The Millennials and Generation Z are the generations I have known over the last 14 years working with Sweet Briar College JYF in Paris. I’m often asked if the students have changed and if the program has changed as a result.

Students are still attracted to JYF because our program allows them to discover French culture and studies through a real immersion in French. That core value has not changed in 70 years, and it remains the strongest element in our identity. We are facing headwinds in the trend toward very short stays and programs entirely in English, but we are determined to maintain our standards and are working on new means of communicating our strengths and the benefits of full immersion and rigorous French university study for the generations to come.

The great difference is that today’s students are more connected than ever; they live on and through social media. Because they come with their laptops and telephones, long gone are the days of collect calls home once a week. Of course there are good and bad sides to this universal connectivity, but on the whole students suffer less from homesickness and have a much easier time getting around and becoming involved. We may miss the little books of street maps organized by arrondissement and the Pariscope, but Generation Z has a fabulous wealth of information at its fingertips.

Most of our students do not major in French literature or Art History but they still take courses in French at the Sorbonne, in French Literature, Art History, and Philosophy. But American students, for the most part, now have other priorities: International relations, Business and Economy are among the most in demand, but also sciences, psychology, sociology. All these subjects are taught at the University Paris Diderot and are widely represented among the students’ majors. Then you find another group of students who in spite of their majors decide to explore the theater and cinema departments of the University of Paris III, as well as the communication and European studies departments.

Our in-house courses are still very attractive and the history of Paris through its architecture, which allows them to visit new sites every week, the art history class that takes place at the Louvre every Wednesday night, or the theater class which takes them to see plays in many great theaters such as the Comédie Française, are always highly praised.

If this vigorous academic approach is intimidating, Generation Z is not letting it show! In the end, the vast majority pass their classes with excellent results, and if the first exams in class (also known as DST, or devoir sur table) are excrutiating, in the end they will be proud to have done it the way the French do. Another way to learn that French method is through our internship program which continues to attract students and represents a doorway to working in a francophone environment.

When students are not attending classes, they are doing what they have done for the last seven decades: strolling along the streets of Paris, travelling throughout Europe during weekends and vacation. The difference today is that they fly everywhere instead of taking night trains and often book their various trips before arriving in France, another advantage of universal connectivity. And of course we can follow them, as their family and friends can, through the pictures that they put on their Instagram.

As the great majority of you remember so well, living with a French family is also part of our immersion, and many students remain in contact with their host family and visit them when they come back to France. Families today have adapted to a new generation too and have learned how to prepare vegan dinners. This year alone seven students from just 2016-2017 are working in Paris or other towns where they teach English in high schools through the TAPIF program, others are doing a Master at the Sorbonne. And now, they do not have to sign a pledge to speak French…it comes to them naturally.

As we celebrate JYF’s 70th anniversary in Spring 2019, we are honored that Emile Langlois and Margaret Scouten, beloved former directors remembered fondly by so many of you, will attend the grand event we are planning on April 5, 2019, at Reid Hall in Paris. We hope you will join us!

Marie Grée
Director
Sweet Briar College JYF in Paris
contents

Letter from the JYF Director inside front cover

Letters from former JYF Directors 2

Invitation to SBC JYF 70th anniversary celebration in Paris 4

Paris lecture series 4

Interview with Professor Delia Mellado 5

Mots d’ Étudiants – “La Vie en France” 6

Excerpts from JYF students posts on Le Blog

70 years of JYF 9

JYF in Paris: A family legacy 10

Reunion News:
Sweet Briar College JYF 1968-69 participants celebrate their 50-year reunion in New York City and Paris 13
Planning a reunion for the JYF class of 1979-80 15

2017-2018 Honor Roll 16

Investing in the Junior Year in France program for a new generation 17

Alumni Stories 18

Class Notes 29

Keep in touch with JYF 48

In Memoriam Inside back cover

ON THE COVER: JYF students in the streets of Paris accompanied by Professor Guillaume Peigné for the course Paris Palimpseste: Histoire de Paris à travers son architecture.
PHOTO BY REID MCLAUGHLIN
As Sweet Briar College gets ready to celebrate the 70th anniversary of its Junior Year in France program, I realize that I have been involved with the program in one quality or another for nearly 50 of those 70 years. It started in 1969 when, having joined the French department at Mount Holyoke, I participated in the selection of the students allowed to go on the Sweet Briar program (the better ones, the others being directed towards programs judged easier or not as good!) Later, I was the resident director in Paris, in 1975-76, 1982-83 and 2000-2001. From 1984 to 2000 I was what the French called directeur général and since 2001 I am director emeritus. A very long association indeed!

Talking with alumnae and alumni from the early classes has always been one of my greatest pleasures. During my years in Virginia I particularly enjoyed meeting Mary Morris Gamble Booth at various functions. (read more about Mary on pg. 9) She belongs to the first group of students courageous enough to go and spend the year 1948-49 in Paris. Through her and other alumni of the early years of the program, I realized how much we owed to them. They arrived in a Paris where there were still food restrictions, where coal and therefore heating was scant and hot water restricted to two days a week. Funnily enough, since French families were often unable to take in an extra mouth to feed, in 1948-49, 19 women were housed at Reid Hall, which means that the rooms where today’s students may attend some classes were dormitory rooms for the first group of students.

The program has gone through many changes: a pre-session in Tours (although students were always eager to move to Paris as quickly as possible), moves from Reid Hall to the Alliance Française and back to Reid Hall, excursions to Normandy, Burgundy or other places, internships, a semester program, cooperation with more universities, etc. and all this while France went through many crises, first the Cold War, then the Algerian War, the 1968 événements, terrorism, and a dollar which always seemed too weak!

I am glad that this 70th anniversary will be celebrated in Paris and hope to be able to travel and see some of the alumnae and alumni and the former colleagues whom I have met over the years.

Emile Langlois
Director, Emeritus of Sweet Briar College Junior Year in France, 1984 – 2000

THANK YOU

Over the past 70 years:

• To our partner colleges and universities for sending your students to France with JYF

• To the JYF Advisory Committee for your guidance and feedback

• To JYF Alumni for contributing your experiences and reflections and your support to JYF

• To JYF directors, resident directors, assistant directors and staff for making it all happen
My tenure as Director of the Sweet Briar College Junior Year in France for 14 years (July, 2000- July, 2014) was the most memorable and fulfilling challenge of my 32-year career at Sweet Briar College.

Not only was it an honor and a privilege to have succeeded the inimitable Dr. Emile Langlois (1984-2000) but also to have been given the opportunity to work closely with so many knowledgeable and dedicated colleagues in the French departments and study abroad offices from over 35 universities and colleges nationwide. I will always cherish the relationships and deep friendships with my exemplary JYF staff (Sue Fauber and Pat Wydner) in Virginia, the outstanding and hardworking resident directors and assistant directors, JYF professors and JYF staff in Paris and the hundreds of students who spent the year or semester abroad with SBCJYF in Tours and in Paris or Nice.

A special mention must go to the legendary Mme Carol Denis, assistant director to several resident directors in Paris who nurtured, advised and helped so many students from (1978-1979; 1981-2002) and was named by students as “mother of the program.” Sadly, she passed away after a courageous battle with cancer on Aug. 8, 2006.

JYF is fortunate to continue the JYF program under the excellent leadership of Director Marie Grée in Paris along with Lucy Hervier, and Laura Nunes da Costa. Their daily interaction with students is the strength of the program at Reid Hall.

As the oldest intercollegiate coeducational study abroad program in Paris, we are now celebrating 70 years of providing college students with “the most formative time of their life” (as stated in a lot alumni letters). We hope that many of you will be able to return to Paris and join us for the 70th Anniversary Celebration at Reid Hall on April 5, 2019 to share memories of your experiences in Paris.

Looking forward to seeing you soon!

Amitiés,
Margaret Scouten, Ph.D
JYF Director Emerita

I was sitting in a small office in an annex of the Institut de Touraine on Tuesday afternoon chatting with students about course offerings in Paris. This was a frustrating task because, even into the second week of September, the French universities had not released specific information about classes that would be starting in early to mid-October. Ninety-seven students had arrived in Tours the previous week for our preliminary session before beginning their academic year in Paris.

So it was during an afternoon break that a student came by to tell me that there had been a terrible accident in New York: a plane had crashed into one of the towers of the World Trade Center. I walked upstairs to the media center in time to see a second plane hit the tower and it started to become clear that this was more than an accident. I watched with horror along with a couple of dozen students, teachers and colleagues as new reports came in about other planes. I called my wife in Paris where she had stayed with our two kids while I was in Tours and I found comfort in her voice and those of my children.

The next day we had a group meeting in the theater of the Institut and invited students from other smaller programs to attend. The students were understandably anxious; some of them had parents or other relatives who worked in the WTC or at the Pentagon and had not yet been able to contact them. The director of the Institut had already put additional security measures in place and the French government had launched the Vigipirate protocols. We felt safe in our provincial town but with a heightened awareness of our surroundings.

To say that this put a special edge on the year would be an understatement. Students in some programs decided to return to the USA; all 97 of our students stayed. Once back in Paris, there were intense conversations with the homestay families, with faculty and staff at the Alliance Française and among the students concerning news coverage and international response. A junior year abroad is always life altering, but 2001-2002 was infused with dramatic events that forced reflection and made International understanding seem more important than ever before.

As interim program director a few years ago when Sweet Briar College was facing threat of closure, I had the opportunity to speak with many former program participants from the 1950s, 1960s and 1970s. They had wonderful stories to share about their own year abroad and how it affected their lives and their life choices in subsequent years. I know from my own experience on a junior year abroad in France what a profound effect such an experience has on our understanding of the world.

Study abroad has changed dramatically over the past two decades. Close to 60 percent of study abroad these days is short-term programs—eight weeks or fewer—often with faculty from the home institutions and often all in English. I know that short-term programs can be interesting and worthwhile, but the total immersion in another culture and in another language for nine or ten months is enriching in ways that one continues to discover and reconsider over a lifetime.

I was a member of the Sweet Briar Junior Year in France Advisory Committee for 10 years before becoming the academic director in Paris and I remained a member for another 12 years after returning to Washington and Lee. I have regularly sent our Washington and Lee students on the JYF program and they all come back telling me that, after meeting students from other American programs in Paris, they think the Sweet Briar JYF is the best—the home stays, the academic support, the excursions. Sweet Briar JYF is one of a few high-quality programs that continue to provide an opportunity for total immersion in France at a time when intercultural understanding seems more important than ever.

John Lambeth
Academic Director in Paris, 2001-2003
Interim Program Director 2015-2016
Cordially invites you to our
70TH ANNIVERSARY COCKTAIL

Friday, April 5, 2019
5:30 p.m.
at Reid Hall, 4, rue de Chevreuse 75006 Paris

RSVP by Friday, February 15
sbcparis@sbc.edu
(434) 381-6109 or 01-45-48-79-30

PARIS LECTURE SERIES

Each year, JYF in Paris presents lectures for students, alumni of the program and host families. The Phoebe Bradt Lectureship and the Patricia G. Nichols Lectureship are possible thanks to the generosity of the Bradt Family Fund. The fund is part of the JYF endowment and supports multi-disciplinary lectures and receptions in France with contemporary French thought leaders. These activities, offered during the academic year, are intended to advance mutual understanding among members of university communities—notably the students of JYF and University of Paris as well as alumni of these institutions.

2018 LECTURES

October 2018—Panel discussion on Immigration in France Today: Solidarity and Rejection with Raphaël Krafft, journalist and writer, author of “Passeur;” Guillaume Le Blanc, philosopher and author of “La fin de l’hospitalité;” and Olivier Adam, writer and author of “A l’abri de rien” and co-screen writer of the film “Welcome” about migrants at Calais

March 2018—Panel discussion on “Women’s free speech: from #metoo to #balancetonporc” with Marcela Iacub, legal historian; Vincent Tolédano, journalist and lawyer; and Azadeh Kian, professor of sociology

Did you know?

Columbia Global Centers in Paris at Reid Hall, where JYF’s office is located, hosts well over 100 events per year: concerts, readings, lectures, performances, conferences. All events organized by the Paris Center are free and open to the public unless otherwise indicated. To learn more about upcoming events, visit https://globalcenters.columbia.edu/content/paris-events

To learn more about upcoming events and to receive invitations, please sign up for the mailing list at: globalcenters.columbia.edu/paris.
Interview with DELIA MELLADO

MEMORIES OF MME MELLADO:

Mme Delia Mellado’s quote: “Vous avez vingt ans et vous êtes à Paris - vous avez de la chance!” She was right!

Pramita Kuruvilla, 1997-1998, USC

Mme Mellado’s grammar class strongly influenced my thinking about being a language teacher. It was a new and good perspective on language learning techniques.

Jamie Olken Pokharel, Fall 2003, Wheaton College

I especially loved taking classes at JYF offices with Madame Mellado. She was a fantastic teacher and I really loved her enthusiasm for the language.

Samantha Galvan, Spring 2005

Every time Mme Mellado called us princes and princesses.

Katelyn French, 2014

Mme. Mellado's interactive (and always comedic) French grammar course!

Megan Johnston, Spring 2015, Sweet Briar College

How long have you worked for JYF and what do you teach?

I have been working for JYF for many, many years… When I started teaching our beautiful French language for JYF, my current students were not born!

What do you enjoy most about teaching American study abroad students?

All the students who come to JYF are very interested in discovering French culture, and most of them already love it. This is why they are a very exceptional audience. For them, French language is obviously a means to achieve their goal, to enter French life and to belong, as much as possible, to Paris. What teacher could ask for more?

What challenges do you experience teaching American study abroad students?

First, I want to surprise them! They come to Paris to live a new experience and I want to surprise them by giving them something different from what they already learned, something maybe not better but different.

My concern is the language and only the language. I want to show them that even if they have a good—and sometimes very good—level in French, they still have a lot of things to learn. I try to give them as much as I can during our three hours a week together. At the end of each class, I ask myself what my students have learned during this hour and a half spent together.

Another challenge for me is not to forget anyone. Sometimes, students in the same group don’t need the same things and I have to adapt my teaching until I can see a smile on every face!

How do you see your role?

My role is a fantastic one! My role is to lead them to master our beautiful but very difficult language! I want them to feel comfortable and not to fear their professors’ reaction. The more they feel comfortable, the easier it gets.

What impact do you think you have on students?

That’s a difficult question. Learning a language requires rigor, but in spite of that rigor that can be sometimes difficult but leads to efficiency, I hope that I do transmit to my students my passion for French and foreign languages in general, because learning a new language is like opening your mind to different people.

Professor Mellado has taught Sweet Briar’s Expression écrite and Grammaire et syntaxe avancées since 1990. She and her course are among the most memorable for many JYF alumni through the years.
Mal habillée
Keyla Carvalho
Northwestern University
Je quitte l’aéroport. C’est mon premier jour ici, la première fois que je viens à Paris, et la première impression que j’ai est de ne pas être… pas assez bien habillée. (…)Dans les trains, dans les rues, dans les situations les plus banales possibles, tout le monde semble extrêmement à la mode, et je n’ai jamais été aussi consciente de moi-même et de mes vêtements froissés. (…)quelques jours plus tard, quand je quitte la classe à la recherche de mon déjeuner, je les vois. Les jupes. Les pantalons. Les robes. Les blouses. Les vestes. Les chaussures. Les chaussettes. Les sandales. Et les Parisiens qui les portent, un sourire sur leurs visages, des cheveux impeccables, des voix bourdonnant une langue que je peux à peine comprendre, ce sont eux. (…)Ce n’est pas comme si je ne m’y attendais pas : Paris est l’une des capitales de la mode, après tout. Je peux sentir mon sens du style s’améliorer à mesure que j’essaie de nouvelles combinaisons. Mais je ne peux toujours pas comprendre… comment même les bébés peuvent-ils s’habiller mieux que moi ???

L’Orchestration du dîner
Marissa Gamache
Wheaton College
Quelque chose que je ne suis pas certaine de comprendre, mais qui est très important, est la façon de dîner. (…) Le dîner est une production complètement orchestrée. D’abord, mettre la table est comme l’activation d’une bombe, chaque chose à sa place et pas de place pour l’erreur. L’assiette au centre, la fourchette sur la gauche, le couteau sur la droite, le verre au-dessus—j’ai cru que ce ne serait pas trop difficile. Comme pour la plupart de mes hypothèses depuis mon arrivée, j’avais tort. En plus de...
devoir être posée sur la gauche, la fourchette doit reposer à l'envers. En plus de devoir être posé sur la droite, le couteau doit faire face à l'assiette. En plus de devoir rester au-dessus, le verre doit être centré et au-dessus de la cuillère qui est aussi posée à l'envers. Le pain ne doit pas être dans l'assiette, mais sur la table, à gauche de l'assiette. La première fois que j'ai mis la table, je tenais cette « bombe », une main agrippée aux cuillères, l'autre main agrippée aux serviettes, me demandant si elle exploserait à la première erreur. Heureusement, ma mère d'accueil m'a sauvée.

Découvrir Paris au-delà des images
Isabella Ko
Northwestern University
(...)

Arrivera-t-il un moment où les lumières clignotantes de la Tour Eiffel ne m'enthousiasmeront plus, où l'architecture monumentale deviendra insipide comme le sont pour moi les gratte-ciel, et où l'hiver rendra les jardins sombres et sans fleurs ? Comme si je ne pouvais pas croire à ce que je vois, j'attends que cette façade idyllique de Paris vole en éclats, ce grand rêve magique qui, je le crains, cache la totalité de cette ville. L'idéalisation présente toujours des dangers. Elle me fait oublier ce que je remarque dans et sous les rues—comme les bras de l'homme infirme qui traîne son corps à travers le métro pour obtenir un peu d'argent et survivre, ou les yeux bleu clair, saisissants, de la femme assise sur le trottoir devant laquelle je passe chaque jour en allant à mes cours. Il y a, bien sûr, toujours un spectre de la beauté et du mal ; cependant, comment peut-on garder ces deux côtés pour connaître la réalité, ou plutôt les réalités ?
déjà 10 minutes de retard. Dégainant ma carte Navigo (...) avec une rapidité qui se révéla inefficace en raison de mon impatience et de ma naïveté, je faisais face au tourniquet [qui] ne succomba pas à mon audace et demeura plutôt barbare et résistant. Désespéré et confus, je commençai à paniquer. Le train s’était arrêté brusquement et était prêt à accueillir le troupeau qui avait réussi à battre les diaboliques inventions humaines. Seul à être vaincu, je regardai au loin et acceptai ma défaite. En levant les yeux, je vis que l’inconnu (...) avait remarqué ma galère. Il tenait la porte pour moi et m’apprit avec un geste comment dépasser l’imposition des machines. Je le regardai avec étonnement et reconnaissance ; un véritable guerrier chargé d’honneur. Même si j’étais seul à lutter contre une force étrange et insurmontable, j’avais, même pour un instant qui serait bientôt épuisé, rencontré un camarade. Je me souviendrai toujours de mon frère d’armes.

La vraie magie de Paris
David McElrath
Hampden Sydney
Je pensais, autrefois, que j’étais le fils des grandes villes. Que j’aurais pu trouver le cœur de la ville vivante et marcher seul dans les rues sombres et mystérieuses. Mais j’ai senti que j’avais peur. Ce n’est pas que ces choses soient nouvelles pour moi—au contraire ! Je me souviens du mode de vie dans les grandes villes. C’est exactement cet environnement qui m’a formé dans mon enfance. Mais Paris est différente des autres grandes villes. Moi, qui ai déjà vu de nombreuses villes, je suis constamment surpris par le mélange unique de cultures, traditions, et histoires qui est présent ici. Ici, les lumières et les ombres dansent ensemble dans la nuit. Chaque jour apporte de nouvelles aventures inattendues qui sont les bienvenues. Laissez-moi vous expliquer. Imaginez un souk parisien. C’est le matin, mon premier matin à Paris. Le ciel est gris, le vent froid, épicé par les odeurs et vibrant des voix des peuples de douzaines de pays. La force du décalage horaire afflue dans ma tête en vagues énormes, se déplaçant d’avant en arrière. Mais chaque fois que je pense que la vague m’entraine (vers quoi, je ne sais pas), je trouve un autre spectacle, un souvenir des temps anciens. Je suis là avec des amis de ma famille d’accueil, qui me présente à plusieurs personnes différentes dans le souk, avec qui j’ai des conversations sur beaucoup de sujets, limité par ma seule imagination. (...) C’est ça, je pense, la vraie magie de Paris. Ce n’est pas du tout les musées, les monuments, ou les petits cafés dans chaque rue. C’est la capacité à surprendre, à présenter tout le monde avec de nouvelles histoires et nouveaux souvenirs—une expérience inoubliable. (...) J’ai hâte d’être demain dans cette grande ville.

Se doucher dans une baignoire
Maja McCabe
Connectituct College
Quand je suis arrivée chez elle, ma mère d’accueil m’a montré la maison. J’ai remarqué que les toilettes étaient au rez-de-chaussée et la salle de bain au premier étage. C’était un peu étrange pour moi, mais d’accord. Je comprends que les deux salles soient séparées, deux personnes peuvent les utiliser en même temps. À condition qu’il y ait des toilettes et une douche, je suis d’accord !

Enfin, j’étais prête à prendre une douche. Ma mère d’accueil m’a dit « est-ce que tu sais comment utiliser la douche ? » et j’ai répondu « bien sûr ! » J’ai vite découvert pourquoi elle a posé cette question. Devant moi, une douche que je n’ai jamais vue. Il y a une baignoire et un pommeau de douche. Je suis restée là quelques minutes en pensant à la façon de m’approcher de la douche. Dois-je me lever ou m’asseoir ? Est-ce que je remplis la baignoire d’eau ? Plus important encore, comment puis-je prendre une douche sans mettre de l’eau sur le sol ?

Après, peut-être, la plus longue douche de ma vie, j’ai regardé autour de moi. Il y avait beaucoup d’eau sur le mur et beaucoup sur le sol. Ok, j’ai un peu échoué.

J’ai nettoyé et pensé aux difficultés qui m’attendaient. Je veux juste une douche normale !

Mais, deux semaines plus tard, je peux dire avec joie qu’il y a moins d’eau sur le sol tous les soirs et que j’apprends à prendre une douche à moitié assise et à moitié debout !
In 1948, the United Nations was still in its early days and in December of that year, the organization adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, acknowledging a need for better understanding among the peoples of the world. What better time for Sweet Briar’s JYF program to get started? (N.B.: The program first got its start at the University of Delaware in 1923, but was interrupted by World War II and came to Sweet Briar College in 1948.)

