the path to the demise of modern American civilization over the past century.” Michael has been a history teacher and an administrator for the Department of Defense Dependents Schools, the network of primary and secondary schools serving the children of American military personnel stationed overseas.

1964 Ann Abolone Siegel writes: “Friends from the Class of 1964 held a four-day reunion at the Old Crocker Inn in Cloverdale, Calif. The inn is owned and operated by Marcia Conary Babb and her husband, Tony. The beautiful October weather was a backdrop for much reminiscing, wine tasting, touring, and lots of memories of Meliora moments.” Pictured are (front row) Patti Lorbach DiBella, Carol Leone, and Jean Bunting Mitchell; (back row) Ann, Marcia, Patricia Earnest, and Judy Swoyer Johnstone.

1970 Steven Chu ’08 (Honorary) (see ’86).

1972 Paul Mattera has been appointed by Massachusetts Gov. Deval Patrick to Salem State University’s board of trustees. Paul is the senior vice president and chief of public affairs for Liberty Mutual Group and speaks regularly on work-ers’ compensation and insurance law. He’s also on the boards of directors of the Public Affairs Council, the Workers Compensation Research Institute, the New England Council, the JFK Library Foundation, and the think tank MassINC.

1973 Lester (Les) Ezrati writes: “My wife, Carol, and I have just returned from six months in London where we were visiting our daughter, who is on assignment at the United States embassy there, our son-in-law, and two grandchildren. I’m back working full time, running the tax department at Hewlett-Packard in Palo Alto.” . . . Peter Porcino writes that he was
elected mayor of his hometown for the past 25 years, the Village of Ardsley, in southwest Westchester County, N.Y. “I have been serving as a village trustee for the past six years and have been deputy mayor for the past five years. I continue to practice law with a firm in midtown Manhattan, specializing in corporate and commercial law and personal services.”

1974 Leroy Osborn has joined the Buffalo firm of Keller Bros. & Miller Printing. Previously the owner and operator of his own digital printing firm, AlphaGraphics, Leroy will focus on maintaining and building client relationships as well as offering digital printing expertise.

1976 Barbara Suckle Boardman (see ’86). . . . Ilene Busch-Vishniac has been named the president of University of Saskatchewan. Previously she served as the dean of engineering at Johns Hopkins University and is the provost at McMaster University in Hamilton, Ontario, until July 1, when she begins her new role.

1977 Jim Kafka ’84 (PhD) sends an update. He writes: “I was recently elected to a three-year term on the board of directors of the Optical Society of America. My current job is as the advanced R&D director at Spectra-Physics, a manufacturer of lasers in Northern California. My role on the Optical Society board will be as director-at-large. Amazingly, I will serve on the society’s leadership committee with many other Rochester optics alums, including Donna Strickland ’89 (PhD) (president-elect), Stephen Fantone ’79 (PhD) (treasurer), Ian Walmsley ’86 (PhD) (retiring director-at-large), and Laura Weller-Brophy ’80.

That’s Sweet!
At last October’s Meliora Weekend, David Sweet ’61 received his University medal-lion along with other members of the class at his 50th reunion. His mother, Esther Webster Sweet ’36N, had received a medallion after the tradition began in 2005. David writes:
“During our medallion ceremony, I mentioned to President Seligman that I had the opportunity to bring my mother to a reunion of nursing program graduates, and after he had presented the 50th class reunion members with their medallions, he then presented my mother a medallion, although she was long past her 50th class reunion.

“At 96, she is probably one of oldest living alums of the nursing program. This year marks her 75th anniversary since graduating. She began her career in 1937 as assistant head nurse in the emergency room at Strong Memorial Hospital and retired 37 years later as nursing supervisor of Strong’s Outpatient Clinic. As a proud son, I can report that she continues to be very active. I call her ‘the energizer bunny,’ for she is very active in her retirement community, singing in the choir, attending lectures and concerts at Youngstown State University, where I served as president for 10 years until retiring in July 2010, attending church and chapel on a regular basis, and taking part in many other activities.

“She continues to practice what she learned at Rochester and demonstrated during her career at Strong: being a caring and compassionate individual to everyone she meets. President Seligman remembered only one other ‘twofer’ family where he had presented medallions to two generations of Rochester graduates: the late Judge Robert Witmer ’26 and his son Bob ’59, a University trustee. The medallion ceremony is a great, relatively new, tradition established by President Seligman, and I hope he has the opportunity to recognize many ‘twofer’ families in the future!”

MEDALLION ‘TWOFER’: Two generations of the Sweet family have passed their 50th class reunions.