



WILLIAM & SARAH LAWRENCE SOCIETY

# Legacy News

**The William & Sarah Lawrence Society recognizes the many alumnae/i and friends who have informed the College that they have included Sarah Lawrence in their estate planning. It is named for William Van Duzer Lawrence and his wife, Sarah Bates Lawrence, in whose memory he created the College.**

## Why I Give



by Mary Lynn Marx  
Bianco '61

Having grown up in a family culture of community service, I always intended to include Sarah Lawrence in my will. Indeed, after my family, Sarah Lawrence College holds first place.

Family dinners were often a prelude to one of my parents dashing off, not to be too late for a meeting of the Scarsdale Adult School, the Westchester Community College, the White Plains Hospital Board, the Scarsdale Library, etc., etc. In the 1960s my parents set up a family foundation, and they chose Sarah Lawrence as one of their largest beneficiaries to address the many needs which tuition only partially covers—the way it's been in the past, the present, and quite likely the future.

It was a great joy for me to provide Sarah Lawrence with the gift of \$1 million from that foundation upon my parents' deaths. Now I serve as founder and trustee of the family foundation that grew out of my parents' original foundation.

So the question I've been pondering for many years is, How much should I give to Sarah Lawrence upon my death? How can I possibly decide now the amount that will be available to donate upon my passing?

Then I discovered that a number is not required. This is about intent, not dollar figures. I began to consider that gifting while I am living might be far more pleasurable, because I can watch how the money is spent.

What joy to watch a new building rising and know that my dollars are in those bricks and classrooms!

Listening to President Karen Lawrence's priorities, I also began to think that "NOW" gifts will ease the tuition crunch, and the salaries crunch, and the various other crunches that our College is facing.

So I decided to do both: an annual gift each year of a good size AND a pledge from my estate. Also, every five-year reunion I will double my annual gift. The pledge from my estate will be 20 percent of the assets after my family is well provided for.

It feels good to have my intent planned, out there, and to give Sarah Lawrence the means to cover some of the many crunches this wonderful school of mine faces daily.

# Gift Annuities Make Great Reunion Gifts



Shirley Bourquin '60

Shirley Bourquin '60 came to study at Sarah Lawrence because her father convinced her. "He was fascinated by the quality of the faculty, the interesting people who were here, and the opportunity to do individual study," says Shirley. "I got a wonderful education."

On campus, the Connecticut native was entranced by how Joseph Campbell's classes wove psychology, religion, and ancient history together into a fascinating tapestry. This student, whose mother was a Yale librarian, loved the intimacy of the Sarah Lawrence library and the helpfulness of its librarians. Even the heavy spring blossoms of the wisteria arbor were a joy.

Shirley enjoyed her small classes. "After you finished in the classroom, you'd go to lunch or walk across campus together, and you'd be sharing and discussing the ideas and concepts from class," she says. "I got even more of an education outside the classroom."

Shirley arrived with a background in music and modern dance, "but Sarah Lawrence expanded my horizons," she says.

Inspired by Campbell's example, she earned her teaching certificate and taught public school for four years until she and her husband Pierre started a family. Since then, Shirley has served as an active community volunteer. Pierre, a Yale graduate and avid hockey player and fan, worked as a stockbroker.

The Bourquins had a son and daughter and were married 44 years until Pierre's death in 2002. Shirley lives in Massachusetts near her two granddaughters, with whom she enjoys skiing and figure skating.

Shirley has established two charitable gift annuities with the College. "The first gift annuity worked so well, I knew a second one would be the perfect gift for my 50th Reunion," says Shirley. "I get payments for life. It turned out, financially, to be a smart move. The payment rate I receive from the Sarah Lawrence gift annuity is far better than interest or dividends right now." Shirley has designed her gift annuities specifically to benefit the *Fund for Sarah Lawrence*, thus demonstrating her confidence in the leadership of College President Karen Lawrence.

Shirley urges other alumni to support Sarah Lawrence. "It makes me feel good knowing that Sarah Lawrence will enrich someone else's life the way it enriched mine."

## WELCOME NEW WSLS MEMBERS

### New Members of the William & Sarah Lawrence Society 2010-11

The William & Sarah Lawrence Society recognizes the many alumnae/i and friends who have informed the College that they have included Sarah Lawrence in their estate planning. It is named for William Van Duzer Lawrence and his wife, Sarah Bates Lawrence, in whose memory he created the College.

Members have the enduring gratitude of the Sarah Lawrence community for their commitment to the College's future.

