up from day care,” she said. “It broke my heart. And even when I sat on the floor playing with them, my mind was going ‘get back to work.’ I thought, ‘Why did I bring these kids into the world if this is all they’re getting?’

She couldn’t have broken down in a better place: the office of a single mother of three girls, Debra Wood. “She is a friend and a mentor,” said Julie. “She gave me a safe place to share my feelings.”

Wood, the vice president and dean of students, told her: “You need to think about what you want.”

Julie had thought that after her second daughter was born, she could continue on as director and cut back to three-quarter’s time at work. But it is important for the College to have a full-time director. “And half time wasn’t on my radar,” said Julie.

After much soul-searching, the conversation with Wood did lead to a half-time position as special projects manager. (A new director, Vicki Klopsch, was hired, and came on board in April 2009.)

Her new schedule allows Julie time to volunteer in older daughter Grace’s classroom, and have one-on-one time with her in the early afternoon, before picking up younger daughter Annie at daycare.

Her relationship with her husband, Heath, also benefitted. In the past, “from 8-10, I was online; there was little chatting time, or time for much else.”

Heath, a development officer at Harvey Mudd College, is a deeply involved father. The family eats together every day, with Heath doing the cooking. Then, he bathes the children, and Julie cleans the kitchen. They both read to the girls before bedtime, switching between girls every night.

Julie finds her “new life” allows her to be fully present in both realms—work and home. “I learned I do not want to be a full-time stay-at-home mother. I love my work, I love Scripps—I love my family. Now, I feel I’m getting the best of both worlds.”

Julie believes it is good for students to see her as a role model. As a graduate of George Mason University in Fairfax, Virginia, she pursued an MED in student personnel services at the University of South Carolina. “I didn’t think about managing work and children then. By the time I figured out I wanted a career in student affairs, that became my sole focus. I’m helping students know there are lots of opportunities, chances, in life.”

And, in the office of Career Planning & Research, she shows Scripps women there is more than one way to balance marriage and family and a career.
Dear Scripps sisters:

On behalf of the Alumnae Association, I invite you to attend the inauguration of the eighth president of Scripps College, Lori Bettison-Varga, on March 27 at 2:30 p.m. in Bridges Auditorium.

Please join me on Friday, March 26, and Saturday, March 27, two days during which the academic, creative, and artistic accomplishments of students, faculty, and alumnae are showcased, and a forum of distinguished women from a variety of fields address the inaugural theme, “The Genius of Women.” On this historic occasion, we not only celebrate our new president and the institution that is Scripps College, but also the ever-expanding body of women who have attended Scripps, each one of whom has put her unique stamp on the world.

In the meantime, I hope many of you have had the pleasure of meeting President Bettison-Varga at one of the Scripps On-the-Road regional events held across the country and abroad. More of these regional events are scheduled for this spring. A volunteer leadership power lunch has been offered in several regions to bring alumnae together to meet one another and to recruit and train new volunteers. These women are gathering to learn more about the many Scripps volunteer opportunities available to alumnae, receive instruction about new technology including the Online Community and other social media outlets, review the use of timelines for event planning and fundraising, and understand how to put together a succession plan for future volunteers.

Please mark your 2010 calendars with the following dates:

The Lois Langland Alumna-in-Residence, Alison Singh Gee ’86, February 20-27: Attend one or more of this week’s events in which Alison lives and works on campus with students, faculty, and staff. In addition, a memorial service for Lois Langland, professor emerita of psychology, will be held during this week. Details will follow in the weeks ahead.

Inauguration Weekend, March 26-27: Celebrate “The Genius of Women” with our new president. For more information, visit www.scrippscollege.edu/inauguration.

Reunion Weekend, April 30–May 2: Reconnect with classmates and other alumnae spanning eight decades. Meet the recipients of this year’s Distinguished Alumna, Outstanding Recent Alumna, and Volunteer of the Year awards.

17th Annual Camp Scripps, July 15–18: Spend an extended summer weekend living on campus. Enjoy workshops, pool time, afternoon tea, late-night movies, and all the benefits of college without term-paper deadlines. Remember: Everything possible, nothing required.

Best wishes to you in this New Year,

MERRILEE STEWART HOWARD ’70
President, Alumnae Association
merrileehoward@alumna.scrippscollege.edu

Alumnae Speak
“Balancing Act”

In keeping with the stories in this issue about work and family and the various life choices women make, I encourage you to submit your own stories about where choice and chance have led you, and share how a career, cause, calling, creative outlet, care-giving role, or change in circumstances has defined or redefined your life. How has your Scripps education helped you better cope and carve out your own niche in your work and personal relationships? How has your connection with the College and your Scripps sisters influenced your decisions? Please send your stories to editor@scrippscollege.edu for inclusion in “Alumnae Speak.”

President Lori Bettison-Varga stands out as a role model in the truest sense of the word. She is a dynamic example of a productive professional who balances a challenging career with a full family life. Your stories in “Alumnae Speak” will continue this important ongoing dialogue in the months to come as we celebrate “The Genius of Women” and the inauguration of President Bettison-Varga.
Two alumnae inducted into CMS Hall of Fame

Two Scripps alumnae were recognized for outstanding athletic achievements during their college years, as they were inducted into the Claremont-Mudd-Scripps Hall of Fame at a dinner in the Claremont McKenna College Athenaeum on November 14.

Elizabeth “Eli” Koen-Bollinger ’94, who played CMS soccer and softball, was cited for “exemplifying everything an athlete should be, never giving less than the maximum effort whether it was a practice or a crucial game.” Dolores Odogwu Hart ’91, a star in track and field, was “one of the most improved performers in CMS history, from a novice as a freshman to team MVP and All-American. Her talent, coupled with her relaxed attitude, smile, and English accent, made her a standout.”

Help Solve The Mystery Of Seal Pond Mosaic Murals

Who created the lovely, colorful mosaic murals that surround Seal Pond? Alas, we know just some of the student artists—and we want to acknowledge them all.

The newly formed Seal Pond Mosaic Mural Advisory Committee, which is overseeing the ongoing restoration and preservation of the student-designed murals, seeks your help in identifying/corroborating student artists—and in establishing or confirming dates of installation—for various individual panels.

