

Spring 2021

Memories are all we really own.
- Elias Lieberman, Class of 1900



THE NEWSLETTER

DEWITT CLINTON ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

www.dewittclintonalumni.com

DWCAumni@aol.com

Sydney Valerio '99
PRESIDENT

Pierre Orbe
PRINCIPAL

Gerard Pelissou Hon. '03
NEWSLETTER EDITOR

GREETINGS FROM OUR NEW PRESIDENT OF THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION



Sydney Valerio '99

Dear DWC Alumni,

Sharing stories about high school days invigorates our journey through adulthood. Often the stories are about teachers, class clownery, and lessons that remain with us beyond a classroom's walls. In DeWitt Clinton alumni circles, we share memories of friendships formed and paths paved by extra curricular activities. I think of prolific author James Baldwin, DWC 1943, whose voice first found a home on the pages of our *Magpie* literary magazine under the guidance of faculty advisor Marcella Whalen. I think of so many hundreds of alumni for which DeWitt Clinton High School became a safe haven and space for expanding their minds and bodies through sports and clubs, winning awards too numerous to list.

I recall in the late 90s walking through my Kingsbridge neighborhood with my besties Sky & Rosie, sporting our DWC softball jerseys, singing our dugout songs in front of the pizza shop on the corner of Aqueduct Avenue, and seeing the passerbys' nods of approval towards our school spirit and cheer as we grabbed our freshly oven-cooked slices. Our school spirit outside of its walls contributed to the spirit of our neighborhoods. Emilio's pizza shop is still there today. My besties are still my besties

today. James Baldwin's words are still in publication today. DeWitt Clinton High School's spirit, pride, and cheer are still here today. We, DeWitt Clinton High School Alumni, are still here today. Our alma mater is still here today.

It is said that presence is more than being present. The DeWitt Clinton High School Alumni Association's presence is felt and seen today even though many of us have not entered the building in decades. The past 12 years that I have served as a board member have given me ample opportunity to witness your generosity. Your unwavering support via donations and participation in our alumni events especially this year gives hope to the future of our great school. As a resident of its Norwood neighborhood, as a parent of a current Lady Governor, and as the newly appointed president of this body of alumni, I want to say from the bottom of my heart: Thank you. While we wait for society to open up safely, our face to face events are still on hold; yet, we invite you to attend our alumni virtual events. You can find updates on our website: www.dewittclintonalumni.com. This alumni newsletter is created with so much love and care. As you read it, I welcome you to enjoy each page, which speaks to our high school selves, connects us to the person we used to be, and tells the person we are today: you're still here and you are appreciated.

This moment in time has made each of us recognize the power of story, the power of our stories, and the power of our connections to our alma mater. DeWitt Clinton High School's brick and mortar edifice carries and houses our stories. Our alma mater needs our support at any level that we can give. You may never personally meet the students that benefit from your support, but you will hear their stories of success and know that you played a part in making that happen. I say this because I am one of those kids who greatly benefited from the generosity of this alumni association. I thank you for the investment in my future which has led me to this page and is still being paved with light and promise. We all have a 'why' that fuels our giving spirit. My 'why' for supporting our alma mater is pretty simple and is underscored by Baldwin's words when he said "I am what time, circumstance, history, have made of me, certainly, but I am, also, much more than that. So are we all."

With Love from the Bronx,
Sydney Valerio, Class of 1999

The May 20, 2021 DWC Alumni Dinner Is Canceled Due to the Coronavirus Epidemic - See Page 5

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**2021 ALUMNI DINNER
CANCELED; SEE PAGE 5**

DWC ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

PRESIDENT
Sydney Valerio '99

VICE PRESIDENTS
Robert Esnard '56
Gilbert Walton '77
Kishan Singh '09

SECRETARY
Orlando Rao '73

TREASURER
Amy Melendez '90

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Marc Siegel '64
Hon. Rolando T. Acosta '75
Cedric Fergus '78
Jose Santos '81
Jannie Rosado '90
Natasha Van-Reil '92
Ivette Terry '95
KaDarra Lowe '02

PRINCIPAL
Pierre Orbe

PHOTOGRAPHER
Henry "O" Ordosgoitia '77

NEWSLETTER EDITOR
Gerard Pelisson HON '03



Ave atque Vale -- Hail and Fairwell

Dear Alumni -

This will be my last Alumni Newsletter letter as president of the DeWitt Clinton Alumni Association. I have stepped down as of February 2021. It has been my honor and privilege to serve a second term as president for the past seven years. The past years have been especially challenging dealing with the DOE and the possible closing of Clinton High School, making way for multiple smaller schools and trying to meet the goals the DOE has set upon us. These were constantly changing. Even though we currently have three smaller schools in the building, Clinton has turned the corner and is no longer in jeopardy of closing.

Clinton's path to recovery started with the appointment of Principal Santiago "Santi" Taveras. His admiration for Clinton's heritage and his witness of the love its students, faculty and alumni felt for the castle on the parkway inspired his uphill battle to keep Clinton open. That battle is now being waged by Principal Pierre Orbe. In the past three to four years, he has made sure that all of the expectations of the DOE have been carried out. With unmatched devotion, bold leadership and countless hours of hard work, Principal Orbe is well on the way to restoring Clinton's name as the school of choice in The Bronx.

My sincere thanks go to all the officers and Alumni Board members who have helped me sail this ship through choppy waters onward to smoother waters. A very special thanks to Gerard Pelisson for his knowledge, support, wisdom on all things Clinton. Without his help, my job would have been significantly more difficult.

Congratulations and best wishes to our new president, Sydney Valerio, class of '99. I entrust the alumni to her very capable and hardworking hands.

