

BARNARD CHEMISTRY DEPARTMENT NEWSLETTER

January, 1964

We all send best wishes for a very merry holiday season and New Year. You would have enjoyed our department tree this year, which was one of the most sophisticated student efforts thus far. Among the decorations were red and green trios of styrofoam balls representing water molecules and long, bent strands of colored pipe cleaners said to be UV and IR spectra, and of course small volumetric flasks filled with colored solutions. The apex was fitted to support rather precariously a spinning gyroscope top, representing a proton waiting to be overtaken by magnetic resonance. (Sometimes the top fell off, crashing a volumetric flask to the floor with it!) An essential part of the decoration was several large cards of printed explanation laid around the base of the tree.

The most exciting gossip around campus just now is conjecture about how much Barnard will expand (possibly from the present 1500 to 2000 students) and whether there will be expanded space for science in the projected new Barnard building to be located somewhere between Milbank and the Wollman Library. There are no longer any plans to attach a Student Center to the new Reid Hall Dormitory, so the dormitory quadrangle is being landscaped and planted according to an interesting new design.

Since we are reaching some of you for the first time, thanks to names and addresses in the 1963 Alumnae Register, your reporter will repeat highlights of the past few exciting years. We hope you will use the enclosed post card to summarize for us your news; e.g., current address, husband's name, names and birth dates of all children, degrees completed or graduate courses taken and where, titles of published papers and copies if possible; and other activities. We hope to become more efficient in keeping track of this information and in passing it along to the rest of you. In any case we always enjoy hearing from you at any time.

Department News

Our new Chemistry curriculum continues to be popular. The first-year course includes qualitative analysis in the second semester. Majors take organic chemistry during the second year, and quantitative analysis and physical chemistry with lab the third year. This leaves the senior year for advanced courses at Barnard and at Columbia, and for research projects.

Thanks to our grant of \$5000. from duPont in 1961, of \$7500. from the National Science Foundation in April 1962 (matched by an equal amount from Barnard), and \$1200. from the Atomic Energy Commission at about the same time, we currently have very modern equipment in all courses. Chemistry 1 students use single pan balances, Geiger counters, and volumetric equipment. Quantitative analysis includes fewer gravimetric experiments and more instrumentation. Because of our neat ground glass equipment sets in organic, students bore very few corks and of course do not need to struggle with glass bends! Aren't you all jealous? Small independent projects are included regularly in the second semester organic lab.

Our newest research instrument is a gas chromatograph for the analysis of liquid mixtures. We also use the UV and IR spectrophotometers for organic research, and occasionally the recording pH titrator purchased jointly by Drs. King and Toralballa with their research grants.

Professor King continues to lecture to Chemistry 1 in the Minor Latham Theater, this year with the dramatic assistance of an overhead projection system. He writes with a wax pencil on heavy re-usable transparent plastic film, instead of on a blackboard, and a large image appears on a screen. Test tube experiments are also projected and there are fine commercially prepared color prints on atomic structure, periodic table, orbitals, etc. (Chemistry teachers please note.)

Staff News

Professor Helen Downes continues to enjoy her lovely home and garden at Yorktown Heights, N.Y. You can write her there (RR #1). Her revised bio-chemistry text, "The Chemistry of Living Cells" has been very well received. She cheers us with occasional brief visits en route to her niece's family in New York City. Little Debbie and Daniel are a great joy to her.

Those of you who remember Dr. Lucille Altschul will be glad to know that she is happily married to Professor Klee, a psychologist at Brandeis University, and that they have two lovely children. She and her husband are on a year's leave in India. On their return she hopes to go back to teaching and managing the inorganic laboratory course at Brandeis.

A few of you have inquired about Dr. Lenore Meadows. After completing her Ph.D. in photochemistry at Columbia, she taught for two years at Mt. Holyoke, and is back in New York City on the staff at Queens College.

Professor King has completed his impressive monograph on "Acids and Bases." He is now producing an elementary inorganic text while Dr. Grace King, who is also on our staff, is writing the laboratory experiments to go with it. They keep their typewriters humming in order to supply this material as texts to the students in the course. Andy King is quite a tall young man with many interests including music and stamp collecting.