Jill Grover Baldwin '86

Mary Lynn Marx Bianco '61

Norma Jean Darden '61

David Dondero '73 &  
Katherine Platt '72

Barbara Doroshaw Elvove '56

Jennifer Giles '85

Rachel Ogilvie Godfrey '90

Michelle Grant '79

Stephanie Harvey '86

Donna Kinnear '74

Lillian Chambers Lindemann '45

Patricia Meravy '81

Pamela Page '77

Susan Reiner '77

Carol Roth '96

Martha Leibowitz Rothman '61

Dorothy Sing Tao '61

Jennifer Wallace '98

## CONTACT US!

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- Sarah Lawrence is already in my estate plan. Please list me as a member of the William & Sarah Lawrence Society.
- Please contact me about Sarah Lawrence charitable gift annuities.
- Please contact me about IRA charitable rollovers.
- Please contact me about including Sarah Lawrence College in my will.

NAME	DEGREE	CLASS YEAR	
E-MAIL ADDRESS			
STREET	CITY	STATE	ZIP
DAY PHONE	EVENING	CELL	

Please cut out and return.

## YEAR-END TAX PLANNING STRATEGIES

Now's the time to begin serious year-end tax planning. Enough of the year has passed to estimate your taxable income, yet there is still time to take tax-saving steps before the end of the tax year.

Making a tax-deductible gift to Sarah Lawrence College is a wonderful way to demonstrate your commitment to the College and its programs while having a positive impact on your tax situation. Charitable gifts made by December 31 apply to the current tax year. Talk to your professional advisers. Your tax adviser, attorney, or other professional can best explain the impact of your gift on your personal tax situation.

### CONSIDER YOUR OPTIONS FOR GIVING:

- A gift of long-term appreciated securities (held more than one year) will earn you a current charitable income-tax deduction subject to certain limitations and Sarah Lawrence gift credit for the full current value of the gift, yet you incur no capital-gain tax liability on the appreciation.

Even when stock markets are fluctuating, many individual investors have substantial gains because they hold stock for the long term. Corporate stock can be transferred to Sarah Lawrence electronically or by registered or certified mail. Please contact Rosemarie Gherardi at (914) 395-2327 or [rgherardi@sarahlawrence.edu](mailto:rgherardi@sarahlawrence.edu) to let her know to expect your gift and for up-to-date instructions for transferring gifts of corporate stock to Sarah Lawrence, or go to [www.slc.edu/stocktransfer](http://www.slc.edu/stocktransfer).

- While mutual funds can make excellent charitable gifts and offer the same tax benefits as gifts of corporate stocks or bonds, transferring mutual fund shares can be problematic. Please contact Rosemarie Gherardi at (914) 395-2327 or [rgherardi@sarahlawrence.edu](mailto:rgherardi@sarahlawrence.edu) before you initiate any transfer so we can ensure that you receive proper acknowledgment for tax purposes.
- Life-income gifts such as a charitable gift annuity may permit you to make a larger gift than you

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# The Power of Planning



Joan Kelleher LaCaille '50

In the best tradition of devoting one's life to leaving the world a better place, Joan Kelleher LaCaille '50 stands out. Energetic, vivacious, generous, and one of a kind, she became a

founding member of Puppies Behind Bars, which offers incarcerated women the responsibility and companionship of pets—women who may never have known the joy, love, and trust of pet care and training.

Joan was an alumna of the Baldwin School as well as Sarah Lawrence. Shortly after her college graduation, she and her new husband, Charles W. LaCaille, set sail on a three-month honeymoon in Africa that turned into a four-year sojourn, traveling the continent and filming documentaries on tribal life. They settled in Johannesburg, but, tragically, Charles died. Joan stayed in Johannesburg for six more years, where she

nurtured her love for animals, especially giraffes. On her return to New York, Joan began a storied career, first in public relations and then in real estate, becoming one of the foremost women in the field.

Joan's New York organization, Puppies Behind Bars, expanded its mission to engage imprisoned women in training service dogs for the disabled, especially wounded veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan, and explosion-detection canines for law enforcement. She celebrated her 80th birthday "in prison" with the inmates involved in this program. At age 80, she made her last trip to Kenya, to release into the wild a giraffe named in her honor at Giraffe Manor, a small hotel outside Nairobi famous for its resident herd of giraffe.

