

THE POTOMAC TERM

Winter 2004



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THE
POTOMAC TERM
Vol. 43 No. 2

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The Potomac Term is published
twice a year.

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The Potomac School web site:
www.PotomacSchool.org

Deadlines for the next Term:

Alumni News:

May 1, 2004

Other Submissions:

May 15, 2004



The Class of 2004 has 26 lifers, students who have attended The Potomac School continuously since kindergarten. See name listing on page 35.



Middle School students enjoy singing for family and friends at assembly.



Alternative House, an Upper School community service project, were the beneficiaries of the proceeds raised at this year's holiday pie sale.



Lower School students paraded in their Halloween costumes.

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Faculty portraits by Becie Kupersmith, Upper School photography teacher. Teacher profiles article on page 9.



THE POTOMAC SCHOOL

Dear Friends,

As we emerge from another busy holiday season – one of snowstorms, magnificent holiday music assemblies, reunions with alumni and family, and much-deserved breaks in routine – we gear up for a new semester, new season... and School centennial. What better time to take a moment to appreciate our warm, inspiring, and supportive community.

Potomac School is a unique educational experience, developed over ninety-nine years as a learning community. In demonstrating all manner of achievement, leadership, innovation, and civic impact, you yourselves are walking testament to its success. As we begin looking toward a new century of Potomac scholars, I have enjoyed talking with many of you about what it is that makes Potomac so special in your eyes.

Academic excellence is clearly the core of our identity and mission. Ours is a robust definition of academic excellence: one premised on developing both the mind and character, on mastering both the letter and spirit of learning.

Our teachers inspire a contagious enthusiasm for the specific disciplines many of our alumni go on to pursue in college and beyond. They also help students develop a broader skill set on which to continually draw in facing and seizing life's challenges and opportunities. Chief among these skills is the critical and creative thinking that comes from honing ideas amidst varied and competing perspectives. Thus, as the world we experience grows in some ways smaller and in other ways more complex, our emphasis on diversity – of viewpoints, backgrounds, and experiences among teachers, parents and fellow classmates – and on lifelong learning continues to be key in offering our students the most intellectually rigorous environment possible.

Along these complimentary themes of diversity, lifelong learning, and excellence, Potomac has exciting developments to highlight. They are but a few of the ways in which we continue to introduce different viewpoints and experiences into our growing knowledge and insights that will be the foundation for the decisions we make and the paths we follow all of our lives.

A number of our faculty members have taken advantage recently of continued professional enrichment opportunities with summer research, training, curriculum enhancement and other in-depth work in their fields. Last year, for example, Shefali Sardar worked with researchers and curators at the Smithsonian to explore the intricacies of early West African civilization in order to enhance her curriculum with primary source materials. Ethics teacher Bill Cook spent time in the Middle East, exploring the foundations of modern ethics. History teacher Eric Waples spent time out west in the Four Corners area studying the Anastasi, and chemistry teacher Tony Ekatomatis partnered with researchers at NIH in analyzing gene function in the mammalian nervous system. Most recently, science teacher Christine Hunt has begun her year as one of three area teachers-in-residence at the Smithsonian's newly opened Udvar Hazy Center.

While these examples of professional exploration and renewal enhance the classroom experience, they accomplish something else as well. Our teachers provide students with first-hand examples of the vibrancy of a lifetime of learning and evidence of its personal and communal benefits. These wonderful examples do not end at the 3:15 bell. Athletics at Potomac have long served as bedrock to our students' program of character, leadership and community development. Cas Blanchard and Rob Lee have worked with our coaches to provide leadership that highlights the combination of substance and personal example Potomac values so highly.

Efforts such as these, by our teachers, coaches and countless others, create a place where learning is stimulating, where chances are taken, and where meaningful networks of people develop. It is here that character and community, diversity and continual learning meet critical thinking as part of the dynamic tradition that distinguishes The Potomac School's unique brand of academic excellence.

We continue to ensure this tradition of excellence with new educational initiatives and a vision to provide our teachers and students with the resources and facilities they need to maintain our high-caliber academic program. Potomac's long-term Master Plan focuses on a cohesive K – 12 education, provides a substantially improved Lower School facility, upgrades and expands the Upper School, and adds much needed athletic spaces, while better utilizing and enhancing the beauty of our incredible campus.

It is an exciting time here at Potomac. I wish all of you continued success and happiness and look forward to hearing from you and working together as opportunities arise.

