



## 1971 Class Notes Archives

Yearbook photos: Class of '71 in terminale: [Click here](#)  
( Also, see bottom of this page for *reunion photos* )

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



TOP: Bernard Ellena ('71);  
BOTTOM: Daniel Spulber ('71)

- **Rafael Rodriguez** sent us a fun-to-read reminiscence (with photos) about a *Rallye Promenade* organized by LFNY alumni in 1975. (Click [here](#))
- **Bernard Ellena** "is a fine fragrance perfumer who works for Symrise. His father, Peter Ellena was a perfumer for Chiris, his older brother, Jean-Claude Ellena, and niece Celine Ellena are also perfumers."
- **William McKee Wisheart** nous écrit : « J'ai passé mon B.E.P.C. à la fin de la 3e au Lycée avant de le quitter et passer dans un High School américain. Plus tard, j'ai fait une maîtrise à Toulon et ensuite je suis allé habiter l'Allemagne, près de Nürnberg, où je me trouve actuellement avec ma femme. Nos enfants ont quitté la maison il y a longtemps et nous avons trois petits-enfants. »
- **Daniel F. Spulber** "is the Elinor Hobbs Distinguished Professor of International Business and Professor of Management Strategy at the Kellogg School of Management, Northwestern University, where he has taught since 1990. He is also Professor of Law at the Northwestern University Law School (Courtesy). He received his Ph.D. in economics in 1979 and his M.A. in economics in 1976 from Northwestern University and his B.A. in economics in 1974 from the University of Michigan. Spulber has taught at Brown University, the University of Southern California, and Cal Tech. Spulber has received eight National Science Foundation grants, three Searle Fund Grants, and three Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation Grants for economic research. Spulber is the founding editor of the *Journal of Economics & Management Strategy* published by Wiley-Blackwell Publishing. Spulber is the Research Director for the Searle Center on Law, Regulation and Economic Growth. He is also the founder of Kellogg's International Business & Markets Program. Spulber's research is in the areas of



TOP: Cecile (Tardu) Delerue ('71);  
BOTTOM : George Acogny ('71)

International Economics, Industrial Organization, Microeconomic Theory, Entrepreneurship, Management Strategy, and Law. He was ranked 6th among economists in the United States in “Trends in Rankings of Economics Departments in the U.S.: An Update” ..... Spulber has published numerous journal articles in economics journals and law reviews ..... [and] is the author of twelve books.”

([http://www.kellogg.northwestern.edu/Faculty/Directory/Spulber\\_Daniel.aspx](http://www.kellogg.northwestern.edu/Faculty/Directory/Spulber_Daniel.aspx))



TOP: Simone Barbet ('71);  
BOTTOM: Jonathan Klausner ('71)

• **Cécile (Tardu) Delerue** est « professeur de Yoga à Pau depuis plus de 35 ans . [Elle a ] été formée par des professeurs qui tous ont reçu leur enseignement de TKV Desikachar. Cette école transmet un Yoga classique qui s’adapte aux conditions de la vie moderne tout en respectant l’essentiel de la tradition millénaire. [Elle] est titulaire des diplômes suivants de Professeur de Yoga : Fédération Nationale des Enseignants de Yoga (1981), -Institut Français du Yoga (1994) , et Self Realization Meditation and Healing Center (2008). »

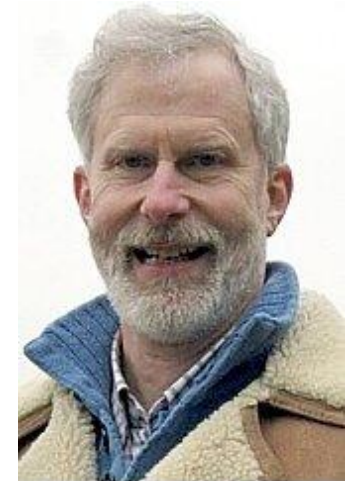
([http://yogapau.com/YogaPau/Le\\_Professeur.html](http://yogapau.com/YogaPau/Le_Professeur.html))

• **George Acogny** “was born in Africa in the mid fifties. He is a multi faceted talent, speaks 6 languages fluently and plays several instruments. In the early seventies, he started playing in bands in Europe, which led to a record deal with the WEA label Strings, under which he recorded two albums with guest musicians like Larry Corryel and Michael Brecker. In the early eighties, Acogny took a trip to Africa with Peter Gabriel, which carved both their careers and shaped what is now known as world music. They sampled new sounds and recorded different rhythms in collaboration with various artists like Youssou Ndour [..... ] Acogny lived in England collaborating with Peter Gabriel on various projects and met with David Gilmour from the group Pink Floyd, who introduced him to various rock bands. In the mid-eighties Acogny scored the music to the film Playing For Keeps. In the early nineties, Acogny moved to Los Angeles and went on to music-supervise over 20 films including: City of Angels, The Crow II, Spawn, The Saint, Jungle 2 Jungle, The Ghost and the Darkness, Virtuosity, Save the Last Dance, The Bone Collector and Rabbit Proof Fence, which gave Gabriel a Golden Globe nomination for the instrumental score in 2003. Acogny also has a passion for animation, and music-supervised, wrote, and produced songs for The Rugrats in Paris, The Rugrats Go Wild and The Wild Thornberrys movies. He has worked with artists like Aerosmith, Sting, The Dave Matthews Band, Wycleff Jean, Snoop Dogg and many others. Acogny has also worked on very successful European projects like the record-setting Asterix, Mission Cleopatra, which is the biggest box office success in France to date, for which he wrote the end title with Snoop Dogg and executive produced the music. His pride is certainly the groundbreaking Manu Dibango album Wakafrica, which sold over one million copies worldwide. “

([http://www.radioswisspop.ch/cgi-](http://www.radioswisspop.ch/cgi-bin/pip/html.cgi?lang=en&m=entity&sid=10586cef350f84b4912f8961f33e2a0733f7a)