The murals are part of the original Scripps campus, as outlined in The Landscape and Architectural Blueprint for Scripps College, which was funded by the Getty Foundation; the mural conservation is the first step of the preservation of Seal Court.

Three student artists of the murals still remain unidentified: they include the artists for the north-facing east panel, the west-facing south panel, and the west-facing north panel (each of which was more than likely among the original ones installed in the early 1940s).

If you can recall students or artisans involved in the design or installation of the mosaic murals, or can share photos, recollections, insights or information, please contact alumnae representative Merrilee Stewart Howard ’70 at merrileegae@charter.net or Scripps Archives recorder Evelyn Nelson Senior ’70 at ensenior@earthlink.net.
“The Genius of Women: The Power of the Scripps Experience”


Several themes were repeated in conversations: the value of a liberal arts education in today’s world; the impact of living and learning in an intellectual and empowering educational environment; the commitment and ongoing support of the Scripps faculty; the power and benefits of being a member of the Claremont consortium; and the value of a community of strong, independent women. A Seattle parent’s comment was particularly apt: “Scripps women are a self-actualized force in society.”

Conversations on the road continue in early 2010 with events planned for Honolulu, Chicago, Tucson, Phoenix, San Diego, and Santa Barbara.
Hillsborough From left, Andrew and Georgia Edwards ’99, ’03, Ruth M. Owades ’66, Tracy Wood Anderson ‘84, John Anderson (CMC ‘84). Far right, host and trustee Andrea Neves, and chair of the Board of Trustees Linda Davis Taylor.

Washington, D.C. Above, Laurel Horn ’07, Bettison-Varga, Anna Ekindjian ’98; below, Alison Omens ’06, Erin Fry ’05, and Ginnie Palm ’06.

Ellen Smedley Smith
(Fayetteville, AR) I am enjoying my home, golfing nine holes, delivering meals to the elderly, and planning summer trips to Denver and our Estes Park cabin for hikes and peace with my lifelong friend, Phil Prescott, and my children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

Kathryn Johnson Allen
(Oakland, CA) When one is 93, memories of the past are daily and cheering companions. I often return in memory to Scripps to those early days, the academic challenges, the beauty of the campus, the amazing faculty, to traditions in the making, and the classmates who shared them.

Jean Marshall Cates
(Nevada City, CA) I am 94, living in the home that my husband and I bought 46 years ago, enjoying my garden and my studio.

Virginia Rupp Beatty
(Portland, OR) I have met another Scrippsie here in my new “home,” a lovely little lady who attended Scripps for three years in the College’s earliest years, “Sally,” or Sarah Becker Ruyle ’34. She remembers the campus before the green lawns, the elms, and the rose garden, and remembered Betty (Elizabeth) Clark and Drs. Jaqua, Alexander, Caster, and “Pappa” Cailler.

Betty Blurock Hohwiesner
(Laguna Woods, CA) I’m living in my own apartment in Laguna Woods, aced my driver’s test, and celebrated my 90th birthday Oct. 24 with a party of friends and family coming from Pennsylvania, Virginia, Florida, Idaho, and California, including my 14-month-old great-grandson, Mats.

Calling all alumnae: Please let us know what is going on in your lives. Drop a line to editor@scrippscollege.edu, or send to Editor, Scripps Magazine, Scripps College, 1030 Columbia Avenue, Claremont, CA 91711-3905.

Go-o-o-o-al!
Showing great spirit, members of the CMS women’s soccer team and alumnae players celebrate the completion of the naming of Alumnae Field, a successful fundraising drive with a matching challenge from an anonymous donor. The Alumnae Field sign is now installed over the field’s scoreboard.
Marriages and Commitments

'87 Mona Card to David Steinberg, April 16, 2009
'94 Beth Feinberg to Steve Keenan, September 27, 2008
'99 Jennifer Nicole Fitzpatrick to Mark Pifko, June 13, 2009
'01 Jessica Mols to Michael Glover, August 14, 2009
'02 Christy Vega to Darren Perez (PI '01), June 12, 2009
'04 Jessie Osbaldeston to Brian Outlaw, September 12, 2009
'05 Ronit Ovadia to Dominic Mazonni, March 8, 2009
'06 Liane Dirks to Jeff Veenema, April 4, 2009
'06 Chelsea Jones to Jay Wright (HMC '06), August 15, 2009
'06 Kassandra Lobeto to James Bristow, September 13, 2008

Births and Adoptions

'95 Heather Hutchison and David Tobey, a son, Maxwell, December 23, 2008
'95 Lisa Pickering Kushida and Grant, a daughter, Kendall Sayuri, June 6, 2009
'95 Elizabeth Poggi Murphy and Scott, a son, Griffin, May 28, 2009
'95 Jennifer Martinez Wormser and Paul (son of Barbara Cook Wormser '59), a daughter, Ella, June 21, 2009
'97 Elsa Hsu Ching and Peter, a son, Matthew Peter, January 15, 2009
'98 Nancy McDevitt Heath (Rolling Hills Estates, CA) Nancy and John Heath celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on June 19 with family and friends. They were married at Scripps College. Nancy is a well-known artist on the Peninsula.
'99 Jennifer Martinez Wormser and Paul (son of Barbara Cook Wormser ’59), a daughter, Ella, June 21, 2009
'97 Elsa Hsu Ching and Peter, a son, Matthew Peter, January 15, 2009
'02 Lisa Avery and Alex Guthman, a son, Jonas Cooper Guthman, October 6, 2009
'03 Darcie Harms Giansante and Nick, a son, Miles Abraham, February 15, 2009
'04 Carolyn Shaw Tanner and Paul, a son, Andrew Christopher, October 23, 2008
'05 Ronit Ovadia to Dominic Mazonni, March 8, 2009
'06 Kassandra Lobeto to James Bristow, September 13, 2008

Lois Langland Alumna-in-Residence (LLAIR) 2010
February 20-27, 2010
Alison Singh Gee ’86

This year’s Lois Langland Alumna-in-Residence is Alison Singh Gee ’86, an accomplished nonfiction writer for such publications as Marie Claire, In Style, International Herald Tribune, Sunset Magazine, and the Los Angeles Times. Alison is a former staff writer and correspondent for People magazine, and her forthcoming memoir is The Peacock Sings for Rain (St. Martin’s Press). She currently teaches memoir classes at UCLA.