Best wishes,
John Barbarette '64

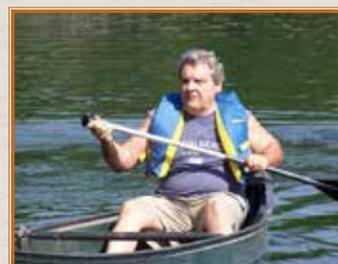
In Tribute to John Barbarette '64



#66 front row on the 1963 varsity football team



Making sure every Alumni Dinner is a great success (with Amy Melendez '90)



Supervising many AA leadership weekends for students



A regular at school events (with Gerard Pelisson)



Honored at 2014 Alumni Dinner (with wife Judi and family)



Enjoying 2016 Fleet Week (with wife Judi, Adm. Kevin Scott USN '77, Judge Thomas Quinones '77 and wife Odette)



Joining with Principal Pierre Orbe to induct Elizabeth Daly into the Faculty Hall of Honor in 2019

THE PRINCIPAL REPORTS ON THE STATE OF DEWITT CLINTON HIGH SCHOOL MARCH 2021



Dear DWC Alumni,

I hope everyone is healthy and safe. We are halfway through this current school year and it's unclear what the timeline is for students to return to the building. It's hard to report positive news, as we would have normally celebrated holidays with our students prior to a normal Thanksgiving or Christmas break, but of course that was not possible.

The Struggles of Fall 2020:

Despite not recording a single case of covid within our school, we have been relegated to the sidelines like all other schools and subjected to the struggle of remote learning. We have worked to adapt successfully achieving staffwise teamwork that results in 87% attendance daily.

But despite attendance, there was a lag in student's being able to complete their work. While in the building, we have seen consistently course passing rates above 85% and high regents passing rates, remotely we were closer to 65% after marking periods 1 and 2.

This information was on full display during our TSI State Visit in early December 2020. We shared this data and more, which showed that we were not where we needed to be. Sometimes it's hard to ask the troops to do more than they were already doing. We were fortunate that our school had been a google classroom school for two years prior to this pandemic, but this didn't mean all our newer 9th and 10th grade students had been exposed enough. Teachers and staff have been doing everything they can, but it just felt like we couldn't break through. It's times like this when they say the definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over again and expecting a different outcome.

Principal Home Visits:

Truthfully, I believe that the current state of education is selfishly protecting the educators at the expense of our students. We have been asked to stand on the sidelines while many industries and individuals are keeping society flowing, and they risk no less than any of us. It's with these emotions that I felt compelled to organize Principal Home Visits to our struggling students' homes from December to January. During this time, I visited nearly 100 homes for target students, grades 9-12. I brought with me

- technology (laptops/ hotspots),
- incentive gift cards, clothing, and
- a desire to understand the barriers in their way of learning.

A special thank you to the staff who also partook in these visits including guidance counselors Ms. Kerr, Ms. Lorenzana, AP Bray, and ELA teacher Mr. Lennon. During these visits, I learned so much about how confusing it can be for students to access their assignments and how important it is for teachers to handhold them since we are not with them in person.

After our visits, we have sent these families food in the format of

- \$50 instacart food shoppers (It's like uber that picks up the food for you)
- Pizza dinner

I can say proudly that these efforts produced some important changes in the way we interacted with students from the teacher side. It changed things when teachers would know that I was in the student's home while they were explaining something, and that I couldn't even figure out how to access the work. We saw changes take place in the way we supported students in our remote instructional model and have seen end of the semester results that drastically improved as seen on the next page:

Pierre Orbe
Principal

Steven Deep
APO

Felicia Bray
AP Guidance

Carrie Neset
AP Macy/History

Preya Singh
AP ELA/ENL

Corey Beder
AP Special Education

Brandon Weinberg
AP Science

Jennifer Lovejoy
AP Math

(Continued on page 4)

THE PRINCIPAL REPORTS -- MARCH 2021

Semester 1 Results for Fall 2020:

	Passing 5+ of their courses by marking period	Goal	Benchmark #			
MP 1 (Passed 5+ Classes)				MP4	MP4%	Variance
9th Grade (270)	270	85%	230	209	77.12%	-21
9th Grade SPED (58)	58	65%	38	38	65.52%	0
9th Grade ENL (35)	35	65%	23	30	85.71%	7
10th Grade (240)	240	85%	204	175	72.92%	-29
10th Grade SPED (55)	55	65%	36	34	61.82%	-2
10th Grade ENL (30)	30	65%	20	22	73.33%	3
11th Grade (253)	253	85%	215	207	82.47%	-8
11th Grade SPED (59)	58	65%	38	37	63.79%	-1
11th Grade ENL (27)	26	65%	17	13	50.00%	-4
12th Grade (203)	203	85%	173	172	84.73%	-1
12th Grade SPED (37)	37	65%	24	27	72.97%	3
12th Grade ENL (20)	20	65%	13	11	55.00%	-2

Did we achieve our passing goals for all grade levels? No. But we did bridge the gap and identified the students who are still struggling but have passed classes in some subject areas but not in 5+ classes. As you can see under the column indicating variance, these are the # of students who have not achieved our intended goals.

Targeted Support at GSS & Re-Opening Plan for Targeted Support :

So this semester we have already developed time for these students to work with their subject specific teachers to receive support after school. In addition, when the building does open up, we will focus on these students for in-person instruction, since the other students have shown they can at least succeed remotely.

We have been so fortunate to have our Community Based Organization Partnership with Good Shepherds (GSS). I ask the world of them, and they always do their part to make my action plans come true. Concurrently when I began visiting students, I realized that certain students required a place to go outside of their homes to get school work done and asked GSS if they could open up one of their sites to provide such a space. They did so and it has and continues to help certain target students during this time.

Special Shout Out to the Student Success Center staff, which consists of DWC 11th and 12th grade students. They have been hosting remotely and in-person workshops for seniors to finish college applications during this time. These students and staff are truly heroes.

