

It has been a tumultuous year for all of us living here in the USA. I am sure you all have felt the discord in your community, and I know you have contributed to the welfare around you. The College seemed to have a record-breaking challenge this year on Woods Giving Day, February 12, 2026. Be sure to keep up online with all the wonderful matching gift challengers; and all the expansions going on at The Woods.

Memories is what gives our life so much joy. In these unsettled times one must nurture joy wherever one can. Many of our classmates had some interesting ones. **Mary Jo Stewart McPherson** recalled that **Florence "Flo" Tryner Lindermeier's** aunt gave Mary Jo her first teaching job in Chicago. Flo is one of those "snow birds" going to Marco Island, Florida since 1980. She and her husband, Dale, are now living in a senior living community in Northbrook keeping busy with crafts, watercolor painting AND knitting. She shared news of her best friend from high school, **Anita Tiberi McMahan**. She is still in her own home but with caregivers. Her son, Michael, provides wonderful support. No surprise there. "I miss her more than I can say", says Flo. Mary Jo still lives at "the bottom of the lake" as the saying goes in New Buffalo, MI. Her special memory is she was drawn to the Woods from a picture on the cover of a SMWC brochure with **Rosalie McGlynn**. Sorry don't know the year!

Now a bit of news from the "Val's". **Val Wilson Enghauser** spent January and February 2026 in Naples, Florida then headed back to Michigan. She had another heart valve replacement, so she has one more to go. She's "off the hook" on that one because it hasn't reached the "severe stage". She's our bionic woman of our class. **Valerie Dziubek Kuck** is now living in an apartment in a facility with 560 active seniors (after too many bad falls). I am sure she's the leader in her art and exercise classes and meeting new friends. She brags about a new granddaughter who has a lovely personality living a one hour flight away from her. NOTE: Please review the NEWS from smwc.edu for the Woman of The Woods: Valerie Dziubek-Kuck dated 03.09.2026.

Some other news from California comes from **Nancy Gillespie Putney-Abernathy** who divides her time between San Francisco and the Napa Valley where she has a "lifestyle" store in Calistoga called "Blackbird of Calistoga". She praises her staff and loyal customers. She says she is heavily involved in protesting; promoting Democracy to save the Republic. "Just part of the cadre of us who grew up

believing that the end does not justify the means." Luckily, she has no health issues but sadly both her sons have serious health problems so she spends her time and energy keeping spirits strong and focused on each day. Her final comment was; "no face lifts, so this visage shows some wear, but also has its' fair share of laugh lines". The last classmate who would need a facelift, right?

It's been a snowy winter with our classmates in the northeast. **Barbara Langley** from Massachusetts wrote in saying she was feeling better after some "bug" and was hoping the March snowstorm was the last of the season. **Anne Kaczmarczyk Evans** from Pennsylvania never mentioned snow but she continues her work with the historical society and her local Medicare office. She is shocked by the government cutting funds from the Affordable Care Act. It's a new challenge for the Pennsylvania health insurance. For fun she polkas dances and in the spring she is meeting family and cousins from Ukraine in Florida. Connie Hickey Wahl tells me she was homebound with the snowstorms and zero temperature. She claims "a cold winter kills germs and makes things better". Her granddaughter who lives in Nashville had no power for days.

It was a real pleasure to hear from **Jeanne Vordenberg Listermann** from Ohio who shared her life for the past years. She has been married to John for 61 years, had four children, seven grandchildren and four great grandchildren with two more on the way. Now she is living near her sister who lives twenty minutes away. She retired from teaching in 2005. Congratulations!

**Diane Deters Krug** from Indiana always has tons of news for us all. She had her son, his family, two dogs and twelve chickens living with her for sixteen months. Their home was hit by a tornado in July 2024 and they were with her until November 2025. It was a joy having them, but the noise level has gone down appreciably since they left. During that time, she managed a trip to Singapore and California and now planning a trip to England and Antarctica. (Thrown in there she mentioned considering knee surgery). Four children, two in Newburgh, one in Houston, another in Dallas come for Christmas with their families.

The highlight of **Martha Nordloh Klevay** is watching one granddaughter, Ryan Franklin, play basketball for Missouri South State University then went to Tampa where she recently scored her 1000th point. That truly is remarkable!! She received her degree in Kinesiology, too. Another granddaughter, Madeleine

Klevay, auditioned in piano at Indiana University and Oberlin College. No doubt she will be accepted to both. Lucky for Martha she can watch both online.

**Ellen "Nell" Steers Dana** had a get together at her home in Muskegon, Michigan which included **Barbara "Barb" Bittorf Brennan, Nancy "Nan" Albers Bechert, Jean McGregor Lauth, Constance "Connie" Hickey Wahl, Mary Jo Stewart McPherson, Patricia "Patti" O'Dowd Scholl** and myself. What was extra special about the visit was Patti's husband, Jim, joined all of us widows. Although we do have some significant others in the picture. During these later years it is happiness with a special partner.

While coming out of water aerobics one morning I received a call from **Barbara Bluntzer, SP**. We had a wonderful chat about how she remembers all the girls going to classes with the Sisters. She assists at Lourdes Hall now that she is 94 years old. She was present in Rome with those of us who were there during the canonization of Saint Mother Theodore Guerin. What an active life she has had! Connie Wahl mentioned in her note the HOPE magazine, published by the Sisters of Providence "should be applauded for their efforts in this exhausting world". I hope our classmates help the Sisters in their donations to the convent.

Some sad news is the passing of **Angela Reed Hinchey** on July 17, 2025. We were roommates at the Woods and also spent time together while living in New York City. Her life was devoted to art, as a viewer, practitioner and teacher. She was the illustrator of many children's books. She did not die alone because a group of our classmates and myself kept in touch with her. We had a memorable week together in Greensboro, Vermont in 2010. May she rest in peace.

In closing I (**Alice Steers Lingenfelter**) hope you will let me know of our classmates who seem hesitant to contact me so I can share their life journey. We are a special group of women. God has been generous with our talents being so diverse. All those above wish you well!