Diane Patrick ’72: First Lady of Massachusetts
Back on the Field

After an absence of more than a decade, Men’s Soccer made a triumphant return in the fall, finishing just three points shy of an East Coast Conference playoff berth. Jesús Daniel Cano and Terrence Ahoua were selected to the conference all-star team, while Noorullah Mashriqi won Player of the Week Honors in October. On the women’s side, Diana Redman was named all-conference for the third straight year. For more on sports at QC this fall and winter, see page 23.

Geraldine McVeA Kelly

My first view was of a rolling green campus with several low-rise, tan buildings having bright orange roofs. The rumor was that this was where “bad boys” were sent, sort of like a prison. I was apprised by some knowledgeable students of the many dungeons in the basements of the buildings where the worst of the “bad boys” were sent. They had only bread and water for long periods of time. I’m happy to say that in my four years at QC, I never had to be sent to the dungeons.

Helen Picozzi Gentile

A beautiful large grassy campus with several low-rise stucco buildings with Spanish tiled roofs—with an added bonus—a class of only a few hundred students. Ideal!

John W. Kinder

We were gathered in the assembly hall in the rear of the administration building (later called Jefferson Hall). Dr. Klapper was there to greet us and, among other things, we had to vote on the school’s colors. I voted for brown and yellow but of course blue and silver won.

Guy J. Riccio

I recall standing out in front of what much later became Jefferson Hall along with other freshmen who were gathered there that morning. We all proceeded to the all-purpose meeting room inside where we were welcomed by the president, Dr. Klapper, and also introduced to Dean Kelly and probably to the Registrars, Mr. Knag, as well. I can still recall how impressed I was with my first French class—I had already decided to major in that language. The professor was Konrad Gries and he lost no time in outlining the course program and letting us know what would be expected of us.

Evelyn Puccini Rolleri

I experienced chaos and a feeling of bewilderment and the amazement that I was in college! We, all four hundred of us, couldn’t help but feel a degree of pride, since we were aware that there were many applicants. On that day I was fortunate to meet two people who would be my friends until recently, when they left life as we know it.

Betty Freedman Steinhorn

1. Finding the location of the required courses—English Composition, Contemporary Civilization, German Language, Mathematics (Algebra), Music, and Art. I remember Dr. Darling, Dr. Banchef Hoffman, Dr. Pinson, and Dr. Halberg.
3. Joining Iota Alpha Pi. I still maintain a friendship with some of the members.
4. Traveling by bus and subway.
5. Finding the location of the cafeteria had opened.
6. Enjoying the beautiful campus.

Queens College first opened its doors on October 11, 1937. Below, members of that pioneering class, a number of whom returned to campus on October 11 of this year to be part of the college’s 70th anniversary celebration (see back cover), share their memories of that historic opening day.

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Dyanne Maue
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For Queens College Alumni & Friends

To Share

Vol. XIII, No. 1, Fall 2007 www.qc.cuny.edu
Hillen Highlights

The Jewish campus organization Hillen has lots of developments to report. First on the list: the arrival of the latest Israel Fellow, Yehudit Kikayon. D.T.—as she is known to friends—will spend a year, possibly two, on campus, promoting cultural, educational, and arts initiatives.

In other cultural news, QC Hillen has won a slot in a program sponsored by Avoda Arts, a nonprofit that promotes Jewish learning through music, theatre, and the visual arts. “The college is one of only six campuses in New York state participating in Avoda’s Arts on the Move,” says Rabbi Moshe Shur, director of Hillel, which will be helping to split their gift. About half will subsidize peer-led programs on campus, promoting cultural, educational, and arts initiatives.

Out of course, music is already emphasized at Hillel. Timmoret, the resident a cappella choir, auditioned personnel for its twelfth year, and is preparing to record its fourth CD. “The last three sold out,” says the rabbi, who recently released his own CD. At Shur Thing, a family talent featuring the vocal and instrumental talents of his three sons. Shur Hillen is also excited about one of his newest projects, Chai Tech, a leadership development course for Jewish immigrant students. This year, 12 undergraduates will be paid to spend four hours a week participating in leadership workshops and volunteering at nursing homes, community centers, and other sites. The idea is to help Bukharan, Persian, Israeli, and other foreign-born students assimilate within the larger fabric of the U.S. Jewish community.

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Vets Offer Free Continuing Ed Courses

Some people express their gratitude with letters, plaques, and medals. Queens College has found another way to say thank you to U.S. servicemen and -women returning from Iraq and Afghanistan. In a gesture of appreciation, the Continuing Education Program (CEP) is offering veterans who have served in those countries free tuition for courses that are not currently covered by the Veterans Administration. As part of CEP’s Veterans Appreciation Program, returning war vets can register for courses in real estate, foreign languages, computers and technology, health care, yoga, stress management, music, insurance licensing, and many more subjects.

According to CEP Director Thomas Cracovia, “Through this program we hope to show how much we honor, support, and appreciate the wonderful men and women who so bravely risked their lives overseas in the name of this country.”

In the News

Queens College Named One of “America’s 25 Hottest Schools”

Queens College has been named by the 2009 Kaplan/Newweek How to Get into College guide as one of “The 25 Hottest Schools in America.”

“The selected schools all offer top academic programs,” notes the annual guide. “This elite group was selected based on the following criteria: national recognition of the institution; quality of student body (including the most celebrated recent fictional graduate is Ugly Betty—Betty Suarez—the working-class character played by America Ferrera on the ABC comedy). Of course, music is already emphasized at Hillel. Timmoret, the resident a cappella choir, auditioned personnel for its twelfth year, and is preparing to record its fourth CD. “The last three sold out,” says the rabbi, who recently released his own CD. At Shur Thing, a family talent featuring the vocal and instrumental talents of his three sons. Shur Hillen is also excited about one of his newest projects, Chai Tech, a leadership development course for Jewish immigrant students. This year, 12 undergraduates will be paid to spend four hours a week participating in leadership workshops and volunteering at nursing homes, community centers, and other sites. The idea is to help Bukharan, Persian, Israeli, and other foreign-born students assimilate within the larger fabric of the U.S. Jewish community.”

Capital Ideas from the Capital Campaign

With the conclusion of its ambitious capital campaign last spring, Queens College is the uncontested winner: The six-year drive exceeded its $100 million goal.

“Much of the money came in the form of big checks from individual or corporate donors. We received more than 80% of its gifts of $1 million and above,” reports Mario Del- Paiva, executive director of the Queens College Foundation and director of development for the school. Collectively, foundation board members anted up $30 million, including $4.3 million from Yehudit Kikayon Palmer, ‘42, who earmarked her gift for hearing, and women’s initiatives.

The largest single donation came from Max Kupferberg ‘42 and his wife, Selma, who pledged $10 million. As longtime supporters of the arts on campus, the Kupfers bought their alma mater the chance to split their gift. About half will subsidize major improvements to arts buildings.

Donations have a tendency to attract donations, a happy phenomenon that occurred in this case. “The Kupferberg money was a springboard for us,” says Vivian Charlop, director of the Kupferberg Center for the Visual and Performing Arts. “We got additional funds from the borough president, the Queens delegation to the City Council, New York State Senator Frank Padavan, and the Independence Community Foundation.”