Mary Morris Gamble Booth, a member of the Sweet Briar Class of 1950, was part of this first Junior Year in France group—and one of five from Sweet Briar to spend the 1948-49 year in Paris. In the wake of World War II, the country was still reeling. Food was rationed and electricity was turned off two days a week. Mary remembers her fingers growing numb around her pencils because of the cold. Even so, it was an experience she would carry with her.

Asked what surprised her most about Paris, her answer is the River Seine. A St. Louis native, Mary’s notion of a river was formed by the mighty Mississippi, one of the largest rivers in the world. Young Mary, before her trip to France had been excited to see the Seine, which she had heard so much about. Imagine her surprise when she got to Paris and realized that the mythos of the Seine was larger than its physical size.

That wasn’t the only surprise, of course. Sometimes the peculiarities of language were surprising too. Once, she came into voice class and told the instructor, “J’ai une grenouille dans la gorge,” intending to say that she had a “frog in her throat.” That particular English idiom didn’t translate well and her teacher was completely shocked. Another such example: Sometimes the American students would eat too much of the wonderful French food, and when offered more, would respond with “too full!” in French. The problem is that in French, that phrase translates to “I’m pregnant!” Imagine the shocked faces of their French friends and colleagues!

Mary remembers how young and idealistic they all were—young students hoping to stop war. Speaking in 2013, she said she was not as sanguine as she had been in 1948, but went on: “I still think international study and international relations and friendships are all to the good. So that’s why I think it’s important for as many people as can to get the experience.”

That’s a notion shared by many at Sweet Briar. A 1974 issue of the Sweet Briar Alumnae Magazine noted that the JYF program had “opened wide a window on the world; it provided a means whereby education can help the United States fulfill its mission in international affairs. In the words of President Harold B. Whiteman Jr., it has proved to be ‘one of the College’s greatest assets. In certain parts of the globe … Sweet Briar is its Junior Year in France.’”

The program has had no less impact on the students, like Mary, who told us: “We, the more than 7,000 fortunate students who attended and now are celebrating the 70th anniversary of the Sweet Briar Junior Year in France, know that we will always have Paris.”
Sweet Briar’s Junior Year in France program—these days known as JYF in Paris—is America’s longest-running coeducational study-abroad program in Paris. Study-abroad experiences are some of the most meaningful a student can have, so it is perhaps no surprise that some JYF attendees are not the first members of their family to participate.

The Kadish family is one example.

The Kadish family tradition of studying in France actually began with Doris Kadish’s father, a Russian who studied in France when he was young. Doris thought it was a wonderful thing that he’d studied in France. Though her mother was fearful of her daughter spending a year in France, her father won the argument and in 1959, a young Doris—majoring in French at Skidmore College in New York—spent a year in Paris, launching a legacy that would see both her son, Matt, and granddaughter, Melissa, attend the JYF program.

Doris arrived in a country still suffering the effects of World War II. “I think it’s probably hard for younger people to realize what it was like after the second world war and how tough things were in Europe in terms of physical conditions and mental attitudes,” Doris told us. “I think that the French were hurting. They had lived through very horrible times.”

Doris remembers her granddaughter, Melissa, being in Paris last year and sending pictures of herself eating crêpes or ice cream. Doris’s experience was more stark. “We didn’t have heating. [My host] would give us a bucket of coal every morning and we had a stove in our room. There was no heating in the bathroom. The toilet was down the hall and there was newspaper for toilet paper.” That was quite the change for Doris, who, although having grown up in modest circumstances, was used to things being less primitive. But the Latin Quarter location was great and the family was interesting and after just one year, Doris’s French was fluent, which she attributes to conversations with her host family.

More than just perfecting her French, the experience helped shape a more mature Doris. One of her Skidmore professors had encouraged her not to attend the program because he didn’t think she was ready. Thankfully, she didn’t listen to him. She said, “I went from being this, you know, babyish little hick to being a sophisticated person and then I went on to live in New York City. It completely transformed me in terms of maturity level.”

She would come home and marry and have children, as women often did then. “At the time, at schools like Skidmore, women did not have career paths; the term didn’t even exist,” she said. “They were finishing schools and many times women walked out the door and got married that very summer. That’s what I did.” But eventually, she would go on to get a Ph.D. in French, which led her to a 40-year career as a French professor.

She feels strongly about study-abroad programs and still believes that Sweet Briar’s is the best, but she has little use for what she calls “study-abroad tourism,” where students go to a foreign country for cultural experiences without knowing the language.

“I think that before people go to a non-English-speaking country, they should have a good command of the language and then be perfecting it,” she said.

In the early 80s, Doris’s son, Matthew, then a French major at Williams College, chose the JYF program on his mother’s recommendation. Like his mother, he lived with a family, though unlike his mother, the family didn’t live in Paris, but rather in a suburb: Asnières-sur-Seine. That family was his second host family, as the first was not a good fit for young Matt. But Mme. Denis, the JYF coordinator was caring and arranged for him to move to an especially warm family, one Matt said she kept in reserve in the event someone had a bad experience. At that time, Asnières was a 10-minute
train ride from the Gare Saint-Lazare in Paris. “I made it a project to write a poem each way for three months and it became a book of just my poetry sketches,” he said. In fact, that train ride is one of Matt’s favorite memories. “I made use of that time and it became something I still have to this day in that book.”

He also remembers fondly a French girlfriend with whom he enjoyed exploring France—and getting lost. The pair traveled all over the country in her car and Matt became part of her family. Like his mother, Matt was devoted to perfecting his French so he “went native” and didn’t talk much to other Americans during that year. While he didn’t become a French Professor like his mother, he ended up going into law and, he says, “it’s just like another language.”

In the days before the internet, he only got one or two phone calls the entire year and airmail letters were expensive, so there were only a few of those. Despite the challenge of isolation, Matt said the loneliness was good for him, but, like a lot of things that are good for you, it wasn’t always fun. Remembering that Christmas—his first away from his family—he said they were down in Bordeaux staying in a cheap hotel. “I found a small plastic trash can that was green, turned it upside down and put a balloon on top. That was the ornament,” he said. “We put our presents underneath. we opened them at 12:01 in the morning.” It was pushing beyond the loneliness that allowed him to learn and grow.

Flash forward to 2017. Matt’s daughter, Melissa, a French and Psychology major at the College of Wooster, was looking for her own study-abroad experience. She’d looked at several French-speaking places—like Morocco and Senegal—but Sweet Briar’s program allowed
students to study and directly enroll at local universities, which was the kind of experience Melissa was looking for. Oddly, Melissa didn’t realize until after she’d started the application process that it was the same program her father and grandmother had attended. “They always referred to it as the Sweet Briar program and it was advertised to my college primarily as Junior Year in France. I didn’t get the name Sweet Briar in conjunction with it until partway through the application process,” she said. But once she did know, their glowing reviews of the program made her try a little bit harder.

Melissa spent the Fall 2017 semester living right in Paris—for her, the 17th district—and like her father, she ended up at the Gare Saint-Lazare most days, taking a Metro train there before boarding another train to class. “I really enjoyed the Metro,” she said. “Because no matter where I was in Paris, I could get to pretty much anywhere else in an hour or less. It was amazing.” Also like her dad, she didn’t mind getting a little bit lost. Her normal stop was the second to last one on the train, and she wondered what was in the other direction. “So I got on the train and said, ‘Let’s figure out where this goes.’“ She doesn’t remember where she got off, but she does remember getting out, wandering around and grabbing a bite to eat.

Like many JYF students, Melissa improved her fluency in French a lot from living with her host mom. “It was a little bit like living with a French professor who’s going to call you out on your language all the time,” she laughed. And her host mom wasn’t the only person who corrected her French, she said. She made an effort to befriend some French students in her classes at the university. “I found my French wasn’t perfect. I made a lot of mistakes and I had to correct myself, but as long as I was trying, people were really accommodating. Some of them pointed out my errors and I would say, ‘Thank you so much. I was working on that.’” But sometimes, fluency in a language is about more than just grammar. “I had a lot of trouble in Paris understanding the subtext of what my peers were saying,” Melissa told us. “A lot of it relied on social knowledge and general people skills. One thing I’ve learned is that if there are two different words, they mean different things and there’s no way to learn them until you learn them because it’s all about context.” After graduation, Melissa hopes to continue exploring and learning the complexities of language as a teaching assistant in France or elsewhere.

The whole family acknowledges that you get out of the program what you put in. All three talked about getting out and experiencing the country. The Sweet Briar program, Melissa added, was great about taking students on field trips to locations such as Versailles and Normandy. “Sweet Briar will get you there and does an amazing job of giving you a strong foundation. But you have to use it,” she said.

The other thing all three agree on? That the JYF experience builds confidence and gives students perspective on the world. “You learn about yourself and you build self-reliance and confidence,” Matt said. “You learn how to communicate differently on a new level.”
Two years after first calling attention to this approaching, momentous anniversary, the Committees to Celebrate Junior Year Abroad in Paris (members listed at the end of this report) held two celebrations in September and October this year.

On Sept. 29, 2018, at the picturesque Upper East Side bistro Orsay, 24 former classmates, accompanied by spouses and friends, assembled. While many of us had pictures associated with our email addresses, others did not and we had no idea how the years had changed each of us. Name tags were critical. As people climbed the winding staircase to our private dining room, we were mostly stumped as to the identities of our guests, but exhilarated as people announced themselves.

The evening began with a lot of hugging and heartfelt welcomes. Dan Gorrell created a stellar program including pictures submitted by both those who attended and those who could not be there. The photos were arranged by Dan to chronicle the events and relationships among the students from our voyage on the QE1 to the events closing the momentous year. A cleverly-devised interactive, multiple-choice game about high lights of that year brought individuals to together in teams vying for points. The evening ended with poignant accounts of the impact of that year. Bonnie Halpern, Diane Donaghey Jumet and Dan led the evening’s celebration.

On Oct. 11, 2018 at Reid Hall a group of 12 classmates accompanied by their spouses, children and friends held a reception for the current students in the Sweet Briar program. Locating ourselves in the green room, a classroom, with an elegant spread of fruit, cheese and delectable pastries, Eric Allemano led the program while we offered everyone a set of photos of our 1968-69 year. Attendees shouted out the names of our friends as they were recognized and laughed about our clothes and demeanor, as they watched the series of familiar pictures and struggled to remember others in photos when our memories failed us. Our esteemed former assistant director, Madame Guéron, spoke clearly from her perspective about the challenges she experienced in working with some families and achieving harmonious placements. We gained new respect for her role as she described situations of which most of us were blissfully unaware. To further engage our friends, dinner had been arranged at La Petite Chaise, named the oldest restaurant in Paris, on rue de Grenelle. We walked and “ubered” over just in time before the heavens opened up. The pouring rain was a lovely counterpoint to our French onion soup and chocolate desserts.

On behalf of all those who participated in planning, emailing, and attending these events, I believe I can say we learned several important things.
First, looking back at our expectations and plans as young students, we had no sense of what lay ahead. It is astonishing how this year proved a jumping off point for successful and celebrated careers and accomplishments, such as university and high school faculty, writers, theater actors and designers, business leaders, painters, researchers, lawyers, judges, historians etc. These life-long accomplishments did not necessarily turn on our knowledge of the French language, but rather on the desire to learn other cultures, the quality of open-mindedness, and a hunger for adventure.

Second, some of us returned after college and lived in France, with several marrying French citizens and maintaining life-long ties through marriage and children. Since 1968-69, France has called us back and many of us have traveled back numerous times to visit our home families and enjoy many areas of the country. We left the reunion feeling closer than we ever could have imagined, in part because we realized that we shared an era that was unique to us: Sartre, Ionesco and Beckett were still alive and writing, the revolution of May ’68, with its “manifestations” and school closings, continued into the fall, and springtime brought the political demise of President de Gaulle. Returning home, we were met with the moon landing, anti-Viet Nam war demonstrations, and later Kent State and unrest at many of our respective educational institutions.

We feel so fortunate that we were able to live out our lives, reach this milestone and celebrate with others. Our class was large and we did not know each and every person in the program. Various groups of students hung out together. Often relationships were built on the classes we took together or mutual love of art, music, food, and travel. We will continue to stay in touch with our friends and now have contacts all across country.

We thank the administrators who made our junior year a success, and remember leaders who have left us, the friends who have passed away, and the many, many wonderful junior year participants for making this reunion the wonderful event it was.

With gratitude we want to acknowledge the help of the current staff in the SBC offices in Paris and Virginia.

Submitted by Meredith Ludwig for the reunion committees:

Reunion in New York: Daniel Gorrell, Bonnie Halpern, Diane Donaghey Jumet, Meredith Ludwig, Cheryl Mann, Rob Levy, Kathryn Bush Kimball

Reunion in Paris: Eric Allemano, Meredith Ludwig, Lynn Wallisch

For information about the photos or contacts with classmates please contact Daniel Gorrell at danielgorrell@gmail.com or Eric Allemano, eric.allemano@yahoo.fr.

Sweet Briar folks (L-R): Jane Gott, Hannah Baird Hunter, Mrs. Pannell (SBC president), Mme. Guéron (assistant to the Professor-in-Charge), Ruth Stokes
Planning continues for JYF class of 1979-80 reunion

Working off of an alumni list provided by SBC-JYF, we called, emailed and tracked down as many former classmates as we could find to get together. We decided to do a trial run reunion in anticipation of our 40th year anniversary next year.

On Oct. 6, 2018, a small group of 1979-80 JYF alumni gathered in New York City to reminisce and reacquaint. We first went to the Met to see the Delacroix exhibit and then later at the Café Loup for dinner.

Scott Daube and Gary Gilmore

We are hoping to plan another fête next year to celebrate our 40th anniversary! Please contact us on our Facebook Group site: sbc-jyf ’79-’80 Reunion, or contact the Sweet Briar JYF office to be directed to one of us. jyf@sbc.edu or (434) 381-6109.

Looking forward to hearing from you. A bientôt!

—Jane Bell, Cathy Cosentini Bonczek, Charlotte Smith Bourhis, Elizabeth Jensen and Lynn Ellen Haskett Queen
2017–2018 Honor Roll
Junior Year in France

Junior Year in Paris Program

Mr. and Mrs. Victor Ackermann, ’70-71
The Ackermann Foundation
Julie O’Neil Arnheim ’59-60
Victoria J. Baker ’65-66
Ashton Barfield ’62-63
Kathryn M. Broderick
Benita B. Campbell, 57-58
Martha Baum Carlton ’60-61
Mr. and Mrs. Joe Carroll, ’69-70
Macauley Carter, Jr., ’61-62
Janna McLarty Chandler ’94-95
Paula B. Cook, ’68-69
Maria Corpora, ’70-71
Vincent J. Doddy, ’73-74
Richard Dolen, ’54-55
Constance and John Ecklund, ’58-59
Mr. Hassan El-Amin, ’68-69
Melony Joe Ellinger
David Ellis, ’75-76
Ms. Ruth Ferree
Janet M. Fishman, ’68-69
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Robert M. Gill, ’69-70
Anne Lee Gravely ’60-61
Margaret C. Hager, ’61-62
Mr. Joseph David Olson Halaas, ’01-02
Kelly E. Hall ’93-94
Daphne Johnson Hanrahan, ’76-77
Rhoda J. Harris
Victoria Chappell Harvey ’04-05
Mary Jane Higgins, ’62-63
Samuel Howell
Arthur F. Humphrey Ill, ’75-76
Michelle Francesca Johnson Jay, ’08-09
American Express Company PAC Match Trust—Michelle Jay
Megan Kaitlyn Johnston, Spring ‘14
Allison Thomas Kunze, ’73-74
Peter M. Labombarde, ’74-75

Dorothy Senghas Lakner, ’71-72
Mr. and Mrs. Daniel L. Lautar, ’07-08
Karin Lindgren
Mr. and Mrs. Bruce H. MacLeod, ’65-66
Ms. Delia E. Martinez, ’73-74
Audrey Michelle Messer, ’97-98
Helene Mewborn, ’55-56
Kelly Schmitt Molique ’92-93
Carter Heyward Morris ’71-72
Pamela Tipton Newton ’67-68
Norfolk Southern Foundation
Mr. and Mrs. Noland D. Pace, Jr.
Estate of Patricia C. Powers *, ’50-51
Mary Beirne Rewcastle, ’91-92
Mr. and Mrs. Eric A. Rothfeld, ’71-72
Marshall Metcalf Seymour ’62-63
Britt K. Sheinbaum
Martha L. Simpson, ’75-76
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Patricia C. Stewart, ’48-49
T. Rowe Price Program for Charitable Giving - The George W. and Ruth R. Baxter Fund, Emily Pace ’01-02
Angela H. Toussaint, ’84-85
Kathleen E. Troy, ’84-85
Christine Devol Wardlow ’61-62
Wendy C. Weiler
Nan Tull Wezniak, ’57-58

M. G. Ferre Scholarship for Junior Year in France
Edith Dobyns Gilson, ’56-57
Gilson Investments, Inc.

Matthew Scholarship Fund for Junior Year in France
Mary Ann Gosser, ’78-79
Cassandra Streett Hamrick ’64-65

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Investing In The Junior Year In France Program For A New Generation

A Unique and Timeless Legacy

Since 1948, the Sweet Briar College Junior Year in France Program has been the signature, immersive language and cultural experience in Paris for qualified students from American colleges and universities. In partnership with renowned Paris universities, JYF offers a high-quality academic program tailored to individual language goals, while exploring the many facets of French life and culture for a semester or a full academic year.

Across seven decades, the program has hosted nearly 7,300 students from over 280 colleges and universities throughout the United States, helping students achieve French language fluency and advanced intercultural skills to prepare for leadership and success in a global workplace. During the current academic year, JYF hosts 41 students from 20 U.S. institutions studying in Paris universities, Sweet Briar Center and the American Business School of Paris.

Supporting JYF’s Future

Now, in celebration of JYF’s historic 70th anniversary, we invite the support of our program alumni as we continue to refine and grow JYF in step with the needs and aspirations of a new generation. At a time when linguistic and intercultural skills and bridge building are more needed than ever, the JYF program has a big role to play. Your support will help us give more students from diverse backgrounds and with diverse life and career goals the opportunity to step beyond the day-to-day campus experience and into an environment that challenges assumptions, builds empathy and awareness, and expands their horizons.

Make your gift to JYF today by visiting www.sbc.edu/jyf/ways-to-give

BUILDING LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY AND INTERCULTURAL UNDERSTANDING WITH YOUR SUPPORT, JYF WILL:

• Expand outreach, diversify recruitment and communicate with new student audiences to make the program more accessible than ever before;

• Invest in new dimensions and program offerings that respond to student needs in a changing world;

• Offer a best-of-class experience to all participating students, coordinated and supported by a committed staff that is passionate about the potential of the program to build French language and intercultural competency; and

• Underwrite JYF alumni activities, from an annual magazine and special events to direct engagement and networking with program alumni around the world.
My Pilgrimage to Chartres

The Pentecôte holiday of May 1951, was a very long weekend and I had no place to go. I decided to join the Catholic Student Group on their pilgrimage to Chartres cathedral. There was a minimal cost and I loved the poetry of Charles Péguy; la BEAUC etc. The subject was: La hiérarchie de l’église.

I told the person in charge that I was NOT Catholic. They were most welcoming. We met at a train station; took the train for a short distance and began to walk….chanting, “je vous salue, Marie….mère de Dieu; Le bon Dieu est avec vous….Vous êtes bénie entre toutes les femmes,…etc.” Every five or six kilomètres we sat in a semicircle; a young priest-in-training would present a question to me like: “Vous croyez “a priori” qu’il y a un Dieu”…..and I said, “Je crois que oui” and he went on to all that follows. We slept in barns and the Catholic students arose very early for mass. We approached the cathedral most “poetically” …as the wind blew the wheat stalks toward the asymmetric towers of Chartres.

I cherish my memory of “my pilgrimage to Chartres” and I returned years later to hear Malcolm Miller expound on the stained glass windows. In 1984 I visited our daughter in Jerusalem and we walked La Via Dolorosa during Holy Week. At the third station, a group of French Pilgrims began to chant: “Je vous salue Marie…” and I joined in.

Sandy (Adler) Leibowitz, 1950-51
Wells College

My life trajectory

Little did I know when I boarded the RMS Mauritania in New York on the morning of Sept. 5, 1957, that my life was about to take a new turn. I had grown up in Boulder, Colo., which in the 1950s was a small university town, and at sixteen had enrolled as a freshman at Mount Holyoke College in Massachusetts, which was even more rural. Now, at eighteen, I would soon be landing in France!

During my first week in Tours, a local student by the name of Jean-Paul Valette spotted me in a café with my JYF roommate Barbara Zeitlin (CCNY) and the older siblings of the Rouxel family with whom we were housed. The next day he looked up Dominique Rouxel, a former classmate of his, and arranged for us to be formally introduced. For him, it was “love at first sight” and on our second date, he proposed! I hesitated…

Jean-Paul was a second-year student at HEC (Ecole des Hautes Etudes Commerciales) which at the time was in Paris, rue Malesherbes. During the academic year, Barbara and I rented an apartment in Bures-sur-Yvette on the Ligne de Sceaux (a 25-minute train ride from Luxembourg and the Sorbonne where we took courses). In those days of no telephone and obviously no texting, Jean-Paul and I would write each other postcards to set up dates! I was not until May that I was able to give him a definitive “yes” to his proposal. We each finished our final year of studies, he at HEC and I at Mount Holyoke, and then were married in Paris in August 1959.

French had been my weakest subject in college. I had originally been a chemistry major, but had switched to medieval history to be eligible for a junior-year scholarship to France. On my return to Mt. Holyoke as a senior, I declared a French major wanting to better appreciate my future husband’s language and culture.

Summer 1959 was still the Alge- rian War and Jean-Paul would be drafted for that bloody conflict unless he obtained another educational deferment. We, therefore, enrolled as graduate students at the University of Colorado, he in economics and I in French. Jean-Paul earned his Ph.D. in 1962 and, although we had two children, he was called back to France for his military service. I spent the year 1962-1963 alone with a baby and a toddler in Tampa teaching at the University of South Florida and finishing my Ph.D. dissertation.

