

## Class News

**Patricia Thomas Becker '56** has been traveling! Last May, she took a trip to Arizona to do some birding, and last November, she went to New Mexico for the annual meeting of the American Academy of Nursing. Patricia was also on hand for the Editorial Board meeting of *Research in Nursing Health*, for which she happily remains an associate editor. Pat sends warm greetings to the YSN community and her fellow 1956 graduates. She still often thinks of Joan Mulligan and Phyllis Freedman Schwartz, and misses them dearly.

**Lois Dodd Crum '56** and her husband, Collyer, just celebrated their son Bill's 51st birthday and can't believe how fast time has flown. Lois and Collyer have eight grandchildren, who keep her very busy. They've also done a lot of traveling recently. Last year, they went to London, and from there went on to Geneva, Switzerland. Lois still stays in touch with Planned Parenthood and is eager to help them with their new focus this year, *Why Sexual Health Matters*, and why it matters at all stages of life.

The oldest son of **Gwen Keller '56** and her husband, Jim, recently hit quite a milestone: he turned 50! Gwen and Jim have been keeping busy. Jim recently took a challenging job in the Presbytery working with immigrants to understand their problems, and to promote understanding between them and non-immigrants. Gwen is still singing with the Community Chorus, volunteering at the local hospice, and participating in church activities. Gwen and Jim send their best wishes to the YSN community.

**Priscilla Kissick '56** and her husband Bill (MD '57) recently took their first trip to South America, visiting Argentina and Chile. She calls crossing the Andes foothills by water and bus a "once in a lifetime kind of experience." Bill is teaching one class a year to Yale undergraduates, on health policy. Priscilla has finished her term on the YSN Alumnae/i Association Board of Directors and is now representing YSN on the board of the Association of Yale Alumni.

**Janet Mance '56** took a 17-day cruise around the islands of New Zealand and Australia with her sister. The highlight was petting a koala bear! Janet is still busy at work, and debating when she should retire.

**Mereth Meade '56** and her husband Robert have been traveling all around their home state of Colorado for board meetings of the Colorado Association for Recycling. Mereth's term on the board is nearing its end, and it has been very stimulating. With the Rotary, she continues to be active on the local level in environmental matters.

**Gretchen Minners '56** and her husband Howard (MD '57) celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on October 25, 2008. In their 50 years together, they have raised and educated two sons, owned four houses, moved six times (once overseas to Switzerland), gone through seven cars, and owned four dogs. In July of 2008, their two sons, Todd and Brad, and their families joined Gretchen and Howard for their annual family gathering in Bethany Beach, DE.

**Sharon Rising '67** was awarded the Civic Ventures' 2008 Purpose Prize. Now in its third year, it is the nation's only large-scale investment in social innovators in their second half of life. Sharon won the prize for "revolutionizing prenatal care through small group sessions" with her CenteringPregnancy model.

**Elaine Owen '84** has been working as an oncology nurse practitioner since she graduated from YSN and is employed at the Central Vermont Medical Center. She is a member of the Oncology Nursing Society (ONS) and currently serves as the State Health Policy Liaison to the ONS. In November, Elaine was named the 2008 Nurse of the Year by the Vermont State Nurses' Association. She is very excited to return to YSN in October for her 25th Class Reunion, and hopes to catch up with many of her classmates.

**Saraswathi Vedam '85** was awarded an honorary Doctor of Science from her alma mater Amherst College in May 2008. A charter member and chair of the Home Birth Section of the American College of Nurse-Midwives (ACNM) Division of Standards and Practice, Saraswathi developed the national clinical practice guidelines for the provision of home birth services. She is currently the Director of the Division of Midwifery at the University of British Columbia.

**Mari Sullivan '88** sends greetings from Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia! Mari has been a Foreign Service Medical Officer since 2000. Prior to that, she worked at the Hall Health Primary Care Center at the University of Washington for 9 years, and before that, she worked at the Moses Lake Community Health Center as a National Public Health Loan Repayment recipient. Mari stayed 18 months beyond her loan repayment term, and considers her years at the Moses Lake Community Health Center her family practice residency.

In October 2008, **Ann Marie LaRocca '89** was appointed Associate Chief Nurse for the Spaulding Rehabilitation Network in Boston, MA. The network includes five facilities: Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital, Shaughnessy Kaplan Rehabilitation Hospital, the North End Rehabilitation and Nursing Center, the Boston Center, and Clark House.

**Diane Osgood Stillman '96** currently lives in Plymouth, MA with her husband, Norm, and her 2 daughters, 9-year-old Emma and 7-year-old Hannah. Diane currently works as a nurse practitioner at PMG Physician Associates, where she treats people in rehab, or who reside in a nursing home.

Since graduating from YSN, **Anne Carr '97** spent a year and a half working as a Home Care NP. For the next 8 years, she worked for Boston University Geriatric Services at Boston Medical Center as co-leader of the Nursing Home program. Recently, she became the founding NP of the Palliative Care Service at Boston Medical Center. She now works doing inpatient palliative care consults with a physician colleague. She loves her role as consultant to house staff, nurses, and, of course, the patients.

After 10 great years of practicing midwifery, **Amanda Skinner '98** decided it was time for a change. She graduated with her MBA from the Yale School of Management in May 2008, left her practice (where she had continued to work full-time while in school), and took the summer off to hang out on Martha's Vineyard with her husband Kalter. In August, Amanda started with a mission-driven health care advisory services firm called The Chartis Group which provides management and strategy consulting to health care organizations. She is sad to have left her patients and amazing colleagues at her former practice, but she's excited for new adventures.