Alison will be on campus for her residency February 20-27, 2010, to focus on the memoir with students and professors and to speak at a luncheon event open to alumnae.

A week’s residency enables the alumna-in-residence to work on a chosen project and share the process inside and outside the classroom with the on-campus community. The program provides a rich enhancement to the curriculum and exemplifies Dr. Lois Langland’s belief in creativity throughout one’s lifetime.

During Alison’s residency, there will be a community memorial service on Sunday, February 21, at 2:30 p.m., in Margaret Fowler Garden for Lois Langland, Scripps professor emerita of psychology, after whom the program is named, and who died on November 4, 2009.

’43 Ruth Glaser Thaler (Roslyn Heights, NY) I have just signed a contract to teach poetry to adults. I am forever grateful to Scripps, where I learned to observe and question my world.

’44 Nancy Pritchard Morgan (Annapolis, MD) Just spent 15 days cruising on the Great Lakes. Have taken up croquet to replace my golf.

’45 Nancy Binmaix (Santa Barbara, CA) I now live at Casa Dorinda—a retirement community—I’m painting again and have my first great-granddaughter.

’46 Charleen Mahoney Jenkins (Seattle, WA) Congratulations on finding a splendid new president. I am still homebound for medical reasons, but lots of family and friends keep me connected to the outside world. I am waiting for another “Incipit Vita Nova!” Sue Kerr (Houston, TX) I am still doing pen and ink and watercolors of houses on commission. Gathering of 22 family members in Chicago for Thanksgiving.

’47 Mary Sherwin Faulkner (Pacific Grove, CA) My daughter, Amelia Siebers, died December 26, 2008, in NYC, following surgery for rectal cancer. She leaves a husband and two children. Encourage your children and grandchildren to seek medical help early for symptoms.

’48 Nancy McDevitt Heath (Rolling Hills Estates, CA) Nancy and John Heath celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on June 19 with family and friends. They were married at Scripps College. Nancy is a well-known artist on the Peninsula.

’49 Mary Carleton Lejeune (South Pasadena, CA) Bonnie DeVos, Duane Carraher Prince, and I travelled to Claremont together for our 60th reunion. It was great! Melba Drysdale Innes (Burlington, NC) I have lived at Twin Lakes Community, a continuing healthcare facility, for 12 years. We are kept busy with activities, a book club, writing class, poetry class, bridge, painting. I have been to Scotland, Ireland, and Alaska in the past two years. Five children, eight grandchildren, and one great-grandchild. Judi Grant Lecks (Pacific Grove, CA) I have just signed a contract to teach poetry to adults. I am forever grateful to Scripps, where I learned to observe and question my world.

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Run, don’t walk

Running just one mile at an altitude of 12,500 feet is no cake walk for any athlete. In late August, during a span of six days, Rhannon Wood ’00 ran 113 of them. Wood participated in the Transrockies Run, an extended endurance event in the mountains of Colorado, finishing fourth among all women’s teams and 28th among all 119 two-person teams.

Partnering with Christina Bauer, whom she met while a Scripps student studying abroad in South Australia, Wood ran an average of 18 miles a day, sustaining herself with mountaintop views, uplifting songs, and playful rivalries with other teams.

Even though she helped the Athenas become SCIAC team champions in cross country all four years, Wood said her coaches did not expect her to enter this kind of race. However, perseverance and dedication paid off.

She upped her training schedule to 50 miles a week and participated in half-marathons and relays, such as the Hood to Coast Relay.

Wood found the physical aspect of the Transrockies Run tough, but perhaps more important was mental durability, which became ever more necessary—especially on the sixth day, on a deeply rutted, overgrown three-mile section of downhill. She kept telling herself that she would rather cry in the chute when she finished than on the trail.

Wood expects to keep running “because I enjoy it so much. It is part of my identity, but it doesn’t define me, and as such, I can enjoy it!”

—Michelle No ’12

(Wynnewood, PA) I continue to sing in Sisterhood Choir at the Temple and enjoy the book club where I live, as well as my drama and classical music subscriptions. Carolyn Schouwelier Seidel (Bakersfield, CA) I have four children, so I’m coming and going to visit them. I’m planning a Panama Canal trip in February.

’50 Helen McNaughton Cancellor (Carlsbad, CA) Life at La Costa Glen retirement community is an exciting chapter in my life. It is almost like being at Scripps: new friends, exciting activities, no cooking or cleaning, and a beautiful “campus.” Beverly La Fromboise Carlson (Portland, OR) Still painting—my therapy. Kathleen Billings Harris Johnson (Medina, WA) I had a wonderful visit to the Scripps campus last May to attend my granddaughter’s graduation. Brooke Mordecai Wissler (Madera, CA) Went on our yearly trek to Ashland, Oregon, to see good theatre, eat good food, and of course, do a little shopping with Sally Sherman Taylor, Jean Neral Honeymay, and Helen McNaughton Cancellor. Sonya Gray Woods (Lincoln, CA) In 2009, I had two major trips and two cataract surgeries, all of which were most successful. My first trip was with Elderhostel to Norway, the Faroes, Iceland and Kirkwall on a Scottish island. We were on the Discovery, a beautiful ship of British registry. The second trip was to Northern Spain with my son and his wife, mostly for a lot of architecture, but I loved the ambiance, the scenery, and the weather.

’51 Ellyse Spiegl Burke (Salinas, CA) Still volunteering at the National Steinbeck Center, visiting grandchildren in Southern California, travelling, and playing tennis. Kathleen Hughes Judy (Lake Arrowhead, CA) I lead an interesting life as telephone chairman of the Hospital Auxiliary of Mountains Community Hospital. I worked in the hospital on Sundays playing the piano and singing old-fashioned hymns in the Skilled Nursing Facility from 1998 to 2008, then I retired. I sing now at a Bible Study on Sunday afternoons at our high school. My singing voice has not lost its beauty. I sang in the Scripps Glee Club in 1947, married, and quit college. Dorothy “Deedee” Denebrink Rechtin (Rolling Hills Estates, CA) I have gradually adjusted to being single following El’s death in 2002, grateful for friends who share my interests in the arts and music, education, my children, and exercise. My daughter Erica Bauer Barermeister’s book, The School of Essential Ingredients, is published in 16 countries. I am enjoying working with Melissa Whittemore Clifford ’66 in an art center support group.

