

The background of the cover is a photograph of a man with a beard and glasses, wearing a red V-neck sweater over a light blue collared shirt. He is standing with his arms crossed in front of a two-story house with a gabled roof and a dormer window. A large, leafless tree is on the left side of the house. The ground is covered with fallen leaves.

THE MAGAZINE OF
Queens College

VOL. IX, NO. 2

SPRING 2004

Preserving a Great American Home

**JAMES MOORE AND THE
JOHN BOWNE HOUSE**



In April the college renamed a plaza and a building in honor of two extraordinary graduates. The plaza outside Rosenthal Library has become the Edwin M. ('63) and Judith Cooperman Plaza, and B Building now carries the name of 1942 graduate Virginia Frese Palmer. President James Muyskens noted that "A Jefferson Hall makes a statement about what a college aspires to, but a Cooperman Plaza and a Frese Hall boast of a shared achievement: a college that prepared a student, and a student who used that preparation to accomplish remarkable things. We are honored that their names are now a permanent part of Queens College." Inset: Judith, Edwin, and daughter Dori Cooperman at the dedication ceremony for Cooperman Plaza. Above: Virginia Frese Palmer and President Muyskens on the porch of Virginia Frese Hall. "Queens College turned me from an introvert afraid to speak my mind into an activist, a feminist, and a real believer in helping others. I am so grateful," Palmer said.



THE MAGAZINE OF Queens College

THIS ISSUE: A professor and his students unearth the early history of Queens, while a graduate and his wife record the stories of the borough's latest settlers. Can Jay Wolpert turn this into a game show?

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We welcome your letters. Send them to:
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Dear Alumni and Friends,

Email allows us to keep you informed about timely issues and announcements without the college incurring prohibitive postal costs. In the near future we hope to periodically email you about items such as alumni activities, chapter developments, news highlights, and other information I know you will find interesting. I assure you that we will not overwhelm you with announcements or make your email information available to anyone else.

To send us your email address, go to www.qc.cuny.edu/QC_Foundation/ and click on the Register for Email button to the left and complete the form.

While you're on our Web site, I invite you to look around to see the wealth of information available there. For a quick snapshot of the college today, go to www.qc.cuny.edu/about/, and then check out our interactive map—www.qc.cuny.edu/Map/—to see how the college has changed since you graduated. And don't forget to go to the Alumni page where you will find the latest on chapter doings and upcoming events, and have an opportunity to send us the latest information about yourself for use in future issues of *Q* magazine.

Jim Muyskens
President



(L-r) Student archaeologists Jeffrey Gordon, Erica Manney, Frank Feeley, and Professor James Moore display some of the artifacts found near the foundation of the Bowne House.

Piecing Together the History of a Great American House

By **John Cassidy**

The Bowne House in Flushing—the oldest house in Queens, and perhaps the oldest in the city—is rich in American history. Its first occupant, John Bowne, is famous for his defense of religious freedom. Bownes were involved in the founding of the New York Stock Exchange and the Bank of New York. Walter Bowne was mayor of New York from 1829 to 1833, and Robert Bowne was a founder of the Manumission Society. And two American presidents—Lincoln and Ford—have Bowne blood in their veins.

This past February Anthropology Chair James Moore and his students presented the results of six years of research and

archaeological digs at the house in an exhibition at the Flushing Library. Entitled *New Perspectives on the Bowne House: Archaeological and Architectural Research, 1997–2003*, the show gave the public an opportunity to view maps, historical documents, and research related to the house. Also on exhibit were some of the thousands of artifacts the team unearthed: shards of early serving platters, porcelain cups, and a doll; Native American arrowheads; Delft tile; and a high-caliber, unfired bullet cartridge from the 1860s that was wisely handed over to the NYPD.

“Bowne House offers a unique opportunity to examine issues related to social

change in New York over the last 350 years,” says Moore, an expert on patterns of human settlement in Queens from the 17th through 19th centuries. He himself became interested in archaeology when, as an undergraduate at Brown University, he took a course taught by a charismatic professor, James Deetz. After a couple of digs, he was hooked. Moore received his PhD from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst and continued to go on digs as nearby as Brookhaven and Shelter Island and as far afield as Sweden and Ireland.

Moore’s involvement with Bowne House began in 1997 when borough historian Henry Ludder, a trustee of the Bowne

House Historical Society, called the college and asked if it would be interested in doing research. Moore saw a great opportunity: “For many of our students, a trip out of state or overseas to do a dig is just too expensive. But with Bowne House, they had the chance to take part in a historical archaeological dig minutes away from campus.” Moore created a field methods course that met at the house each Friday of the fall semester for a full day of digging.

The digs have attracted enthusiastic students for seven years. Besides finding artifacts, students discovered that the kitchen was a structurally independent addition, not the oldest section of the house as had been believed. They also found an intact capped well that dates from at least the 1830s, and a cobble-paved area that could have been an early greenhouse.

Excavation will resume this fall on the south side of the house, says Moore, who expects the work to continue for several years. “Once the south side work is done, then stabilization and reconstruction of the house can proceed,” he explains. “No construction work has taken place since the 1930s—and that work did more harm than good by introducing moisture between the walls and the foundation.”

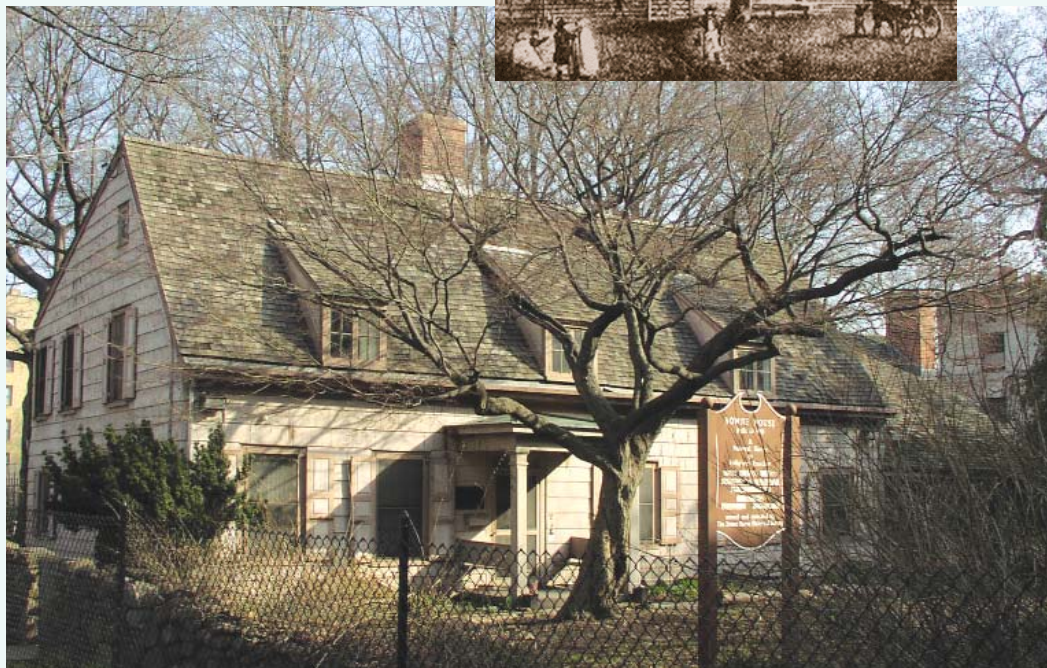
The Bowne House, at 37-01 Bowne Street, was built around 1661 by John Bowne, who settled in Flushing when New York was under Dutch rule. In 1662 Governor Peter Stuyvesant ordered Bowne arrested for allowing Quakers to hold meetings in his house (Bowne’s wife was a Quaker, and Bowne himself was a convert). Refusing to pay a fine for his offense, Bowne was deported to Ireland “as an example to others.” The English-born Bowne eventually made his way to Amsterdam and pleaded his case to the Dutch West India Company, who were the financial backers of the Dutch colony in the New World. Bowne won, and his famous defense of religious freedom helped establish principles that became part of the Bill of Rights.