[bin/pip/html.cgi?lang=en&m=entity&sid=10586cef350f84b4912f8961f33e2a0733f7a](http://www.radioswisspop.ch/cgi-bin/pip/html.cgi?lang=en&m=entity&sid=10586cef350f84b4912f8961f33e2a0733f7a))

• **Robert Oliver Meyzen** “is a distinguished family name in restaurant history. [His] father Robert Louis Meyzen was a co-founder of La Caravelle, a legendary French restaurant in Manhattan that was consistently rated four stars by the New York Times in the 1960s and frequented by members of high society. Growing up, Robert Oliver Meyzen went to school first at Our Lady Queen of Martyrs in Forest Hills and then at Lycee



TOP: William McKee  
Wisehart ('71); BOTTOM:  
Soukeyna (Boye) Spivey ('71)

Français de New York in Manhattan. At the age of 13, he traveled to Switzerland to continue his education staying until 1970 when he was accepted at the Ecole Hotellière de Lausanne; he then returned to the U.S.A to attend Assumption College in Worcester, Mass. While in college he dabbled in music promotion ..... [He] worked for his dad at La Crémaillère from 1975 until 1991 when he left to look into other opportunities and contemplated buying a restaurant. In mid-1993, he found an unlikely prospective seller—his father. La Crémaillère had been closed since February, 1992. So after some negotiation, they struck a deal. "The interior was redecorated before reopening," said Meyzen "to replace formality with French country charm." The menu was essentially the same as before—traditional French cuisine with a focus on fresh ingredients." (<http://bedford.patch.com/groups/business-news/p/eric-krupnick-and-albert-astudillo-at-la-cremaillere>)

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

- **Chris Brun** shared this with us: " [Le Père] **Matthieu Rougé ('83)** has now left his parish at Sainte Clotilde [in Paris] and is spending a year in Madrid. I'm not sharing this as a question of religion but because he is an exceptional individual contributing to the development of the church, a theology master, and a human being having great interest in emerging countries. I would not be surprised to see him at a higher level in the next few years. He is only 43 years old. Here's a little story: When my dad passed away, Matthieu allowed gospel singers at the ceremony rather than the more conventional sad and boring music. He had a doubt as to the justification and potential feedback but went ahead with it anyway. He admitted that it was a great idea afterwards, which is proof of his *ouverture d'esprit*. Let's keep track of him."

- **Kem (Knapp) Sawyer** wrote: "A new book this year: *Nelson Mandela: Champion of Freedom* -- a biography for young readers. Jon and I get to spend time with our five grandchildren (ages 1 to 8) and that's very wonderful. Two of our daughters and their families live close by. Our youngest daughter lives in Congo (DRC) and works for Human Rights Watch. (She's staying very busy now.) I work as an editor at the Pulitzer Center on Crisis Reporting, an international journalism organization Jon founded seven years ago. We're expanding our educational programs into Europe -- please get in touch if you'd like to learn more. Our journalists visit schools and universities to talk about their work and to get students more engaged in global issues. And, on a final note, it's a little bewildering to think most of us are turning 60 this year. I didn't make the last reunion -- but plan to be at the next. Would love to see all of you."

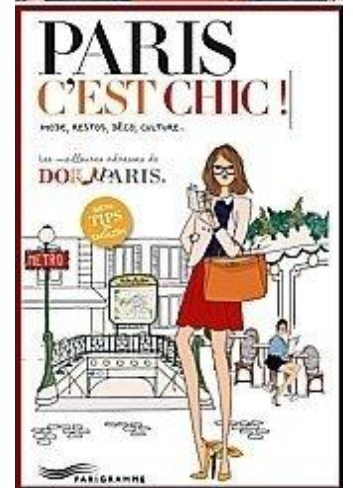
- **Mary (Deschamps ) Cornu** shared this with us: "The 2012 holiday season is soon going to be in full swing and I decided it was about time to shake myself up and reach out to former classmates in order to recall those wonderful days in the mid Sixties (il y a 44 ans.....forty four years ago!) when the Lycée was on East 72nd street, when the girls still wore pleated skirts and grey knee socks to school and we definitely did not have smart phones or internet. The world has certainly sped ahead since I came back to Paris in 1968. But many names that used to be called out during "l'appel" are still well imprinted. Now a little bit about myself, having quickly realized in 6ème that I would never be a rocket scientist nor build bridges, my professional choices



CHAMPION OF FREEDOM  
**Nelson Mandela**



**TOP: Jean-Loup Taieb ('71);**  
**BOTTOM: by Kem Knapp ('71)**



**TOP: Mary (Deschamps) Cornu ('71) with daughters Morgane & Eloise;**  
**BOTTOM: Avec textes anglais signés Mary Deschamps**



Piero Grandi ('71)



TOP: Patrick (Brassloff) Hamilton ('71); BOTTOM: Patrick Blangy ('71)

went towards more literary vistas. Being bilingual and knowing how to touch type on a mechanical machine proved to be my strongest assets. After a Master's in Journalism at Boston University, I worked for five years at the New York Times in Manhattan, followed by ten years at Vogue in Paris.

I now run a communication and translation company specialized in fashion and "art de vivre". Check me out on [www. Fashionlanguage.fr](http://www.Fashionlanguage.fr). In addition, I have been local editor for the Paris Zagat Survey of Restaurants for 15 years and also work for a very *Parisienne* site called Do it in Paris, that recently published "Paris c'est Chic". A great Christmas gift idea!

Last but not least, I have two Franco-American girls: 22-year-old Eloïse, who just returned from a semester abroad in Australia and is now finishing an MBA in luxury marketing, while 17-year-old Morgane is in her Junior year at an all-girls boarding school in Massachusetts. Hooray for bi-cultural education!