In 1963-1964, our family was reunited in Paris. Then, in fall 1964 we moved to the Boston area, where I taught first at Wellesley College, and
then at Boston College. In 1970, Jean-Paul left the business world, and we embarked on a successful joint career writing French textbooks for both secondary school (French for Mastery, Discovering French) and college (Contacts).

We have three children and eight grandchildren (ages 15-37), all of whom are dual national citizens and speak French. Had it not been for my Junior Year in France, my life trajectory would certainly have been much different! Thank you, Sweet Briar! Grand merci!

**Rebecca (Loose) Valette, JYF 1957-1958**
Mount Holyoke College

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**A Lasting Gift of Professor Maurice Sérullaz of the École du Louvre**

**JYF ‘59-‘60 “Colorful” and “Luminous” Memories:**

The eyes of Sweet Briar’s JYF 1959-60 group of 90 eager students were opened wide to beauty and culture unknown to many of us, that of a culture many centuries our senior which our young country could not provide us. For me, it may have been even more mind-blowing, as Paris was cosmopolitan as compared to my Knoxville, and it was more than I could process at the time. My life was forever positively impacted, and I still reflect on the how, the why, the who....

Among those individuals who shared my admiration then, as now, was Maurice Sérullaz, curator at the Louvre and the professor who taught “Histoire de la peinture française du XIXe et du début du XXe siècle” a special class for JYF students at École du Louvre, from November when we arrived from Tours through mid-July. We arrived just after his book, “Les Peintres Impressionnistes” was published by Tisné on Oct. 19, 1959.

In addition to our regular class sessions, which commenced in the gallery hung with huge paintings by David and in a darkened classroom watching slides of works not held by the Louvre while he lectured, M. Sérullaz volunteered to lead us through the Louvre on Saturday mornings to introduce us to paintings and styles that came before the 19th century. I believe he realized that he was teaching a level 300 class whereas many of us had not had 101! The majority showed up on Saturday mornings, and he began our extra instruction with works beginning in the 13th century painted on wood.

Recently, in thinking about M. Sérullaz and how much I have related what I gleaned from that single class to all aspects of my intellectual endeavors and pleasures, I located his amazing biography and realized how truly special a treat we had enjoyed. Sharing that with some others from the ‘59-‘60 JYF group, they too expressed fond recollections of him and of the class. For all of us, it was a seminal experience. And most of us have his 1959 book. I was neither brave enough nor a good enough student to ask him to sign my copy!

Maurice Sérullaz (1914-1997) was a talented painter and expert on Delacroix and impressionism. He was the first director of Paris’ National Eugène Delacroix Museum, chief curator of drawings at the Musée du Louvre and, during WWII, he played an important part, alongside Jacques Jaujard, in safeguarding French national art treasures. He was professor of art at École du Louvre and in charge of the courses given there. He was also professor of history and French civilization at the Sorbonne, a respected art critic, officer of the Legion of Honor, commander of the National Order of Merit and commander of arts and letters. He is the author of numerous books and articles, primarily on Delacroix, and organized various exhibitions, including the centenary of Delacroix exhibition in 1963. He also was a script consultant on the film, The Restless Eye: Eugène Delacroix (1980). I think he would have been shocked to find himself on IMDB with movie stars! Born Jan. 19, 1914 in Paris, M. Sérullaz passed away in 1997 in Corsica at age 83.

**Juliette (Julie O’Neil) Arnheim**
Sweet Briar College
Memories of Maurice Sérullaz—“Life Lessons”

We remember some of our teachers, not so much for specific bits of information we learned in their class but for principles we find useful throughout our life. Monsieur Sérullaz is one of those teachers I have never forgotten.

One morning, we came upon some students who had set up their easels in front of one of the paintings. Each was painting a reproduction of the masterpiece hanging before them. When I asked M. Sérullaz who they were, he explained that these were art students who were learning to paint by a time-honored tradition the French believe is the key to success in any field: The first step is to learn from the best. French art students were required to copy a great work of art using similar oils, mixtures (such as charcoal) and brushes. “Only by learning from a master can one strike out on his own with his own style and technique….” Then, if you wish to become a Jackson Pollock and throw buckets of paint on a canvas and call it art, you are free to express yourself as you like,” he said unenthusiastically. When we visited the Musée d’Art Moderne the last week of school to familiarize ourselves with contemporary art, one of my classmates pointed to an abstract painting and asked M. Sérullaz what he personally thought of it. With Gallic disdain he replied, “It is nothing more than beautiful wallpaper.”

I unwittingly applied this wisdom on my final exam. M. Sérullaz asked me to critique Van Gogh’s l’Église d’Auvers-sur-Oise. Nervously searching for an answer I remembered that two of his favorite descriptive words were luminosité and juxtaposition. I began my critique with “cette peinture a une certaine luminosité” followed by “la juxtaposition des divers éléments est vraiment remarquable.” I still remember his smile. He knew that I had learned from the best.

Joe Carroll
University of Virginia

I still see him impeccably dressed, with ramrod posture, and brisk movements. Guiding his plodding battalion of JYFs, he seemed to me to exude a degree of pride as he took charge of our group each time. We followed this energetic man, getting as close as possible to him, as he revealed the secrets of each impressionist work. There was a hierarchy in the group, with the more interested students standing closer to Professor Sérullaz, and those who were perhaps dehydrated or with sore feet, falling toward the back until they recovered.

During one afternoon slide session, which I remember well, the projector worker, dressed in his blue lab coat, mistakenly placed a slide upside down. A penetrating Non came rapidly from our professor. This was quickly followed by the slide upright but now reversed right-to-left, again followed by the same Non. The following trials (I don’t remember how many) resulted in another, and another mal-position, again with a jarring Non following each. I tried to see if the worker was in tears, but it was too dark. Finally, the slide somehow was placed correctly, the session continued, and we were all certainly awake by this time.

Did we realize how lucky we were to be taking his course? Over our year abroad, I woke to a world of remarkable artistic sensibility, having seen many of its finest examples, which were presented in great depth by a generous and highly accomplished scholar. I treasure the gift from Maurice Sérullaz to me, and to many of us, that our appreciation and insight might be able to grow over the years.

James (Jay) Lee
Yale University

I recall the early morning routine of shivering outside the basement service entrance to the Louvre a couple of times a week, waiting to be admitted to climb the staff stairs to access our meetings with Professor Sérullaz in the museum galleries before the Louvre opened to the public. His intimacy with the paintings was a revelation, a permission, an obligation. His insights were transformative for me and opened windows in my mind. Here is one example that is ongoing. Looking at a Cézanne still life he said:

“C’est, comme vous dites en anglais, un ‘steel lyfye.’”

And he went on to develop our understanding of the pulsating inter-relationships of forms, colors, lines, volumes of mass and air, “la vie des formes,” if you will.

I got it. I get it still. It was a lasting gift.

Alan Weinstein
Princeton University

M. Sérullaz’ course changed the direction of my life, and led me from teaching French literature to being a painter for the past 20 years. www.wendyst.com. I, too, have a copy of his book on French impressionists, which he personally inscribed.

JYF alums may be interested to know that the Sérullaz name is still appearing in the New York art world. In conjunction with the Delacroix exhibition, now at the Met, his widow, Arlette Sérullaz, has edited a catalog for a current show of his works at the Jill Newhouse Gallery in NYC. Here is a link to a video made by Mme. Sérullaz https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JqdDDxNHUCs. Her 114-page catalog is on the web at https://jngpublications.clb.bz/Delacroix-2018.

Heather (Holiber) Gerson
Brandeis University

I have vivid recollections of our group trooping around the Louvre and Jeu de Paume with our brilliant, handsome, remarkable teacher. While so many memories vanish from elderly cluttered brains, those of art history and appreciation with M. Sérullaz remain clear and present. M. Sérullaz’
erudition and love of Delacroix helped me to “see” these works. His teaching is a guide almost every time I experience painting and sculpture, enriching a lifetime pursuit.

Wendy (Soltz) St. Wecker
Simmons College

I went to France wanting to be an art major, but my college wanted me to wait before going overseas. So I went as a psychology major and took M. Sérullaz’s course. Upon my return, I switched to French, got an MAT in French and incorporated French painting into literature courses I taught.

In the last 12 years (i.e.in retirement) I’ve been a docent at the National Gallery of Art in DC. I sometimes find myself still quoting him, e.g. for Cezanne: “Quand la couleur est à sa richesse, la forme est à sa plénitude.”

I recall his oral exam.... When I was asked who painted the Yellow Christ (Gauguin), I had no clue. I thought at that time that it was meaningless to make us know dates of Monet’s series or when Delacroix went to Morocco, all of which are useful to me now.

Naomi (Katz) Kulakow
Wheaton College

M. Sérullaz’ art history class at the Jeu de Paume and the Louvre was the highlight of my academic year 1959-1960 with JYF. So many of the memories we are sharing bring back his witty observations as we listened in front of each painting. I recall one comment he made when explaining a thickly green “steele life” painting he did not admire. «C’est un plat d’épinards!»

Did he know then that the Jeu de Paume paintings would be moved? Our hours spent there learning with him are palpable and precious. When I walked through those halls many years later, the feelings I had were of him, our dear professor.

Linda (Wilson) Laurence
Wheaton College

M. Sérullaz opened a world of art which has enriched my entire life....for which I applaud both him and SBCJYF.

Although I was terrified at each written test....my language skills were truly meager at the start of the year... the weekday gallery visits were always a highlight in each week!

Thank you! I’ll always recall his.....»le rouge qui fait chanter le gris.»

Carolyn (Coggin) Holmes,
Wake Forest University

The course that Professor Sérullaz gave was not only the best that I took during my junior year abroad but it changed my cultural life forever. I learned so much about composition, style, color, brush strokes, context, history and more that to this day I’m at ease in art museums and typically choose not to listen to the audio recordings at exhibits.

I remember his disdain for modern painters—Matisse was merely decorative; a work by Picasso was just paint thrown on a canvas. And I remember the oral exams in a large room when our names were called and we had to identify names of painting and painter on the slides he showed and provide dates and other details. One guy, unprepared or intimidated, broke into tears.

Doris (Young) Kadish
Skidmore College
(Read more about Doris Kadish on pg. 10)

Prof. Serrallaz’ course was a life changing event. He turned me on to art! Every tableau we viewed, if it had even just one spot of sunlight, it was a précurseur de l’impressionisme. I can remember him pointing out le frémissement des feuilles and la palpitaton des eaux. What an experience! God rest his soul in peace.

Charlie Adams
Tufts University

If you could identify one course which emerged as most important, exciting and influential in your academic life, it would probably be that of Maurice Sérullaz. Week after week, we stood before some enormous canvas, showing perhaps the terrible carnage of war. Some one of us had to talk about what we saw. Often it was the juxtaposition of color creating form only at a distance. These colors that not only animated the canvas also predicted the period of impressionism to come. He was a master of leading us to these discoveries.

I remember with dread the oral exam which was to be our final. Memorize the book: name of work, location and date. The entire book! And by the way, go to St. Sulpice and check out Héliodore chassé du Temple by Delacroix. I decided it was that painting I would have to identify. My roommate, Debbie Noble, and I went to St. Sulpice and studied the mural, what we could see of it in the smoky recesses of the chapel near the ceiling. I have no idea what would have happened to me had he not shown that particular slide.

It was, I like to think, his passion and his “eye” which informed my teaching and my interest in art. In 1976, my husband and I started to assemble a small collection of prints using his Christmas bonus. It was great fun to go to auctions, make calls to the experts, could something be salvaged, etc. The prints included everything from Motherwell to Morandi. Those which remain continue to bring joy!

Bless you, Monsieur Sérullaz, wherever you are!

Margaret Moore Henry
Mount Holyoke College

This great blossoming of Serrallaz lore on the internet is a tribute not only to him but to the fine taste of the ‘59-60 Sweet Briar Junior Year group. Well done!

Joyce Carleton, JYF Assistant Director 1962-64
Wilson College
An academic highlight
An academic highlight of my JYF year was *Histoire de la Musique* with M. Norbert Dufourque.

Norbert Dufourcq, professor of music, organist and author, was born in 1904 and died in 1990 at the age of 86. Students attending his Sweet Briar JYF class *l’Histoire de la Musique* in 1959-60 were treated to a presentation of remarkable erudition, clarity and warmth. Professor Dufourcq’s lectures were primarily focused on the Baroque Period (Bach-Corelli) but his range extended both before and after that time. He would illustrate samples of various pieces with records or by playing on a small organ placed in front of the classroom. This outstanding class gave all of us the keys to insightful and effective listening and personally enabled me to enjoy a lifetime of music appreciation.

**David Freund JYF 1959-60**
Yale University

For my housing accommodation in Paris...

I was assigned to the Marquise de Boissard along with another student, Lloyd Cymrot, from Dartmouth. Madame was separated from her husband, and she lived with her two youngest sons in a large apartment on the Avenue de Ségur, a prestigious address in the 7th arrondissement. The apartment looked as if it had not been painted since World War II, and it was obvious that Madame took in Sweet Briar students because she badly needed the money. Nevertheless, Madame did her best to maintain the manners of the French nobility, with her servant girl announcing before each meal that Madame la Marquise est servie. Lloyd and I each had large bedrooms, while her two sons, 19 and 14, shared a smaller bedroom. For breakfast, we were served freshly baked bread, while her sons had to finish whatever was left over from the day before.

Within a short time of our arrival in Paris, the week-long French holiday of Toussaint occurred, and Madame prepared to set out with her sons for their country home in Picardy, about a two-hour drive from Paris. I admired Madame for her steadfast attachment to the rules of behavior of the nobility, notwithstanding her precarious finances. Madame arranged for the servant to keep house for Lloyd in Paris, while I departed with the family for Picardy. Her “château” was a large manor house built about 1900 and never restored after the German occupation. The Germans had ripped out the central heating; small wood stoves in most rooms supplied some warmth. At bedtime, we were expected to let the initial fire burn out and to add as many blankets as needed.

Madame’s unmarried sister managed her nearby farm, which provided us with fresh butter, eggs and vegetables. In the afternoon or evening, we often dined at one of her relatives in Picardy. I invariably had to defend President Roosevelt and his decision at the Yalta Conference not to challenge Stalin’s take over and occupation of Eastern Europe. Although Madame and her relatives seemed to like me, they shared the underlying anti-Americanism of the French nobility, who tended to detest democracy and communism in equal measure. My willingness to ask questions and engage in conversation nevertheless made a good impression.

On occasion, I attended Sweet Briar’s course on contemporary French politics, taught by a young, tall French bureaucrat, always dressed in black. I recall that on one occasion, he predicted the greatest problem the West would face in the future would be its relationship with disaffected citizens from the developing world and the resulting conflict of civilizations. (think Osama bin Laden!) I much later realized that the young teacher was Jacques Chirac, who was to become prime minister and then president of France. If I had been wiser, I would have attended his class more often.

**John Impert, JYF 1961-1962**
Yale University

“The gateway to the rest of my life”

I look back upon JYF as an incredible odyssey, a voyage of discovery of the world and of myself, a transformative experience. In retrospect, I realize that I view my life in terms of the pre-JYF phase, the JYF year itself, and the post-JYF phase. JYF, in other words, was the gateway to the rest of my life.

During the break in May between the end of classes and the start of final exams in Paris, I got to England for the first time. Having heard of the picturesque southwest corner of the country, I hitchhiked from London to Saint Ives, Cornwall, and there I met my wife-to-be, Johanna. Though we only spent three days together, we wrote letters for the next nine months until I asked her in a February 1970 letter to marry me. When I opened her letter of reply sent to me in care of the American embassy in Dacca, East Pakistan (now Bangladesh), my eyes saw only the word “yes”, and the rest is history.

The timing of her letter coincided with a letter from my mother informing me that my draft board realized I had quit college and reclassified me as 1-A, yet I had received a draft birthday lottery number that would never be called, on the condition that I showed up for my draft physical. My options for getting a physical were to continue traveling east toward a US military base in Thailand or to return...
JYF Alumna presented the French Medal of Honor

On Dec. 12, 2012, Elizabeth Glassman JYF 1969-70 and SBC ’71, was presented the French Medal of Honor as an Officier de l’Ordre des Arts et des Lettres by Henri Loyrette, president and director of the Musée du Louvre. This honor is bestowed by the French government in recognition of “eminent artists and writers, and people who have contributed significantly to furthering the arts in France and throughout the world.” Elizabeth is the President and CEO of the Terra Foundation based in the USA and Paris and was recognized for her work promoting American art and cultural exchange between the USA and France.

For Glassman, it is work that began even before her junior year. Going to live in Paris as a student with SBC-JYF was a dream come true. And certainly, the city, the program and my fellow SBCJYF colleagues did not disappoint. I relished in the sense of living daily truly in another cultural milieu, of understanding the small yet important differences that are revealed in choices about life, family, work. Deb Visser (SBCJYF ’69-70) and I explored ideas about new urban planning in a class at the Sorbonne. The theater class was the perfect opportunity to understand Paris post-May ’68. And at the Ecole du Louvre, I made many true friends in Delacroix, Ingres and others.”

Having studied international relations helps in the path she ultimately followed. After Sweet Briar, she earned a master’s in art history from the University of New Mexico and an M.B.A. from the University of St. Thomas, Houston. Her accomplishments include establishing the Georgia O’Keeffe Foundation, of which she is president emerita.

“From living and learning in Paris, I understand how to listen and hear the points of view. At the Terra Foundation, we ground ourselves in the core belief that art has the power to both distinguish cultures and unite them. Our mission to share American art with audiences across the globe comes to life in our work in France and around the globe, where we work to inspire a meaningful cross-cultural dialogue on American art and culture.”

“I think this is really about Sweet Briar’s Junior Year in France program and how an international experience has grown into a lifelong passion.”

PHOTO BY NATHAN WEBER.

Elizabeth Glassman, president and CEO of the Terra Foundation. PHOTO BY NATHAN WEBER.

Happiness is

Happiness is directing a native of Bordeaux from Notre Dame to the Arc de Triomphe. Happiness is sharing his language. And happiness is, I believe, the capacity to understand him at least a little better than your compatriot, the American tourist. Happiness is the feeling of wind in your hair—whether on the way up M. Eiffel’s celebrated “tour” or on the Autoroute du Sud on a weekend hitch “home” to Tours to see “your family” there. Happiness is riding in the middle of a truck cab, next to the driver who stopped not for you but for your traveling companion, the girl now huddled in the corner. And yes, happiness is that cold Paris rain.

By Robert M. Gill, JYF 69-70
Washington and Lee

Excerpt of “Of Bike Disasters, Happiness, And France” first published in The Ring-Tum Phi, Washington & Lee University, October 21, 1970

A JYF encounter with photographer Henri Cartier-Bresson

My Junior Year Abroad studying at L’Institut des Sciences Politiques, L’Université de Paris, Paris, France, was the most fantastic year of my life, such a politically exciting time, Vietnam, the after shocks of the May ’68 student and labor protests, the French former colonies becoming independent in the newspapers and studied in class, an exciting time to be in Paris, to sit in cafés, talk world politics, we learned so much that we didn’t get in US news reports, it opened up so many new thoughts and ideas.

With my major in International Relations I took classes at Sciences Po, we learned a lot about the former French colonies, I took a course that dug deep, with written exams in French, an oral exam in French, Science Po an amazing experience. Since it was just after the 1968 protests, Vincennes was often closed, not where we were, but our Professor was escorted to class every day by the gendarmes.... It was also the time of the 1970 Cambodian invasion. There were huge anti-war protests in Washington, DC, so several of us had a sympathetic protest outside the US embassy, tried to make our voices heard and we were promptly arrested.... Sargent

23
Shriver was the ambassador at the time, he got us out of jail so quickly, we were not even booked. At Sweet Briar I learned to be a rabble-rouser. Every woman there was respected and taught to have strong opinions.

French colonial history was the most enlightening class I took, but my favorites were the classes at the Sweet Briar Center on Blvd Raspail. At the Center, French teachers came in just for us, it was all in French. We studied the history of music and theatre and went to plays and discussed them. We saw Beckett plays, very avant-garde, naked actors on stage.....In music class, we learned the European origins of our own western music. Really, really a wonderful year.

I chose to do JYF as a family tradition, something that was always on my mind, as I was “kind of tracking my father, he had done it, back then when it was run by the University of Delaware.” I think of JYF as a Gold Star on my CV, a conversation piece, adds to your attractiveness as a candidate, broadens your mind so much it is going to contribute to any field you go into.

I had the “experience of a lifetime” with one of the most famous photographers of the 20th Century, Henri Cartier-Bresson (1908-2004). My host family was the brother of the well-known Henri Cartier-Bresson. I remember Henri as incredibly kind. I was assigned to his brother’s family. Getting his brother’s family as a host family was just the luck of the draw. His brother was not an artist, he was in business. He and Henri did not see each other very often but he was part of the foreign service. His brother was not an artist, he was in business. He and Henri did not see each other very often, but he was part of the foreign service. His brother was not an artist, he was in business.

I was longing for the radical hippie life that Henri had filmed. I became such a fan of Henri Cartier-Bresson after that and I have gone to every exhibit I can find.

Marianne “Mimi” Fahs, JYF 69-70
Sweet Briar College

Henry Cartier-Bresson pioneered the genre of “street photography.” He viewed photography as capturing a decisive moment in time. He founded Magnum photos in 1947 with another famous photographer Robert Capa and photographed the streets of Paris, India, China, Spain and more, as well as many portraits of personalities like Truman Capote. He has inspired generations of photographers. The Foundation Henri Cartier-Bresson has just moved to the Marais, 79 rue des Archives, Paris 75003, larger quarters, which will allow the foundation to show Cartier-Bresson’s own work all the time, in addition to solo exhibitions of the work of other photographers and enable them to offer educational programs. The grand opening show on Nov. 6, 2018 will be his wife’s work, photographer Martine Franck. http://www.henricartierbresson.org/en/

“L’Humble Artichaut”

One remembers back in the day, that at Sweet Briar in Paris’s then-headquarters at Reid Hall, 4 rue de Chevreuse, it was not only the program’s “Siege Social,” and classroom space for among other things, M. Simon’s popular French theater course, but also the open garden site of a small and suprisingly well-run little restaurant café, which one could use from time to time, by saving up meal coupons for more than the usual lunchtime fare of fresh-baguette-sandwich-a-la-moutarde-Dijonnaise.