The Bowne House reflects the contradictions of American history. It can rightly be seen as a symbol of liberty thanks not only to Bowne’s defense of religion, but also for later generations of Bownes who were active in the abolitionist movement. Today the Bowne House is a stop on the Flushing Freedom Mile Historic Trail.

Yet John Bowne, like many of his con-

temporaries, owned slaves. It has long been known that Bowne had two slaves and an indentured servant. But recently unearthed artifacts lead Moore to believe Bowne may have owned a number of slaves.

How can he tell? Something as simple as a porcelain Chinese cup speaks volumes. “To own a fine porcelain cup meant you had considerable wealth,” Moore says, and that kind of wealth in the 1600s most likely was produced in part through the labor of slaves. “These slaves are not just helping out in the kitchen,” Moore believes. “They are out in the fields, plant-



Views of the Bowne House as depicted by J. Milbert in 1825 (top) and today.

ing, harvesting, and creating wealth.”

This interpretation is in line with recent scholarship that points to a larger slave population in Queens than previously thought. “Indeed,” Moore says, “from 1690 to 1790 about a third of all households in Flushing had slaves.”

Bowne House was occupied by members of the family and their descendants up until the 1940s. Listed on the National Register of Historic Places and designated a New York City Landmark, Bowne House is considered one of the best preserved examples of Anglo-Dutch architecture in the nation. It has, however, been closed to the public since 2000. It is estimated that it will cost about \$2 million to restore the house.

The Bowne House Historical Society, which has operated the house as a museum

since 1947, is working to reopen the house. It plans to transfer ownership to the city and is seeking an affiliation with the Historic House Trust of New York (HHT). By partnering with HHT, the house will

have access to both the trust’s services and city and state funds. The society plans to raise \$700,000 in private donations, at which point it could receive matching funds from both the city and the state.

Moore plans to be working at the house with students for the foreseeable future. “The work we are doing now,” he notes, “is required under federal and state law to make sure no historical or archaeological features are destroyed when a historical site is being restored.”

Although the city will own the house, the society will continue to own the collections and be responsible for administering the house’s educational programs. Now a member of the board of trustees of the society, Moore hopes to help develop those programs. A major challenge will be balancing the Bowne legacy as slave owners and abolitionists.

// I am sitting on a wooden crate on a cargo flight to somewhere, I have no idea where. It is very cold in the plane and dark. I am cargo. I am secret. My angel is a Russian pilot named Melanov. The plane lands—where I honestly do not know. //

—Ideda Antosi, on his flight from assassins in Nigeria



Traveling the World – In Queens

By **Jacquelyn Southern**

A Nepali dancer in the ancient Charya Buddhist tradition whose room is so small that he rehearses by visualization . . . a refugee from the Democratic Republic of Congo who escapes assassination concealed as cargo on a flight to JFK, then seeks political asylum but spends two years in a detention center . . . a traditional Afghan woman found and rescued from a refugee camp by her Westernized daughter in New York . . . a gay couple who flee homophobic death threats in Colombia but find safety here by coming out of the closet . . . two Egyptian brothers who were urban pioneers in a once desolate stretch of Astoria but now face gentrification and upheaval.

A new book on Queens is getting rave reviews—as are the companion CD and exhibition. *Crossing the BLVD: Strangers, Neighbors, Aliens in a New America* (Norton, 2003) represents an innovative collaboration by Warren Lehrer '77 and his wife Judith Sloan. Together they have elicited the stories of 79 recent immigrants to Queens, creating striking, often moving collages of words, music, and images.

The central metaphor for the project is “crossing.” The boulevard in question, of course, is Queens Boulevard, where so many have been struck or killed while trying to cross its twelve lanes. Indeed, the project features several individuals whose lives have been changed by injury or death

on that boulevard. A parallel hazardous crossing is that from home country to the United States. Then there is Queens itself, which Lehrer describes as “a crossroads of the world.”

Lehrer is a writer, photographer, and designer, and Sloan is an actress, oral historian, and audio artist who shapes new compositions from recorded words and sounds. For over three years they explored Queens, asking new immigrants how they got here and what they found on arrival. Many of their stories, recorded in first-person narratives, represent spliced-together fragments that Lehrer and Sloan gathered over time, with deepening trust and friendship. These stories leave indelible impres-

sions of real individuals, speaking frankly about life-shaping experiences—war, repression, discrimination, want.

The book is a tour de force of oral histories, photographs, graphics, and innovative page design. The CD, available with the hardcover edition of the book or separately, comprises interview-based audio compositions, new music composed by Scott Johnson, and international music performed by people in the book. The exhibition, which was at the Queens Museum of Art from December 14 through March 28, consisted of photographs, text, and sound stations, as well as a traveling kiosk where visitors could record their own stories. (Selected images and a sound station will be at New York University's Bronfman Center from April 14 through September 30.) Finally, an interactive Web site, www.crossingtheblvd.org, includes selections from the multimedia project while offering visitors another opportunity to record their personal experiences.

These efforts have earned "*Crossing the BLVD*" important recognition and much media attention. The book won the 2003 Award for Innovative Use of an Archive from the Archivists Round Table of Metropolitan New York. The award congratulated Lehrer and Sloan "for exploding the paradigms of oral history and reinterpreting them for our multimedia century." The book also won the Best of the Best Photography Award in the 2004 New York Book Show, and was selected as a Best Book of the Year by *Publisher's Weekly* and the *Utne Reader*.

Such prodigious output is hardly new for Lehrer, the award-winning author of eight previous books combining his own writing, photography, and design. An associate professor of art at SUNY Purchase, he is also a member of the graduate faculty at the School of Visual Arts in Manhattan, where he teaches in the Designer as Author program. He describes himself as a book artist, with special interests in how texts and images are related. "One of the things I've been developing is the relationship of the human voice to the printed word, or how to deal graphically with two or three or four different voices, visually as well as structurally," he says. "Photography works its way in with that."

Ironically, however, the sympathetic eye on Queens is new. Lehrer, a native of Whitestone and Bayside, found the borough a dull place in his youth, when it was popularly identified with Archie Bunker. As an undergraduate, he says, "I didn't really want to be in Queens anymore," but was inspired in his art studies by the late Professor Louis Finkelstein. "He was a great teacher. He was open to my inventiveness and, in a very indescribable way, he motivated me." After finishing his BA, Lehrer went on to earn his MFA at Yale University.

Now he and Sloan live in Sunnyside, Queens, with immigrants from around the world as neighbors. Their project has been conducted in part through their own non-profit arts organization, EarSay, dedicated to telling the stories of the "uncelebrated." It also got a boost from the Rockefeller and

Ford Foundations plus help from organizations like the Lawyers Committee for Human Rights, Elders for the Arts, and Queens Public Library.

Meanwhile, the book has had an impact on the people it features, especially Amy Li, who was exiled from China because of her involvement in the banned Falung Gong movement. She showed the book to United States Consulate officials, persuading them to allow her daughter into this country.

