

## NEWS FROM OTHER SISTERS

### **Marjorie (Aldinger) Akers '52:**

October, 2009

I'm back to being a home owner after selling my former home and living in a senior apartment complex for a year. Come see me!

I have two grandchildren in college, and one grandchild in first grad. I'm busy as a volunteer.

### **Barbara (Freeman) Anderson '52:**

October, 2009

I am still living in Milwaukie, OR in an apartment and I like it very much.

My children, Robin and Maren, are fine as is my daughter-in-law, Debbie. This summer daughter Robin was married for the second time. It was a wonderful, fun wedding. Grandmother Barbara was very happy to have a new son-in-law.

I recently returned from a two-week trip to Branson, Missouri. The three days there was wonderful. We then went to points south, then back to Chicago and home again. I'm now settling down for a long winter's nap.

### **Barbara (Crawford) Bruner '48:**

October, 2009

In September I went to Northern Ireland with my family, searching for my father's roots—and we found them! We are still in touch with a genealogist from that area and he continues to unearth more information and send it to us by e-mail.

I'm still living in Newport, and come over to Salem for high school reunions, and to see my brother, Ken and his wife, Lori. It turns out Ken and Lori live at the same retirement apartments as Kimmie and Glenn Halliday!

### **Jeanine Bailiff (Class of 1954 at MSU):**

October, 2009

Marge Akers and I were neighbors for 31 years. She liked my twin daughters because she only had boys!

I follow my grandson's baseball, now in college. My granddaughter is in volleyball. She is a junior in high school. I have learned to play poker (twice a month) and Mah Jong (twice a month.) I scrapbook for my grandchildren. I

have been researching family history for several years.

### **Betty (Wilson) Cortessis '53:**

October, 2009

We sure wish we could make it [to the Oct. '09 reunion]. Lenore is here with me. My husband is ill, so we know we cannot. Have a great time for us. Love, Betty Cortessis and Lenore Olson

### **Pat (Palmer) Cota '52:**

October, 2009

I don't do much....quilt, knit, have fun most of the time. Not too many boy friends at my age.

### **Janet (Richardson) Cox '56:**

October, 2009

Continuing to live and love the good life in the East Bay of San Francisco (Walnut Creek). Rossmoor to be precise. See BJ. Cortessis every once in a while--another Chi O. Hear from my brother Ralph Richardson every day now that we both have Jitterbug cell phones. He is trying to sell a lovely home in Livingston, Montana so he can live in St. George, Utah. Toots

### **Barbara (Benjamin) Duda '52:**

May, 2009

Sorry to hear about Helene Warrens. I remember her going down the hall at Lausanne and calling "Barbie" trying to locate Barbie Freeman. For a brief while she lived in Oakland not too far from where we lived and I did see her at that time, once or twice I think, but we both moved away in about a year and I have not seen her since.

We were doing great last year with a trip to Mexico and then to Alaska, but this year there have been some changes. It is like someone has thrown a switch and we really feel old. Our Granddaughter, Elizabeth, just graduated with honors from Vanderbilt. Today I was giving a tour at my historic farm with a lady from Washington who told me she had gone to Willamette. She was much younger than I so I figured she would not know anyone I knew, but it is a small world and it did bring back memories. Benjie.

**Pat (Zahare) Elling '51:**

October, 2009

In March we celebrated my 80th birthday in Costa Rica, with husband Kay, our daughter and her husband. It was a super way and place to have a week of birthday celebration on a beach in northwestern Costa Rica.

The end of August our son and daughter set up a cruise to Alaska for all of us to celebrate our 50th anniversary. Kay and I had a great time with our son, Cliff and Lori, grandkids, Elsie and Eben, and Mimi and Steve. We were on a Celebrity cruise and had cabins in a row, with nice verandahs.

**Arlene (Deakins) Gatewood '52:**

October, 2009

We had a good summer, but my husband, Dean, has breathing problems which are worsening. I'm so sorry to miss the reunion, but I don't like to be gone overnight.

Our oldest granddaughter, Anna, is now serving in the Peace Corps in Kazakhstan. She studied Russian in college and is now putting her skill to good use. Occasionally, she can get to a computer and send us e-mail, which we eagerly await.

Our oldest son, Ken, is now a victim of the poor economy. After 19 years at Nike, he was laid off last spring. At present, he is enjoying more time with his family and is getting assistance from Nike in preparing a resume.