And a moderately-aged dame or two, in freshly starched pinafores, would take both your prix fixe lunch tickets, and your order for whatever was being offered that day, and serve it to you.

In any event, that’s how I was first introduced to “L’Humble Artichaut”.

I had never seen one before, and as I was raised on a farm on the Rhode Island coastline, I was fairly familiar with whatever truck garden fare there was offered for sale at our own summer vegetable stand.

There I was, in our little inner Paris French garden, and seated at Reid Hall’s inner sanctum bistrot, and the pinafored “serveuse,” appeared, carrying a....strange, pointy bit of darkish-green on a plate, with the most interesting but bizarre leaves, something like a horned lizard’s, or perhaps a Tejas Armadillo’s armor. And I let my imagination run free. “Et alors, qu’est ce que c’est ça?”

“C’est un artichaut, Monsieur. Vous en voulez?”

And so I ordered one, splurging a bit with my remaining lunch tickets for the month. And in time, it arrived on a plate by itself, with a small pot of vinaigrette.

So, I was to take-use this pot of...
fresh-made and traditional vinaigrette, to which I was also used, and could also make, thanks to our propriétaire Françoise’s dinnertime tutelage, and use it somehow, to consume this horny-spiny-boiled-green-vegetable. (...) And since that time, the northern coast of la Bretagne has been habituated to raising this curious vegetable of such formidable armament. (...) And as it turned out, my table partners included a certain American lady from the XVI e me who had learned to visit us on occasion, from her studies there some years back, and as it also turned out, she was especially skilled in dealing with this exotic vegetable. And so she became for me, my “Madame de Pompadour Salon Instructress,” in the practiced art of Artichaut consumption.

At first a leaf is peeled back, and one dips it into the vinaigrette, and tastes the stem end of it by turning it upside-down, and by using one’s front bottom teeth to remove...the soft part of the flower from its fibrous & horny outer stem. And just enough vinaigrette to make the marriage of flavors effective, but not to overpower the olive-green “compote” which comes off the leaves.

And so at Reid Hall, did I come to be introduced to that delightful and peculiar “tea ceremony” which is Artichaut consumption.

“Ça donne un goût favorable, il me semble.” Or so I thought then.

And continue to believe now. (...) Barry Browning, JYF ’71-72 Bowdoin College

How I spent the Toussaint holiday with my roommate.

My year in Tours and Paris with JYF (1976-1977) gave me the experience and confidence to live, work and travel abroad the rest of my life. I wish I could remember every moment and every detail, but perhaps memory is kind to us in that way. However, what I do remember is with me every day and often inspires me to get up, get out and keep exploring.

I remember— with some astonishment—the autumn holiday of Toussaint. My roommate, Linda Weiner (Bryn Mawr College), and I hitchhiked East from Paris. Our goals were the
a grassy hillside dotted with woods. It could have been Mont Blanc. We were so happy to have made it to the Vosges safely, in the company of kind welcoming people. I still remember reaching the top of that mountain; at that moment, anything was possible.

I have always thought of those healthy young girls, glowing with energy and high spirits splashing frigid water all over themselves oblivious to the lack of comfort or convenience of their surroundings. I can almost hear their bubbling laughter as they set off to a Spartan breakfast on their minimalist holiday. The next day, I too baptized myself with the freezing water. In the spirit of those girls I vowed to dive in to each new experience and live deeply each moment that presented itself.

The kindness of all those I met on my Toussaint adventure has remained with me. Like a true companion, it is there when I need that inspiration to keep going. This is one of so many moments, some miniscule, some utterly unexpected like this one, that made JYF the gateway to everything else.

**Susan (Coulson) Burghes, JYF 76-77**

*Mount Holyoke College*

**A debt of gratitude to Mme Denis**

My year in Paris was one of the most important, character-defining periods of my life. As I am sure many JYF alumni can attest, much of the learning and personal growth I experienced that year occurred outside the classroom. Even the smallest details of daily life, like taking the Métro or the bus, living chez de Lambertye, and navigating Sciences-Po and the Sorbonne required an immense amount of courage and fortitude that I didn’t know I had! The year was one of international tension, brought on by the U.S. invasion of Kuwait and the fear of terrorist reprisals against Americans abroad. This prompted some universities to somewhat hastily call and recommend that we return home! Fortunately, we did not heed that advice.

I have fond memories of so many friends that year, including Marilyn Washington (where are you?), Joe Willey, Jen Collet, my dear friend and roommate Becca Rubin Meurer, and many others. But some of my greatest memories are of the support and encouragement I received from Mme. Carol Denis, directrice adjointe. I’ve been fortunate to have had several mentors throughout my life, and Carol was one. An only child like me, she understood me well. She came to be a rock for me during a year often marked by self-doubt, worry, and yes, some homesickness. After I graduated from Georgetown, I spent two years working in London and Carol graciously hosted me for a weekend in Paris. She even accompanied me to dinner with the de Lambertye family and endured the raucousness à table that many JYF alumnae who lived with them will remember! Her death from cancer, much too soon, saddens me to this day.

**Maureen (Brennan) Gershanik, JYF 90-91**

*Georgetown University*

**The impact of study abroad**

When I studied abroad in 1995-96, I had no idea how this experience would shape the rest of my life. I remember how excited I was when I first learned that I was accepted into JYF, but how apprehensive I was once the day arrived to leave. I was very afraid that my French skills were well below the level needed to succeed in my classes in Paris and that I was going to fail all of my classes. With my mom’s encouragement, I realized that I needed to believe in myself and take advantage of this amazing opportunity. She also helped me realize that JYF provided lots of support to help its students succeed, especially its Paris-based associate director, Carol Denis. She was truly supportive and motivating during my entire nine months abroad, and her role shaped my decision to join the ranks of student affairs professionals to support and motivate students through their college education.

After returning from Paris, I realized how much more independent, self-confident and globally aware I had become in comparison to the person I was before studying abroad. This new awareness led to my interest in gaining a better understanding of the intellectual and emotional development that occurred while overseas via an independent research study during my senior year of college. With the guidance of Prof. Sadler in the psychology department, I was able to assess students through a pre/post research study and learn how students changed intellectually and emotionally after their time abroad.

This opportunity was the beginning of my interest in college student development which lead me to earn my master of education in college student affairs administration at the University of Georgia. Over the last twenty years, I have worked with international student life, housing, admissions, career development, and graduate student advising. For the last four years, I have been working as a retention counselor with the Pathway to the Baccalaureate program at Northern Virginia Community College, and for fifteen years, I have taught SDV 100: College Success Skills. In each role, I have worked with students to determine their academic and career paths and helped connect them with resources to support and motivate them along their journey. I know that I would not have realized my ability and desire to help students achieve their goals without the experience of studying abroad and having the support and encouragement of professionals like Carol Denis. I am truly grateful to JYF for the opportunity to study in Paris with such an amazing program and am thankful that the JYF experience continues to be available to students today.

**Kerry Coleman-Proksch, JYF 95-96**

*Sweet Briar College*

**The supermarket**

I participated in the Sweet Briar College Junior Year in France program in the spring of my sophomore year, 2009 before continuing my junior year abroad in Scotland. I was young and thought I spoke French after twelve years of study, but just my first day in Paris taught me that was an incredibly naive assumption. The first full day I was in Paris, on a gloomy January morning, I got “stuck” in a supermarket. (Though as you know there actually aren’t supermarkets in down-
town Paris.) It was a grocery store, brimming with post-work shoppers; a turnstile entry and an incredibly long check-out line. I went in, perused, and decided I didn’t want anything. I circled the store a few times before I realized there wasn’t an easy exit for me, a puffy-jacketed, puffy-bodied American. I went to back to the produce area and (even now I distinctly remember!) studied how I might get out through the entry. It was no use. I resigned myself and asked a lady how to leave without buying anything. Her grin was so... Parisian! She clucked and told me to buy some fruits and vegetables. I don’t remember how I escaped her, but I do remember almost crying in relief when I found a single can of Coca-Cola on a shelf. Sixty centimes. I grabbed it and joined the ridiculously long, sluggish line. When I emerged after paying my 60 centimes bail I sat on a bench in a nearby square and savored that soda like I had never before. I learned so much in the hour (I assume) I had been trapped. I learned that I need to observe before rushing in to things. That I need to be bold and ask for help when needed. That irony is a part of life. My JYF experience taught me so, so much that I cannot justify in a few words. Perhaps the most prescient, though, is something our grammar professor would say before each and every class and that my stint would prove my French and understanding of the French educational system. By taking two classes at a local university, I met plenty of French and other European students that made my experience unforgettable.

Inspired by this wonderful time, I decided to go back to Paris the summer after my junior year to intern at a local association working with refugees. I used my summer experience at such association to then write an independent study at my college in the United States my senior year, working as either au pairs or as a part of the TAPIF program. I currently teach at two middle schools in Noisy-le-Grand and love it! This experience has caused me to think more seriously about a career in teaching. I still see my friends that I made in JYF and there are even a few of them living in Paris this year, working as either au pairs or as a part of the TAPIF program, including my current roommate Matt Berry. I’m still trying to decide if I will go back to the United States after this year or if I will try to stay in Paris. Can’t wait to see where I end up, but I definitely owe my current situation to my study abroad semester with JYF where I increased my French language proficiency, made lifelong friends, and prepared myself for a life abroad.

Marta Martinez, JYF Fall 2016
Connecticut College

Paris, encore

I was lucky to study abroad with Sweet Briar College in Paris during the fall of 2016. I am not lying when I say that I would not be where I am today had it not been for my JYF experience! I remember the orientation period in the beautiful town of Tours very well. From the very beginning of our abroad programme, we were assigned local host families (even in Tours during orientation) that welcomed us into their arms and gave us our very first impression of French culture and society. As of today, I am still in touch with my mère d’accueil, Evelyne. The summer days that we spent in this town of the Val de Loire set the bar high for what was to follow two weeks later in Paris. I had had an amazing time in Tours and to my surprise, the three months that I spent in Paris with Sweet Briar went just as well if not better! I was assigned to a French host family that I had dinner with most nights and that gave me valuable lessons and impressions on modern-day French culture. Beyond the host family experience, my classes both at Sweet Briar in Reid Hall and at La Sorbonne allowed me to truly improve my French and understanding of the French educational system. By taking two classes at a local university, I met plenty of French and other European students that made my experience unforgettable.

Inspired by this wonderful time, I decided to go back to Paris the summer after my junior year to intern at a local association working with refugees. I used my summer experience at such association to then write an independent study at my college in the United States my senior year, which was a wonderful way to finish my studies.

Upon graduation, I did not doubt twice to move back to Paris and follow my dreams to continue my immersive experience in the French capital. Hence, I am now working as an au pair for a French family while doing my service civique at another French association. This time I dedicate my time to a French association that provides professional guidance and workshops to low-income students in Paris. I am speaking French 24/7 and learning much more than I could have ever hoped for. I have no doubt that all these experiences, inspired by my time with Sweet Briar in Paris, will help me achieve my professional goals. Next year, I am hoping to start a master degree on European public policy (in Paris, of course!). Sending my hugs to everyone at Sweet Briar in Paris—I always look back at my days as a student and would not trade them for anything else!

Marta Martinez, JYF Fall 2016
Connecticut College

When I studied abroad, I took classes in microbiology at Paris Diderot. Now, after graduating from Kenyon College with a degree in biology, I am back in Paris for the year as an assistant teacher as a part of the TAPIF program. I currently teach at two middle schools in Noisy-le-Grand and love it! This experience has caused me to think more seriously about a career in teaching. I still see my friends that I made in JYF and there are even a few of them living in Paris this year, working as either au pairs or as a part of the TAPIF program, including my current roommate Matt Berry. I’m still trying to decide if I will go back to the United States after this year or if I will try to stay in Paris. Can’t wait to see where I end up, but I definitely owe my current situation to my study abroad semester with JYF where I increased my French language proficiency, made lifelong friends, and prepared myself for a life abroad.

Austin Smith, JYF spring 2017
Kenyon College

Bonjour! My name is Matt Berry from Redding, Conn. I was lucky enough to join the Sweet Briar program in the spring of 2017. The experience was more than I could have expected. This program really allows one to grow in their French capabilities. Although I was in a new country, I had a strong support system, starting from my host family, the program heads, and all the professors at Sweet Briar. I formed many strong friendships that I am still close to today. As of right now, I am living in Paris and working as a language assistant for the Teaching Assistant Program in France (TAPIF). From my year alone, six of us are back living
in Paris and three others in France) either with TAPIF, graduate school, or as an au pair. I believe this is a strong testament to how amazing and supportive Sweet Briar’s program is.

The teaching assistant program in France offers you the opportunity to work in France for seven months, teaching English to French students of all ages. Each year, over 1,200 American citizens and permanent residents teach in public schools across all regions of metropolitan France and in the overseas departments of France such as French Guiana, Guadeloupe, Martinique and Réunion. The American cohort is part of the larger Assistants de langue en France program, which recruits 4,500 young educators from 60 countries to teach 15 languages annually in France. The Assistants de langue en France program is managed by the CIEP, the Centre International d’Études Pédagogiques.

Matt Berry JYF spring 2017
Lafayette College

Le Concours d’Éloquence

Just a few months ago, by a stroke of chance, I found myself in second place in the concours d’éloquence, a university-wide public speaking contest organized by Université Sorbonne Nouvelle Paris 3 in April 2018. Nearly all of my coursework had been in the theater and cinema departments at Paris-III, so most of my friends were performers who worshipped the arts. One day, my best friend, a girl named Fanny from the Jura, asked me to join her in this competition, and so I dropped everything and went along with her.

The event structure was simple enough: The top nine students would all appear on stage together, lined up one next to another, for a sudden-death contest. Each participant would receive a prompt and immediately deliver a two-minute speech on the topic. Following each round, the judges eliminated up to three participants, until the top three were left for the championship round: Under the same guidelines, the time for each speech was raised to eight minutes.

Soon enough, I stood on stage next to eight French university students in competition. Round after round, after the president of the university called my name, I nervously inched to the podium, gave a nifty little speech about whatever had been asked, and I actually didn’t get eliminated. In groups of three, I witnessed my friends and classmates walk off the stage, as I, of all people, entered the final round. After finishing my final discourse for the night, I found myself speechless. I had studied French for two and a half years, only wishing to share meaningful stories and conversations with native speakers. Suddenly, not only was I recognized for my ability to do just that, but the judges prized my performance above nearly every other competitor, all of whom were actually French.

It is strange to think back to my transition from surviving to flourishing in a foreign city. This experience was ridden with terror and confusion in isolating points that had never seemed so incomprehensibly challenging—from purchasing a stamp at the post office to navigating a snow-covered Saint-Denis with a broken cellphone. And yet, participating in the Concours d’éloquence at Paris-III showed me that my semester abroad was more than just a series of belabored successes, but an endless map of beautiful, comical, emotional, and vulnerable crossroads, many of which were shared with real friends from across the world. For all that, I may only be grateful.

Kevin Medansky, JYF Spring 2018
Haverford College
1950-51
Harriet (Farber) Friedlander
Mount Holyoke College
My roommate Caryl (Kolbert) Pines Curry is still my best friend and living with a sometimes difficult French family taught us both tolerance and understanding!

Frederick (Ted) Hecht
Dartmouth College
The Science Laboratory at our local public elementary school, (where I am currently teaching elementary school science after being a Physician, biomedical researcher, writer, teacher) has recently been named the “Hecht Science Lab with appreciation to Drs. Ted and Barbara Hecht for the endless hours of love, labor and learning that have gone into creating an exceptional science lab at Desert Sun Academy.

Sandy (Adler) Leibowitz
Wells College
I went to Yale Grad school and became a French teacher. I continue to teach French conversation to senior Franco-philics.

Patricia (Reed) Perry
Mount Holyoke College
I moved to a life care community near Boston 11 years ago which gives me plenty of time for skiing, biking, museums and trips to Paris (my 29th last year).

Patricia (Layne) Winks
Sweet Briar College
I can report that fellow alumna Ann Whittingham Smith has kept up with her French and maintained her love of France through the Alliance Française. Pauline Wells Bolton and her sister Jay (Josephine (Wells) Rodgers, JYF ‘51-52) have returned to Paris several times, most recently in 2016. I too have made numerous visits to Paris, the last time in April 2018. A particularly happy trip was the one I made with my dear partner Henry in 2012.

As for myself, I’ve retired from three professions: high school teacher, attorney, and mental health counselor. I take pride in four children and four grandchildren. My son Christopher Winks majored in French at UC Berkeley and is now chair of the department of comparative literature at Queens College, CUNY, with a special interest in Caribbean literature (both French and Spanish). My granddaughter Carmen Altes (Brandeis University) participated in the JYF program in the fall of 2014. So my love of France and French culture is passed on to succeeding generations.

1953-54
Sue (Lawton) Mobley
Sweet Briar College
Two years ago I took my daughter, son-in-law and two teenage granddaughters to Paris—great fun and fabulous food!

Bert Shapiro
Yale University
I am delighted, as we all are, that Sweet Briar has been able to maintain and improve the program all these years. I have been happily and gratefully retired since 1991. I am fortunate to still be married to my first wife since 1959, feel well enough and have the means to travel and pursue my cultural and linguistic interests as I please.

Stephen (Pat) Zappala
Harvard University
I share my Florida home with my daughter Annabelle, her husband, and my grandson Domenic.

1954-55
Darlene (Nelson) Alonzo
Middlebury College
Six of us have kept a round robin letter going all these years. Emilie Patton Deluca, Nancy Moses Gilliam, Kay Inganells Kezer (originator of the letters), JoAnn McNatt, Beverly Oyler Shivers and I are all still healthy. I’m still in touch with Joceline Raymond Noel, owner daughter of our home in Paris, and Ann Fox, an English student there.

Mary Ann (Rorison) Caws
Bryn Mawr College
I am a Distinguished Professor Emerita and Resident Professor of the English, Comparative Literature and French Ph.D. and have taught in the Bryn Mawr Summer School in Avignon and have done many anthologies of poetry with New Directions, one coming out called “Milk Bowl of Feathers: essential surrealist writing”.

Jonathan Donald
Yale University
I have just written and published two novels whose geography and travels there to are based to some degree on my own work, traveling in the US, Mexico, Europe, Pacific Islands, South East Asia, Japan, India and all parts of Africa, especially Egypt. The first is “Sour Mash, the Long Time Ago: Adventures of an American” which is the story of a simple and slightly foolish rustic American whose travels take him across America, to Hawaii, the Yukon, Mexico and then on to Europe, Egypt, around Africa to the Indian Ocean and finally the East Indies. The second is “Traveler in an Ancient Land” which is the story of Giovanni Belzoni, the first European to explore Egypt following Napoleon’s invasion of the country in 1799.

JoAnn McNatt
Wells College
We have kept a round robin letter going for 63 years.

Mariette “Mimi” (Schwarz) Reed
Middlebury College
I have stayed in touch with Charlie Montgomery and his lovely wife Mary Lou.

Mary (James) Staehein
Wellesley College
I have been living in Switzerland married to my Swiss husband for 62 years. We met in a youth hostel in Tours in France in 1952, just before I entered Wellesley. So to make a long story short, that’s why I majored in French (in order to spend my junior year abroad) instead of English literature or history of art. During my junior year in France, I spent every holiday (Christmas, Easter) and every prolonged week-end in Switzerland (we conversed in French—all our love letters are in French). At the beginning of my senior year in Wellesley, I had to go up on the stage at a meeting of the Alliance Française and tell a bit about my year in Paris. A friend of mine told me that two of my French professors were sitting behind her, and she heard one of them say, “Tiens, c’est bizarre, Milie. James vient de passer une année à Paris, et elle parle français avec un accent suisse.”

Margot (Meier) Viscusi
Northwestern University
I’ve just returned from a week in France, where I was struck once again by what a cultivated and civilized country it is. My son Gregory Viscusi has lived and worked in Paris for many years, where he covers French politics for Bloomberg News; he now has dual citizenship and my 14-year-old grand-daughter was born there. I no longer officially work (e.g., no pay checks come my way) but I’m still serving on a handful of boards of cultural organizations. Any JYF alumni interested in poetry who are visiting New York should stop in at Poets House (poethouse.org) in beautiful Battery Park City in lower Manhattan. If I happen to be there I’ll be delighted to welcome you and show you around.

1955-56
Joanne (Coyle) Dauphin
Wellesley College
I met my French husband through a Sciences Po alumni
trip to Budapest. I have been a permanent resident in Paris since 1963.

Ada Helene Mewborn
Duke University

I have had numerous reunions with roommates from SBC-JYF, and their husbands, Ann Reath Schapiro and Elli Ray Flynn over the years. And for three of those, Julie Bayer Markham as well. We have met in Boston, Cary, Atlanta, Sunapee, Hillsborough Beach, Paris and NYC.

English Showalter
Yale University

I am still working on the correspondence of Françoise de Graffigny, helping with the online publication of additions and corrections to the fifteen print volumes, and preparing a table of her passive correspondence.

Simon Stertzer
Union College

The JYF Class of 1955-56 was a remarkable group of creative students and faculty who came together in Paris 10 years after World War II. The Director that year was Professor Georges May from Yale University, whose guidance, intellect and charm set an educational standard that inspired all of us. I returned to New York, in 1956, where I was graduated from NYU’s School of Medicine 4 years later. I went on in cardiology, to do the first coronary angioplasty in America, in 1978. Abbreviating the long story, the past 25 years of my career were spent as Professor of Medicine at Stanford University’s School of Medicine, in Stanford CA. I am now Emeritus, but still active as Board Chairman of BioCardia Inc, a California entity running trials to treat heart failure with stem cells injected directly into the heart muscle. My roommate from Tours and Paris was Dr. Phillip Frost, whose career in Medicine and in business has been one of the most extraordinary, productive success stories in American medicine.

Our group in ’55 was replete with talent, but none more extraordinary than the late Henry Geldzahler, whose career as an art curator is legendary. I return to France almost yearly, had a first family there for more than 20 years, have old friends in Paris, and still, je me débrouille en français, le mot juste coming first to mind en français qu’en anglais.

1956-57
Jacqueline (Tabachnick) Guéron
University of Pennsylvania

I am still in Paris.