The project isn't over yet. Lehrer and Sloan hope to see the exhibition and kiosk travel widely, and are developing a theater piece based on the exhibition. "We want to extend the repository of stories," says Lehrer. "We learned a lot. It's become a thoroughly transformative experience for us."

And, quite likely, for the many thousands who have experienced Lehrer and Sloan's work.



// One week after the July 1999 crackdown, I was arrested for doing my exercises in the park. The police interrogated me, but I didn't take them seriously. I said to the policeman 'There are other people in the same park doing Tai Chi exercises. Why don't you arrest them? With Falung Gong exercise you move your hands up and down. With Tai Chi you move your hands side to side. 'Is side to side legitimate and up and down against the law? Is this a joke?' The policeman wasn't laughing. He said, 'Why don't you learn something else, like aerobics?' //

—Amy Li

Q

QC News

Study Abroad Program Expands

It is often noted that the world comes to Queens College as students from more than 140 countries attend classes here. Now thanks to new study abroad agreements, the college will be sending more students out into the world.

Queens has joined the College Consortium for International Studies, a D.C.-based partnership of over 135 public and private colleges and universities. CCIS negotiates study abroad contracts with overseas institutions, offering member schools access to 80 programs in 31 countries.

Work with CCIS is being administered by Joan Migliori, coordinator of the CUNY/Italy Exchange at the Calandra Institute since 1995. Having been involved in study abroad programs since 1985, Migliori knows their beneficial effect. "When the students come back, they are more focused, more mature," she says. "They have a global resume."

A second development is an agreement with King Alfred's College in Winchester, England. Students entering this program are advised by Maxine Fisher (English), coordinator of the CUNY/Paris Exchange Program and director of the Study Abroad Office.

Founded in 1840, King Alfred's offers a strong liberal arts program and small classes held on a beautiful campus, located in a historic cathedral city one hour from London. "It's a safe, small academic community," says Fisher. "Our students can have the experience of living on campus, but live close enough to a world capital that they won't miss the cultural opportunities. It offers the best of both worlds."

Calling All QC Doctors

Dr. George Gubernikoff '77 is a man with a mission. After reading in the *New York Times* that the \$400 increase in CUNY tuition was enough to keep some students out of college, he decided to take action.

Convinced that many QC graduates who are physicians share his concern, he approached Development Director Mario DellaPina with the idea of starting a **Queens College Medical Alumni Association**. He hopes this will become a vehicle for giving back to the college, perhaps through black-tie fundraisers. Such efforts could lead to a scholarship for a premed student as early as next spring.

When his father died of heart disease during his freshman year at Queens, Gubernikoff set his sights on medical school, graduating **summa cum laude** with induction into **Phi Beta Kappa**. He then earned his **MD at CUNY's Mount Sinai School of Medicine**, followed by prestigious postdoctoral training and board certification in **anesthesiology, critical care medicine, internal medicine, and cardiovascular disease**. A fellow of the **American College of Cardiology** and an active lecturer and writer, Gubernikoff is now **director of clinical cardiac services at Winthrop University Hospital in Mineola, NY**.

Gubernikoff contributes generously to education and, until recently, served as **fellowship program director for cardiology at Northwestern University Medical School**. His passion, however, remains his alma mater.

"Queens College is at the top of the list of what I'm respectful of and grateful to," he says. As proof of this, Gubernikoff and his sister Nancy Gubernikoff

Bechor '70 (MA '75), with the help of Lauren Seiler (Sociology), matched and endowed the Outstanding Graduating Senior Award in Sociology (which Gubernikoff won as an undergraduate), renaming it the Joseph Gubernikoff Award in memory of their father.

Thus far, Gubernikoff has a database of about 1,200

doctors who attended QC but, he says, "That's not an exhaustive list. It's just scratching the surface."

If you would like to help shape the new **Medical Alumni Association** or add your name to its membership, please contact Alumni Director **Joseph Brostek** at 718-997-3930 or Joseph_Brostek@qc.edu.



QC Alum to Coach St. John's Red Storm

Looking to restore stability to its troubled basketball program, St. John's University has tapped Queens College graduate **Norm Roberts '84** to lead the Red Storm for the next five years. At the time of his hiring, Roberts was associate head coach at the University of Kansas. His only previous experience as a head coach was at his alma mater from 1991 to 1995. Previously an assistant coach at Oral Roberts, Tulsa, and Illinois, Roberts is known as a top-notch recruiter. At the press conference announcing his hiring, Roberts said he understood that rebuilding St. John's would be difficult, but promised to run a program in which character mattered and players must succeed in their studies as well as on the court.

Meet Queens College Student **Julio Penagos**



• Future mathematics teacher
• Member of unique TIME 2000 program
• Reserves full tuition all four years

Julio Penagos came to the U.S. from Colombia when he was 11 and eventually attended St. John's. He then went to Queens College and earned his B.S. in Mathematics. He is currently a member of the TIME 2000 program, which provides four years of free tuition to students who commit to work and live on campus for four years.

Julio is a hard worker who has earned a major scholarship to attend Queens College. He has the best grades, and he has always been a member of the varsity team. He has been a member of the varsity team for four years, and he is a member of the varsity team at Queens College.

His future plans are to attend Queens College and earn his B.S. in Mathematics. He is currently a member of the TIME 2000 program, which provides four years of free tuition to students who commit to work and live on campus for four years.

For Admissions Information, call 718-997-4233

Ad Campaign Continues

Two new ads featuring QC students debuted in the *Queens Tribune*, *Queens Chronicle*, and other weekly community newspapers in the borough last January. The ads highlight **Julio Penagos**, a future math teacher enrolled in the TIME 2000 program, and **Elena Malykhina**, an aspiring journalist who interned at the Wall Street Journal Europe in Brussels last summer. The ads are a continuation of the student ad campaign begun last October. A new bus ad for the college was also recently launched, featuring the tag line "Global Education. Great Campus. Real Community."

College Appoints Two New Deans

Following a national search, Tamara Evans (European Languages) was named dean of the Division of Arts and Humanities. Having been acting



Evans

dean since 2001, Evans is aware of the challenges facing the arts and humanities, especially the funding crisis that has hit these disciplines hard. "Values have shifted," she says. "We live in a time when we have to justify our presence in academia time and again. The critical thinking and artistic creativity generated in the arts and humanities are not easily quantifiable, and therefore the pressure is all the greater." Despite such obstacles, she notes that "We have first-rate departments with national reputations. That's remarkable for a publicly funded commuter college."

A native of Bern, Switzerland, Evans received her undergraduate education in French and English at the University of Bern, with a year at the University of Exeter, England. She earned two master's degrees,

in German and English, and a PhD in German literature at Ohio State. She joined the college in 1980.

Joanne Miller (Sociology) is now acting dean of Research and Graduate Studies. An authority on workplace diversity, she has been active in research and administration for over 25 years, with experience in fundraising and building cross-disciplinary cooperation. Miller, who joined the faculty in 1985, is a past chair of her department and former director of both Summer Session and the MA Program in Applied Social Research.

Miller earned her BA in sociology, MS in demography, and PhD in sociology at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Before coming to Queens she was a research scientist at the Laboratory of Socio-Environmental Studies at the National Institute of Mental Health, and then served as director of the sociology program at the National Science Foundation.



Miller



Choreographer Yin Mei (Drama, Theatre & Dance), whose work has met with critical acclaim since 1995, has just won a fellowship from the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation. "This award is an incredible opportunity and a true honor," says Yin Mei, one of only 185 North American honorees chosen this year. Her fellowship, with its \$38,000 grant, will subsidize research for the final portion of her theatrical trilogy *Nomad*, inspired by her Asian roots.

