

Summer 2001

# THE POTOMAC TERM



# Student Gallery

CREATIVE WORKS BY STUDENT ARTISTS



"Man with Hat" by Jay Wright '11



Matisse Art Fish Bowl by Julia Van Sant '11



Intermediate School Georgia O'Keeffe Studies



Ceramics by Elizabeth Copson '01



Boat by Katherine Pingree '01

# CONTENTS



May Day was glorious, full of bright colors, fair breezes and talented students.



Congratulations to the Class of 2001, page 22

## FEATURES

- 7 Back in Time**
- 8 A Year in the Life**  
*Kristen Faulders, LS First Grade*
- 9 Science on the Go**  
*Karen Gray, US French*
- 9 Ode to a Tree**  
*Perry Swope*
- 21 Art of Teaching**

## DEPARTMENTS

- 2 Headmaster's Note
- 3 Spotlights
- 11 Valedictions
- 16 Board News
- 17 Special Events
- 25 Alumni News
- 41 Alumni Focus
- 42 Alumni Events

## COVER

Front Cover: The Gum Tree (see page 9)  
Inset: (from left to right) US Madrigals, Colonial Days, Kindergarten Circus and Chesapeake Bay Trip.



Book Fair 2001, page 17



Grandparents' Day, page 20

## THE POTOMAC TERM Vol. 41 No. 2

Editorial Board  
703-749-6307

Director of Development:  
Virginia Howard CFRE

Director of Annual Giving:  
Dabney Schmitt

Director of Alumni Affairs:  
Adria de Leonibus '83

Director of Publications & PR:  
Sofia Scanlan

Graphic Design & Special Events:  
Elise Ravenscroft

Development Associate:  
Kristen Lasker

Contributors:  
Bill Cook  
Carol Costa  
Louise Parsons  
Brendan Sheerin  
Perry Swope

Division Representatives  
Karen Gray, US  
Anna Herzlinger, IS  
Sara Dougherty-Jones, MS  
Kristen Faulders, LS

Address Correspondence to:  
The Potomac School  
P.O. Box 430  
McLean, Virginia 22101

Tel: (703) 749-6307  
Fax: (703) 749-6308

The Potomac Term is published twice a year. Letters, comments and article submissions are welcome. For more information contact The Potomac School Development Office. E-mail [sofia\\_scanlan@potomacschool.org](mailto:sofia_scanlan@potomacschool.org).

Alumni information should be directed to The Potomac School Alumni Office. The e-mail address for alumni news, address changes and other alumni communications is [alumni@potomacschool.org](mailto:alumni@potomacschool.org).

The Potomac School web site:  
[www.PotomacSchool.org](http://www.PotomacSchool.org)

Deadlines for the next Term:  
Alumni News: November 1, 2001  
Other Submissions: November 15, 2001

# Time of Reflection

HEADMASTER, GEOFF JONES



Headmaster Geoff Jones bids a fond farewell to departing faculty and staff members Scott Christian, Intermediate School Head; Tracy Swecker, Women's Athletic Coach; and Andy Watson, Upper School Head.

This is a wonderful time in the life of a school community as we celebrate the end of one school year and look forward to the beginning of another. It is a time of reflection, good-byes, and welcomes all wrapped up and tied together with a spirit that is pure Potomac. As Carol and I look back on our first year, we know that the powerful sense of community and caring that exists here has brought us new friends and made it easy for us to feel part of the Potomac family. The all-school assembly on opening day last September set the positive tone that was built upon and woven into so many delightful events through the year, and students, parents, grandparents, and faculty now have come to the month of May with fond memories and joy in their hearts. At times, the major events alone seemed to sustain us whether it was the FAPS picnic or campout, the Halloween parade, the holiday programs, May Day, Book Fair, Fall Frolics, or almost any assembly in any division in any week. Many of these great Potomac traditions were new to me and looking back, I would have a difficult time picking a favorite.

I wrote about the enchantment of the campout in my fall letter, but the winter and spring also have been filled with fun. I confessed earlier to being "over the top" about books and reading (Carol, Griff, and I brought over 4,000 books with us when we moved to Potomac), so the joy of that great and giant gift exchange called Book Fair was especially meaningful to us. The delight in the children's eyes as they showed their friends the books they had read before and brought in for the sale was obvious, and mirrored the parents' gladness that new reading adventures are still an exciting and important part of their children's lives.

The winter and spring performance and musical programs were, as always, spectacular at Potomac. The Upper School's productions of *Kiss Me Kate*, and *The Crucible* were as spirited and gripping as any theater could be, and the Intermediate School musical, *Oliver!*, was a spectator's joy. In Lower and Middle Schools, each of the grade level plays reflected creative hard work and a developing love of drama and the stage. The spring concerts presented us with a combination of vocal and instrumental musicians who moved us with their songs and classical and popular melodies. These concerts reflected the accomplished skills and abilities our students have honed over yet another year of training and practice. Most recently, the darling Kindergarten Circus was spectacular. "Elephants" squirted us, "clowns" tied us up in silly string, and "cheerleaders" brought us to our feet to match their boundless spirit as we spelled out P-O-T-O-M-A-C!

The greatest lesson I learned this year, however, is that generosity of spirit is a part of our daily life at Potomac expressed through the simple handshakes and greetings that students and teachers share as, together, they stretch and grow academically, socially and in other important ways. It was present, too, in these past few months, when I used almost thirty Tuesday evenings to invite all of our parents and local alumni to discussions about our mission and our dreams and hopes for The Potomac School. These forums provided opportunities for people to talk with one another and to be a part of the important process of setting goals and marshaling resources as we look ahead to Potomac's second century. Our mission statement highlights our foundations and our strengths. Our community voiced strong support for continued emphasis on development

of character, rigorous academic programs, broad ranging opportunities for children to explore their talents, and a real commitment to "a learning community intellectually and morally strengthened when many different voices, viewpoints, and backgrounds are present." We are very proud of our mission and of our efforts to meet these goals.

The end of the school year is also a time for saying thank you to the many people who make this school great. First and foremost on anyone's list are our faculty and staff. The loving ways in which they give and give and keep on giving make up the heart of Potomac. Not far behind are the hundreds of parents who voluntarily give their time, energy, and talent to classroom activities, events, celebrations, planning, gardening, and sometimes just plain hard labor. Our Trustees deserve a warm round of applause for the leadership they provide through their service on the Board committees that are so vital for the successful stewardship of the school. I know you will join me in expressing appreciation to the administrative team whose tireless work adds so greatly to the continuing development and success of this school.

Inevitably in this season we also must express farewells to those who will not return in September. Congratulations are extended to the graduating seniors and wishes for the best of luck are sent to departing faculty, staff, and families. We will miss our administrators Scott Christian, Tracy Swecker, and Andy Watson who have accomplished so much and who have left us such a wealth of lasting, fond memories. Virginia Howard, who has been Director of Development, will be working with the school in a consulting role next year. We are grateful to Ginny for her many years of service which began when she joined Potomac as a volunteer parent and went on to join the school's first small development staff. Ginny is responsible for the remarkable growth that has taken place in the development office over the years, and we are pleased to keep her connected to Potomac in this new capacity. Peter Munroe, who is retiring from teaching, will continue on with us as a consultant overseeing an exciting new project involving development of our nature trail. Two of our Board of Trustees, Finance Committee Chairman Alice Rubenstein and Audit Committee Chairman Mike Amann have completed their terms of service on the Board, and we thank them for their many valuable contributions.

And finally, after fourteen years of service including the past seven as Chairman, Sally Engelhard Pingree will retire from the Board of Trustees. It would be impossible to adequately describe our gratitude for Sally's many gifts to Potomac. Her simple dedication to the mission and spirit of the school and her unwavering willingness to step forward and lead with generosity and compassion will always distinguish her career in our minds and hearts.

Many wonderful opportunities have occurred over the past weeks where we have expressed our sentiments directly to these departing friends. We are also looking forward to greeting the new student and faculty families who will join our community in the fall and to helping them feel at home. Please accept my gratitude for your support this year, and I hope that you enjoy a wonderful summer vacation. We are looking towards and preparing now for a vibrant, productive, and rewarding new school year ahead!

# Lower School

## SPOTLIGHT ON STUDENT ACTIVITIES

### The Circus is in Town

"Lions and tigers and bears, oh my!" the circus has come to Lower School! Rainy weather could not dampen the spirit for the yearly spectacle of kindergarten animals,



trainers, clowns, gymnasts, dancers and other performers. The 2001 Kindergarten Circus was performed in the Preston gym on May 25 before an eager Lower School audience composed of fellow students, parents and teachers. The three kindergarten classes once again collaborated and coordinated to paint circus-tent sets and to costume students thereby transforming them, into groups of elephants, clowns, trained dogs, monkeys, wild tigers, acrobats, dancers, horses, strong men and more! The rapt audience was entertained not only by the circus popcorn but also by the humor and agility of each act. Many Lower School classrooms adopted circus-themed lessons during the weeks preceding the big event: Ms. Hannon's kindergarten room posted an elaborate circus count-down outside their classroom and Ms. Swope guided her art classes in the creation of brightly painted circus clowns. The pre-kindergartners left the Preston gym that Friday looking forward to their big day next spring, and, come to think of it, so did we!

### Happy Hats

All of Lower School was involved in constructing and decorating hats specially designed to fit the heads and cheer the hearts of critically ill children. Older children learned how to sew the hats together while younger children helped decorate them and made tags for the hats encouraging the wearer to "think happy thoughts." When a mountain of hats had been finished, a celebratory assembly was held

where the hats were delivered to the Happy Hats foundation.

### American Girl Author Visits

Children's book author Valerie Tripp visited the Lower School and told the children about her process for writing books. She used examples from her work to illustrate how a book grows from an idea to a book in hand. Ms. Tripp has written 27 books for children. In the American Girl Series, Ms. Tripp has written books about Josefina, Molly and Felicity. In this photo Ms. Tripp dresses a student in the sort of traditional garb that Josefina would have worn. Her advice to kids who want to become writers: "Read. Use your five senses."



### Lemons to Save the Species!

On the last Thursday of the 2000-2001 school year, Potomac pockets were heavy with spare change. Miss Martin's first graders hosted their annual lemonade sale to benefit the World Wildlife Fund. As their final social studies' project, the first graders researched and wrote

reports on individually chosen endangered animals. This year's choices included the Galapagos Giant Tortoise, the Panda, the



Students sell lemonade

Komodo Dragon, and the African Elephant. The children drew portraits of their animals and the animals' habitats as well as researched their geographic range and weight. After much advertising around the school, the class opened their doors to the thirsty masses. To raise additional money to help protect endangered species, the class sold copies of their reports, computer pictures of their animal, and, most importantly, their secret homemade lemonade recipe. After the lemonade sale, the first graders not only learned about endangered species, but they also developed skills associated with money, writing, research and collaboration. Hopefully, through the sale, members of the Potomac community acquired some important information about endangered species as well as enjoying their homemade refreshment.

The Lower School gathers together after making Happy Hats.



# Middle School

## SPOTLIGHT ON STUDENT ACTIVITIES

### Teamwork on the Trails

The sixth grade recently went on a PE field trip to Hemlock Overlook, an outdoor education center in Clifton, VA. The children had to use trust, cooperation, and excellent



communication and problem-solving skills to conquer the challenges presented to them in their groups. In addition, all of the children (and some of the teachers) had an opportunity to climb a ladder, negotiate a wire traverse to a platform situated

high in the trees, and ride a zip line back down to the ground.

### No Books without Letters

Mrs. Johnston's class knows the ABC's of detailed research and writing! In March the class celebrated the culmination of their alphabet book project with an Authors' Tea in the Arundel Library. Each book was as individual as the members of AJ5, ranging in topic from fish (Angelfish, Butterfly fish, and Corydoras...) to famous criminals (Assassinations, John Wilkes Booth, and Al Capone...)! (See photo below.)



### MS PLAY

Rob Schoen's sixth grade class play was the first Middle School play in the Langstaff auditorium. The class put on a wonderful production of King Lear. (See photo at right)

### New Middle School Head

Cammy Passarella welcomed new MS Head Mary Lu Gultekin to many MS assemblies and events during the spring.



### What is Your Writing Process?

The fifth and sixth graders were captivated by the musings of celebrated author David Almond, who visited Potomac in May. Mr. Almond, whose books *Skelling* and *Kit's Wilderness* have won several notable awards, was visiting the U.S. from England as part of a promotional tour for his newest book, *Heaven Eyes*. The children were most impressed with the author's generosity in explaining both his writing process and some of the important events of his childhood that he has used in his stories.

### The Future Is Now

In Science class the fourth and fifth graders worked with a robotics program called *Mindstorms* by Lego. In conjunction with a unit on circuits students built traffic lights and programmed them to change colors. They also constructed two and three wheeled vehicles powered by a single motor. In addition to applying their knowledge of simple machines, this project kicked off the fifth grade's invention unit. Here MS Science teacher Greg Mueller helps a student with his robotic car.



Author David Almond takes time to visit and sign autographs.



# Intermediate School

## SPOTLIGHT ON STUDENT ACTIVITIES

### Hands-On Learning!

Imagine the beauty of nature in one of its purest forms, and you will be picturing the experience of the Intermediate School's Chesapeake Bay Study Group. The select group traveled by land and by sea to the Chesapeake Bay Foundation's very own island, Port Isobel. There we learned about the ecology and history of the Bay while also



practicing methods of conservation through a variety of hands-on activities such as canoeing through the marshes, dredging the Bay's floor for specimens, and also visiting the quaint and secluded haven of Tangier Island. Venturing out on the ship with the endearing Cap'n Charles, students baited and set crab pots, thus receiving a tiny glimpse of the challenges faced by the watermen who make a living from the Bay. While also learning about the ever pressing, serious need for preservation of the Bay, the group concluded their visit with a crazy, wacky, wet, & muddy competition of marshmucking, possibly one of their most memorable moments of the trip.

-June Chung

### Found Object Sculptures

The seventh grade art classes created giant bridges, rafts, and insects made from fallen branches and limbs from trees surrounding campus. Students used only twine to construct their sculptures, making the entire structure



biodegradable. All of the bridges withstand human weight and some are even placed along the nature trail and can be utilized to cross-sections of the creek behind the school. A couple of groups constructed rafts instead of bridges. Although these were able to float in the creek with ease, once put under the pressure of human weight, they soon sank. This challenging project gave students an appreciation for those who create similar structures in order to survive in the wilderness. The insect sculptures include spiders, a praying mantis, and a walking stick; all of the sculptures are on display in the Environmental Science Facility next to the Intermediate School.

-Anna Herzlinger

art exercise conducted by Ms. Herzlinger. The farm program included a number of hands-on activities, including using a two-handed saw and constructing a rail fence. Students also enjoyed visiting with the rare Hog Island sheep and seeing the 16-sided barn invented by Washington to facilitate the large scale thrashing of his substantial wheat crop. The trip was a good fit with the seventh grade study of American colonial history. Students learned first hand how issues like slavery, tobacco farming, and the English taxation of the colonies affected the people of the time. It also provided an expanded view of Washington as a scientific farmer and businessman that is sometimes ignored by the textbooks.



### Talent Show!

The IS talent show highlighted the variety and the excellence of the IS student talent and interests. The talent show acts ranged from a cappella singing to break dancing (pictured here) to a rock band to a hillbilly faculty band.



### Tea Time for the IS

On February 16<sup>th</sup>, the students of the Japanese language had an outing to learn and experience the ritual of the Japanese tea ceremony. The students heard lectures and participated in the ritual tea at the McLean branch of the Chado Urasenke Washington DC Chapter. More than half of the students even enjoyed the tea!

### In George Washington's Shoes

On May 14, the seventh grade contingent of the Intermediate School spent the day touring the Mount Vernon estate of George Washington. The weather was perfect, the students were well behaved and purposeful, and the program prepared by the interpretive staff of the park was well organized and engaging. Every student had a chance to tour the mansion and the frontier farm exhibit. Other activities included an examination of slave life and an

### Oliver!

The first musical in the John Langstaff Auditorium was Oliver. The talent of the Intermediate School students shone in this production about Fagan's gang of thieves living in Victorian London. See photo below.



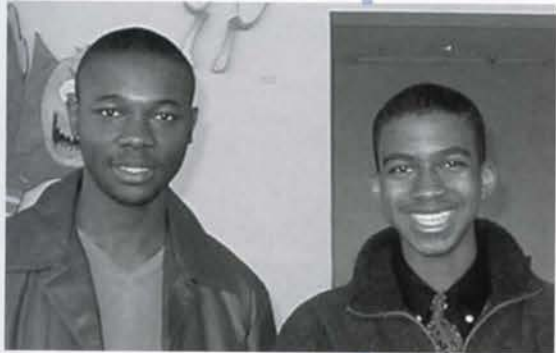
# Upper School

SPOTLIGHT ON STUDENT ACTIVITIES

## Cedric Jennings visits

In the spring of 2000, Pulitzer Prize winning journalist and author, Ron Suskind, came to Potomac to talk about his experiences writing "A Hope in the Unseen: An American Odyssey from the Inner City to the Ivy League." This book follows student Cedric Jennings from his life as a DC public school student to Brown University. This year the Upper School was delighted when

Local celebrity Cedric Jennings poses with Ernest Mitchell '02.



Mr. Jennings himself came to the school to talk about his life now and what it was like to have a book written about him and his relationship with author Ron Suskind. The students

peppered Mr. Jennings with questions which he answered with much grace and humor.

## The real Cuba

Over Spring break a lucky group of US Spanish students went on an educational trip to Cuba. Molly Langer described her experience in this way: "For 10 days I

saw living conditions I had never experienced before; every tile was cracked, every window broken, every doorway off its hinges. At a sugar cane factory I bought ten bars of soap for begging women and children. At an elementary school tears streamed down the face of a

principal who could not accept our supplies. I will never forget having lunch with a man who sadly told us how the hospital had run out of medication for his grandmother. Cuba may have the lowest doctor to patient ratio, but what is a doctor without supplies? For now I remain in awe of the incredible strength and culture of the people I met, and hopeful for Cuba's future."



## Music in our Schools

Every year during Book Fair the sound of music can be heard drifting through the Middle School halls from the Square as Potomac celebrates Music in Our Schools week. Throughout this week all of Potomac's varied musical groups perform in the square to any and all who are lucky enough to be near. Here Jerry Rich conducts the US Madrigals in song.



## Writing Together

As part of an English project Upper and Lower School students wrote short stories together. Here they read their stories to the whole class.



## Speaker Series

In its third year, The Potomac School Distinguished Speaker Series brought three-time Pulitzer Prize



winning photographer Carol Guzy to the school. Documenting some of the most dramatic events of the past 20 years, as well as some of the most poignant moments of the human spirit, Ms. Guzy has traveled from Czechoslovakia to Haiti, Rwanda to Kosovo, and Calcutta to Florence in her quest to bring us a "tapestry of life." She writes: "It's haunting to voyage into so many different souls. What we witness never leaves us. It clings to us... but if we capture those moments and communicate them successfully, it can provide greater knowledge and enrich the spirit. It can strengthen our sense of purpose. It gives us a deeper compassion and respect for all life." (excerpted from the evening's program) Ms. Guzy combined a written speech with a slide show presentation of her remarkable photographs.

## Correction to the Fall Term:

Congratulations to Emlyn Pratt, National Merit Semifinalist. Emlyn was accidentally left off the Semifinalist list we published in the fall. Our apologies.

The Upper School Spring Play was *The Crucible* by Arthur Miller





# Back in Time

HOW POTOMAC STUDENTS LIVE HISTORY



## Colonial Day

The second grade culminated their history studies with Colonial Day on May 31. The students dressed in colonial garb and participated in a colonial classroom, tin punching, bread baking, candle making, making corn husk dolls, using natural dyes and building a miniature log cabin.



## Medieval Bazaar

What do incense, a stockade, and origami have in common? These were just some of the many objects found at the Sixth Grade Medieval Bazaar this year. Students and cultures from around the world converged on the Holly Tree Square for a festival where regional foods, crafts, and costumes were the rage! Sixth graders were involved in a number of related history projects as they completed their time in the Middle School. The first assignment was an "autobiographical" report for which students assumed the character of a fictitious person living sometime during the late Middle Ages. For about a month, children devoted their time to researching and reading materials which related to their medieval character. Second, the children researched, designed, and made (with help) simple costumes for their character. Students also designed and created banners which represented the artistic style and native language of their characters' culture. These designs incorporated symbols representing themselves and their families. These banners proudly decorated the Holly Tree Square during the bazaar. The teachers were very excited to bring this year's study of the Middle Ages to a conclusion with these events. Thank you parents and other members of the community for your support. The money raised by the sixth graders at the fair was donated to the American Red Cross and to members of the Potomac Community whose families were affected by the earthquakes in Central America this spring.



# A Year in the Life

LOWER SCHOOL IN REVIEW

2000-2001

As we wrap up another year of learning and fun at Potomac, it is always nice to take a look back at the highlights that made this year so very special. The 2000-2001 school year brought many fantastic memories for students and teachers alike. From Fall Frolics to Grandparents' Day, Carols to class plays, the Lower School has had the chance to experience an amazing assortment of educational and entertaining activities.