Thomas Simons
Yale University

Since my last report in 2015, I continue to do odd jobs around Harvard’s Davis Center for Russian and Eurasian Studies, and wife Peggy and I continue to travel: in 2016 we spent six weeks in Paris (where we found Jacquie Guéron in fine shape) and a week (our first) in Provence; in 2017 we led a Harvard alumni tour from Prague around southwest German towns and waterways (including a hop onshore at Strasbourg); and this year we’ve done 2+ weeks with the great temples of Southeast India, and led another Harvard group around Languedoc in September. It helps to get away.

JoAnne (Valentine) Simson
Kalamazoo College

After retiring from the Medical University of South Carolina, I have been traveling, teaching, and writing—often about travels. I just turned eighty, and don’t travel so well, but I’m still writing. A major current activity (besides friends and family) is writing. I have written two books about living and traveling overseas, and have two more in the works. My website is: http://javsimson.com/; Amazon page: https://www.amazon.com/-/e/B00BH3326S

1957-58
Edward Bloomberg
Yale University

Would love to hear from ’57-58 people.

Sylvia (Kowitt) Crosbie
Bryn Mawr College

After working for the Israel Ministry for Foreign Affairs I taught high school in Eilat, Israel. Returning to the U.S., I got my doctorate from Columbia University. I published a well-received study of French/Israel relations and taught at Iona College, Plymouth State College in New Hampshire and Immaculate Heart College in Los Angeles. After nearly 17 years as an administrator with the City of Los Angeles, I retired from a senior position with the Los Angeles Police Department in 2003 and now live in the San Fernando Valley. I have two sons, one grandson, a very large dog, and a snobbish cat. My main interest is painting in watercolors and pastel (my website is www.sylviacrosbie.com ).

Sarah (Hanson) Manno
Mount Holyoke College

Enjoying primarily a career in dance, I augmented my income with teaching French at the H.S. and university level. Also I have spoken French with my 3 grandchildren once or twice a week since their birth. The eldest, now 22, became fluent after a couple of brief visits to France. It works!

Rebecca (Loose) Valette
Mount Holyoke College

Our three children all speak French and our eight grandchildren all attended bilingual schools. Granddaughter Emé Valette (Middlebury ’16) is just back from a year teaching English in Paris.

Mary Ann (Frese) Witt
Wellesley College

I retired in 2007, but continued to give seminars on Modern French Theater in Avignon in July until 2014.

1958-59
Anne Marie (Dattelbaum) Bedford
Mount Holyoke College

After many years of not speaking a word of French, I am happily in a French club in NH and trying to retrieve my fluency. What fun! I have presented in two classes, showing pictures of Paris and La Provence, bringing back great memories.

Carole Karp
University of Michigan

I got a PhD in French and Comparative Literature and taught French in several colleges. Now I give tours in Washington DC for French tour groups.

Robert C. Larsen
Trinity College

I have not been in communication with anyone from that year, to my sadness. In an absolute glut of nostalgia, I am wondering what happened to my two Paris roommates, and if they are even still in this life and where they might be living. One was Tony Shalit and the other was Roger Gerdes.

I traveled with him and two others in his little green Renault to Italy at Christmas time. And the two of us took off for Scandinavia at the end of the school year and visited my family in Oslo, finally taking the ferry from Bergen to Newcastle in the UK. And then I boarded the Mauritania again and came on home.

The JYF experience changed my life. I spent my
career years as a high school French teacher and currently own a home in the village of Roussillon in the Vaucluse in Provence, where I will be in residence for 3 months this summer.

Carolyn (Nygren) Curran
Brown University
The JYF experience was definitely a life defining one for me and was probably responsible for my choice of career as a potter. It must have influenced my family in some way, as my oldest son had his junior year in France and is now a professor of French literature at Wesleyan University.” See Carolyn’s website: https://www.cncpottery.com

1959-60
Juliette (Julie O’Neil) Arnheim
Sweet Briar College
I try to keep up with the ’59-’60 group but fall short most of the time! I did meet up with David Freund (Yale) and his wife, Betsy, in Paris this June. We dined across the street from Jean Louis Barrault was in friendly competition with Jean Vilar of the TNP for ‘best theater in Paris’ in our day.
Our JYF group “reunited” in Charleston, SC, in June 2015 and spent 2 1/2 fun days eating, drinking, touring and mostly talking. Most of us have been back to France over the years and all felt JYF was a huge positive influence in our lives. I began reconnecting with the language and the country only after my husband died in 2014 and I began taking French classes at College of Charleston.

Joe Carroll
University of Virginia
My present wife and I were married in Paris in 1990 by the vice mayor and we have returned to vacation in France almost every year since. Two years ago we held a reunion in Charleston, SC hosted by Julie Arnheim. Last year we met in Louisville, KY, hosted by the late Gene Jaegers. Dave Freund has been coordinating the reunions. We are looking forward to future gatherings.

David J. Freund
Yale University
I have kept up with my spoken French and my wife and I have returned to France five times in recent years. We stay in a hotel close to Metro Notre Dame des Champs and The Paris #68 bus route from Blvd. Raspail to the 9th Arrondissement is still running! I remain in touch with a few members of our group. We compare travel notes.

Doris (Young) Kadish
Skidmore College
I retired in 2011 after 40 years of teaching French at the university level.

1960-61
Martha (Baum) Carlton
Sweet Briar College
During my years as a practicing attorney in NE GA, I helped many immigrants from SE Asia who had come to that part of GA. They often spoke French, so I could help them in their adjustments to life in the US.
I am in the process of becoming a court interpreter in both French and Spanish in the state of Florida. I am required to participate in several workshops, pass oral and written exams in both languages, participate as an aide until I am fully certified. I am very excited about it.
I have kept up with my dear French friend whom I met while in Paris. We have shared in emails the current events of both of our countries.

Bettye (Thomas) Chambers
Sweet Briar College
We had a splendid 50th reunion in spring 2011, thanks to David Rosenbloom’s organizing talents. Already looking forward to the 60th in 2021.

Barbara Roush
Mount Holyoke College
I am now a great-grandmother of Nova Ray Woods, born Apr. 2, 2017! I became a French teacher and, after marrying and having two children, returned to France with my husband for what we thought would be just a year. I have been here for almost 50 years now. I switched to conveying my love of English literature to students at the Lycée International de St. Germain-en-Laye.

1961-62
Margaret (Chase) Hager
Wheaton College
I continually read French, seek out French speaking friends here in Richmond, VA. My closest ties are with my roommate Suzanne “Terney” (Sutter) Augur.

John Impert
Yale University
My book, Painters of the Northwest: Impressionism to Modernism, 1900-1930 was published in 2018 by the University of Oklahoma Press. It is the first book ever written on early artists from the Pacific Northwest, and it represents the culmination of my transformation from international lawyer to art historian. The foundation for my career as an international lawyer began in Paris with JYF. I subsequently spent a dozen years in Paris and Brussels practicing international transactions and investment law. During that time, I met my wife, Annick Geelhand de Merxem, a Belgian national.

Ann (Winget) La Porta
Denison University
I’m a semi-retired lawyer and Foreign Service spouse. Our most exciting posting was Mongolia where my husband was Ambassador and where I used my French with a group of French nuns who were rehabilitating a hospital.

David Rosenbloom
Princeton University
A few years back we celebrated the 50th anniversary of our marvelous year in Paris. I would like to know whether there are other members in our group who would be interested in organizing for our 60th. It’s not that far away!

Judith Shapiro
Brandeis University
I am just taking my second shot at retirement—this time from being President of the Teagle Foundation, which makes grants in support of liberal arts teaching and learning. My predecessor in this position, Rich Morrill, was also a predecessor in the Sweet Briar JYF program. Our conversations always involve a certain amount of French. My first shot at retirement was after 14 years as president of Barnard College, and I think I may do better this time. I will remain active with many non-profit boards (Reacting to the Past, Scholars at Risk, Association of American Colleges and Univer-
sities, University of the People).

Christine (Devol) Wardlow
Sweet Briar College

Enjoying retired life, children, grand-children and a great granddaughter. A fair amount of travel, cruises, Road Scholar trips, etc. Winters in Florida and summers in Colorado. The best of both worlds!

1962-63

John Hailman
Millsaps College

I am still in touch with my old roommate Frank Hotchkiss (Yale University) and old Paris friends, now famous editor and author Dorothy Kalins. My daughter Lydia Hailman King followed in my footsteps 3 years in France. And now teaching college French full-time at Mississippi State University.

Frank Hotchkiss
Yale University

I am currently marketing my novel, “Playing With Fire,” a romantic story about a New York advertising executive who inadvertently falls in love with a much younger woman.

At the same time I’m running for mayor here in Santa Barbara.

1963-64

Alice “Rolly” (Fork) Grover
Wheaton College

I’m planning a trip with my sister to fulfill a couple of our bucket list items: to cross the Viaduc Millau and visit Le Puy en Velay, after which a river cruise up the Rhône from Avignon to Lyon. Can’t wait!

I chose Wheaton because it would allow me to spend my junior year in France in a French family. Perhaps the best thing, though, was meeting my husband when he was on leave visiting fellow JYF member, Peter McRobbie.

Ray Hilliard
University of Maryland

I’m friends with Richard Morrill, who was in a slightly earlier group. In the 1990s was the president of the University of Richmond, where I was Professor of English for forty years before retiring two years ago. My wife was for 40 years a professor of French at Randolph-Macon College. Our daughter, also now an academic, spent two years in Paris getting a licence in Paris, in “philo.” My son, a professional musician, spent a semester in Paris while he was in college. In addition, I frequently travel to France because, on my wife’s side, I have in-laws, including two wonderful nieces, who are French. In sum, I’ve stayed connected with France and the French language ever since my Sweet Briar year. Hard to imagine what my life would have been like if I hadn’t had that year.

John “Tex” Kidd
University of Virginia

Working hard practicing medicine for 40 years never distracted me from remembering the life I had in France. I can communicate with my patients in fluent French, and Spanish, and have learned some Italian and German. I follow events in Le Figaro, especially the recent election. When I go back to France as a tourist my wife says I revert back to the same hand gesticulations and facial expressions typical of the French. Guess I’ll be an inveterate old Franco-lophile forever.

Marieluise (Mimi Vogt) Macht
Sweet Briar College

I have been to Paris several times since my year of living there. I always look up my old address, 25 Rue Quentin Bauchart, where I lived for a year, chez Madame Rivière, and I always go to the Sorbonne, where I spent so many happy hours.

Linda (Noel) Naftalin
Randolph-Macon Woman’s College

Charlie and I have been married for 37 years and live at a lovely place called Blackberry Farm in East Tennessee. I taught French at University of Hawaii for several years and later in Washington DC at Georgetown Day School where I met Charlie. We have three children and three grandchildren (8, 5 and 10 months). My oldest daughter lives in Switzerland and speaks fluent French, as she is a Dean of Girls in a French speaking boarding school. Her sister is a learning specialist in the same school. Our son is a rancher and raises alpacas in Bend, Oregon. I share visits with the children and grandchildren of my host family in Tours.

1964-65

Jean (Campbell) Barquin
Sweet Briar College

Even after all of these years, I still feel that somehow Paris is “my” city. I frequently return and have promised to take my oldest granddaughter to Paris in two years when she is eight. I am still in close touch with Rebecca MacFayden whom I met on the Mauretania going to France. We roomed together in Paris and have been close friends ever since. We have made quite a few trips back together. She has used her French more than I have because she lives in NY and worked for Europe By Car for almost 50 years! I also became reacquainted with Cynthia Caldwell when I moved to DC and found that she lived quite nearby. Sadly, she died of cancer quite a few years ago. Another JYF class mate with whom I was very close was Joanna Sabalauskas. She died very young in 1984.

Stephen Giddings
Wesleyan University.

I retired in 2005 after 26 years with USAID and continue to do part time consulting in international development. My three children are all over the world: Kenya, Japan and Kuwait.

Bonnie (Hetzel) Jaffe
University of Maine

Thankfully, I remain in touch with my roommate and good friend, Laurie (Wax) Kleinberg.

George McDaniel
Sewanee: University of the South

After 25 years, I have now retired as executive director of Drayton Hall, a historic site of the National Trust for Historic Preservation in Charleston, SC. My interest in environmental conservation and historic preservation was sparked in
no small measure by my year in France. This experience changed the course of my life, inspiring me to “teach history through museums” rather than just through books.

For the last two years, I have been volunteering in the aftermath of the tragic murders at Mother Emanuel AME Church in Charleston to facilitate healing and have worked with the church to preserve thousands of objects, banners, quilts, letters, poems, paintings, sculpture, and more left in front of the church or sent by mail by people from around the world, including France. I have also given and will give presentations at national conferences, urging museums to get engaged now with their communities and to try and build cross-cultural understanding and tolerance.

I would like to get in touch with my friends from JYF.

( Jonathan) Peter Monroe Wesleyan University

Paul Schwartz Harvard University, resident director, 1978-79
I’ve been retired as college professor and dean since 2008. I’m sad to report that our classmate and my wife of 40 years Lucy (McCallum) Schwartz, died in 2009. In retirement I have been writing, acting and traveling. I’m living in Brooklyn and Blairsville PA with my new life partner Jill.

Joan (Edelman) Spero University of Wisconsin
During my year in Paris, I wrote long letters to my family every other day describing in detail what I was seeing, experiencing, thinking. My father saved those letters and the postcards and put them in three leather notebooks. For some reason, I had not read those notebooks until a few years ago. Reading them reminded me of a year that was intellectually and personally challenging, yet a joyous year of discovery of the French, the great wide world, and of myself.

1965-66
Bonnie (Bushong) Jones Denison University and Robert Mead Jones Jr. Yale University
We met on the Junior Year in France in 1965-66. Our life and our art are described on our website: www.jonesartstudios.com. We spend 7 months each year at our home in Vero Beach, FL and 5 months each year at our place in La Jolla CA.

John Lyons Brown University
I am still happily teaching French at the University of Virginia, where I arrived 31 years ago. During my junior year, I certainly did not foresee becoming a specialist of 17th century literature—something that I found intensely boring at the time. But my latest book has just appeared, Tragedy and the Return of the Dead, and I am now wrapping up the editing of The Oxford Handbook of the Baroque. Every year brings new excitement to learning about this aspect of France and to sharing it with students. My year in France with Sweet Briar was certainly the very best part of my undergraduate education. The memories from that time are among my happiest and most vivid.

Anthony Caprio Wesleyan University
While my close involvement with things French has changed considerably since I am no longer a professor but rather a university administrator and have been president of Western New England University now for 22 years, I still enjoy visits to France and speaking French whenever I can.

Karen (Lewis) Foley Wells College
Dan and I retired and moved from Maine to Charlottesville, Virginia, in the fall of 2015, the 50th anniversary of my departure for JYF. We love living near our daughters and granddaughters and the cultural life here. The effects of last summer’s terrible violence have not worn off here, and I’m getting a serious lesson in history and politics.

Hilde (Sorgen) Heaton Russell Sage College
I remember the time I spent with the Chéron Le Clerc family at La Grouette. I would love to hear from descendants of the family with whom I stayed.

Nancy (Gilman) Jokelson University of Pennsylvania
My second grandson entered the University of Pennsylvania Sept 2018.

Adele (Laslie) Kellman Sweet Briar College
Our daughter Allison had her first child (our first grandchild) last year in Andorra where she lives with her British husband. We spend winters in Osprey, Florida (30 minutes south of Sarasota on the West Coast). A new chapter in our lives! We spend summers in Great Barrington, MA where we have been going for over 15 years. Our son, Simon, works for a French company which has been sending him to Paris to work. All this reminds me of JYF days, and shows what a global economy we live in.

Deirdre LaPin Agnes Scott College
I have recently met another JYF Alum Pat Casco who serves with me on the Board of the DC Area Phi Beta Kappa Association. JYF sparked my love affair with Africa and a career as a professor in African and American Universities and work with UNICEF, USAID, the IFC, and others. I have lived for over 20 years in Africa, mostly in Nigeria, where I continue to do research in my retirement. (P.S. for an article on my legacy donation to the Smithsonian Libraries for African Art, please see the 2017 annual report at https://library.si.edu/annual-reports.)

Gail (Roth) Meister Mount Holyoke College
For several years after stepping back five years ago from full-time employment with an education nonprofit, I took on a series of projects related to professional learning communities and coaching with the Center for Effective School Practices at Rutgers University. I now serve as the learning lead for Writers Matter’s Interfaith Initiative at La Salle University, which links middle schoolers in Catholic, Jewish, and Muslim day schools through writing exchanges and face-to-face encounters. I love engaging in this important work—and doing it on a flexible schedule! As a volunteer, I chair the planning group for peer-to-peer learning for older adults at my synagogue in Philadelphia. I also co-edit an all-volunteer monthly publication—eight newsprint pages with photos and ads—that focuses exclusively on my small NJ borough across the river from Philadelphia (because no other paper does).

My husband, Gregg Meister, and I enjoy our travels. Sometimes it’s to visit our daughter, a neuroscientist in Seattle. In Paris we usually rent short-term apartments and take public transportation to tour the grand sights as well as to poke around ordinary neighborhoods. Though Gregg doesn’t speak French, it is he who always insists on a stop in Paris wherever else we go in Europe. How is it that Paris gets more beautiful each time?

Dottie Peacock Southern Methodist University
My interest and passion for
travel having been reinforced by my junior year abroad, I joined Pan American Airways in their marketing department in Houston, Texas, and later moved to British Airways (then BOAC). Later we moved to Cortez, Colorado, and I went to work for Crow Canyon Archaeological Center, a private not-for-profit archaeological research and education center. I was the director of their cultural travel programs, most of which took place in the American Southwest, but also to foreign countries. Kate Weingarten and her husband Seymour accompanied me and other participants on many of the trips.

Although I retired five years ago, I still live in Cortez, Co, and I also continue to travel quite frequently. My son and his wife and two daughters live an hour away in Durango, Colorado. I have already instilled my interest in foreign travel, particularly France, in my granddaughter Tessa, now seven years old. I have promised her we will visit Paris together when she is 10.

French culture as a life-time avocation. The French friends with whom I stay in touch are a treasured part of my life. My mother and I traveled to France together 26 times and those times are among my most wonderful memories.

**1966-67**

**Julie Seibels Northup**
Sweet Briar College and
Fred Northup
Sewanee, The University of the South

JYF’s 70th anniversary year is also our 50th wedding anniversary year, and we plan to go to France in October to celebrate where it all began. We will no doubt be visiting the Institut de la Touraine, Reid Hall, and Sciences Po, will spend time with Fred’s former host who now lives in the Vendée, and hope to see Sophie McKenzie Belouet, Joanne Dauphin, Harriet Rivière, and perhaps other JYF folks, as we will be staying at the American Cathedral, where Fred was Canon in the 70s (when I even worked briefly for JYF). We stopped by Ro-wayton earlier this summer to see David Earle, Fred’s Paris roommate, and enjoyed reminiscing with Penny Whiteside and Merritt Blakescape at Fred’s and their 50th Sewanee reunion. As may be obvious, we are now retired, Julie from lawyering except pro bono and Fred from active leadership of Athletes for a Better World. Our year in France remains the most significant of our lives. Julie is particularly pleased SBC retained or regained control of the program, as in her view the Hollins approach was, at least back in the day, vastly inferior!

**Adelaide Russo**
Sweet Briar College

I became a literary scholar and professor. I received an M.A., M.Phil. and Ph.D. in French and Romance Philology from Columbia University with a minor in Comparative Literature. I am Phyllis Taylor Professor of French Studies and Director of the Ph.D. Program in Comparative Literature at Louisiana State University. In August 2017 I will become Chair of the Department of French Studies at Louisiana State University. Awards include: Chevalier in l’Ordre des Arts et Lettres and also Chevalier in the Order of Les Palmes Académiques. My 2007 Le Peintre comme modèle: Du Surréalisme à l’Extrême contemporain, Presses universitaires du Septentrion, 2007 was awarded le Prix Debroussas-Forestier by the Académie des Beaux-Arts (Institut de France) and the Modern Language Association Aldo and Jeanne Scaglione Prize for the Outstanding Critical Study in French and Francophone Literature of 2007 (awarded 2008).

**Ann Webster**
Sweet Briar College

I return to Paris every fall for about six weeks in November and December. The older I am, the more I love France. If anyone would like to get in touch with me in Paris at that time, please email me at aawebster701@gmail.com.

**Pennington (“Penny”) Whiteside**
Sewanee: University of the South

I currently serve as the Director of Sponsored International Programs in the Office of the Vice President for Research and as the Director of Global Health Operations for the School of Medicine at the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) in Birmingham, AL.

**1967-68**

**Laurence Ach**
Trinity College

Enjoying life, good health, long marriage, children & grandchildren—still working, traveling extensively.
Jeff Bauer  
**Colorado College**

After devoting 48 years to strategic and economic analysis of health care and having turned 70, I’m still energetic and ready for some other line of work (not retirement)—hopefully turning my hobby of conceptual art (acrylic paintings) into a second career. I’m also learning to play a new musical instrument, the bass viola da gamba, with the intent of being able to perform French baroque literature for the instrument (e.g., Marin Marais) in public. During this transitional year, I’ll be writing a 25th anniversary edition of *Not What the Doctor Ordered*, my book that has probably had the most impact over the years. My wife and I would really like to spend much more time in France, more than the 2 weeks a year that has been our norm, but the international political situation is a deterrent. If things settle down, I’m thinking seriously about writing a book about how French wine ends up on American tables. It would require a lot of research in France...

Linda (Koerber) Boyd  
**University of Maryland**

Recovering lawyer. Now ordained in the Episcopal church. (much more joyful). Hope that we have a reunion sometime??

Bruce Croushore  
**Franklin and Marshall College**

I tell classmates at F&M (in Lancaster, PA) that my best year in college was my Junior Year in France. A hopeless Francophile ever since, I joke with my wife of 40 years, Michele Hilmes, that I’ll happily vacation with her anywhere, so long as it’s in France. When she suggests going to Great Britain or Scandinavia, I ask “is it close to France?”

Our daughter Amanda followed in her dad’s footsteps and spent her Junior Year in France, with the Vassar bunch, met her husband in Paris and speaks French with him when they don’t want our grandson to know what they’re saying. That’ll work only a few more years.

Carolyn (Foster) Durham  
**Wellesley College**

I went on to get a Ph.D, and spent 38 years as a professor of French. During that time, with year-long sabbaticals and summers. I, no doubt, spent the equivalent of some 12 years in France, usually in Paris. I have lifetime friends in France.