Dr. Segal is teaching physical chemistry lectures and seminar this year. Last summer she was an enthusiastic student at a week's course on Nuclear Magnetic Resonance, held in Albany, N.Y. Her children are growing up fast and are both in school. So she is making plans to start a research problem on Electron Spin Resonance in Professor Fraenkel's group at Columbia. Both Elizabeth and Danny are enthusiastic hosts at the Segals' annual picnic for the chemistry staff and seniors at their home in Tenafly.

Our students now take Biochemistry at Columbia where three lecture courses are available. Our dear Professor Gloria Toralballa, who taught many of you in a variety of courses, is no longer at Barnard. You will be glad to know that she is teaching at City College and at Hunter, and that she hopes to set up her research activities and to teach Biochemistry with laboratory at one of these places next year. We all miss her fine teaching and her friendly, merry personality.

Your reporter is continuing with the N.S.F. summer research program. Diane Fabny and Anita Waldman, both of '64, worked with me last summer on benzylidenepyruvic acid chemistry. Rosemarie Salerni '64 and Dagmar Ringe '63 were assisting Dr. Toralballa on her NIH program investigating porcine amylase denaturation, so we had a busy research lab.

The Stechers spent about 5 months in a house in Metuchen, New Jersey, and enjoyed a spring and summer of suburban living in a beautiful area. However, there are great advantages for us in being in New York, so we are back (Address: 155 East 34 Street, Apt. 16R, New York 10016; Tel: LE 2-0564--do call me up).

Two very enjoyable events brought me into contact again with small groups of you. I was a guest of honor at a glamorous luncheon of the Carbide Research Institute at Tarrytown, and later toured the beautiful new lab and chatted with Joan Lang '59, Marge Fridecky '60, Anita Hyman Glick '62, and others of the Columbia-at-Carbide group. Also the class of 1948 (which had 25 chemistry majors!) invited me to their 15th reunion dinner. Afterwards a large group of chem and zoo majors joined me on an informal tour of the library and laboratories. Barbara Szafranski Hajner and Ruth Meyer Polin drove me back to New Jersey and we chatted about their growing families and volunteer activities. Mary Miller Mack, M.D. and her husband Gerhard have a joint practise in Cheshire, Conn. We had dinner with the Macks and their two children last year. Maxy graduated in '48 and attended Downstate Medical School.

'59

Marian Bennett Meyers teaches the organic laboratory sections. A publication "Preparation of m-Polyphenyls" is based on her Master's thesis under Professor G. Forrest Woods at Maryland University. She spent last year as a Research Chemist at Merck and Co. and was married last summer.

'61

Kathy Seiderman Martinot is an M.A. candidate in Physics at Columbia. She is an Instructor in the elementary inorganic laboratory and also corrects physical chem. problems. Eric is growing rapidly.

Our undergraduate Teaching Aides are Karen Grebel, Helen Bernstein, Barbara Hudson, Francine Shiffman, and Anita Waldman. All are seniors.

1963 Graduates

Among the seven who graduated in chemistry last June are three medical students: Barbara Forst (Einstein), Roberta Kinstler Schachter (second year P.&S.), and Beverly Wirth (second year at Chicago U.). Also there are four Ph.D. candidates: Dagmar Ringe and Ieva Ruks have joined the Barnard student group at Boston University, and Maria Villa Howell and Vivien Gornitz (in geology), both at Columbia. Laura Lipeles is taking graduate courses while doing research at Downstate Medical Center.

Alumnae News

'59

Bernice Ide August had a daughter in November 1963. She is on leave from her Ph.D. research on steroids at Columbia under Professor Stork.

Alice Salzman Adler '56 (Ph.D.) had a baby boy, Kyle Sebastian in February 1963 and coauthored two papers, "Cellulose Columns Containing Ribonucleotides and Ribonucleic Acids" and "Base-Catalyzed Formation of Cyclic Compounds from Poly- β -benzyl-L-aspartate and Poly- γ -benzyl-L-glutamate.

Rae Reibstein Berger '57 received a Ph.D. in Biochemistry from Radcliffe in '63 and will be continuing her research, for the next six months, in Manchester, England. Her thesis title: Biochemical Phenomena Related to the Role of the Membrane in Phagocytosis.

Ellen Newman Bressel '56 (Ph.D.) and her husband are doing re-entry physics at M.I.T. They and their son, Jonathon Gideon, who is 2-1/2, will be at Kwajalein in the Marshall Is. for another 6 months. Address: MIT Lincoln Laboratory, Kwajalein, Box 58, Navy 824, F.P.O. San Francisco, Cal.