In yet another expression of Joan's generosity, she informed Sarah Lawrence that she had included the College in her estate plan, making a bequest that provides scholarships for deserving students. By informing us in advance, Joan ensured that the terms of her bequest could be executed the way she wished. Taking this step also meant that we at Sarah Lawrence could express our gratitude to her in person. Joan's legacy will be her support of African wildlife, her efforts to make better lives for women in prison, and her foresight in ensuring a Sarah Lawrence education for future generations of promising students.

## YEAR-END TAX PLANNING STRATEGIES ...

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thought possible and offer you lifetime income you may not have known was available. Plus, it will count for your reunion! You'll earn a sizeable income-tax deduction, subject to certain limitations. Call Sarah Lawrence's Office of Gift Planning at (914) 395-2543 or e-mail Annetta Love, Director of Gift Planning, at [giftplanning@sarahlawrence.edu](mailto:giftplanning@sarahlawrence.edu) for more information.

- At least through December 31, 2011, philanthropic members of the Sarah Lawrence

community will be permitted to use IRA funds to benefit the College. These IRA "rollover" gifts are restricted to IRA owners age 70½ or older and may not exceed \$100,000 in the tax year in which they are made. To fulfill the IRS requirements for this gift, it must be sent by the IRA administrator directly to the charity. Call Annetta Love, Director of Gift Planning, at (914) 395-2543, or e-mail [giftplanning@sarahlawrence.edu](mailto:giftplanning@sarahlawrence.edu) to let her know to expect your gift or for more information.

# The ABCs of a “Charitable IRA Rollover” Gift



Dr. Linda Ellis CCE '74

Last year Dr. Linda Ellis CCE '74 took advantage of a temporary provision in federal tax law to make a “Charitable IRA Rollover” gift to her beloved alma mater. Still in effect through the end of 2011, the provision exempts gifts made directly from the owner’s IRA to Sarah Lawrence from income tax that would normally be assessed on IRA distributions. This opens up a source of charitable giving you might not have considered, yet it still counts toward your minimum required distribution!

Like most of Ellis’s previous gifts to Sarah Lawrence, her IRA gift was directed to the financial-aid program at the Center for Continuing Education. As Ellis points out, CCE’s returning adult students don’t have parents supporting them financially, as younger students do. Without the promise of scholarships, older students are forced to agonize about whether they deserve to return to school and spend money that might otherwise

support their own children’s education. As a result, financial aid is an especially critical factor in the lives of CCE’s students and potential students.

“Most CCE graduates will say the Center changed their lives. I’ll always be grateful for the chance it gave me,” says Ellis, who seized her chance years after leaving college in Boston to get married and live in Florida. “Three children and a move to New York later, here I was, and a friend said I should look into CCE at Sarah Lawrence.”

Ellis remembers that every Sarah Lawrence course opened up a new world for her, and that she experienced an intellectual rigor often lacking on other campuses: “At my individual meetings with the dons and my conferences on papers, it was impossible to wait for another student to raise a hand and answer a question. I had to do ALL the reading, and I had to think.”

The challenges and rewards of that experience inspired Ellis to enroll in graduate school. She went on to earn a doctorate in English literature at The Graduate Center of CUNY before embarking on her own career as a college professor teaching adult students. Before CCE, such a life “was another world away,” she says.

Ellis knows that many Sarah Lawrence graduates share her gratitude for a life-changing education and her passion for providing continued educational access to students of all economic backgrounds. For alumni thinking of taking advantage of current tax law and making a gift like hers, she has this advice:

“If it’s something you want to do, do it—the sooner, the better. It’s not even necessary to wait until the end of the year. This is an easy way to give, and you’ll know right away that the money went to a good place.”



## Questions?

### Contact Us!

See coupon on page 3 for contact information.



What Would a Sarah Lawrence Charitable Gift Annuity Do for You?

#### Single-Life Gift Annuity Rates Effective July 1, 2011

Age	Rate
60	4.8%
65	5.3%
70	5.8%
75	6.5%
80	7.5%
85	8.4%
90+	9.8%

## Thank You for a Very Special Reunion 2011

Reunion 2011 was a wonderful weekend. We had beautiful weather, stimulating seminars and conversations, lots of good food, strong laughs, and dancing until the wee hours. Thanks for making this our biggest Reunion yet.

Undergraduate alumni in classes ending in 2s and 7s: Your reunion is coming up May 31 to June 3, 2012. Please contact us at [reunion@sarahlawrence.edu](mailto:reunion@sarahlawrence.edu) or (914) 395-2531 for more information.