In School Upgrades:

With the building currently collecting dust, we hope to get some improvements completed so that when students do return they will see a building that is better than they left it. These improvements include:

- New Office Furniture
- New Floors to replace vinyl tiles (any rooms with original wood floors will always remain)
- More and Better Computers
- Digital Bulletin Boards
- Re-Branding Floors, Hallway Doors, and Hallways with DWC Notable Alumni and Achievements
- New Website- If you haven't visited it please check it out. You may notice our promotional video starring a very important alumni. <https://www.dewittclintonhs.com/>



THE PRINCIPAL REPORTS -- MARCH 2021

CTE Programs getting Closer...

Thank you to our teachers in music, dance, visual arts, computer science and agriculture. They have been meeting this year again every week in preparation for our Career and Technical Education application. These teachers have applied for their certification extensions, which will allow their courses to be recognized as CTE. We hope that this next year we will have our application reviewed by NY State. This has the potential to lead to 5-6 programs that offer students with industry and college recognition.

PSAT Program & Merit Scholarships

Special Shout Out to Ms. Sun who has been individually raising the SAT scores of our students for the past 3 years. She has shown such leadership and commitment to her students, that I have given her a team of teachers who she has led during this time in preparing students for PSATs all year. In fact, students took the special PSAT for Merit Scholarship qualifications in January. They will continue to prepare for the March & June PSAT/ SAT exams. We will continue to ensure our students are as prepared for college and beyond.

Senior Activities

Lastly, it's hard to believe that another senior class will fall victim to no senior activities. We hope that if and when the building is reopened that we can schedule a series of socially distanced events using our incredible campus that will attempt to salvage the experiences these students deserve to have. Stay tuned.

Thank you to all the alumni for their endless support. We will continue to uphold the values and mission of DWC!

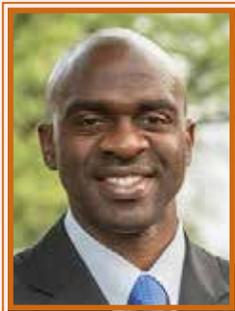
Honorably yours,



Mr. Pierre Orbe
Principal

Sine Labore Nihil – Nothing is accomplished without Hard Work

Due to the Coronavirus, the May 20, 2021 Alumni Dinner has been canceled. We look forward to the return of our yearly Alumni Dinner in May 2022. Our already-announced three distinguished alumni for 2020 (below) will be honored at a future, safe time.



Michael Blake '00



Denise Wallen-Grant '90



Stephen L. Winters MD '70

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Back In THE BRONX

CELEBRATING THE EXPERIENCE OF GROWING UP AND LIVING IN THE BRONX

Articles over the Years

True Romance: A Bronx Story

From The Bronx to The Big Screen

Seinfeld and The Bronx Connection

Date Night In The Bronx

Growing Up Deaf in The Bronx

Escape from The Bronx Summer Heat

Getting Into Trouble In The Bronx

The Bronx: An Academic Powerhouse

A Full Athletic Scholarship to DWC

Naked in The Bronx

Trick-or-Treating in My Bronx Neighborhood

Growing Up Bronx

Going to the Zoo

A Bronx Resident Named Lee Harvey Oswald

... When You Pay Your 2021 DWC Alumni Dues (See Page 15 for Details)



Photographs over the Years



Stephen M. Samtur



Susan J. Samtur

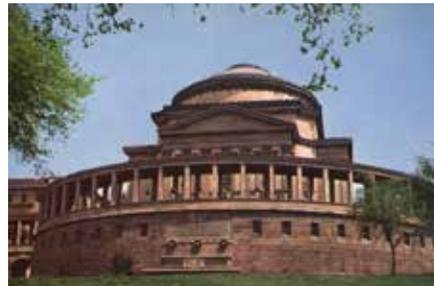
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Clinton '61



Taft '62



Bronx Hall of Fame for Great Americans



East 172nd Street & Boston Road, 1948



Seals Entertain at the Bronx Zoo



Inside the Kingsbridge Armory



Lee Harvey Oswald,
c. 1938



Bathgate Avenue, 1934



Future Congressman Richie Torres (left)
and Bill Finger relatives honoring Finger,
DWC 1933, Co-Creator
of Batman, 2017



Police Captain Marcy Cordero and his
daughter, Police Officer Chelle Cordero,
on East Mosholu Parkway South, 1974



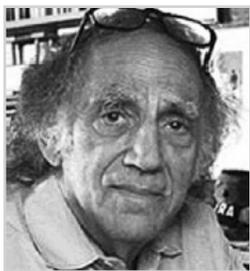
**YOUR
OPPORTUNITY
TO
'SOUND OFF'
Letters
To The
Editors**

Classified

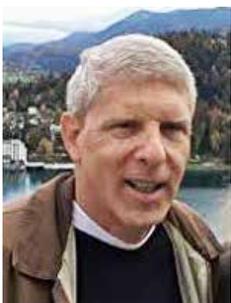
Many Bronxites looking for old Bronxite friends
BELOW: Real classified from the Winter 2021 issue

MP 9856 - DeWitt Clinton H.S. Alumni: A 65-year
reunion of the Class of 1957 is planned for May 2022.
Contact: lewaaronson@ca.rr.com for more details.

Alumni Profiles



William Kunstler '37 died in 1995. But he was one of the best-known civil rights attorneys of his generation. Kunstler's most famous trial was his defense of the Chicago Seven who were charged with conspiracy to commit a riot at the 1968 Democratic National Convention. In his autobiography, he admitted to stealing a Clinton "C" from the Health Ed office when he did not gain it as a member of the swimming team.