June Fisher '55 (M.D.) spent two months at University College Hospital, London, as part of her assistant residency at Montefiore Hospital, N.Y.

^{'55}
Renée Altman Fleischer, M.D., is starting her second year of Residency in Internal Medicine at the N. Y. Veterans Hospital. She now lives in Beechurst, L.I., and is expecting a second child in January 1964.

Joan Sapiro Freudenberger '58 has two young children and now lives in Highland Park, New Jersey.

Marise Suss Gottlieb '58, M.D., has a young baby and is now in Washington, D.C.

Barbara Szafranski Hajner '48, of Linden, N.J., had a daughter born in the fall of '62 and is awaiting her second child. She keeps up with the Merck Index by occasional translations.

Marilyn Goldberg Heller '57 (M.S. Ed.), lecturer at Barnard for four years had her first child, Debra Jayne, born Nov. 30, 1963.

^{'56}
Claude M. Laumont is in her fourth year of graduate study in Biochemistry at Tufts Medical School, Boston.

Margarete Weisbrod Lindsley '51 reports that her first child, Ruth, was born in August '62. She continues to abstract papers for C.A. at home in Fishkill, N.Y.

Liane Reif Lehrer '56 (Ph.D.) told us at the A.C.S. convention that she and her husband are back from a year-long trip around the world! and are now again living in Cambridge and doing research.

Carol Teichman Rubin '58 lives in Farmingdale, L.I., and teaches chemistry at Cold Spring Harbor H.S.

Audrey Appel Sterenfeld '58 reports her latest organic synthesis, Elliot Bruce, born Dec. '62. Beth-Ann is now about 3 years old.

Judith Shapiro '60 had a two months' Clerkship in London in June '63 after her third year at Einstein Medical School.

Hessy Levinsons Taft '55 had a daughter, Nina Anne, in Feb. '63. She hopes to return to research on genetic coding mechanisms and reactions at the Rutgers Institute.

Lorraine Handler Sirota '56 and family are back in Brooklyn after her husband's 2-year service as Navy Psychiatrist in Philadelphia.

Maria Biafora Umhey '58 wrote that she was working on chymotrypsin at Wampole Labs., Stamford, Conn., while her husband completed medical school at Flower-Fifth.

Sue Markovitz Javitt '54 (M.A.) expects to start education courses at T.C. now that her three children are growing up. She also advises her M.D. husband on chemical aspects of his research.

Virginia Lowman, Ph.D. and former Barnard staff member writes that she is teaching science at the Hauppauge Extension of C.W. Post College. With their two children, now 7 and 10 years old, they took a 5-week automobile camping trip through many of our Western National Parks.

Geraldine Lynch Krueger, Ph.D., whom you may remember as a Barnard Lab. Instructor, has resigned from her position as Head of Technical Information services at an industrial company and is now an Instructor in Organic and Biochemistry at the University of Cincinnati. Her two children are in grammar school.

Eula Teague Viana ^{'49} writes from her home in Manila, Philippines, that she will be in New York for the '64 World's Fair. Hope you all look us up or call us up when you come.

Estelle Kalechstein Meislich, Ph.D., who taught lab. at Barnard for several years, has three girls ranging in age from 4-1/2 to 9-1/2. She has for some time been a part-time Instructor at City College, N.Y.C.

Margaret Niederberger Dickey '61 is married to an M.D. Intern at Indiana University Medical Center where she is doing cancer research.

Eileen Higginbottom Simon ^{'58} announces the arrival on Dec. 20 of a second son, Conrad Friedrich. She is continuing her research at Harvard while her husband is completing his Ph.D. study.

Joyce Eichler Monaco ^{'52} has a 5-month-old boy Paul. She now has 2 boys and 2 girls but to us looks just the same as she dashes around at Reunion.

Gloria Marmar Warner '52 (M.D.) has two sons 8 and 3 years old, and has started a Psychiatry Residency at Mt. Sinai, N.Y. Her husband is in gastroenterology research and private practise.

Marcia Margolis Wishnick '60 is continuing research on mechanism and kinetics of enzyme action at Lederle Labs. Her daughter is now about 3 years old.

Helena Zil de Roethh '47 had a daughter born in 1963.

Do use the post card to keep us up to date on your activities. We are always glad to hear from you and to see you. Once again Best Regards and a Happy New Year from the whole department.