**Barbara (Kemmerich) Halliday '52:**

October, 2009

In May, 2008 we surprised our two children by voluntarily moving to a senior apartment complex in Keizer—just north of Salem. It was traumatic to downsize but we are past that now and enjoying the freedom of no house, no cooking, and no cleaning.

Cruising seems to suit us now—we took our 2 single children to Hawaii by ship last Dec. and went on a great 2-week Alaskan cruise to out-of-the-way places like Kodiak Island this summer.

**Beth (Tedford) Hardy '51:**

October, 2009

All my grandchildren but two are in college. Oldest grandson received a full grant for Tucson Master program (computer photography) and

two grandsons are stars in Lacrosse. One granddaughter is entering Univ. of Colorado. Daughter Heather still teaches at Tahoe City. Son Colin is in business in Mass., son Craig is in business in Denver, Colo.

I keep busy with fellowship in our Corvallis church. I just finished being the Presbyterian Moderator for P.W.

**Bo (Brooks) Johnson '52:**

October, 2009

Hi Kimmie,

Thanks for your email and many thanks for keeping a reunion going and all the news you keep sending.

We are getting along OK but slowing down for sure. Our biggest activity is going out for breakfast and sometimes dinner. Our three grand kids are growing up. The oldest is a junior at Dartmouth. The next is a freshman at NYU, and the youngest is a freshman in High School. All have pursued volleyball and that explains Dartmouth and NYU because they recruited them for their volleyball teams.

Maybe next spring I can get up for a visit. That would be fun. But first I have to get over falling down which happens a lot. But I am working out on my treadmill and getting stronger and better balance so I have great hope. I only use a cane occasionally now.

Best of everything and say hello to all. Love,  
Bo

Note: We hear a lot about Oregon down here. Are you all that radical now?

**Dorothy (Caspar) Murphy '52:**

Aug. 9, 2009

What a delightful surprise to get your message this morning. How I wish we were making a trip to Oregon and could join the Chi O reunion in mid October. No, we will not be coming west, but thanks so very much for thinking of me. The middle of October is always Ken's mini-reunion with ten of his high school class mates and spouses. We always go to this ocean front mansion with ten suites plus a huge kitchen... so that is the way it goes. This is at Isle of Palms just north of Charleston, SC.

We have been back one week after a 6 week RV trip. We had three graduations: Virginia

Tech Civil Engineering degree with Summa Cum Laude earned by our first grandchild. We sure are proud of her. Then a grandson from high school in Maryland and then the younger sister of number one granddaughter. She too was her Class Valedictorian. I know... bragging, but my little sister told me years ago it was not bragging if it was true! Ha!

Anyway, we did the Northeast corner. We had not been to Maine for years. We wanted cooler weather and we indeed got it! The RV parks were hurting... so were the farmers. Too much rain and too little sunshine. We were in the Boston area and to Rhode Island.

Today I hope we nail down our planned trip to India. It is with Vantage and going to see another part of the world plus the Taj Mahal being the prime motivator. It will be in the late fall. All for now. All is well with the Gypsies and we count our blessings! With love and joy, Dorothy

**Joan Porter (Guest of Pat Cota):**

October, 2009

I have lived next door but one from Pat in West Linn for 60 years. I enjoy knitting and reading and traveling with Pat.

**LaFyrne (Showacy) Pratt '50:**

October, 2009

In 2008 I celebrated my 80th birthday by going to New York with my five adult kids for five days.

I still live in Salemtowne, golfing, playing bridge and volunteering for two groups: Elsinore Theater and Family Building Blocks. The latter is for families with drug/alcohol addiction problems.

**"C.B." (Claribelle Easton) Ross '52:**

October, 2009

I'm just coasting along through these "golden years"! Taking some trips. Losing Bill on Sept. 7, 2006 was a big jolt and adjustment for me, but I'm thankful for a wonderful family and many friends, and I'm a member of a great Garden Club (since 1968).

My family consists of 3 children (1 daughter, 2 sons) and their families: 6 grandchildren, 3 great-grandchildren with another due in April.

What would I do without them?? I don't want to know!

I hope our ChiO get-togethers can continue. Fun to see all the gals!

**Ann (Stackhouse) Rule '53:**

October, 2009

Hi Kemmie,

With regret, I can't join the gang on October 14th. I have commitments with the Sheriff's Office in Snohomish County. No, no, I'm not GETTING committed by the Sheriff, but I am speaking to a group of deputies in Everett. Be sure you explain this correctly to my fellow Chi O's!