’52 Diana Grupe (Old Greenwich, CT) No spouse—deceased. Sending five grandchildren to college (one in Scotland, one in Ireland). Still exhibiting artworks and doing portraits on commission. Vermont Historical Society enlists my work in all forms at Windsor County. Grandson is swimming champion for state of Vermont. Sue Donat Hatch (Laguna Woods, CA) Bob was 80 in September, my granddaughter Molly graduated from Chapman University in May, my granddaughter Rachel graduated from high school in June, and my grandson Eric graduated from Sonoma State in August. My daughter Linda and her husband, Bill, celebrated 25 years of marriage. Kathleen Niven Lechner (Laguna Beach, CA) An art show of my work and my late husband’s to benefit autism research was supported with donations large and small from friends and alumnae, and I am grateful for those who participated, especially in this economy. Later, my daughter, Amy ’91, accompanied me to Scripps Camp and a short trip to Ireland—the land of W.B. Yeats. Rachel Bruner McComb (Lansing, MI) I attended Scripps my freshman year and graduated from George Washington University in 1952. Whenever I have crazy dreams about school, (I attended 18 before I graduated!) I dream I’m attending Scripps—guess I enjoyed it.

’53 Suzanne Ely Byrne (Hilo, HI) We don’t water our yard in Hilo—it rains. Rick and I are still married. Our children and grandchildren are scattered over the world. Diana Kontas Colson (Sarasota, FL) While visiting California in October, we went to see the Margaret Fowler Garden, where Frank and I were married in 1956, and Balch Auditorium, where I played my senior recital. (Beautiful as always!) We had tea with Marka Oliver Hibbs at her lovely home in Pasadena. Patricia Oliver Powell (Sonoma, CA) Feeling blessed that I have sound health and good friends and continue to travel and visit.
I was accompanied by my son and daughter-in-law, who rented a gondola and paddled with me around Venice. Charlene Mayne Woodcock (Berkeley, CA) I’ve been working with Jolom Mayaetik, a Mayan weaver’s cooperative, in San Cristobal de Las Casas, Chiapas, Mexico.

Margaret Scrogin Chang (Williamstown, MA) My third grandson was born in August 2008. Both my parents passed away in 2009. My father was 98, my mother was 101. So the circle of life continues. I treasure the continuing friendship of Scripps women. Victoria Phillips Crouch (Denver, CO) Since retiring as the Army’s 27th vice chief of staff, Bill has served as senior mentor overseeing training for Army units headed to Iraq, Afghanistan, Kosovo, and is working on a project to return responsibility for security of South Korea to the Republic of Korea army. I travel with him and act as Robin to act as his “Batman.” Sue Strauss Hochberg (Highland Park, IL) I am the new chairman, Board of Overseers, Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, Los Angeles campus. Susan Sumner Sullivan (Fallbrook, CA) We enjoyed a leisurely trip through the Dordogne Valley of France—it was like stepping back into our humanities course.

Susan Hopkins Coolidge (Petaluma, CA) I am sad to report the death of my mother, Kathleen O’Melveny Hopkins Roberts ’42, of Alzheimer’s. Going to Camp Scripps soon after her death on June 10, 2009, was especially poignant for me. Gretchen Haapanen Gilbert (Carlsbad, CA) I recently moved to the beach in Carlsbad to be near my daughter, her husband, and my two grandsons. I spend my time gardening and showing my art in local galleries. I’m finishing two collections of poems and a collection of fresh short stories. In 2015, I will take my final vows as a sister in the Third Order of the Discalced Carmelites. Paula Squire Waterman (Washington, DC) I can hardly wait for my retirement at the end of January 2010, after a long career working in academic and the federal government. Sylvia Morris Young (Bath, ME) I am living in the Maine woods, still practicing reflexology at my office in Bath, in my 34th year there. The Scripps magazines are beautiful—thank you.

1933 Frances Martin Donnelly died May 20, 2009.


1937 Eugenia “Genie” Scott Hawthorne died on September 25, 2009, in Green Valley, Arizona. In 1999, she married Ralph Hawthorne. Genie painted and taught Japanese flower arranging and painting. She is survived by her husband, four children, four grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

1939 Lucile Ann Duda Schaaf died May 31, 2009. She is survived by a sister and six children, 15 grandchildren, 27 great-grandchildren, and four great-great-grandchildren.

1940 Betty Grant Austin died August 3, 2006.

1940 Littie Mackeown Hicks died peacefully on October 29, 2009, a month before her 91st birthday. Littie grew up in Pasadena, where her father was a professor at Caltech. She pursued a lifelong passion for art and travel, and was particularly proud of her Asian art collection. Littie was president of both the Pasadena and Orange County alumnae chapters, and served as Alumnae Association president from 1972 through 1974. Known as “Bubbles,” Littie will be remembered as fun and feisty, and very committed to Scripps College.

1940 Winifred Nixon Ellis died May 4, 2009, due to complications from Alzheimer’s. “Nicky,” as she was known to friends, worked for the Hercules Powder Company and completed a master’s in education from the University of Delaware. She played the piano with great skill, usually with one of her beloved German Shepherds underfoot. She is survived by four children and six grandchildren.

1941 Alice Brophy McChesney died peacefully at home on June 21, 2008, at the age of 88.

1941 Virginia Jeanette Woolley Quealy died at 87 years of age on June 22, 2009. As a young woman growing up in Honolulu, she was an accomplished artist of the Hula. Later, she and her husband spent many years on Orcas Island, where Virginia cultivated an oriental garden. She is survived by five children, eight grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren.