**Sharon Eck Birmingham DNSc '99**, after graduating from the first DNSc class, is now working in the private sector as the Chief Nurse Executive for AtStaff, Inc. With Dr. John Welton, Sharon just submitted her first R01 to the National Institute of Nursing Research, entitled "Nursing Intensity and Patient Outcomes." Sharon was very excited to share this news with her Doctoral Program Director and mentor, Dean Margaret Grey. In 2009, in collaboration with YSN, Sharon will be consulting for Yale-New Haven Hospital to advance the hospital-based research program.



YSN continues to dominate women's golf at Yale. Last summer, **Marge Funk '84**, the multi-year winner of the Yale Women's Golf Championship, was beaten by fellow YSN alum (and friend) **Mary Bartlett '00**. Marge hopes to be in top form this coming summer for the next Yale Women's Golf Championship, where she plans to reclaim her spot at the top. Beating Marge at golf isn't the only thing that **Mary Bartlett '00** has been up to. Mary and her partner, who had already adopted two girls (pictured), Sincere, 9, and



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D'Archer, 6, have since November been pre-adoptive parents to siblings Jeremiah, 4, and Gabriella, 10 months. Mary's life has been very hectic, but she says being a mother is one of the most rewarding experiences of her lifetime.



**Robyn Duran '00** and her husband Robert are delighted to announce the arrival of their son Henry Alejandro Duran, born October 12, 2008. Henry was delivered by fellow YSN graduate **Barbara Sellars '79**, CNM. Robyn and Robert continue to enjoy city life in New York. Robyn looks forward to returning to work at Columbia Health Services this spring after several months at home with Henry.



Since graduating, **Matthew Browning '01** has married Phoebe Elisabeth Donehoo. In March 2009, they welcomed Arthur Joseph Browning into their lives. Matthew has also combined nursing and the internet by starting his own innovative company, YourNursesOn.com, which allows hospitals and other agencies to quickly contact and confirm their nurses via 2-way text, email, and phone, and can automatically find other available nurses in the event of an absence.



On October 10, 2008, **Soumya Routray Donohoe '01** married Patrick Donohoe. Soumya and Patrick live in Grayslake, IL, where she works as an oncology nurse practitioner for the Cancer Treatment Centers of America.

**Anna Tielsch-Goddard '05** recently took a position at Children's Medical Center in Dallas, TX, and will be working with the Advanced Practice Services on the pre-surgical assessment team. Anna also just published her fifth article in the December '08 issue of *Clinician Reviews*, titled "Clinical Issues of Tattooing."

**Lorie Resendes Trainor '05** married Michael Trainor on October 11, 2008, in Fall River, MA. Lorie works as a geriatric nurse practitioner in Hartford, CT, and her husband, Michael, works for ESPN.

After finishing up as National Health Service Corps Scholar at the Hospital of Saint Raphael in New Haven, **Stacia Birdsall '06** is now living in Afghanistan and working as a Midwife Trainer at CURE Hospital in Kabul.

**Christina Tangredi '06** has moved to Palm Beach, Florida, where she is working in a private practice with an Otolaryngologist. The new practice just opened up a sleep center, and Christina will be trained to be first assistant in the operating room. She will also be seeing patients and evaluating and following up with patients in the sleep center. Christina loves her new job, and is excited to be part of a brand new practice with a young physician who is open and welcoming to nurse practitioners.

**Emily Schlechte '07** had her research praxis project published in the *Journal of Pediatric Health Care* this past September. It is entitled "Supraventricular Tachycardia in the Pediatric Primary Care Setting: Age-related Presentation, Diagnosis, and Management." In January 2009 she was notified that she received the *Journal of Pediatric Health Care* Leah Harrison Award for Excellence in Clinical Writing for 2008. Co-authors are **Nicole Boramanand '99** and **Marge Funk '84**.

After graduating, **Asefeh Faraz '08** moved back to Seattle, Washington, and now works as an FNP at the Community Health Center of Snohomish County in the Greater Seattle area.



**Eva Garcia '08**, her husband, Martin, and their daughter, Maya, welcomed 7lb 14oz Isabel into their family in January 2009. Isabel was delivered at home. Eva is working as a full scope midwife at Hill Health Center in New Haven.



In early August 2008, **Jess Theorin Holm '08** and Noah Holm moved from Connecticut to Minnesota. On August 23, 2008, Jess and Noah were married at her parents' home in Wisconsin. She landed her first midwifery job with the HealthEast Midwifery Service in St. Paul, MN. The practice is large and serves a diverse group of women at six outpatient clinic sites and two hospitals.



**Sarah Kleinman '08**, pictured above with her first delivery, is working as a full scope midwife at Harvard Vanguard Medical Associates in Boston. She is delivering babies at Brigham and Women's Hospital, and seeing OB and GYN patients in Quincy, MA. Sarah is also taking a literature and medicine class and making movies for friends on the side.

**Julie Murray '08** has been busy since graduating last May. In June 2008, Julie and her husband planned and led a cross-country charity bike ride to benefit impoverished children in Lesotho, Africa. They rode from Anacortes, WA, to Fairfield, CT, with 10 other cyclists, riding for two months and averaging 80 miles a day. They were able to raise \$33,000! After biking, Julie started work in the pediatrics department at Southwest Community Health Center in Bridgeport, CT. In March, she will be traveling to Nicaragua with current YSN PNP and FNP students. In April, Julie and her husband will be running the Paris Marathon.



**Meredith Wu '08** married Christopher Abraham in October 2008. Meredith is a full scope midwife practicing at Bellevue Gouverneur in New York, New York.