All told, Charlop now has a budget of about $6.5 million for the renovation and refurbishment of arts center properties, including the Godwin Auditorium, Goldstein Theatre, LeFrak Concert Hall, the Godwin-Ternbach Museum, and the outdoor amphitheater.

Queens College of Queens College

Administration. As part of CEP’s Veterans Appreciation Program, returning war vets can register for courses in real estate, foreign languages, computers and technology, health care, yoga, stress management, music, insurance licensing, and many more subjects. According to CEP Director Thomas Cracovia, “Through this program we hope to show how much we honor, support, and appreciate the wonderful men and women who so bravely risked their lives overseas in the name of this country.”
suites are estimated to run from $900 to $1400 a month.

A rare pair of red-tailed hawks includes the campus in their afternoon flight pattern.

A Forum for the Latest Ideas in Business

When the New York Mets wanted to communicate their progress on Citi Field—their replacement for the aging Shea Stadium—they chose an increasingly influential public venue to make their case: the Queens College Business Forum. Since its launch in the fall of 2005, the QC Business Forum has regularly presented leaders in a number of fields who address issues vital to the Queens business community. Under the forum’s guiding theme, “Queens: A Catalyst for Success,” FreshDirect CEO Doug Furth explained how Queens has been a vital element of the online grocer’s business strategy. And long-time activist and community board member Wellington Chen touted Flushing’s renaissance with the observation: “This is a very vibrant part of the borough.”

The next forum, Feb. 29, will feature Bruce Bendell ’75, president of Mayor Automotive in Long Island City. Joshua Musi, whose Forest Hills firm Musi Development is building luxury condominiums near Flushing Meadows Park, will address the forum May 2. On that occasion Donald Chang, founder of Forever 21, which operates more than 400 stores in the U.S. and Canada, will be honored as Entrepreneur of the Year. The latter event will be followed by the official opening of the Schutzman Entrepreneurship Center at Queens College. The inspiration of Len Schutzman ’67, Chairman of the Board of NearWest Networks, the center will bring together students, faculty, alumni, and established entrepreneurs for the purpose of creating new business ventures.

Residence Hall Update

Following last spring’s request for proposals for a low-rise residence hall, the college has selected Capstone Development Corporation to work on the design and construction of the project. The hope is to sign a contract early next year so that the residence hall, which will be built on the site of the tennis courts, would open for students in fall 2009. Capstone, which specializes in the development and management of student housing, has worked with more than 50 colleges and universities, including City College.

The college will need to finance this project, which is estimated to cost $63 million and is expected to accommodate 450-560 students, with parking spaces added for 200 cars. Students will live in four-person suites that will include two-person bedrooms and a living and dining area with a refrigerator, microwave, and stove-top. Some single bedrooms within suites will also be available. The costs per student for the suites are estimated to run from $900 to $1400 a month.

A Generous Gesture

Sid Kerner will maintain his presence on campus even though his QC Art Center, Face-to-Face: From See to Shining Face, closed on October 31. The acclaimed New York City photographer has donated the entire exhibition to the college, becoming the first artist to make such a gesture. The gift was announced at a reception on September 11, when Kerner gave a raptly personal gallery talk, (Above: from the Face-to-Face series, undated.)

Strategic Plan Zeros in on Three Major Goals for the College’s Future

By that standard, the Queens College Strategic Plan, for which Loren served as a consultant, is right on the mark: three goals, identified by dozens of people representing every part of the campus community.

“The first goal, Advance Our Academic Program, commits the school to positioning, developing, and retaining world-class faculty—professors who can continue Queens’ tradition of offering an exceptional educational experience, and at the same time, give undergraduates a global perspective.

“Build a Culture of Community, the second objective, focuses on the campus and its neighborhood. Strengthening students’ college experience, enhancing staffers’ professional development, creating a greener site, and leveraging technology all fall under this heading. The third item on the list, Solidify Our Financial Foundations, will support its predecessors. To reach this goal, the college will increase its endowment, diversify its funding streams, and advance its facilities master plan by fostering public-private partnerships, reengineering business processes, and developing a new business model.

What the Strategic Plan doesn’t do is identify the steps QC needs to take to realize its goals. That topic will be tackled in an Implementation Plan that is being drafted. A copy of the Strategic Plan can be accessed at www.qc.cuny.edu.
Experiences as an educator and in a difficult first marriage inspire her evolving role as the new First Lady of Massachusetts

By Bob Ruder

Diane Patrick’s rise to become only the second African-American governor in U.S. history is a remarkable story of talent trumping circumstance.

Raised on welfare in tenement housing on Chicago’s South Side, she graduated from Harvard and became an attorney. While working for the NAACP Legal Defense Fund, she met then-Governor Bill Clinton, who would later, as president, tap Patrick to become assistant attorney general for civil rights.

Diane Patrick ’72 knows this story well, having told it countless times during her husband’s uphill campaign for the Massachusetts State House in 2006. Those who heard her speak on those occasions were remarked on her warmth and clarity, qualities that often remind them of a favorite school teacher—and for good reason: Patrick graduated cum laude from Queens with a degree in early childhood education.

“I taught in the New York City school system for five years before NYC had its financial crisis in the late 70s. I was one of many municipal employees to be laid off,” Patrick says, speaking from the Boston law office of Deval and Sheryl Baker, who are a part of her “I am convinced to this day that I would still be teaching were it not for that crisis.”

When that opportunity disappeared, I had to go and learn something else,” she recalls. “With no real passion or interest in pursuing a law career, I went to law school.” But her feelings about the profession populating during the summer break between her first and second year at Loyola Law School, “I was a summer associate for a large firm in Los Angeles and was exposed to the practice of law in different areas: corporate law, labor and employment law, real estate and commercial law. I liked the collegiality, I liked the problem-solving, I liked the people who valued hard work and strove for excellence.”

When she returned to Loyola, she decided to focus on labor and employment law. Much of Patrick’s legal work is for colleges and universities. “There are a lot of things that intrigue me about helping my clients develop their human resources policies, ensuring that their employee and labor relationships are constructive, advising them on their affirmative action obligations, or conducting training such as sexual harassment avoidance. The day-to-day human interaction in the workplace is fascinating.”

Patrick was forced to cut back on her practice during the 1990s because she didn’t have time to worry about the day-to-day impact on them,” Patrick says.

Sarah, who hopes to work in the production, is a senior at NYU’s Gallatin School of Individualized Study. Their youngest daughter, Ruthie, a Sophomore at St. Andrew’s, a boarding school in Delaware and soon leaves for Brazil where she will spend part of her gap year before attending college.

Her husband’s election was not Diane’s first experience with political life. She spent her early childhood in Brooklyn where her maternal grandfather, Bertram L. Wolfe, was ordained a Baptist minister. She taught in the New York City public school system for five years before NYC had its financial crisis in the late 70s. She was appointed to public office in the borough. Baker represented Bedford-Stuyvesant for 22 years in the New York State Assembly. But the one-time teacher demurs at any mention of the fact that she had been all over the state speaking, as the fact that I now have this title First Lady. What I want to lend my voice to are concerns of early childhood education—again, going back to my original love—and issues of domestic violence.”