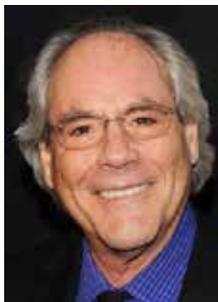
David Chill '73 have been called "the heir apparent to the mantle of greatest mystery writer alive today." He is a *USA Today* bestselling author and has written eleven novels in the Burnside Mystery Series: *Post Pattern*, *Fade Route*, *Bubble Screen*, *Safety Valve*, *Corner Blitz*, *Nickel Package*, *Double Pass*, *Tampa Two*, *Flea Flicker*, *Swim Move* and *Hard Count*. He has also published *Curse Of The Afflicted*. Chill credits his ease with all kinds of people with his experience at DWC. He met the world at Clinton, saw the value of every person, and probably met a few future character in the halls and lunchroom.



Nicole Molina '06 is associate director, Director of Diversity Recruitment and Outreach at Barnard College. She brings nine years of enrollment experience to Barnard. Molina attended Vanderbilt University as a Posse Scholar where she majored in women and gender studies. She also started her admissions career at Vanderbilt. In 2015, she received her ME in Organizational Leadership and Communication from Belmont University in Tennessee.



Mohammad Zaryab '11 is a patent agent for Arent Fox. He prepares and prosecutes patent applications for clients from a wide range of industries including media guidance, virtual reality, network communications, speech recognition, gaming technology, and artificial intelligence. At DWC, he was part of the Macy Einstein Program. He graduated with a Bachelor of Engineering from the Macaulay Honors College (CUNY) in 2015 and, two years later, graduated with a Master of Science from Columbia University. In his spare time, Mohammad mentors high school and college students to help them identify and navigate their career tracks.



Robert Klein '58 and Andrea Navedo '88 will soon appear in the film *Before I Go*, now in post-production. Klein has 95 entries in the Internet Movie Data Base. Navedo has 32 entries. This will be their first entry in the same film. In 1973, John Randolph '32, Hank Garrett '50 and Judd Hirsch '52 appeared in *Serpico*.



Gonzolo Duran '03 served eight years (2003-2011) in the U. S. Marines with one tour in Iraq, reaching the rank of sergeant. Though he would study health services at Fordham University, his own mental health was challenged by haunting memories of time spent in war. At the same time, he found out that other veterans were also facing similar difficult situations. In 2012, he established the non-profit organization Devil Dog USA to provide a hub where veterans coming home would have access to resources to help them with some of the problems they were facing. The organization has been successful in touching thousands of veterans across the country by advocating for mental health awareness, suicide prevention, unemployment, and ending homelessness.



Jovan Laurent '10 has been a strategic sourcing analyst at JetBlue Airways since 2014. For four years earlier, he was a business analyst for Boeing. His education followed a direct line to a career in the business/financial world. He graduated in 2014 with a degree in business administration from Carnegie Mellon University - Tepper School of Business. At Baruch College - Zicklin School of Business, he graduated in 2019 with Master in Business Administration. In DWC, he was part of the Macy Einstein Program, United Nations Club, ACE Mentor Club and peer tutor in Algebra, Calculus, and History.



Olivia Johnson '12 is a 1L at Fordham University School of Law. After graduation, she will pursue her legal career in human/civil/women's rights and medical malpractice. At DWC, Johnson was a member of the Macy Honors Program, editor-in-chief of the *Clinton News* and a member of the bowling team. Her collegiate experience in the S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications at Syracuse University included three majors: newspaper and online journalism, political science, and African American studies. Johnson is passionate about social and medical justice. Johnson remembers her days at Clinton fondly and would love to assist the school in any and every way that she can. DeWitt C-L-I-N-T-O-N BOOM!



Great American Hotel Architects Volume 2

by Stanley Turkel CMHS, DWC 1941

The fourteen architects featured in this book designed 304 hotels and apartment hotels. Many were designed on the European plan for families to live without full service kitchens. Meals were prepared and served in restaurant-type dining rooms catering exclusively to residents and their families. The apartment hotels employed full-time service staffs who prepared and served daily room service meals.

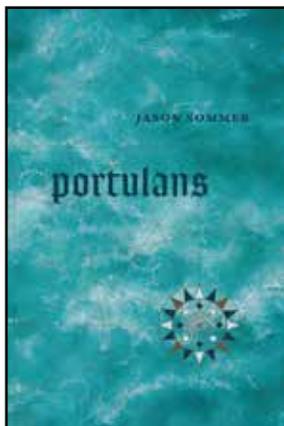
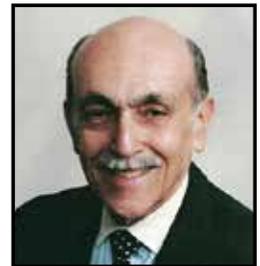
The first apartment hotels were built between 1880 and 1895. They were followed by a second wave of construction after the passage of the 1899 building code and the 1901 Tenement House Law. The third wave of apartment hotel construction occurred during the 1920s and ended with the Great Depression of the thirties. The passage of the Multiple Dwelling Act of 1929 altered height and bulk restrictions and permitted high-rise apartment buildings for the first time.

Hard: 236 pages Publisher: AuthorHouse (October 10, 2020) ISBN-13: 9781665502511

The Very Honored Stanley Turkel

On December 23, 2020, Stanley Turkel was named the recipient of the Historic Hotels of America Historian of the Year Award for 2020. This was the third time he has won this prestigious award. Through his many books, he has made an extraordinary contribution to documenting the great history and stories of the most iconic and legendary hotels built over the past 200+ years.

On Saturday, February 27, 2021, Turkel was the featured speaker at a webinar moderated by Jacques E. Boubli in honor of Black History Month. Back in 1954, Turkel studied with W.E.B. Du Bois about American Black history. Subsequently, he spent an alternate lifetime learning, researching, collecting and writing about the Reconstruction period. This led to donating 670 objects to the National Museum of African American History & Culture and to writing *Heroes of the American Reconstruction* (McFarland 2005).