QC Ranks #13 for Wireless Access



An Intel survey ranking the top 100 schools for wireless computing access places Queens College thirteenth—ahead of Tulane (17), Cornell (65), and all other CUNY and

SUNY campuses. In fact, QC is the second most wireless college in New York state.

The survey reveals a growing number of schools where students have the freedom to wirelessly access the Internet on notebook PCs—without a traditional wired connection—and stay connected whether they're in the dorm or on the campus quad. The survey, sponsored by Intel and conducted by Bert Sperling, can be found

at www.intel.com/products/mobiletechnology/unwiredcolleges.htm.

President Muyskens has emphasized upgrading technology since assuming the presidency in July 2002. As Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs for the University System of Georgia, he directed the university's investigation into instructional technology and distance learning and created the Gwinnett University Center, sometimes referred to as the "bricks and clicks" campus. One of Muyskens' first technological improvements on the Queens campus was the creation of Bits & Bytes, an indoor wireless café connected to the library. Students may check out laptop computers from the library for use in this soaring, light-filled space.

Alumna Funds 15 Math Scholarships

Lilo Leeds '48 and her husband, Gerry, recently gave \$240,000 to TIME 2000, the college's innovative mathematics teacher preparation program. Their gift will fund four-year scholarships for 15 undergraduate students preparing to become math teachers. "Mrs. Leeds feels that math and science are the two areas that most need exceptional teachers," says Mario Della Pina, executive director of the Queens College Foundation. "TIME 2000 not only offers motivated students free tuition but also gives them the tools and support they will need to succeed. She thinks that is very important."



Leeds

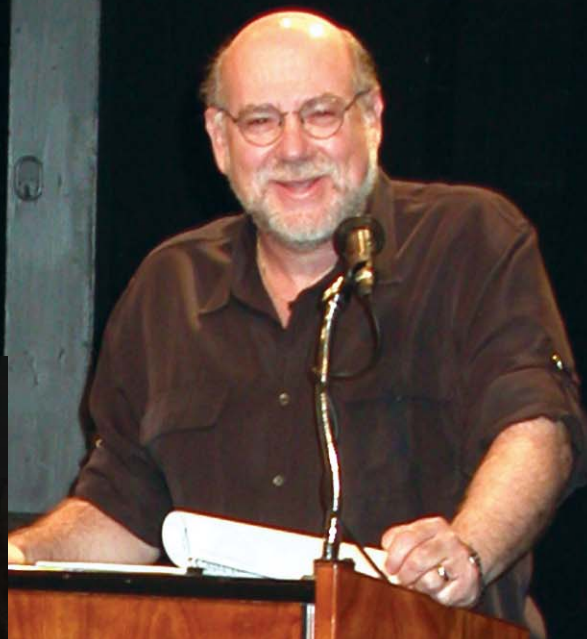
Refugees from Nazi Germany, Lilo and Gerry Leeds have generously supported a number of educational causes and are the cofounders of several organizations, including the Institute for Student Achievement and the Schott Foundation, that are active on issues concerning women and children. Before retiring from business, the Leeds were well known for following socially responsible policies at the publishing company they started, CMP Media; it was, for instance, the first employer on Long Island to offer on-site child care. In 1998, Lilo Leeds was awarded an honorary doctorate from her alma mater.

"She's interested in improving mathematics education, a subject she knows a great deal about since she received a BA in math from the college," says Alice Artzt, director of TIME 2000. "She's an extraordinary woman who is using the benefits of her own accomplishments to provide opportunities to others in their study of mathematics."

From Flushing to Hollywood

Jay Wolpert

By Jacquelyn Southern



Above: Jay Wolpert addressing QC students. Right: Drama Professor Charles Repole (l) was instrumental in bringing Wolpert back to the campus.

Joie de vivre has played a large part in Jay Wolpert's life. A self-described "child of the projects," he grew up across the street from the college in the Pomonok Houses. He was a political science major working his way through college when, he says, he "wandered into the wrong building" and came across the Drama Department, complete with cool people in black. "Everyone was so sensitive they couldn't eat their cornflakes in the morning because it reminded them of dead leaves," he remembers. He changed majors, acquired his own black turtleneck, and also met the classmate who became his wife, Roslyn Granowitter '65.

Since then, there have been numerous on-screen sightings of Wolpert in film and television but, to entertainment insiders, he is best known as a force behind the scenes.

With his knack for quirky ideas and witty productions, he has enjoyed a long career as an innovative television producer and, more recently, screenwriter. His TV credits include such household staples as "The Price Is Right," and among his film credits are *The Count of Monte Cristo* and *Pirates of the Caribbean*.

Early in his career Wolpert earned a place in TV history as the probable cause behind the famous "lost episodes" of the "Honeymooners." It's quite likely he lost them. For two summers in the early 1960s he was a junior assistant to Jackie Gleason, who put him to work cataloguing old episodes of the show. "I'm disorganized," Wolpert says ruefully. "I would catalogue with a no. 7 pencil, on a Scripto pad, and frisbee the film reels into an old carton."

Whatever his clerical shortcomings,

Wolpert proved a natural at show business. While still in college, he got his start as errand boy for "Window Shopping," a TV game show based in New York. The job was a revelation to him: "People were at work, and they were having a good time!" Soon he persuaded them to give him creative tasks, too. After college came military service and marriage, with a brief stint writing for Canadian TV.

Before he ever became a network producer, Wolpert was a fan of game shows. When he caught the popular "Jeopardy" in a mistake, he called up Merv Griffin Productions to object. "If you're so smart, why don't you come down here and try out?" they answered. He did, appeared as a

contestant five times running, and won the Jeopardy Tournament of Champions.

Wolpert's career took off when he landed a job in Los Angeles as talent coordinator for "The Movie Game." Soon he was hired away as head of development for Chuck Barris Productions, where he was responsible for coming up with ideas for shows. Barris was instrumental in changing game shows from genteel contests of knowledge to no-holds-barred extravaganzas and tell-alls, beginning with shows like "The Newlywed Game."

After six months Wolpert was asked to join the creative team at Goodson Todman Productions. From 1972 until 1978 he was part of a "brain trust" who worked closely with Mark Goodson, another television legend. There Wolpert helped create such shows as "Card Sharks," "Tattletales," and "Family Feud," notably by infusing theatricality into knowledge- and logic-based games. Some 20 years later he returned as an executive producer, asked to rehab another older property, "The Match Game."

Wolpert's most notable TV triumph may be "The Price Is Right," a show he updated and produced for six years after CBS acquired it in 1972. "We totally went down to the metal and redid it," he recalls. He introduced thematic showcases and a satiric element, using the prizes "like props in a narrative." In the *Star Wars* showcase, for instance, a Corvette assumed the role of Luke's X-wing fighter while R2D2 was played by a trash compactor. "Mark Goodson let me do what I wanted," says Wolpert, "and creatively, I had a wonderful time on 'The Price Is Right.'"

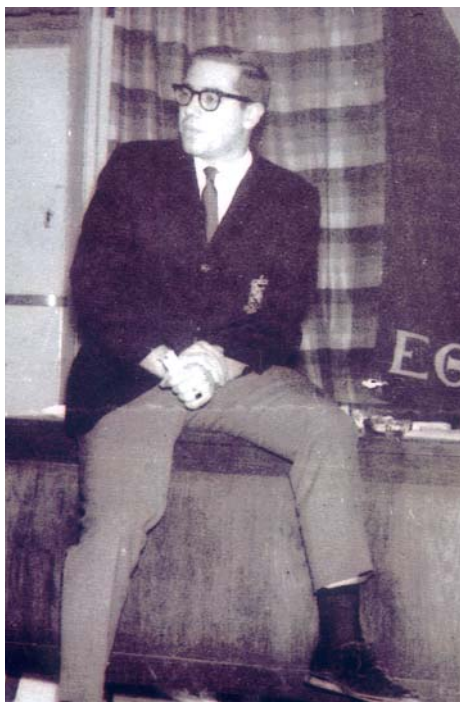
Still, after a few years he felt ready to move on. "I didn't want to just do one thing over and over," he recalls. "I had to find out if I could lead." Wolpert left Goodson Todman to start his own company.