For the Pre-K and most of the Kindergarten students, this was their first taste of what life at Potomac would bring. Learning the ropes and building Panther spirit made them quickly feel a part of their school. The Kindergartners learned many new things this year. A unit on Africa was one particular focus of Louise McIlhenny's class. Jane Norton's class spent a good bit of time studying rainforests and presented their theatrical interpretation of The Great Kapok Tree. Katie Hannon's class gathered over one hundred signatures of people in the Potomac community as a part of their study of the first one hundred days of school.

Participating in and enjoying assemblies was another new and exciting part of Potomac experienced by the Pre-K and Kindergarten students. When asked what she found to be one of the highlights of the year, Katie Hannon expressed how she particularly enjoyed Potomac faculty Guy Gardner's presentation of his missions in space. "The children had a ball watching his films and really seemed to enjoy the descriptive words he used in presenting his travels in space," she said.

Old hands with the routine at Potomac by now, the first graders had a fantastic year as well. So many new and wonderful things were learned. Picking just a few highlights can be hard. Nancy Powell's class spent some time studying how we're all differently abled. The

children even had a chance to learn a bit of sign language. Charlotte Martin's class published creative stories and held an author's tea to share their future bestsellers with friends and family. Kristen Faulders' class studied ecological awareness in the spring, discussing ways to help the earth and adopting a sea lion!

While the first graders soared academically, equally impressive were the many skills acquired outside of the classroom. The discussions and situations studied during the friendship unit of the social studies curriculum were used in daily interactions. The first graders had a chance to show what they'd learned. They proved to really have gained a good sense of what it means to be a friend. First grader Alex Long, who was new to Potomac this year, remarked that the best part of her year was "making so many new friends!"

Second grade brought many exciting firsts for everyone. New hall, new teachers, and many new expectations. The whole second grade thrived this year as they worked hard to make it the best year possible. Meagan Coy's class started the year off with an in-depth study of Native Americans, learning traditional dances as well as some of the written language. Kanokon Ruabruam's class had a chance to study some of the natural as well as man-made wonders in America. Cindy Cheadle's class held an in-depth author study of Patricia Polacco, even baking up their own yummy versions of "Thunder Cake," based on her beloved tale.

In the spring, we were all treated to the second grade production of three traditional fairy tales along with their not-so-traditional re-writes. Cindy Cheadle found that one of the highlights of her year was "definitely doing our play." She remarked that "it was just so awesome to see everyone pull together and work so hard to create such a fantastic and creative show!"

The oldest and wisest component of the Lower School, the third grade, also enjoyed a fabulous year! A few years of experience under their belts, they were ready to accept the challenges the third and final grade in Lower School would present before moving on to the middle school. Rhonda Rombach's class conducted thorough studies of each of the fifty states, presenting their findings through writing, art, and song. Tae Yi's class read a novel entitled The Chocolate Touch and wrote "Chocolate Poetry" in response to the story. Ann Dulany's class was able to experience the hardships of war as they set out on a trail with only the necessary provisions.

The third graders have learned so many things during their time in Lower School. They have reigned as the most experienced students in the building all year, learning all the required material - from multiplication to the Mississippi River. They have followed the correct path and done all the right things to move on to the next step. But sometimes the best lessons could be learned from doing things the wrong way. Lower School art teacher Darcy Swope summarized one of the most valuable lessons a child can learn when she quoted a second grader who said "you can't mess up in art... I made my mistake into a masterpiece!" Armed with the lessons learned - both big and small, in class and out of class, from perfect work or from mistakes, Lower School students have proven that they are ready for the next step!

-Kristen Faulders

# Science on the Go

## OFF CAMPUS AP BIOLOGY

The laboratory experience extends beyond the science corridor of the Upper School. Visits to local facilities offer students the opportunity to see working research establishments. In early December, seniors Chelsea Simms and Natasha Wilson enriched an already rigorous curriculum in Advanced Placement Biology when they attended a two-day series of lectures at the Howard Hughes Medical Institute in Rockville, Maryland. Dr. Isabelle Cohen, who teaches the Advanced Placement course, notes that the conference, entitled "Gene Regulation of Bio-Clocks," provided an interactive format that encouraged participants to ask questions of the presenters. Adds Dr. Cohen, "in anticipation of the conference, the students received a packet of articles to read so that they could fully appreciate the proceedings." The conference hosted approximately 100 independent and public school students representing about 50 schools.

Chelsea and Natasha took yet another experiential excursion one afternoon at the start of second semester when they accompanied current and former members of the AP Biology and the Molecular Biology classes to the Institute for Genome Research. The Institute had participated in the initial stages of the Human Genome Project, a scientific breakthrough that recently made headlines. Students had already conducted their own sequencing of genes in lab trials, but the visit to the Institute provided the opportunity to view the sequencing of genomes on a much larger scale. Dr. Cohen comments, "The students were impressed by the amount of data available." She went on to say, "They were able to see the total automatization of the experiments, beginning with the preparation of the DNA." The students were even able to operate the centrifuges.

At the close of first semester, Mrs. Christine Hunt, teacher of Chemistry, accompanied five students to Georgetown University as they participated in a two-day symposium. The group included Nick Adams, Rostam Batmanglij, Tracy Martin, Joey Pahira, and Alyson Wise. The students first attended a plenary session which featured the submission of research findings by six finalists who had completed summer internships. The second day, Tracy, Joey, and Mrs. Hunt opted to visit NASA in Greenbelt, Maryland. There, they inspected satellites being prepared for launch. Mrs. Hunt recalls, "Most impressive was the dust-free environment that was required for all stages of the production." Such field trips shed light on the classroom and lab experiences, and expose students to academic, career, and research possibilities.

-Karen Gray



## Ode to a Tree

### AN OLD FRIEND

Potomac School's campus has long been defined by its green space and most especially the abundance of trees, many of them peerless specimens. Regrettably, the school had to remove one of those, a long time school resident spanning many generations, in this case the towering black gum which anchored the center of campus and commanded the knoll above the football field at the Arundel Library Square. Despite deep root fertilizations, installation of iron rods and cabling, pruning, dead-wooding and the like over the last 20-30 years, the tree reached a point of no return. The problem revolved around the fact that the seemingly vibrant crown is held aloft by a base increasingly unable to support it. Reasons for the tree's increasingly poor condition were predominantly natural: old age (200+ years), multiple lightning strikes, various pest infestations and diseases, and its lifelong exposure to heavy winds and lightning. The Trustees and school are also fully committed to and have embarked upon new and additional tree placement campus wide. While the black gum is irreplaceable, we will work to minimize the impact of the loss by our efforts to plant elsewhere, short and long term. The black gum provided aesthetic pleasure, it sheltered many a class picnic or activity, and it both ushered in and bade farewell to countless students since the campus moved to McLean 50 odd years ago. We will remember it most by the space it filled both in reality and in our hearts.

-Perry Swope



# Valedictions

SCOTT CHRISTIAN, INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL HEAD, 1994-2001

*This speech was given by Brendan Sheerin, Intermediate School Dean of Students at Scott's farewell party.*

Teachers of seventh and eighth graders are a strange lot, and given their chosen field of expertise that has become an old truism which is, for once, a very accurate one. To live and work with 12-14 year olds every day is to live in a world apart: a world part Gogol's *The Dead Souls*, part TV's *As the World Turns*, and part Lewis Carol's *Alice in Wonderland*. It is never dull.

And so it was seven years ago that, just like Alice, Scott Christian found his way down into a hole, not an easy task given his lanky gait, and emerged among the collection of strange creatures inhabiting the Intermediate School world. Like Alice, he was chasing that strange white rabbit that always seemed to be late. But the rabbit was soon to learn that nothing escaped Scott's attention, and soon he solved the problem for the rabbit and all his friends by creating a schedule incomprehensible to all but Scott with its shrunken weeks, Days One, Two, Three, and Four, classes beginning at 1:03 and 10:06, and with its strange bells. The White Rabbit would never, could never, be late for anything again.

And so it went for the next seven years with Scott wandering through this gigantic forest of strange IS life with its demands pulling him in a million different directions:

"Go this Way! No, that Way! Up There! Over there!" the inhabitants would cry, and Scott would immediately start writing in a small, black book, and would meet and talk, and fix, and talk, and change and meet, and talk and talk...., smiling like the Cheshire Cat as he repeated to all the mantra of the Dodo:

"Next time you run into a problem, don't hesitate. I'll be glad to help you." And so he was always glad to help, and faculty members got used to the early morning or nighttime phonecalls, and to the 4:30AM e-mails, the yellow slips announcing a meeting for two, Scott seemingly at his desk no matter the hour nor the day, and to the famous blue pen he used for editing.

certain Uns you could not be: Undevoted; Uncaring, Uncommitted, Uninvolved, Unfunny, Unexcited about education, Unappreciative of our charge, Unhappy to work with great parents and their kids, Unprofessional. The needs of the students entrusted to him came first, and he viewed that as a sacred obligation. If you understood this, you were always welcome at his table.

Many of you may not remember Scott's first year at Potomac. He arrived to an Intermediate School building as yet unbuilt, and to replace a much beloved former IS head. He ensconced himself in a little room in the old development office building and began cheerily going about the task of implementing his own vision of the IS. That first year we had two fathers die and several mothers dealing with breast cancer treatments. Our kids were very shaky as many of them questioned the mortality of their parents for the first time. On top of this, the faculty was watching the slow death of a colleague's child. It was not an easy year, but it was Scott's steady and cheery leadership and focus which allowed us all, students, parents and faculty to get through that tough first year.

Scott has never been afraid to work longer than anyone else has. I will always remember those summer afternoons spent working on students' schedules, with Scott refusing to leave, long after I wanted just to pack it in, until each class had a gender balance, until each parent request was met, until the composition of each class was the best it could be for the teacher walking into it in September. In athletics and the musical, he worked tirelessly to even the playing field for all children so that we could honestly look at a family and say that everyone had been given the same chance to make it. Scott brought to us his clear understanding of the value of all children and worked to successfully persuade the faculty that well-established practices such as awards hurt most children and recognized only a few.

It was the same for the faculty for whom he was a head who, if you asked for anything to improve your classroom teaching, would work tirelessly to make it happen. Making the classroom work for student and teacher was always his simple aim.

And so now Scott moves on to a new chapter in his storybook, one that is only credible if you understand what motivates and drives the protagonist: honor, dedication and self-sacrifice. We admire him for the path he has chosen, perhaps we envy his courage, and we thank him for his work here at Potomac School. So let me close, Scott and Helen with an old Irish toast:

May the road rise up to meet you  
May the wind be always at your back  
May the sun shine warm upon your face  
And rain fall soft upon your field  
And until we meet again  
May God hold you in the hollow of his hand



Scott is presented with a special gift by Susan Lewis (mother of Kip '99, Marc '02, and Trevor '06.)



The IS Treble Makers, under the direction of Katherine Nevius '69, honors Mr. Christian.

And in this strange world, Scott even managed to meet his Queen of Hearts, although Helen is the antithesis of her storybook character: gentle, kind, funny and, I believe Scott would agree with me on this, the best thing to happen to him at Potomac. We will miss her too.

For seven years, Scott presided over the IS tea party with all the other Mad Hatters and March Hares. Invitation to his UN-party was based on a simple criteria: To work under him meant there were

# Valedictions

VIRGINIA HOWARD, DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT 1967-2001

There is no other area where institutional memory is so critical to a school as in the Development Office. When people speak of institutional memory, they are usually referring to someone who has a dozen or so years under their belt in the same job. Potomac has been lucky enough to have Ginny Howard on board for thirty-three years, accumulating in her mind the idiosyncrasies, interests, whereabouts and giving potential of several generations of Potomac students, parents and grandparents. As a Potomac parent herself, Ginny has epitomized the school to many Potomac families.

It all started in 1967 when Ginny started the Development Office as a one-person shop, by volunteering two or three hours a day while her children, Jay '75, Victoria '77, and Irene '79 were in class. The Potomac campus was a dramatically different place at that time, Ginny's work in development would soon make many changes possible. In 1967 the Dimick Wing was under construction and the Arundel Library was soon to follow. Soon another capital campaign would raise over \$1 million for faculty salary endowment. Funds have been raised over the years to renovate, air condition and expand all of the older buildings.

When the Board of Trustees decided to add a high school, fundraising for a secondary school building, a new gymnasium and track were required. After this expansion to twelfth grade, the Intermediate School (7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades) had a second story and wing added. As the Upper School prospered, an addition was needed for more classroom space, and later a fitness center and squash courts were also built.

Just two years ago, thanks to Ginny's ongoing relationship with the Lee family, Potomac was able to acquire the Lee Family 12 acre adjacent property, which was partially funded by a generous \$1 million gift from Mrs. Robert Wilson, a former trustee who had worked with Ginny on many fundraising projects. The school's most recent capital campaign funded the new Engelhard Performing Arts Center, the John Langstaff Auditorium, and the reconfiguration of the front entrance and roadways. This year a wrestling arena/all-purpose physical education room has been built. The number of building projects that have occurred over Ginny's tenure is truly staggering and these buildings are a vital part of Potomac's daily functioning.

As impressive as all the building improvements are, Potomac's Development program has matured in many areas to gain its present size and level of sophistication. Over these thirty-three years, the \$11,000 of annual and \$800,000 capital support raised in 1967 has grown to over \$4.4 million in 2001! Capital campaigns and market gains have increased the endowment to \$21 million from \$250,000. As overall gifts increased, Potomac School has matured into a first rate Kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade independent secondary school, with an extraordinary level of financial support from parents, alumni, alumni parents and grandparents. Ginny has been here through it all.

In addition to facilities, the auction /fair benefit, called Fall Frolics was spearheaded in 1980 by Ginny's Development program, and net proceeds raised from that growing effort over 23 years have increased from \$18,000 to over \$250,000 annually.

In 1979 Ginny hired Marcia Bell deGarmo '54 to assist with what became a nationally prominent elementary school alumni program. Today, alumni events are held throughout the year and alumni contribute large sums to the school for both annual and capital purposes.

A Planned Giving program was inaugurated in 1992 by Ginny with a Bequest Society, and we now have over 100 known bequests, gifts of real estate and are beneficiaries of a lead trust. Just last month, we were notified of a bequest for \$100,000.

That which distinguishes great development officers from merely good ones is the ability to build friendships before courting donors. This is a time-consuming process which cannot be hurried, and also cannot be faked - the development officer has got to like the job in order to be successful. Ginny clearly loves what she does, and this is the secret behind her national prominence in the field. If you get Ginny talking about Potomac her love of the school and her belief in the education it provides comes through strongly, her belief in Potomac is unfailing.

When Ginny bridges the gap between friendship and fundraising it seems effortless, because it is a natural, rather than a superficial, outgrowth of a joint interest in the school. To read about her accomplishments without knowing this is to miss her unique contribution to Potomac School. Thank You, Ginny, for all that you have done.

*This tribute was written by past parent and former Board member Mary Buford Hitz.*



*"Real joy comes not from ease or riches or from the praise of men, but from doing something worthwhile."*

*- Sir Wilfred Grenfe*

# Peter Munroe

SCIENCE TEACHER, 1969-2001

In the late summer of 1969, a most remarkable man arrived in McLean to begin his career teaching at Potomac School. And so it is that 32 years later, we honor him for his long and distinguished service to our school. Who is this man who is so ingrained in the thoughts of anyone familiar with Potomac? And how will we remember him as he leaves the Intermediate School and begins a new chapter in his life?



Peter with Carol Costa, IS Spanish teacher, who gave this speech at Peter's farewell reception in the Arundel library.

The man of whom I speak of course is Peter Munroe a naturalist, environmentalist, bird and butterfly watcher, lover of classical music and opera, rabid Yankee fan, teacher, colleague and friend. Born and raised in NYC. Peter has spent his adult life sharing the joys and wonder of nature and the world around us with adults and children alike.

After receiving his BA from Cornell and his Masters from the University of Guelph (stubbornly pronounced Gulf by his mother!) in Canada, Peter spent 3 years in Dayton, Ohio working for the Audubon Society as a teacher/naturalist. In 1969, Peter came to Potomac, and what a different Potomac it was! No landscaped entrance, no Arundel library, no football field, the Chester gym was called the covered play area, there was no Upper School, the Intermediate School wing opened onto a play area rather than the lush environmental science facility (which I stubbornly call the garden as I enjoy its beauty outside my window daily), and there was no performing arts center, a very different Potomac indeed from what it is today. From the deck of the IS, the land gently sloped down toward Pimmit Run with nothing to block the view. The entire faculty could fit into the Headmaster's office for tea and science rooms were nonexistent!

In his first year (and what a year it was) Peter taught 2nd, 3rd, 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grades with 7-8 classes a day! Because there was no classroom, Peter was a portable teacher moving his "lab" and equipment around the school on a cart! He taught a 7th grade ecology class when ecology was still a technical term in scientific journals. Over the years that followed, Peter taught in the LS, IPS in 8th grade, 6th grade earth science, and in the last several years, 7th grade life science. Peter has left an indelible mark on the science program at Potomac, be it in his classes or summer camp. Everyone knows that when you combine human beings with nature, you are bound to get some interesting stories, and that is certainly true with Peter. Many of you in this room could tell your own "Peter" stories, but just let me share a few of mine.

The yearly trip to Caroline Furnace supplies many wonderful stories. Every year Peter sets up a science room and he is always there long into the night making sure that the students will have an opportunity to observe nature up close in his lab, which occasionally includes a snake or two! Over the years, Peter has tried a variety of ways of using Caroline Furnace to teach science. I remember the stream study with the boys making every effort to get each other wet while the girls tried in vain not to touch the little critters of nature. I also remember the forest studies where the kids were meant to measure the

temperature of a little plot of the forest. That was an exercise in complete futility as every thermometer was broken as it was dramatically stabbed into the ground by the young Potomac scholars! And who can forget hiking with Peter! Not a leaf, twig, flower, insect or any other living thing was left unnoticed or unexamined if you were walking with Peter! However, he was somewhat less adept at bush walking, an activity taken to a high art form by Chris Kloman! Perhaps because he was busy observing nature or was without a compass, Peter and kids left Kennedy Peak, walking away through the brush and, instead of returning to camp, ended up at the cemetery (I guess you could call that a dead end!) They returned to camp by hitchhiking, perhaps the only such experience in the history of Caroline Furnace.

Peter has also left his mark on the Potomac Summer Programs. He was the founder and for years director of the Nature Science camp, which has become a very well known and respected program under his leadership. Many is the camper overheard exclaiming in awe, while passing by the Nature classroom, "that's where Mr. Munroe teaches!" Peter was the Pied Piper for hundreds of children who followed him around our campus observing the wonders of nature. Dressed in shorts, wearing a hat, and often carrying a butterfly net and binoculars, Peter used the Potomac campus to teach about living things to his young charges. He lead children to the stream and pond, building and burying bug traps or sitting with a group of kids using a pair of binoculars to find and point out birds and frogs to his enthralled audience of children. Bugs and butterflies aside, we cannot speak of Peter without mentioning snakes. The snake that bit him and brought the rescue squad to campus. The snakes that live in the science wing. The pregnant snake found early one morning by Ms. Stein in the men's room (please don't ask what Ms. Stein was



doing in there!) This sent Ms. Stein into shrieks of horror but sent Peter into exclamations of sheer delight as he rescued the snake and watched it give birth later in the day. But best of all was the snake that elevated Peter's status at camp to "the Man," toppling Bob Hamblet from that lofty position. Let me explain, it seems that young Jonathan Haworth '00, at the time a recent Potomac graduate,

announced one afternoon in carpool that "Mr. Munroe is 'the Man.'" Peter, Jonathan, and his class were down at the pond looking for plants and creatures. All of the sudden, Mr. Munroe went leaping into a thick clump of thorny bushes. From the bushes, Jonathan and the campers heard sounds of a fierce combat between Peter and some unknown terror. They heard numerous grunts and exclamations from Peter and even shouts of "it bit me!" Suddenly, Peter emerged valiantly from the bushes and the pond, holding a large snake. The snake had

bitten him a number of times, but Peter ignored the bites. All that interested him was the chance to talk to the campers about what type of snake he had, its habits, etc. Jonathan and the campers were stunned. He certainly earned the title "the Man!"

At times Peter's efforts to rescue an endangered species has lead to great alarm. He once placed a rescued snapping turtle in an aquarium in the square for all to see. Our less than sympathetic business manager was horrified by the presence of this "dangerous creature" and ordered orange cones be placed as a barrier surrounding the evil turtle!

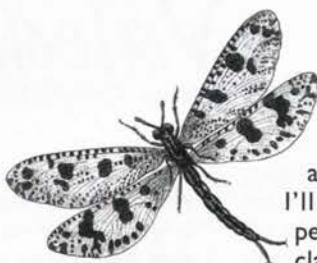
It has been my privilege to have Peter as a friend as well as a colleague. He and I have shared many a ride to and from school discussing our children and their challenges and various authors that we both like. A voracious reader and lover of classical music and opera, it seems that Peter can talk knowledgeably about almost anything! However, our best conversations have been about politics. Democrat soulmates, we consoled each other during the Clinton fiascoes and lamented the return of the Republicans to power. We don't carpool much anymore, and I miss those conversations.