Sincerely,

Geoffrey Jones, Head of School

SPOTLIGHTS

in the classroom



Technology in the Classroom

The Internet provides easy access to in-depth information and primary source journals for all students to use, including those in Lower School. Each third grader is researching a member of Lewis and Clark's team to find specific information about that member's role, including why they were selected and what they contributed. The students are also learning about important events that occurred during the expedition and will use software to build a timeline showing the chronology. Some students are creating a newspaper on the computer with articles describing events from before, during, and after the expedition. In all cases the internet has helped these students cultivate their research skills by offering a wealth of information, images, and maps appropriate to their grade level.

Book Club Readings

A variety of books by author Beverly Cleary were studied in Ms. McCarthy's third grade classroom this fall. The students formed six "Book Clubs," each selecting a Cleary book based on their interests. With the guidance and organizational wizardry of their teacher, they read their selections and then focused on passages that they found descriptive, amusing or personally meaningful. The class looked for words that fit the week's spelling pattern, as well as discovered new and unusual words to learn. Each group also designed book covers, and each student worked independently to describe their favorite characters with adjectives. In addition to finding enjoyment and value in reading and discussing books with classmates, the Book Club experience reinforced the importance of organization and being prepared for group meetings. Ms. McCarthy's reading/language arts unit was shared at a Friday assembly, and the third graders' bubbly enthusiasm and knowledge made many in the audience eager to visit the library and become part of a Book Club.

Author Visit

David Macaulay, Caldecott-winning author and illustrator of over 15 books including *Cathedral* and *The Way Things Work*, spent a November morning explaining the creation of his new book, *Mosque*, to a rapt audience of sixth graders. After the attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, Macaulay decided to revive an abandoned companion piece to his architecture books of the seventies. This project, an examination of the construction of a fictional Turkish mosque, was intended as a way to appreciate the similarities between people. Macaulay used slides of original sketches, miniature models, and photographs to trace the evolution of this latest work. In the course of an hour-long journey to 16th century Istanbul, students learned a variety of facts, including: the tradition of the kibia, the imaginary line used to orient all mosques towards the holy city of Mecca, and the architectural challenges of building a dome. After his presentation Macaulay answered questions and signed books for the lucky sixth graders.



Lower School students pose with self-portraits they created.

SPOTLIGHTS

in the classroom



Environmental Education

In the last two years, you may have seen fourth graders with nets and buckets capturing arthropods in the Lower Pond or walking blindfolded in the woods to promote team building or even hugging trees to develop a stronger bond with nature. In addition to the two scheduled science classes, the fourth grade now meets one full hour each week to utilize the expansive outdoor spaces on campus and engage in environmental education activities led by science teacher Greg Mueller. Last year one major project was creating a terraced butterfly garden along the side of the Performing Arts Center in memory of Potomac student Erika Smith. This year the fourth graders planted shrubs and trees along the stream connecting the two ponds on the nature trail, and most recently they have designed and planted a rain garden adjacent to the MS blacktop. Through these projects students are learning about natural buffer zones and how planting certain species can help clean rainwater run-off. The projects are student based, from selection of plants to planting, with the assistance of Peter Munroe, Potomac's steward of the Winsor Grant.



The Class Play Tradition

Each year twelve new productions grace the Dimick. Some are classic plays such as *Midsummer Night's Dream*, some recent Potomac favorites such as *Flat Stanley*, some adaptations of favorite books such as *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, some adaptations of movies such as *The Princess Bride*. Occasionally a teacher decides to add to the Potomac repertoire by writing an original play. This year's Middle School season began with the world premiere of *Cast of Characters* written by sixth grade teacher, Rob Bloom. Rob's play was the story of a play within a play, a final, improvisational performance at a decrepit theater by an equally decrepit troupe of actors. The farce, set in Medieval Europe and described by the author as "Monty Python meets Douglas Adams," included interpretive dance, six, (or is it three?) invaders from the North wielding rubber chickens, and other "magnitudinous" events. Rob began the play as a summer grant because he found the process of adapting admired works onerous and unsatisfying. "I wrote the play because in the past the cast had fun, but the audience was clueless." The offbeat title is typical of his work. "It was late in the process. I'm thinking... thinking... thinking... 1a.m... 2a.m... and I looked again at the first words on the script: "*Cast of Characters*," and I thought, that works for me." And it worked for the audience, as *Cast of Characters* was a huge hit.