Portulans

by Jason Sommer DWC 1967

Taking inspiration from medieval sea charts—portulans—the poems in Jason Sommer’s collection bring a fresh variation to the ancient metaphor of life as a journey. Creating a coordinate system charting paths between ports and the dangers that surrounded them, portulans offered webs of routes and images through which sailors could navigate from port to port weaving paths at the threshold of the open sea. Similarly, the course of these poems navigates familiar mysteries and perennial questions through times of unbelief, asking whether consciousness is anchored in the transcendent, if inward travel can descend past the self, and if the universe can be accounted for by physics alone.

Through this collection, Sommer takes us to the ocean floor, into the basement, out the front door, through multiverses, and in and out of dreams. Along the way, he considers whether art—the beauty of the map—can provide momentary meaning against a backdrop of oblivion. Drawing on history and myth, the voices in these poems consider what can and cannot be known of the self and the other, of our values, and of what we insist has permanence. These are poems of searching. Like ancient cartographers who lent lavish decoration to their maps, the poems in *Portulans* illuminate possibilities of beauty in each journey.

Paper: 80 pages Publisher: University of Chicago Press (March 2, 2021) ISBN-10 : 022673739X ISBN-13: 978-0226737393



A Life of Looking for the Right Word

Jason Sommer is the author of five books of poetry, including *The Laughter of Adam and Eve* and three in the Phoenix series: *Portulans*, *Other People’s Troubles* and *The Man Who Sleeps in My Office*. He has also published English versions of Irish language poems and two collaborative book-length translations of contemporary Chinese fiction. His poems have appeared in publications such as the *New Republic*, *Ploughshares*, *Chicago Review*, *Agni*, *River Styx*, and *TriQuarterly*, among others. At DWC, he was the features editor for the *Clinton News*.

Note: All comments above come from the publisher or author, unless otherwise indicated.

Alumni Notes

Bernard Handel '42—*Clinton News*, service league. Still going strong at 94 1/2. Retired as CEO of Handel Group, still CEO of Handel Foundation, serve on boards of community organizations, Rotary, etc. In 2021, I will receive the Franklin D. Roosevelt Award from the FDR Library and Museum, and the SUNY Dutchess College Lifetime Achievement Award. Both dedications were postponed from 2020 because of the pandemic.

Reginald C. Grier '46—Track team, cross country team. Past president of the DWC Alumni Association. Active member of the DWC Board of Governors.

Alan Siegel '49—Entertainment lawyer. As a Clinton student, I worked on the *Magpie* magazine.

Martin Wasserman '49—On DWC football team 1947-1948; health education teacher at DWC for 33 years, which included coaching football and wrestling. Made it to 90 years. Anyone from my day around? SOJACS!

Stanley A. Goldman MD '53—Playing a trumpet solo at my DWC graduation was the highlight of my education and musical career. I still play regularly but not nearly as well. There is something to say for being young.

Arnold B. Gordon '56—Retired from the USAR, retired attorney, married 57 years to the love of my life, four children, nine grandchildren.

Lew Aaronson '57—Pilot USAF/AF Reserve, Continental Airlines. At DWC, I was captain of the Squad X handball team. Active with alumni gatherings in Arizona.

Ira Gross '58—Advises all to stay well, stay safe and wear a mask.

Norman S. Sider '58—*Clinton News* and speech club. After earning a law degree, I worked 13 years for state, federal and not-for-profit organizations dedicated to civil rights and community relations, then for 27 years worked as an investment advisor for a major stock brokerage firm.

John V. Spadaccini '58—Captain of DWC cross country team. At Clinton, I became a great friend of Jerry Harkness, still hear from him every once and a while. What a great athlete and person.

Carmine Magazino '59—*Clinton News* and football team. Keep going DWC. Great school, great teachers and coaches, great lifelong friends.

Alfred I. Scherzer '60—Still working as a CPA in Rockland County. Would like to hear from some of my classmates.

Michelle Steiner '60—Math team. Counterintelligence special agent, U. S. Army (22 years) followed by software quality assurance test engineer (12 years, eight of which were with Apple).

Edward K. Hare '61—Society member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, National Association of Public Accountants, Minnesota and New York registered certified public accountant. Military Officers Association of America--life member (retired) lieutenant colonel USAF.

William J. Hevert '61—It is sixty years since my graduation and I treasure my memories of DWC.

Barry Heyman '62—Twenty-three years with the U. S. Agency for International Development and 22 years as a part-time employee of the U. S. Department of State's Bureau of Diplomatic Security.

Robert H. Benna '63—Covid put a dent in usual travel activities and family gatherings. But life remains good. Still playing bad golf. Member of the dance band at Clinton.

Neil Rosenberg '63—I received a scholarship at graduation time from DeWitt Clinton. Thanks.

John Barbarette '64—Proud to be an all city offensive lineman and voted team MVP on the 1963 varsity football team that was undefeated and unscored upon.
Editor's Note: Photo of 1963 team on page 2.

Fred Finkelstein '64—Retired senior bank examiner, Federal Reserve Bank of New York. Busy days at Clinton: key club, AV squad, cheerleaders, *Clinton News* business staff, Class night show (asst. stage mgr.), camera club, parking lot squad, 65th anniversary dinner usher, gym squad.

David Gornstein '64—Co-captain of the alumni squad at DWC. Accounting/consulting, CEO E-Rate Funding Services LLC.