Teresa (Frost) Glaedon  
**Bryn Mawr College**

Still enjoying a great career in public radio and writing newspaper columns, though the web has overtaken other media to a large extent. I am delighted to have a grandson who will soon be a year old. In our 70s, my husband and I are thinking about what a good retirement might encompass. JYF gave me confidence to tackle a different language; my graduate research was in Oaxaca, Mexico, where life was conducted in Spanish.

Judith (Lee) Moeckel  
**Colby College**

CLAIR (HENDERSON) LEIGHTON and I were in Paris in 2014; I was singing with the Hartford (CT) Chorale. We can’t wait to go back!

William W. (Rusty) Park  
**Yale University**

JYF led me to international business law and cross-border arbitration. Have remained in touch with LINDA (MORRISON) ZUG. Would be delighted to hear more from others.

Darlene Pierro  
**Sweet Briar College**

Now retired, from independent schools, the last 16 years as Head of School. I taught French for years, planned and executed four trips to France for students. Anyone in the Washington, DC area should give a call or email. Best to everyone.

Judy (Lee) Moeckel and Clair (Henderson) Leighton in Paris, 1967

The 1967 group on the Queen Mary

Herb Wigder  
**Trinity College**


**1968-69**

Eric Allemano  
**Kenyon College**

Upon completing SBC JYF, I was faced with the ugly probability of being shipped to Vietnam to drop napalm on villagers or shoot at the Viet Cong. What eventually saved me was going into the Peace Corps to teach English as a foreign language in a secondary school in Agadez, a historic caravan crossroads in Niger, West Africa. I got the assignment thanks to my proficiency in French, the language of instruction in Niger. My four-year stint in Niger was the start of a career of working and consulting on education issues in Africa, mainly in French-speaking countries.

I moved (back) to France in 2002 to work at a UNESCO institute of educational planning in Paris. I eventually resumed international consulting and found a home in an old stone house in a village in the Sarthe, in western France, where I still live. In 2013 I hosted a reunion of friends from the SBC JYF class of 1968-69: Dan Gorrell and his wife Lois, David Adams, Cheryl Mann and Bonnie Halpern.

I helped to coordinate the 50th anniversary in Paris of the of the SBJYF class of 1968-69 we just celebrated with kind assistance from JYF at Reid Hall and other alumni of our group.

Robert Bruegmann  
**Principia College**

After a career teaching art history, architecture and urban planning at the University of Illinois and other institutions. I technically retired in 2010 although I’m doing most of the things I did before I retired. I was in France last year and stopped by where I lived in Tours on rue Buffon and in Par-
is on rue d’Assas. Glad to be in touch with other JYF alums.

Paula (Roberts) Cook  
Bryn Mawr College  
We split our time between Virginia (winter) and Maine (summer).

Mildred (Littleton) Garroway  
Sweet Briar College  
and  
Michael Garroway  
Bowdoin College  
Millie and I have been married since 1971. We raised our children in the US and moved to Europe in 2001. After 10 years in England and we are now retired in the Dordogne region of France. We spend our time visiting or hosting our four grandchildren and enjoying living in France! We would be delighted to catch up with our JYF classmates and welcome you to visit.

Jane Gott  
Sweet Briar College  
I went on to do grad work in French Literature. I am living in the Washington, DC metro area with my husband Ron Tant, retired and concentrating on watercolor painting.

Nancy (Nes) Knowlton  
Vassar College  
I retired from practicing architecture a few years ago. I have become a Master Naturalist and volunteer in a nearby Park. I also volunteer at a local Food Pantry. My husband, David, and I, and enjoy working at improving our garden. We also travel quite a bit, especially to Chicago to visit our son Nick, and to visit my family in New Mexico. In the past few years we have had wonderful trips to Italy, Spain and England and look forward to more adventures! I have returned to Paris several times, most recently with my husband and son. I have also just become part of a French conversation group in the hopes of improving my now rusty French!

David Longfellow  
University of Virginia  
Back in Paris for a couple of weeks last September, my wife and I stopped by Reid Hall to hear a chamber music recital by a friend’s early music group. Although there’s been some updating of the building, the surroundings seemed very familiar. The nice thing about changes in Paris is that, while they can be significant over time, they are largely incremental. Neighborhoods I frequented in ‘60s and ‘70s (the Latin Quarter, the neighborhood in the 10e where I lived with Irene Hannebicque, the boulevards around Louis XIV’s two gates, and even a couple of restaurants and cafes I patronized) seem much the same. Areas that have changed dramatically since 1968—like the Halles, Beaubourg, the Marais, St. Denis, la Defense, etc.—now seem to be familiar parts of the landscape. It’s always a pleasure to return.

Deborah Rood Spencer  
Wheaton College, MA  
Sharing a photo of the four American girls at the Verleys’ apartment: Lucy Lombardy, Sweet Briar College, Nancy Hearst, Connecticut College, Myra Schechtman, Case Western Reserve, and me. (see below)

Margery Runyan  
Goucher College  
After 25 years working for the State of New Jersey and retiring, I relocated to the Rocky Mountains of Durango, CO and built the fung shui and straw bale dream house. I also have a home on Pine Island on the SW Gulf Coast of Florida. I practice psychotherapy in both States when I am there. I traveled to Paris for the reunion and then two more weeks through the Aquitaine and Languedoc. I am going to buy an old farmhouse in Oullainville south of Paris and sell out of Florida. I have grieved my twin Malinda for 30 years and hope to find her spirit there. I have a legacy and heritage in France. My love of art and culture came from those days in Paris and I will be researching my genealogy with the Huguenots.

Daniel Danny Selove  
University of Virginia  
I attended the 50th year alumni reunion in NYC this past September!

Lynn Wallisch  
Mount Holyoke College  
Recently retired from a career in academic research (social sciences). I Play violin, cello and recorder with several community groups, take classes at the university, and travel whenever I can. Don’t use my French much, alas, but am still a francophile.

1969-70  
Anstiss (Bowser) Agnew  
Goucher College  
I revisit Paris every year and stay at a small hotel across the apt where Lynne (Loucks) Buchen and I lived with our family. I have two adult children (31 and 34) who also love to travel to Paris with me.

Marianne Mimi Fahn  
Sweet Briar College  
I am looking forward to my JYF 50th anniversary coming up in 2020 and am wondering who is organizing it and where will it be held? I keep up with her QE2 roommate, California girl, Linda Boverman who has had a career in speech therapy and saw her last Easter. I also keep up with another 1969-70 JYF friend, Emily Ennis Fowler (Wheaton College) and was to see her in Santa Fe, New Mexico this November.

I am a health economist with over 30 years’ experience in health policy and public health. I hold joint appointments in the City University of New York as Professor of Economics with the doctoral faculty of the Graduate Center, and as Professor of Health Policy and Management with the School of Public Health and Health Policy. I have also been on the Sweet Briar College Board of Directors since 2015 and in August 2018 was named Secretary.

Robert Gill  
Washington and Lee University  
Though I get to France (and Quebec) less often in retirement, I had three days in Tahiti, Moorea, and Bora Bora this winter as part of an extended cruise on the Cunard Queen Elizabeth. I spent a good part of my time there speaking French, which gave me great joy. My wife and I are both professors emeritus at Radford University. Our son, who minored in French at Dickinson and studied at Laval (Quebec) and Toulouse, is currently a Major in the Army. He and his wife have two young sons (four and two).

Fritz Hoffecker  
Princeton University  
I’ve retired from the intel world and now spend my time doing some “ethical hacking” and playing drums in a rock and roll band. My daughter now lives in Paris, and I had a great visit over there last spring. My son just got married, which made me feel a little old (accurately...). He never fell for France as he’s spent his time in China. Recently spent a great week in Paris, where I walked all over, went to some of my old haunts, and over-indulged in pastry and strong coffee.

Edward Wren Hudgins  
Washington and Lee University  
I lived two additional years in Europe, maintain French friendships to this day and visit about every three years. Leigh (Edens) Hudgins and I are both retired and travel a lot these days. While at home, she plays the fiddle in a Celtic
group and the violin (same instrument) in an orchestra, and I study birds and mushrooms.

**Barbara Kelly**  
*Mount Holyoke College*  
I am enjoying retirement with husband David Miller at our lakefront house in Northern New Jersey. In May 2015 I was diagnosed with Acute Myeloid Leukemia (AML) and had a stem cell transplant in August 2015. The recovery is long, since one’s immune system is essentially destroyed and then rebuilt by the transplant, but I’m happy to report that I am beating the odds and am almost feeling back to normal!

**Eric Ordway**  
*Princeton University*  
Inspired by the internationalism and multiculturalism that the junior year abroad program promoted and instilled in its participants—and led me to be a part of JFY in Paris in the first place—I continue to do international arbitration work as an attorney at a large law firm, representing foreign governments and private entities in a variety of disputes, as well as international human rights work for the United Nations and various other non-profit international and domestic organizations. Contrary to certain trends in our country, I believe strongly that our lives and the human condition in general are not only enhanced by but dependent upon increased and more intensive interaction between and among persons of different races, religions and nationalities. Indeed, for me, it is only through such contact that we as human beings can grow and make our world a better place. I am confident that many of those who were with me in Paris in 1969-1970 share these same feelings, and I welcome an opportunity to see as many of you as possible once again.

**Patricia Rowell**  
*Drew University*  
Following college I moved to NYC to join Chase Manhattan Bank and worked in international banking with Chase and American Express and consulting travelling extensively and doing some short-term assignments in Egypt, Bahrain and Greece. I was in both World Trade Center bombings, in 1993 and in 2001. I was happily married for 21 years but my husband died of cancer in 2001. I met a “significant other” on a business trip in St Petersburg, Russia. I lived in NYC for 40 years and now live in Salisbury CT and Jupiter FL and continue to spend a fair amount of time in NYC. I have been a Trustee with the New York Theatre Workshop and today for the Sharon Land Trust and do other volunteer work.

I have two sisters, two step children, three grandchildren and nieces and nephews with whom I am close and I enjoy my partner’s (Ron) family. I love playing tennis and golf, spending time with friends and family and generally enjoying life.

**Marilyn (Boyd) Silar**  
*Sweet Briar College*  
Retired & loving it in Naples, FL

**1970-71**

**Kate (Cooper) Leupin**  
*Randolph Macon Woman’s College*  
I pursued graduate study in French at Cal Berkeley, became a French professor, and married a Swiss national whom I met through my graduate studies. Our family has always spoken French at home.

**Jan (Woodward) Fox**  
*Radcliffe College*  
When it appeared that I was going to turn 60 whether I wanted to or not, it became clear that the only thing that would make it better was doing it in a bistro in Paris. So there we were: good friends, my son and his girlfriend, and my roommate from JFY with me in a bistro with a waiter with a long apron helping me celebrate one of life’s great transitions -- the way it should be.

**April (Nelson) McKay**  
*Colby College*  
I have returned to Paris or France almost every year. I just love the light and language and food! Just returned from a wonderful river cruise in Bordeaux with Christine Stover Romero, my roommate in Tours, and her husband John and some other friends. Hard to believe Christine and I have been friends for 48 years! Had a fabulous time at wine tastings and enjoying the beautiful countryside.

**1971-72**

**Melinda (Williams) Davis**  
*Sweet Briar College*  
After about a 40-year hiatus had lunch with Celi Rehberg McGurk about a year ago. She lives not at all far from me. I stay in regular touch with Dorothy Senghas Lakner and Cary Davis King. After retiring and being widowed I moved back to Richmond, VA (my home town) in 2012. I also still am in touch with one of the daughters in my French family, Sophie Dント. My beau and I had dinner with her and her husband in St. Jean de Luz about 18 months ago. Hoping we’ll have a JFY Reunion in France soon, while we all are still mobile enough to make it!

**Amy (Lerner) Comolli**  
*Mills College*  
I still have close ties to friends from that year…especially Bill Heckel. Spent time with him at his beautiful home in France, just outside of Geneva during my visit to France (Epinal) last year to visit family. I married someone I met during my year in France and then worked for over 25 years for a French company in the US, using my language skills.

**Elizabeth Dunkel**  
*George Washington University*  
Greetings from Merida, Mexico where I have lived for the past 25 years. I’m a writer and my latest e-book is on Amazon: “How to live like a millionaire on a retirement budget.” I have a blog: www.campliza.com and I’m working on a new novel, a cookbook and a memoir. Memories of JFY inform my life always; it’s what sparked the journey of my life, the love of travel, and my sensual imagination. I travel several times a year to Europe and to Montana and places west.

**R. William Heckel**  
*Bowdoin College*  
After working as a translator for the United Nations for 31 years, I retired in Geneva, my last posting. Actually, I live in France, on the south shore of Lake Geneva (or lac Léman, as we call it), about 15 miles outside the city of Calvin. Since retirement I have been quite active musically, conducting two choirs (one in France, one in Switzerland) and singing as a soloist and performing in musical theater. My most recent (maybe final?) performance was this spring, as Emile de Becque in “South Pacific”; I was thrilled when I discovered afterwards that the theater ushers were all convinced I was French! I am currently awaiting the imminent birth of my first grandchild, which means that I will undoubtedly be spending much more time Stateside. Of our group I see Amy Lerner Comolli and her husband Cesar whenever they come to visit family in France. I also see Patrice Scarvalone and Daniel de Leiris (my Paris roommate) somewhat regularly as well (I used to see Patrice all the time when she, too, lived in Geneva!). Any classmates planning to visit the Alps, please feel free to give a shout—we always love to see folks from home!

**Blanchette (Chappell) Maier**  
*Sweet Briar College*  
Hello to all my fellow JFY friends.

**John Schneider**  
*University of Wisconsin*  
After retiring as a foreign service officer with the U.S. foreign aid program in 2004, I moved to a working farm in northern Maryland near the Pennsylvania border. We raise heritage breeds of animals including Guernsey milk cows, Merino sheep for fleece, a mountain goat named Proust, and a variety chickens, geese and peacocks. I also raise and...
show Ibizan Hounds, with my beloved Pussycat Doll winning an Award of Merit at the Westminster Kennel Club show.

1972-73
Ellie (Plowden) Boyd
Sweet Briar College
Enjoyed sharing memories of SBCJYF with Emory Furniss Maxwell, Ruthie Willingham Lentz, and Lee Wilkinson Warren, and hearing about Liz Thomas Camp’s trip this year to follow in the footsteps of her dad who landed on the beaches on D-Day +3. We may need to plan a mini-reunion in France. Who’s in??

Patrice (Clark) Cole
University of Arizona
I was ordained as a Deacon in the Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Arizona in June 2018.

Joan (Lippert) Indig
Mount Holyoke College
Whatever happened to our second reunion? I’m here to help.

Janet (Cohen) Kautz
University of Cincinnati
I’m happy to say I’ve remained in touch with my roommate Diane (Linn) Conroy & attended our 25 year reunion in NYC in ’98. Would enjoy hearing from any in our group, especially if you’re traveling to Austin!"

Emma (Ward) Morris
Emory University
Teaching entrepreneurship at the University of TN at Chattanooga (well, the word is French). I still use my French almost daily with French clients and French friends.

Carol (Lunder) Rubinstein
Goucher College
I spent 35 years teaching high school French at Forsyth Country Day School in Lewisville, NC, leading student groups to France and hosting French exchange students. I have retired to Baltimore, MD with my husband Malcolm who retired from private practice as a psychologist. French has always been a part of my daily life both personally and professionally. We are enjoying life and spending time with friends and family, especially our four grandchildren. Life has been good to us.

1973-74
Philippe de Lapérouse
Trinity College
Still in the saddle working and traveling across the globe as a Global Food and Agribusiness Consultant. Have not been in contact with fellow JYF alumni for some time.

Vincent Doddy
Villanova University
I retired from MACK Trucks Inc. after 38 years in the International Marketing Division. My career with MACK afforded me the opportunity to travel to 70 countries including a few business trips to Paris & Lyon. My French & Spanish language skills acquired during my Junior Year in France with Sweet Briar were put to good use in this job. I am currently working on a part time basis with Medical Educational Teaching Associates instructing & preparing medical students for their exams.

Peter Goetz
Yale University
I’m teaching middle school in the San Francisco Bay Area. I remained a Europhile with a global perspective, and 10 years later I moved to Italy, staying for 12 years.

Emily (Crom) Lyons
Kenyon College
We spend summers now in Darien, CT, and winter in Bonita Springs, FL. Happy to hear from friends in either location.

1974-75
Carole Grunberg
Vassar College
It is wonderful to be in occasional contact with one of my SBC JYF roommates, Claire Colbert Mills. It is profoundly sad that we no longer have another of our roommates with us, Jane (Bambi) Bachman Wulf, as she passed away last year from pancreatic cancer. She and I remained very close after being roommates chez Mme Rivière, and traveled many times back to France and Paris over the past 40 years. I recommend the tribute from Sports Illustrated, where she had an amazing career. In addition to her years with SI, she was also an associate editor of Time Magazine. She is survived by her husband of 38 years, Steve Wulf, and 4 wonderful children.

Peter Labombarde
Colby College
Our children seem to have inherited our love of languages. Katherine works on economic development in French West Africa, Evan is an Arabic Linguist in the Marine Corps, and Jocelyn has lived in Cambodia and speaks fluent Khmer. Now that they are all independent, Irene and I look forward to more travel. We just returned from Bulgaria and Romania, and are headed to South Africa this winter.

William Marquess
Duke University
I’ve just retired, moved to an apartment in downtown Burlington, VT and given up my car. I walk to everything—the market, the Y, the library, the bus. It’s not Paris, but this routine reminds of our year there. That’s a good thing. I listen to France Culture in the evening, and I thank the gods that I had that JYF experience.

Deborah (Mutch) Olander
Sweet Briar College
I was so sad to learn from Carole Grundberg of Bambi Bachman’s passing. When I think of the entire Junior Year experience, I realize that Carole and Bambi were our “spirit sisters” right from the beginning. I want to thank both of them, albeit far too late, for their lovely leadership. I have stayed in contact with my French family to this day. I saw them several years ago when I was last in Paris (unfortunately my Madame passed away two years ago at age 92).

Jody Clarke Walter
Denison University
Over the years I have returned to Paris and other areas of France for vacations (multiple times with Cynthia [Steele] Verme and still love being on French soil. I have a stepdaughter who shares my passion for France and the French language and who has also spent time studying and living in Paris.

1975-76
Marion McCord
Denison University
Living the good life on the coast of Maine.

Scot Oliver
Guilford College
I completed an M.A. in architecture at the University of Idaho a few years back and have been working since 2013 as the director of Idaho Smart Growth, a statewide nonprofit organization helping people build stronger, healthier communities. I love it out here!

Deborah (Cook) Rount
Mount Holyoke

Martha Simpson
Mount Holyoke
After 40 wonderful years of teaching French, Spanish, and English as a second language at all grade levels and in both public and private sectors, I am retiring.
Sweet Briar College

1976-77

Susan (Coulson) Burghes
Mount Holyoke College

I have nothing but the fondest memories of my JYF in Tours and Paris. I married a British subject, moved to London immediately following our wedding in 1982!! After a few years we moved to Toron- to and had our first son. After a few more years we moved to Columbus, Ohio where my husband is a professor in 3 departments at Ohio State University. This is also where I did my PhD in Molecular Genetics. We had our second son in Co- lumbus. Columbus is a surpris- ingly international city in large part due to the gigantic uni- versity, but also due to a very broad, healthy economy. I re- turn to France every few years. I am struck with how ‘open’ the French are faced with the huge diversity of cultures in their cities. Their attitude towards Americans has evolved enor- mously and made visits very copacetic. I am generally very at home in France. IF someone from my year or wishing some information/advice on living abroad would like to contact me, please do so.

Cecilia (Garcia-Tunon) Lear
Sweet Briar College

After spending the vast majority of my life in the Wash- ington, DC area, Steven and I got tired of living our lives in traffic and made a rather sub- stantial ‘quality of life’ move to Maine. We have lived in Bangor for 12 years now, and actu- ally realized our objective to actually BE parents----with a vengeance. Our son, Fred (now 25), is doing extremely well, studying and also pursuing his passion for Mixed Martial Arts (causing his mother an accel- erated loss of hair------and what- ever is left is quite a bit saltier than it is peppery!). He has a very healthy winning record and earlier this month, just won his first Championship Title in the Bantamweight category.

Barbara (Mendelssohn) Price
Sweet Briar College

I have kept up with my French speaking, reading and writing skills for these 40 years since JYF 1976-77. It is a hobby of mine and now traveling with my husband and family in Paris, France, Switzerland and I am completely comfortable. Most people do not know that I am an American! How nice! Junior Year in France was the best edu- cation I had in my life! Perhaps there could be another great Reunion in Paris soon?"

Marnell (Bukovac) Stover
Denison University

My daughter, Mary Claude Brunelli (Williams College) did JYF in Spring 2011, has her MA in French (Columbia) and is now getting her PhD at CUNY. I received an MA in French literature, taught French, studied wines, travel often. I am still in contact and visit with the daughter and grandson of my host family Mme Varangot.

1977-78

Pamela (Davenport) DaSilva
Mount Holyoke College

I have traveled back to France many times and it is my home away from home. I feel as comfortable walking the streets of Paris or shopping in a market in Bonnieux as I do in my own neighborhood.

Cheri (Harris) Lofland
Sweet Briar College

I loved Europe from the time I arrived and, although it took a few years after graduation, ended up living and work- ing here since—now 17 years and counting!

Laura (Simpson) Loveland
University of North Dakota

I am extremely comfortable in France. Had a French for- eign exchange student here when oldest daughter was in 6th grade. Only parent who spoke French. I fearlessly went back to visit Paris during the Gulf War in 1991, brought my daughters on a Uniworld Par- is-Beaches of Normandy river cruise 2008 (brought them to the JYF Office; elevator was out so we hiked 7 flights so they could see it; took them on a private day trip to the Châ- teaux of the Loire—thought my daughter’s eyes would pop out when we pulled up at Cham- bord).

I’ve been looking for Cath- erine Crosbie, 1977–1978 from Mount Holyoke for years.

Michael Wise
Georgetown University


1978-79

Melissa (Helms) Buckner
Vanderbilt University

I reside in Atlanta and have re- tired from the communications and affordable housing indus- tries. Continue to do pro bono work for non-profits serving the community. Enjoy international travel, tennis, friends, family, and books.