Since its founding in the late seventies, Jay Wolpert Productions has been known for innovation. Its shows have been picked up by all three networks, and many have aired internationally. They include a wide variety of creative properties, from a developed but never aired science fiction series and period soap opera to ABC's talk show "Into the Night with Rick Dees."

But to many fans, Wolpert Productions will always be synonymous with game shows, like "Whew!" and "Hit Man."

Wolpert produced idiosyncratic and, in some cases, famously short-lived shows; long gone from the air, they live on in fan clubs, Web sites, and game show history. With their improbable scenarios, wacky challenges, and cultural references from the sublime to the ridiculous, they revealed the independent Wolpert to be the Ernie Kovacs of game shows. "I created a different kind of material," he says. "All my shows had a very strong comic element."

In the nineties, Wolpert was enjoying a corned beef sandwich in a deli when he looked up to see Nancy Meyers standing over him. Now the highest grossing woman director ever—with such hits as



Wolpert as president of Tau Epsilon Phi. Some of his first writing was done for a skits competition among fraternities. Wolpert found himself up against Paul Simon '63, who was writing for Alpha Epsilon Pi. He admits losing to Simon every time.

What Women Want and *Something's Gotta Give*—Meyers had been hired right out of college by Wolpert two decades earlier. She confronted him for not pursuing writing and cajoled out of him a coming-of-age story he had written and tucked away.

Based on an incident in his own life, *The Year of the Brat* was soon sold to MGM, launching a career change. Wolpert began taking on assignments as a writer, beginning with TNT's Western cult hit "The Lazarus Man" and AMC's "The Lot," a soap opera about a Hollywood studio.

However, Wolpert's greatest writing success has come not in the familiar world of television but in film, where he has been free to indulge his love of swashbuckling epics and witty ripostes. His star has been riding high since he wrote the script for the 2002 adaptation of *The Count of Monte Cristo*. He followed it up by cowriting the screen story for *Pirates of the Caribbean*, for which he contributed story lines and characters, notably Captain Jack, whose portrayal earned Johnny Depp an Oscar nomination as Best Actor.

These days Wolpert is busy writing new scripts, often with historical themes. Recently he helped rewrite a script for Playtone, Tom Hanks's production company. It is based on the true story of the dramatic escape in 1864 of 109 Union soldiers from Libby Prison in Virginia.

After years in Hollywood, Wolpert is still warm and unaffected, a puckish raconteur with a marked Queens accent. He remains devoted to his wife and their two grown daughters, and is an active member of QC's alumni chapter in southern California. Last year President Muyskens attended one of their picnics and, when Wolpert offered to do something for the college, he was invited to speak to students. Alumni Affairs Director Joe Brostek and Charles Repole of the Drama, Theatre & Dance Department organized a lecture and, voila, students received an expert tutorial on screenwriting and show business.

"I love filling kids' minds. I was very lucky as a young man," Wolpert says, because he benefited from the help of several mentors. The list includes professors who had a lifelong impact, especially Raymond Gasper (Drama), "a wonderfully innovative and extraordinarily skilled director and teacher." Solomon Lutnick (History) also receives the praise of history buff Wolpert: "He was very unorthodox, but he made the history come alive. History is really a collection of stories, great stories if you seek them out. He understood that." Wolpert remains grateful for classes in music, music appreciation, and art appreciation. "I knew nothing, and they have had resonance in my life," he says.

Wolpert is proud of what he took from his studies. "If it hadn't been for Queens—where I paid not a dime and got a first-rate education—I'd be a different person today," he told the students at his lecture. "You'll never have to show your diploma, but you show your education every day."



Alumni Notes

1941: Irwin Stein was featured last fall in a segment of "The Visionaries," a public television series. He is founding executive director of Family Services of Westchester, a nonprofit mental health and social services agency. When it opened its doors in 1954, Irwin was the sole social worker on staff; today it employs 300 professionals in seven locations and helps 16,000 people a year . . . **1942: Ben Wiener** was honored this past March for being an "industry founder" by the Generic Pharmaceutical Industry Association. He was the founder and CEO of Zenith Laboratories, one of the nation's first generic drug companies. "Today people don't think twice about generic drugs," Ben notes. "But we suffered tremendous, knockdown, drag-out battles with the big drug companies for our very existence. The fact that we stuck to it and built an industry has not only saved consumers billions of dollars, it has saved countless lives."

During World War II Ben worked on the Manhattan Project in Oak Ridge, TN. After the war he entered the pharmaceutical industry. He and his wife, Linda, live in Vancouver, WA. They have two children . . .

1943: Jim and Ethel (Clancey) Doyle recently moved to Florida after 47 years on Long Island. They note that "We have always been proud of our education at the hands of some great faculty: Fritz Morstein Marx, Phillips Bradley, John Meng, James Kreutzer, William Ball, Emory Holloway, Helen Viljoen, Charles Haywood, Oscar Shaftel, and Joe Machlis." The Doyles have five children. Jim writes a column for *Catholic New York* and has published two books: *Two Voices* (with son Brian) and *Tales from a Real Life*. He was named a Distinguished Alumnus in 1984 and one of the college's 100

Alumni Stars in 1997. Ethel and Jim invite old friends to get in touch with them at 407-302-2870; 179 Tim Tam Ct., Lake Mary, FL 32746 . . . **1948: Marshall Sweetbaum** is an appellate lawyer in Nassau County, where he has had an active practice for 52 years . . . **1949: Al Ligotti** was recently honored by the Athens Symphony Orchestra in Athens, GA, which commissioned a bust of him on the occasion of his twenty-fifth year of conducting the orchestra. Al is a retired associate

professor at the University of Georgia School of Music, where he taught for 27 years after an 11-year stint playing with the New York Philharmonic under Leonard Bernstein. Still writing and publishing music, Al is a past recipient of the Distinguished Alumni Award from QC. He and his wife, Arlene, have two daughters . . . **1952: Leonard Sloane** is a public member of the New York State Board for Mental Health Practitioners. He lives in Forest Hills, NY . . . **1953: Fred Shapiro** was recently inducted into the Flexographic Technical Association Hall of Fame. He has spent most of his career in the printing industry, where he is well known for his work on safety and environmental issues. Fred received a Hammer Award from Vice President Al Gore for his support of the National Partnership for Reinventing Government. He is the coauthor of recent editions of *Flexography Principles and Practices*, and taught courses on flexography at Baruch College and SUNY Farmingdale. Fred and his wife, Madeline, live in Levittown, NY. They have three grown children . . .