Finally, I must talk about the most important role Peter has had at Potomac, and that is as a teacher. This role certainly brought a great many children into contact with science, but more importantly, it brought them into contact with a teacher who is passionate about his work, a passion that inspires his students. He not only reveres the process of learning, but the children he teaches. Peter understands children. His insightful comments about kids have helped many a faculty member understand a child better. When I first came to Potomac, I used Peter's written comments as a benchmark for what a report should be like.

And so it is that we bid farewell to Peter as a teacher at Potomac. This funny, focused, sensitive, generous, resilient, tolerant, forgetful and thoughtful man will be greatly missed. I would like to end by sharing the thoughts of two of Peter's former students:

Thirty-one years ago, I was a sixth grader at Potomac School. At the time we had science once or twice a week. One of my best memories in sixth grade was learning how to develop images using a "Tensor" lamp. We had a new science teacher; his name was Mr. Munroe. In seventh grade I signed up to take an Ecology class in the fall. When I walked in the lab I was elated to see that our teacher was Mr. Munroe. I loved Ecology and Peter loved teaching the class! We made these cool bird posters at home with 6 birds on each poster and the habitats, diet and behavior of each bird included on the poster. Later in Ninth grade we had a special day where everyone got to take an all day field trip with a teacher. I chose to go to The Blackwater Refuge. Peter was the teacher leading this trip! What a great day we had. Peter's love, knowledge and appreciation for birds shown through on that trip and his enthusiasm was infectious. I never looked at a wild bird in the same way as after that trip! After my junior year in college I applied to the Potomac camp. Peter gave me a call and asked if I would have any interest in being a counselor and teacher. To my joy I was offered the position. That was 19 years ago!!! Peter has truly been an inspiration to me since the first science class he taught. His energy, enthusiasm and knowledge for nature are incredible. I know I have returned to Potomac because of his positive influence. He is a mentor and friend and I will miss him.

- Cathie Davis Kaplan '73



There is so much to say about Mr. Munroe's dedication, perseverance and legacy at this school, that I'll just stick to how he personally affected me and my class our 7th grade year. I remember so vividly, my first day in his class. For those who don't know me I was quite lively and uninterested in school back then. So with the excitement of the first day of school and sharing a class with my close friends, I began to talk and pass notes as he was introducing D block class to Environmental Science. In the middle of him saying how hard his class was going to be, he blatantly saw me pass a note. He stopped class, sighed and said, "I've never given a discipline notice the first day of school, but I guess I'm going to have to."

What a perfect event to mirror the rest of my Intermediate School days. From that day forth, I grew to have a tremendous amount of respect for Mr. Munroe. He taught one of the topics I was very interested in and he taught it with more passion and insight than I had ever experienced before.

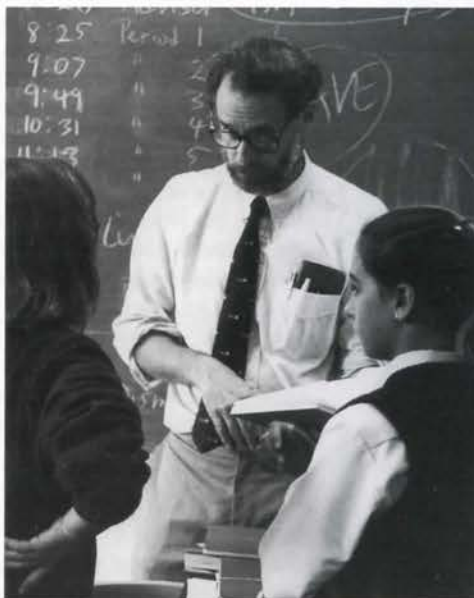
I admired him so much, in fact, that I tried to set him up with my grandmother! Mr. Hamblet told me time and time again it was a bad idea, but knowing me, I persisted to annoy Mr. Munroe telling him about all of her interests. I finally gave up when he told me that he appreciated my effort, but for anything to work, she would need to speak English. Well, I tried. I tried to give something back to the man that taught with so much vigor and really opened my eyes to nature's splendor.

Sarah and I would help him garden on numerous occasions after school talking about how and why he was our favorite teacher. For me the answer was easy, he brought science into my life.

Next year I'm taking 3 science electives, one of which is environmental science. I am also looking forward to studying biology in college and any other science courses I can get my hands on.

Thank you Mr. Munroe so much for being such a wonderful teacher, for giving so much to this school and for letting me look back on my intermediate years with pleasure and nostalgia. And if my sister or Sarah were here, they'd say the same thing.

-Victoria Sylos-Labini '02



We wish you well in your job as administrator of the outdoor education grant, Peter, and, because you will be on campus at least another year, we say not goodbye but hasta luego.

---

Next year Peter will be overseeing the renovation of the Potomac nature trails and ponds as well as the revision and improvement of the natural science curriculum throughout the school. This renovation was made possible thanks to a \$300,000 grant from the William H. Donner Foundation.

---

# Valedictions

TRACY SWECKER, TEACHER, COACH, 1991-2001

*This is from a speech given by Louise Parsons at a farewell reception for Tracy.*



Tracy spends a moment with a parent.



US Madrigals sing for Tracy, Andy and Scott.

In the fall of 1991, Tracy arrived at Potomac: a Spanish teacher, field hockey and lacrosse coach. Two years later, her responsibilities expanded to include Girls Athletic Director. Her job description is unique. She is an administrator, advisor, teacher and coach. Tracy operates in many different spheres and works to bridge the gap by getting the people involved from all sides to acknowledge the value in Potomac's academic, artistic, and athletic programs. She brings her energy, passion, and direction to every aspect of this job.

In the Spanish Department, both teachers and students benefit from their interactions with her. Because of her innate ability to consider differing points of view, colleagues seek her out as their sounding board. Tracy pioneered the AP Language Program and developed the 3A class. In the classroom, students respond positively to her intensity and passion for learning, working to put forth their best effort because they know she is doing the same. Tracy often approaches her classes as she would an athletic team, starting from the beginning: We are all in this experience together. This course will stretch you perhaps further than you have ever been stretched. I will be there to celebrate your triumphs and support you if you feel you are faltering. Loyalty and trust fill her section of Spanish. Tracy not only meets the requirements of the curriculum, but more importantly, extends it by teaching her students to think and stand by what's in their hearts, educating them with the tools to make choices not just in her classroom but in their everyday lives. In this way, Ms. Swecker, decked in her black outfits and burnt velvet scarves with coffee in hand, is more than a Spanish teacher during A block, she is a mentor who instills her genuine support in each one of her students, encouraging them to reach their goals.

Leaving the US classrooms, Tracy zooms to the Chester Gym making the transition to her duties as Girls Athletic Director. It is in this role that she has been a valuable member of the study of the athletics program, pioneered the current athletic requirement, and extended the girls offerings to include JV tennis, JV softball, outdoor education, and swimming. Expanding these offerings of activities and instituting the Panther Club award (which honors the graduating seniors who have committed to 10 of 12 seasons on interscholastic teams) are just two of the ways she has illustrated her

commitment to all student/athletes at Potomac. In her eight incredible years as girls AD, she has not only put the girls program on the map but also guided the teams to the top of their league of sixteen schools, turning out highly competitive programs in the fall, winter and spring. In the last five years, the soccer and lacrosse programs have consistently ranked in *The Washington Post* Top 10.

Always in pursuit of excellence, Tracy sets high standards for herself as well as her field hockey and lacrosse players. Teams respect the intensity she brings to each practice and thank her for the opportunity to grow and succeed as they blossom under her watchful eye. Regardless of the drill, athletes respond to her firm coaching style. Whether a notice on the Chester Gym easel that reads, "Girls' lacrosse meet on the track wear your sneakers" or the performance of drills at top speed on the Gum Tree and Football fields, Tracy's practices challenge each athlete to be her very best. No matter what, the players know that giving the extra push is worthwhile. Forever a student of the game, Tracy combines her understanding of each player with the newest strategies of the game. She masterfully blends her own vision for the season with the input of her players from day one and balances the big picture with small details that bond a team. Envision these familiar pregame Swecker rituals: Tracy lines up her team for their sideline to sideline jog, and after they pivot in front of the supportive fans on the far side, she selects the right time to shout, "Go!" Athletes swiftly sprint back, form the team huddle, set up for team squeezes and execute the all-telling claps. Needless to say, her infamous post-game team talks do not possess this same concise feel but provide ample time for game analysis and Sun Chip devouring! Tracy's magical formula produces unforgettable team memories, season upon season, as well as recognition for outstanding play by individuals with All-League, All Met, and All American honors. Furthermore, the passion she has for her sports is contagious; it is no wonder many move on and play in competitive college programs. In 1994, Tracy received her own top recognition by *The Washington Post* who named her All-Metropolitan Coach of the Year, the same year her lacrosse team were ISL champs, beating Saint Stephens/Saint Agnes! Tucked beneath her stack of papers on her clipboard, Tracy's neatly penciled practice plans might outline the minute

to minute direction of the team but the overarching lesson from Tracy's teachings on the field emphasize the ways to become a leader, to compete with courage, and to carry yourself with class on and off the field.

Trace, those who have been fortunate enough to work with you admire all that you have accomplished and given to Potomac. You have indeed left your indelible mark on this community. "Swecker" has become a common word in the Potomac dictionary. In fact, the thesaurus cited these synonyms for the term "Swecker:" passionate, friend, strong, intuitive, warm.

Intrigued, I consulted the dictionary as well and want to end by sharing these 5 definitions of a Swecker:

1. One who experiences bus driving difficulties; after numerous attempts to fulfill CDL licensure, a Swecker is known to successfully back minibuses into fire hydrants in own school parking lot and runs out of gas en route to Saint Stephens/Saint Agnes.
  2. Individual who finds difficulty with travel directions regardless of vehicle type; if driving on MacArthur Avenue, she's solid. If returning from Episcopal High School, must refrain from short cut through National Airport ARRIVAL ramp and remain solely on GW Parkway!
  3. Individual who struggles, in fact panics, with the most basic functions on a TV/VCR in Spanish class.
  4. A Swecker is a coach, teacher, friend, confidante, and mentor. She excels at personal relationships and always says that her door is open. When you enter her picture-filled office, you can immediately tell that this woman is a legend of sorts. Her walls are covered with girls, now turned women, including advisor groups, and lacrosse and field hockey teams from a decade back. Indeed it is hard to find an empty space on the wall. it's hard to recall when Swecker's office wasn't the ideal haven. When you enter her office you are equals and she treats you as such.
- E. Duncan '00
5. A Swecker is someone whose greatness needs to be experienced in order for it to truly be understood.
- N. Batmanghelidj '98

Tracy, thank you for helping define who we are as individuals and as a school here at Potomac!



# Valedictions

ANDY WATSON, HEAD OF THE UPPER SCHOOL 1991-2001

On a Friday afternoon a few weeks ago Cammy Passarella called me up and asked me to say a few words about Andy Watson. I latched onto the word few, and thought - I can say three to five words about Andy Watson. He has been amazing. He has been a tremendous leader, or maybe simply, we have loved him and will miss him.

But the truth is whether I say a few words or thirty words, or three thousand words, no amount of talking could do justice either to the scope of Andy's contributions as Head of the Upper School or capture what he has meant to those of us who have gotten to know him.

Now, since Andy is a math teacher, I hope that he won't mind if I compare him to a triangle. In the center of the triangle is the energy of optimism and that is Andy's defining characteristic. Andy is one of the most optimistic people that I have ever met. He makes the followers of Dale Carnegie look like complete slackers. He has been, is, and will always be spontaneously enthusiastic about everything. From his initial cover letter when he was an applicant to be Head of the Upper School to his recent efforts to make a smooth administrative transition in the Upper School, Andy has been wonderfully positive. I learned of Andy's attitude during the first few weeks of his tenure in the Upper School, when, in response to my uncertainty about something he asked me to do, he expressed to me that there are never any problems, only professional growth opportunities.

The other great defining characteristics that Andy possesses stand at each point of the triangle of his optimism. At the first point is Andy's belief in the importance of family. In the trajectory of his own life experience, Andy gained a deep understanding of the beautiful miracle that occurs when a tiny baby is born into a loving family. But his feelings for family also include aging members at the other end of the spectrum. Andy's many talks over the years about what the elders in his family have meant to him have made it clear what values matter the most to him. An example of how he has institutionalized his love and respect for old people is the Upper School grandparents assembly which has provided many powerful

moments of wisdom as the grandparents have shared their stories with our student body. He could not have been more supportive to the wider family of Potomac faculty as we have all faced the vicissitudes of life.



Andy with Anne Hackett.

At the second point of the triangle is Andy's belief in the goodness of humanity. Having faith in people's potential has always given us a wide-angle lens through which we could understand students during difficult times. All of us who have lived through adolescence appreciate the emotional turmoil, the ups and downs of that period of life. Believing in his own and other people's potential, he has had a marvelous way of bringing out the best in all of us and affirming our

best possibilities. This has been a huge factor in setting a good tone for the Upper School.

Lastly, Andy has exemplified for us and for the students the power of life-long learning. His unbounded curiosity and sheer delight in discovery have set the tone for intellectual engagement that is joyful and life-affirming. He himself is a great reader on all kinds of subjects including literature, education, history, sociology, and economics. Invariably, after every vacation, Andy has come back bursting with ideas and possibilities to implement in order to make a better school. Andy has been a great believer in the power of a community of learners to transform the minds and hearts of young people to help them be better prepared for college and for life.

Goodbyes are never easy but we can take solace in the fact that Andy's influence and his spirit will always grow as we hope that Potomac's place in his heart and in the hearts of his family will always blossom.

*This speech was given by Bill Cook, US Counselor and History and Ethics teacher, at a farewell reception for Andy.*



Tracy, Andy and Scott enjoy speeches made on their behalf.

# Our Potomac Family

SALLY PINGREE



Sally Pingree, as Board Chair, awards graduate Shannon Gopaul her diploma.

This month I will complete my fourteenth and final year as a member of The Potomac School Board of Trustees, and, while I drift back through moments of nostalgia, I realize that never in my time at our School have I felt such optimism for our community and confidence in its leadership. People sometimes ask me what the Board does, and this year the answer has been easy, I have been able to respond simply that we have supported our new Headmaster, Geoff Jones. We have all been touched by this extraordinary man, whose strength, wisdom, and vision connect us to our history and lead us into our future.

Looking back on the year, I see how far we have come. Who would have imagined that each Potomac family would have the opportunity to discuss our School's mission with others in Geoff and Carol's home? In these discussion groups and in countless conversations with individual parents, students, teachers, and alumni, Geoff has listened, and, in hearing, has given

voice to the constituencies which form our community. Among the many words which come to mind when I think of Geoff Jones three stand apart: first, empathy, the ability to listen and experience another's point of view; candor, the confidence to respond with sincerity and honesty to difficult questions; and wisdom, an essence derived of deeply held values and filtered through years of reflective experience. To these I would add "integrity," the strength and soundness of character to hold values and judgments in balance. If, as Freud said, character is destiny, then our epic future is grand indeed.

I am confident that Geoff Jones will continue to collaborate with the entire Potomac community, and, with the support of the Board, that he will articulate a vision for our School for the coming years. He will teach us because he is a life-long learner; he will show us new ways to invest in old and dearly held values, which result in the richness of experience our children have

each and every day; he will lead our extraordinary faculty and learn alongside them. As the Board seeks the resources to support the Potomac program, we proceed, ever mindful of the institutional values we must weave into the fabric of our School's future. Our mission statement names "love of learning" as one of our most cherished values, and together with our seeds of labor, this love will engender the annual rebirth of our beloved School.

As my youngest, Katherine, graduates from Potomac this month, I feel as though I have lived a dream, having watched her grow and flourish in a community of talented and caring adults and children. On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I would like to express my gratitude to the entire community for its support this year. While I am sad to leave this wonderful group of people, I look forward with boundless hope to Potomac's future and leave with confidence in our new Head and his steady stewardship.

## New Middle School Playground Equipment

Middle School students returning from Summer vacations will have a fun time on the newly installed playground. Fun activities include innovative climbing apparatus, circle and swinging monkeybars, bridges, forts, whirligigs, swings, slides and more!



## Why the Annual Fund?

All independent schools rely on gifts to the school to contribute to their operating budgets. Tuition and fees cover most, but not all, educational costs at Potomac. The Annual Fund, which includes gifts from parents, alumni and their parents, grandparents, trustees, faculty and staff, provides almost 8% of Potomac's operating budget.

The Annual Fund is the largest source of funding outside of tuition and therefore it is indispensable to the School. We solicit unrestricted gifts to help cover operating expenses related to faculty development, financial aid, arts, athletics, technology and maintenance of our buildings and grounds. Your gifts to the Annual Fund are for current use and flow directly into the school's budget to pay for a variety of yearly expenses.

Each year, Potomac volunteers telephone or write to the members of the Potomac community to ask for an Annual Giving donation. We understand that circumstances vary; however, every donation to Annual

Giving helps. We are proud that so many Potomac families, alumni and friends make a gift. Some alumni and parents are able to give \$10,000 or more annually. We also have families with children receiving financial aid who give \$10 to \$50 each year. What is important is that all members of the Potomac family voluntarily participate in this effort to support continued excellence at Potomac School.

Last year unrestricted gifts from parents, alumni, parents of alumni, grandparents, and faculty to the Annual Fund totaled \$920,797. Our goal for this fiscal year, which ended June 30<sup>th</sup>, is \$975,000 and we met that goal. Look for the final 2000/2001 Annual Giving figures in the Annual Report in September.

If you need further information about making a gift to Potomac please contact the Development Office at 703-749-6330.

- Dabney Schmitt,  
Director of Annual Giving

# Book Fair 2001

BLOSSOM WITH BOOKS



Thanks to the prodigious efforts of the entire Potomac School community led by Book Fair Chairs, Lori Durbin and Babs Mersereau, Book Fair 2001 raised over \$21,500 in support of the school's three libraries.

Equally important was the educational success of Book Fair. For two weeks the entire Potomac community united in a brilliant demonstration of how much we value books & reading.

Congratulations to all divisions for exceeding their Book Drive goals! Special thanks to the students for contributing some of their book purchases to charitable organizations. At Potomac we truly "Blossom with Books!"

Next year Book Fair is scheduled for the week of March 11-14, 2002.



# Spring Benefit

FALL FROLICS - WEEKEND AT HOGWARTS



Spring Benefit 2001 was truly a magical evening. Many Thanks to Co-Chairs Beth Eckert and Janet Killmon. Without their tremendous efforts this wonderful event would not have been possible. Through their creative talents, the home of Potomac Parents Anjanette and Michael Murphy was transformed into a Hogwarts-like castle to kick-off our Harry Potter theme. Tiki torches glittered in the night guiding guests to the house where they walked through a fogbank only to be greeted by book characters Harry Potter and his friend Hermione! Guests were wowed by the special entertainment including the Upper School singing group Quintessence, and Potomac parent Joe Egan on the piano. Many thanks to the Spring Benefit Sponsors and all those who supported us by coming to the event. Don't miss next year's party; mark your calendars now for May 3, 2002!



Harry Potter (Kennedy Kanagawa '04) and Hermione (Kelsey Killmon '04) greeted guests.

New Intermediate Head John Fox and his wife.



Quintessence (pictured below): Leyla Beshir '03, Claire Simeone '02, Lucia Abramovich '04, Allison Ayer '03, and Stephanie Miller '02.



Co-chairs Beth Eckert and Janet Killmon.

Patty and Joe Egan



Louise Orem, with husband Ward, got in the spirit of things with a special spider hat.





2001 Fall Frolics chair Maggie Parker with Elizabeth Stout.



Dr. Mark Evans, Ray Bender, Gennie Fowler and friend.



Dawn Bellinger '77, with Ed and Diane Wright.

Co-chair Beth Eckert with host Anjanette Murphy.



Tony Passarella with Headmaster Geoff Jones with his wife Carol.



# Save the Date!

FALL FROLICS 2001

## Weekend at Hogwarts

### FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE

Live & Super Silent Auction

**Friday, October 19**

6:30 p.m. cocktails & super silent auction

8:00 p.m. dinner and live auction

Sheraton, Tysons Corner

### FALL FROLICS FAIR

Fair & Silent Auction

**Saturday, October 20**

11 a.m.-3p.m.

Children's Rides & Games

Silent Auction, Marketplace Bazaar

Lunch, Car Raffle and more!

# Grandparents' Day

MAY 11, 2001



# Art of Teaching

## MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENT'S REFLECTIONS

"A good teacher is someone who will laugh, cry, look firm, and tease (lightly.) They should look over your work to see if you need help and let you just write or read on drowsy days. They should enjoy their students and work with them to get better grades. Teachers should help assign projects and activities depending on their students' level of ability and work with the ones who need help."

-Adam Gerchick

"A good teacher is a teacher that can understand their kids, and can make them feel comfortable in the class with the teacher."

-Taylor Lowe

"A teacher needs to be funny and they also need to be kind of serious and kind."

-Tod Moore

"I think what makes a better teacher is less homework!"