Melissa (Shakleton) Dann
Denison College

I am still in touch with Lisa (Hopkins) Wheeler, Marga- ret (Fullerton) Peyrard and Janel (Hughes) Wiles; two of the three live in France. Lisa and her wonderful daughter Isabelle and husband Mark were in DC in June for a wed- ding down the street from our house in Chevy Chase, MD. I was thrilled to recently celebrate the graduation from George Washington Univer- sity of one of Janel’s four (of five) kids. I live in Washington, DC with a husband who has grown to love amazing cheeses (thankfully very accessible now vs. in the 1980s when it seemed all we could get was Brie and Camembert at our local Safeway!). We have four kids (ages 19-26), three of whom are ardent Francophiles. Our oldest daughter Isabel taught in Amiens through the TAPIF program. Our daughter Olivia did a great exchange with a wonderful French family that included sailing lessons off the coast of Brittany.

Hope Freeland
Northwestern University

I am happily retired. My husband (also retired) and I enjoy traveling. Before retiring in 2014, I worked in the area of training and development for many years. Then I went back to school so that I could become a speech-language pathologist. I worked primarily with children.

Emily (Mann) Leichter
Brown University

While I live in NYC, I con- tinue to travel to Europe for work, particularly to London, Madrid and Paris. My time in Paris created an unquenchable wanderlust that has taken me all over the world through the decades: from India, Nepal, Hong Kong pre-turnover, and China to Vietnam, Thailand and Cambodia. I have met so many kind and brilliant people and wonder if I would be so open and accepting had it not been for my JYF experience.

Gretchen Reimel-Moussa
Northwestern University

It’s hard for me to imagine that it has been 40 years since I first came to France as part of the JYF program with Sweet Briar College. It is now 10 years since my husband, my daughter and I have settled in a village near Montpellier, in the south of France. We live in the old section of the village where the neighbors are ex- tremely open and welcoming. My husband and I often joke how it takes 30 minutes to walk our trash bag out to the dump- ster 30 meters away, because we’re sure to run into a neigh- bor and then spend a while chatting. You may wonder how we managed to find such a great little village. Actually, we really weren’t all that smart, we were lucky. We wanted to live in a stone house—one once again those romantic ideas about living in a postcard pretty me- dieval village -- but there really weren’t many stone houses on the market. So when our
real estate agent showed us our house, we put in an offer without knowing much about the village, other than Montpellier was close by, which was important since the city has a reputation of being dynamic and on the upswing.

Ten years later, I am so grateful to live in France. Yes, we have our problems here, and people definitely disagree how to address them. But France has many systems in place to help protect and support people on every level—economically, educationally, medically, socially, physically. I am at ease in this country and am very happy to call it my home.

**Ann (Connolly) Simpson**
*Sweet Briar College*

Not speaking a lot of French these days—have a 28 year old daughter who lives in South Boston and teaches 6th grade social studies. I am selling toys in Newburyport and playing gobs of tennis on teams in NH.

**Caroline Smith**
*Bryn Mawr College*

Still enjoy visiting France fairly often (most years), but spend more time in Lyon than Paris—it’s a great city too!

**Patricia “Tish” (Longest) Tyler**
*Sweet Briar College*

I regularly vacation in France twice a year.

**Barbara (Laskey) Weinreich**
*Brown University*

After 30 years of practicing architecture in New York City, I am now teaching Interior Design at Pratt Institute and the NY School of Interior Design. My husband, also an architect who I met in Graduate School at Columbia, and I live in Morningside Heights in New York.

**1979-80**

**Elaine Louise Arozarena**
*Sweet Briar College*

I am an International Advisor and founding partner of Global Strategic Advise Services and the sister company “Global Human Capital Solutions”. I married a Spaniard, has lived in more than seven countries. In addition to my SBC degrees, I have a Diploma from Institut des Sciences Politiques and from Université de Paris VII in Paris, France. I split my time between Europe and NYC.

**Cathy (Cosentini ) Bonczek**
*Cornell University*

After living in New York and Boston for several years, I am once again living in CT. I remain in close contact with Jane Bell, Elizabeth Jensen, Charlotte Smith, Peter D’Amario, along with Lynn Ellen Queen, and Scott Daube. The years since Sweet Briar have been full, with marriage, career, travel and children (two sons, both adopted from South Korea). I look forward to a reunion for our 40th—shall we plan on Paris?

**Peter D’Amario**
*Brown University*

We moved to London in 1992, and settled there. My three children are now 25, 23 and 19 and all live in the UK. My daughter Caroline spent her Junior Year in France with Mount Holyoke’s program in Montpellier. I remain close friends with Charlotte Smith, Jane Bell, Cathy (Cosentini) Bonczek and Elizabeth Jensen.

**Anne (Grosvenor) Evrard**
*Sweet Briar College*

I have six children, two grandchildren and now live in the Basque Country. I met my husband-to-be and came back to France the day after graduating from Sweet Briar to marry him and have lived here ever since. I have just finished writing my first novel about my year in France on the SBC Program and am going to publish it soon!

**Samuel Howell**
*Kenyon College*

I live and work in Manhattan as a teacher. I have been married for five years to my life partner Carlos Fernandes from Portugal. I return to France almost yearly, mostly to Deauville where I went to high school and to Manosque in Provence where I often see family friends. Although far more mature than in 1979, I still have a taste for mischief.

**Elizabeth Jensen**
*Northwestern University*

I joined NPR in 2015, as their Ombudsman/Public Editor, after a career in newspaper reporting. The last year has been a fascinating one representing public radio listeners and addressing questions of journalism ethics.

**Brian Mitchell**
*Harvard University*

I have been living in Montreal, Canada. I practice in commercial litigation for my own law firm Mitchell Gattuso which is a boutique law firm of 20 lawyers in downtown Montreal.

**Sarah (Heureuse) Rindsberg**
*Mount Holyoke*


**James Magruder**
*Cornell University*

I live in Baltimore with my partner of twenty years, Steve Bolton. We have three grandsons on the West Coast, whom we adore and spoil. I teach, depending on my schedule, dramaturgy at Swarthmore College, and adaptation at the Yale School of Drama, where I received my doctorate back in the day. This past spring, I taught “How French Is It?, a gallop through the French dramatic canon from 1300-1900,” at the Drama School. I have published three works of fiction and I am currently represented on Broadway with Head Over Heels, a musical mash-up of the song catalogue of the Go-Go’s and Sir Philip Sidney’s Arcadia. I co-wrote the book, and my work is in blank verse. Check it out: www.headoverheelsthesmusical.com.

I made wonderful friends in Paris with whom I’m still in contact—Julia Reidhead, Carolyn Cook, Sheri Marshak, Carla Zackon, Kathy Moore, and Paulette Flahavin.

**1980-81**

**Karen Brinkman**
*Brown University*

I continue to maintain close friendships with Parisian friends and visit Paris often. My time is divided between the Wash-
Karen Brinkman

from my year. I’d love to hear from other folks working in City government.

I work for the local and have two teenage sons, the SF Bay Area. I am married Brown University

Nancy Nagel

Kadish

ter 2017 (following both me, Kadish

Williams College

1982-83

Irma Alvarez

Wellesley College

Just visited my son who is an English Teaching Assistant in a Lycée outside Paris. Loved being back and reconnecting; renewed gratitude for the opportunity. My daughter is at NYU and I always see Andrea Levy when I visit. I got this link through Jill Abelson; I have not seen Jill in over two decades, but we have stayed in touch; not so with my Rue de Siam roommate Jacie Carter. I’m not on any social media platforms but would love to hear from her and any Paris ‘83-’84 classmates via email. Bien à vous, Irma.

Paul Arpaia

Washington and Lee University

Still living the dream, even if I wound up doing Italian history rather than French history for a profession as a College Professor. I try to get to France as often as possible (but never as much as I’d like). Vive JYF!

Rebekah (Torges) Cotton

Mount Holyoke College

After my junior year abroad, I spent the summer in Paris working as an au pair for a family who owned a chateau in Normandy. Oh là là. I also enjoyed vacations to France and then another year in Rouen with my family in 2014-15. This time I was in beautiful Rouen with my husband and two daughters. (My husband, a high school teacher at Shaker Heights, participated in a teacher exchange.)

We were there during the Charlie Hebdos attack and were deeply moved by the resilience and fortitude of the French people. We are working on plans for another lengthy trip there, but meanwhile we are enjoying visits from our many new French friends. Thanks to my recent trip and my improved French, I’ve also gotten to proofread some French textbooks. My regular job is freelance copyediting in English, so this is a really fun change of pace.

Eileen (McGill) Fox

Wellesley College

I’m happy to report that my daughter, Madeleine Fox (University of Southern California) was the third member of our family to attend JYF in Paris. My sister (Maura McGill Mudd, Mount Holyoke College) and I, both JYF alums.

William Lawrence

Duke University

I am a professor of political science and international affairs at George Washington University and at various U.S. government training facilities where I teach African and Middle Eastern politics, security, and culture. I speak, read, and write French nearly every day and use it both professionally and socially, including living a total of twelve years in francophone countries and visiting them frequently. I also frequently comment in French on African and Middle Eastern affairs in francophone media, especially in France, Morocco, Algeria, and Tunisia, I lived one year in France and thirteen years in Africa and the Middle East in the 1980’s and the 1990’s following my JYF experience. I won a distinguished alumni award from Duke University and the Fenn School’s 2018 Distinguished Alumni Award. I live with my family in Bethesda MD where my son studies French at Walt Whitman high school and as a middle schooler created an animated short film in French about a terrible restaurant experience.

Andrea Levy

Wellesley College

After graduating from Wellesley, received a master’s degree from Georgetown University’s School of Foreign Service. Worked for the US Department of Commerce as a Presidential Management Intern (PMI). Was accepted into the Japan Exchange and Teaching (JET) Program and spent 1.5 years in Japan. Returned to New York and began a career in public opinion research. Conducted primary research (e.g., focus groups and surveys) on behalf of politcal candidates and Fortune 500 countries. Went freelance and consulted for the National Democratic Institute in 10 countries in Africa, spearheading focus groups with citizens on issues of democracy and governance. Two years ago, went back to graduate school for a master’s degree in mental health counseling and am now working in child welfare in New York City.

Tina (Pack) McLane

Randolph Macon University

I reunited with Barbara Weber two years ago in Paris and it was an amazing trip. We were able to visit our French “mom” Simone Hilling. I also included one with Barb’s husband and my daughter. Barbara is amazing and has lived in Paris since we graduated from college. In October, I reunited with Pamela Pate and Rachel Stenn Paley in Austin to attend the Texas Book Fair. I hope to see Julia Yongue this year as well. She’s in Baltimore at Johns Hopkins on sabbatical from her teaching position at Hosei University in Japan!

Lourdes Melgar

Mount Holyoke College

I live in Mexico City and work as an Energy Scholar and Consultant.

James Ruff

University of Southern California

I have been teaching Music/ Voice at Vassar College for nine years while continuing to do concert work. I have fo-
cused on the Scottish Gaelic language, Gaelic Song and early Gaelic wire harp since 2005, and have been present- ing concerts of early Gaelic repertoire for voice and harp. You can find out more at my website: www.jamesrufftenor- harper.com.

Barbara (Weber) Boustani
Northwestern University
Thirty-plus years since our year abroad, and I’ve never once regretted the decision to make my home here in Paris, after graduating from North- western. And I can’t believe I’ve been able to make my professional dreams come true in France as well: on stage in musicals, then films and I now have a very rewarding career directing and acting for animation and video games (Arthur and the Minimoys, Valerian, Rabbids Invasion, Code Ly- oko... to name a few). I’m so grateful to the Sweet Briar JYF program to have helped me find and follow my dream.

1984-85
Jesse Dizard
Brandeis University
I recently accepted the position of resident director for the CA State University sys- tem’s study abroad program in France. I will be based in Aix- en-Provence beginning in July 2019. I was inspired to apply for the job in the first place because of Mme. Denis’ example when I was on my JYF year.

Donna (Prommas) Duchow
Sweet Briar College

Joan E. (McRae) Kleinlein
Agnes Scott College
Believe it or not, I have become a French professor at Middle Tennessee State Uni- versity. After returning home from Paris I couldn’t wait to get back to Paris. I went back with Middletown College to earn a Masters degree in French. Still not enough—more school for me! After earning my PhD at UVA, I taught at Hampden-Syd-ney College (yes, it is still all male) for twelve years before I moved to Tennessee to teach at Middle Tennessee State Uni- versity. The year in Paris with Sweet Briar Junior Year Abroad started a lifetime love affair for me and I get to enjoy it every day, work and play. Luckily my husband is an artist and a big Francophile, too, and we are brainwashing our two children daily (daught 13, son 10).

Catherine (McNease) Stevens
Sweet Briar College
Life on the farm in Southern Virginia is about to change: our 18 year old son Henry has enrolled at Duke Kushan (Chi- na). He leaves in August for three years in Kunshan and his “Junior Year Abroad” at Duke University in Durham. We are so glad he has this opportunity.

Karen Samuels
University of Virginia
I went to France for the first time since 1992 last year, this time with one of my children. Just a short week in Paris, with a side trip to Normandy, but it was glorious, and remarkably, after all this time, a great deal of my French returned to me. It was very hard to leave so soon!

Angela (Heffernan) Toussaint
Wheaton College, MA
I currently working on a four- year Master’s In French program at Middlebury College.

1985-86
Thomas Albrecht
Brown University
I study & teach French litera- ture & film & philosophy to this day. Although I have only returned to Paris a few times since my JYF year, I still feel at home when I am there. I think of my year in Paris as having been one of the most mean- ingful and beautiful times in my life.

John Bagan
Northwestern University
My daughter is saying she wants to follow our footsteps and do JYF!

Keith Myer
University of Virginia
Look forward to reading about my fellow classmates and where life has taken you.

1986-87
Tracy (Smith) Camenisch
Bates College
Was an amazing year in Paris—now working at Ernst & Young and consulting in several different areas and languages.

Beatrice Desper
Bryn Mawr College
By chance, I met my hus- band in Paris and ended up living here. I’m still in Boulogne, teaching a little and volunteer- ing a lot.

Gloria Erickson
Mills College
I always remember my time during the Junior Year in France with much fondness, and hold particularly fond memories of Monsieur Joseph, Madame Denis and my dear friend Roberta Austin. I am currently retired and participat- ing in a service/study program at Land of Medicine Buddha in Soquel, California.

Alice Rudebusch
Northwestern University
I have continued to study French formally and informally and return to France as often as I can because I feel like it’s a second homeland.

1987-88
Tracey (Thomas) Jones
Sweet Briar College
I met my husband while in France and became a French teacher. I married Jonathan Jones from Manchester, En- gland and we will celebrate our 27th anniversary this year. We met while attending Saint Michaels Anglican Church, 5 Rue d’Aguesseau during my Junior Year in Paris. We have two sons: Nathaniel, who is a junior at Episcopal High School of Jacksonville and will be in Honors French III next year and Brennan, who is a 7th grader at Harvest Community School, where we do a combination of homeschooling and traditional school. I used to teach high school French and ESL classes but currently teach elementary art at my younger son’s school. Jonathan and I enjoyed help- ing with a missions team and month and yea Jonathan and I enjoyed helping with a mis- sions team in Montpellier but have not been back to France in many years.

1988-89
Jeremy Deutsch
Brandeis University
I recently joined the nation- al law firm of Anderson Kill as the new chair of the Corporate and Securities Department, headquartered in NYC.

Lyall Harris
Northwestern University
I am a painter, writer, book artist: www.lyalhharris.com. I moved back to Europe (Italy) for most of the 90s and again throughout my adult life.

Douglas Heyler
University of Michigan
I still have fond memo- ries of our year and the fun activities we did. I still speak French when I get the chance and have been back to France a few times since 1988. I try to speak French whenever possible. I got mistaken for a Belgian in Paris! Quite a com- pliment. Living in the Chicago
Suburbs working for a Beer and Wine company. My daughter is going to Italy with Rotary as for her junior year of high school! (She wanted to go to France but she's a vegetarian and Rotary wouldn't place vegetarians in France, which we know is crazy but c'est la vie.) In preparation, we hosted a Rotary high school exchange student last semester. He was from Tours! We couldn't believe it. Kismet!

Catherine (Gorno) Freeman  
Sweet Briar College  
I've lived in New Orleans for the past 24 years with my husband Peter (W&L '89) and have three children—Charlotte (19), David (18) and Lawrence (18). A few years ago, my daughter and I vacationed in Paris together and it was such a joy to watch her experience the city for the first time. She's now minoring in French so I have a feeling she'll be back and perhaps on the JYF program!

Kevin Kiger  
Case Western Reserve University  
I have been married to the love of my life for five years in July. He is a native Frenchman, who is also now an American. Being able to speak French and having had the experiences living in France has allowed me to communicate and share with his family in ways that I don’t believe would have been possible had I not spent my junior year in France with Sweet Briar College. I’m currently in the process of submitting my application to become a naturalized French citizen—I could never have imagined such a wonderful thing.

Maureen (Brennan) Gershank  
Georgetown University  
I am a partner at Fishman Haygood, L.L.P. in my hometown of New Orleans focusing on corporation, securities and mergers and acquisitions law. I owe so much of my success to my JYF year!

Kristin (Liljegren) Maurice  
Sweet Briar College  
The Navy has brought our family to a lot of different cities, but we are now near Seattle and loving the Pacific Northwest. My daughter is just starting high school and my son is starting middle school. I’ve used my French teaching at universities and for travel to France and Quebec. Ages ago, it seems, I also got an MA in French Linguistics. I now help my kids with foreign languages. Hard to believe! I’d love to reconnect with my friends in JYF!

Stephanie (Maselli) Herlory  
Elmira College  
I’m so glad to say that I still have several close friendships I made during my time in Paris. Some students were with SBC and others on the Georgetown University program. Its very special to me to call these people my friends after so many years!

1990-91  
Chapin Cimino  
Denison University  
27 years after my JYF, my daughter is going to Italy with Rotary as for her junior year of high school! (She wanted to go to France but she's a vegetarian and Rotary wouldn't place vegetarians in France, which we know is crazy but c'est la vie.) In preparation, we hosted a Rotary high school exchange student last semester. He was from Tours! We couldn't believe it. Kismet!

Sophie (Rigolot) Adamson  
Catholic University of America  
I will always be grateful to JYF for my experience. I am still very close with my Parisian host family from our program. After my graduate degree (in French literature), I moved back to Paris and lived right near them, in fact. I worked in Paris, got married there, and we had our first child there, too. My host sister, Marie, is my son's godmother, and I am her son's godmother. Also, her daughter is now 20 years old, and she just came to North Carolina last year to live with our family for 4 months. I am currently a French professor at Elon University, and I am always raving about the importance of study abroad (of course)!!!

Erica (Smith) Anderson  
Northwestern University  
Married to my wonderful husband Matthew and we enjoy raising our twins who turned 5 years old September 11, 2018!

Mason (Smith) Custard  
Washington & Lee University  
The pleasure of the French language does not evade! Even in Dallas, Texas, I have made friends thanks to a shared love of the French language. I continue to dream that my children will one day enjoy French. My oldest child FINALLY took French this past year in the middle school. My husband, Allen, continues to work in the oil and gas business and I continue to revel in being a mother to our three wonderful children: Isabella (13), William (11), and Franklin (7).
I’m a political fundraiser, mainly for candidates and causes in AZ. We are planning a big Europe trip for summer 2019 and would love to see anybody that may be there as well.

Elizabeth (Schubert) Mortier
Northwestern University

I am now a French citizen (dual nationality)—I spent 20 years on and off living in France, and am married to a French man, with French children. I speak French on a daily basis (and am getting good use out of my French degree). I am currently living in Quebec City, with my husband, and three kids. After 20 years in France, and a year sabbatical sailing, we wanted to return to North America to be closer to my family. Quebec City is a good compromise of living in North America, in French, with a slightly European feel. I currently work as a Global HR Business Partner for an R&D team, in a telecommunications company, EXFO, Inc., which was founded in Quebec City.

Caitlin (Sundby) Russell
Sweet Briar College

I’m living in Atlanta, GA with my husband and two daughters (10 and 13). I have my own private practice as a dietitian-nutritionist. In the summer of 2016, my mom and I took my oldest daughter to Paris for 2 weeks—we had an amazing time and I am thankful we got to share this beautiful city with her. I can’t believe my JYF time was over 25 years ago! Tout le monde me manque!

Rebecca Sims
Northwestern University

I live in Chicago with my husband Randy and 2 kids, Hope (10) and Blake (7). I recently started my own research consulting business called Survey by Design. (www.surveybydesign.com).

Laura (Herpers) Zeman
Boston College

I am an international estate planning attorney in Seattle, Washington working with French nationals on their estate planning, on inheritance issues within France and for French nationals inheriting from es-

(from left) Mona Boulos, Mary Voulgaris, Dawn Vujevic and Kira (Lefko) Weinand
tates in the US and other property related issues in France, similar to a notaire.

1993–94

Harumi Furuya
Harvard University

My sisters and I (all Juilliard graduates) perform solo, duo, and trios on violin, piano, and cello. Two Parisian residents, actress Olivia de Havilland and former President Jacques Chirac, have been very supportive of our music. Our website is http://www.FuruyaSisters.com. We also teach lessons in violin, piano, cello, and music theory by Skype worldwide. I am also an independent scholar (Harvard: AB in History and PhD in Government) and tutor various academic subjects, including test prep for SAT, ACT, GRE, etc. If anyone is interested for any lessons and tutoring, please contact me at furuya@post.harvard.edu. Children nowadays are very smart and promising, and gives me a great joy to teach and see them grow. We have a great future finally. I am still in touch with my fellow JYF alumna
Julie Wang, who is raising a great family.

Kelly Hall
Sweet Briar College

Bonjour JYFers! I later went to the UK for my MA and then taught in London while earning my Ph.D. I have been traveling ever since—even worked in Antarctica! Professionally I have

worked with study-abroad and international students for most of my career. I am currently teaching college courses for the US Navy, and just got back from a stint aboard the USS Oak Hill. We sailed across the Atlantic, to the Black and Red Seas, and had great port visits in Batumi, Georgia and Aqaba, Jordan. I went to Paris last year with my boyfriend Roy. We spent four hours at the Eiffel Tower! (He’s an engineer—completely fascinated by the architecture.) Hope everyone is well!