1941 Margaret Vail Woolley died October 17, 2009, suffering from Alzheimer’s. She was 89. She earned a law degree from Loyola Law School, the only woman in her class. Margaret was involved in Republican politics in the South Bay and wrote a political column for the Daily Breeze. She was an excellent horsewoman, riding well into her 80s. Margaret is survived by three children; nine grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

1944 Barbara Bane Chappell died on June 22, 2009. She married her childhood friend, Pierre Chappell, and lived in Colorado, where Pierre was owner and president of J.J. Monaghan Co., the developer of a portable chest respirator for polio victims. She served two terms on the board of directors at Colorado Academy and was an alumnae board member at the Kent School in Colorado. In 1976, the couple moved to La Jolla, where they stayed until Pierre’s death in 2003. Barbara returned to Colorado and focused on art, travel, fishing, playing bridge, and protecting the environment. She is survived by three children, and four grandchildren—including Sheena Robertson Matheson ’93.

1950 Dorothy Louise Byrne died on February 13, 2009, at age 79. Dottie’s love of her home state extended to the sports teams, especially her beloved Colorado Avalanche and Denver Broncos. She cherished meeting people while working at the Denver Zoo and Ocean Journey, and one of her greatest joys was a conversation with Pope John Paul II when he visited where she worked, the St. Malo Retreat Center in Allenspark, in 1993.

1950 Ruth Roberts Spain died September 24, 2009, at Brenham Rest Home, in Texas. An artist, she was employed by Brenham Rest Home as activity director for almost 10 years and was a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution. She is survived by her son.

1953 Marka Oliver Hibbs—librarian, art lover, and world traveler—died suddenly of cardiac arrest on December 27, 2009, at her home in Pasadena. She was 78. The widow of Albert R. Hibbs, the former director of the
In 2000, she returned to California, settling in Chula Vista. She is survived by her husband, Thomas, a daughter, and granddaughter.


1970 Karen L. Karelius died peacefully at home July 7, 2009, after a 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.

1980 Sarah Nunke died at home on October 6, 2009, after battling pancreatic cancer. Sarah received an MS in psychology from Purdue University and went on to a successful career leading product management teams for companies such as Oracle and Answer Systems. Sarah was responsible for leading the design of the first call management application ever integrated with a problem resolution system, and was awarded a U.S. Patent.

2007 Courtney Donnell died on September 23, 2009, in an automobile accident in the Oakland area. She transferred to Mills College after attending Scripps.

Lois E. Langland, PhD, Scripps Emerita Professor, died peacefully November 4, 2009, at a residential care facility in Thousand Oaks, California. She was 90. Lois pursued a doctorate in psychology at UCLA, where she taught before teaching at Scripps College. In 1999, the College created the annual Lois Langland Alumna in Residence Program in her honor. Considered an honorary member of the Class of 1969, she is credited with encouraging and supporting the establishment of Camp Scripps, in 1994. Leslie Lasher Monsour ’69 said of Lois: “She said it, taught it, and lived it: ‘No one is better than you, and you are better than no one’. Long live Lois Langland. Every morning she sang Mozart.” She is survived by her brother and many nieces and nephews. The College, along with the Class of 1969, plans a memorial service for Lois on February 21, at 2:30 p.m., in Margaret Fowler Garden.

*Member of the Elm Tree Society, having made a planned gift to Scripps College.

Some photos are from La Semeuse.

An accomplished author and naval historian, Barbara Brooks Tomblin ’66 released her third book this fall, Bluejackets and Contrabands: African Americans and the Union Navy, published by the University Press of Kentucky. 2009. Tomblin delves into a history of the American Civil War that has been overlooked and underrepresented by scholars and historians, until now.

Most people know of the historical exodus of African-American slaves from the Southern states during the American Civil War. These escaped slaves sought refuge in the North, but the overwhelming numbers presented problems for the northern military. In 1861, the First Confiscation Act permitted the seizure of Southern alliance property by northern forces, including escaped slaves. These individuals, therefore, became known as “contrabands” of war. What has generally been disregarded, however, are the tremendous contributions that the “contrabands” made to the northern war effort during this time. This is what Tomblin’s book brings to light. Through her powerful and informative writing, Tomblin reminds her readers to look beyond the generic history book, and remember the diverse components of any war effort.

Who ya gonna call? Robots!

Celia’s Robot, by Margaret Scrogin Chang ’63, follows the story of 10-year-old Celia, whose busy parents give her a robot to help her clean her room and organize her life. The playful concept stemmed from Margaret’s own experiences as a mother with a demanding professional career.

Margaret admits she has not always maintained an equal balance of the worlds of family and career. However, she has found they need not be mutually exclusive.

“There were many times I felt I could have done more for my daughter, many times I resented the constraints motherhood put on my freedom,” she says. “But overall, my daughter was my first priority. I created Ingrid and Alex Chow, the parents in Celia’s Robot, out of my conflict and resentment. As they pursue their passions, they forget their daughter’s needs—until they almost lose her.

Unfortunately, we cannot all have robots to help us clean our rooms and make the balance easier. However, with Celia’s Robot, Margaret reminds us to keep a light spirit, a sense of humor, and seek new, innovative tools for balancing our worlds.

– Laura Benson ’10
’70 Katherine Madison Cerino (Tuscon, AZ) I spent my working life as an administrator at Stanford University, followed by a five-year stint in Sisters, Oregon. My interest in southwestern archeology, especially rock art, consumes a lot of my life, along with hiking, golf, reading, and our wonderful Scripps book club. I have one daughter who is a really great chiropractor in San Francisco. Husband John and I have owned RVs for years and do a lot of traveling to points north in the summers. Lee Winship

