Congratulations to our own Mae Pasquariello who was awarded the highest honor the University can bestow upon its alumni, the Alumni Award of Merit. We could not be more proud of her! (Read about all of this year’s winners in your Penn Alumni Magazine, *The Gazette*.)

**Still Red and Blue**
-Mae Agnes Pasquariello, CW’53, GRD’85

I was riding the trolley car in West Philadelphia, on my way to Beaver College, and noticed these beautiful buildings. I heard two ladies in the rear seat say, "this is the University of Pennsylvania. It is difficult to be admitted, since all the veterans have first choice." I got off the trolley, and asked where the office of admissions was located. I transferred as a sophomore and the rest is history.

I am still enrolled as a Senior Associate and I audit the most fabulous classes. The program is offered by the Liberal and Professional Studies Division of the University of Pennsylvania. With the permission of the professor, seniors, 65 or older, are permitted to attend classes taught by our superb professors, along with our extraordinary students. We listen, we learn and only when asked do we participate. I have taken some fascinating courses, such as Gun Control, Women and Religion, 20th Century Poetry, Poverty in America and currently, Topics in Africana Studies. The cost is a small token to pay for this wonderful experience. I strongly recommend that you investigate and participate in this valuable program.

An important new tradition, intended for Class Presidents, was established by the Alumni Class Leadership Council and Penn Alumni Relations. This event represented an opportunity to connect with fellow Class Presidents across eight decades. Craig Carnaroli, Penn’s Executive Vice President, and David Cohen, Chair of the Board of Trustees, led discussions on roles, responsibilities and expectations of Class Presidents and Class Officers. As Co-President of the Class of ’53, I was fortunate to attend this historic event.

While it is a great honor to be Class President it is also a tremendous responsibility. Reaching out to alumni of the Class of ’53 is no small task. With Mike Huber, W’53, ASC’61, on the team and Herb Carver, W’53 as Co-Class President, we are anticipating a degree of success. However,
without the invaluable help of the staff at Sweeten Alumni House, our task would be impossible. Alumni Relations Executive Director Elise Betz chaired the Advisory Council Event and Lynn Carroll, Assistant Director of Classes and Reunions, is the direct contact for all the Class Presidents. What would we ever do without them?

-Return to Spring 2012 Newsletter-