Maryanna (Phillips) Koehring
Mount Holyoke College

I am happily married with three children. As my husband is a foreign service officer, we country hop every few years. We have just moved from Egypt and are currently living in Jordan. My passion is teaching English as a foreign language to adults, and I am busy with my newly-launched business “English for the Job.”

Dan Newmark
College of William & Mary

After JYF I spent a few years in Manhattan as a management consultant with Ernst & Young, then got an MBA from the University of Michigan, then moved to San Francisco. I’m on my fourth enterprise software startup, with one selling for $500M and another for $1.9B, in roles that have allowed me to travel the world and visit Paris frequently. My wife Teresa is a speech therapist (Jocelyn Ziemian and Wabe Yurek came to the wedding) and our 4-year old daughter is of course named... Madeleine. I would be happy to host a West Coast reception, or to meet up at SBC, so LET’S GET THE 25TH RE-UNION PLANNING GOING!!!

Jocelyn Ziemian
Wellesley College

I can’t believe it’s been a quarter of a century since my JYF classmates and I embarked on our year of adventure in France. Recently, I returned to Paris for the first time in many years. Friends had told me the city had changed due to the globalizing economy—that there were Starbuck and Subways everywhere, and U.S.-style retail stores in place of the petits commerces that helped give Paris its flavor. I despaired that Paris had lost what made it unique and would have the homogenized feel that more and more internationally oriented cities do. How relieved I was to find that not the case: despite some changes, Paris is still Paris. I admit my shock, however, upon alighting from the RER from Roissy and beholding a Bruegger’s Bagels in the Gare du Nord.

My JYF experience has enriched my life in countless ways. Thanks to my French language skills, I have lived and worked in the Republic of Congo, taught French in grad school, and worked at the French Embassy in Washington, DC. Some of my dearest friends are French. I live in Washington, DC, and work in wildlife conservation policy.

Kelly Hall
Charlotte (Ludwig) Baldassari  
Mount Holyoke College  
My little family of 5 moved to England last year! This move to England marks my 3rd stint living abroad. My husband transferred to global for Jaguar Land Rover and we will be here for at least the next 3 years. We have 9 & 7 year-old boys and a 6 year-old girl who are all looking forward to our big adventure. Check out my Facebook profile to follow along.

Chantel Bartlett  
Sweet Briar College  
My JYF time is still to this day one of the most important experiences of my life! Paris still remains like home to me. I try to keep in touch with my host family. Sadly, I’ve lost touch with all non-SBC friends. I work in Washington DC for a large trade association. I will be welcoming a little addition to my family in 2019.

Matthew Dunne  
Emory University  
I am an international lawyer with the U.S. Department of Defense.

Candice (Broughton) Maillard  
Sweet Briar College  
Another Fall is upon us, with two suddenly-grown boys now training to play football for their Middle School and High School teams. The simplicity of Elementary school endures as our daughter enters Second Grade and lets her adult teeth grow in. I will be working part-time this year while Richard continues to lead his class of cycle fanatics into better health and stronger minds. Southern California life is bright and busy. For the amount of miles that I drive each week, it’s good I like my car.

1996-97  
Charlotte (Ludwig) Baldassari  
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1997-98  
Zlatinka (Gougoumanova) Blaber  
Mount Holyoke  
My daughter, Elena Lilia, was born in January 2017. I re-specialized into accountancy and am now an Assistant Pro- 
fessor of Accounting at Salem State University.

Pramita Kuruvilla  
University of Southern California  
Got married last year with fellow JYF Alumnae Maggie Jarmolowski and Rose Barreto in attendance.

Kat (Kathleen) Newell  
University of Southern California  
We moved to Manhattan Beach—now having two kids, we were looking for a better school district. Both of our kids practice French at home (we all have an American accent, but we try...) I continue to go to France at least once every few years and have a great time remembering my year in France...and making new memories!

Agnes (Milewski) Savich  
Northwestern University  
I live in Austin, TX since 2004 with my husband, daughter, son, four cats, and a dog. In addition to working in the College of Liberal Arts at UT Austin, which I love, I own huge wonder (a baby onesie business on Etsy), and occasionally drive for Uber & Lyft on the side. I’m also a poet, with over 200 short poems published in journals and contests, in addition to my book, The Watcher: Poems, available on Amazon. The cover features an image I took during JYF while studying photography at the Speos Institute! Many poems within were also written during that year. I’m a member of the Haiku Society of America, and last year I attended my first Haiku North America conference, where I won first place in the conference-wide poetry contest. I also play the oboe in local ensembles such as the Austin Cinematic Symphony.

1998-99  
Abigail Kares  
Mount Holyoke College  
That year was instrumental in my career and life. After college, I taught in Japan with the JET Program. I later did my Master’s in International Education at Columbia Teachers College. Today, I write curriculum for an education company based in Lebanon and frequently stop in Paris after trips to Beirut. Paris feels like home. Although my French is rusty, visiting the city still ignites a sense of wonder that I can’t seem to capture anywhere else.

Elizabeth (Fisher) Richards  
Rice University  
After graduation, I spent 15 years in DC working in software/eCommerce, got a Masters from Georgetown in Communication, Culture, & Technology, and started a family with my husband, Ian. A few years ago, we re-located to the Atlanta area and settled in Decatur, GA a few blocks from Agnes Scott College. Reminds me of my ASC friends from JYF when I pass by! I now work for Marriott International, try to keep one step ahead of our 9- and 5-year-old boys, and bust out my French whenever possible.

1999-2000  
Victoria (Walsh) Cooper  
Denison University  
Married with two kids (6 and 4) and a scuba instructor in my spare time.

Natasha (Nickodem) Stevens  
Sweet Briar College  
My husband Matt and I welcomed daughter Marietta Louise in April 2016.

2000-01  
Jean Beaman  
Northwestern University  
I am currently a sociology professor at Purdue University who conducts research on race and immigration in France. I recently published my first book, Citizen Outsider: Children of North African Immigrants in France. My junior year abroad in Paris sparked my interest in identity, difference, and race in France (and how they compare to these phenomena in the U.S.), which I've since pursued throughout my career.

2001-02  
Joseph Halaas  
Denison University  
I taught French and English abroad for a while, now working in the field of international education.

Benjamin Sayagh  
Wheaton College  
I recently visited Paris with my family and it was great to rediscover the city. A lot has changed, but the Grands and Petit Palais renovations were finished and looked beautiful. They were under constant construction during our year abroad and I never got around to visiting them.

Kelly (Omohundro) Yardley  
Georgetown University  
I reside in Alexandria, VA, with my husband, where we both enjoy taking advantage of the rich cultural diversity of the Washington, DC area. In my spare time, I am a docent at a local decorative arts museum, and I play in several tennis leagues. This summer, we embarked on an adventure to Bourgogne and Provence, where I enjoyed communicating with the locals in the French language skills I honed with Sweet Briar in 2001-2. I also reconnected with my host family, who graciously hosted us for some celebratory wine.

2002-03  
Ellie (Laird) Allen  
Haverford College  
I’m excited to be returning to the classroom after a year of maternity leave. I will be teaching French after several years
working with ESOL students.

**Sandra (Read-Brown) Begley** Haverford College

For the past six years, I’ve been living in New York City and teaching high school English in the South Bronx. My husband and I have two boys, one three years old and one six months old. While I don’t get the opportunity to speak French very often, I still enjoy corresponding with my host family en français.

**Danielle (Farve) Cabral** Whittier College

I have been teaching French at the public high school level and was selected to serve as a focus group panelist for the World Languages Framework for California Public Schools, Kindergarten Through Grade Twelve (WL Framework), to help develop updated standards statewide. I look forward to bringing group of my students to Paris every December and feel so proud to share my JYF experiences with them inspire them to broaden their world view at such a young age, just as we did!

**Christopher Goetz and Mariel (Pollock) Goetz** Northwestern University (Spring)

We live in Chevy Chase, Maryland with our two sons Teddy (4) and Julien (6 months). Mariel is an attorney for the Brady Center to Prevent Gun Violence, and Chris is an economist for the U.S. Department of Commerce. We have just returned from spending two months in France during the summer, visiting family members in the Paris region, as well as exploring other areas such as Normandy, the Roussillon, and elsewhere. We hope to instill our love of the French language and culture in our children. Teddy is beginning his second year of preschool in a French immersion program — looking forward to the Sweet Briar class of 2035!

**Paul Kutner** Georgetown University

In 2016, I married my JYF classmates, Melissa Bailey (Rice University, now Melissa Bailey Kutner). Several of our classmates came to our wedding (Rebekah Fortess, Beth Laux Hatcher, Kelly Vance Kloczek, Elisabeth Grover Waltz). Melissa was offered a tenure-track position in the Ancient Studies department at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC), and I accepted a position at the Bullis School in Potomac, MD. We have been back to France a number of times, both on vacation and for work. In 2017, I worked on the “Conspiracy of Goodness” exhibit at the Kuperberg Holocaust Center in Bayside, New York, for which I was sent to Le Chambon-sur-Lignon to research the rescue of Jews by Protestants in the area during the Holocaust. The exhibit runs through early 2019.

**2003-04**

**Sarah Allison** Northwestern University

I am an attorney practicing civil litigation. My husband David, and our two children, Amelia (3) and John (2), recently moved to Northern Virginia.

**Hilarie Ashton** Williams College

I’m finishing my dissertation (on the Ronettes, the Shangri-Las, and other girl groups who I’m arguing were actually rock ‘n’ roll pioneers) at CUNY Graduate Center and getting ready to embark on the academic job market.

**Anne (Grabowski) Moore** Amherst College

I live in Needham, MA, with my husband, Dave, and 2 children, Max (6) and Molly (3). We recently welcomed Clarisse into our family, an au pair from Dunkirk, France. We are hoping to instill some French language and culture into our kids! This June we had a mini JYF reunion at Erin Carr’s wedding in Suzanne Shrekgast in CT. It was so nice to spend time and catch-up with Emma Hennessey, Jeannie Kwok, Gratia Trahan, and of course the beautiful bride Erin!!!

I continue to cherish the French language and culture. I love practicing my French whenever I have the opportunity... which is now quite often with our French au pair. In many ways I think I matured and really “grew up” during my time in France with JYF. I developed a sense of independence and a deep confidence in myself.

**Julia Grawemeyer** Denison University

I teach French and English to Speakers of Other Languages at universities in central Ohio and at Grandview Heights and teach creative writing at the Kenyon young writers workshop. In July 2018, my first full book-length translation appeared at Schaffner Press: “Save the Planet”, a biography about an Amazonian indigenous leader saving the rainforest. This fall, I lead a panel discussion with other translators about Strategies for Translating Traumatic Content at the American Literary Translators Association conference. My translations have included paperback French erotica, academic writing, fiction and non-fiction. Since returning from Paris, I have claimed Caitlin Kelley and Tegra Nuess (same year) as travel co-conspirators and confidantes.

**Gratia (Trahan) Lee** Denison University

I just attended the wedding of Erin Carr with fellow alums Jeannie Kwok and Emma Hennessey. They remain some of my closest friends.

**Erandi (Lopez) Reiland** University of Southern California

I haven’t been back to France in some years but I look forward to my next visit.

Jeannie Kwok (red dress), Emma Hennessey (middle), and Gratia Lee at the wedding of Erin Carr.

**2004-05**

**Wafa Amayreh** Mount Holyoke College

I am currently an active duty clinical psychology resident in the US Air Force stationed at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base. I will finish my PhD in psychology in the summer of 2019.

**Samantha (Voelker) Galvan** Trinity College

I am working on a doctoral degree in marketing at the University of Texas at San Antonio. I recently got married on February 3, 2018 to a wonderful guy, Manuel Galvan. We got married in Cancun, Mexico at a beautiful resort.

**Victoria (Chappell) Harvey** Sweet Briar College

Since graduating I have lived overseas with my husband, but we just returned to the USA. Our home is now San Antonio, TX after great times in Japan and England.

Miriam Kochman

**Miriam Kochman** Brandeis University

The semester that I spent in France helped ignite my interest in international affairs and world travel. After graduating from college in 2007, I spent 2 years working for a social science research company, and then left and spent the next two years in southwestern China (one year teaching English, one year in a full-time Mandarin program). I then returned to the US and pursued an MA at the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS). I now work as a USAID government contractor in Washington, DC where I help governments and businesses finance water and sanitation.
projects overseas. I am excited that part of my work takes place in Senegal, so I get to use French from time to time! My husband, Marcel, and I were married in 2015, and our son was born in June of this year. Marcel is half-French so we look forward to introducing baby Hugo to France when he is a little older! It would be fun to have a reunion some time.

Shanthi Ramesh  
Sweet Briar College  
I am finally finishing my medical training and completed a fellowship in family planning from the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill in 2017. My husband, Chris, and I will move to Richmond, VA where I will be the Medical Director for the Virginia League for Planned Parenthood.

Lucy Saxon  
Haverford College  
Bonjour mes amis! Tim and I had a baby girl, Alice in 2017. My son Quincy is four. I work at my hometown Public Library and have been teaching French before school at a local elementary school.

2005-06  
Maggie (Saylor) Patrick  
Sweet Briar College (Fall)  
I’m living in Northfield, MN, where I work as the director of the annual fund at Carleton College. I like working at a college because I get to stay in touch with the French department—I do French table when I can, and am able to see lots of movies and read books in French. I was able to go back to France for two weeks this past April with my husband, who had never been before. We stayed in an apartment just blocks away from where I’d lived. It was so great to be back!

2006-07  
Viktorija Gecyte  
Lafayette College  
Regularly performing in Parisian jazz clubs: viktorijagecyte.com/shows

2007-08  
Katherine (Dayton) Danko  
The College of Wooster (Spring)  
I contacted my host family last time I was in Paris and they had me and my husband over for dinner— it was great to visit them again, and my husband said it was his favorite thing he did in Europe!

Kacita Devaney  
Washington and Lee  
After completing my undergraduate degree I returned to Paris to complete a M.A. in French with Middlebury College. I then attended law school in Washington D.C. and Paris, graduating in 2015 with a joint JD/Masters I/Masters II degree from American University, Washington College of Law and Université Paris X Nanterre. I currently practice at Ropes & Gray in Boston, MA.

Victoria Howard  
Bates College  
I am currently living and working in Philadelphia, with my retired racing greyhound, Chowder. I hope to make it back to Paris soon! I consider myself so lucky to have had my experience with JYF, as it has made me much more eager to expand my horizons through travel. I travel a decent bit for work, mainly to London and Amsterdam, and my time in Paris really prepared me for this— I feel that I’m more independent and curious on my travels because of my time in France. It has also encouraged me to go on international trips for pleasure— I was in Costa Rica in May and it was energizing to go somewhere so culturally different! It reminded me of how I felt when I first landed in Paris. Working as a Marketing Communications Manager.

Alisha Laventure  
Washington & Lee University  
Got married in 2017!

Sarah (Hall) Lehtinen  
Sweet Briar College (Fall 2007)  
I recently got married to fellow French speaker, Simon, and moved to Charlottesville, VA. I’m eager to now be teaching French language and piloting an upper-level conversation and composition class for our consortium.

Lisa Shames  
The College of Wooster  
I live in London and work in Museum Education.

Erica (Camp) Torphy  
Agnes Scott College (Spring 2008)  
I got married in New Zealand in March 2016. I live just outside of Los Angeles.

2008-09  
Abigail Fine  
University of Miami  
It was one of the best years of my life (definitely the best year of my twenties). I made life-long friends, and felt fluent in French by the end of the year. I lived every single day with so much happiness and excitement of what was around me. I recently went back to Paris for my 30th birthday and went to all of my favorite places that I visited throughout my year abroad. I saw my host family, and it felt as if no time had passed. I retraced my steps, and made new ones. I live in Austin, Texas and work in the Architecture and Design field.

Taylor Ryan  
Sweet Briar College  
I have recently completed my master’s in luxury marketing from a school in Paris called EIML, and I have lived in France since JYF (minus senior year, of course!).

2009-10  
Craig Labatte  
Rice University  
I married Sophie VAUCHER, I found my French bride much closer to home, in Houston Texas of all places. We go back yearly to the Jura where she gets to show off my American accent to her family friends.

2010-11  
Jo (Tudisco) Guntert  
Sweet Briar College  
I was in the first group to go to Nice! I spent a semester in Nice and a semester in Paris!

2011-12  
Emily Brown  
Haverford College (Spring)  
I returned from Peace Corps service in Lesotho (I wasn’t sent to a francophone country... tant pis!) after two and a half years. Next step for me is law school at the University of Virginia. Missing Paris!

Bryn Dunbar  
Williams College  
Currently living in New York City and started a Master of Public Health degree at Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health in Fall 2018.

Samuel Gant  
Haverford College  
I’ve been working as an economic development consultant in Francophone African countries for the last five years. It was great to reconnect with Alum Chris Leung at our 5 year Haverford reunion!

2012-13  
Meaghan Hogan  
Sweet Briar College  
Hello all! I am currently living in Washington, DC and interning at the American Battlefield Trust downtown. I was able to travel to Paris in January and passed by many of the old haunts frequented by our group and took a stroll down rue de Fleurs! My love for French culture and language is still strong and I look forward to attending events at the French Embassy here in Washington throughout the year.

2013-14  
Beatrice Herrmann  
Rice University (Spring)  
I was able to greatly improve my academic French, allowing me to have the confidence to apply for Fulbright and complete my Masters at ENS Paris Saclay in Microbiology! (All in French :))
Ainslee Robson  
The College of Wooster (Fall)  
I am working as an Account Executive at an Advertising Agency in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

Dossé-Via Trenou-Wells  
University of Southern California  
Graduated from Teachers College, Columbia University in Spring 2017 with a Master's in English Education. Now living in NYC with my husband Royce and daughter Nova Michelle, growing a lifestyle business with a focus on astrology consulting.
My family and I are planning on moving back to Paris within the next 2-3 years!

Katelyn French  
College of Wooster  
My big news for the year is that I got married! For our honeymoon we are planning on going to Paris. I’m excited to get to show my spouse all the places I fell in love with during my time at JYF in Paris.

Sarah Haas  
Colgate University (Fall)  
I graduated from Northwestern University’s Medill School of Journalism, earning a master’s degree in Journalism, in June 2016. I am working as an Account Coordinator at Isabelli Media Relations in Chicago.

Arienna Groves  
Sweet Briar College  
I graduated in Spring 2018 and am now enrolled in a MA program focusing on “Traitement automatique de la langue” at Sorbonne Université —Faculté des lettres. My time spent in Paris with the JYF program absolutely was the most influential experience leading to that decision. JYF helped me prepare for a future life in France.

Melissa Kadish  
College of Wooster (Fall)  
I’m working on my senior thesis right now on code switching in language from a psychological and social cultural perspective. After graduation with any luck I’ll be a teaching assistant in France or another French-speaking country.
In Memoriam

1955-56
William Calin
Yale University
William (‘Bill’) Compaine Calin, retired Graduate Research Professor in French Literature at the University of Florida, passed away on May 20, 2018 at Lake City Medical Center. He was 82. Bill was born on April 4, 1936, in Newington, Connecticut, the only child of Isadore (‘Jack’) Calin and Nettie Compaine, originally from Romania and Russia.

He completed his undergraduate degree at Yale College (1957) and received his Ph.D. from Yale University (1960). He taught at Dartmouth, Stanford, the University of Oregon, and, since 1988, the University of Florida. He was a visiting professor at academic institutions in North America and Europe.

Bill studied in Paris during his junior year in college. He fell in love with French Romanesque and Gothic architecture. Standing in front of Chartres Cathedral, as the sun was setting on the old stones, he wrote that he had found his calling: to study the literature and culture of medieval France. From then on, in his teaching and writing alike, he communicated both his knowledge and his love of the rich contributions that France has made to world culture.

Even to the end of his life, Bill was busy planning his next lecture and his next book. His retirement from the University of Florida became effective only five days before his death. His steadfast determination to overcome his medical challenges, together with his joie de vivre, will leave a lasting impression on his caretakers. While he published more in one lifetime than many could do in five, his creative and analytical energies would have taken five lifetimes to exhaust. He will be dearly missed by his many friends and long-remembered in academia for his brilliant contributions to French and Medieval Studies.

Jane Rather Thiébaud
Sweet Briar College

Jane Rather Thiebaud, a former resident of Winter Harbor and Orono, passed away on Sunday, April 29, 2018, after a brief stay at the Ray Hickey Hospice House in Vancouver, Washington. She was 82 and had been in declining health.

She graduated in 1953 from Manhasset High School in Manhasset, N.Y., where she played Dorothy in the school production of The Wizard of Oz. In 1957, she graduated from Sweet Briar College in Sweet Briar, Va. She spent her junior year in Paris, an experience that strongly influenced her life. In 1958 she was a guide in the American Pavilion at the Brussels World’s Fair, and later she worked at several international organizations. During her years in Geneva she worked in community event organizing and the movement for social change. She founded and edited Information and Contacts, a journal that sought to orient foreign visitors to Swiss and French culture.

She married Rene-Blaise Thiebaud, a Swiss lawyer, in 1961. He died in 1967. A second marriage to Jean-Claude Ivar Petterson, a Swiss artisan and activist, ended in divorce. She married Luc Guimond, an agronomist from Quebec, in 1997.

Her parents and a brother, James B. Rather III, predeceased her. In addition to Mr. Guimond, she is survived by a brother, John Townsend Rather, and six nieces and nephews.

1959-60
Marjorie (Patros) Silverman
Northwestern University

We remember Marjorie Silverman, the first woman and first American to serve as president of the Paris-based Les Clefs d’Or International, a concierge organization in more than 50 countries, who died of cancer on Oct. 14, 2018. Silverman graduated from Northwestern University in 1961 with a bachelor’s in French, having spent her junior year abroad at the Sorbonne in Paris. She worked for the Westin Hotels and the Hotel Intercontinental Hotel in Chicago. She also taught at the International Concierge Institute in Montreal and Fort Lauderdale, Fla., as well as conducting seminars for concierge professionals in Brazil, Mexico, Singapore, China, Jamaica, Poland and Anguilla. She held every office in Les Clefs d’Or USA, and after the completion of her presidency in 1990 she was invited to be an adviser to the board of directors, a position she held until August 2007. She was the first director of the Zone of the Americas, from 1990 to 1998, and was president of Les Clefs d’Or International from 1998 to 2000. Recently she was honored by Les Clefs d’Or USA with a lifetime achievement award. She will be missed.

Her daughter Maria Silverman marjoriesilverman@mac.com welcomes any memories