Alors chers amis, anciens et anciennes du Lycée Français de New York, voici en quelques lignes mes dernières nouvelles qui j'espère seront l'occasion de retrouvailles à travers le monde. J'en profite pour chaleureusement remercier le dévoué Roger Liwer et l'association AALFNY qui se donne tant de mal pour nous garder en contact... Merry Xmas to all et Bonne Année 2013."

● See Alumni Creative section of this newsletter, or [click here](#), for an article by **Rafael Rodriguez**: "End of Year Thoughts" (with a neat discussion of old cars)

● **Jean-Loup Taieb** is *membre du Conseil d'Administration de Planète Copropriété*. He wrote and referred us to their website, which lists his bio as follows: "Architecte D.E.S.A., fondateur en 1996 de la Compagnie des Architectes de Copropriété et des salons "Copropriété et gestion de biens" et "Ecobuilding Performance". Réalisateur associé du Salon de la copropriété de Montréal et membre du bureau du Cercle Immobilier France Québec C.I.F.Q., intervenant au sein du Chantier copropriété et de l'association Planète Copropriété." (<http://www.planetecopropriete.com/index.php/en/theassociation/membresduca>)

● **Piero Grandi**: "Managing Director Lloyds TSB International Private Banking, in May 2008. Since 2003 he managed his own consultant firm in Geneva, served as a Director on two International Boards and operated as an entrepreneur in Italy. Piero has an academic background in Economics. He joined Citibank in Rome in 1976 as an executive trainee to Board. He has held various positions with Citigroup in Rome, Milan, London, Frankfurt, Naples and New York and was an Executive Committee member of Banco Centrosud and Head of the Consumer and Private Banking business until 1989. Piero worked for American Express for 10 years in various locations (Paris, London & Milan), progressing from CEO for Italy to Head of International Personal Financial Services and Insurance, covering 29 countries." ([http://www.cwf.ch/pdf/CWFWAVE\\_bio\\_panelists.pdf](http://www.cwf.ch/pdf/CWFWAVE_bio_panelists.pdf))

● **Patrick Blangy** "has been appointed Director of Sales and Marketing at Taj Boston. In his new capacity, Mr. Blangy will oversee the marketing, reservations, sales and public relations strategies, managing a staff of



TOP: Dominique Pancol ('71); BOTTOM: Marina Malchin ('71)



Suzan Uchitel-Minoret ('71)

twenty-five professionals at this luxury hotel situated in the landmark location of Newbury and Arlington Streets adjacent to the Public Garden.....Mr. Blangy's range of experience as a Director of Marketing & Sales includes the luxurious boutique style hotels of Orient-Express, high profile resorts such as the Grand Wailea Resort & Spa on Maui and a corporate director's position with Renaissance Hotels International."

([http://www.hotel-online.com/News/PR2009\\_1st/Jan09\\_PBlangy.html](http://www.hotel-online.com/News/PR2009_1st/Jan09_PBlangy.html))



TOP: Vivian (Wayne) Henderson ('71); BOTTOM: Dr. Alain Baron ('71)



- **Alessandro Castaldo** "CFA, is a researcher and trader for Manchester Trading. Dr. Castaldo wrote his PhD dissertation on stock market volatility at the City University of New York, and taught courses in finance and options to undergraduates at Baruch College (CUNY) from 1998-2001. He has been associated with Circle T Partners, LP (equity hedge fund) and Willowbridge Associates (commodities trading adviser). [He] holds a B.S. in electrical engineering/computer science and an M.S. in management from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and worked as a software engineer at SEI Corporation/TMI Systems, Software Research Corp. and Systems Constructs Inc. before entering the finance profession." (<http://www.zoominfo.com>)

- **Dominique Pancol's website.**

----- From December 2011 AALFNY newsletter -----

- **Ronald Grelsamer** wrote that he is having "fun lecturing at Brown, Columbia, FIU, MIT, and at orthopedic meetings on [his book] *The Beatles and the Race to the Moon*. A small thrill last spring to speak to astronaut Bill Anders who took the famous "earthrise" picture during the Apollo 8 mission. See "[Into the Sky with Diamonds](#)" and [Facebook page](#) for other updates." (*Sign into Facebook first*)

- "Dear Lycée friends.....": **Rafael Rodriguez** sends his greetings to his classmates in a personal and touching letter. ([Click here](#) to read the letter)

- **Suzan (Uchitel) Lewis**, Jerry Lewis' daughter, is launching a new Reality TV concept called Celebrity Houseguest. She asked us to share her [press release](#) with you.

- "**Alain Baron** was named President of Elcelyx Therapeutics in March, 2010. Prior to Elcelyx, Dr. Baron was an Entrepreneur-in-Residence and a member of the Life Science Team at Morgenthaler Ventures, a position he has held since 2008. Prior to joining Morgenthaler, he was Senior Vice President of Research at Amylin Pharmaceuticals where he served in senior roles in R&D since 1999. Previously, Dr. Baron worked at Indiana University School of Medicine in Indianapolis, where he served as Professor of Medicine and Director, Division of Endocrinology and Metabolism. He has also held faculty positions in the Division of endocrinology and Metabolism at University of California, San Diego, and the Veterans Administration Medical Center in San Diego. He is the recipient of several prestigious awards for his research in diabetes and vascular disease, including the 1996 Outstanding Clinical Investigator Award from the American Federation for Medical



TOP: Manoëlle (Jacques) Dochy (71); BOTTOM: Philippe Soriano ('71)

Research. He is also a past National Institutes of Health MERIT award recipient. Dr. Baron is co-editor of the Ellenberg & Rifkin Textbook of Diabetes, has authored over 100 original publications and is an inventor on more than 20 patents.