Of the latter issue, she will only say “Yes, I had a [first] marriage from hell, and I was quite Scared for a time.”

She has dramatically affirmed her commitment, despite an unexpected personal crisis that occurred just weeks into her husband’s term. In early March, Patrick removed herself from the public spotlight to receive treatment for depression and exhaustion she says was partially brought on by the stress of balancing the demands of her new public role with those of her career as an attorney. When she was ready to return to public life, she did so by appearing at a conference on victims’ rights at the Massachusetts State House on April 26. There she announced that, despite limitations in her activities as First Lady necessitated by her recent illness, she would continue to speak out “in a big way” on issues of early childhood education and domestic violence.

Days later, Patrick did exactly that. With grace, wisdom and humor she publicly re visited her first “marriage from hell,” delivering an inspirational keynote address at the Annual Gala of The Second Step, a nonprofit organization that provides long-term transitional services to survivors of domestic abuse. Soon after, on May 3 at the 15th anniversary celebration of The Second Step, a nonprofit organization that provides long-term transitional services to survivors of domestic abuse. Soon after, on May 17, she was the fea tured speaker at Celebrating Families, the annual gala benefit for the Guidance Center, Inc., an advocacy group that includes early child care education and domestic violence among its major areas of concern.

Wearing cap and gown, Patrick emphasized the importance of teachers in shaping the lives of children when she of fered the commencement address on June 26 at the 170 inner-city graduates of the Urban College of Boston, most of whom earned certificates and associate degrees in education-related subjects. “You are not the typical college graduates getting ready for the real world,” she told them. “You, my friends, are the real world. You are the ones with wisdom that can give us a lesson on living.”

A Special Queens College Teacher

Wolfe, QC’s first African-American professor and chair of the Elementary and Early Childhood Education Department. Wolfe, who died in 2004, taught at QC for 35 years and was a strong advocate for early childhood education, particularly for those in the underclass.

In 1962, Wolfe was appointed Education Chief of the U.S. House of Representatives’ Committee on Education and Labor and had a role in the passage of some 35 major laws. She served on many government and educational bodies and was the first African-American woman to be ordained a Baptist minister. She taught at the Tuskegee Institute, Grambling State University, NYU, Fordham, and Columbia. In 2007, New Jersey City University named its College of Education in her honor.

“Her voice is someone who knows how to be quiet and smart. She knows how to be quiet and smart,” says Patrick. “She was just an amazing and inspirational woman.”

Patrick herself had an opportunity to inspire a change in QC’s elementary education curriculum. “We never went to school that had a minority population,” she recalls. “She mentioned this to one of her professors, who said, “You need to help us find my way into those schools.’ So, I said to him, ‘Well, I’ll call my mother.'”

Patrick’s mother, public school teacher Lilian T. Bemus, opened a few doors. “We spent a day at PS 256 in Bedford-Stuyvesant, Brooklyn, and it was eye opening not only for this young professor, but for most of the other students in my class who had never been in an inner-city setting. And that began a relationship between this professor and my mom’s school; he took his students there for years after.”
THE QC SCIENCE DEPARTMENTS EMPHASIZE HANDS-ON RESEARCH. BUT TO AVOID THE FISH POPULATIONS OF JAMAICA BAY, BIOLOGIST JOHN WALDMAN (LEFT) USES HIS ARMS AND LEGS, TOO.

The first Friday in September found Waldman, National Park Service district ranger Dave Taft and QC laboratory technician Andrew Silver all clad in waist-high rubber waders, dragging a green 35-foot nylon seine through ponds and ocean surf. With each haul, they saved a few diminutive specimens and released the rest: silversides, mummichogs, white perch, ctenophores, white mullet, striped killfish, kingfish, alowite, menhaden, mullet, and flounder. “Silversides are really good dipped in flour and fried in olive oil,” observed the professor, displaying a more than academic appreciation for piscine life forms.

THE MEN and their catch weren’t headed for the kitchen; they were participating in a BioBlitz, a 24-hour tally of flora and fauna. Waldman and Gillian Stewart (Earth & Environmental Sciences) organized the Blitz to document the diverse wildlife in and around the bay, a unit of federally protected parkland within Gateway National Recreation Area. Queens College was the lead institution for the event, sponsored by the college, the Jamaica Bay Institute, the Gateway National Recreation Area of the National Park Service, the CUNY Institute for Sustainable Cities, and the North Atlantic Coast Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit.

The festivities commenced on September 7 at 3 pm with speeches at the Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge visitor center, designated as BioBlitz base camp. Jamaica Bay Institute director Kim Tripp, National Park Service unit supervisor Lisa Eckert, and City Councilman James Gennaro addressed the crowd of several hundred—squeezing in an appearance on the day after his son’s wedding—took turns addressing the crowd of several hundred from an ad hoc wooden platform. Then veteran naturalists began leading more than 20 squads of volunteer surveyors into the field for three- to 24-hour shifts.

Walking through the woods in clear, breezy weather, people tended to lose the sense that they were within the limits of New York City. “If it weren’t for the buildings you see in the distance, you would swear you were in the Everglades,” mused Waldman, who, like his BioBlitz colleagues, had permission to wander off the park’s trails. Local college students and reporters traipsed behind him in single file to minimize their impact. Ironically, the freshwater ponds on their itinerary were man-made. “What looks very natural in Jamaica Bay usually isn’t,” said Taft, explaining that the ponds were built in 1951 for the benefit of birds; no one knows how the fish arrived, adding to the urban pool of undocumented aliens.

The sun had already set when Waldman and company returned to base camp from their foray into the salt waters off Fort Tilden. Searching through the visitor center, where one room was set up as a temporary lab, participants filed reports and fortified themselves from a menu of animal crackers. Swedish fish, energy bars, and Gatorade. An exterior wall of the building was draped with a white sheet, courtesy of Jamaica Bay Guardian Don Riepe; insects alit on the fabric, lured by the fluorescent lamp glowing beneath.

Despite the hour, the BioBlitz was just heating up. New volunteers trickled in, equipped with sleeping bags for the long haul. Meanwhile, some event staffers were starting to show understandable signs of wear. “My dogs are barking and it’s only been nine hours,” declared Stewart, who had set up base camp at 11 am Friday and remained tethered to the premises as its manager. As the lab’s tables filled up with specimens—from tiny mollusks corralled in a petri dish, to neatly labeled fungi arranged in a shadow box, to amorphous display—he was, in her own words, “constantly wowed.”

IN THE MIDDLE of the evening, bird expert Andrew Bernick, who did his doctoral research on night-heron foraging ecology at CUNY Graduate Center, assembled a crew. Bernick, carrying a spotting scope and binoculars, warned that the stiff breeze, which had the beneficial effect of keeping mosquitoes away, could complicate his mission. “At night, you often try to identify birds by the sounds they make,” he said. “With the wind, that’s not easy.” Nonetheless, as people focused on areas and along the beach on a course illuminated only by moonlight, they saw occasional herons, shorebirds, ducks, and an osprey. Flecks of Canada geese, mallards, and green-winged teal congregated in a single pond, as if attending the avian equivalent of a block party. During the three-hour search, seasoned birders recognized the cries of black-skimmer and heron gulls; other calls were traced to Bernick, a skilled mimic.