Cook-Cass (Los Angeles, CA) Carolyn Holm and I have organized an inspiring activity [at reunion, Friday night] where we will all share something about ourselves. We all have been shaped by 40 years of work, love, family, success, disappointment, and tragedy. Way back in 1966, for our freshman class play in Balch Auditorium, I portrayed Alice in Wonderland. Since then, I have been down many rabbit holes, some amazing, some challenging, and some tragic. I so look forward to catching up on your “rabbit hole” tales. Merrilee Stewart Howard (Netarts, OR) In 2007, Marty and I moved to Netarts; we’ve particularly enjoyed hosting two summer weekends for Scripps alumnae, taking advantage of minus-tide conditions for leisurely tide-pool walks. We have two daughters. Erika (33) is a licensed massage practitioner at a chiropractic clinic in Seattle. Heather (30) has an MFA in fashion design; she began working in the costume shop for Oregon Shakespeare Festival in Ashland in December. Deirdre Taylor Johnson (Fair Oaks, CA) I work as the director of admissions at Camellia Waldorf School. I also get to teach a little Greek and Latin, putting to use my Scripps degree, and conduct the bell choir. Husband Walt (CMC ’71) was laid off in the spring and has discovered that he can keep busy and is happier as an independent consultant. Mary Davis MacNaughton (Riverside, CA) I love my job as director of the Ruth Chandler Williamson Gallery at Scripps. Spring semester, I teach two courses: “Abstract Art at Mid-Century” and “Dada and Surrealism.” My children, Amanda (27) and Matt (25), have started a new Internet company called CultureJam Inc., which promotes new movies and music. You can find them at CultureJam.com. Constance Norwick (Napa, CA) Husband Dave Gottlieb and I relocated to the Carneros region of Napa two years ago and have adapted to our new country lifestyle. Our house came with 12 egg-laying hens, and I’ve discovered my inner 4-H learning all about raising them. I sell my eggs to a local organic restaurant. My daughter, Olivia, and two granddaughters (ages 4 and 18 months) recently visited, and their favorite activity was visiting the chickens and picking corn and tomatoes from my veggie garden. Evelyn Nelson Senior (Los Angeles, CA) I enjoy working part time for American Airlines and the benefits that go with the job. My husband, Paul, and I recently spent a week in Copenhagen and southern Sweden, where we visited ancestral Nelson villages in Scandinavia. I have been involved in a wonderful project to identify archival photos of Scripps students; many are now online in The Claremont Colleges Digital Library: http://ccdlib.libraries.claremont.edu/collection.php?alias=/ccp. E. Adele Piccinati Swan (Scottsdale, CA) I have been getting back on my path of heart after 20 years in the family car business as VP and human resources director. I have continued to be trained and serve in therapeutic touch, breath work, and holistic healing. Doing stand-up comedy has really been a stretching and creative pursuit I have loved as well. This is on top of saying goodbye to a marriage of 27 years, and then to my dad four years ago, while seeing my beloved two children off to college, selling all our stores, and caring for my mom with Alzheimer’s.

’71 Nancy Hay Carter (Portland, OR) To celebrate our 60th birthdays, five classmates and I spent a week in New England enjoying the fall leaves, covered bridges, and comfy inns: Sheri Cataldi Nagel, Lori Siemens Longo, Cathy Berger Gilson, Patsy Goldman Tankersley, and Jean Harrison Freelove.

’72 Barbara Graff Nalbach ( Rancho Cucamonga, CA) I retired in June after 39 years in California schools. I miss the kids, but retired life is a new treat to be explored. Melanie Campbell Johnson (Stafford, VA) Our daughter, Ashley, returned after two years teaching in China. She’s now in a history PhD program at Northwestern. Our younger daughter, Kristin, is an AFS exchange student in Argentina for her junior year of high school. We [spent] Christmas in Argentina.

’74 Lisa Oyama ( Wailea, HI) Mark and I are now both brokers at Coldwell Banker. I suggest that we start a classified section in the Scripps magazine to support each other in these challenging times. Camilla “Kim” Perkins Wenrick (San Diego, CA) I would like to invite you to visit MyDailyFlog and see my latest photos.

’75 Josie Hazen ( Seattle, WA) I am in my 21st year working for Classic Connections as a travel agent. I enjoy gardening, reading for book groups, and volunteering at the city animal shelter. Sheri Stevens (Thousand Oaks, CA) We are thoroughly enjoying our granddaughter, Isabelle, who will be turning two shortly. It has been special to have her and her mother living with us, but they will soon be moving out to their own place. It’s not too far away, but we’ll miss hearing her wake up in the morning. We look forward to the next phase as empty nesters and will be taking up old hobbies.

’76 Charlotte Miller Long (Walnut Creek, CA) She is living in Walnut Creek, teaching third grade in Concord. Candace McKenna (Snohomish, WA) I recently received the National Federation of Community Broadcasters Volunteer of the Year Award.

’77 Dorothy Schlesser Ashley (Bend, OR) After nearly 30 years in the arts, my husband Eli has retired. I am working for a television production company based in Alaska. We have a one-half-hour series on air, with two more to come. Renee Lovato (Yucaipa, CA) I retired as manager of Mentone Senior Center and Library. A “golden handshake” offered me an early retirement after 30 years with the county of San Bernardino. Lisa Carmack O’Neil (Denver, CO) I am living in Colorado since 1986. Three great kids (ages 21, 19, 13) keep me on my toes. I loved catching up...
Chelsea Jones ’06 married Harvey Mudd alumnus Jay Wright ’06 on August 15, 2008. The ceremony was held at the San Rafael Catholic Church, San Diego, with the reception at the Museum of Contemporary Art in La Jolla. A number of “Scrippsies” attended the wedding, including Amanda Thompson ’06, Jenny Chang ’06, Martha Wang ’06, Hannah Graves ’06, and Kristin Knaebel Oegema ’07. Among the “Mudders” were Tristan Charp ’06, Hansford Hendargo ’06, Jordan Boye ’05, Bart Oegema ’07, Robert Panish ’06, Steve Santana ’06, Eph Lanford ’06, Josh Slater ’06, and Scott Mahr ’07.


On April 4, 2009, Jeff Veenema and Liane Dirks ’06 were married in a ceremony at Walter’s Restaurant in Claremont. Liane writes: “Scripps classmates Tarrin Petersen, Ari Bryant and Kitty Cha were there to help us celebrate and enjoy our Some Crust cupcakes! After our honeymoon in Flagstaff, Arizona, we settled into our cabin just outside of Mt. Baldy village for a spring and summer of hiking and blackberries. We continue to work in Claremont and are thoroughly enjoying life together.”

Great Scott! Christy Vega ’02 and Darren Perez (PI ’01) were married on June 12, 2009, in Laguna Beach, California.

Jessie “Ozzie” Osbaldeston ’04 married Brian Outlaw on September 12, 2009, at Svaedal, a private community run by the Swedish-American Patriotic League, in Morgan Hill, California.
with Patricia Packard LaCroix ’78, Leslie Lassiter, Jackie Spaulding, Debbie Berloet, and Deb Block Javitz ’78.