Dr Baron graduated from McGill University, Canada (B.S. in Biology with honors) and the Medical College of Georgia Augusta (MD). Postdoctoral studies were completed at the University of California, San Diego." (<http://www.elcelyx.com/alain-baron.html>)



TOP: Nicholas Walker ('71);  
BOTTOM: Malcolm Walker ('71) (twin brother of Nicholas) as Pelleas in the opera Pelléas et Mélisande

- **Patrick (Brassloff) Hamilton** "is a Senior Attorney with the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC). Prior to this, he was a partner in the law firm Day Pitney LLP, where he represented corporations and individuals in federal and state white-collar criminal investigations, prosecutions, and regulatory probes, and in civil matters related to such inquiries, as well as in complex commercial litigation. Before Day Pitney, Patrick served almost 13 years as an Assistant U.S. Attorney prosecuting federal crimes in the District of Massachusetts. Prior to joining the U.S. Attorney's Office, Patrick had extensive experience in the law and in law enforcement. He had served as executive director of the Massachusetts Criminal Justice Training Council and, before that, executive director of the Massachusetts Committee on Criminal Justice and the Governor's Statewide Anti-Crime Council. Patrick also had been a litigator in major law firms in both New York and Boston. He has a BA from Yale University and a JD from the University of Virginia School of Law. Patrick is first-generation American and attended the Lycee Francais de New York for six years while growing up in New York City. Patrick and his wife, Gretchen, have two children attending the International School of Boston." (.isbos.org)

----- From November 2010 AALFNY newsletter -----

- **Rafael Rodriguez** "has published *My Diary* a book of his mother's writings that includes the 1934 diary and a newspaper review of the piano recital, several previously unpublished writings, and a reprint of her last-published work....." (*North Jersey.com*, July 8, 2010. To see full article, [click here](#).)

- **Ronald Grelsamer** told us that he "has just published "[Into the Sky with Diamonds](#)," a colorful history of the Beatles and the Race to the Moon. It will appeal to both the die-hard enthusiasts and those curious to see what the fuss was about. Roll up for the tour!"

- **Manoële (Jacques) Dochy** wrote: "While having a quick trip in New York last year, I had the pleasure of spending a very good evening with **Serge Pinto** during which we talked about all the good memories."

- **Kem (Knapp) Sawyer** shared this with us: "Jon and I now have four grandchildren. The two newest -- Raya Isabel McCarey and Thomas Francis Keane -- are only a month apart in age. Two of our daughters (and their families) live in the D.C. area. Our youngest Ida is off in Congo working for Human Rights Watch. I have a new book out -- it's a children's biography of Harriet Tubman."



TOP: Luc Boleis ('71);  
BOTTOM: Leslie Bogart ('71)



TOP: Dominique Pancol ('71);  
BOTTOM: Sophie Dumanoir ('71)

● "The fall menu at La Crémaillère will debut in a few weeks and it will once again be a collaborative effort of owner **Robert Oliver Meyzen** ['71] .....Robert Oliver Meyzen's father Robert Louis Meyzen was a co-founder of La Caravelle, a legendary French restaurant in Manhattan.....Growing up, Robert Oliver Meyzen went to school first at Our Lady Queen of Martyrs in Forest Hills and then at Lycee Francais de New York in Manhattan....." (To read the full article, [click here](#))

● **Nicholas Walker**: "He stole our attention first as dashing Sen. Trey Clegg on "Capitol," and later as an infinitely more urbane and sophisticated recast of Max Holden on "One Life to Live." He stepped away from Hollywood several years ago to follow his other passion --- landscape design --- and has just teamed up with the legendary Kathy Ireland as her design ambassador...." ([blogtalkradio.com](#))

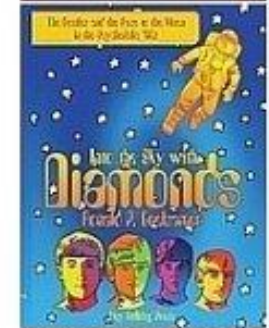
● "Né à Bogotà (Colombie), le franco-américain **Malcolm Walker** suit des études universitaires à Londres, New York et Paris. Parallèlement, il étudie le chant à l'Ecole d'Art Lyrique de l'Opéra de Paris. Il se perfectionne ensuite auprès de Vera Rosza à Londres et Paul von Schilhawsky à Salzbourg. Depuis ses débuts à l'Opéra Comique et à Glyndebourne, Malcolm Walker a collaboré avec quelques uns des plus importants chefs d'orchestre et formations symphoniques du moment.....Ses engagements l'ont amené, entre autres, au Wiener Stadtsoper, Opéra de Paris, Maggio Fiorentino, La Fenice, Opéra de Seattle, Opéra de Genève, et l'Opéra de Tel-Aviv ainsi qu'à quelques grands festivals internationaux. Le répertoire de Malcolm Walker, qui va du baroque au contemporain, contient plus de cinquante rôles dont les principaux rôles mozartiens et le rôle titre de Pelléas et Mélisande de Debussy..... Passionné par l'enseignement qu'il pratique depuis de nombreuses années, il est nommé professeur au Conservatoire national supérieure de musique et de danse de Paris en 2004....Malcolm Walker est fréquemment sollicité pour faire partie des jurys dans des concours internationaux de chant et est invité régulièrement à donner des master-classes, notamment aux U.S.A." ([http://conservatoiredepa.ecritel.net/fr/enseignants\\_detail.php?idens=439&iddis=107](http://conservatoiredepa.ecritel.net/fr/enseignants_detail.php?idens=439&iddis=107))

Videos of LFNY alumni on the internet:

- Ancien 1er ministre [Dominique de Villepin](#) nous livre son analyse sur l'élection de Barack Obama à la Maison Blanche
- Dr. [Ronald Grelsamer](#) discusses ice and snow-related injuries
- [Nicholas Walker](#) in a commercial

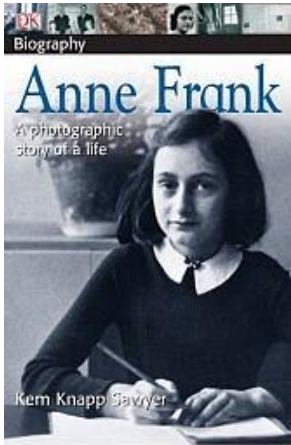
----- From December 2009 AALFNY newsletter -----

● **Philippe Soriano** wrote: "**Vivian Wayne** (now Henderson), **Ronald Grelsamer** and I got together on



TOP: Published by Rafael Rodrigeuz ('71); MIDDLE: By Ronald Grelsamer ('71);  
BOTTOM: by Kem Knapp Sawyer ('71)

September 24, 2009 for dinner. This was to celebrate our 50th anniversary of when we started in 11eme together in September 1959! We called it "la reunion d'or". So of course we went to La Grenouille, which is run by another former Lyceen, **Charles Masson**, and had a very nice meal."