- Jeffrey Liu

"A good teacher is a teacher that will let you have fun but will still make you do work. A good teacher is someone who cares about the students beyond the grades. She understands when you don't turn in your homework (but cares enough to get a good excuse.) A good teacher has endless amounts of work for us to do, but the work is always fun. A good teacher always has something fun for you to do, to go the extra mile, to get the better grade. A good teacher is someone who looks at the student fully, who looks at the student beyond the mind, who looks at the way they act how they respond to people, the way they are in full."

-Kathleen Ryan

"A good teacher has to make jokes that are funny, has to smile, and has to take kids' opinions seriously."

- Molly Jaffe

"A great teacher is: funny, creative, productive, serious when teaching."

- Madeleine Watson

"A good teacher is a teacher that makes learning fun."

- Allison Fisk

"A good teacher has: a good sense of humor, a great personality, free will to break a few rules."

- Emma Rocks

"I think a great teacher makes boring stuff, like math, fun. They are also understanding about not having your homework."

- Reilly Davis

"A great teacher: makes you feel good, is energetic, does not favor one child, does not hate any child, is fair, does not yell unless needed, is calm."

- Anne Lenrow

"A good teacher would have easy homework at the beginning of the year and then every two weeks or so they would make it harder."

- Ellie Bissell

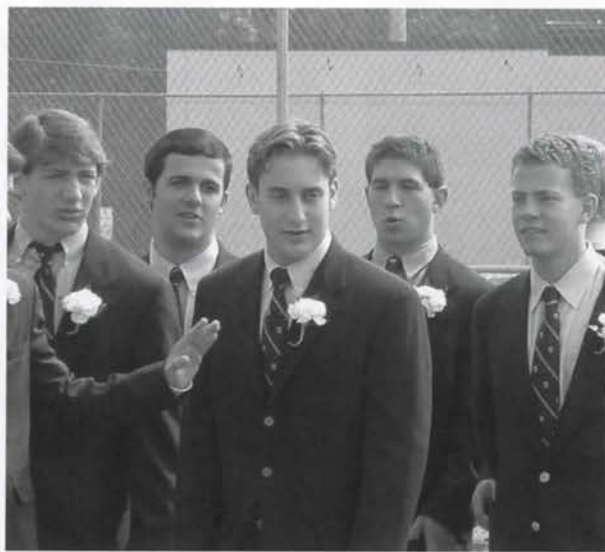
"A good teacher is someone who always makes you believe in yourself. Someone who judges you for who you are. A teacher is an everlasting friend, always willing to teach and always willing to learn. A good teacher puts fun in every lesson (even math.) That's what I like about my teacher. Teachers make you motivated and help you all the way with your problems. Good teachers are very enthusiastic and I hope they have as much fun in class as I do!"

- Lissie Chappell

"A good teacher is someone who is smart but strict. Someone who lets you learn in a fun way. A good teacher will comfort you when you are sad and give you advice. The classroom of a good teacher will be colorful, with activities. The teacher should always come in with a smile on her face, ready to start her day. They should be creative, always making up games. These are the keys to being a good teacher."

- Ryan O'Shea







# Graduation

WEDNESDAY JUNE 13

SPECIAL EVENTS



# Governing Council

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION YOU'RE A MEMBER!



Dear Potomac Alumni:

What a year this has been! We've enjoyed Geoff Jones' first year as headmaster, celebrated Reunions in the fall, and seen many of you at our functions, including Career Day, alumni feedback sessions with the headmaster, a party for New York area alumni, and Phillips Collection and Hillwood Mansion tours.

### Who We Are

This spring the Alumni Association held several events to celebrate the achievements of the Class of 2001 and welcome the soon-to-be graduates into the Alumni Association. At these functions we were often asked, "What is the Alumni Association?"

Quite simply, Potomac's Alumni Association includes anyone who ever attended the school, regardless of whether they graduated from Potomac or not. There are no annual dues or fees to join, and currently, the Association counts approximately 3,700 people as members.

### What We Do

Does membership in Potomac's Alumni Association have its privileges? You bet! Membership in the Alumni Association is an automatic invitation to any number of on and off-campus events and school-related programs.

- Enjoy art, culture, sports, or nature? Then we've got an event for you – from tours of Washington's museums and historic sites to hikes on local trails and alumni sporting events.
- Curious about whether you have anything in common with today's Potomac students? Consider speaking at Career Day, coming to the Senior Dinner, or visiting campus for May Day, Book Fair, or an assembly to meet the students yourself.
- Want to become more active at Potomac? Host a Potomac intern at your work, volunteer for the Development Office, or become a member of the Alumni Association Governing Council. The expertise and energy of alumni is invaluable to the school.

### How We Do It

If you do choose to volunteer your time for any program, you won't be alone. In addition to the many other alumni volunteers on campus, you will be joined by the 20 members of the Alumni Association Governing Council. Representing five decades of Potomac alumni, these members are joined by two regional representatives in New York and Boston, Potomac's Director of Alumni Programs, and the current Student Government President.

The Governing Council meets regularly during the school year to plan events and programs for alumni. We also invite non-alumni members of the Potomac community to our meetings so that we can learn more about life at Potomac today. Additionally, Council members work on committees, where they develop ties with all members of the Potomac community, organize programs for current students, write articles for Potomac publications, and ensure that the Alumni Association furthers Potomac's mission.

If we haven't said this already, please consider this your official welcome into the Potomac Alumni Association. We hope to see you at our events and invite you to suggest programs of interest to you and your family. And of course, if you would like to help plan programs or become a member of the Governing Council, we are always looking for volunteers!

Have a wonderful summer and we hope to see you next fall.

Joan Wise  
Joan Wise '82  
President, Governing Council

Prentiss Vallender Lay  
Prentiss Vallender Lay '85  
Vice President, Governing Council

### 2001/2002 Governing Council Members

Joan Wise '82,  
President

Prentiss Vallender Lay '85,  
Vice President

Adria de Leonibus '83,  
Director of Alumni Programs

Merrell Redway Cherouney '82

Ann Swift Cronin '55

Ayse Uzer Crowley '85

Julie Dugger '85

Claire Hebel Harrington '83

Brock Holmes '67

Caroline Baldwin Kahl '72

Scott O'Gorman '76

Broadway Jackson '76

Paula Skallerup Osborn '67

Lavinia (Vinnie) Lemon Pitzer '82

Mittie Brooks Rooney '78

Karen Stephenson '83

Sally Steponkus '94

Speke Wilson '79

Adelaide (Lolly) MacMurray Aitken '60,

Boston Regional Representative

Ernest Mitchell '02,

Student Government President

# Alumni News

## POTOMAC SCHOOL CLASS NOTES

### 1932

From Betty

**Molly Howe Lynn** wrote from St. Paul, MN that she and **Priscilla Porter** attended their 60<sup>th</sup> reunion at Bennington College. Molly has started a company with two of her friends. "We do home exercise and classes for seniors. I also teach Pilates at ZENON dance company. My friend and I do a lot of biking in the spring and summer. I see my family in the summer; otherwise, my spaniel and I live in a lovely neighborhood in St. Paul, MN. I am expecting a great grandchild soon!"

From the Alumni Office

**Peggy Gould Lincoln** passed away at her apartment at Thomas House on December 29, 2000. According to **Tinky Ostermann**, "Potomac was well represented at her memorial service at Grace Church in Georgetown, where she had served on the Vestry. The church was packed with friends, which signified all the facets of her volunteerism, for which she was given recognition at Potomac when she was awarded the Award for Outstanding Service."

### 1938

From John

**Phil Nash** continues to walk his pit bull in Central Park, but this dog doesn't have the ratting capability of the late Brunhilde, who had dispatched more than 250 rats. Phil remains a commodities trader, working every day until early afternoon. He and his wife are building a cottage in Vieques, where they have vacationed over a number of years, and where they witness anti-Navy demonstrations. Phil reports that his older brother, **George Richard Nash '37**, passed away last year.

**Lyn Wilkins Kennedy** has moved to the Harbour's Edge Health Center in Delray Beach, FL.

**Laughlin Phillips** has turned over the job of President of the Phillips Collection to another Board member but stays on as Chairman of the Board. He and his wife, long Georgetown dwellers, are exploring a move to Connecticut

as a principal residence. He remains a golfer and an enthusiastic fisherman, but has given up tennis as a result of a rotator cuff accident. He was featured as a past recipient of "Washingtonian of the Year" in the March issue of *Washingtonian*.

**Barbara Gableman Bell**, who lives near me, is lively and well when I see her at the drug store or a lecture series. She claims she has nothing new to report.

**Jim Birney**, still a resident in West Chester, PA with his wife Bobbie, seems to spend most of the year at their house in the Berkshires, gardening, sailing, swimming, etc. They have recently rehabbed a small cottage next door, "which we rent to lucky people who wish to spend a week or more in paradise on the shores of beautiful Big Pond." They spent part of this spring travelling to Tuscany with a Dartmouth group.

As for your scribe, with wife Norma a travel consultant, I have been blessed by interesting overseas trips; Australia, New Zealand, and Spain last year; Turkey planned for this year. We also spent some time skiing and hiking in Vail, where we have a share in a house.

### 1942

From Katharine

I hope all goes well with our small band of classmates, and that those of you I didn't hear from are having some mind-expanding adventures!

**Clare Fahnstock Moorhead** has recovered from the exhausting process of moving from Cambridge to NYC and from a triple by-pass last summer. "Wonderful," she writes, "to be in NYC near lots of family, The Metropolitan Museum and the Guggenheim." Clare's non-stop life continued with a trip to Washington for the opening of Potomac's Performing Arts Center. "After all the arts participation we had as students, (and my daughter as well,) with rudimentary, informal equipment, this is a refreshing and revitalizing change!" Topping off the year, Clare toured Portugal in October.

**Helen Chapin Metz's** career at the Library of Congress resulted in

the publication of 14 Country Studies/Area Handbooks on 22 countries in three regions. Her final (15<sup>th</sup>) volume on the Dominican Republic and Haiti, a fourth region, was due out this spring. What an important and significant contribution Helen has made to this country's understanding of other nations and their culture. Since her retirement last December, Helen has been tutoring two foreign high school students for their SAT's. "I am also scheduled to work on a parish history," she writes. Her husband Ron "continues dialysis three days a week and is wheelchair-bound."



At the risk of sounding self-indulgent, our year has been very satisfying. Last summer Gordon and I spent a wonderful three weeks in Norway and Sweden, mostly on the water via coastal mail boat and canal steamer. Then we took a 10-day cruise in our own boat to the St. John's River in New Brunswick, Canada. We continue to be blessed to have our four children all in the Boston area. In July we will spend two weeks cruising the Danube, Main and Rhine from Budapest to Amsterdam, and God willing, a Vassar mini-reunion will take us to San Francisco in October and on to Hawaii so that Gordon can revisit Pearl Harbor. We are both writing; Gordon's well-researched, lengthy articles on Manchester include the history of electricity in the town, the work of the Police Department during the 20<sup>th</sup>

A DC Government building under construction in 1934. Look at the "new" automobiles! Photo taken by Betty Nash Nicholson '34.

EVEN YEAR CLASS  
CORRESPONDENTS

1932

Betty Nash Nicholson, 643  
Rushmore-Medford Leas,  
Medford, NJ 08055

1938

John Dugger, 5813 Rockmere  
Dr., Bethesda, MD 20816

1942

Katharine Stanley-Brown  
Abbott, 3 Tuck's Point Rd.,  
Manchester, MA 01944  
(glasshead@nii.net)

1944

Judy Gill Davis, 2237 48<sup>th</sup> St.,  
NW, Washington, DC 20007

1946

Marjorie Key Andrews, 212  
Allview Ave., Brewster, NY

1952

Louise Graham, 218 N. Main  
Street, Wolfeboro, NH 03894

1954

Tina Knox Radigan, 4650 N.  
35<sup>th</sup> St., Arlington, VA 22207  
(trad8739@aol.com)

1956

Jamie Herter Cherington, PO  
Box 201, Calais, VT 05648  
(cheringvt@aol.com)

century, shipwrecks around our waters, and literary and sage figures of the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries who lived in Manchester. I am taking a course in children's writing and working on an adult manuscript. I continue my volunteer work in Boston on behalf of unmarried mothers. Happy summer, classmates!

## 1948

From the Alumni Office

**Nancy Leverich** lives in Melrose, MA, having retired from a 40-year career as an English teacher in both private and public schools. She writes, "At present I am the primary caregiver for my oldest and dearest friend, who suffered a stroke four years ago and is a profile in courage. My life has gone through many rich and varied phases. My years at Potomac are among my most treasured memories – the classes, the teachers, but most of all the friendships. Special joys in my life now are again my wonderful friends, my beloved summer lake home in Maine, and reading and writing, to name a few. I still have roots in Washington, but don't get down there much, so have never made class reunions, sadly. But, my best always to the old pals."

## 1952

From Louise

We have a short column this time, not many respondents. Is everyone tired of hearing from the same class secretary year after year? If anyone else would like the job, please let the alumni office know.

**Jane Casey Hughes** writes that their family reunion dinner was fun and that Carolina and Darren were expecting a daughter in March. Jane has retired and is avoiding all regularly scheduled activities except tennis in order to travel (U.S., Italy, France, and Germany so far.) She needs a "cover" story for well-meaning friends who are anxious to give advice on how she should spend her time.

**Debby Owen Turner** reports not much change. She is in the U.S. about 3 or 4 times a year. She loves her new digs and the grandchildren for whom she sits every Friday.

Your secretary also has little change to report. I am teaching special

education in the high school, volunteering for the county organization against domestic violence, active in local politics and sing in the church choir. My youngest daughter Sarah will be married this summer and Breckie and Rick (who live 40 miles away) are expecting a sibling for Sarah B, 2, this August. My foster son, Rob, and his family are contemplating a move to NH soon, which will be great fun. I get to DC several times a year to visit my mother, sister, and brother-in-law, but never seem to manage to see any one else during those times. Does everyone have October 2002 on the calendar for our 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion?

## 1954

From Tina

**Sandy Robinson Righter** wrote, "What fun to see **Emily McLean** in Florida! We are fine, 4 grandchildren (the eldest is 13, so grown up! I remember that age all too well.) I have ended my psychotherapy practice but seem to be twice as busy with other stuff, including the cello, which I took up a couple of years ago. The days and years seem to go much faster all of a sudden."

**Edie Murphy Holbrook** reports that she is "still living a roller coaster ride, but hoping to wind down a bit so I can enjoy more of our four grandchildren, all based on the West Coast. American Russian Young Artists Orchestra (ARYO) has now become a joint venture with Bard College, which is headed by Leon Botstein, also our music director. Many new initiatives this year, including formation of our first permanent chamber ensemble, AMIRUS, which has a full season including a concert at The Levine School in DC. We also formed an international residency program, which just placed the first American musician in residence with a Russian orchestra for two months of training, performance and touring. Two or more of our American musicians are going in this year—one to Siberia. I will take 12 chamber players and a dynamite, young (28), Estonian conductor, Kristjan Jarvi, through Russia, Estonia, and the US in September, then prepare for our next World Tour in June 2002. Our soloist, a violin prodigy, 15, from

Novosibirsk, Mikhail Simonyan, made his debut at the Kennedy Center with Leonard Slatkin and the NSO in April. We are hoping to end the World Tour 2002 with a concert broadcast from the Alpha International Space Station, but it is still a pipe dream, as is most of what we set out to do!"

**Anne Emmet McLucas** wrote that she went hiking and fishing in New Zealand for a month. "Pretty rigorous at our age!" She has three granddaughters and another on the way (sex unknown.) Anne has three children living in the DC area, two in California, and one in Chicago.

**Betsy Clifford Reynolds** reports, "Our grandchildren, Clifford, 9, and Henry, 7, are growing fast and are smart, handsome, and much fun. I volunteer at a few places and am keeping well. We are fortunate to have our three children near us."

**Sally Hand Herren** wrote, "In retirement, my new-found interest (besides golf) is being a docent at Hillwood, a fabulous mansion with decorative arts of 18<sup>th</sup> century France and imperial Russia, and the



Emily McLean '54 and Tina Knox Radigan '54 in sunny Florida.

home of Marjorie Merriweather Post. I'm getting vicarious pleasure through the interesting things our children are doing: **Lisa '84** came "home" from London and works for Pfizer in NYC as Assistant Director of International Philanthropy, helping get pharmaceuticals to third world countries; **Michael '96** graduated from Hamilton and works in San Francisco for a small PR firm; and **Allison '97** finished her third year at Connecticut College, having spent a fabulous semester in

Australia. John and I managed to travel some (Australia last year, London, sailing in the Caribbean, skiing annually with family and friends.) Mother's stroke keeps us from going too far afield, but life is good."

**Tina Knox Radigan** had a fun year with lots of travel and spent as much time as possible at our house in the Northern Neck of Virginia. Consequently, they have not been home much. "Charlie is not retiring, but you would not know it! We bought a boat last summer, a 21' Boston Whaler Outrage (it even has a ladies room.) So now we can go out to the Chesapeake Bay and try to fish. Charlie and I completed (and passed) a Power Squadron Boating course so we should be better prepared. Our son, Josh, got married on December 2, to a great girl. Josh is the General Manager of a trendy new restaurant, BIS, on Capitol Hill, and Carol, his wife, is a student at George Mason University and a part time waitress at Vidalia, another popular restaurant in DC. Our daughter, Katie, works for Virginia Food Services in Richmond, arranging food shows and our granddaughter, Laura, is a happy, healthy, delightful nine-year-old who attends The Richmond Montessori School and loves it. We spent the month of February in Naples this year playing lots of golf and enjoying the sun. **Emily McLean** owns a condo in Ft. Myers and was only 20 minutes away from us. I had not seen her in years, but the minute we got together, all of those years melted away. Emily spends most of the winter and fall in Florida. She has a few of her children living in Ft. Myers and the others live near her in St. Louis. She plays tennis almost every day and has formed a tennis team at Kelly Greens in Ft. Myers. She is very happy and fulfilled with her life and looks terrific! See photo.

I had lunch with **Anne Emmet McLucas** and we had a great time catching up. I was very sad to hear from Anne that **Lalitte Carusi Scott's** husband, Howell, has been very ill. Lalitte, we all wish Howell our best.

I have been blessed with a wonderful family, good health and wonderful friends. Keep the news

coming and remember, growing old is not for sissies!

## 1955

*From the Alumni Office*

The Class of 1955 continued to celebrate their Reunion into 2001. In April, 11 members of the Class of 1955 got together for dinner at **Eliza Kellogg Klose's** home. **Kay Walker Butterfield, Sherry Bingham Downes, Elizabeth Frazier McCallie, Virginia Gibb Pascoe, Ellen Lishman Robertson, Sarah Abernathy Snyder, Marion Wright, Evelyn Hill Zolondek, Penny Smith Donnelly** and **Prue Lloyd Rosenthal** gathered at Eliza's house for a catered dinner. "We had a wonderful time reminiscing about old times, but also talking a great deal about our lives now at 60 years old," Prue Lloyd Rosenthal recounted. "Several more people had planned to come and were sorely missed. **Sandy Smith** broke several ribs falling off her horse and **Ann Bradley Vehslage** got a bad case of bronchitis." See photo.

**Elizabeth Frazier McCallie** wrote, "Sixty is turning out to be a great year with two trips to England and Scotland to see my daughter Eleanor, who was working in London. And another trip with my husband Tom to London, Paris, and Amsterdam. Eleanor, 23, is now working in DC and daughter Keith, 25, will be also. I had a wonderful time playing 'catch up' with **Christine Wilcox Spencer** in Nantucket and **Virginia Gibb Pascoe** in DC."

**Prue Lloyd Rosenthal** reports that her children live in Portland, OR, Houston, TX, and Ann Arbor, MI. They have two grandchildren and another on the way. She has enjoyed traveling to visit family and friends and exploring the world at large.

## 1958

*From the Alumni Office*

In January, **Carolyn Dorsey Rathbun** returned from 5 weeks in Namibia (what used to be Southwest Africa.) She was helping her husband with research on elephant shrews. She also managed to paint, "although it was difficult in the 100 degree heat. We stayed on

a 20,000-acre farm in the Erongo mountains where the rock formations are startlingly beautiful. (Wolf Kahn had just been there to do some pastels – I just missed him.) I recommend Namibia to anyone, although it is not as beautiful in some ways as the more tropical parts of Africa. We will return for a longer period later this year."

**Bettina Brown Irvine**, VP and Director of the Alpha I Association, was awarded the Newsmaker of the Year award at the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary conference in Phoenix for putting Alpha-I, an adult onset genetic disease, on the national media map. The keynote speaker, Paul Miller, the Commissioner of U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission declared, "genotyping is no substitute for qualifications in employment decisions."

## 1960

*From Jamie*

Best class news is that **Stephanie de Sibour** received a richly deserved Alumni Award at our 40<sup>th</sup> Reunion in October 2000. Fortieth reunion you guys! How does time go by so fast? In answer to my query to our class about "early retirement," Steph said such an event holds very little interest for her at this time. "I think I do better with too much on my plate, and I'm afraid I wouldn't have the discipline to keep usefully engaged without the structure of a job," she said. (Why do I seriously doubt this?) Her mother is in an assisted living facility in Easton, MD, a somewhat sad but realistic situation facing many of our parents. Stephanie continues to love her work at Ivymount and life in D.C.

