

## 1940 to 1946: Class Notes Archives

Yearbook photo: [Class of 1942](#) in Terminale

Yearbook photo: [Class of 1943](#) in Terminale

Yearbook photo: [Class of 1944](#) in Terminale

Yearbook photo: [Class of 1945](#) in Terminale

Yearbook photo: [Class of 1946](#) in Terminale



Véra (Henri) Gravier (LSY:Term. in '46)

### La Déclaration de Guerre

Le 8 décembre tout le Lycée s'est rassemblé dans la salle d'étude pour écouter la déclaration de guerre au Japon par le Président Roosevelt et le Congrès. Depuis ce jour l'esprit du Lycée a changé pour devenir plus sérieux.

Décembre: M. de St. Exupéry nous a raconté d'une façon passionnante ses expériences dans le désert, et ses sensations quand on est sur le point de mourir de soif. Pour conclure M. de St. Exupéry nous a décrit son rôle dans la guerre aérienne de 1940 en France. Les élèves fascinés sont restés figés d'intérêt pendant 1h.10, fait unique dans l'histoire du Lycée.

(from 1941-42 yearbook)

----- From December 2015 AALFNY Newsletter -----

### *In Memoriam:*

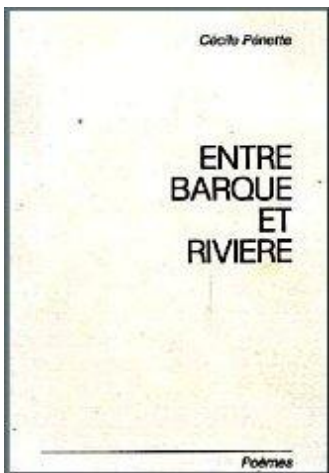
- Dorrit (Zucker-Hale) Cohn ('42) († March 10, 2012)
- Rudolph Frenville ('42) († April 14, 2014)
- Ludmila Svetlana (Alexeieff) Rockwell ('44) († January 15, 2015)
- Mario Maurin ('45) († September 20, 2014)
- Cécile Pénette ('46) († October 17, 2014)
- Izaline (Doll) Davidson ('46) († September 27, 2014)



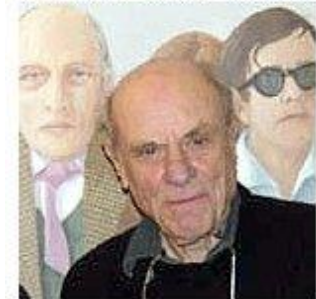
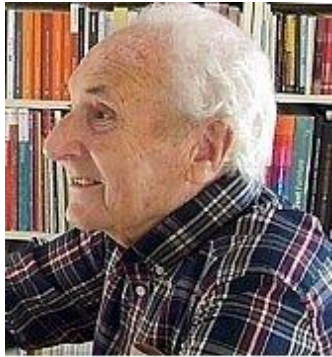
Betsy Jolas ('43)



Gabrielle Griswold ('44)



by Cécile Penette (LSY:Term. in '46)



TOP: Jacques Mandelbrojt ('42 or '43); BOTTOM: Fabio Rieti (prior to '40)



Claudine Herrmann ('44) when she attended the LFNY

● **Consuelo (Eames) Hanks ('46)** († December 1, 2015)  
(See In [memoriam section](#) of newsletter #34 for further details)

● **Betsy Jolas ('43)** (*LSY: 1ere in 1942*) shared her latest newsletter and concert schedule, including her 2016 season, during which she will celebrate her 90th birthday. Joyeux anniversaire, Betsy!! (Click on [PDF file here](#) to access it)

● **Gabrielle Griswold ('44)** (*LSY: 3eme in 1941*) tells us how the LFNY taught her to love and appreciate poetry in an article she contributed --"A Poem Is Good Company" (Click on [PDF file here](#))

----- From December 2014 AALFNY Newsletter -----

**In Memoriam:**

- **Dr. Ginette (Girardey) Raimbault ('40)** († February 19, 2014)
  - **Dominique (Framery) Dolmaire ('43)** († 25 janvier 2013)
  - **G rard Bauman ('46)** († December 31, 2011)
  - **Renee Canitrot ('46)** († August 6, 2013)
- (See [In memoriam](#) section of this newsletter for further details)

● « Impossible de raconter la vie de **Fabio RIETI (prior to '40)** en une seule page. Fabio RIETI, ce voyageur aux trois patries - l'Italie, les Etats-Unis et la France - est un homme des villes. Il leur a consacr  sa vie et son oeuvre. C'est aux Etats-Unis que sa carri re artistique va s'amorcer. En 1948 il migre en Italie et c'est pendant cette p riode qu'il va s'int resser   la c ramique qui va le conduire plus tard   l'art public. Pendant de nombreuses ann es il a ainsi "navigu " entre les Etats-unis et l'Italie mais c'est en 1956 qu'il d cide de s'installer   Paris. Fabio RIETI a expos  ses toiles dans de nombreuses villes,   New York en 1963 et 1965,   Rome en 1969 et   Paris trois fois pendant les ann es 60. "je n'ai jamais fait d'expositions importantes   Paris. Il est vrai que je n'ai jamais fait une vraie carri re de peintre, je suis toujours rest  quelque peu marginal. L  o  je ne le suis pas rest , c'est dans l'art public, le mur peint." La carri re de muraliste de Fabio RIETI a commenc  par le biais de la coloration de grands ensembles urbains comme   Bobigny. C' tait le d but d'une collaboration de quinze ans avec  mile Aillaud. Il a travaill  sur tous les projets ult rieurs de cet architecte comme la coloration des ensembles de Chanteloup ou de Nanterre (les tours bleues recouvertes de mosa que sont visibles de loin). Puis il est pass  ma tre dans l'art de r aliser de grandes mosa ques comme   Courbevoie ou   Nanterre. » ([http://www.trompe-l-oeil.info/Trompeleuil/plus\\_fabio\\_rieti\\_01.htm](http://www.trompe-l-oeil.info/Trompeleuil/plus_fabio_rieti_01.htm))