Activities extended through the night, as 10 or 11 stalwarts attempted to monitor birds and insects. “It was truly a 24-hour experience,” reported Stewart, who did not sleep at all. Waldman returned to his car for a few hours’ rest; several volunteers and National Park Service staffers briefly crashed on cots in the visitor center.

SCIENTIFIC surveys continued through the morning. For the general public, the schedule of free activities included guided field walks, a workshop on sketching plants and animals in the wild, and a junior BioBlitz for children. By the event’s 3 pm conclusion, the tentative species count had hit 665; complete data would push that figure beyond 700, exclusive of participating Homo sapiens. At the closing ceremonies, President James Myskowski and Barry Sullivan, general superintendent of the Gateway National Recreation Area, shared the podium with Congressman Anthony Weiner, a longtime bay advocate who proudly declared himself a birder.

Gratified as they were by the support of legislators, such as a red-spotted newt, a black widow spider, and a moth species not previously spotted in New York State. Subsequent audits, which the professors hope to repeat periodically, can help track changes in plant and animal populations.

This year’s most exciting discovery may be the existence of an unexpectedly strong local community of future naturalists. “I’m blown away by the number of young people who wanted to go into the field and learn how to identify things,” says Stewart.
Q Magazine of Queens College

By Leslie Jay

Entering Ann Birstein’s apartment on Manhattan’s Upper East Side is like walking into a toy store for culturally literate adults. Among the handkerchiefs are finger puppets of Frida Kahlo, Albert Einstein, and Mahatma Gandhi; a left-handed Jane Austen Action Figure; and a framed image of Emily Dickinson. A couple of the most prized possessions in the writer’s apartment are a framed image of Gandhi; a left-handed Jane Austen Action Figure; and a framed image of Emily Dickinson, and a framed image of Gandhi; a left-handed Jane Austen Action Figure; and a framed image of Emily Dickinson. A couple of the most prized possessions in the writer’s apartment are a framed image of Gandhi; a left-handed Jane Austen Action Figure; and a framed image of Emily Dickinson. A couple of the most prized possessions in the writer’s apartment are a framed image of Gandhi; a left-handed Jane Austen Action Figure; and a framed image of Emily Dickinson. A couple of the most prized possessions in the writer’s apartment are...
By Bob Suter

Spring break usually evokes images of students flocking to a warm locale like Daytona Beach for fun in the sun. But this year 20 Queens College students opted for a spring break they will never forget.

They traveled to New Orleans to join students from dozens of other colleges who were assisting in the cleanup of the devastation wrought by Hurricane Katrina. The QC group went under the auspices of Operation Blessing, a nondenominational relief agency that was participating in the Gutting Taskforce, whose goal is to clear out thousands of Katrina-damaged houses.

Conceived by QC student Pender wrote a proposal that was presented to President James Muyskens and the College Association. “I helped them with the proposal,” Traylor says, “but I didn’t expect the president to say, ‘Well, they can’t do this unless you go along with them.’”

Traylor and Connie Capobianco, director of the college’s Health Service Center, chaperoned a group of student volunteers who were selected based upon their GPA (3.0 minimum) and essays in which they explained their reasons for wanting to participate. “The students came from all sorts of socioeconomic backgrounds,” says Traylor, “and their answers ranged from ‘I want to see what it’s like not to have anything’ to ‘This is something I need to do in order to see long-term what I want to do.’” Seventy-nine students applied and 20 were selected: 11 males and nine females.

“OPERATION BLESSING” provided a site manager, a professional contractor who would come to the site with us, and tools and training,” Traylor explains. “The students were charged with removing any remaining contents in the house, then gutting any damaged structural components — walls, wiring, plumbing, etc.

The extent of the devastation hit the students right away. “As we were driving from the airport,” says Traylor, “we saw houses where written on the outside was the number of people who had died there. We were brought into an area where the numbers kept increasing. We went in and gutted these homes where people had died.”

Housing for the students was arranged by Operation Blessing in a temporary dormitory-style facility set up in a former supermarket in nearby Slidell, LA. “We had breakfast and would leave about 7 in the morning,” says Traylor. “For lunch we were provided with military meals (MREs) to which we had to add hot water. Sometimes the homeowners would buy us pizza, or I’d run off and get sandwiches if we didn’t want to eat the MREs. We would have to come back to Slidell by 6 pm.

“We were in the Ninth Ward by the second day,” Traylor recalls. “We were maybe five or six homes from the actual point where the floodwall broke.”

On that day, the students came upon the scene of one of the grimmest episodes of the New Orleans tragedy: a church where over 200 people, most of them elderly, had died.

As the floodwaters rushed in, some young people tried to hold up the elderly to protect them. All of them drowned, the volunteers learned. “That’s when the students all just broke up,” says Traylor, describing the group’s emotional low point.

The emotional high point came days later when they met the owner of one of the houses they were gutting. He was ecstatic at having finally located his wife, from whom he’d become separated during the flood. He wound up in Texas, she in Florida. “He was so excited that he had this aura and the students just surrounded him,” says Traylor. “The students met many other flood survivors who also were happy to see them.

The QC contingent had a remarkable rate of productivity. Rather than stop for proper sit-down meals, many in the group would grab some fast food and return to the house they were working on. “Normally to do one house it takes a group of 15 about seven to eight days,” says Traylor. “Our group did five homes in six days.”

Hussain remembered how surprised she was that, nearly two years after the storm, “People were still living in such really poor conditions.” Yet, despite great feelings of sadness about much of what she saw, Hussain intends to continue her volunteer work. “I want to give more to the community.”

SOON AFTER THE GROUP RETURNED TO CAMPUS, Traylor received a letter from Operation Blessing telling her that the students had touched the lives of both the homeowners and many of the aid workers. “They were like a breath of fresh air,” the letter said.

The students also touched the life of their chaperone. “This was one of the most incredible experiences of my life,” says Traylor. “Indeed, the New Orleans experience was so extraordinary that the Office of Student Life has created a program, called Service Learning, which each year will send students to participate in similar relief efforts Spring break may never be the same.

The never-ending party in New Orleans ended with Hurricane Katrina. Inset: Celine Traylor (third row from bottom, bending over, arm extended) and her contingent of QC students devoted their spring break to helping out wherever they could. Below: Volunteers clear away debris.
By Bob Suter

Nancy Sing-Bock ’77 has no doubt as to when she first met her lifelong friend Dale Kaplowitz ’74: “In 1974 on a trip John Loret conducted to the Yucatan peninsula.”

Loret was then director of the college’s Environmental Studies program, and the trip was typical of many courses he taught that integrated science and outdoors adventure. “We had a whole team of professors to study the ecology, marine biology, archaeology,” recalls Sing-Bock. “We worked with Victor Segovia, one of the top archaeologists in the Yucatan, who had just discovered a new Mayan temple.”

“We snorkeled and camped out on the beach of what is now Causun,” says Kaplowitz.