Student Council

Beginning this fall, students in the Intermediate School have a new opportunity to be leaders in their community. Thanks in large part to the vision and determination of Dr. Kabahita, the I.S. now benefits from the insight and energy of sixteen recently elected seventh and eighth grade homeroom representatives. The representatives had to run for office within their homerooms, a process that included each nominee delivering a speech to her peers about her qualifications for the office. Council members meet weekly with their faculty sponsors, Dr. Kabahita, Ms. Herzlinger, Mr. Peery, and Ms. Fogt.

So far, the group's Wednesday meetings have been very productive. In October, the Student Council successfully lobbied Mr. Sheerin for a five-minute extension of the short (previously only five minutes-long) Thursday morning break period. In November, the Student Council planned the first I.S. dance of the year. The group also coordinated a successful Thanksgiving food drive, in which each homeroom assembled two boxes full of ingredients to make a complete Thanksgiving meal for a less fortunate family in Northern Virginia.

SPOTLIGHTS

in the classroom



Vision Statement

Students, teachers, and parents have always known the Intermediate School to be a tight-knit community. This year, the new I.S. Vision Statement makes that shared sentiment official. The three-sentence statement was written by the I.S. faculty last year, in an attempt to verbalize teachers' expectations of their students and of themselves as members of the I.S. community. In fact, the word *community* is so important as to merit three mentions in the fifty-word declaration.

"Our Intermediate School is a community in which students are valued as individuals, challenged academically and physically, and nurtured emotionally. We are a community of learners that expects diligence and encourages intellectual inquiry. We are also a community that values caring, respect, and responsibility for self and others." The Vision Statement is printed inside the I.S. Student Handbook and on the back cover of the 2003-2004 I.S. student planner. It also hangs on the wall in every I.S. classroom, so students and teachers are reminded often of the ideals they strive towards in their daily work in the I.S. Students also examined the statement in their advisory groups this fall. They discussed the ideas contained in the document and then created bulletin boards reflecting what community means in their homeroom. As a result, the homerooms are more colorful than ever!

Middle School students enjoy the messy process of creating plaster of paris creatures in art class.



Goings-On in Art Class

Eighth graders looked to their names for artistic inspiration this November. Students transformed doodles of images and their names into large-scale paintings, drawings, and prints. Some students took it upon themselves to create new names to represent themselves, crafting "tags" that were written through alterations of letters. Patrick Collins painted his tag, CYREN, a Greek word that he felt represented his personality. He then sketched several ways of writing his identifying title and experimented with a color scheme. Another student, Molly McGowan, wrote her name two ways and laid them over each other in order to create an almost indecipherable abstract image. Some students chose to paint on canvas, create group images, alter their doodles through Photoshop, or carve their letter images into plaster.

- Anna Herzlinger



Hot Air Balloons

In the past few years, Mr. Peery's and Mrs. Hunt's Eighth Grade Physical Science students have studied the concept of buoyancy and gas pressure from textbook readings and articles on the internet. This year, the teachers developed a project and group-based method to learn about the same concepts. The students were involved in a three-week project in which they manufactured hot-air balloons based on their own designs, which had to lift a minimum amount of weight. The teachers purchased a wireless mini-spy camera that the students' balloons were designed to lift, and thus one goal of the project was to take aerial photographs of the campus. An important aspect of the project was that each group of students had to determine the lift capacities by volume and buoyancy calculations for the balloon they wished to design. If the calculations did not support their design, then back to the drawing board they went. Since it was a hot-air balloon, their design also had to account for a source and weight of a fuel for the hot air. It often took several attempts at the design before the students created balloons of sufficient volume to lift the weight of their systems. The students and teachers all learned that the best laid plans don't necessarily flourish. In this case, windy conditions for days on end made it impossible to safely fill the balloon canopies outdoors, much less attempt to lift baskets of burning fuel. However, the project was successful because it made the students feel more confident in their understanding of the concepts, which they illustrated in their final poster presentations summarizing the results and conclusions of their work. Final grades for the project were based on a scoring rubric that the students designed.