Greg Ohanesian '64—Cross country/track, drill band, P. E. squad for coaches Doc Wiedman, Charles Scher, Mr. Paolicelli, Mr. Garber--What a great P. E. dept! I cannot believe the extinct high schools cited in Bro. Barbarette's fall 2020 article. I ran against those schools. I loved Clinton's "Magic Moments" in the same 2020 issue, but what about the 1963 basketball city champs over Boys High 48-47 at the Garden. I and a thousand Clintonites were there! Meanwhile, I am a lawyer--member of the South Carolina Bar's House of Delegates, Memory Hold the Door Committee, officer of the S. C. Bar's senior law division.
Editor's Note: Responding in the fall 2020 Newsletter about earlier issues, you wrote, "We honor our celebrities. How about our combat fallen? They are a part of the reason we are here." Most issues of the Newsletter have a section honoring deceased soldiers. Numerous articles have honored alumni for giving their lives for our country. Yet we do miss so many, which is why your note is important. Please inform the Newsletter of any combat fallen alumni. And thank you for your continued support for all things DWC.

Michael Schwartz '64—Eleven years as asst. men's tennis coach at Monmouth University, 4 years undefeated, with 4 years in "round of 64" NCAA playoffs.

Michael R. Lewis '66—At DWC, track/field team, cross country team, drill band. Ohio State University 1966-68 (track team). U.S. Air Force 1968-1972 tour of Vietnam 1969-1970; Howard University 1972-74 BBA; Cornell University 1974-76 MBA.

Lance Zavín '66—Board member of Pelham Pkwy Neighborhood Association; president, Pelham Parkway Jewish Center; consultant for Teamsters Local 237.

Christopher Conty '67—At DWC, in Arista, co-founder forum club; member of key club and *Magpie* staff. Publishing autistic mouse graphic novel based on comics I made at age 12 (50 years before realizing I am autistic) to help overcome stigma. See blog *aspiemouse.com*. Married late (age 55), two teens, fundraiser for *mkp.org.*: helping men be accountable, emotionally literate and serve others from fullness, not emptiness.

Irwin Rubin '67—A member of Arista while at DWC, Irwin Rubin still enjoys his work as a pension attorney in Westchester. He and his wife, Sharon, can't wait till they can again spend time with their daughter in Brooklyn and their daughter, son-in-law and granddaughter in California.

Roy S. Gordet '68—Best wishes to all from the San Francisco Bay area. No travel plans for me, unfortunately.

Robert Tausek '69—Worked on the *Clinton News*. I have contributed to the DeWitt Clinton Alumni Association every year since I graduated in 1968. Keep up the great work. Let's keep DWC open!

Barry L. Nelson '68— At Clinton, in Arista and on the chess club, computer club, track team and wrestling team. Re-elected president of the Westmere Fire Department for the 7th year. Appointed to the Albany County fire police. Prior year's Fire Department Fire Fighter of the Year. Prior year NYS Governor's Special Citation for work at Ground Zero in NYC.

Robert David Sunshine MD '69—At Clinton, on the biology squad and the AV squad. Urologic surgeon-board certified; medical-legal consultant; founding partner: Integrated Medical Professions, PLLC (The largest urology practice in the U. S.). Urologic surgeon on City Island now a full-time medical-legal consultant for a malpractice law firm on Wall Street.

Michael Weiser '70—Hope for a reunion this year. *Editor's Note: See page xx.*

Burt Wolder '70—At Clinton, I was in Arista and the honor school and on the alumni squad and coin club. After Clinton, I was involved in public relations, marketing and advertising.

Richard Gelb '72—I was a member of Arista and on the biology squad at DWC. Neuropsychologist.

Marc Solomon '72—I served on the alumni squad and was in Arista during my Clinton days. I have been an accountant these many years.

Cedric Fergus '78—Arista. Hotels, banking and education (physical education).

Jannie Rosado '90—At DWC, I was G. O. president and a member of girls cross country/track & field. Educator, USATF official; serve on the DWC Alumni Board of Governors.

Gerard M. McLoughlin Ret. Faculty—At DWC, I was an English teacher, department chair, newspaper faculty advisor and supervised book fairs. Married 60+ years to Frances, 8 children, 40 grandsons, one great grandson.



The DeWitt Clinton High School Faculty Hall of Honor Third Induction Ceremony — Postponed until Fall 2021

The following list identifies validated living faculty that have worked full-time at DWCHS for at least 20 years, beginning no later than 1986.

Marsha Beck
Foreign Language Teacher
1985-2011

Samuel Blank
English Teacher
1969-1996

Margaret Cronin
Social Studies Teacher
1984-2008

Carolyn Echevarria
Mathematics Teacher
1984-2006

Terrence Geil
Mathematics Teacher
1984-2006

Maryanne Mola
AP-Guidance
1985-2013

Laura Pacher North
English Teacher
1983-2004

George Pereny
English Teacher
1984-2013

Merrily Rossner
English Teacher
1986-2011

Terry Sebastian
Health Education Teacher
1985-94, 1997-2013

Paula Simon
Art Teacher, Alumni Office
1986-2008

Email GJPelisson@aol.com with contact information for the following qualified faculty.

Robert Bisordi (Social Studies), Juan Contreras (Foreign Language), Lillian Ginzler (Business Ed), Phil Harris (Health Ed), Gloria Huddle (Biology), David Lakowitz (Mathematics), Carlos Mota (Foreign Language), Robert Palmer (Health Ed), Frank Prisco (Social Studies), Raymond Ramirez (Health Ed), Rafael Rivera (Mathematics), Jose Segura (Foreign Language), Rita Sukenick (Special Ed), William Vanelli (Mathematics)

In Memoriam

Leon Elmer DeKalb '25 (April 23, 1994)
Martin Goldfarb '41 (March 17, 2020)
Robert Poydesheff '48 (September 24, 2020)
Melvin Flax '48 (November 9, 2020)
Kenneth A. Preston '48 (January 22, 2021)
Ernest Reit '49 (April 7, 2020)
Lionel B. Lewis '50 (February 21, 2021)
Richard Stanley Blum '53 (November 29, 2019)