Last January Kaplowitz, a special education teacher, and Sing-Bock, an elementary school principal, spent winter break on another scientific adventure, reuniting with Loret to explore one of the world’s most mysterious places, Easter Island. The remote Pacific island and its enigmatic stone statues entered public awareness with the 1958 Pacific island and its enigmatic stone statues mysterious places, Easter Island. The remote island is a subject of speculation as its famous statues, known as moai. On the January trip, Loret carried the flag of the famed Explorers’ Club, of which he is a past president.

Sing-Bock, who earned her master’s in environmental education from QC, says the 1974 Yucatan trip was her first course toward that degree. “John was something of a pioneer in offering environmental education for educators, the only other programs at the time were at City College, and they were in environmental science. I took many courses with John, and they were all in the field.”

As an example, she describes learning to build a log cabin on the site of a former mussel base on Long Island. She also learned scuba diving with Loret, and did sensing (fishing with a large net) aboard the Hudson River deep Clearwater, while studying the salinity and oxygen content of the water. “We studied the ecology of Long Island Sound, taking water samples to determine the impact of a nearby LILCO power plant on microorganisms,” recalls Kaplowitz. “We took a wilderness survival course on a farm in Connecticut, during which we learned map and compass skills and did rock climbing, which was not my thing at all. I always gravitated toward John’s courses because you were actually doing things instead of just sitting in a classroom.”

That, in fact, was the mission with which he was charged when he first arrived at QC in 1967, says Loret, recalling the beginning of his 25-year tenure. “They wanted to start a program in outdoor studies,” he says, explaining how he came to be hired by the Physical Education Department.

As Loret holds degrees in biology and oceanography, science inevitably became an element in his curriculum. “We had advanced wilderness courses,” he says. “We did one where we would ski in to the Catskills in mid-winter, toting everything behind us on toboggans. We would drill holes in the lakes, pump the water up, and study the plankton, because plankton is an indicator of the condition of the lake.”

As educators, Kaplowitz and Sing-Bock continue to be influenced by their experiences with Loret. “I’ve always felt that students need firsthand learning experiences that integrate different content areas, and I learned that from John,” says Sing-Bock, relating how her elementary school students at P.S. 51 in Manhattan are studying the Hudson River in conjunction with a school from Croton, NY, and the environmental group Riverkeeper.

Kaplowitz did her best to give her students at Long Island’s West Hollow Middle School a sense of her Easter Island experience by creating a blog with which they could follow her progress. The blog includes photographs that help convey the hands-on nature of the work. Members of the expedition are seen painstakingly working to uncover, document, and protect ancient rock carvings called petroglyphs that are threatened by erosion and occasional trucking by wild horses. Another photo shows Kaplowitz on hands and knees, planting a mimosa tree as part of an effort to restore the landscape scientists believe was once lush and tropical.

“The island is green, but it’s not ecologically sound,” explains one of those scientists, QC biologist Jon Sperling ’59, who accompanied Loret’s group. Noting that Polynesians are believed to have first settled the island around 1200 AD, he continues. “When the Dutch got there in 1722, the island was practically bare of trees. But when people dig and find root systems of giant palms, they realize there may have been over a million palms that covered the island from one end to the other. This was once one of the most lavish ecosystems you can imagine.”

“I’m a commuter,” Sperling laughs, describing a longstanding interest in Easter Island that has taken him there a number of times. “I’m interested in invasive species. The island has far more invasive than indigenous species of plants. The entire bird life, in fact, is non-native, brought there when conditions were very lax. Sheep farmers in the 19th century and anyone, until very recently, could bring their pets in.”

A Teacher for the Ages

Of joining her former teacher more than three decades later on another science adventure, Kaplowitz observes, “It was great. We’re all older, obviously, but for the most part, he was the same John, still into a million fascinating things. And he had great stories.”

Mindful of the lessons future generations of students might learn from Loret, who turns 80 this fall, Sing-Bock and Kaplowitz are hoping to get him to commit some of his stories to paper or tape recordings.

“He’s affected many people in such positive ways,” says Sing-Bock. “He is the most inspirational teacher I ever had.”

Above (l–r): John Loret and Dale Kaplowitz pose near a row of Easter Island’s iconic stone statues, known as moai. On the January trip, Loret’s group are seen working on hands and knees, planting a mimosa tree as part of an effort to restore the landscape scientists believe was once lush and tropical. The island is green, but it’s not ecologically sound, explains one of those scientists, QC biologist Jon Sperling ’59, who accompanied Loret’s group. Noting that Polynesians are believed to have first settled the island around 1200 AD, he continues. “When the Dutch got there in 1722, the island was practically bare of trees. But when people dig and find root systems of giant palms, they realize there may have been over a million palms that covered the island from one end to the other. This was once one of the most lavish ecosystems you can imagine.”

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“He’s affected many people in such positive ways,” says Sing-Bock. “He is the most inspirational teacher I ever had.”
The son and nephew of tugboat captains, Arthur Kellner ’49 followed them to the Manhattan waterfront, briefly working as a deckhand. In 2001, after a long career as an industrial psychologist, he reconnected with his piers: He began researching and writing *New York Harbor: A Geographical and Historical Survey* (McFarland & Co.). Illustrated with vintage prints and photos, the book tracks the harbor’s changing role from the nineteenth century to the present. Kellner’s wife and children served on the editorial crew. “The writing of this book was a family affair,” says the first-time author.

**Urban Studies professor Stephen Steinberg visits controversial territory in his latest title, *Race Relations: A Critique* (Stanford University Press). While he faults conservatives for disregarding the rights of minorities, he is more critical of liberal sociologists like Nathan Glazer and William Julius Wilson, saying they have unintentionally perpetuated racist assumptions and blamed the groups harmed by those assumptions.

When Steinberg compares the experiences of Latino, Asian, and black communities, he concludes, distressingly, that the first two assimilate much faster than the third. The result! A dual melting pot that creates distinct disadvantages for people of African descent.

“If this book makes clear that we still have much to learn, not only about the structural foundations of racism, but also about how this careerism can subtly twist our perspectives so that we fail to rise to the intellectual and moral challenges of the sociological project,” says Frances Fox Piven, president of the American Sociological Association. “Steinberg has done us a great service.”

**Do you need more time to get up from a chair or run the same distances you’ve covered for years? Do you find yourself slouching instead of standing tall? You don’t have to take these changes lying down. In Age-Defying Fitness: Making the Most of Your Body for the Rest of Your Life, physical therapist Marilyn Moffat ’62 sets out a program for combating age-related changes. Many of her recommended techniques—stretching in the shower, tightening stomach muscles while watching television—are designed for people whose schedules leave them little time for the gym. The book contains a free Thera-Band exercise, to add moderate resistance to certain movements.

**The characters in *Leap Pairs ’67–78* have all the trimmings of contemporary American teens. They own cell phones and iPods; they post schoolwork on class blogs and communicate with each other by Instant Messenger. But at heart, this young adult book, the seventh novel by Jane Brokken Salafsky ’71, is a timeless coming-of-age story set in the 1960s. Troubled by adolescence and anthropomorphism to evoke a sense of mystery, freshness, and recognition. Co-sponsored by the Department of Biology and by the School of Earth and Environmental Sciences. Part of the Focus on the Nation initiative.