**Eve Auchincloss Lilley** writes that she has "retired" from her very full-time job as Director of Tutoring Services at the Lab School in DC. Instead, she is engaged in an interesting part-time opportunity doing diagnostic testing with kids and adults. Her new work allows more time to enjoy her morning



Sherry Bingham Downes and Sarah Abernathy Snyder at the Class of 1955's mini reunion in April.

EVEN YEAR CLASS  
CORRESPONDENTS

1962

Carol C. Mattusch, 12301 Fairfax Station Rd., Clifton, VA 20124  
(mattusch@gmu.edu)

1964

Gail G. Weinmann, 7106 Florida St., Chevy Chase, MD 20815

1968

Tom Parker, 22 Woodberry Forest Station, Woodberry Forest, VA 22989  
(tom\_parker@woodberry.org)

1970

Jane McAllister, 5207 Roosevelt St., Bethesda, MD 20814  
(janemca@mindspring.com)

coffee, travel with Bill, see family and friends, and (yes!) go to ballet classes. Family events included a trip to St. Croix in March with all the Lilley children and six "grandbabies" (aged ten years to ten months). She is grateful that her mother, who is 78, remains healthy. Eve enjoyed seeing classmates at the Reunion, and said Mrs. Rose was as amusing as ever.

**Debby Shapley Cortesi** writes from her splendid DC digs at 2500 Massachusetts Avenue that all is well in the Cortesi family. Her eldest stepdaughter is wed and expecting. Son Roger now has two MIT degrees and "Little" Kate has graduated from Columbia.

**Connie Casey** has moved to New York City. Although she is still doing some writing and reviewing, she is most involved in restoring and maintaining green space in NYC's public parks, having received a Certificate in Horticulture from the Brooklyn Botanic Garden last year. "I spend many days, when the ground isn't frozen, digging, planting, mulching and watering as New York traffic thunders by." Harold is head of Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center. The two have the pleasure of being nearby their two sons, Jacob and Christopher, who live in Astoria and Brooklyn respectively.

son of Mr. Prospector, Not For Love. She hopes to have a filly in eleven months. (Do I see an impending equine nurse practitioner career for Sharon?)

**Kamila Stapko Allen** writes from Toronto, OH that she and her husband still love being teachers. Nevertheless, she has a very demanding developmental reading schedule and sadly commented that, despite her kids being great, a number of them "seem to be wandering through life without any goals," as do few of their parents. Kamila has also been wrestling with her father, who is balking at planning a realistic future for himself. Her son, Benjamin, will be graduating this year from Bowling Green State University. After that great event, she and her husband may pack up their old truck, and "visit as many places as we want to see until the gasoline budget evaporates."

**Lolly MacMurray Aitken** enjoyed seeing far-flung classmates at the Reunion. She and husband Peter spent February in Costa Rica exploring the country and learning Spanish with her father. She also learned that, despite being away, their businesses could run quite well without them, (muchas gracias). She is the co-author of a new financial planning book, *Money Order: The Women's Guide to Financial Management*, which is out in April 2001. Sons Alex, 26, and James, 21, remain delightful.

**Jamie Herter Cherington** will definitely be reading Lolly's new book to discover ways to afford "semi-retirement." Having worked as a consultant to the Vermont agricultural community for an interesting four years, primarily in the sheep industry (cheese, lamb, fleece), she'd like to shift gears a bit. Occupied with growing numbers of energetic grandchildren and parents without practical plans for the next stages of life, she occasionally escapes into her tin workshop where she can be found snipping, soldering and humming to herself. She sends her public thanks to Debby Cortesi for helping her out during some trying times with a very sick father, who miraculously survived major heart surgery last year.

## 1962

From Carol

**Deena Breed** says they're building a house on a lake. She also reports that she voted in Florida and it counted: all she had to do was prove she was not a felon.

**Kit Brigg's** son Alex is a freshman studying culinary arts at New Hampshire College. Kit's wife Marnie just lost her job at Time-Life books after 25 years (they're dissolving the editorial staff,) and the family recently had a great vacation on the Caribbean island of Carriacou.

**Carol Eakin Burdette's** first grandchild was born in August to her stepson Tim and his wife Lloyd, and this new experience is "wonderful and full of wonder." She and her family have all grown with the experience of the stroke that Carol's mother suffered in November, leaving her paralyzed on one side and unable to speak. Carol stepped down from her executive role at Wheatfields, a not-for-profit learning center, but she is still on the board. She has "2 teenage male energies," she's renovating the house, volunteering, and she's taking personal growth courses.

**Elizabeth Davison** is working on the need for affordable housing in Montgomery County. When not handling 120 employees, she quilts – at midnight or 6 a.m. She has a parrot, so naturally, she's learning bird body language. Last summer Elizabeth went to Tuscany, London, and Paris with friends and family.

**Wendy Winsor Hazard** says that Maine Progressive is now on-line. Besides her writing and teaching, Wendy feeds the horses, and works to preserve the wilds of the Kennebec Highlands. She and her 3 grown children went to the Christmas Revels in Cambridge this past winter, "sang the old songs, and felt great waves of gratitude for all that John Langstaff has given us."

All of **Peak Mason Hogen's** children are out of the house, and 2 of them are nearly 29. "Appalling," she says. She and Robin have a Portuguese Water Dog, which sleeps in their bed, much to the children's horror.

**Deborah Johansen** says that she had a good year despite the



John Langstaff and grand nephew, Chris Langstaff '07 with Intermediate School Music Director, Katherine Nevius '69, on the opening night of the IS Musical, *Oliver*.

**Sharon Smith** wrote enthusiastically about the Reunion in October and said she had a "most marvelous time" with **Belinda Winslow**, **Helena Holmes Speake**, and **Molly Warner**. Sharon is still working as a pediatric nurse practitioner and riding as often as possible. She proudly announced nuptials between her mare, Eliza Jane, and a handsome

blackouts and rainstorms. In spite of objections from friends in CA, she's moving to the Boston area. She had dinner with **Sue Dreier** in December, and asks when our next reunion is. [Ed. Note: The Class of 1962 will have their next reunion in October of 2002.]

**Louise McVickar Marx** has added golf to tennis, paddling, and gardening. Her son, nearly 31, lives in London, and her daughter, 29, lives in NYC. Louise would love to be a tour guide to any of us who come to visit Sandy and her on Martha's Vineyard or in Haverford.

**Alice Coffman Nelson** has passed her 3<sup>rd</sup> anniversary since earning her "pink ribbon," and her son Richard's third grade class joined the 2001 Race for the Cure in Ft. Worth.

At the Country Day School in McLean, VA, **Marshall Norris Rawson** works with parents in fundraising; she is the health tsar; and she directs the summer camp. She has Potomac withdrawal symptoms as **Kakki '00** just finished her freshman year at Macalester. **Buppy '97**, received a degree in Education and English from Skidmore and will spend a month in South Africa after graduation and then teach college English in China for a year. And **Marion '95**, with a degree in Anthropology from Grinnell, worked with monkeys in Bali, interned with the Jane Goodall Institute, and is now at the National Wildlife Federation.

Who wants to go fly-fishing with **Rhea Topping** and Mayfly Adventures? Lately she's been to Argentina, Belize, Montana, and the Yucatan.

**Kate Douglas Torrey**, still trying to understand book publishing and not-for-profit business, has little time to bicycle, run, and practice yoga. Nicholas, a junior at Stanford, spent last fall at the University of Havana.

I made my (2-minute) debut on the Discovery Channel in Building the Impossible: The 7 Wonders of the Ancient World, narrated by Pierce Brosnan. And, if I finish editing the papers from the 13<sup>th</sup> international bronze congress (Cambridge 1996) I'll have a clear conscience at this year's congress in Italy.

## 1964

*From Gail*

**Lynne Dominick Novack** loves living in Dallas, where she is Executive Director of the Dallas Committee on Foreign Relations. As that is part time and flexible, Lynne has also had time to continue with the American Committees on Foreign Relations and to spend two months in Patagonian Chile, where they have bought a small piece of property and are planning to build a house.

**Priscilla Hammond Hall** is continuing her work at America's Promise, working with young people, tutoring and mentoring as well. She is also a strong supporter of the Hospice mission, serving as a patient/family volunteer for the past five years. Her daughter has graduated from the University of Virginia and has remained in Charlottesville working at the animal shelter there.

**Isabel Hill Fucigna** has moved to a 4,000 acre ranch in Quemado, New Mexico, which she describes as 20 miles north of small town and 120 miles from a grocery store. She sees elk, deer, antelope, and coyotes daily and has been writing away. Her two daughters have visited a lot; the older, **Claudia '97** has finished college and is planning a trip to India and the younger, **Nicola '00**, took the year off before starting at Barnard.

**Laura Merriam Fay** and her husband have been bitten by the golf bug and are playing lots of golf, including a recent trip to Hawaii. One daughter is a senior at Middlebury and the other is looking at colleges.

**Catherine Satterlee** is working at the Hirshhorn Museum, putting on exhibits. She loves working with the artists and art so closely. She has joined the Washington Women's Chorus and says it feels great to be singing again. She even gets to do solos (is anyone surprised?). Her daughter, Phoebe, is on an internship in London and may never come back. Her son, Nick, is enjoying athletics. Her husband, Jeff, is still enjoying being General Counsel to CACI, Inc. She sees **Guru Sangat Khalsa** when she comes to the museum and **Molly**

**Scoville Fitzmaurice** for their book club.

**Elizabeth Sinclair**, formerly Elizabeth Dickerson, has recently taken her mother's family name and is spending her time writing, running, and listening to music. Her four children live and work in New York, San Francisco, and Cambridge.

**Alison Peake** has moved to Hartford, where she is working in the Foreign Language in Elementary School program teaching Spanish to 4th/5th graders in the West Hartford Public Schools and loving it. Her son, 23, is working in hedge funds after graduating from Yale. One daughter is a sophomore at NYU, studying economics and public policy, and the other is a senior at Taft, probably headed for Boston College in the fall.

I, **Gail Weinmann**, am still working at the National Institutes of Health, where I administer research programs, clinical studies, and new research initiatives. At home, I am busy with Erica, 13, a husband, and two dogs. We are always alert for new vacation possibilities-watch out Isabel and Lynne!

## 1970

*From Jane*

I am sad to report that **Mary D. Macy's** mother passed away in January. Among the many long-time family friends who attended the memorial service held at St. John's church in DC were many familiar Potomac faces from the classes of Mary D's siblings **Tom '67**, **Susan '72** and **Richard '77**.

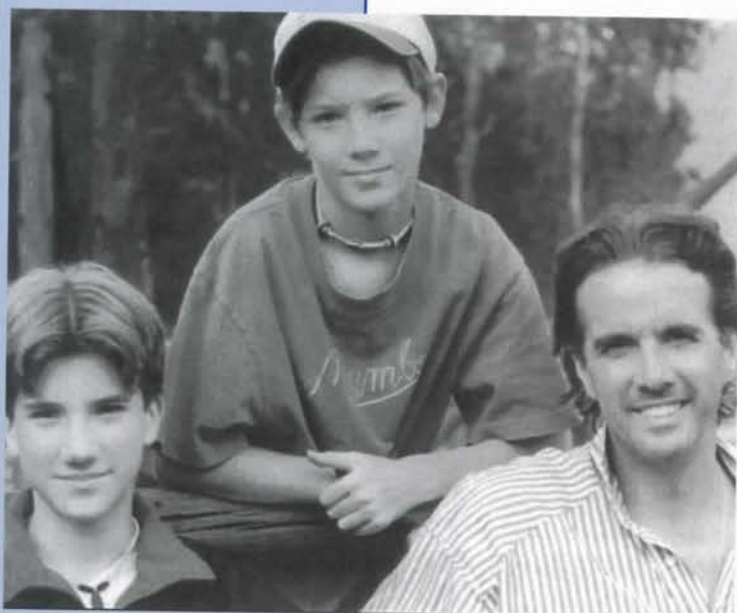
Those of us who attended our thirtieth reunion in October, which was magnificently hosted by **Bill McElwain** and his wife Susie Crudgington, had a wonderful time. **Matthew Kimball** and his wife Lydia brought Matthew's parents who were kindly interested in hearing about our lives as real grown ups after all these years. Thanks to Mrs. Rose, a frequent and gracious attendee at many of our class get togethers, who brought



*Dana Strong Van Loon '70 at her home in Boulder.*

**Krikky**, whom we have not seen in ages! Krikky also sent some recent news "one daughter is going to Penn this fall and my husband and I and another daughter are going to study French in Tours this summer. I enjoyed the reunion, especially seeing old friends like **Bill [McElwain]** and **Phil [Frisbee]**. How little we all change – except, of course, on the outside." **Garrett Jewett** gets the prize for making it to the party on time – after zipping down from NYC. Luckily, Mary D., in town on a field trip with her daughter, Lena, was able to make it, as was local guy **Duncan Krieger**, with his bride Marcia.

Garrett Jewett '70 with his boys Garrett, 15, and Fielder, 12.



Speaking of Krikky, long-lost classmate **Dexter Freeman** – flash from the past – recently sent news: "I'm interested in reading about my schoolmates from several decades ago, so I hope I am on time with my news [for the *Term*]. After Potomac, Middlesex School and Bowdoin College, I settled into a great twenty-two-and-a-half year career with BankBoston. That experience took me to the West Coast and overseas as well as along several different career paths in Boston. Sure enough the merger wave finally caught up with us after several months of working with the new organization (Fleet Bank,) I decided it was time to make a leap. Late last year, I began working with a small Denver based technology company named Quibit Technology. While the attraction of jumping to start-up technology companies has since faded, I have been having a great time working from my Boston

office as Director of Business Development trying to structure strategic partnerships in the financial services marketplace for our products and services. I have fond memories of Potomac, which was an important re-entry point for me after having been overseas for the prior three years. Before receiving [Jane's postcard,] my last connection with Potomac was reading **Krikky Rose's** memorial to **David Kennedy** in the New YorkTimes after his death. Feel free to contact me at home (dexterfree@mediaone.net) or work (dfreeman@qubit.net)." Dexter also reported that he and his wife Meredyth have 2 sons, Peter, 12, and David, 6.

**Bruce Fleming** wrote, "Life in Baltimore is good. My wife teaches the writing seminars at Johns Hopkins, Emily is in fifth grade at Friends, and I'm still in the paper industry (mostly recycled papers.) Emily is interested in politics and the post-Presidential situation. I felt she needed to learn the ropes of political protest. We made signs and went to the Vice-President's house to join the crowds honking and chanting-but we had different opinions on the Florida recount and so spent time on both sides of the street. It was a real experience!"

From **Phil Frisbee** living in The Plains, Virginia, "Life in the country is good, but not especially newsworthy. **David Powers** visited us at the farm. I'll be showing work in England. Doing magazine illustrations now."

**Nimmie Addison Huber** said that "all is great here. My kids, Lucy, 13, Andrew, 15, and Addison, 17, are all doing well. I am teaching second grade at Maret and enjoy every minute. Don and I have been fixing up a house in Stockton Springs, ME. It is a lovely 1840's farmhouse on the shores of the Penobscot Bay. It would be fun to retire in New England once my crew is through college. My big news is that I finally learned how to ski this winter in Colorado. Yeeha! Now, that's fun!"

My (**Jane's**) news is that my son, Max, 4, and husband Steve, turning 50 soon, and I had a great visit in November with **Dana Strong van Loon** and her family at Dana's house in Boulder. Always a lover of

animals, Dana now tends ducks, a corgi, chickens, horses, a pond... the works!

## 1971

From the Alumni Office

**Nick Lowery**, former NFL kicker, is now enrolled as a student in the Kennedy School at Harvard. He met up with pal, Gene Upshaw; director of the NFL Players' Association, at Fall Frolics this past October. See photo page 31.

## 1972

From Caroline

My daughter, Catherine, has just finished her first year of Potomac's Middle School that still includes the traditional May Day celebration. My son, Cameron, looks forward to second grade and another year on the new playground equipment with his good friend Zachary Meza, son of **Anny Lowery Meza '71** and **Scott Meza '71**. I see **Liza Kuhl Labadie**, **Henry Strong**, and **Jeff Harper** with their Potomac children at the Lower School Assemblies and other Potomac events. Liza and I have had lunch with **Paige Blankingship** who is a real estate broker in Northern Virginia. When not attending Potomac events or going on field trips, I serve as general counsel to an international telecommunications corporation.

**Caroline Norden** sends greetings from the chilly coast of Maine where she works independently as a consultant to landowners and land trusts conserving properties. She continues to consult for her former firm Marine Coast Heritage Trust, while seeking to build a broader client base. Most of Caroline's time is devoted to her daughter, Sarah, a high-energy toddler who turned two in May. Caroline sees **Thorne Rankin** and keeps in touch with classmates **Cecile Reinhardt Fenstermaker** and **Claudia Krieger-Myers**.

**William Woodson** has left the Chicago area and moved back to Cincinnati, the corporate headquarters for Johnson and Johnson where Bill works in the medical device division. Bill's two children, ages 21 and 11, are looking forward to milder weather in the Midwest. After a 30-year absence,



Bill visited Potomac last summer tracking down classrooms where Mr. Kloman, Mr. Johnson, and Miss Camp taught. Bill invites everyone to contact him at his email address: [bwoodson99@go.com](mailto:bwoodson99@go.com).

**Flint Webb** is a project manager for Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC) in Vienna evaluating the environmental impact of a number of government sponsored programs such as NASA launches. Flint's job draws heavily on his ten years of environmental experience and nine years of aircraft and rocket design analysis. His daughter Alice is a sixth grader in the Fairfax County gifted and talented program and he expects that his son, William, will join the program when he enters the third grade this fall. Flint's wife Helen actively participates in the local Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts programs as a troop leader.

**Lisa Chapin Ruska** writes from Atlanta that she has been following with interest all the changes at Potomac since the class reunion two years ago and notes that the School's spirit seems to continue as ever. When not working part-time on tax related matters, Lisa is busy raising two children, Tracy, a fourth grader, and Clarke, a first grader. Having just purchased a sailboat with her husband, Tom, Lisa wonders if she will recall anything from sailing with **Liza Kuhl Labadie** on the Chesapeake many years ago.

*From Ros*

In order to escape the snow of New England, our family of five went to San Francisco for vacation. We enjoyed the redwoods, Alcatraz, and Monterey Bay Aquarium, but another highlight was seeing **Cecile Reinhardt Fenstermaker**, her husband John, and younger son Andrew. Cecile is Head of Admissions at a school in the city. She is keeping busy juggling work and being mother to two sons as they head into adolescence.

Unfortunately, we did not have time to head to Southern California and visit **Claudia Krieger-Myers**. She has just returned from a trip to Tahiti and Moorea with her mother where they swam with dolphins, rode horses up a volcano, and ocean kayaked in the tropical waters. In

Claudia's words, "No wonder Gaugin stayed!" Now she is back in Santa Monica and sends hugs to all our classmates.

Opting for a snow filled vacation, **Susie Macy Jarvinen** writes that she plans to meet **Kitty Atkins Barrand** in Copper Mountain, CO in March. Other than that she has "no news of my own to report," We all know, though, that life with three children is most likely keeping Susie more than occupied.

In a more urban environment, **Laurinda Lowenstein Douglas** is busy with her 2 1/2 year old son, Alex. They are also renovating a new apartment, selling their old one, and applying to pre-school in New York. I had mentioned to Laurinda that I remembered her wearing a lot of bracelets when we were in school. It is heartening to know that some things never change. Laurinda wrote back that she is still known for the clanking bracelets on her wrist. I am sure she is applying a similar artistic panache to her apartment renovation.

**Liza Kuhl Labadie** writes with news of some of our Washington area classmates. Her two girls are now in the fifth and second grades at Potomac. She sees **Henry Strong** at school functions, and meets with **Caroline Baldwin Kahl** and **Page Blankingship** for lunch a couple of times a year. **Carter Marsh** visited her last summer, and Liza says she is "as fabulous and fun as ever." Liza is also volunteering at Potomac, and is in a self-professed fitness phase where she is working out every day. My thanks to all who wrote in. It is always a pleasure to hear your news and to discover what paths you have all taken since leaving Potomac.

## 1974

*From Jennifer*

I'm baaack! Special thanks to Garrett for his admirable tenure as class correspondent - who knows; maybe he'll have to come out of retirement some day too. (Now, now, stop hyperventilating, Garrett!) But for now I'm glad to be back in touch with all of you, especially by email, which seems to have made things a lot easier for some. Certainly me. Several of us have discussed the idea of starting

a "round-robin" email (a few of us did this for a bit this spring), to give people a chance to stay in touch, to share advice on any of a number of topics we may all be dealing with at this point. I mean we are all the



*Nick Lowery '71 and Gene Upshaw*

same age whether we like it or not (it was a lot more appealing at age 30 I know!) and I bet there's a lot of collected wisdom out there. Anyway, after the *Term* comes out I'll just throw out a topic and see if anyone bites. Or anyone can start it really. If you have email and did not get an email from me regarding *Term* news and you want to be added to the email list — email me, at [jenniferjust@yahoo.com](mailto:jenniferjust@yahoo.com).