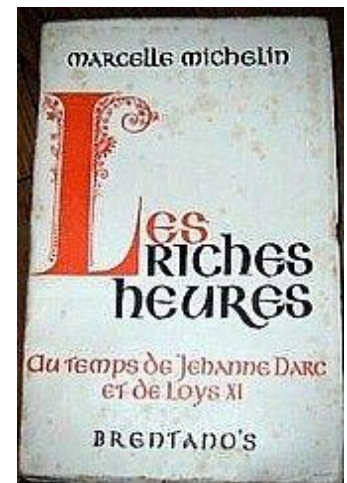
● **Jacques Mandelbrojt ('42 or '43):** " Painter and theoretical physicist born in 1929 in Asni res, France. First oil paintings in 1943. His paintings have featured since 1954 in more than 30 one man shows and



Betsy Jolas ('43)



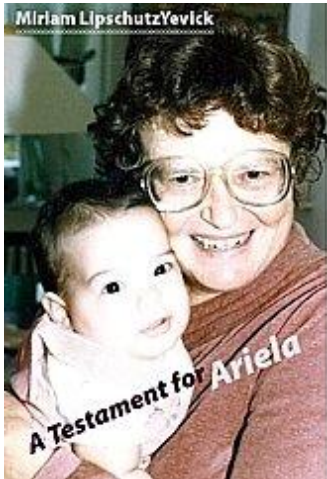
Jacqueline (Dutacq) Le Hanaff ('43)



by Marcelle Michelin ('40 or prior)



20 international group exhibitions. Former Full Professor of physics at Université de Provence, he also created and directed from 1970 to 1973 the University Department of Visual Arts at Luminy. Member of LEONARDO editorial board since 1970. Member of MIM (Laboratoire de Musique et Informatique de Marseille), he created with the composers of MIM numerous painting-music works. His dual experience as painter and theoretical physicist led him to write since 1967, over 30 articles, published mainly in LEONARDO, on the comparison of creative processes in art and science, and two books, in particular "Les cheveux de la réalité", Editions Alliage, Nice 1991."  
(<http://www.imer.fr/index.php/fr/devenir-resident/83.html>)



by Miriam (Lipschutz) Yevick ('41)

- **Betsy Jolas ('43)** kindly sent us a link to a video of her being interviewed on ina.fr. (Click [here](#))

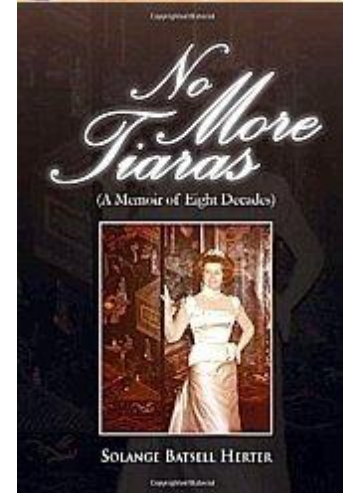
- **Gabrielle Griswold ('44)**: In previous editions of our newsletter, and to date, she has written seven lively articles memorializing what it was like to attend the Lycée in its early years. She has very graciously offered to combine them into one single article, which makes for fascinating reading. She has also contributed several old photos. Please click [here](#) to access this new article.

- **Claudine Herrmann ('44)** nous écrit : « J'ai pour ma part été avocat à la Cour de Paris et professeur de lettres à Boston University. J'ai publié quatre romans chez Gallimard, des essais dont le plus connu est "Les Voleuses de langue" aux éditions Des Femmes (traduit en anglais par l'University of Nebraska Press), un ouvrage de droit romain " le rôle politique et judiciaire des Femmes sous République Romaine " aux éditions Latomus et plusieurs articles de droit et de critique littéraire. Pour l'instant j'écris un livre de souvenirs où le Lycée Français tient une grande place. Je suis restée l'amie de **Francis Seyrig** ['44] et **Delphine Seyrig** ['50] jusqu'à leur mort et je viens d'aller voir **Ludmilla Alexeieff Rockwell** ['44] lors d'un voyage à Boston que j'ai fait en Octobre. J'ai revu aussi notre camarade **Jean Alvarez de Toledo** ['44] peu avant sa mort. » (Claudine also sent us a wonderful photo of her, taken by famous photographer Charles Leirens, when she was attending the LFNY.)



Marie-Claude (Boulin) Solvay ('46)

- "In the late 1940s **Mario Maurin ('45)** had just begun his undergraduate studies at Yale and as a French speaker didn't see much point in taking any French classes. But, based on the stellar reputation of the French scholar and professor, Henri Peyre, Maurin signed up for his class on the modern French novel and unknowingly determined his future. Under Peyre's direction Mario completed his M.A. at nineteen and his Ph.D. at twenty-two, a remarkable accomplishment; and after two years in the Marines Peyre again assisted the young Maurin by recommending him for a teaching position at Bryn Mawr College where he'd begun his American career in 1925. Mario Maurin retired from Bryn Mawr nearly fifty years later as an Emeritus Professor of French. Toward the end of his career he began to collect the prodigious correspondence of Peyre, and under the editorship of John Kneller Yale University Press published this correspondence in 2005. It would have been near the beginning of his distinguished career at Bryn Mawr that Maurin published the review of Zola's *La république en marche*



Solange (Batsell) Herter ('46)  
and her book

in *Les lettres nouvelles*." (<http://andalusiabooks.wordpress.com/>)

Videos of LFNY alumni on the internet:

- [Jacques Mandelbrojt](#) on YouTube

----- From December 2012 AALFNY Newsletter -----

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**In Memoriam:**

- Elisabeth (Bertol) Moon ('44) († May 8, 2008)
- Gisèle (Van Berchem) de Marignac ('44) († 21 septembre, 2012)

See In [memoriam section of this newsletter](#) for further details.