Top: 'Anne Frank' by Kem (Knapp) Sawyer ('71) Bottom: Olga (Kokkinopoulos) Bensadoun ('71)

- In our previous newsletter, we reported that *Billy Strayhorn: Lush Life*, a musical documentary feature film by director **Robert Levi ('71)** about the life of jazz composer Billy Strayhorn (who is best known as Duke Ellington's long-time collaborator and composing companion) had won a Best Documentary Screenplay Award from the Writers Guild of America, and a George Foster Peabody Award for Broadcasting Excellence. Robert wrote to us that "since then, we won the EMMY for BEST DOCUMENTARY FILM of 2008, beating out every single network, cable and primetime show, including all domestic and international broadcast offerings."

- **Olga (Kokkinopoulos) Bensadoun** wrote: "My daughter Isabelle (34 years old!) has two daughters now: Justine (6 years old) and Lola (nearly 2). My son Paul (30 years old) got married last year (no children yet). I still feel young though. I still work also and like my work a lot. I exchange mails once or twice per year with **Ronald Grelsamer** and sometimes with **Philippe Soriano**. Who knows anything about Tina (I don't remember her last name)? Looking forward to seeing you all again one day."

- **Kem (Knapp) Sawyer** shared this with us: "Jon and I have two new grandchildren -- Raya Isabel McCarey was born on May 18, and Thomas Francis Keane on June 24. They live close by and we are having a good time watching them smile, roll over, and scoot. I also have a new book out: *Abigail Adams* (a DK biography). *Harriet Tubman* will be published in January." ([Click here](#) to access Kem's web site)

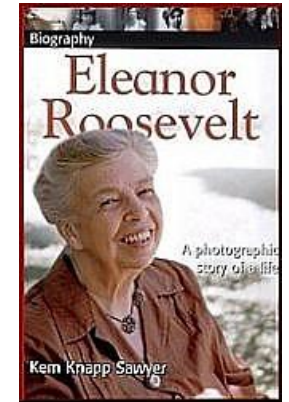
- **Rafael Rodriguez** has been trying his hand (and spirit) at music composition lately. He sent us a write-up on his thoughts on that issue, as well as an actual composition that his fellow alumni-musicians are invited to play on their instrument of choice. (See [Alumni Creative](#) section of newsletter.)

----- From January 2009 AALFNY Newsletter -----

- **Mary (Deschamps) Cornu** told us that she has "just launched a [fashion translation site](#)."

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

- **Suzan (Uchitel-Minoret) Lewis** has started a new career as a stand-up comedian, and invites her classmates to visit her websites. (([Click on links below](#)) Her press release states: "Suzan Lewis, the 56 year old daughter of entertainer Jerry Lewis, made her show business debut on Thursday, May 29, 2008. Members of the Cherry Hill, New Jersey, Community Center were treated to an evening of comedy, pantomime, and song....." She also wrote: "Mon pere adoptif Hy Uchitel est decede en 1984 et ma mere Lynn Uchitel est decedee en 2004. Ma mere avant, de me quitter, pensais que je devrais savoir qui est ma vraie famille naturelle. Je suis



TOP: by Kem (Knapp) Sawyer ('71); BOTTOM: Rafael Rodriguez ('71)



déjà proche avec un de mes freres Gary Lewis ('and the playboys' --groupe des annees 1960) et je me rapproche de mon pere Jerry en ce moment. Je suis en train d'ecrire un livre sur ma vie et tous les celebrites que l'on connaissait avec mes parents grace à notre restaurant francais "Le Voisin" et notre night club "le 'El Morocco' de 1959 a 1970."



Top: Mary (Deschamps) Cornu ('71) and family  
Bottom: Darrell Ellison ('71)

- **Rafael Rodriguez** wrote an article about his years 'After the Lycée' and his experiences as a translator/interpreter. (See [Alumni Creative](#) section of newsletter)

- "Writer/Producer/Director **Robert Levi** has received three Best Script nominations from the Writers Guild of America for his documentary work. His film *Duke Ellington: Reminiscing in Tempo* premiered on the PBS American Experience series, received an Emmy and later played on A&E's Biography. Levi wrote, produced and directed *Mott Street*, a 35mm dramatic film short for PolyGram, and his work has screened at festivals including Berlin, London, Melbourne, Munich and AFI. As a director of photography, Levi has collaborated with directors, including Norman Jewison, and taught cinematography at Columbia University's Graduate Film School." (*Urban Mozaik Magazine, urbanmozaik.com*)

In a recent email forwarded to us by **Ronald Grelsamer** ('71), Robert wrote: "My film *Lush Life* beat out Ken Burns' *World War II*, and won Best Documentary award from the Writers Guild of America and then in April, I won a coveted PEABODY Award. Each of the major film Unions has their own critical BEST OF AWARD competition. i.e. The Directors Guild (DGA), Screen Actors Guild (SAG, and The Writers Guild (WGA). These reflect the validation by peer Judges from within each Guild, as opposed to the Oscars, in which Awards are voted by members of the Motion Picture Academy, often without even seeing the works. The film has also been submitted for Emmy consideration, but those awards do not get announced and voted on until September. Emmys are, however, far less prestigious than WGA awards or Peabodys." ([Interview on NPR with Robert Levi on his latest work, Billy Strayhorn: Lush Life](#))