*Tim Higginson '74 with his wife Sally and daughters Charlotte and Nessa*

Anyway, on with the news of the Class of '74:

From **Ted Bellinger**, "Julia and I have three kids now. As of March, Jackson, 4 1/2, was in pre-K at Beauvoir, Sarah, 2, and Robert, 3 months. Julia and I are in a strictly zone defense now as we are definitely outnumbered! I am working as a project engineer at the US Postal Service Engineering Building in Merrifield, responsible

for such high tech widgets as the ubiquitous blue mailbox on every street corner. Julia is a lobbyist at the Society for Human Resource Management. In other words, she represents the evil HR directors of the world, if you read Dilbert. We

managing the Aviation Unit. Looking forward to the next reunion."

**Jane Day Rich** sends "Greetings from Tokyo! We have been here 1.5 years and are enjoying it much more despite the cramped spaces and lack of green. I am still working for a small recruiting firm that places bilingual JP candidates at foreign firms and Kevin is in sales for US semiconductor company Intl Rectifier. We've been enjoying the huge dumps of snow in the JP Alps—the ski resorts don't do as much grooming but there are terrific



Alumni, who are also current parents, assembled at the home of Headmaster, Geoff Jones, for the First Annual alumni/current parent reception. John Nassikas '74, Dawn Renzy Bellinger '77, Liz Blair Jones '69, Polly Pittman '74, Jamie Resor '75, Frank Bennett '73, Keith Ausbrook '73, Henry Strong '72, Liza Kuhl Labadie '72, Caroline Baldwin Kahl '72, Jon Redway '75, Richard Eakin '65, Worth MacMurray '69, Broadway Jackson '76, Bill McElwain '70, and J.C. Ewing '78.

live in Bethesda and see **Sandy Sterrett '75** periodically but no one else regularly. He and his wife Mary Clare have a new baby boy, named James, so he is the last of my close friends to take the plunge into the deep end. Now he knows why I never respond to all those black tie event invitations he used to send me! I did see **Barbara Parrot Katz** last winter, as we both played pick up ice hockey (geezer league) at the Chevy Chase Club. She is pretty good, too, but I won't admit to how many times she surprised me. I am also working hard at my second career as a Naval Reservist. I have 15 years service and enjoy it greatly, but Julia is eagerly looking forward to me getting my nights and weekends back when I retire in another five years."

**John Blakeslee** writes, "My wife Sandra, daughter Ellie and I live in Silver Spring, MD. Sandra is the high school drama teacher at Stone Ridge, and Ellie is in their JK class. I am the Admin. Director for the Washington Scholarship Fund, happily helping lower income primary school students in DC to attend the private school of their choice. I've been doing this work for four years and it is very rewarding making a difference in these kids' lives."

From **Richard Bray**, "everything is great in Gainesville, FL (GO GATORS) where I am the Chief Pilot for the Sheriff's Office

off-piste powder runs. Any takers? Garrett? John N.? We would welcome hearing from any Potomac alumni coming this way!"

**Grace Guggenheim** writes, "I am still working with my father now going onto 14 years of making movies. I have three nephews and one niece on the way. We are currently producing a film on American GIs who had a slave labor camp experience during the Battle of the Bulge that we plan to film in Germany next month....so life is consuming. Tennis is a renewed interest. I just returned from Switzerland to view the Davis Cup."

**Lee Hass** asks, "What can I say? Busy, busy, busy. It's still summer here, and where are all my visitors from Potomac? We are having a serious drought in Tasmania, the worst ever on record. What about in the US? Is it raining much?"

**Tim Higginson** writes that "All seems to be well in Chicago, although we're pretty much climbing the walls waiting for good weather. Sally and I see **Alan Thomas** and his wife Julia quite a bit. They're doing very interesting stuff: He's with the University of Chicago Press and she's a professor of Japanese history at Univ. of Wisconsin, Madison. (For those of you wondering about the geography, the two cities really are just an inch or less apart on most maps, especially large scale maps, so it works.)"

**Sarah Holmes** continues to work at CIA, now venturing into the world of networks and computers. "My singing, as always, keeps me sane. I am a singer in the Choral Arts Society of Washington. Life is good and busy. Husband Eric and I are off to the 140<sup>th</sup> Yale Glee Club anniversary next weekend. I have two other Yale type reunions this year, including my college 20th (as most of us must face!)"

**Andy Hyde** writes, "The family and I have relocated to Brussels. The State Department in its infinite wisdom has loaned me off to a small international organization working to stabilize and develop the Balkans. Called the Stability Pact for Southeast Europe, I work with a multinational staff in the shadow of the European institutions on a variety of projects that seek to engage the Balkan countries and develop a regional identity. I am traveling frequently to the region; and just got back from my sixth trip to Albania where I visited a facility trying to start the enormous task of destroying the copious quantities of small arms and light weapons throughout the country. We are enjoying the cosmopolitan atmosphere of Brussels and easy access to surrounding countries."

**Wendy Israel** says that "We are in the college hunting stage now. My son, Scott, has his eyes set on Colorado. He wants to be a ski bum. Last year for spring break I took him and three friends out to Vermont and stayed in **Jane Day's** family farmhouse near Stowe. Beautiful place, although it rained the whole week and the fog was so thick I never even saw the mountains until the day we left. Then they had 10 inches of snow, of course. This year for spring break I took my daughter Erin, out to look at UCLA. She's tired of the cold weather here in Michigan and thinks sunny California is it. I started a new job last April as a Watershed Planner with an environmental/engineering consulting firm in Ada, Michigan."

As for me (**Jennifer Just**) I just survived possibly the longest winter on record (see **North Sturtevant's** and **Tim Higginson's** notes for confirmation) in our new/old Connecticut (200 years) farmhouse

in Woodbridge, CT. I am writing away while waiting for boys nine, six and 43 to come home. Though little is actually in print I have learned patience, due to experience with aforementioned boys. Hope springs eternal.

**Michael Karpoff** lives in the Bethesda, MD area. "Our boy, Vladimir, is nearing the 2 1/2 mark. He will be a big brother to our little girl, Katya who came in April."

**Kerry Kennedy Cuomo** writes, "This is an exciting time in my life. Most importantly, our twin six-year-old daughters, Cara and Mariah, started at Potomac last September. They both insist they have "the best teacher in the whole wide world," and I could not be more delighted. Potomac has become more multicultural (my kids celebrated Hanukkah, Kwanzaa and Christmas), more academically oriented and has a far richer arts program than it did when we were there. Still, it is wonderful to return to that familiar smell of formaldehyde in the science lab and paint in the art room and graham crackers when walking down the hall. I love to hear my kids sing the songs I learned as a child at Potomac, and to witness their growing sense of accomplishment and confidence as they perform old favorites like "Dame get up and bake your pie." Other news is that I wrote a book which was published by Random House last fall entitled *Speak Truth to Power*, about human rights defenders who are changing our world. It was written into a play by Ariel Dorfman and was performed at the Kennedy Center, became a PBS documentary, a website, a photo exhibition and we are now distributing an education packet to high schools and colleges, Potomac included of course! The big news is that my husband is running for Governor of New York, so we are moving over the summer and looking forward to a rigorous race. Keep in touch with me at [KennedyCuomo@aol.com](mailto:KennedyCuomo@aol.com)."

**David Nalle** writes, "I've been married now for 12 years. My wife Patricia and I have a lovely nine-year-old daughter Caroline. Patricia is the System Administrator of the Texas Racing Commission and Caroline attends St. Francis School - the closest we could find to Potomac

here in Austin. I own a small design company specializing in typefaces ([www.fontcraft.com](http://www.fontcraft.com)) which is doing very well on the more or less booming internet, and also teach some college history courses to keep up my professorial skills. We come back to DC at least once a year to visit with my parents - usually when the weather is most appealing. Last visit we stopped by the Potomac campus for a look around while on our way to the Colonial Farm just up the road.

**Polly Pittman** says that "my husband is still in Buenos Aires, toying with the idea of coming to DC but always 'just as soon as some crisis or another is resolved.' At some point we may give up and go back, but I just made the decision to hang on for another year. The girls are having an amazing time at Potomac. My new job is at the Academy for Health Services Research and Health Policy, where on my first day I was warmly received by **Margaret Thomas Trinity**, **Alan Thomas'** younger sister."

**Laura Roosevelt** reports that "**Sarah Lejeune** was married last year to Angelo Camporaso and had a baby, Zoë, in the fall. **Jo Kalmus Miller**, **Leslie Hyde** and I all went to the wedding in Santa Barbara, where we made silly toasts and cried a lot. I continue to write for the arts section of *The Times* (the *Martha's Vineyard Times*, that is), and I'll be performing a piece of my fiction at the Vineyard Playhouse in May. My kids, Truda, 6, and Oliver, 3, are incredibly cute and brilliant and, simultaneously, frustrating, all-consuming, and quite clearly in league with the devil."

**Jo Kalmus Miller** has moved and bought a home in Santa Monica. "After over 10 years in L.A., and our oldest of three entering middle school, we have finally realized this is home."

**Lisa Shipp Logue** writes, "As you all know we moved from Mississippi to Texas last year, in February, due to Bob's job with USAA. We absolutely love it-we are just outside San Antonio, on two acres, with lots of peace and quiet. We have had plenty of guests since our move, including my mom, sister **Molly '76** and brother **Don '72**, as

well as Bob's parents. In August, Caitlyn and I went to the Outerbanks for the Shipp's annual vacation and for Caitlyn's first taste of the ocean. Then, all three of us went to DC for the Christmas holidays. I loved it, as it was extremely cold, and I miss enjoying that winter weather. I also had a great, but short visit, with **Sarah Holmes Briggs**, who stopped by to see Caitlyn and catch up with my mom and me. I am LOVING motherhood, but Caitlyn is beginning the 'terrible twos' and I don't know if I am going to survive or not. She is learning to speak more and more, and is really quite fun to play around with. She is quite a ham, and into EVERYTHING! I am keeping in shape just by trying to keep up with her on a daily basis. I really do love hearing from classmates!"

From **North Sturtevant**, "We think that winter will end this year; but will have to see how things look by June. My kidneys are taking a serious beating with the frost heave this year and I haven't seen my lawn since Thanksgiving. My nine-year-old daughter is burning up the ice in competitive figure skating - she has four double jumps - none of which I could identify with greater specificity than she makes two complete revolutions in the air before landing - as well as her axle. My seven-year-old son is more in the Mac truck mold and promises to be an awesome hockey player, although he seems pretty interested in figure skating and James Bond movies as well. I'm keeping busy as a Principal at JSA Inc., a 50-person architecture firm in Portsmouth, NH."

From the Alumni Office

**Siri Hari Angleton** writes from New Mexico that she skis a lot and usually goes to India and Europe about three times a year. "I write and work with Yogi Bhajam who is the Head of the Sikh Religion of the Western Hemisphere. I've actually been doing Kundali Yoga and meditation and been a vegetarian since the age of 13, so t'aint no big thang."

**Garrett Randolph** writes, "another season on ski patrol has come to a close in Lake Tahoe. In my summers of late I work for Hurricane Island Outward Bound

## EVEN YEAR CLASS CORRESPONDENTS

1972

Caroline Baldwin Kahl, 1907 Windsor Rd., Alexandria, VA 22307 ([ckahl@p-comservices.com](mailto:ckahl@p-comservices.com))

1972

Ros Parker Smythe, 331 North St., Medfield, MA 02052

1974

Jennifer Just, 157 Center Rd., Woodbridge, CT 06525 ([jenniferjust@yahoo.com](mailto:jenniferjust@yahoo.com))

1976

Julia Just, 90 East End Ave., New York, NY 10028 ([just@nytimes.com](mailto:just@nytimes.com))

1976

Marshall Tucker, 1402 South Gunby Ave., Tampa, FL 33606 ([marshtuck@aol.com](mailto:marshtuck@aol.com))

teaching sailing and rock climbing and leading trips. Meanwhile, I have various creative pursuits going..."

## 1976

From Julie

I recently lured **Mads Carter** (along with husband Alec and sons Tate, 5, and Rex, 18 months) to New York for dinner out and a new age spa visit for Mads and myself. No expense was spared in our attempt to stop time. My daughter Lucy, 3, had a wonderful time with Tate and Rex — Tate graciously ignored the extreme youth of his playmates, and brought Lucy a valentine he had made specially for the occasion.

I also got a glimpse of **Whitney Tymas** when she was in New York for a case (she's now working at a law firm in Richmond, Va.); she looks great and enjoys life in Richmond

governments — initially as a lobbyist on legislative issues and for the last 11 years as a strategic consultant to industry. I currently serve as vice president of Kelly, Anderson & Associates, a strategic business development firm based in Alexandria, VA."

**Brad MacKenzie** reports, "Now divorced, I live overlooking the Mayflower on Plymouth Harbor. Grayson, my 3-year-old, is growing up quickly. I spend my free time 'messing around on boats.' I look forward to seeing everyone at the reunion."

Same here — put it in your calendars: October 27, 2001. And thanks everybody for all the reports I got back this time; it was nice to hear from you.

From the Alumni Office

**John Brooks** lives in Atlanta and works as a medical epidemiologist

computer company employing 17 people. We operate the backup computer center for the Georgia lottery and we also have a contract with the Georgia Bureau of Investigation to process all of the criminal records for the state of Georgia, about 30,000 documents a month. I am currently working on getting part of the lottery contract in South Carolina. If anyone from our class is coming to Atlanta I would love to see them."

**Adrienne Slaughter-Melvin** will soon be in Chuck's area. She is moving to Atlanta with her family in June where they will be stationed for four years. Adrienne was married to Major Dwight Melvin on February 10, 1999. They are now blessed with a son, Joshua Dwight Melvin born December 11, 2000. Adrienne is a Captain in the Army Reserves and will have finished her Dissertation on Military Sexual Harassment in April. By this printing she will have her Ph.D. in Mass Communications.

**Alan Calfee** has also been doing some teaching. He has really enjoyed teaching some Forestry classes at the University of Vermont and Middlebury College. He will be going to Sweden and Finland in May as part of a forestry delegation from Vermont. He also adds, "I am in the process of adding a second floor to my house so I can better accommodate all of my Potomac School house guests during this year's, world famous, tenth annual, Calfee Pig Roast and Zucchini Fest on August 25."

**Lola Singletary** is on the other end of the learning curve. She is really enjoying starting back at school in night classes. She was pleased to see that her brain still functions well as a student.

**Sally Anne Epstein** and her family of four, (Grayson Patrick Junkin was born May 20, 2000), are finally moving out of their one bedroom into the house that they have built on a ranch in Montana. They have an incredible appreciation for space.

**Arthur Woolverton** writes, "It has been years since I spoke to anyone from my Potomac days. Life is great on the coast of Maine with my wife Sheri and son Matthew. I am now working as a Product Manager for Wright Express. Finally

The Potomac School Alumni Governing Council sponsored the 7<sup>th</sup> Alumni Career Day on March 2, 2001. Over 15 Alumni returned to Potomac to talk with Upper School students about their careers as well as to help cultivate the Alumni Career Network. From left to right: Ken Berlack '83; Stephanie Amann '01, Student Body President; Sally Steponkus '94, Julia Craighill '72; Wally Acton '80; Chris Hamilton '76, Sarah Holmes Briggs '74, Aleem Ahmed '03, Sophomore Class President; Prentiss Vallender Lay '85, Vice President of the Alumni Association; Biz Orr Fawkes '69, Joan Wise '82, President of the Alumni Association, Claire Hebel Harrington '83; Chris Seline '93; Jonathan Kilberg '94; Gary Hill '79; Scott O'Gorman '76; John Nassikas '74.



with her husband Rob and two daughters, Dylan and Lila.

**Eliza Newlin Carney** writes that she and her husband still live in Silver Spring; "our 18-month-old daughter, Beth, is our great joy. I am free-lance writing and Dan is a Washington correspondent at *BusinessWeek*."

**Tony Poole** writes, "Elizabeth and I live in Arlington, VA., with our twin daughters Alison and Natalie. We see fellow Arlingtonians **Scott** and **Melissa O'Gorman** (who have two sons and a new daughter) fairly frequently and have kept in touch with **Frank** and **Kate Caskin** at O'Gorman birthday parties. I have spent the majority of my career working with Federal and state

in the foodborne and diarrheal disease branch. He sees patients once a week at the local Veterans Hospital HIV clinic. He says that he comes back to DC regularly and often the flights go right over the School, "bringing back many fond memories.... images of Jean Richie, John Langstaff, Mrs. Lindsten, the Quonset huts, the Christmas plays, and those rather rickety angel choir stands are still close, despite 25 years."

## 1978

From Julie

**Chuck Day** writes, "I am doing fine living in Atlanta for the past eight years. Wow, I can't believe it myself, but I really like it here. I own a small

finding a balance in my life between work, play and community involvement. Would love to hear from people. Skiing has been great and summer is right around the corner." We are glad you are back in touch, Arthur.

Another classmate based in Maine is **Wendell Miles**. He will be in Portland this summer and then finish out his Plastic Surgery training in Boston. He started last July with his training at the Lahey Clinic in Massachusetts and has since been to Portland, ME and the Brigham and Women's Hospital. "It's more than I hoped it would be. The days are still quite long, but when compared to the grind of General Surgery it's rather civilized. The most exciting thing I've done so far is reattach a thumb. I have also made many molehills out of mountains and vice versa. I plan to return to DC to hang out a shingle next summer. If any of you find yourselves in Portland this summer, drop me an email."

**Byron Hope** is "still having fun protecting the streets of DC. My wife Felicia and I are about to celebrate our third anniversary of marriage, and looking forward to a whole lot more. Just celebrated my (cough, cough) granddaughter Kira's second birthday."

On the opposite coast, **Hildreth Willson** sums up her news. "1) I still like my husband very much, so I will not take advantage of the one year warranty period; I shall keep him. 2) I have discovered the joys of home ownership in the San Francisco Bay Area. Whatever it is it costs \$3,000 or a multiple of \$3,000. No exceptions. 3) Kindergarten is a FUN period for the parents of little boys. 4) Tuiles, or lace cookies, taste fantastic with a little orange zest. In short, it's just daily life, and I am enjoying it very much."

**Tim Gould** has had a change in his life as well this past year. He is coming up on a year with his new job in a startup, and while he finds it "trying at times, I don't yet regret a moment. It's great to get out of a large corporate environment and work for yourself." He also writes of life with his twin boys. "They are enormously energetic; have begun to communicate through words (or

something that sounds like them); are enjoying the potty training thing even more than we are; introduce us to most of the adults we know; act as a substitute for gym membership, and keep us fantastically happy!" They still love London, but would love to see more Potomac visitors.

## 1980

*From Dewie*

Hey, Class of 1980. With very few exceptions, no one seems to like the postcard method of keeping in touch. Please send me your email so that I can contact you that way dewieo@hotmail.com.

**Jane Currier Cullipher** writes that she has incorporated her CPA business and that her husband Mike is farming full time. She is busy with her two children, Dillion, four, and Jeb, two.

**Patrick Hewes** has moved back to the East Coast. He is working in real estate in greater New York. He enjoyed catching up with Potomac friends last October at **Romey Pittman's**.

I, **Dewie**, am completing my 10<sup>th</sup> year with Lipton Corporate Child Care. We have 7 centers on the East Coast and are building two more in the Virginia suburbs. By the time you read this, I will have walked 60 miles in three days in the AVON 3-day walk for breast cancer. The training was grueling, but fun! We had to raise \$2000, and I am happy to report I raised significantly more than that, thanks to the generous support of friends and family who realize the importance of research to combat this deadly disease.

## 1982

**Class Correspondent needed!**

*From the Alumni Office*

**Phoebe Lang Atwater** writes, "With my youngest child now three, I have returned to my childhood passion of riding and I couldn't be happier. In the past 6 months, I have acquired two German horses and am showing them in the hunter and jumper divisions on the "A" circuit in CA. Speaking of CA, what's become of you, **Percy Faily**? Have we lost you to the dot.com abyss? Call me!"

**Andrew Scott** wrote back in February, "I went to the beach with my dogs this morning and it was - 25 degrees with the wind chill factor. I am ready for the Chicago winter to end. I saw **Nerissa Nields** and her band last fall here at a neighborhood festival. They are great - go see them if you get a chance. I am still practicing law here and liking it. Hope all is well with everyone."

**Ann Luskey Weir** reports that "we are happily living in our great home in McLean. In late February I climbed Mt. Kilimanjaro! Best wishes, Potomac folks!"

**Rachel Renzy Meima**, her husband Steve and their daughter Rose are getting settled into their new house in Bethesda. "Within two weeks of moving in everything that could break, did. It was a constant stream of contractors until Christmas, but we love it and are thrilled."

**Hope Norman Bass** has been very busy with her carpet business and launching a new handmade rug division. Their showroom is growing "by leaps and bounds." Hope writes that "my daughter is now four and is as tall as me, almost, and my spitting image. I see **Brenda Brophy Pivrotto** and **Francesca Hunt Jewett** regularly. **Jimmy Corrigan** and his wife have a new baby!"

**Janie Haynes Stewart** lives in Potomac, MD with her husband Brad and two children, Rhys, five, and Brendan, two. She is working from home for the Worth Collection; women's fashion company, as an executive recruiter.