**Spirited and Power contextualizes objects with field photographs to demonstrate their use and consider their aesthetic, social, and religious significance. The show examines the reciprocal exchange between Western and African cultures in the spirit of the new global consciousness, adding an important dimension to the picture of aesthetic evolution and the role of Africa in global artistic and cultural exchange.**

**THROUGH DECEMBER 15**

**SPIRIT AND POWER IN AFRICAN ART**

**Godwin-Ternbach Museum**

**Funded by Milton & Sally Avery Arts Foundation, the Solomon Art and Architecture Funds, and NYC Dept. of Cultural Affairs, Spirit and Power in African Art is guest-curated by William Siegmund, Curator Emeritus of African and Pacific Art at the Brooklyn Museum. The exhibition comprises more than 100 objects from the collections of the Godwin-Ternbach Museum and the Queensborough Community College Art Gallery, including masks, figures, and ritual and practical objects made of wood, metal, and ivory from the 11th to the 20th centuries and numerous African nations.

**Spirit and Power contextualizes objects with field photographs to demonstrate their use and consider their aesthetic, social, and religious significance. The show examines the reciprocal exchange between Western and African cultures in the spirit of the new global consciousness, adding an important dimension to the picture of aesthetic evolution and the role of Africa in global artistic and cultural exchange.**

**Spend the holiday season in the Godwin-Ternbach Museum and the Museum of Natural History at the American Museum of Natural History.**

**December 15**

**QC CHORAL SOCIETY 67TH ANNUAL WINTER CONCERT**

James John, Music Director
Colén Auditorium, 8 p.m.
$18; $16 seniors, students, alumni; $5 for students with valid QCID at Box Office only

**The Queens College Choral Society, joined by an orchestra, presents a holiday program including J.S. Bach’s Christmas Oratorio, Part I, Brandenburg Concerto No. 4 in G Major, and G.F. Handel’s Hallelujah Chorus from Messiah.**

**Your Guide to the Best of the Arts in Queens**

**Barbara Roux's installations are influenced by her efforts to protect habitats and record incidents in natural history. Inspired by her father (a pharmacologist who did research in the Aden Delta), her own stays in wilderness areas around the world, and by natural history and contemporary art, she focuses on habitat change in New York’s remaining wild landscapes. Roux engages with nature and anthropomorphism to evoke a sense of mystery, freshness, and recognition. Co-sponsored by the Department of Biology and by the School of Earth and Environmental Sciences. Part of the Focus on the Nation initiative.**

**THROUGH DECEMBER 21**

**BRUSH WITH NATURE: INSTALLATION ART BY BARBARA ROUX**

**Queens College Art Center**
**MARCH**

**SAT**

**1**

**MOSCOW CIRCUS: A RUSSIAN FAIR FOLK**

Colden Auditorium, 3 PM, $52

A Russian Fair Folk Fair combines drama, cultural history, and, most of all, the excitement and entertainment that can only be created by the Moscow Circus. Featuring some of the world’s greatest Russian circus performers—folk musicians, acrobats, dancers, human puppets, contortionists, aerialists, jugglers, and more—the Moscow Circus continues to be the standard by which all other circuses are judged.

**11**

TUES

**EDNA O’BRIEN**

In addition to reading from her work, Ms. O’Brien will be interviewed by Leonard Lopate.

Music Building, 7 PM, $15 at door

Edna O’Brien is one of Ireland’s greatest living writers. She is the author of the collection of stories A Fanatic Heart, as well as the novels The Country Girls Trilogy, Night, Wild Decembers, in the Forest, and The Light of Evening. Newsday has said: “To read Edna O’Brien is to be swept up . . . Her prose remains among the most stylish and subtle in the English language.”

**21**

SAT

**GUITAR & CELLO**

William De RoSa & Eliot Fisk

LeFrak Concert Hall, 2 PM, $34/$32 seniors, students, Q.C. alumni, QCID

Eliot Fisk, one of the world’s most brilliant guitarists, has performed worldwide to dazzling critical and popular acclaim. Fisk has expanded the repertoire of the guitar enormously through his countless ground-braking transcriptions of works by Bach, Scarlatti, Haydn, Mozart, Paganini, and others. William De RoSa melds distinctive artistry, profound musicianship, and exquisite tone. De RoSa has risen to national prominence and has been the subject of several documentaries and television specials on the PBS and CBS networks.

**25**

TUES

**DAVID GROSSMAN**

In addition to reading from his work, Mr. Grossman will be interviewed by Leonard Lopate.

Music Building, 7 PM, $15 at door

David Grossman is widely regarded as Israel’s greatest novelist. He is the author of the novel See Under: Love, The Book of Intimate Grammar, Be My Knives, Someone To Run With, and Her Body Knocks. The New York Times Book Review has described Mr. Grossman as “a writer who has been, for nearly two decades, one of the most original and talented not only in his own country but anywhere.”

**APRIL**

**8**

TUES

**CLAIRE MESSUD & CARYLL PHILLIPS**

In addition to reading from their work, Ms. Messud and Mr. Phillips will be interviewed by Leonard Lopate.

Music Building, 7 PM, $15 at door

Claire Messud is the author of the novels When The World Was Steady, The Last Life, and The Emperor’s Children. The Washington Post Book World has said: “The most remarkable quality of Messud’s writing may be its uncanny blend of maturity and mirth. Somehow, she can stand in that chilly wind blowing on us all and laugh.” Caryll Phillips is the author of the novels Cambridge, Crossing the River, A Distant Shore, Dancing in the Dark, and, most recently, Foreigners. The New York Times Book Review has said that Caryll Phillips has taken “a firm step toward joining the company of the literary giants of our time.”

**13**

SAT

**THE EMPEROR’S NEW CLOTHES**

Plaza Theatrical Productions

Colden Auditorium, 2 PM, $52

Young audiences will delight in Plaza TheatricalProductions’ amusing version of The Emperor’s New Clothes by Hans Christian Andersen. The classic fairy tale about a vain emperor who is swindled by two rogues before a little boy punctures the court’s pretensions is retold with music, mischief, and merriment.

**15**

SUN

**STEPHEN HOUGH**

Piano

LeFrak Concert Hall, 2 PM, $34/$32 seniors, students, Q.C. alumni, QCID

Since winning first prize in the Naumburg International Piano Competition in 1983, Stephen Hough has come to be regarded as one of the most important and distinctive pianists of his generation. Hough integrates the imagination and pianistic color of the past with the scholarship and intellectual rigor of the present, illuminating the very essence of the music he plays.

**16**

SUN

**BLACK CULTURAL ARTS**

THE O’JAYS IN CONCERT

Colden Auditorium, 8 PM

548 orch./$54 seniors, students, alumni, QCID, QTIP, $54orch./$54 seniors, students, alumni, QCID, QTIP

Back Stabbers, Love Train, For The Love of Money, Let Me Make Love To You, Ain’t No Woman (Like the One I’ve Got), I Love Music, and Family Reunion epitomized the Philly soul sound of the 70s. Don’t miss original singers Eddie Levert and William Williams along with Eric Nolan Grant as they perform these classic sounds of one of soul’s greatest groups: The O’Jays. It will be an unforgettable evening of smooth harmonies and fabulous funk featuring many of the O’Jays’ biggest hits.