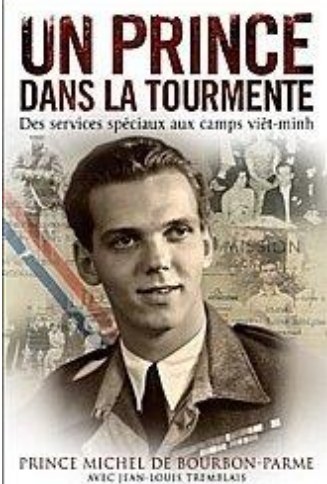
- .....
- Miriam (Lipschutz) Yevick ('41) told us that she just published a book entitled "A Testament for Ariela" (available at Amazon.com). Myriam "began writing letters to her two-month-old granddaughter, Ariela, in 1985, and continued right through to Ariela's wedding in 2006 and her motherhood in 2008. In sharing her thoughts, her values, her self-awareness, and her rapturous relationship with art and with nature, Yevick reveals the inner life of a woman of science, of passion, and of deep philosophical insight. [Her book] is a testament about the trials of being a child refugee from Nazi-occupied Holland and Belgium; about the thrill and sacrifice of becoming the fifth woman in history to earn a Ph.D. in mathematics from MIT; about the soulfulness of being a spiritually sensitive socialist and a highly cultured human being." (<http://jewishcurrents.org/marketplace/new>)

In October 2012, Myriam appeared at Clark University in front of "an audience comprising about 60 students, faculty and staff members who listened intently as Yevick, 88, recalled her experiences in a talk titled *Flight from Fascism: From Nazi Europe to MIT*."

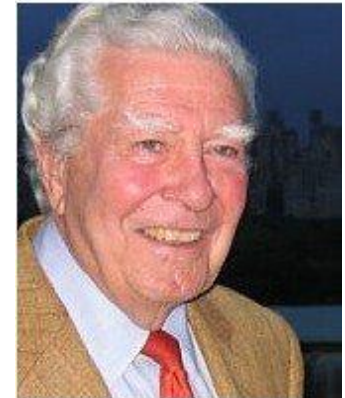
Click on this [Pdf file link](#) for a full report on her talk :

- Svetlana (Alexeieff) Rockwell ('44) nous a informé qu'elle a un nouveau [site web](#) et que ce site "montre les peintures que j'ai fait à travers les années. On peut les commander pour très peu sous forme de giclées. D'autre part je voudrais mentionner le fait que mes Memoires (SNAPSHOTS) qui ont été traduites en russe vont sortir en Russie. Un superbe livre avec les 115 illustrations que mon père l'illustrateur Alexandre Alexeieff a fait pour Don Quichotte vient de paraître chez Syrtes, Paris."

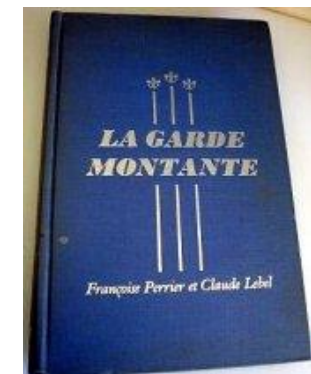
- "If you don't know Solange (Batsell) Herter ('46), you must have ready about her. If you haven't read about her, you must have heard of her. If you've never even heard of her, are you in luck. Because you're about to meet this roman candle of a woman, in the flesh. Solange Herter was born on the same date as the Virgin Mary, and that's the last time she ever shared the spotlight. She hit the ground running, began a fabulous life, more often happening to things instead of the other way around. Hers is a tough and tender life, self-made and she's still throwing off sparks, eight decades later. If this book



Michel de Bourbon-Parme and his book



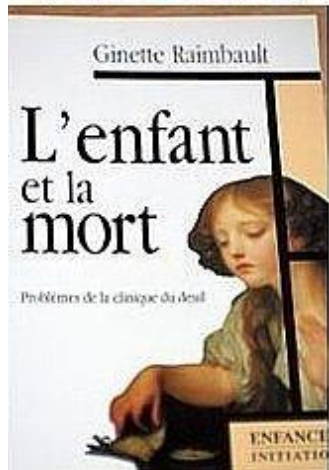
TOP: Maurice Raviol ('44) Past President and Founder of AALFNY; BOTTOM: Ludmila Svetlana (Alexeieff) Rockwell ('44)



By Claude Lebel (deceased) ('42) and Françoise (Perrier) Lebel ('42?)



isn't a tell-all, we can't imagine what she left out. From her abiding friendship with Jack and Jackie Kennedy, her mother's surprising episodes with J. Edgar Hoover, becoming a seven-year-old queen Normandie on her first crossing, her boisterous run-ins with nuns in French and American schools, tangling with Barbara Walters on National TV, winning hundreds of thousands with a throw of the dice (and quitting while she was way, way ahead), opening her own art gallery in Saratoga, plunging into the wild-cat real estate of post-war Canada, singing at Carnegie Hall, playing piano at Camp David, getting into the gutter with Bobby Kennedy.....it's all her story, she takes you through triumph and trial and she's as honest about it as the day is long. Solange did it all while raising her family of children, who share her toe-to-toe approach to life. You'll also meet her 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 husbands, each unique, each different, each an unusual partner, to say the least, and each leading up to today's Number Five, Fred Herter, the New York surgeon, University President, and crooner who remains her suitor and swain to this day." (*xlibris.com*)