**Merrell Redway Cherouny** writes that she is "busy with two kids, Grace, 3½, and Hayden, nineteen months, as well as running my own photography business, which concentrated, on black and white family portraits."

**Joan Wise**, President of the Alumni Association, was recently voted on as a member of the Board of Trustees. She will also be participating in the Anchorage Mayor's Midnight Sun Marathon in Alaska with the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.

### EVEN YEAR CLASS CORRESPONDENTS

1978

*Julie Twiname Warder, 10360 E. Cortez Dr. Scottsdale, AZ 85260 (jtwdewan@aol.com)*

1980

*Dewie Oppenheimer, 1325 18<sup>th</sup> St. #505, Washington, DC 20036*

1984

*Mary Day Fitzgibbon, 2306 Beverly Rd., Charlotte, NC 28207 (jfitzg4103@aol.com)*

1984

*Sarah Webber, 352 Main St. #2, Yarmouth, ME 04096 (swebber352@aol.com)*

1986

*Kelly Hensley, 309 E. 49<sup>th</sup> St., #17-C, New York, NY 10017 (hensley\_kelly@hotmail.com)*

EVEN YEAR CLASS  
CORRESPONDENTS

1990

Erin Boyle Alvino, 170 S. Highview Ave., Glen Rock, NJ 07452  
(erin.alvino@nyfix.com)

1990

Carter M. Smith, 101 West End Ave., #8Q, New York, NY 10023  
(smith4c@georgetown.edu)

1990

Danielle Kleman Andreas, 7449 Old Maple Sq., McLean, VA 22102  
(danielle1a@aol.com)

1992

Ama Amaoko, 2405 Peyton Pl., #103, Charlottesville, VA 22901  
(asa8k@virginia.edu)

1994

Lauren Banks, 144 Clyde Ave., #2E, Evanston, IL 60202  
(laurenbanks@yahoo.com)

## 1983

From the Alumni Office

**Mallory Archer Samson** is expecting her third child in July, the first two are boys, Cal, 4, and Spencer, 2.

## 1984

From Mary

Once again I find myself writing the annual class notes without much news from all of you. I guess my postcards and emails no longer inspire responses so perhaps it's time for me to pass the buck on to one of you. Any takers? **James Quigley** did a great job of filling me in on those of you in Washington so maybe he would be a good candidate for future class agent. What do you think, James?

**Emily Eden Trotman** and her husband Phil are halfway through their two-year post in Mexico City. Emily is still working in a local Montessori school and is excited to be getting teaching experience in both English and Spanish. They have been doing a lot of traveling within Mexico and are looking forward to an extended US visit this summer.

Also living out of the country is **Dodi Wexler** who is residing in London with her boyfriend, Luke. She went over on a trial basis last year and has been commuting between London and New York since. She now has a studio in London and is continuing to work on her art between long weekend visits to neighboring European countries.

**Joanie Wolfington Berkery** and her husband Drew had a baby girl named Alicia Berkery in June 2000. They are happily living in New York City where Joanie has gone back to work part-time for Carey International. She loves being a mom and watching Allie grow and change everyday!

**Wendy Hoopes** is also in New York working on the unbearable task of finding a place to live. She is one of the fortunate few who lived in a great apartment for ten years until one day last June when her landlord told her he no longer wanted to rent. As far as work, she continues to be on MTV's *Daria*, and recently finished filming a *Daria*

movie sequel that will air in October of this year.

On the West Coast, **Charles Saltzman** continues to do some sort of computer work, but is spending his free time with a new girlfriend and his Dukati Motorcycle. Apparently it's the best mode of transportation for the ever-crowded streets of San Francisco.

**Laura Parsky**, who until recently was also in the San Francisco area, has moved back to DC and joined the firm of Williams Connolly. Wendy said they saw each other at the movies, but didn't have much time to catch up.

**Richard Kotite**, also in DC, continues his work at Windstar and is reportedly heading for Spain for the Formula One Race Series this spring/summer.

**James Quigley** said he is occupied with a new love interest but has made ample time to "fish the East Coast" and train for the spring and summer triathlon season.

**Rebecca Baldwin** starred in a one-woman show in Washington called STRETCH MARKS. James said the show was very well received and that every night was a sell out. Apparently, Rebecca has taken the show on to New York City where she will hopefully have as much success as she did in DC.

As for me, **Mary Day Fitzgibbon**, I was married to John Fitzgibbon on September 18, 2000 in Amagansett, NY. **Emily Eden Trotman** and **Wendy Hoopes** were in my wedding party and Potomac guests included **James Quigley**, **John Stump**, **Joanie Wolfington Berkery**, **Dodi Wexler**, **Jay Robert Farrell '92**, **Scott Farrell '95** and of course my three sisters, **Jane Day Rich '74**, **Ann Day '76** and **Isabel Day Benson '79**. We all had a good time and I look forward to the next Potomac wedding that is not mine! In December, John and I moved to Charlotte, NC where John's employer, Bank of America, is headquartered. So far so good, but definitely a big change from New York City. I welcome any and all visitors!

From Sarah

**Suneel Kaji** had a great Christmas skiing in Val D'Isere and Courcheval.

He has returned to the grind in NYC and a pretty stressful investment environment given the economy. Suneel has been on the road roughly 3-4 days a week, primarily in the UK as well as the South for several portfolio companies. Apart from that, getting ready for summer and planning a Hampton's house are his major endeavors.

**Kathleen Koonce Goodier** gave birth to a son, Owen Robert Goodier on June 16th, 2000. Her daughter, Rebecca, will be 4 in May. She stays at home with them and goes a little crazy but has a lot of fun. She and her husband, Matthew, are preparing to sell their house and move to a new one in Chadds Ford, Pennsylvania. They have done the historic renovation thing and are now up for something new.

**Trevor Corson** is the managing editor of *Transition* magazine at Harvard University. The magazine won the Alternative Press Award of International Reporting in both 1999 and 2000. Trevor writes about East Asia for *Transition*, *Atlantic Monthly*, *American Prospect*, *The Los Angeles Times*, and in March, Trevor had an article in *The New York Times*!

**Charlotte Greenewalt** writes that this fall she will be starting a two-year program towards an MFA in ceramics at Cranbrook Academy of Art.

As for me, **Sarah Webber**, I am moving again from Yarmouth, Maine back to Portland. I missed the city atmosphere and being able to walk everywhere. I will be living in another fixer-upper which kept me busy all winter and will keep me busy through the summer as well. I still have a four-unit apartment building in Portland, which I manage and am always looking for more restoration projects.

## 1985

From the Alumni Office

**Mark Purcell** and his wife Elham Kazemi are both professors at the University of Washington in Seattle. Elham is in math education and Mark is in geography. They both received Ph.D.s at UCLA in the spring of 1988 and were married soon after.

**Connie Pendleton** moved to the D.C. office of DavisWrightTremaine LLP, a Seattle based law firm. She is in the firm's communications, media and information technology department. She lives in the Dupont Circle area and sees **Christy Halvorson Ross** frequently. During the summer of 1999, she attended **India Swayze's** wedding to Chris Mann in VT. **Maggie Carr**, **Peter Swayze '83**, and **Stuart Salyer '92** were among the Potomac guests. India and Chris live in Chicago with their daughter.

**Amy Demas** is still happy in New York, where she is the art director for *Jane* magazine. This year she received a gold publication design award. After following her interest in digital filmmaking by taking classes, she has become involved in various graphic projects for film and television.

**Mark Wolfington** and his wife Lindsey had a baby girl, Sydney on March 31, 2000.

**Andrew Fentress** was married to Wendy Prior last May.

## 1990

From Carter

It was a pleasure to see many of our fellow classmates at the October 14th homecoming reunion. Our thanks to **Annie Martin Simonds** and her husband Will for hosting a well-attended dinner party that evening for our class; a good time was had by all. Speaking of Annie, she gave birth on February 27th to a handsome baby boy, William "Wiley" Haskell Simonds III. Wiley weighed in at 7 pounds, 3 ounces, and both Annie and Will couldn't be more pleased with the addition to their family. (See photo below.) I recently saw **Erin Boyle Alvino**, **Darius Brawn '91**, and many other



William Haskell Simonds III

Potomac alumni at a school-sponsored event in January held at the Cosmopolitan Club in New York. Erin was recently promoted to AVP for Product Development for all exchange floor products at NYFIX. She lamented that much of her free time this winter was spent shoveling snow. Darius works at The Endicott Group, a New York-based hedge fund, and will soon enroll in NYU's part-time MBA program.

**Tom Arundel** is a software business consultant for Commerce One, a B2B e-marketplace company whose products help streamline complex procurement and supply chain systems. He notes that "the job can be both fun and stressful, but offers good opportunities to understand various methods in which businesses transact with each other." Tom bought his first home last year on Prospect Street in Georgetown, and his five-year-old nephew, **Nicholas Arundel**, took part in the Lower School Carols assembly in December. According to proud father **Peter Arundel '75**, Nicholas "loved his lines."

As for me, **Carter**, I moved to New York City in August of last year after graduating from Georgetown's MBA program. I now work for Lehman Brothers in their Private Client Group, and I enjoy my work despite the "difficult" nature of the financial market these days. I managed to sneak away to Rome for Christmas and New Year's to visit my parents who now live there. Should you ever find yourself in NYC, please look me up. After all, I'm always on the lookout for news that I can submit for *The Potomac Term!*

From Erin

**Whitney Kloman Leslie** is enjoying life as a full-time stay at home mom. Charlie is almost crawling which will certainly keep her on her toes! She's having fun working on her home and catching up with friends. She was back in DC for **Trap's '93** wedding in April.

**Ricky Frank** and his wife Barbara claim to keep the local Home Depot in business as they work on their house in Vienna (although I can say the same for my branch in New Jersey). For his day job, Ricky is working at the IFC of the World

Bank Group specializing in equity and debt restructuring in the Latin American arena.

**Hal Long** lives in Los Angeles. Last year he completed his MFA in film production at USC and he's been writing feature scripts and attending film festivals with his movie *The Dishpan Man*. You can see Hal's movie at [www.dishpanman.com](http://www.dishpanman.com) on [hypnotic.com](http://hypnotic.com). As if that isn't enough, he's also started a production company called Angelsmith [www.angelsmith.net](http://www.angelsmith.net)

**Alistair Edward** writes, "After failing to break into the NFL and/or NBA with my natural athletic abilities, I decided to join the rat race and get my law degree. I am now working in Charlottesville, Virginia as an attorney. I am also training for the upcoming Tough



Man Championship to be held in Indianapolis, Indiana, and if things go well, hope to become a professional wrestler, fighting under the moniker of Irving R. Scheister or I.R.S."

**Jean-Luc Park** has completed grad school and worked in the Venture Capital industry for the past two years. He's looking for something new but he wants to stay in the VC business, so keep your eyes and ears open.

As for me, my husband Vince and I really enjoyed catching up with some old Potomac friends, **Carter Smith**, **Darius '91** and **Lisa Jankowsky Brawn '92**, **Peter Kloman '96** and **Michele McCrary** at the alumni event in NYC.

From the Alumni Office

**Kate Rylander Morley** announced that Elizabeth Claire

The class of 1990 celebrated their 10<sup>th</sup> Reunion last October at the home of Will and Annie Martin Simonds. Seated: Carter Smith, Dudley Winthrop. Bottom row: Barbara Frank, Ricky Frank, Tom Arundel, Lynn Rossotti, Edward Rossotti, friend of Dudley Winthrop, Lisa Cecchi, Claire Hamady, Jessica Dawson, Richard Houston. Top row: Jean-Luc Park, Whitney Kloman Leslie, Annie Martin Simonds, Ashley Gerstenfeld, friend of Perrin Vallender, Perrin Vallender, Carlos Cecchi.

Morley was born February 5, 2001 and weighed 9 pounds. "All of us are doing well, and Abby is a fantastic big sister!"

## 1991

*From the Alumni Office:*

Members of the Class of 1991 attended the Sundance film festival.

**Simon Lamb** organized the Direct TV party at the festival.

**Masud Khan's** band, *Ghost Team*, played at the party and **Chris Chaplin** attended the party and the film festival. Chris sums up the experience as "incredible, highly inspiring. We met some great people all trying to be filmmakers. Seeing Masud's band was a great highlight!" See photo below.



*Chris Chaplin '91, Simon Lamb '91, and Masud Kahn '91 from the Direct TV party at The Sundance film festival.*

## 1992

*From Ama*

Here is the latest news from the Class of 1992.

**Ephraim, Jen and Julie Schum** are enjoying their cozy home in Ashburn, Virginia. Julia is now two years old and is in need of a brother or sister. Ephraim is working many long hours as Senior Art Director and Vice-President of Schum & Associates in McLean, Virginia — doing print and web communications design. He is planning a stand-up comedy appearance and possible character voice-over work. If anyone wants to contact Ephraim, his e-mail is [eschum@schum.com](mailto:eschum@schum.com).

**Julia Kline Deves** loves living in Louisville with her husband Aaron and one-year old golden retriever "Derby." She has been promoted to Area Account Manager (hospital representative) with Wyeth-Ayerst Pharmaceuticals. Julia is looking

forward to being in **Ally Bloom's** wedding in November.

**Buckley Kuhn Sizemore** graduated from law school in May. She and her husband are also expecting a baby in early October. Their son Kelly is seven years old!! If anyone wants to write Buckley, her new e-mail address is [absizemore@home.com](mailto:absizemore@home.com).

**Jacqueline Morais Easley** and her husband Ron are thrilled to announce the birth of their first daughter! Lauren Elizabeth was born on January 19, 2001, weighing 8lbs 4 oz. and measuring 21". Jacqueline loves motherhood and is taking a break from freelance writing for a few months to devote herself to her little girl.

**Eliza Hitz** is at Harvard School of Education getting her Masters degree. She loves being back in school and in Cambridge but misses the classroom after four years of teaching. Eliza also misses her horse, as she has started riding again, after a debilitating riding accident two years ago. Eliza has made a wonderful recovery in which she broke most of the bones on the left side of her body and her neck, as well as suffering a punctured lung. As a result, Eliza has become more geared to counseling and her long-term goal is to start a therapeutic riding program.

**Tamara Bechara** has recently been accepted into the Atlantic Theater Company School where she plans to further her acting training. She is also looking forward to being a bridesmaid in my wedding in September.

**Holly Capps**, mom to two cats (Elvis and Lili Lu, has an incredible man in her life (Todd) and has just joined the Riverbend Country Club. She works her tail off for Proxicom, an Internet Consulting firm, based in Virginia, as a project manager. The work is challenging and time consuming but very rewarding. Last March, Holly bought a beautiful, spacious house in Reston. She lives across from Lake Audobon, where there is a nature reserve behind her house. Holly sees old friends all the time, though she went to so many schools, she often has trouble remembering which school she knows them from!! She did see

**Morgan Till** and **Tim Wisecarver**, who are roommates, at Rhodeside Grille in Arlington recently.

**Dan Pang** has been very busy since graduation! He worked for two years in life insurance, then went over to MicroStrategy in Vienna, Virginia for a year and a half. Dan then went into the sales department of an internet company, which unfortunately folded in December 2000. Currently, Dan is the Vice-president for a financial planning company in Tysons Corner called Cassidy & Company. He has also been coaching the Reston Raiders hockey team for four years. Dan got married last September to a wonderful woman named Allison (**Paul Buchanan** introduced them) and just recently bought a house in Centerville. Dan reports that Paul Buchanan was married last year as well.

**Trip Lilly** is living in Manhattan on the West Side, in the fashion district. He works on Wall Street for BNY Asset Management (a division of the bank of New York) as an Assistant Treasurer and Junior Portfolio manager on the institutional fixed income management team. Trip also studied acting for two years at the American Academy of Dramatic Arts and then the Sally Johnson Studio, which he stopped doing in August of last year....no time to audition with his schedule! Now, Trip is trying to get back into the print modeling business (which he did for two years in college) and into commercials. He just had his comp card made and his portfolio is finally up to speed. Trip sees **John Cecchi** quite a bit, who comes up to visit occasionally. John and Trip also travel to South Beach "to play" every few months. Trip also speaks to **Stuart Salyer** every once in awhile as well as **Ally Bloom** and **Julia Kline Deves**.

**Kathy Modecki** is an instructor in month-long Outward Bound courses for juvenile delinquents in Florida. She works with "some gems and some gangsters" and never really knows what she is in for. Kathy is also doing a lot of traveling between courses; she will be in South East Asia this summer. Thanks to all those who wrote in!



From the Alumni Office

**Sandra Miller** wrote that she recently finished her MA in Humanities at the University of Chicago and took off for Eastern/Central Europe in June, where she was a fellow at the Summer Literary Seminars in St. Petersburg and writer-in-residence in Slovenia. She will begin her MFA in poetry at the University of Iowa Writer's Workshop this fall and currently has pieces published in Verse magazine, American Letters & Commentary, and other journals.

## 1993

From the Alumni Office

**Kristina Osten Cook** has been living in Blacksburg, VA for six years and is currently working as a teaching assistant in a Montessori school. "I decided to stay in Blacksburg after graduating from Virginia Tech and going through my teacher training at Radford University. Couldn't leave these beautiful mountains! I've been married to Adam Cook for two years and we are expecting our first child. My sister, **Wendy '05**, is finishing up her degree in Art History at George Mason and is living in Fairfax, VA. I am still in contact with **Ana Koch-Weser**, who is living in Chicago and pursuing her Ph.D in psychology."



David Carpio '93 and Gina Cordero '93 at Lauren Banks Amos '94 wedding. Photo taken by Jody Morse '94.

## 1994

From the Alumni Office

Correction from the last Term: **Jody Morse '94** attended **Lauren Banks Amos' wedding** with **Gina Cordero** and **David Carpio '93**. See photo taken by **Jody Morse**.

## 1996

From the Alumni Office

**William Clarkson** works in the US Senate and lives with **James Maxwell** on Capitol Hill. He has run into **Bill Miller**, **Jamie Sullivan**, and **Stan Deland** at Smith Point in Georgetown.

**Jamil Evans** lives in Vienna and works at AMS doing software development.

On December 15, 2000, **Stan Deland** and **Thomas Serafin** graduated from Officer Candidate School and were commissioned Second Lieutenants in the United States Marine Corps. **Captain Andrew Serafin '92**, USAF, was present to pin on his brother's Second Lieutenant bars.

## 1998

From Jessica

Hey All, I hope this finds everyone enjoying what is probably their junior year. I ran into **Eddy Smith** this fall when we were watching our younger brothers play football and he loves life at Brown.

**Joanna Steckler** reports that she spent spring break in Montecarlo in Monaco with **Kristin Carlucci** and **Tom Dillon**.

**Zal Batmanglij**, **Coley Andrews**, and **Joey Wright** went up to Yale to celebrate **Liz Oosterhuis** and **Chris' 21st** birthdays.

**Jon Wilson** studied at the National University of Ireland, at Galway.

**Victoria Chapman** was in Florence studying Art History and the European Political System.

**Sarah Swain** studied in London for the spring semester.

**Chaitra Hakkal** wrote: "For Spring Break I traveled with Circle K, going to various campuses in Ohio and Michigan. We participated in many service projects including the Detroit Project with U. Michigan. It's been a busy year so far, spending a lot of my time in the Chemical Engineering Cluster. Besides that, I have been spending my time with Circle K, Alpha Phi Omega, and Habitat for Humanity."

**Sol Kuckelman** wrote to tell me that he spent January in Florida and the Southeast on tour with the Colgate 13. Even better they went

to Hawaii for a ten day tour in March! Our condolences go out to Sol as his stepfather passed away midwinter, but he did get to see Mr. Cook, Mr. Paradis, **Cliff Cone** and his mom, Ms. Laguarda and Ms. Bello at the service. He is setting his sights on law school.



Second Lieutenant Stan DeLand '96, Captain Andrew Serafin '92, and Second Lieutenant Thomas Serafin '96.

**Anne Gasho** is doing well and spent the semester doing an internship.

**Elena Sylos-Labini** returned to her beloved Italy where she studied with Boston College.

**Carolyn Star** spent the spring at Oxford.

**Sarah Gregg** spent the fall studying art history in Florence and was lucky enough to see both **Kristen Carlucci** and **Ilyse Stempler** as they passed through the beautiful city. She worked as a ski instructor at Killington Mountain in Vermont and lived with several friends in a cute little A-frame for the winter term and returned to Dartmouth for the spring.

I (**Jessica Ohly**) am keeping busy. I spent January in the Bahamas doing whale and dolphin research and writing a curriculum for the local elementary school that encompassed math, reading, writing and history through studying whales. I then taught an abbreviated version in an after school program. I spent spring break in the Grand Canyon backpacking with several members of my outing club. I wish you all the best, so keep smiling and let me know how you are!

## 2000

From Alison

The class of 2000 seems to have happily adjusted to life away from home.