Three of my books that have made into movies and miniseries will show in November. They will be on Lifetime's special movie network--not the regular Lifetime. It's called LMN network.

Nov.7 Too Late to Say Goodbye

Nov. 14-15 Everything She Ever Wanted

Those are both new, and they're also showing And Never Let Her Go, but I don't have a firm date for that one.

My new book, But I Trusted You, also comes out in November.

Try to gather a lot of good gossip and give all the gals a hug for me? All best,

Ann Stackhouse Rule

[www.annrules.com](http://www.annrules.com) (My website pages)

**Barbara (Robinson) Ryals '51:**

October, 2009

Sorry, Barbara, I won't be able to join in for the Nu Delta reunion. My boys are having an 80th Birthday party for me and I plan to attend. Ha Ha!

The plans sound wonderful and would love to be there. Please give my best to all who might remember me. Best regards, Barbara

**Alice (Adams) Schmidt '51:**

October, 2009

I'm sorry I won't be able to come to the luncheon. I was hoping to work that trip in with going on to see my kids, but it isn't going to work out. Greet everyone for me, and I hope you all have fun.

Love, Alice

**Norvada Smedley '51:**

October, 2009

I'm still the accompanist of the Salemtowne Players. Recently we gave 3 programs on the 150th Anniversary of Oregon. The last one was held at Capitol Manor in Salem. I volunteer for the OSAS Patrons of Note committee to present a \$1,000 scholarship to the music educator of the year from Salem/Keizer city schools.

I play golf in Salemtowne, and have enjoyed going to Palm Springs to play golf in February. I enjoy good visits with Marge Akers who frequently comes down to Salem.

**Jeanne (duBuy) Spaziani '51:**

October, 2009

Dick's leg fell through a rotten door on our deck, so he has more pain. Son Rick's Hynex job is gone as the company closed. He is now on a Federal program which provides two years schooling. I feed and water 8 tame and/or feral cats every morning, give them vitamins and dental treats, also feed birds and squirrels in 5 trees, and put out hard-boiled egg yolks to whoever wants them!

I missed a reunion of Juneau retired teachers. They sent out 55 letters and only the hostess and one couple showed up. We are going to stay at the Heceta Head Lighthouse Keepers home (now a B&B) and then later, we're going to Laughlin, NV.

**Margaret (Whittaker) Squires '49:**

October, 2009

In February my daughter Vee, granddaughter Meighan, and I joined my ex-internee group for a flight to the Philippines. We visited Los Banos, where their dad/grandpa had rescued my prison camp, and then my old Manila neighborhood which had been rebuilt, having been burned to the ground by the retreating Japanese. (When Virginia Hutchison and I had lived there the homes and yards were large and beautiful---now the area was unrecognizable with wall to wall shacks).

In June, Vee, son-in-law and I flew to Alaska to spend a couple of weeks with my sister Betty and her hubby who have a large cabin on MacDonald Spit across from Homer. Roger took us out fishing daily in Kachemak Bay, and we caught some nice halibut; he taught us how to

filet them, so guess what our freezers are full of, now!

Our family reunion was at Fort Worden--three RV's on the beach and an Officer's Quarters house up above the beach. Super weather, the men caught salmon off the beach.

I'm still playing badminton and swimming, up to my ears in church work and Wesley activities. Don't laugh--but this Presbyterian will be in a TV performance here as a Methodist parishioner looking for a retirement home! Take care.

Love, Margaret

**Vivian (Thompson) Webber '48:**

October, 2009

Havin' Lotsa Fun!!! Not much of anything else, but at my age (83) what's there to worry about---it's all gravy from here on in!!

I've lived in the same house for 43 years. Just remembered: I went on a river cruise, Paris to Normandy and back with my sister-in-law, Shirley. In June I went on a 2-week cruise with daughter, Merideth, from Istanbul to Athens---this was a Willamette U. cruise with Jim Booth.

**Dorothy (Engelhart) Weisser '52:**

October, 2009

I'm still "talking" about downsizing and moving to a retirement community in the Portland area so I'll be "in place" so to speak for my "golden years"!

This summer I spent a couple weeks in Pennsylvania attending my grandson's wedding and then staying on for a good visit with daughter, Lynn and family. I visit often with my son and his family in the Portland area. They help to keep me "young." I keep busy with friends and church activities and try to meet the challenges of life as "gracefully" as possible.