- "**Alessandro Castaldo**, CFA, is a researcher and trader for Manchester Trading. Dr. Castaldo wrote his PhD dissertation on stock market volatility at the City University of New York, and taught courses in finance and options to undergraduates at Baruch College (CUNY) from 1998-2001. He has been associated with Circle T Partners, LP, a \$400 million equity hedge fund; and Willowbridge Associates, a \$1 billion-plus commodities trading adviser, where his responsibilities included the ongoing refinement of a market-neutral statistically based ("stat-arb") stock selection model. Dr. Castaldo holds a B.S. in electrical engineering/computer science and an M.S. in management from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and worked as a software engineer at SEI Corporation/TMI Systems, Software Research Corp. and Systems Constructs Inc. before entering the finance profession." (*Daily Speculations, [http://www.dailyspeculations.com/castaldo/castaldo\\_index.html](http://www.dailyspeculations.com/castaldo/castaldo_index.html)*)

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



TOP: Martine Fougeron de Monès ('71); BOTTOM: By Véronique Blamont ('71)

- The class of '71 held a reunion in NYC in October 2007. For details, [click here](#).

- **Martine Fougeron** wrote: "I am a photographer and will have a solo show in New York city on February 28, 2008 at the Peter Hay Halpert Fine Art Gallery, 511 West 25th Street, # 306 from 6-8 PM. Theme: *Tete-a-Tete* Series, intimate portraits of adolescent sons who are both at the LFNY." (*Martine's [website](#)*)



- **Véronique Blamont** « a publié *C'est pas facile de grandir* (La Martinière, 1996), *Souvenirs de parfums* ( Mille et une Nuits, 1998) et *Mariée* (J.C. Lattès, 1998). Véronique Blamont est journaliste. Elle a travaillé au Nouvel Observateur pendant dix-sept ans. Elle collabore à Maison Française et enseigne au C.F.P.J. » (*From: <http://www.lepassage-editions.fr/auteurs/blamont.html>*)

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

- [Click here](#) for news of **Nathalie Moliavko-Vizotsky** .

- **Anna Welsing** wrote: "I have very fond memories of my class. Hope everyone is fine from those two years."



- **Rafael Rodriguez** wrote: "Dear Lycee friends, I am still in debt to **Roger Liwer ('68)** with a sound bite from one of **Mr Kieffer's** classes, which I promised to send him some time ago and I will. It is from a cassette from those 1970 days that will certainly resurface once I've gone through all my possessions. As in full fledged midlife crisis, I moved back to my family house in Montclair, NJ after 23 years in Manhattan. I had a partner for 10 years in NY but am a single and a confirmed bachelor now, and trying to enjoy the second half of my life, hopefully, with all sorts of projects in addition to my translation business. The move back to our old house from the city can be seen in one of those HGTV programs, called Bought and Sold (some friends joke about it as Butt and Soul!).



TOP to BOTTOM: Olga Bensadoun ('71), Robert Levi ('71), Alessandro Castaldo ('71)

I am completing the translation of a diary that my mother wrote in 1934 during the three month period preceding her piano recital at the National Theater in Havana. Working with an editor and the search for a publisher has also kept me busy. Meanwhile my nephew and nieces and godchildren are growing, as your children surely are. One of my godsons got his first job as an international auditor, one niece is graduating for the second time from the Courtland School in London with a thesis on a medieval church in Barcelona (of course!) and my newpew is finishing up at Williams College; he was brought to NY and put up at the Waldorf during some interviews on Wall Street, which he failed, but he is not the type, probably, and seems to be headed for a Long Island Country Club to coach tennis (he was the Massachussets Squash Champion). And the youngest niece is headed for Brown this summer with her F. Scott Fitzgerald award for a short story. Hard to tell kids anything these days, do I begin to sound un *peu gaga*? A bientôt à la prochaine réunion et bonne chance a tous!"



Ronald Grelsamer ('71) on CBS News and Dominique de Villepin ('71)



TOP: William Weaver ('71);  
BOTTOM: Christopher Williams ('71)



Tania (Cooper) Patriota ('71)  
Representative of UNFPA &  
husband, H.E. Antonio de  
Aguiar Patriota (Ambassador  
of Brazil to the United  
Nations

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

● From **Mary (Deschamps) Cornu**: "I live in Paris with my husband François and two daughters, Eloïse (sweet 16) and Morgane (daredevil 11)...After working for the New York Times, Vogue, the Herald Tribune as a journalist, I started my own company: LANGUAGE. We do writing, editing, translating teaching."

● **Margaret (Block) Walker** wrote: " I live in Hastings and am a psychologist. I work at Columbia at the Counseling Service. My husband and I have two boys, Leo and Sam. Leo is 18 and Sam is 14."

● **Tania (Cooper) Patriota** wrote: "Just in case any of my 1971 classmates are interested (I attended the Lycee from 1964 to 1969 and my sons Miguel and Thomas attended Lycee from 1994 to 1999), I have been working for UNFPA, the United Nations Population Fund since 1990, first as programme officer, now as Officer in Charge of the Brazil office since 2003. If anyone is interested in knowing more (or contributing!) to the Fund, our global website is [www.unfpa.org](http://www.unfpa.org) and our Brazil website is [www.unfpa.org.br](http://www.unfpa.org.br) (for Portuguese speakers). Bio note: After the Lycee, I passed my Bac at the International School in Geneva, then obtained post graduate degree in Cognitive Psychology from University of Geneva, and MPH (Public Health, Population and Family Health) at Columbia University, New York. Later worked as psychologist and researcher for Univ. de Geneve, Hopital Cantonal before joining the United Nations."