Dr. Ginette (Girardey) Rimbault ('40) and one of her books

- « En 1940, la famille du prince **Michel de Bourbon-Parme** ['45 ou '46], chassée de France par les nazis, se réfugie à New York. Descendant de Saint-Louis par son père et du roi du Danemark par sa mère, le jeune homme ne se résigne pas à la défaite et s'engage dans l'armée américaine à 17 ans. Promu lieutenant, repéré par l'OSS, il intègre en Angleterre l'unité top secrète des commandos Jedburgh. L'équipe du lieutenant Michel de Bourbon-Parme, parachutée dans le Massif Central en juin 1944, harcèle les Allemands et retarde la progression de la Division SS Das Reich, en route vers la Normandie pour essayer de contrer le débarquement des Alliés. A 18 ans, après la Libération, il se porte volontaire pour l'Indochine, où les communistes viêt-minh viennent de déclarer l'indépendance et se battent contre la présence française. Le 28 août 1945, il y est parachuté avec cinq autres officiers. Ils sont faits prisonniers par les viêt-minh le jour-même. Les six Français vont alors passer huit mois en captivité, huit mois d'enfer dans des conditions inimaginables, qui se solderont par la mort de quatre d'entre eux au cours de multiples tentatives d'évasion. Michel de Bourbon-Parme, lui, réussira à gagner le Laos après avoir traversé à pied la jungle du Vietnam. »

(<http://www.neuillyjournal.com/actus/neuilly-actu/item/1939-rencontre-avec-michel-de-bourbon-parme-pour-son-ouvrage-intitule-un-prince-dans-la-tourmente>)



Ludmila Svetlana (Alexeieff) Rockwell ('44)

----- From December 2011 AALFNY Newsletter -----

**In Memoriam:**

- **Dr. Baruj Benacerraf ('40)** (†August 2, 2011)

See In [memoriam section](#) of this newsletter for further details, or click on link below :

To read his biography, [click here](#).

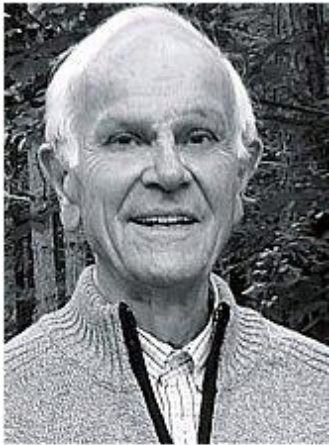
- **Maurice R. Raviol ('44)** (†February 28, 2011)

See In [memoriam section](#) of this newsletter for further details.

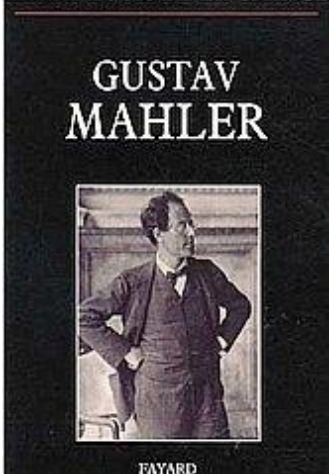
- **José-Maria de Gamboa ('45)** (†December, 2009)

See [In memoriam section](#) of this newsletter for further details.

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HENRY-LOUIS DE LA GRANGE



Henry-Louis de la Grange ('41 or '42) and one of his books

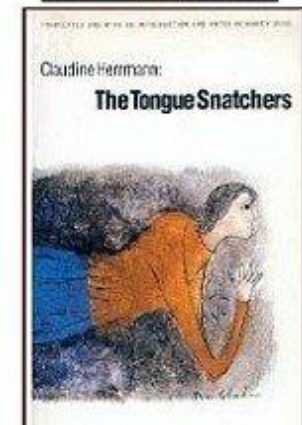
● **Dr. Ginette (Girardey) Raimbault ('40)** est "Directeur de recherches à l'INSERM en retraite. [Elle est] diplômée de l'Université de Columbia de New-York, de l'Institut de Psychologie de Paris, [et] elle est Docteur en médecine, psychiatre et a suivi une formation de psychanalyste. Elle a suivi, à Londres, la formation du Docteur Michaël Balint, le fondateur du mouvement pour la formation psychologique des médecins et travailleurs sociaux. Elle a l'occasion de donner de nombreuses conférences en France et à l'étranger sur son expérience de psychanalyste à l'Hôpital des Enfants Malades à Paris, où elle a côtoyé des enfants atteints de maladies mortelles, leurs familles et leurs soignants, et recueilli leurs paroles." ([http://www.canal-u.tv/auteurs/raimbault\\_ginette](http://www.canal-u.tv/auteurs/raimbault_ginette))

● **Miriam (Lipschutz) Yevick ('41)** wrote: "I attended the Lycée Français de NY during the schoolyear 1940-1941, when I obtained my first bachot with mention - I forgot what. We had arrived from Europe in August 1940 after a three month flight from the Nazis' invasion of Holland and Belgium. I have written an account of our Odyssey, starting from Antwerp on May 10, 1940, where we lived at the time.....Most memorable from my educational point of view, was the interview I had with M. Brodin. I had first entered an American high school, where they put me back two years because I had not studied civics or American literature. I was desperate to get out of the trap and to continue my Lycée education. My father, since we had not brought much money with us, begged the principal to give me a scholarship (tuition at that time was \$500). M. Brodin agreed and then had me tested. There was a wonderful math teacher (I think his name was M. Klein) who asked me to write down a fifth degree polynomial with positive coefficients, which I did painlessly. He then gave me some advice which I have harkened to always follow in my mathematical career. "When you have a math problem, don't immediately start writing and calculating. First see it in your head, see it as a whole and only then do the detailed work."

I actually skipped one year since I had been in the troisieme in Belgium. The Lycée put me in 1ere. Then I went to NYU for college and they gave me a year of advanced standing for my Lycée studies. So I graduated in two years and went on to MIT, and ended up as the fifth woman to earn a PhD in mathematics from that Institution. Sort of a breathless career. But after the Ph.D. I was unable to find an academic job, being that I was a woman in the filed of mathematics."