’78 June Konoya Wachi
(Funabashi, Chiba-ken, Japan) I thoroughly enjoyed meeting Professor Mary Davis MacNaughton ’70 in Tokyo in May and hearing about her project of restoring Chinese paintings in Kyoto. It was wonderful to meet Deidre Merrill-Ikeda ’77 and Frances Kelley ’11, currently studying in Sofiali, as well as Professor MacNaughton’s daughter. Carol Woods (Sonora, CA) I teach high school English and French. My husband, Rob, is a nurse. Our son, Ross, is in sixth grade, playing sports of all kinds, and pounding the drums in his spare time.

’80 Bridget Anderson Latka
(San Anselmo, CA) After 28 years as an administrator in independent schools in California, I made the switch to the non-profit world. Making Waves Foundation is the development arm of the organization.

’81 Julie Payton Henry
(San Dimas, CA) My oldest daughter, Clarice, graduated from high school and is headed for college. My younger daughter, Jessalin, in eighth grade, plans to attend Scripps. Carolyn Jameson (Baltimore, MD) I started a BSN to MSN program at Johns Hopkins School of Nursing. Way cool to be in school now.

’83 Jody Cantrell Garcia
(Kensington, CA) Bree Bowman Blank and I continue to work at AT&T on the same team. It is so much fun having a true friend from Scripps to work with. My three boys are 9, 7, 5 and keep me running. Athene Mitchel Garfield (Henderson, NV) Working for JW Marriott. My son, James (19), is doing great as a sophomore at SDSU. He had a summer job with Marriott in San Diego (it’s in the blood!). Mary Alice Morton (Prairie Village, KS) I’m enjoying being in the estate sale business and delighted with the flexibility it offers and the time to stay connected or get reconnected with friends. Pat Pickett (Los Angeles, CA) I flew to Germany in the fall to present my work (Tree Drawings: Digital Video Tracking of Tree Movements in Gusting Airflow Conditions) as an artist to the 2009 Conference of International Wind & Tree Scientists. Linan Hatch Ukropina (Pasadena, CA) Bill and I opened a Coldwell Banker commercial office in Glendale three years ago, and despite the economy, our business continues to grow. Our oldest, Nick (21), is a junior at Santa Clara University and our middle son, Grant (19), is a freshman at Harvey Mudd! With only one son left at home, Conrad (16), at Loyola High School, the house is too quiet.

’87 Kim Nykanen
(Claremont, CA) Still blissfully “retired.” Lillian will be a high school sophomore this fall. Steve and I will be married 18 years this November.

’88 Paula Cooperband Grifka
(Santa Monica, CA) I’m getting my second master’s degree, in communication disorders and sciences for speech and language pathology. My three children (ages 15, 13, and 7) are doing great.

’89 Laura Kim Lodin
(Irvine, CA) I just returned from Cape Town, where I produced a Free Willy sequel for Warner Bros. and National Geographic Films, which starred Bindi Irwin, the daughter of the late Steve Irwin. My sister, Sara Kim ’86, visited me in Cape Town for a week, and we had a fabulous time touring the city. My husband, Michael (HMC ’88), and I are busy raising our two sons, Anders (4) and Julian (2).

’91 Antoinette Sabarots-Etulain
(Seattle, WA) The twins, Maitexa and Patxi, are now 3. Jean Mikel is 4 and started the French School. Alexandria is looking into colleges. My school is doing well, with 35 families. Started rowing on a crew team last year. Sometimes my daughter is coxing my boat.

’95 Danielle Dean Allison
(Newport Beach, CA) Dave and I have a daughter, Elizabeth Cundiff ’84, president-elect of the Alumnae Association, has created a blog on the Scripps Online Community website. As president-elect, Elizabeth is spending this year working closely with Merrilee Stewart Howard ’70, current Alumnae Association president, in preparation for Elizabeth’s transition to the presidency in July 2010. Elizabeth will be sharing her “year of learning” thoughts and welcomes feedback from sister alums! You can find her blog, Sowing Seeds, at www.alumna.scrippscollege.edu/blog/sowingseeds.

Scripps Online Community has its first official blog!

Emily (5) and a son, Matt (3½). Patti Hoffman-Friedes (Santa Cruz, CA) The other day, my two-year-old son picked up my purse and walked around the house saying, “Got no cash, got no cash.” Other than that, life with wife, two kids, two dogs, two cats and two fish in Santa Cruz is great. Looking forward to the day I learn how to surf and officially join the beach community. Laura McNeill (Nashville, TN) I am an account manager for Cisco Systems. I try to visit my home town of Menlo Park a couple times each year and look forward to Scripps’ reunion weekend. I love having visitors and showing off what a fun town Nashville is. Elizabeth Murphy Poggi (Portola Valley, CA) We’re very excited to announce the arrival of Griffin, the littlest member of the Poggi & Murphy clan. Sabine Romero (Austin, TX) I am redefining life. My beautiful first child, Anna, is four months old—another confident, courageous, hopeful woman in the world.

Barbara “B.J.” Doty (McMinnville, OR) After nearly four decades of working in the world, I’ve retired to the more solitary pursuits of my home studio and garden. Living in Pinot Noir country affords us the opportunity to host friends, visit wineries and tasting rooms, and sample cuisine of the fine
restaurants that showcase the Pacific NW’s slow food movement. We happily celebrated a birthday with Melanie Rawn ’75, who took a break from her writing in Flagstaff for a look around McMinnville. My latest project? Growing extra vegetables and fruit for the local food bank.

’97 Elsa Hsu Ching (Santa Ana, CA) Peter and I welcomed our son into this world on January 15, 2009. I’m back to work full time at Mercer and enjoying balancing work and family. Mara Hartwig (Playa del Rey, CA) I’m excited to report that I am in the process of moving into my new condo. I recently saw Renee Houjingtang King, who was celebrating the completion of her doctorate in clinical psychology. I also took a trip to Japan last March, with Mary “Tennie” Olney.

’00 Catherine Myman-Kaplan (Santa Monica, CA) I recently celebrated my fifth wedding anniversary with my delightful husband, Matt. Our amazing daughter, Lucy, is fast approaching two. I was recently added to the Young Family Board of my temple. Kyna Powers (Portland, OR) In the spring, I started working on energy conservation. I also took a fantastic vacation to Greece to attend a 400-person wedding and travel around Turkey. I returned home to my very own house in NE Portland, and I’ve been busy using my newly acquired home improvement skills.