1955: Jay Bushinsky is the Mideast bureau chief for KYW Radio in Philadelphia. He has been reporting from the Mideast for four decades. He began his journalism career in 1964 with the *Miami Herald*, and two years later joined the *Chicago Daily News*, and started reporting on Israel. Reporting for KYW Newsradio for over 30 years, Jay lives in Israel with his wife, Dvora . . . **Bira Rabushka** is first violinist for the New York City Ballet Orchestra, which she joined in 1964. She is also the founder and executive and artistic director of the Northern Westchester Center for the Arts, which serves thousands of students in the tristate area with arts events and a summer

camp. Bira and her husband, Joseph, a retired concert violinist, live in Goldens Bridge, NY. They have two children . . . **1960: Aline Euler** (MS '77), the education director of Alley Pond Environmental Center for 25 years, received the Douglas MacKay Friend of the Environment Award last November. She is also a commissioner on the Northeast Nature and Historic Preserve Commission and a member of the board of the New York City Audubon Society. Aline, who holds a PhD from St. John's University, lives in Bayside, NY . . . **Eleanor Ware** is secretary to the Board of Trustees of Syracuse University, where she is senior vice president for human services and government relations and a member of the Chancellor's Cabinet and the University Senate. Before going to Syracuse in 1976, she was a state-certified teacher specializing in childhood education in New York City. Eleanor, who graduated magna cum laude and was elected to Phi Beta Kappa, obtained her MBA from Syracuse; she also has done postgraduate work at Harvard's Institute for Educational Management . . .

1961: Roslyn Muraskin is a professor of criminal justice at the C. W. Post branch of Long Island University. She is a trustee of the northeast region for the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, and is also the editor of the Women's Series for Prentice Hall. The fourth edition of her textbook, *Visions for Change: Crime and Justice in the Twenty-First Century* (Prentice Hall), will be published later this year. Roslyn holds an MA from New York University and a doctorate in criminal justice from the CUNY Graduate Center . . .

1962: Vincent Dunn, a 43-year veteran of the New York Fire Department, currently serves as division commander for midtown Manhattan. He lectures nationwide on fire safety and is the author of the text and video series *Collapse of Burning Buildings*. His most recent book is *Command and Control of Fires and Emergencies* . . . **1963: Edward Butscher's** book *Sylvia Plath: Method and Madness*, the first biography about the poet, was recently reprinted by Schaffner Press. He also wrote the first biography of Conrad Aiken (University of Georgia Press), a work that received an award from the Poetry Society of America.

Edward has written several volumes of poetry, the most recent being *Child in the House* (Canios Editions, 2001) . . . **1964: Dudley Delany** earned an MA in psychology from the New School for Social Research ('67) and a doctorate in chiropractic from the Columbia Institute of Chiropractic ('73). He is also qualified in massage therapy and nursing. He writes: "I developed multiple sclerosis in 1991 and, over a two-year period, gradually overcame it using an alternative treatment suggested by Edgar Cayce, a man many regard as the father of modern holistic medicine. It involved diet, massage, keeping a positive mental attitude, maintaining a high spiritual ideal, and consistent use of an imperceptible mode of electrotherapy (vibratory medicine). I do not claim to be cured, however, but rather in long-term remission, a remission dependent on continued adherence to the Cayce regimen. I wrote an illustrated book about my experience, *The Edgar Cayce Way of Overcoming Multiple Sclerosis: Vibratory Medicine*" . . . **1966: Dorothy Litt** (MLS '70) is the author most recently of *Names in English Renaissance Literature* (Mellen Press, 2003). She teaches Shakespeare to senior citizens in Newton and Wellesley, MA. Dorothy lives in Newton Centre, MA . . . **Edward Ray** was



appointed president of Oregon State University last June. Previously he was executive vice president and provost at Ohio State University, where he had been a member of the Economics Department for 30 years. Edward received his MA and PhD from Stanford University . . . **Doris Siegel-Cohen** (MS) has been the cantor of Temple Emanu-El of Canarsie, Brooklyn, for 20 years. She has lectured widely on Jewish music and performed numerous concerts of classical, operatic, and Jewish music in the United States and Canada. Doris was president of the Women Cantors' Network and served on the Commission for Women's Equality of the American



Jewish Congress . . . **1967:**

Steven Gerard was named one of *Accounting Today's* Top 100 Most Influential People for his work in the dramatic turnaround of Century Business Services, of which he is chairman and CEO. Steve is a past chair of the Queens College Foundation . . . **Rosalie Marshall** notes that "My four years at QC are among the best of my life: a time I focused on my passion for foreign languages (French, Italian, and Spanish) and on travels abroad." Since graduating she has lived and taught in New York, Los Angeles, and San Francisco. Currently she is a broker in real estate investments ("I enjoy the challenge of the 'art of negotiation' ") and teaches conversation classes at a junior college. Rosalie lives in Piedmont, CA . . . **Marc Redlich** recently celebrated the twentieth anniversary of his Boston law firm. He writes that the firm has been enjoying success in several areas, including employment, business, and commercial law. In addition, Marc, who has practiced law for 32 years, is active in the American Council on Germany and in Friends of Switzerland. He is also chair of the college's Boston alumni chapter . . .

1969: Martin Baumann is executive vice president for finance at Freddie Mac. Previously he was a partner and deputy chairman of World Financial Services Practice, and global banking leader for PricewaterhouseCoopers. A CPA who holds an MBA from Baruch College, Marty is a member of the Queens College Foundation . . .

Peter Horne has been coordinator of the criminal justice program at Mercer County (NJ) Community College for 23 years. He is also president of the New Jersey Association of Criminal Justice Educators, which represents 38 programs in colleges and universities . . . **John O'Donnell** became president of Stark State College in Canton, OH in January. Previously he was commissioner of New Hampshire Community Technical College. John received his doctorate in psychology from Boston College. He and his wife, Ellen, have three children . . . **Michael**



Sackheim has become a partner in Sidley Austin Brown & Wood LLP. He practices corporate/securities law in the New York office of the firm . . . **1970: Michael J. Senken** is a first vice president within the controller's department at New York Life Insurance. He has been with the company since 1972, where his duties have included establishing accounting and computer system controls and implementing numerous computer systems. Michael, who holds an MBA from Adelphi University, lives in Massapequa Park, NY, with his wife, Patricia . . . **1971:**

Dennis Conway was named Professional of the Year by the Long Beach Chamber of Commerce for the "compassion, dedication, and commitment he brings" to his work as an administrator for Long Term Care of Long Beach Medical Center, where he has been since 1992. Dennis is also involved in the professional endeavors of the American College of Health Care Administrators, the Greater New York Hospital Association, the New York Society for Health Planning, and other groups. He lives with his wife, Grace, and two daughters in Floral Park, NY . . . **1973:**

Marilyn Honigman (MFA '77) had an exhibition of her paintings on display at the Blue Mountain Gallery in Manhattan this winter. Her work has also been exhibited at the Polish Consulate, the Cathedral of St. John the Divine, and the Corcoran Gallery. Marilyn, who teaches at the Fordham Preparatory School, lives in Richmond Hill, Queens . . . **Vicki (Andrews) MacKenzie** is an accent-reduction specialist with her own company, Accent on Communication of Stamford (www.accentfairchester.com). "Accents can be very charming," she notes. "My goal is not to eliminate the accent but to improve communication." Vicki believes she is one of only 40 or 50 accent-reduction specialists in the United States . . . **1974: Charlene Edwards** (MA '75) is the author of *Voices from Vietnam* (Journeys, 2002), an account of Americans and Vietnamese who survived the war in Vietnam. Her husband, Michael Pergola, is a Vietnam vet whose story is included in the book. Charlene's work as a photojournalist has taken her to seven continents. In their travels, Charlene and Michael have brought medical and school supplies, toys, and clothing to many



ALUMNI NEWS

Start Packing for Italy

Alumni Affairs is sponsoring a trip to Tuscany, September 5-13. AHI International, which services over 300 colleges, universities, and alumni groups, is producing this tour. Many thanks to Washington, D.C. chapter chair David Guskin '69 for coordinating the trip. The Alumni Affairs Web site will have more details in the coming weeks. Meanwhile, if you wish to get a head start, contact Alumni Affairs @ Queens College, Office of Alumni Affairs, 65-30 Kissena Blvd., Flushing, NY 11367; 718-997-3930; or alumni@qc.edu.