*Miriam also shared with us a true story of her youth entitled "Gloves." Go to [Alumni Creative section](#) of this newsletter*

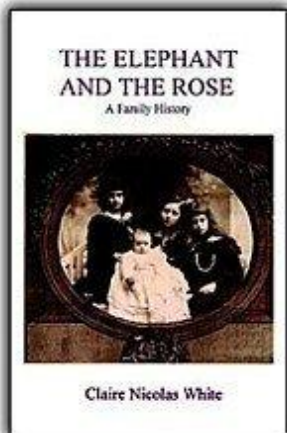
● **Henry-Louis de La Grange ('41 or '42)** "(b.1924) studied music at Yale University, then in Paris with Yvonne Lefébure and Nadia Boulanger. Music critic for numerous French and foreign journals and periodicals, and adjunct lecturer for the Université de Tours, he is also universally recognized as the



Claudine Herrmann ('44)

biographer of Gustav Mahler. His monumental work on the composer was published in English [and in] French and is in the process of a revised, augmented, and complete edition (four volumes) in English. Furthermore he is the author of the two-volume « Vienne. Une Histoire Musicale ». He also organized the Alziprato Festival in Corsica (1974-1979); assisted the Musée d'Art moderne de la Ville de Paris in 1985 with a large Mahler exhibition; and collaborated with the Théâtre du Châtelet with its Mahler cycle in 1989, as well as with that of Lyons in (1991-1994). He was the artistic director of the Mahler Festwoche in Toblach (Southern Tyrol) in 1986, and a co-organizer of the Mahler Festival of Amsterdam in 1995." (<http://www.mediathequemahler.org/en/institution/henry-louis-de-la-grange.html>)

[Click here](#) for an extensive biography on Wikipedia:



Claire (Nicolas) White ('44)

- **Ludmila Svetlana (Alexeieff) Rockwell ('44)** wrote: "At the age of 88 I am doing really very well. I have been painting and having shows of my work which consists in making abstract pastels of the New England Coastline.

I also curate the graphic works of my father the illustrator of rare books Alexandre ALEXEIEFF. I worked with the Museum of Russian Literature and the Museum of Modern Art in Moscow this year for an exhibit which showed fifteen of his books during august and september. A magnificent catalogue is available through the publisher Vita Nova in St.Petersburg Russia.

I also helped the director of the Fondation Art ex East in Geneva to publish 115 illustrations for Cervantes's Don Quichotte's book which was printed by the Rigal printers in Fontenay aux Roses, France. My memoirs "Snapshots" are to be published in Saint Petersburg as well.

My three daughters Dominique Valery and Alexandra are very active in the Boston area and my son Alexandre is teaching film directing at NYU.

I had the great pleasure of seeing **Claudine Herrman ('44)** this fall who came to Boston and went with me to Provincetown Mass., a place we cherish and remembered well from the forties.

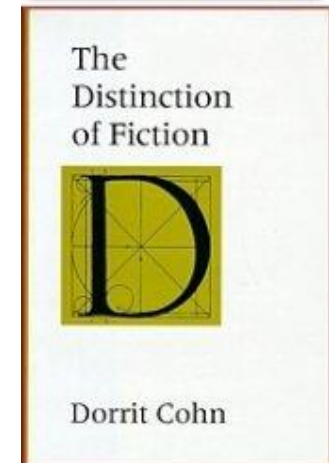
Claudine is working on her father's letters and intends to publish them.

We have been in touch also with **Claire Nicolas ('44)**, **Jean Alvarez de Toledo ('44)** and **Michel Grinberg ('44)**. The hard part about getting old is that you see your friend vanish like flies . If you read this note and are still alive please read [my website](#) and get in touch with me."

- **Michel Guggenheim ('44)** (Ph.D., Yale University) is Professor Emeritus of French at Bryn Mawr College

----- From November 2010 AALFNY Newsletter -----

- **Gabrielle Griswold ('44)** visited the Lycée's new facilities, 60+ years after her studies at 3 East 95th Street, and shares her impressions with us. See [Alumni Creative section](#) of this newsletter.



Dorrit (Zucker) Cohn ('42)



● **Ludmila Svetlana (Alexeieff) Rockwell ('44)** nous écrit: "« Mes mémoires (Snapshots) vont être publiées en Russie . J'ai fait deux expositions de mes pastels en Nouvelle Angleterre. Vous pouvez voir mes œuvres sur le site [www.svetlanarockwell.com](http://www.svetlanarockwell.com). D'autre part je suis en train de faire publier les 115 gravures pour Don Quichotte que mon père Alexandre Alexeieff a fait il y a 50 ans de cela à Paris pour les imprimeurs Rigal. Je serai donc à Paris lors de leur sortie cet hiver. Mon fils Alexandre Rockwell, metteur en scène indépendant, vient de terminer son dernier film "Pete Small is Dead" . J'ai vu **Jean Alvarez de Toledo ('44)** et **Michel Grinberg ('44)** à Paris en juin, et je suis toujours en communication avec **Betsy Jolas ('43)**. »

Videos of LFNy alumni on the internet:

● **[Michel Grinberg Vinaver \('44\)](#)**: Entretien à l'occasion de la mise en scène de *Par dessus bord*.