Melvyn C. Rothman '57 (October 6, 2020)
Michael Siegal '57 (November 2020)
Stanley C. Nosol '59 (August 21, 2020)
Eugene Greenfield '66 (January 18, 2021)
Nicholas Ezekiel Ramoutar '99 (December 14, 2020)
Barbara Chafetz Retired Librarian (February 8, 2021)
Stanley Marlin Retired Faculty (March 2, 2021)



Robert Poydesheff '48 belonged to that category of Clintonite where it was difficult to know what title to use when addressing him. He was an attorney and an adjunct professor at Strayer University. He was a colonel in the U.S. Army. He was mayor of Columbus, Georgia's second largest city, from 2003 to 2007, and for six years before that a councilman in Columbus. He was executive vice president of Allied Technologies International and senior vice president of SunTrust Bank of West Georgia. But for the DeWitt Clinton Community, his most important title may have been loyal alumnus extraordinaire.

Robert Poydesheff passed away on September 24, 2020.



Nicholas Ezekiel Ramoutar '99 was born on February 28, 1981 in San Fernando, Trinidad. His life came to an end 39 years later on December 14, 2020 at Tampa General Hospital in Florida due to a failed liver transplant. Ramoutar served in the United States Marine Corps for 12 years both as an Amphibious Assault Mechanic (MOS 2141) and an Automotive Maintenance Technician

(MOS 3521). For the past almost six years, he was a platoon sergeant in the Marine Forces Reserve. Among his awards was a Navy Achievement Medal for his unsurpassed professionalism and dedication to duty. He is survived by his wife, Sunita Samaroo DWC '06, and sons Nicholas and Nehemiah Ramoutar.



Barbara Chafetz began as a DeWitt Clinton librarian in 1964 and served as librarian-in-charge from 1980 until retirement in 1995. Her 1995 retirement could not keep her away from books. In 1998, she began a children's library at Kehilath Jeshurun Synagogue in Manhattan. From 2000 to 2007, she volunteered for Literacy Partners for the Blind.

In recognition of her longevity of service to the students of DeWitt Clinton HS, she was inducted into the Faculty Hall of Honor in a ceremony in the school auditorium on October 28, 2018.

Barbara Chafetz died on Feb. 8th from lung cancer. She was 80. She will always be a cherished member of the Clinton family.



Stanley Marlin taught Spanish and Latin for 30 years at DeWitt Clinton High School, retiring in the early 1980s. He radiated kindness, and was respected and admired by the DWC staff and student body.

During World War II, he served in the Army in the 561st Ordnance Heavy Maintenance Tank Company, assisting at the Battle of the Bulge.

Stanley Marlin died peacefully on March 2, 2021 from advanced Parkinson's disease. He was 96. It is said that he did the *New York Times* crossword puzzles in pen until age 93. It is also said that he loved classical music and the NY Mets. Amazing!



U.S. Probation's First Black Officer

Leon Elmer DeKalb '25 made history in 1941 when he was appointed the first African American probation officer in the federal court system. After serving in the Army during WWII, he went on to a distinguished career in the Southern District of New York, where in 1972 he was appointed the first Black chief probation officer.

DeKalb helped advance the notion that probation officers, along with their law enforcement roles, could help people struggling with drug and substance abuse. He also instructed new judges in the workings of the pretrial and probation system. His formal studies earned DeKalb a bachelor's degree from Lincoln University (Pa) and a master's from Columbia University. After 33 years as a probation officer, he retired in 1974 and died on April 23, 1994.



Lest We Forget Their Service to Country

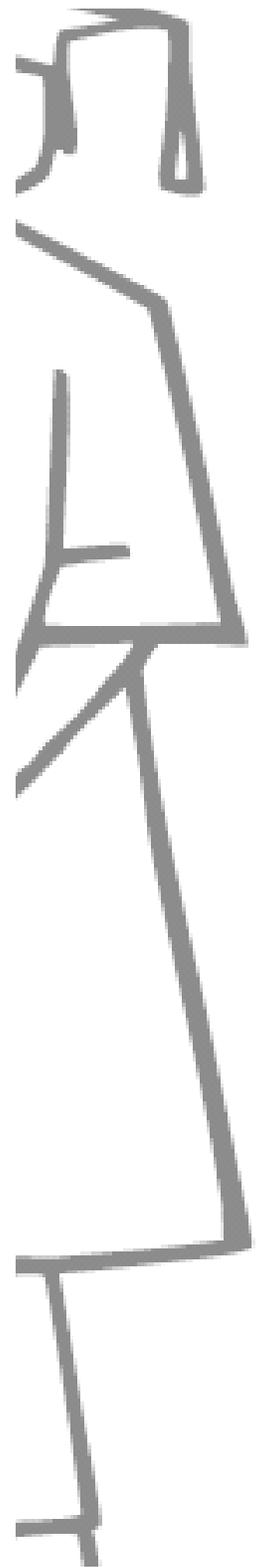
Martin Goldfarb '41 served in World War II with the 376th HBG 515 squadron U. S. Army Air Force.

Lionel B. Lewis '50 served his country for 3 years in the U. S. Navy in the Korean War onboard the U.S.S. Missouri. He was born Lionel Lapides and spent his career as a certified public accountant.

Richard Stanley Blum '53 served in the U. S. Marines for two years rising to the rank of sergeant. A highly skilled marksman, he competed in military competitions representing his company.