● **Jonathan Mandelbaum** sent his regrets for not being able to attend the AALFNY May 31st reunion in NYC, and wrote: "Camarades! Greetings from across the Atlantic! I spent a few days in NY with my daughter late April/early May, and we did see a few Alumni - **Ronald Grelsamer '71, André Cappon '66, Sylvia Flescher '70**. Alas, much as I would have liked to, my boss (= yours truly) didn't let me stay in town until next Wednesday. So, on the 31st, we - that includes my dear wife **Anne, née de Grenier**, also Class of '71 - shall raise our glasses toward the setting sun here in France and drink a toast to you all at the Yates Penthouse (fond memories...) Pensées amicales, Jonathan"

● **Rafael Rodriguez** shared this with us: "Dear fellow Lyceens: Recently I spent a few days in Naples, Fla. and visited with the family of a friend of my father's from his French Lycee of Madrid days before the Spanish Civil War. Through the twists and turns of events they also ended up living in the same cities three more times in the period of 80 years that their friendship lasted. Havana (1959-1960), Paris (1961-1965) and Summit and Upper Montclair, New Jersey (1986-1990). And now they must be mulling over old boy scout tales and other stories up there, perhaps over a glass of wine.

What I am trying to say is that the friendships forged during the Lycee years can be fundamental to getting through life with our sanity intact. As you know I am a translator, and am in the middle of the challenging exercise of translating poetry, so I would like to submit [a poem] for your consideration as I found it worthwhile in any language. The original is in Spanish and comes from a young writer inside Cuba." (See [Alumni Creative](#) section of this newsletter.)"



TOP: Sylvie Massé ('71);  
BOTTOM (left to right):  
Ronald Grelsamer, Vivian  
(Wayne) Henderson, Philippe  
Soriano

----- From February 2006 AALFNY Newsletter -----

- *Avis de Décès*: [Carlos de la Serna](#)

- **Ronald Grelsamer, MD** told us that he "will be joining the staff of the orthopedic department at Mt Sinai Hospital in New York and will head up their Knee Pain division."

- [When I left Cuba or My House in Havana](#), by Rafael VG Rodriguez

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

- *DECÉS*: [Georges Dremeaux \('71\)](#)

- 31 Mai, 2005: "Le Président français Jacques Chirac a nommé, hier, Premier ministre [Dominique de Villepin](#), un de ses fidèles, en remplacement de Jean-Pierre Raffarin, deux jours après la large victoire du non au référendum sur la constitution européenne, a annoncé la Présidence. M. de Villepin qui est né le 14 novembre 1953 à Rabat, fait partie du premier cercle des fidèles du Président Chirac."

- Discussing knee ligament injury prevention programs for women, **Dr. Ronald Grelsamer** was recently interviewed on television by CBS News regarding knee ligament injury prevention programs for women. (On a sport-for-sport and age-for-age basis, women injure their knee ligaments much more frequently than men). He also has a new website at [www.KneeHipPain.com](http://www.KneeHipPain.com) that anybody with knee or hip pain should read!

- **Darrell Ellison** wrote: "While idly surfing the internet, I came across the AALFNY site and was instantly reconnected to the Lycee.

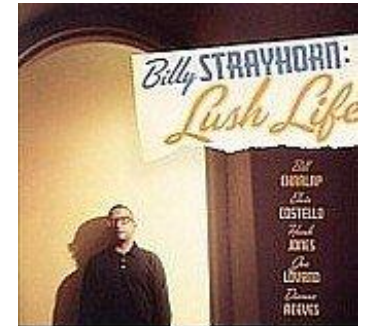
I have been a US Foreign Service Officer since 1981 and have had assignments in Spain, France, Tunisia and Romania, as well as in Washington DC (where I am currently stationed). My positions have all related to "Public Diplomacy" which involves managing educational and cultural exchanges as well as organizing speaker programs. (In US Embassies these are the jobs that are by far the most fun.) I am married to a Frenchwoman, Marie-Christine, and we have three bi-national kids.

I was touched to see the tribute to History and Geography teacher **Martin Kieffer** in Alumni Newsletter # 20 and gratified that thoughtful alumni had contacted him so near the end of his life to express their appreciation. In reading Monsieur Kieffer's letter of 1998 in the "related links" section, it dawned on me that this was the very first time I was observing him expressing himself in English. Unsurprisingly, he was as eloquent and enthusiastic in English as he had been in French when I knew him three and half decades ago."

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



A photographic story of a life Kem Knapp Sawyer  
**Kem (Knapp) Sawyer ('71)**  
and her new book



**TOP: Soundtrack from Robert Levi's ('71) documentary movie; BOTTOM: Christine (Jahan) Palfer-Sollier ('71)**

- **Manoële (Jacques) Dochy** nous écrit: "Avant tout je voulais vous dire un grand BRAVO pour le site AALFNY. C'est avec beaucoup de plaisir que je l'ai découvert. Bien que je sois partie avant l'année du bac, les photos des élèves de l'année de ma promotion ainsi que celles avoisinantes ont ravivés un grand nombre de merveilleux souvenirs....Grâce à tout votre travail j'ai pu renouer contact avec des anciens ou lire avec beaucoup d'intérêts les chemins parcourus par d'autres. En ce qui me concerne, je suis mariée, j'ai deux filles (l'aînée ayant une bourse fait un doctorat en bio-chimie à Dresden en Allemagne, et ma cadette est en première licence en Psychologie d'entreprise à l'Université Libre de Bruxelles). J'ai également un beau-fils qui est marié et qui nous a promus au grade de « grands-parents ». Pour ma part, je travaille comme Assistante de Direction et suis en charge de tout ce qui concerne les ressources humaines et la législation sociale."

- **Kem Sawyer** tells us that she has a new book out: Anne Frank (a biography for children for ages nine and up) published by DK.