----- From December 2009 AALFNY Newsletter -----

● **Ludmila Svetlana (Alexeieff) Rockwell ('44)** nous écrit: "Certains d'entre vous seront curieux d'avoir des nouvelles d'amis de la classe '44 ! Je n'utilise plus le nom de Ludmila Alexeieff. Désormais je me nomme Svetlana Rockwell, nom que je garde comme artiste peintre et écrivain. Vous pouvez regarder mon site sous ce nom afin de voir mes peintures: [www.svetlanarockwell.com](http://www.svetlanarockwell.com). **Claudine Herrmann, Jean Alvarez de Toledo, Michel Grinberg** et **Svetlana Alexeieff-Rockwell** vont diner ensemble à Paris ce mois de juin. Jean, Claudine, et Svetlana ont écrit leurs mémoires ou ils mentionnent le Lycée. Betsy Jolas va également rencontrer Svetlana. Des nouvelles plus détaillées sortiront après leur rencontre." (Click on link below to access Svetlana's website)

● "**Claire Nicolas White ('44)** is an author and translator. She has written art criticism (*Art News, Newsday*), librettos, plays, and is the author of: a family history, *The Elephant and the Rose* (The Vineyard Press, 2003); a memoir, *Fragments of Stained Glass* (Mercury House, 1989); a biography, *Joep Nicolas, His Life and Work* (Van Spijk, 1979); poetry, *Biography and Other Poems* (Doubleday, 1981), *The Bridge* (Cross Cultural Communications, 1987), *Riding at Anchor* (Waterline Books, 1994), *News From Home* (Birnham Woods Graphics, 1998); and a novel, *The Death of the Orange Trees* (Harper and Row, 1963).

Her poetry has appeared in such magazines as *The New Yorker, Partisan Review, Grand Street, Atlantic Monthly, Witness, Confrontation, The Paris Review*, and others. She is the editor of *Oberon* poetry magazine.

She translated three novels from the Dutch: *The Assault* by Harry Mulisch (Pantheon Books, 1985 Honorable mention PEN Translation prize); *The Vanishing* by Tim Krabbé (Random House, 1993); and *My Father's War* by Adraan van Dis (The New Press, 1996). In 1990, she edited a Dutch issue of Columbia University's *Translation Magazine* and in 1997, *Stanford White, Letters to His Family* (Rizzoli)."



Michel Vinaver ('44) and one of his works



Beating the Storm, by Consuelo Hanks ('45) (Watercolor, 10-1/4 x 14 inches)



Paul Lochak ('46)



"She was born in the Netherlands and came to America as a child when World War II began. In 1947 she moved to St. James, Long Island, where she has lived with her family. She was married to Robert White, the sculptor and painter, and grandson of Stanford White."

(<http://www.thevineyardpress.com/pages/authors.html>) and *sunysb.edu*

- "**Claudine Herrmann ('44)** became famous in France with the publication of "*Les Voleuses de langue*" in 1976. Her much-quoted book is now recognized as a modern classic of feminist literary criticism. Nancy Kline's welcome English translation captures the clarity and passion of observations that go beyond books to boudoirs and boardrooms. Herrmann charges that language is the fundamental means by which women are oppressed. Their education forces them to parrot masculine discourse, often gets them dismissed as chatterboxes, and silences their real lives. Women who desire to express themselves creatively are obliged to "steal" language or to invent one of their own. Based on readings of major texts in literature, philosophy, and the social sciences, "*The Tongue Snatchers*" illuminates how men and women differ in their experiences of words, work, space, time, love, and sexuality." (<http://www.infibeam.com/Books/info/Claudine-Herrmann/The-Tongue-Snatchers/0803272529.html>)

----- From July 2008 AALFNY Newsletter -----

***Avis de Décès:***

- **Michael Woodbury's ('42)** son, informed us that "My father passed away on June 2, 2007. I think that he really enjoyed his stint at your school even though he did not talk much about it until his later years."

- Betsy Jolas ('43) wrote to inform us that **Mathilde Mortimer ('43)** passed away in 1995, or thereabouts. She said: "Mathilde's 1st marriage was to an American - 3 sons, one deceased. Her 2nd marriage was to a Scottish duke - she became Duchess of Argyll. The last part of her life was spent between the old castle of Argyll near Edinburgh and her Paris flat where I saw her frequently."

- **Gabrielle Griswold ('44)** wrote: "It's been great here at Kendal-at-Longwood [*where I am*] enjoying the company of three former Lycee schoolmates from nearly 70 years ago (!), and finding them all still active and thriving. They are **Hilda Beer Grauman ('42)**, **Martin Beer** and **Jean Beer**, whose elder sister **Lise** (also a lyceene) was here when I arrived a year-and-a-half ago, but who passed away sometime last year. We are all good friends, and Hilda, Jean and I host a French-speaking table in our dining-room once a month, which usually numbers about 10 or 12 participants. It was also quite wonderful to hear from former classmate **Ludmilla Alexeiff ('44)**, who now goes by the name of Svetlana Rockwell. We were both grateful to the Lycee's alumni association for reuniting us via e-mail." *Gabrielle, who has been a prolific contributor to our newsletter, also submitted a poem which you can read by [clicking here](#).*

- **"Michel Vinaver ['44]** was born in Paris in 1927. He had two novels published by Gallimard, in 1950 and 1951, on the recommendation of Albert Camus. In parallel with his business career working for the Gillette Company, he started as a playwright in 1955, never to return to the narrative form. His dramatic works include 18 plays and 7 adaptations or translations, alongside theoretical and critical essays. Upon leaving Gillette, he was appointed professor of Dramatic Studies at Université Paris III and subsequently Paris VIII. Vinaver owes to Wesleyan University, Middletown, Connecticut — which awarded him a Bachelor of Arts Degree in 1947 — the revelation of T. S. Eliot's *The Wasteland*, which he translated and which has had a never-ending impact on his dramatic writing." (*From: City University of NY*) [His website](#)

----- From December 2007 AALFNY Newsletter -----

- **Dorrit (Zucker-Hale) Cohn ('42)** is the Bernbaum Professor of Literature at Harvard University. In 1999, the Modern Language Association of America awarded her its seventh annual Scaglione Prize for Comparative Literary, honoring her for her book of comparative literary theory, *The Distinction of Fiction*. Cohn said the book began as a series of essays written for various periodicals. "One was on Freud's case histories, one was on Proust, and I decided that they all fit together. I added some chapters to the essays that I published, and it seems to be considered a real book. I am very pleased about the award, of course," she said. (Source: The Harvard Crimson, <http://www.thecrimson.com/article.aspx?ref=98992>)

- **Ludmila Svetlana Alexeieff-Rockwell ('44)** nous écrit: "Cher ami: Je voudrais communiquer le fait que j'ai terminé mes Mémoires qui couvrent la période où j'étais au lycée français pendant la guerre. J'ai écrit ces Mémoires en anglais et maintenant elles vont être traduites en français. Si l'un d'entre vous connaît une petite maison d'édition aux États-Unis qui risque de s'intéresser, veuillez avoir la gentillesse de me le communiquer.