### EVEN YEAR CLASS CORRESPONDANTS

#### 1994

Sally Steponkus, 3051 Idaho Ave. NW, #122, Washington, DC 20016 (ssteponus@aol.com)

#### 1998

Sarah Gregg, Dartmouth College, HP 1007, Hanover, NH 03755 (sarah.t.gregg@dartmouth.edu)

#### 1998

Jessica Ohly, 2400 Baxter Hall, Williams College, Williamstown, MA 01267 (02jbo@williams.edu)

#### 2000

Jonathan Haworth, HUB Box 684, Dickinson College, Carlisle, PA 17013 (jono5@juno.com)

#### 2000

Alison Weisgall, Columbia University, 6731 Lerner Hall, New York, NY 10027 (arw58@columbia.edu)

**Chris Ayer** spent much of his time with *The Mendicants*, an all-male cappella group at Stanford University that toured Japan over spring break. When not practicing, Chris is "playing guitar, writing music, recording an album for fun, and enjoying the California sun."



Sarah Gregg hosted a Pancake Breakfast over the winter break for members of the class of '98. Pictured are Thomas Bradshaw, Kristin Carlucci, Elena Sylos-Labini, Sarah Gregg, Joanna Steckler, Ilyse Stempler, Michael Eiseman, and Coley Andrews.

**Burke Brownfeld** has joined *Alpha Phi Omega*, a national service fraternity, and serves as a student patrolman for campus security. He often sees **Jon Andrews** and **John McCliggott**, also class of 2000.

**Emily Duncan** played soccer with fellow graduate **Anne Laughlin** and lacrosse for University of Pennsylvania where she plans to major in International Relations or History. "**Michael Coyne** lives a few doors down from me ... and I see **Keya Anjaria** periodically."

**Rob Foy** is studying International Relations at Harvard and planning to join a jazz band.

**Molly Gulland**, at Princeton University, has seen **Peter Lerman** and me (**Alison Weisgall**) at Columbia and **Kate Romatowski**, **Louisa Thomas**, and **Rob** at Harvard. Her little brother, Sam, started Potomac in the 7th grade this past fall.

**Kathleen Kiernan** is going pre-med at Williams College with a double major in biology and psychology and still finds the time to coach a kindergarten soccer team and participate in a tutoring program in Williamstown.

Things here at Columbia University are great; I'm in two plays this semester and love feeling at home in New York City. I also see **Peter Lerman** and **Rachiem Jones** around campus. Congrats to all on their first year and have a wonderful summer!

*From Jonathan*

Hey guys! I hope that the first year of college has treated you as well it has treated me! As for myself, I was elected Vice-President of my class up here at Dickinson and have been working very hard on my position as a class officer. I also do my own radio show every Sunday for two

hours in the afternoon which has been a blast! I volunteer for a few hours a week at a mentoring program for under-privileged kids in the collegiate area. I am involved with a comedy movie-making group called *The Flickheads* where we do a lot of comedy improvisation on camera and have shows during the year. I have

been playing tons of intramural tennis and I won the doubles championship in the fall semester. I also have a job in the cafeteria on campus and was recently hired as a tour guide. I also hope to make it on one of the three campus cappella groups when I audition for them in the fall semester. I saw **Billy Cook** around campus all the time, especially considering he lived on the floor directly above me! Billy won the intramural squash singles championship in the fall semester. He says "I am having a great time meeting all of these new people!"

I have managed to see **Cleaver Sower** often after our walk across Spain last summer with Mark Dewey. Cleaver returned from the University of Vermont to attend American University and takes classes there. Cleaver enjoys being back home in Washington DC.

**Ben Rose** is a brother in the SAE fraternity chapter up at Yale. He rowed lightweight crew this year and started a political magazine on campus as well.

**Maura Myers** had a great time at Colby. She played on both the varsity field hockey and the varsity squash teams. She reports: "Despite all of the time I dedicate to sports, I am still able to balance my time here very well."

**Kate Romatowski** was part of a tutoring program for young children that she will head next fall semester. She has also played many

intramural sports and says: "I love Boston.... it's a great town despite all of the snow we get!"

**Kate Ryan** reports: "I'm at Trinity College now, in Hartford, CT. It's been really good so far and I hope it stays that way."

**Aparna Nancherla** reports, "I ended up at Amherst.... The people are so friendly and I like going to a small school. I have no idea what I'm going to major in...but probably something to do with the humanities. I ran cross country and track here. I also sang in the women's choir.... and baked for the student coffeehouse."

**Andy Winkler** reports, "I'm currently at Muhlenberg in Allentown, Pennsylvania. College life is great!"

**Abbe Sessions** writes that, "I am at Syracuse with **Evan Dannemiller**, **n'Erin Brown**, and **Ilia Domon**. I love it here. I was on the crew team until Christmas, but I had to drop off because I was too short! Now I am playing on the women's Rugby team. I love my classes, am doing well in school, and working really hard. I am going to major in psychology and minor in art therapy. I want to get my Ph.D in child psychology. I still talk to **Marcy** and **Jen** a lot, and we are going to get together this summer." I hope that everybody is doing well and taking care of themselves!

Thanks to everybody who responded to me! I hope to hear from more of you all next time! Good luck Class of 2000!



#### TERM CORRECTIONS

In the Fall 2000 Term article about the Wrestling Room groundbreaking this sentence should have read: The new facility will be named in honor of Potomac parent Ginny Landry and will be known as the Ginny Bergquist Landry Center. Our apologies for omitting the "g" in Bergquist.

In the Fall 2000 Term Lewis Kimball's tenure as Headmaster was listed incorrectly in the class of 1970's alumni news, Mr. Kimball was Potomac's Headmaster from 1964-1974.

# Alumni Focus

COLEY ANDREWS '98

ALUMNI FOCUS

Henry Adams once wrote, "A teacher affects eternity; he never knows where his influence stops." Now in his thirty-second year of teaching English in independent schools, Bob Riley of The Potomac School, probably would never go that far in making claims for his work. But last summer, he was able to see for himself that his influence had reached at least as far as South Africa.

One of Riley's former students and advisees at Potomac, Coley Andrews, now a sophomore at Dartmouth, raised \$250,000 to build and outfit a library (including twenty computers) for the Riversands Primary School, which serves 680 children living in a squatters area just north of Johannesburg called Diepsloot. Andrews invited Riley and his wife, Sandy, to join him and his family at the dedication on June 15, 2000. The Rileys' trip also included a visit to Victoria Falls in Zimbabwe, a major game reserve, and several days spent driving south along the stunningly beautiful Indian Ocean coast to Cape Town.

Andrews had gone to South Africa with his family after deciding to defer his enrollment at Dartmouth for a year. His father had just been appointed president and CEO of South African Airways. During that year, Andrews began tutoring at Riversands. Charmed by the children there but troubled that he had been given so much in life and they had been given so little, he decided he would try to do something to enrich the lives of these children through their school. Recalling something Riley had said to him when he was making plans to serve as Potomac's school council president in his senior year - "Think big, Coley" - he began making plans. After compiling a list of fifty-five family members, friends, and acquaintances, he embarked on a whirlwind five-day fundraising trip in the U.S., including an appearance at an Upper School assembly at Potomac. He also raised substantial funds in South Africa.

An article in *The Star of Johannesburg* the day following the dedication of the library reported that the Diepsloot community was "over the moon" regarding Andrews' gift.

"It's all very well having visions," said the school's principal, J.T. Petlele. "But they must become a reality. That's what this is about, and it will help Riversands to realize the vision of becoming a centre of excellence, as well as starting a culture of teaching and learning." Andrews told *The Star*: "My message to other kids is that if you try hard enough, you will be amazed at what you can achieve. I really believe that one of the best ways to make South Africa a better country is to invest in the children, who are the future leaders of the country... Their desire to learn was unlike anything I had experienced."

In a thank you letter to Andrews and his family following his return to McLean, Riley wrote: "Towards the end of our visit, while driving on a back road through the beautiful farm country between Swellendam and Arniston on the Indian Ocean coast, I was in awe of the rich and fertile mountain valleys. Apparently owned by white Afrikaaners, these very large family farms made me think of the land of milk and honey in the Bible, or California as it looked to the Okies in John Steinbeck's *The Grapes of Wrath*."

"But even in such beautiful surroundings, we could not escape the heartbreaking conditions between the haves and the have-nots we saw all over South Africa. Whizzing down the road in our new Ford Fairmont rental, we passed clusters of black farm workers half-heartedly trying to hitch a ride. Advised against stopping and picking anyone up but also afraid to do so, I soon saw where they were headed — a hillside covered with row after row of shanties not much larger than wooden shipping crates that had been scrapped together from scrap lumber and sheets of plastic to keep out the rain. How many of these people are killed each year by passing cars? I wondered. And how much longer will they accept living in such squalid conditions? While we were in Zimbabwe we learned that blacks were taking over white owned farms at the urging of their president Robert Mugabe. Could such violence spill over into South Africa? Remember the Langston Hughes poem "A Dream Deferred?" The poet asks, what happens if the realization of the dream continues to be put off, year after year? "Does it, Like a sore, fester and run?" Hughes wonders. "Or does it sag like a heavy load? Or does it explode?"

"After spending only seventeen days in South Africa it would be ridiculous for me to try to offer any more than a few impressions of a country with such a complex history. Reading the Johannesburg and Cape Town newspapers as we moved around helped me to appreciate some of the major issues confronting today's South Africa. I was especially interested in the many articles about the major issues affecting young people: the horrendous prevalence of AIDS, the high rates of illiteracy, crime and violence, unemployment, and the poor quality of schools in many areas difficult, seemingly intractable problems that might cause us to despair. But despair is fruitless; it's simply not acceptable. South Africa seems to be a country teetering on the edge. It could unravel into chaos if the social fabric doesn't hold. Kin Naidoo, the author of an op-ed piece in *The Sunday Times*, wrote: 'Reinforcing the belief that disillusionment, disaffiliation, and anger will accompany our youth into adulthood is defeatist in the extreme. We have no choice but to create the conditions for youthful optimism.'

"On the long plane ride home (the longest non-stop flight in the world, we were told,) I began reading the first volume of Alan Paton's autobiography, *Towards the Mountain* (1980), hoping it would aid me in understanding his homeland. A high school teacher early in his adult life and a deeply spiritual man, Paton decided as a young man that his 'life must be used in the service of a cause greater than oneself. This can be done by a Christian for two reasons: one is obedience to his Lord, the other is purely pragmatic, namely that one is going to miss the meaning of life if one doesn't.' That's what I was trying to communicate to you, Coley, when a few years ago I urged you to "think big." Nothing is bigger than working for justice.

"As H.G. Wells put it long ago: 'Human history [is] more and more a race between education and catastrophe.' But I believe it's a race we can win. You who have done so much for Riversands Primary School obviously believe that, too. The essential thing is that the teachers and children there, and we, must not lose heart."

This article was reprinted with permission from *Independent School Magazine*, Summer 2001 issue.



# Alumni/Senior Dinner

MAY 16, 2001



**The Class of 2001**

Over 90 seniors, alumni, and faculty were in attendance as the Class of 2001 were welcomed into the Alumni Association at the Alumni/Senior Dinner held on May 16, 2001. Guests enjoyed a fondue dinner and took part in answering Potomac Trivia questions.



Kate Jackson and Matt Huber peruse Lower School and Middle School photos of the Class of 2001.



Meagan Guerzon, Callie Leith and Chelsea Simms enjoy the fondue dinner.

## Rehearsal Lunch



Joan Wise '82 (Alumni President) greeted seniors as they enjoyed a lunch provided by The Development Office during graduation rehearsal. Henry Strong '74 (parent of Allana '03, John Henry '10 and Kip '12) then spoke to students about staying connected to Potomac and their role in philanthropy in the future of the School.



Señor Mucino, Eric Kasenetz, Señor Thomas, Lizzie Copson, Ms. Blanchard, Stephanie Patterson, and Dan Brooks pose for a picture.

## College-age BBQ



Andrew Farrell '99 with Lizzie Copson '01 and Kate Jackson '01 at the College Age BBQ in June 2001.

Alums from the classes of 1997-2001 gathered on May 30, 2001 for games and good food. The boys Varsity lacrosse team challenged an alumni team to a friendly game before everyone gathered at the pool for the cookout.

# Calendar of Events

Thursday, September 6 - Opening Day

Friday, October 20 - Fall Frolics Friday Night Live

Saturday, October 21 - Fall Frolics Fair & Silent Auction

**Friday, October 26**

Homecoming Bonfire & Reunion cocktail reception

**Saturday, October 27**

Reunions & Homecoming Weekend

Special Events on campus & reunion dinners

Friday, November 23 - Alumni Basketball Game

Thursday, December 20 - Winter Recess

January - Boston Reunion

## In Memoriam

**RADM Charles Buchanan**, March 2001, Annapolis, MD  
Father of Mary Gale Buchanan '49 and grandfather of Kate Buchanan '02.

**Timothy Winston Childs**, November 22, 2000, Washington, DC.  
Husband of Hope Kane Childs '52, father of Katherine Childs '76 and John D. Childs '78.

**Catherine Durant Heap**, January 21, 2001, Sarasota, FL.  
Mother of Elizabeth Heap Anderson '50, Mary Heap Fagerson '53, and Sally Heap '57.

**Margaret Russell Howell '61** (Mrs. Stephen), December 11, 2000, London, England. Daughter of Barbara Korff Farwell '25, sister of Diana Russell '58, cousin of Sandy Korff Scott '53 and Alice Korff Boardman '58.

**Marjorie Gould Lincoln '32**, December 29, 2000, Washington, DC.

**Joyce Hagen Macy** (Mrs. John), January 2001.  
Mother of Thomas L. Macy '67, Mary D. Macy '70, Susan Macy Jarvinen '72, and Richard H. Macy '77.

**Lucy Chapman Sawyer '54** (Mrs. Charles dec.) June 28, 1999, Dothan, AL.

**Mary Ross '53**, March 11, 2001, Washington, DC.

## Alumni Camp Counselors



Alums reunite with campers at Potomac School Summer Programs. Here are Rachiem Jones '00, Ernie Mitchell '02 (current President of Student Government), and Alison Weisgall '00 working together as counselors in the Theater camp.

# Lost Alumni

FRIENDS FROM THE PAST



The Alumni Office does its best to keep track of Potomac's world traveling Alumni. Unfortunately, sometimes we lose track of a few. Here is a list of Reunion 2001 Alumni who we cannot reach. Help us find them! Please contact the Alumni Office if you know of their whereabouts. Call (800)725-8664 or email [alumni@potomacschool.org](mailto:alumni@potomacschool.org). Your assistance is greatly appreciated!

## 1931

Lawrence Baker '31  
Pairoh Kridakara '31  
Thomas Phillips '31  
Marcia Mason '36

## 1936

Barbara Klein Williamson '36

## 1941

Esther Magruder Brooks '41  
Douglas M. Fletcher '41  
Ursula Buckley Olivier '41  
Amy Stephens '41  
Winston Stephens '41  
Lucy Hoffman Webb '41  
R. Lee Williamson '41  
George Wolcott '41

## 1946

Gabriel Alington '46  
Ann Gunderson '46  
Nancy Neff '46

## 1951

Patrick Branster '51  
Sandy Evans '51  
Virginia Carr Leake '51  
Priscilla Kenney Streator '51

## 1956

Barbara Belton '56  
Richard Bissell '56  
Cornelia Haden Brewer '56  
Andrew H. Camp '56  
James S. Dickey '56  
Gail Greenberg '56  
Thomas Lynn '56  
Pam Rector '56  
Josephine R. Shepard '56  
Mary H. Shepard '56  
Ann Kauffmann Taylor '56  
Mildred B. Welsh '56

## 1961

Martha L. Adams '61  
Margaret Andrina '61  
Phillipa Ashworth '61  
Claudia Bingham '61  
John C. Calhoun '61  
Corinne Collins-Yager '61  
Lee F. Elliott '61  
David Farnham '61  
Diana Kerry '61  
Barbara McKee '61  
Victoria Phillips '61  
Nancy Train Smith '61  
Alexandra Dundas Todd '61

## 1966

Bannister Allen '66  
Alleta Belin '66  
Graham Belin '66  
Eve Chayes '66  
Howard Coon '66  
Helen Emmett '66  
Gary Fleming '66  
Elizabeth Howe '66  
Anne Hyde '66  
Margaret Jennes '66  
Gentry Johnson '66  
Whitney Knight '66  
John Koehne '66  
Dinah Straight Krosnick '66  
Phillip O'Neill '66  
De Courcy W. Orrick III '66  
Alistair Pitblado '66  
Matthew Preston '66  
Nancy Reeves '66  
Steve Sanne '66  
Ames Shelton '66  
Terry Smith '66  
Whitney Stillman '66  
Richard B. Sullivan '66  
James Thayer '66  
David Train '66  
Nathaniel Winship '66

## 1971

Rachel Elmquist '71  
Palmer Hill '71  
Jonathan King '71  
Chris Knowlton '71  
Christopher Prominski '71  
Andrew B. Taber '71  
Mark M. Tucker '71  
Dylan Williams '71

## 1976

Kofi Burbridge '76  
Elisabeth Bureaude la Noue '76  
Tom Gooch '76  
Tina Quinichette '76  
Adam Randolph '76  
Timothy M. Thomas '76  
Edward Tunney '76  
Charlotte von Lilienfeld '76

## 1981

Christiane P. Cook '81  
John Jay Corson '81  
Whitney Field '81  
Emily Gilmore '81  
John R. Johnson III '81  
Robert Keith '81

Pierre Omidyar '81  
Clay Shields '81  
Anthony K. Shriver '81  
F. Carson Thompson III '81  
Hannes Visagie '81

## 1986

David Grant Barrett '86  
Justin Bowersock '86  
Justin L. Cashman III '86  
Robert Cheek '86  
Michael de Pinho '86  
Jennifer Epworth '86  
Dwight T. Franklin, Jr. '86  
Charlotte Gaither '86  
Syed Aamir Masood '86  
John McLane '86  
Dionna Shavers '86  
Marjolijn N. Ter Vrugt '86  
Jason Wilkins '86  
Marisa Zanganeh '86

## 1991

Keat T. Bollenbach '91  
Joshua Bowers '91  
Victoria Epworth '91  
Zoe Foley '91  
Matthew Graham '91  
Otho Green '91  
Sarah Holden '91  
Mai Iskander '91  
Blake Keller '91  
Mani Blustein Lloyd '91  
John Morris McLean '91  
Peter Nigra '91  
Luke A. O'Connell '91  
Jonathan Wolfington '91

## 1996

Alice Baldwin '96  
Rahul Bhargava '96  
Nicoleda Sibour '96  
Gwen Frisbie-Fulton '96  
Wiam Hasnein '96  
Heather Ross '96  
Ismael Shekarri '96  
Morgan M. Sherman '96  
Alison Shinsato '96  
Erin Elizabeth Tadie '96  
Jonah Tully '96  
Fay Wallace '96  
Garrett Laws Weinberg '96  
Alice J. Woodbridge '96

# You're always welcome at Potomac



May Day 2001

We'd love to keep you updated about special events and activities at Potomac School.

Please fill out and mail the attached card with your email so we may keep you connected.

We look forward to seeing you back on Campus!

## Reunion THE POTOMAC SCHOOL 2001

October 26-27  
Reunion/Homecoming Weekend  
SAVE THE DATE

Come back to Potomac this October to recapture your youth, relive old times, and relax with friends. For the second time, Potomac will hold all reunion activities during the fourth weekend of October, which is also Homecoming. You and your family can meet Head of School, Geoff Jones, attend reunion luncheons and dinners, watch school sporting events, and reconnect with classmates. Watch your mail and The Potomac School website ([www.potomacschool.org](http://www.potomacschool.org)) for a complete schedule of events. Please call the Alumni Office (800) 725-8664 or email [Alumni@potomacschool.org](mailto:Alumni@potomacschool.org) if you would like to help.

- Schedule of Events:**
- Friday, Oct., 26, 2001**
- Cocktail reception on campus in the Engelhard Performing Arts Center
  - Homecoming Bonfire
- Saturday, Oct., 27, 2001**
- Homecoming events, all day  
12:00 p.m.  
*Reunion lunch on the Tundra with brief remarks from Head of School, Geoff Jones*  
7:00 p.m.  
*Class dinners, locations to be determined*

### Reunion Classes:

1931, 1936, 1941, 1946, 1951, 1956, 1961, 1966, 1971, 1976, 1981, 1986, 1991, 1996



"Shocked!" by David Dy Tang '08



"Happy" by Sarah Moses '08



"Owl" by Mary Jennings Van Sant '09

### *About our Student Art:*

Above: The Middle School walls were pulsing with emotion this spring, as the fifth graders displayed their most recent project, a collaborative effort between the art and language arts teachers. The results were bold "emotion portraits" with corresponding poems.

Left: Under the direction of Ms. Steel, fourth grade students produced surface design animal cloths. Each child hand-dyed fabric, transferred an original drawing onto the cloth, then embellished either the positive or negative space with feathers, beads, or sewn fabric. The long-term goal of the project is to sew one cloth by each student into a larger wall piece for the school.

Each returned *Term* costs The Potomac School more than \$3 in postage. Please notify the School by mail or e-mail, [alumni@potomacschool.org](mailto:alumni@potomacschool.org) when you relocate. Thank you!



The Potomac School  
P.O. Box 430  
McLean, VA 22101

[www.potomacschool.org](http://www.potomacschool.org)

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
McLean, VA  
Permit No. 30

*A publication for the friends and families of The Potomac School*