- **Ronald Grelsamer MD** has published What Your Doctor May NOT Tell you about Hip and Knee Replacement Surgery [Warner 2004] as a follow-up to What Your Doctor May NOT Tell you about Knee Pain and Surgery [Warner 2002].

----- From Winter 2003-2004 AALFNY Newsletter -----

- **Georges Dremeaux** is a Graphic Designer for the Wildlife Conservation Society.

- **Eric Noel** wrote, when responding to our Networking-reunion invitation of October, 2003: «Je ne pourrais venir, travaillant ce jour la , étant en Ardèche, mais le coeur y est . Profitez bien de la réunion et pensez aux Anciens qui sont disséminés dans le monde; je pense entr'autres à Boukar Djermakoye qui venait du Niger dont je n'ai aucunes nouvelles et à Alessandro Castaldo. A bientôt si Dieu le veut.»

- **Olga Kokkinopoulos** also responded to our Networking-reunion invitation of October, 2003: «Je regrette de ne pas pouvoir être parmi vous à cette occasion. Je garde un EXCELLENT souvenir de mes années passées au lycée français de New-York. Pour moi, c'était le meilleur (et le plus sympa) lycée français que j'ai fréquenté à l'étranger.»

----- From Winter 2002/2003 AALFNY Newsletter -----

- **Martine (Fougeron) de Monès** writes: "I am a true bi-cultural product of the Lycée Français, having spent half of my studies/professional and personal in Paris and the other in NY.....I have had an international career.....Until 6 years ago I spent my professional life in Paris as European Marketing Director in the field of Creations of Fine Perfumery. From 1988 to 1996, I saw all the facets of the different Europeans tastes via the

fragrances they wore... By 1986, those tastes were more and more uniting with the American ones....I moved to NY in 1986 as Creative Director .....It is then I discovered how cosmopolitan and truly universal New York is. In my staff of 20 perfumers and 65 technicians, we had 34 nationalities...I have now opted to stay and live in New York where I am since 2001 an Independent Consultant in the firm I head ("Martine Paris-New York") whose mission is to "discover, design and direct Creative Shifts in the World Market for Beauty". My passion is for the exploration of the 6 senses, and foremost perfumes, as they are interlinked with the other senses and arts....I live in Manhattan with my two sons who go to the Lycée Français de New York. And history continues..."

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

- **Vivian (Belmont) Rosenfield** writes: "I have been living in L.A. for the past 12 years and am married 20 years to a 2-time Emmy award-winning film & T.V. editor. We have two girls 11 & 14 years old. I travel back to N.Y. often to visit family and friends. I have been selling my photographs through gallery shows. Performed in theatre as a mime for many years after college."

----- From November/December 2001 AALFNY Newsletter -----

- **Marc Luksberg** is looking for classmates who would remember him since he left after completing 4e. He lives in Kingston, NY and works for Merrill Lynch; married, 2 boys, Joshua 22 and Jeremy 19.

- **Marguerite Yates** works in the Compliance and Internal Audit area at AXA Investment Managers in Paris. She writes: "It is very easy for me to relate to what my sons (Edward 3ème and Simon 6ème) study in their Parisian school since the most significant change of curriculum in 35 years is a decreased emphasis on Latin. My only regret is that in France they do not benefit from the wonderful English literature classes we had at the Lycée. As for the sports program, it is as abysmal as what we got back then."

- **Christian François** lives in Belfort, France with his wife, Marie Helene; he is a physical therapist at the hospital in Belfort.

- **Hélène Nathan** nous écrit d'Argentine: "Je suis heureuse de faire partie de votre association et retrouver le Lycée qui m'a accueillie pendant près de 5 ans. J'en conserve d'excellents souvenirs : les professeurs étaient sensationnels: par exemple le Monsieur Kieffer ou Monsieur André Kaspi que j'ai revu à Paris à la Sorbonne. En ce qui concerne les élèves j'ai eu beaucoup de copains mais pas de vrais amis avec qui j'aurais pu conserver un lien malgré les frontières et les années. Puis j'ai une très mauvaise mémoire des noms, les deux seuls dont je me souviens sont [Leslie Bogart](#) que je trouvais adorable et de Robert Black car il avait de très jolis yeux!..... Depuis le Lycée, j'ai étudié le droit à la fac, je suis Docteur en droit et au barreau de Paris, j'ai obtenu le certificat d'aptitude à la profession d'avocat. Mais en réalité, je préfère de loin la recherche des dossiers

juridiques et non pas la rhétorique. Grâce à l'internet j'ai maintenant trouvé mon bonheur total. Je suis mariée depuis 1979; j'ai élevé les deux garçons de mon mari et nous avons une fille Natascha de 16 ans. Mon mari est un homme polyvalent : il fait de la politique, il travaille dans les médias (TV), il a été prof à la Sorbonne en Economie du développement etc. Maintenant je réside à Buenos Aires en Argentine. Si quelqu'un se souvient de moi, qu'il me fasse signe, j'en serais très heureuse."

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

- **Sherry Morse** is married to writer & Internet producer, John Maccabee, and has two children, Matthew 13 and Sarah 8, who attend the S.F. Waldorf School. Sherry has run her own interior design firm for 18 years, and has resided in San Francisco since 1971.

----- From February/March 2001 AALFNY Newsletter -----

- **Ronald Grelsamer MD** was listed in New York Magazine's "Best Doctors of New York."

- **Kem Knapp Sawyer** lives in Washington with her husband and three daughters. She has written several children's books and has a new one that just came out - her first historical fiction - Freedom Calls: Journey of a Slave Girl (published by White Mane Kids). It tells the story of a young girl's escape from slavery and is based on a true incident from 1848, the escape of 76 slaves from Washington and their capture aboard the Pearl.

**(Continue scrolling down for reunion photos)**

NYC, October 2007