Le livre 'SNAPSHOT' couvre mon enfance à Paris, les rencontres avec divers amis de mes parents, Philippe Soupault, André Malraux, sa femme Clara Goldshmidt Malraux, ensuite l'exode jusqu'au Portugal, l'arrivée à New York, et les diverses rencontres avec Yul Brynner, Alexandre Calder, W.H. Auden, Eugene Jolas, Jacques Schiffrin, Marc Chagall, André Kertész et bien d'autres."

- **Gabrielle Griswold ('44)** wrote: "Here is an update on my current life at the continuing care retirement community called Kendal-at-Longwood in Kennett Square, Pa. I arrived here on 16 Nov. 2006, hence just about one year ago, and am absolutely loving the place, which is full of active, vital and interesting residents, and gives one both the privacy and the mental stimulation one needs. Among the first people I discovered living here when I moved in last fall was **Hilda (Beer) Grauman**, who was two years ahead of me back in those Lycée days. In addition, I found that her older sister,



**Lise**, and brothers **Martin and Jean Beer** were also here (Lise, the eldest of the four, has since passed away.) She and I decided immediately that we would start a French table, and we did. It meets once a month, with a turn-out of between eight and sixteen people, and all conversation held there takes place in French. A new Chinese resident due soon to move in is very excited about the opportunity of speaking French here because he went to a French Lycée in Shanghai!

Within the past several months, thanks to the New York lycee's alumni association I have also heard from (and been in e-mail correspondence with) **Svetlana Rockwell ('44)** Guess that's all for now. Must dash." Also, [click here](#) for a poem by Gabrielle-'Full Moon Rising':

- **Juliette (Breffort) Blessing ('45)** is Professor Emerita of Modern Foreign Languages at the University of Mary Washington (L.ès L., University of Lille; D.E.S., University of Paris; Diplome de L'Institut d'Études Politiques de Paris; Doct. U., University of Dijon)
- On the Internet: [Consuelo \(Eames\) Hanks \('45\)](#)

----- From June 2007 AALFNY Newsletter -----

- **Ludmila Svetlana (Alexeieff) Rockwell ('44)** est peintre et écrivain, et habite le Massachusetts.
- [Click here](#), for a poem by **Gabrielle Griswold ('44)** --*The Gypsies' Lament*:

----- From December 2006 AALFNY Newsletter -----

- **Gabrielle Griswold, '44** sent her regrets for not being able to attend the AALFNY May 31st reunion in NYC, and wrote: "How I wish I could get there for the reunion, but unfortunately I am so busy just at present that I'm afraid it's impossible. But another time, perhaps! I'd love to get to know some of you with whom I've been in correspondence but still haven't met. Think of me, and I'll be thinking of all of you. Special greetings also to my former classmate, **Maurice Raviol**, who I believe does plan to attend. When next in New York, perhaps I'll get to see you all. Best and warmest wishes."

Gabrielle also wrote another in her series of articles for us, entitled [The 1938-1939 School Year: Part 2, The Lycée Kids I Remember](#)

----- From June 2005 AALFNY Newsletter -----

- **Betsy Jolas ('43)** wrote: "Please visit my [personal website](#) ('catalogue' for latest info on compositions -'actualités' for updated agenda)"
- On the Internet, Betsy Jolas : [Click here](#)

----- From November 2004 AALFNY Newsletter -----

- **Betsy Jolas ('43)** wrote and invites her classmates to visit [her website](#)

### ***In Memoriam***

- Eléonore M. Zimmermann ('49) informed us that her good friend **Alix (Hamburger) Deguise ('43)** passed away. Eléonore wrote: "Alix, who had a truly remarkable career worth mentioning in your newsletter, was a friend, a person I was very fond of and admired." Eléonore sent us a notice from a Connecticut newspaper which can be viewed by [clicking here](#).
- On the Internet: [Pierre Rosset-Cournand \('43\)](#) [deceased]:

#### **----- From Winter 2003-2004 AALFNY Newsletter -----**

- **Maurice Raviol ('44)** writes: "Married 1954. Still married to the same woman! I have one son, Michel, who attended the LFNY in the sixties & seventies. Now he's a grandfather of two beautiful girls."
- **Gabrielle Griswold ('44)** shares this with us: "I continue to work full-time as a writer on many different topics (arts, crafts, history, drama, business, farms, animals, personality profiles, and some news) for the local weekly paper."