’01 Andrea Stanley (Missoula, MT) Andrea left the California Regional Water Quality Control Board in Lake Tahoe to begin graduate studies with the Geosciences Dept. at the University of Montana and the U.S. Geological Survey.

’02 Lisa Avery (South Pasadena, CA) Alex and I just celebrated the birth of our son, Jonas Cooper Guthman, on October 6, 2009. I am continuing to teach seventh grade English, as well as pursuing fine art photography.

’04 Carly Crouch (Cambridge, England) I finished my studies in Oxford with the submission and defense of my DPhil thesis. This is now in book form under the title War and Ethics in the Ancient Near East. I’m now at Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge, for a postdoctoral research fellowship and busy working on book number two.

’06 Kassandra Lobeto (Rancho Cucamonga, CA) Married September 13, 2008, and currently attending Claremont Graduate University to get an MA and teaching credential.

’07 Laura Ehrlich (Rochester, NY) I graduated magna cum laude from the University of Rochester School of Nursing with my BSN, and passed the NCLEX in June; will be living in Rochester for the next few years, as I have a job at Strong Memorial Hospital’s Emergency Observation department. Elizabeth Gallagher (Oxford, United Kingdom) I’ve been offered a job working as an assistant for the Conservative Party Archive at the Bodleian Library here.

’08 Sara Jane Gershfeld Cohen (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). I am currently working on my PhD in developmental psychology at CGU; Alex works as a business analyst for Deloitte & Touche.

’09 Lauren Bahedry (Los Angeles, CA) Lauren began teaching sixth grade at Carlthorp School in Santa Monica and will start a master’s in education this year. Kathryn “Katie” Frazier (Worcester, MA) I’m pursuing my doctorate in developmental psychology at Clark University in Worcester, Massachusetts. Melissa Lewis (Jeonju, South Korea) I’m in South Korea on my Fulbright, teaching at a coed high school in Jeonju. It has been a great challenge overcoming the language barrier, but a really eye-opening and rewarding time meeting new people and learning about a new culture. It has also been hard work as a first-time teacher with 200 students. Margo Parks (Sacramento, CA) I have started a yearlong senate fellowship in Sacramento through the Capitol Fellows Program. I and 17 others are placed as staff members into either a senator’s office or a committee office, where we spend the remainder of the year working on legislation. The program also consists of an academic component that allows fellows to earn half the credits needed towards a master’s in public policy. Katherine “Carrie” Schneider (Seattle, WA) Carrie was an intern last summer at the Alaska Museum of National History in Anchorage. Payton Watkins (San Francisco, CA) I am currently a graduate student at the Academy of Art University in San Francisco to get my MFA in graphic design through the school’s online program. I am also working at the Apple Store.

Winning Eco-Art

California artist Lindsay Seligman ’06 won the hessnatur/Planet Green Eco-Tee Design Challenge. Her winning design, “One Life”—a bird, cat, fish, butterfly, frog, and human drawn by a single line to represent their interconnection—will be manufactured and sold by hessnatur; sale proceeds will help support students in Bangladesh. Lindsay credits her design ability to “my great art teachers at Scripps, including Nancy Macko and Susan Rankaitis.”
The non-paid working mom

by Mary Waite Garvey ’93

I’ve come to really like the term “partner” when speaking of a spouse because it symbolizes what family and work/life balance is about for me (although “lover” is currently running a quick second). In a healthy relationship, each member of a family has a role to play and skills to contribute to the betterment of the whole and no one is left wanting, angry, or unfulfilled. That’s where I am in all working or stay at home mommy stuff; I’ve decided that I’m a non-paid working mother.

Managing a home and all that entails is full-time enough, but I also sit on the parent association executive board, serve as a trustee for the elementary school, manage a capital campaign grant program, fundraiser for Children’s Hospital Los Angeles, and have been known to lobby Congress/the White House and local government for changes in how law enforcement counts and solves sexual assault crimes, not to mention campaigning for the exposure of various human rights abuses around the globe. I do it for free, because I feel an obligation to give back using the education I received and the talents I was blessed with. I also do it because I’m fortunate enough to have a financial situation that gives me leeway and choice.

I realize this is not a mainstream lifestyle and many working mothers are wondering where the next meal is coming from, and how to make paper dolls with a bunch of first graders and, saving the world is even down lower on the list. But I do have that opportunity; I can provide services to organizations that really need my skills but don’t want to hire someone because of the costs associated with that. Do I sometimes feel undervalued and judged? Never and often.

People, more specifically, women, regularly assume many things about my lifestyle, interest, and intelligence because I don’t draw a salary. They can’t fathom why I wouldn’t want to get paid for my work or think of me as somehow short changing myself or endangering my future economically. I’m over it and am focusing on my family and how we function as a unit. I hope that in the 21st century, women will stop judging women and revel in the reality that we do indeed have many choices. There are obstacles, affordable professional childcare being one, to overcome to help achieve true parity in the workplace, but I believe the home is a refuge where all voices are honored and each partner is supported in living the life he/she desires.

On November 5, 2009, one of the main volunteer efforts that Garvey and other women have undertaken began to get positive results: Bipartisan legislation was introduced in the U.S. Senate that is considered a significant step toward eliminating the backlog of evidence in rape cases. Justice for Survivors of Sexual Assault Act of 2009 would require the federal government to collect data on untested sets of evidence, known as rape kits, in police and crime lab storage facilities and prioritize testing this evidence in federal DNA funding programs.
To recognize the loyal donors who give back to Scripps year after year, the College has formed the Rose Garden Society. The Rose Garden Society honors donors who have given for two or more consecutive fiscal years to Scripps College, and the College recognizes this loyalty without regard to the amount of giving.

Indeed, every gift matters.

For more information, please contact the Scripps College Annual Fund at 909-607-1542 or visit www.scrippscollege.edu/giving.
The Motley Coffeehouse, an entirely Scripps student-run operation, is a popular site for study and conversation. Attracting members of the entire Claremont Colleges community, the venue also offers evening music events and public forums.