Co-presented with Queens Theatre in the Park.

**18**

SAT

**ROBERT MCDUFFIE**

Piano

LeFrak Concert Hall, 2 PM, $34/$32 seniors, students, Q.C. alumni, QCID

Robert McDuffie—whose recordings span 150 years of music—has appeared as soloist with many of the major orchestras of the world. McDuffie’s acclaimed recordings include the violin concertos of Mendelssohn, Bruch, Adams, Glass, Barber, and Roza, as well as Viennafesames.

McDuffie has been profiled on NBC’s “Today,” CBS Sunday Morning,” PBS’s “Charlie Rose,” and WCBS’s “Breakfast with the Arts,” and in The New York Times and Wall Street Journal.

**27**

SUN

**TODAY**


**FEBRUARY 7–MARCH 28**

**WHITE LANDSCAPES: DRAWINGS BY JIN LEE**

Queens College Art Center

gallery talk: Thursday, February 7, 5–6 PM; Reception: 6–8 PM

Jin Lee, Untitled, 2001

Jin Lee’s organic free-form drawings and paintings conjure thoughts of undiscovered life forms. Inspired by nature’s abstract forms and creative forces, Lee articulates complex variants of expanding and contracting imaginary biomorphic structures in images that are at once microscopic and cosmically huge. A combination of additive and transformative art techniques produces a rich, dimensional effect that dramatizes the evolutionary energies conveyed by the consuming organic images.

Part of the Focus the Nation initiative.

**24**

SUN

**CLASSIC HITS FOR KIDS: A YOUNG PEOPLE’S CONCERT**

LeFrak Concert Hall, 2 PM, $52

Introduce your children to musical classics like Prokofiev’s Peter and the Wolf and Saint-Saëns’ Carnival of the Animals. Then expand their listening repertoire to include special selections by some of the “Four Bs”: Bach, Beethoven, Brahms, and Bernstein. This hour-long concert features the QC Orchestra led by brilliant young conductor Tong Chen. The relaxed, intimate setting of LeFrak Concert Hall is sure to make this a fun and entertaining experience for everyone.

**30**

SAT

**THE O’JAYS IN CONCERT**

Colden Auditorium, 8 PM

548 orch./$54 seniors, students, alumni, QCID, QTIP, $54orch./$54 seniors, students, alumni, QCID, QTIP

Back Stabbers, Love Train, For The Love of Money, Let Me Make Love To You, Ain’t No Woman (Like the One I’ve Got), I Love Music, and Family Reunion epitomized the Philly soul sound of the 70s. Don’t miss original singers Eddie Levert and William Williams along with Eric Nolan Grant as they perform these classic sounds of one of soul’s greatest groups: The O’Jays. It will be an unforgettable evening of smooth harmonies and fabulous funk featuring many of the O’Jays’ biggest hits.

Co-presented with Queens Theatre in the Park.
JOY IN THE MOOD
Colden Auditorium, 8 PM
328 S. 534 seniors, students, alumni, QCID
In the Mood is a dazzling 1940s musical
revue of the Swing Era—a time when up-tempo, big band instrumen-
tals and intimate, romantic ballads moved the nation’s spirit. Enjoy the
music of Glenn Miller, Tommy Dorsey, Artie Shaw, Benny Goodman, the
Andrews Sisters, Frank Sinatra, and more. Performed by the fantastic
In the Mood performed by the fabulous
Kupf...
An Unexpected Turn in Iraq

When David George ’73 joined the local National Guard band more than two decades ago, overseas deployments were rare—and pleasant. “One year they sent us to France to commemorate the armistice,” says David, who was pursuing a career as a clarinetist. “It was a real kick up in intensity.”

In the late 1990s, after the band moved its headquarters from Manhattan to Long Island, something happened. “They hit a speed bump,” says David, who transferred to a support unit. His military duties grew more intense in the period following September 11, 2001. “I learned that jobs were available,” he says. “And they were.”

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In 2003, David joined the 167th Infantry Regiment, New York Army National Guard. He was awarded a Bronze Star in the 115th Infantry Regiment. He was awarded a Bronze Star in the 115th Infantry Regiment. He was awarded a Bronze Star in the 115th Infantry Regiment. He was awarded a Bronze Star in the 115th Infantry Regiment.

In 2005, he was deployed to Iraq. “They needed guys,” he says. “They were getting cut.”

In 2006, he was deployed to Iraq again. “They needed more,” he says. “They were getting cut.”

In 2007, he was deployed to Iraq one more time. “They needed even more,” he says. “They were getting cut.”

In 2008, he was deployed to Iraq for the fourth time. “They needed the last,” he says. “They were getting cut.”

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Manhattan's Stuyvesant Cove . . . 1983: Linda Rehak-Swanson, who writes that she hopes to study graphic design at a community college near the suburban New Jersey home she shares with her husband of 27 years, Andrew Swanson (MA ’95). Linda had worked as a CPA before being sidelined by illness . . . 1988: Katherine Styponias has become general manager of the media and entertainment group at Microsoft Corp., where she will lead the business development team working with major content suppliers. Formerly the senior cable, entertainment, and satellite equity analyst at Prudential Equity Group, Katherine is widely recognized for her expertise in media industry trends: the Wall Street Journal’s “Best on the Street” poll cited her for earnings-estimate accuracy and stock picking in the entertainment category. She was also recognized in Institutional Investor’s 2006 AllAmerica Research Team poll and was named the No. 1 earnings estimator for the media sector in the Forbes.com StarMine Analysts Awards for 2004 . . . 1990: Rise Armet has switched careers. Formerly a clinical laboratory technologist, she has become a physician’s assistant in interventional radiology for a hospital-based private radiology practice . . . Wojciech Siemaskiewicz, a librarian in the Slavic and Baltic division of the New York Public Library, is the co-curator of Graphic Modernism from the Baltic to the Balkans, 1930–1935, an exhibition of books, book jackets, posters, and other printed material. The show will run at The New York Public Library on 42nd Street and Fifth Avenue, through January 27, 2008 . . . 1991: Phillip Ewell (MA) has joined the faculty of North Central College in Naperville, IL, where he is an assistant professor of music . . . Rory Lancman, in his first term representing Queens’ 25th assembly district, has attracted notice in Albany and beyond. City Hall, which included him in “40 Under 40,” the magazine’s annual list of rising political stars, profiled his performance in Albany: “City Hall profiled him in ‘40 Under 40,’ the magazine’s annual list of rising political stars. José launched his career at QC, where he was the first Latino to serve as president of the student body . . . 1997: Laura Smith retired from the MTA Long Island Railroad in 2005: as director of safety and security, she developed plans for the East Side Access Project, which will bring LIRR trains into Grand Central Terminal in 2012. Now Laura spends her time playing golf, painting, doing volunteer work, and enjoying the company of family and friends . . . 1998: Ferentz LaFargue, an assistant professor of literature at Eugene Lang College, the New School for Liberal Arts, writes that his first book, Songs in the Key of My Life: A Memoir (Harlem Moon/ Random House), was published in May. That same month, he received a career enhancement fellowship from the Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation. Ferentz puts in regular appearances at QC to speak with the Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellows on postgraduate opportunities and most recently worked with Vice Provost June Bobb to organize a leadership symposium . . . 2004: Avird Williams produced the opening ceremonies of the National Opera Association’s annual convention, held in January at the Schonberg Center in Hauser. In July he headed to Italy as tenor soloist with the Pacific Boys Choir . . . 2005: C.G. Morilli (ME '02) has released a volun- teer his writing. C.G. teaches English and participates in America’s favorite pastime.