#### **-----From Winter2002/2003 AALFNY Newsletter -----**

- **Gabrielle Griswold ('44)** writes: "Yes, I am still a full-time staff writer (not a reporter) for our local weekly newspaper, The Mountain EAR. I take photos for and write: feature stories, personality profiles, history stories, art stories, crafts stories, animal stories, school stories, seasonal (notably Christmas) stories, play reviews, veterans' stories, technology stories, some business pieces and some (generally few) news stories, plus a few other miscellaneous things besides. Our paper's circulation is roughly 15,000, (probably more during the summer season), and we recently won a New England Press Association award in the "General Excellence" category -- the first time we ever entered the competition!....I love my job, which comprises a great deal of variety and a pleasant balance between time spent at the computer and time spent on the road taking photographs and doing interviews. I meet some fabulous people, learn their life stories, am tied right in to the community and its activities, and am in the fortunate position of always learning something new, which I relish. The job keeps me mentally stimulated and, I believe, helps preserve my youthful spirit. (Isn't it nice that one can write at any age?) It is also a considerable satisfaction at the end of each week to know that at least 15,000 pairs of eyes will see the result of my efforts!  
I am formerly married, presently divorced from Boston attorney Jerome Facher. (In case you read the book or saw the movie "A Civil Action," he was the lawyer who represented the corporate "villains" in the case.) Actually I was Gabrielle Facher during my marriage and only returned to my maiden name after my divorce. I don't know if I ever told you that I spent the decade of my 20s living and working in



Paris and London, first for the Marshall Plan, then for its successor agency the Mutual Security Administration, and finally for N.A.T.O. (before it moved to Brussels).”

- **Elisabeth (Bertol) Moon ('44)** wrote and told us that she is still in close contact with her childhood friend and classmate Dorrance (Velay) D'André '44 and had been in contact for many years with Esther (Huisman) Asper '44 until she passed away three years ago. Elizabeth and Gabrielle Griswold recently contacted each other thanks to the AALFNY “Find a Classmate” service!

----- From March/April 2002 AALFNY Newsletter -----

- **Gabrielle Griswold ('44)** writes us : " I started at the Lycee in 1938 when the school was only three years old, and I can remember quite clearly who most of my classmates were. Among them: Christiane Donat, Pauline Frassati, Greta Unger, Pierre Grelet, Charles Haines, Ethan Davis, Gerard Tanqueray, Georges Gonod, Francois Lee, Marcel Lavignette, and one or two others. After I skipped 4ème, my classmates were Eleanor Cramer, Gloria Alvarez, Elizabeth Bertol, Esther Huisman, Maurice Raviol, Jacques Regard, Ludmilla Alexeiff, Marcel Monory, Michel Guggenheim, Jean Alvarez de Toledo, Jean-Pierre Petolas, Raoul Grenade -- plus several others. In one of those two grades there were also Claire Nicholas, Bonita Boomer, Jacques Changeux, François Pardo, Jacques Regard, Natasha Dorfman, Pierre Monsarrat, equally classmates of mine at some point or other. In some of the other classes of the time, names I remember are those of Jacqueline Dutacq, Jean Arabo, David Leach, and René de Chambrun. Some of these people may even have come and gone prior to 1940. I know that Christiane Donat and her older sister, Odile, returned to France at some point during my first Lycée year. I had been friends with both of them. We corresponded for a time after they left, then lost track, and God knows whether they even survived World War II. I have often wondered about them. [My brother] Arthur Robbins Griswold Jr., two years younger than I, also attended the Lycée during the same years I did (1938 to 1941 or 1942). He died some years ago. One further note: my mother, Gabrielle Krazewska Griswold, taught English at the Lycée during, I believe, the same years my brother and I attended school there."

- **Bertrand Bonavita:** “En retraite de la Marine Nationale à Paris et heureux d’être le grand père de trois élèves actuels du Lycée Français .

----- From July/August 2001 AALFNY Newsletter -----

- **Juan Alvarez de Toledo ('44)** wrote the following letter after his visit to the 95th St LFNY in Spring 2000 : "Cher Lycée, Merci pour ton accueil chaleureux lors de mon passage chez "nous" fin avril. Soixante ans n'auront terni la vivacité d'aucun souvenir de tes murs et tes habitants. J'ai été particulièrement touché par la lettre d'Esther Huisman '43 et d'y retrouver mon nom parmi ceux des personnages de mon enfance. La disparition du cher M. Brodin ne pouvait pas m'étonner mais j'ai eu le coeur serré en revoyant son

élégante silhouette descendre le grand escalier. Voici quelques années, j'ai écrit quelques souvenirs d'enfance et de jeunesse. Une échange de lettres avec M. Brodin remontant à mars 1982 (il demandait qu'on lui écrive et parle du temps passé du Lycée) m'encourage à vous adresser une copie de ces souvenirs, où je parle beaucoup du Lycée et de quelques visages encore très présents." Les souvenirs de Juan sont intitulés "l'Agreste Minot."

----- **From November/December 2000 AALFNY Newsletter** -----

- **Jacques Regard ('44)** wrote from Spain «By chance, I came upon a copy of your April newsletter. Please accept the sincere congratulations of an old '44 alumnus. I am certain that many grads have felt the need for a nostalgic Who's Who listing the students who have attended the LFNY since its start in 1937.Perhaps a CD database could be developed and successfully sold!»

----- **From March 2000 AALFNY Newsletter** -----

- **Paul Lochak** est venu visiter le Lycée en novembre'99.

**Continue scrolling down for Class photo**



Class of 1945 : Seme in 1940 (courtesy Gabrielle Griswold, '44)



Back row, left to right: Jacques Changeux ('44)\*, Marcel Lavignette ('45)\*, Georges Gonneau ('45)\*, Ethan Davis ('45), Martin Moynahan ('45), Guy Leroux ('45), Bonita Boomer('45)

Middle row, left to right: Colette Marie-Louise (Smith) Douglas ('45), Gabrielle Griswold ('44), Pauline Frassati ('45), Grete (Unger) Heinz ('45), Claire (Nicolas) White ('44), Jeanne Martin ('45), Natacha Stewart Dorfman-Ullman ('45) \*;

Front row, left to right: Unknown boy, Francis Lee ('45), Charles Haines ('45), Jacques Regard ('44)

Absente: Liliane (Coppens) Lucas ('45)

(\* = deceased)