QC Oral History

The QC Oral History Pilot Project collects video and audio oral histories in the hopes of preserving the history of the college, from the major occurrences to the everyday events that made attending Queens College special. Members of the Class of 1954 have received an invitation to attend the June 2004 Commencement, along with an information sheet about volunteering to be interviewed for the Oral History Project. Please volunteer and become a permanent part of Queens College history.

Wanted: Class Correspondents

Can't get enough of "Alumni Notes"? Then volunteer to be a class correspondent. You will collect and pass along news of your classmates for our print and online versions of *Q*. It's a great way to get in touch with old friends. Contact the Alumni Office for more details.

Homecoming 2004

Mark your calendars for Homecoming 2004, which will be held on Saturday, October 2. All are invited, and the classes of 1944 and 1954 will be specially honored. Registration forms will be included in the next issue of *Q*, which will come out in August.

Q Magazine Updates

Q is now more than just a print magazine. Be sure to check the college's Web site for web-only updates of *Q* magazine.

Missing Alumni

We have lost touch with approximately 20,000 of our over 100,000 alumni. In most cases they did not let us know when they moved. Addresses can be updated online by going to www.qc.cuny.edu/QC_Foundation. If you know alumni who do not hear from the college, please let us know.

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. Mail to:

Alumni News
Office of Alumni Affairs
Queens College
65-30 Kissena Boulevard
Flushing, NY 11367

Phone: 718-997-3930
Fax: 718-997-3924
Email: alumni@qc.edu

Look for us on the Web. We are always adding information about news at the college and upcoming events.

Alumni Affairs Web site:
www.qc.cuny.edu/alumni_affairs

MEET MR. MURDER '74

Gregory Lasak '74 has moved to the other side of the bench, ending a 25-year stint with the Queens district attorney's office. Known to police and lawyers as "Mr. Murder," he supervised the investigation of 3,000 homicides, yet also is known for helping wrongfully convicted citizens get released from prison. Last December his reputation for a dogged commitment to justice was recognized when he was sworn in as State Supreme Court Justice in Kew Gardens. "It's been a very smooth transition," he says with characteristic pragmatism. "I'm just assuming a different seat in the courtroom."

Lasak is a native son of Queens — a Polish American from Woodside who has lived his entire life in the borough. He even vacations in Breezy Point, which he has watched change from an Irish community of small bungalows to a gated community of lot-filling great houses. "When I was running homicides, I had to stay close," he explains. He also enjoyed the freedom of taking his children where they could play safely outside at all hours. Lasak still chooses to go to what he considers one of the safest places in the country.

Much of Lasak's career has played out against the backdrop of the drug traffic that emerged in the sixties and peaked with the crack cocaine epidemic of the eighties and nineties. Determined to fight back against this threat to public safe-

ty, Lasak entered Queens College with a law career in mind. He graduated cum laude in economics and history, attended New York Law School, and joined the district attorney's office in 1978, quickly rising to supervise investigations and the prosecution of cases.

Some of the high-profile cases on which he worked include the 1986 Howard Beach attack and the 2000 Wendy's killings in Flushing. Among the cases he prosecuted himself were the 1981 police shooting by members of the Black Liberation Army, where he faced prominent defense attorneys William Kunstler and Randolph Scott-McLaughlin; and the 1995 drug-related killings in College Point, the largest mass murder in Queens history. Lasak won convictions in all the felony trials he personally prosecuted, including more than 20 murder cases.

At the same time, he took on the unpopular and risky work of overturning wrongful convictions, and succeeded in getting about 20 innocent people released. (Appropriately, one case involved a man who confessed to murder only because a drug gang threatened him.) As defense attorney Barry Scheck, founder of the Innocence Project, told *Newsday*, "if he thought there was a wrongful conviction, he personally investigated it, and he got it right."

poverty-stricken villages. "We collect from doctors' offices and anyone else who wants to help" . . .

Alfred Teo arrived in America in 1968 with \$70 in his pocket. After earning a degree in accounting, he founded a number of companies, mainly in the plastics business, naming them after letters in the Greek alphabet. Recently Sigma Plastics in Lyndhurst, NJ, the heart of his industrial empire, had sales of \$700 million . . . **1975:**

Carmela Johnson is executive vice president, chief operating officer, and chief financial officer of the

Pacific State Bank. She has over 25 years of community banking experience . . . **1976:**



Paul Mullings is chief operating officer of Good Samaritan Regional Medical Center in Phoenix, AZ. Recently he was elected to the

board of Triple R Behavioral Health Inc., which provides services for the severely mentally ill and others with behavioral health disabilities. After finishing his BA

at Queens, Paul earned a master's in health services administration from the University of Michigan Graduate School of Public Health . . . **1977:** **Patrick Hardish** is a senior librarian at the New York Public Library, as well as a member of the editorial staff of *New Music Connoisseur*. He is also the cofounder and codirector of the Composers Concordance New Music Now concert series, which is celebrating its twentieth season. Patrick's music has been receiving a great deal of attention internationally with recent performances in Russia, the Czech Republic, Bulgaria, and Macedonia. A new work, *Sonorities VII*, will be premiered on May 27 at the NYU Frederick Lowe Theater . . . **Lon Kaufman** is dean of the honors college and vice provost for undergraduate affairs at the University of Illinois at Chicago. Lon has been at UIC since 1985 when he joined their Department of Biological Sciences. Among other honors, he was named the Richard G. and Carole J. Cline University Scholar in 1994. Lon lives in Oak Park, IL . . . **1979:**

Henry L. Fernandez is the executive director of scholarships, outreach, and philanthropy at USA Funds. Previously he was the program director for Lumina Foundation for Education and director of the Peace Corps Fellows Program. Henry received his doctorate in education, as well as three master's degrees, from Teachers College . . .



1980: **Joseph Herskovic (MA)** is vice president and general manager of Product Dynamics, a service provider to the

food, beverage, personal care, and consumer product industries. Previously he worked for Seagram, Uncle Ben's, and Frito-Lay, and taught at the UCLA School of Medicine. Joseph holds a PhD in neuropsychology from the CUNY Graduate Center and lives in Tinley Park, IL . . . **1982:** **Mark Huppert** is vice president of NEC Solutions' Open Mission Critical Solutions division, which has its headquarters in Sacramento, CA. The company helps clients use the latest advances in technology to

gain a competitive edge in their fields. Besides degrees in English and computer science from QC, Mark holds a master's degree in engineering/computer science from Columbia . . . **1986:** **Michael Wildes**, the mayor of Englewood, NJ, is a partner with the immigration law firm of Wildes, Weinberg, Grunblatt & Wildes. A former federal prosecutor with the U. S. Attorney's Office in Brooklyn (1989-1993), Michael has testified on Capitol Hill in connection with anti-terrorism legislation. He is frequently a legal commentator/analyst on network television. Michael is married with four children . . . **1988:**

Andrew J. Lauer is a member of the law firm of Brown Raysman Millstein Felder & Steiner LLP as counsel in their labor and employment law practice in New York City. Prior to joining Brown Raysman, Andrew was senior employment counsel in the office of general counsel of PricewaterhouseCoopers Consulting (PwC Consulting). Andrew earned his JD degree at Brooklyn Law School and his LLM in labor and employment law from New York University School of Law. He lives on Long Island with his wife and four children . . . **1993:**

William DiScipio is the president of the New York State Psychological Association's Division of Psychologists in the Public Sector. He serves as a representative for psychologists who work primarily with underprivileged patients. William received his doctorate from Maudsley Hospital at the University of London and is affiliated with the Albert Einstein College of Medicine. He lives in Amagansett, NY . . . **1994:** **Brett Bekritsky** is director of marketing at Dominican College in Orangeburg, NY. Brett holds a master's degree from New York University . . . **1998:**

Matthew Higgins is now playing for the New York Jets as vice president for strategic planning. He will be leading the Jets' campaign to have a new stadium built on the west side of Manhattan. Before this, Matthew was the COO and director of communications for the Lower Manhattan Development Corporation, and served for a time as press secretary to Mayor Rudolph Giuliani.