WE REMEMBER

Elise Anita Toivonen Bruno, ’45
Chaire Chase, ’45
Vivienne Wars Nearing, ’45
Eileen Phillips Phyllis Dohrner, ’46
Wendell W. Weithner, ’46
Howard H. Habe, ’48
William J. Ragan, ’52
Jerome Alan Bauman, ’53
Marilyn Jonas Busnath, ’57
Lillian Sklaire Stephens, ’61
Zachary Finkelman ’62
Harold D. Duli, ’69
Elaine Thomas, ’69
Arthur Lind ’75

SEND US YOUR NEWS!

We want to hear more from graduates—especially our recent graduates. Tell us where you are and what you are doing, and enclose a photo. Be sure to let us know when you move.

Email: alumni@qc.cuny.edu
Mail: Alumni News, Office of Alumni Affairs, Queens College, 65-30 Kissena Boulevard, Flushing, NY 11367
Phone: 718-997-3930
Fax: 718-997-3602
Q Mailbag: John.cassidy@qc.cuny.edu

Look for us on the Web as we are always adding news about the college and upcoming events: www.qc.cuny.edu/alumni_affairs

MISSING ALUMNI

We have lost touch with many of our alumni. Usually they did not let us know when they moved, so the information that can be updated at www.qc.cuny.edu/QC_Foundation. If you know alumni who do not hear from the college, please let us know.
Help Beautify the Queens College Campus and Support Our Students

Queens College has set aside areas along the newly landscaped quadrangle where alumni can have their name or that of a parent or friend commemorated. Offerings include a plaque placed beneath a newly planted tree, or upon a park bench where students sit and study.

Naming opportunities are also available in two of the Kupferberg Center’s performance facilities: the 479-seat Goldstein Theatre and the 2,124-seat Golden Auditorium. A seating plaque commemorating a friend, loved one, or yourself will be placed on the armrest of a seat in the theatre of your choice.

Our new Alumni Plaza in front of historic Jefferson Hall provides the opportunity to celebrate a graduation, highlight a special occasion, or remember a loved one with an inscribed commemorative brick.

Trees (14-feet high): $800
Benches, outdoor and indoor: $1600
Named seats in Kupferberg Center (Golden Auditorium and Goldstein Theatre): $3000
Donation of books to the library with bookplates placed in each book: $500
Small bricks: 4-inch x 8-inch (three lines of text): $130
Large bricks: 8-inch x 8-inch (six lines of text): $250

The easiest way to place an order is by visiting www.qc.cuny.edu/QCF. You may also fill out the form below and return it with your payment in the prepaid envelope in this magazine. For other naming opportunities of $2000 and above, please call the Office of Development at 718-997-3920.

I would like to purchase __ standard brick(s) at $130, __ large brick(s) at $250, ___ trees(s) at $800, ___ bench(es) at $1600, ___ seats at $300 or books at $500. I prefer to pay the total of $____ with a check payable to Queens College Foundation.

I will pay via credit card ___ Visa ___ MasterCard ___ American Express ___ Discover
Card # _____________________________
Expiration Date ______________________
Signature __________________________ Date ______________________

City, State, Zip ____________________________
Daytime Phone ____________________________

Purchaser’s name ________________________________

Address _________________________________________

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Saluting the Marines with Cartoons

By Leslie Jay

Karen Leon ’79 never enlisted in the armed services. But Private King and Company, her new cartoon about Marine life, has entered active rotation: The characters are featured in a morale-boosting movie that’s screened at hospitals, USO centers, ships at sea, and bases in Iraq and Afghanistan. “It’s important to bring humor to a difficult situation,” says the artist.

Her graphic skills first saw military deployment shortly after she graduated with a degree in fine arts and went to work for the advertising firm N.W. Ayer. One of the company’s clients was the United States Army. “I started doing a cartoon for Army Magazine,” recalls Leon. “I spoofed contemporary issues, setting them in the Roman era.”

By the mid 1980s she had traded the corporate track for free-lancing. Her outlets ranged from the weekly newspaper Crain’s New York Business, which published her single-frame political cartoons, to Kentucky Fried Chicken, which chose her Colonel Sanders design for its international TV ads and television commercials. “The vets said the strip was funny,” notes its creator. “That’s what resonated for me.” Leon expects her cartoon Marines to see further action in the future. Life-size replicas were screened for military audiences, who appreciated the inside perspective of Private King. “The vets said the strip was funny,” notes its creator. “That’s what resonated for me.” Leon expects her cartoon Marines to see further action in the future.

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Exceeding our $100 million fund-raising goal was news we were only too happy to share with the world. What better way to do that than a full-page ad in the New York Times. The ad, which appeared in June 8 editions, thanked the 14,000 individuals who made contributions and announced that we would be celebrating the achievement of our goal at the June 21 Q Gala honoring distinguished QC graduates David S. Slackman ’70, founding president, Commerce Bank, and Pulitzer Prize and Oscar-winning composer Marvin Hamlisch ’68.

Superstar songwriter and musician Paul Simon ’63 has a new honor to add to the many received in his storied career, as recipient of the first Library of Congress Gershwin Prize for Popular Song (named for brothers George and Ira). “I am grateful to be the recipient of the Gershwin Prize and doubly honored to be the first,” said Simon at a May 23 ceremony in Washington, D.C., where he was presented the award by Librarian of Congress James H. Billington and feted at an all-star musical gala.

Richard Wall, a longtime member of the Library faculty (seen here, circa 1975), passed away in July, but not before receiving a special honor from his colleagues in February: the creation of the Richard Wall Film Studies Collection. In addition to teaching, Wall had served as Humanities Librarian and Bibliographer in Comparative Literature, Drama, Theatre, Dance, English and American Literature, Journalism, American Studies, and Film Studies. A Richard Wall Film Studies Fund has been established to continue development of the collection.
First Class Returns to Celebrate College’s 70th Anniversary

Despite threatening weather, more than a dozen members of Queens College’s first incoming class returned to participate in an October 11 ceremony marking 70 years since classes began on the Flushing campus. Standing: (l to r) John W. Kinder, John W. Marshall, Guy J. Riccio, Haskel Kase, Bernice Gross Atarac, Edith Francullo Ortola, Annette Henkin Landau. Seated: Helen Breitwieser Wittko, Lorraine Molkentin Tierney, Helen Picozzi Gentile, Ruth Vopelak Barry, Betty Freedman Steinhorn, Mary Hickey Endres, Joan Sanders O’Leary. For their reminiscences of that opening day at Queens College, see page 3.