Scholarships 2020

Athear Ahmad	Gregg S. Wolpert '73 Scholarship	1,500
Athear Ahmad	Arthur & Diana Waill Scholarship	1,500
Setor Sirnpi	Reuben Gutoff Scholarship Award	2,500
Subhan Rariq	Arthur & Diana Waill Scholarship	1,000
Subhan Tariq	Charles M. Lee '32 Memorial Fund Scholarship	1,000
Harnzah Bernar	William Tennebruso Memorial Scholarship	500
Harnzah Bernar	J. Ira Harris Scholarship	500
Hamzah Bernar	Reginald Michael Lewis Memorial Scholarship	500
Shelsea Morales	Arthur & Diana Waill Scholarship	1,000
Shelsea Morales	Ada Chirles/Simon Dack Scholarship	500
Issa Yaya	Arthur & Diana Waill Scholarship	1,000
Issa Yaya	Monroe G. Milstein Scholarship	500
Fatournata Barrie	Walter A. and Sonia I. Rifkin Memorial Scholarship	1,000
Fatoumata Barrie	Arthur & Diana Waill Scholarship	500
Brian Flannory	Eugenie J. & Harry Hevert Memorial Scholarship	500
Brian Flannory	Michael Brier Scholarship	500
Brian Flannory	Monroe G. Milstein Scholarship	500
Nyla White	Walter A. and Sonia I. Rifkin Memorial Scholarship	1,000
Nyla White	Arthur & Diana Waill Scholarship	500
Brian Jacobs	J. Ira Harris Scholarship	500
Brian Jacobs	Larry Edlitz Memorial Fund	500
Brian Jacobs	Louis, Martin & Harold Frieser Football/Athlete Scholar Award	500
Emmanuel Oshodi	I. Herbert Scheinberg '36 Memorial Scholarship	1,500
Ania Campbell	Walter A. and Sonia I. Rifkin Memorial Scholarship	1,000
Ania Crnpbell	Arthur & Diana Waill Scholarship	500
Santiago Garcia	Leslie & Joan Dunn Scholarship for Engineering Studies	1,000
Santiago Garcia	DeWitt Clinton Alumni Association	500
Gregory Dixon	Frank Grobman '44 Scholarship	1,000
Gregory Dixon	Louis, Martin & Harold Frieser Football/Athlete Scholar Award	500
Megan Dawang	Arthur & Dale Crames Scholarship	1,000
Megan Dawang	I. Herbert Scheinberg '36 Memorial Scholarship	500
Dorian Reece	I. Herbert Scheinberg '36 Memorial Scholarship	500
Dorian Reece	Pauline and William Garvey Foundation Scholarship	500
Dorian Reece	J. Ira Harris Scholarship	500
Cody Dang	J. Ira Harris Scholarship	500
Cody Dang	Harry Wolfe Jupiter '49 Memorial Scholarship	500
Cody Dang	Louis, Martin & Harold Frieser Football/Athlete Scholar Award	500
Majidul Mooktadeer	J. Ira Harris Scholarship	500
Majidul Mooktadeer	Larry Edlitz Memorial Fund	500
Majidul Mooktadeer	Louis, Martin & Harold Frieser Football/Athlete Scholar Award	500
Nalijah Burgos	ROTC Achievement Award	500
Margaret Nwankpa	DeWitt Clinton Alumni Association	500
Isaac Donkor	DeWitt Clinton Alumni Association	500
Deneejah Small	DeWitt Clinton Alumni Association	500
Victoria Beckford	DeWitt Clinton Alumni Association	500
Anyelys Nunez	DeWitt Clinton Alumni Association	500



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Red & Black Club - \$200-\$299
Century Club - \$100-\$199

RF = RETIRED FACULTY
DF = DECEASED FACULTY

LIFE CLUB

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MICHAEL BRIER '55
ADA CHIRLES, RF
LESLIE DUNN '57
SCOTT EDLITZ
in memory of
LAWRENCE EDLITZ '49
JOSE "PEPE" FIGUEROA '68
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JAMES GARVEY III HON '02
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WILLIAM J. HEVERT '61
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HARRY WOLFE JUPITER '49
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DENISE SCHEINBERG
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I. HERBERT SCHEINBERG '36
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ARTHUR WAILL '50
STEPHEN WINTERS '70

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RANDY FRIESER '73
VICTOR FUCHS '41
HOWARD GLICKSTEIN '47
JEFFREY MONGE '86
ORLANDO RAO '73
ROBERT SCHWIEGER '60

PRESIDENT'S CLUB

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MICHAEL BRIER '55
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IRWIN ENGELMAN '51
ROBERT ESNARD '56
VICTOR R. FUCHS '41
NED GUREVICH '52
ANDREW KIMERLING '63
HOWARD MAGER '65
RICHARD NOVICK '64
GREG OHANESIAN '64
BRUCE PARKER '65
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CARL E. RIEG '62
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LOUIS SIMON RF
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JOHN BARBARETTE '64
HOWARD BIRNBAUM '63
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Giving Credit Where It's Due....in a 1909 speech by

Stanley J. Quinn '04 (Publicist, Democratic party leader)

My days at Clinton made me a better American. Drawing its personnel, as it does, from every walk of life, representing in its classes every race, every creed, every conviction in the complex mass of our citizenship, Clinton, as the greatest high school in the most cosmopolitan city in the land, gives to every student that will receive it a better understanding of the problems, the needs and the hopes of America. One cannot rub elbows with others daily, through the years of high school, without coming to a fairly good realization of their real value. One cannot acquire nor maintain unwarranted prejudices when, day by day, they are proved such by word and deed. One cannot refuse to believe in the future of the democracy and equality of citizenship, when one discovers that the worth of those about him does not depend upon birth or belief, but upon the individual merit of the man.

Because Clinton taught me to respect the convictions of others, and to believe that others would respect mine; because it made me know that no class or race had a monopoly of virtue or intelligence, and because it helped me to understand that in a thousand different corners of this great city others were working in alien ways and diverse paths toward the realization of the finest interests of the republic, Clinton, to me, has always stood for a firm and optimistic confidence in the future of American ideals.