WE REMEMBER

1942: Robert Higgins, a scholar in ancient Latin and Greek, died May 1. Bob met his wife, **Annette Buonora '46**, at a rehearsal of the Queens College Choral Society, with whom she often sang solo soprano. He is survived by Annette, two sons and a daughter, one grandson and four granddaughters, and one great-grandson . . . **1945:** Rue Witten Sandler recently passed away. Her husband, **Parke Preston Sandler '43**, wrote of her years at Queens that she was active in John Castellini's A Cappella Choir, was captain of the cheerleading squad, chaired a political science intercollegiate conference, wrote a column for the newspaper, and received a fellowship for graduate work . . .

1948: Robert D. Parylak passed away in October 2003. A librarian who retired 17 years ago from the Texaco Company, he was treasurer of the Texaco Retirement Club for 15 years. Robert was an active musician who played with a number of groups in Queens and Nassau . . . **1963:** Marjorie Krenta, MA ('66), taught school on Staten Island for 25 years. She had been living in Montville Township, NJ, for the past 30 years . . .

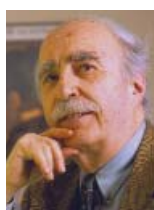
1969: Isabelle Getoff died in April 2003. She was a retired psychotherapist . . . **1974:** Anne Panepinot Ciccone died January 2003. Her book *Creating Bridges: The Art of Utilizing Creative Skills in Day to Day Living* was published December 2002.

FACULTY

Arthur Carin, a member of the Department of Elementary and Early Childhood Education from 1958 to 1991, died on September 14 at the age of 74. After serving in the army as a medic in Japan at the end of World War II, Carin enrolled at SUNY Oswego and later earned a master's degree at Queens and a doctorate at the University of Utah. He returned to Queens in 1958 as an instructor and later became associate dean of teacher education. He was the author of a widely used textbook for elementary teachers, *Teaching Science Through Discovery* . . . **Arthur L. Colwin** (Biology), a longtime faculty

member who, with his wife, Laura Hunter Colwin, helped uncover the process that occurs when a sperm cell and an egg cell merge to form a fertilized egg, died on November 1 at his home in Key Biscayne, FL. He was 92. Colwin received his BS and PhD in biology from McGill University in Montreal. He joined the college in 1940, retiring in 1973. Colwin Hall was named for the Colwins in 1993 . . . Professor Emeritus **Joseph Hershenov** passed away on January 19. He earned a PhD in mathematics from MIT in 1961 and came to Queens College in 1962, chairing the Mathematics Department from 1969 through 1980. His NSF grant led to the establishment of the Mathematics laboratory, which is dedicated in his name . . . **Stanley Hirshson** (History) passed away on December 26 after a brief illness. A member of the faculty since 1963, he was an authority on 19th-century U.S.

history and military biography, including the highly acclaimed *General Patton: A Soldier's Life* (HarperCollins, 2002) An October 2002 profile of Hirshson in *Newsday* reported that, "He is that rare resident of the Ivory Tower—an academic whose writing can also be appreciated by popular audiences" . . . **Leonard Slatkes**, an



expert on Dutch painting and a distinguished professor in the Art Department, died on August 22 at the age of 73. Slatkes, who started at the college in 1966 and became a full professor in 1982, held a BFA from Syracuse University, an MA in art history from Oberlin, and a PhD from the University of Utrecht. The recipient of a number of Fulbright Fellowships and grants, Slatkes published extensively on Caravaggio and his Dutch and Flemish followers and was the author of a number of books, including *Rembrandt and Persia*, *Vermeer and His Contemporaries*, and *The Netherlandish Artists*.

ALAN DUGAN '45

Alan Dugan, one of the nation's most honored poets, died in Massachusetts on September 3 at the age of 80. He was born in Brooklyn in 1923, the son of a salesman whose fluctuating income meant that the family was constantly moving between Brooklyn (in bad times) and Queens (in good times). "I don't think it was an easy childhood or youth," says his wife, artist Judith Shahn.

Despite such obstacles, Dugan attended Jamaica High School and, in 1941, enrolled at Queens College. He published his first poems in the college's literary magazine, winning the Queens College Poetry Prize in 1943. Shortly thereafter he was drafted into the Army—willingly, according to Shahn. "His eyes were so bad they could have deferred him, but he memorized the eye chart because he so badly wanted to be involved." Nonetheless, he had already found important encouragement at Queens from a professor "who convinced him that writing poetry was not a sissy thing to do," Shahn notes.

After the war, Dugan attended Olivet College (which he and fellow student Shahn left following a student strike) and, with the help of G.I. benefits, eventually earned a degree from Mexico City College. In 1960 he won a Yale Series of Younger Poets Award, leading to publication in 1961 of his first book, *Poems*, for which he won the Pulitzer and a National Book Award. Six more volumes of poetry followed as did numerous awards and honors, including a Prix de Rome, Guggenheim and Rockefeller Fellowships, a Lannan Foundation Award, and, for his final book in 2001, a second National Book Award.

Dugan and Shahn lived on

Photo: Gillian Drake. Courtesy of Provincetown Arts Press



Cape Cod, where Dugan often taught at the Truro Center for the Arts. They maintained close ties with New York City as well, where they had a rent-controlled apartment in Greenwich Village until 1996. Dugan traveled widely and held numerous teaching positions, including at Sarah Lawrence, Connecticut College, and the University of Colorado.

On Cape Cod Dugan cultivated many friendships. Because he was phobic about typing, for instance, it was the Pulitzer Prize-winning poet Mary Oliver who offered to help Shahn type his longhand poems. Among Dugan's most important projects was the Fine Arts Work Center in Provincetown, which provides fellowships to emerging writers and artists; he was a founding member who contributed many hours of his time. At his memorial service, remembers his brother-in-law Ezra Shahn, a biology professor at Hunter College, people reflected on Dugan's legacy as a poet, but many also "spoke of their debt to him as a teacher."

Dugan's most recent book, *Poems Seven: New and Complete Poetry*, was published to much acclaim in 2001.



The 1973-74 Lady Knights, led by head coach Lucille Kyvallos (far left), celebrate a victory. The great Lady Knight teams of 1968-81 held a reunion on campus this January. Among those attending were (inset l-r) Sharon (Manning) Beverly, Olympic silver medalist Gail Marquis, and Debbie Mason. Gail is currently working to have the 1972-73 team – the only women's basketball team in New York to play for the national championship – inducted into the New York City Basketball Hall of Fame. For more about these pioneering athletes, see the three-page article in the Sunday, April 4 issue of *Newsday*.

**THIS YEAR'S Q AWARD GALA WILL HONOR
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