- Bill Peery

SPOTLIGHTS *in the classroom*



US Speaker Series Tradition Continues

The Partners for Peace, "Jerusalem Women Speak" tour stopped at Potomac for an Upper School assembly in October. Three women from Jerusalem with different backgrounds and religions spoke to the students about life in and around Jerusalem and their wishes for peace in their homeland. By sharing their life experiences the women hope to change misconceptions about Israel and Palestine as well as bring a human face to the very political issues.

Gessner Geyer, president of Brainergy, Inc. and nationally recognized cerebral fitness trainer, led a wonderful fall assembly on human brain function. He told students that they were responsible for shaping their brain through their behavior and the environments they choose. He emphasized the importance of keeping the brain engaged and challenged, physical exercise, and stress responses. (See photo below.)



US Fall Play - *The Sea Gull*

Potomac's theatre season opened this year with Anton Chekhov's drama, *The Sea Gull*. Chekhov, one of the most influential playwrights of the 20th Century, crafted plays for a new artistic world that was reeling from the acting innovations of the Moscow Arts Theatre and its director, Constantin Stanislavsky. The Stanislavsky "Method", where unspoken thoughts and internal struggles were at the heart of a character, was the hallmark of the turn-of-the-century Russian stage. This play examines the obsessions, disappointments, and dreams of family and friends as they navigate each other's egos during a summer at a country estate. Director Michael Bergman, aided by senior Britney Cuffee and guest alumni director Luke Parker '03, worked with a cast of 13 bold, talented actors to bring the complex subtlety of Chekhov's world to the Engelhard Performing Arts Center.

- Michael Bergman



The US Jazz Band

The US Jazz Band performed at the new Udvar-Hazy Air and Space Museum expansion in Dulles during the grand opening day on Monday, December, 15th. The band played selections from their fall concert repertoire plus a few holiday pieces. In their concert attire, the band looked and sounded wonderful.

School-Wide Community Service Project- Mini-Walk for the Homeless

On November 7th the entire school participated in a Mini-Walk for the Homeless to raise money for a charity that supports the homeless. Upper School students helped organize the entire student body to turn in registration forms. Potomac registered more than 550 walkers which qualified the school for a \$25,000 grant from the Fannie Mae Foundation, which went to Carpenter's Shelter in Alexandria. All Potomac students and faculty were able to participate in the walk and everybody received a Help the Homeless T-shirt. (See photo below.)



LOWER SCHOOL WELCOMES DONNA LEWIS

By Darcy M. Swope, Lower School Art teacher

Whether it is a universal trait of human nature or a more narrow, American phenomenon, change can be difficult and is often perceived as a threat or cause of stress. Change is inevitable in our lives, including the lives of our children, and oftentimes we are ill-prepared to accept it, much less embrace it. Change is tied to one of the characteristics that makes us all members of the human race: Fear of the unknown.

In June 2003, Potomac's Lower School students, parents and teachers were faced with change when they bid farewell to several teachers and their beloved Head of seventeen years, Camille Passarella. Come August, with Donna Lewis on board as the newly appointed Head, fear and worry quickly changed to excitement and joy. The new classroom teachers also arrived with contagious enthusiasm and a love for our school. Maybe "change" does not have to be equated with stress and loss after all! What a lesson for all of us, at any age.

Mrs. Lewis came to our school with thirty-one years of varied, rich experiences in the Fairfax County Public School system. Once a classroom teacher as well as a teacher in the gifted and talented program, most recently she spent sixteen years in administrative roles. An engaging and confident woman, Donna's positive outlook on every topic is infectious. She describes her

attitude modestly and graciously, saying "Every day the sun is shining, even when it's not." A fan of working collaboratively and a master at seeing the "big picture" and communicating her thoughts, it feels as though Donna has been a member of the Potomac family for a long time.

Donna Lewis and Cammy Passarella share distinctive and precious qualities: a focus on the whole child, a passion for learning and education, an ability to lead both children and adults toward positive, healthy growth and understanding, and a warm, welcoming manner. They are masters at building community, making time to truly listen to children, parents and faculty, offering thoughtful ideas or sage advice in a caring and gentle way when warranted. They are models of the character traits we strive to instill in our students.

While we miss the sing-song response of "Good morning, Mrs. Pass-a-rell-a" at Friday assemblies, the children have made "Mrs. Lew-is" lilting and warm, too. We are also fortunate to see Mrs. Passarella from time to time in her new capacity as Assistant to the Headmaster.

Potomac's Lower School remains strong in character, academics, technology, science, the arts, physical education and longtime Potomac



traditions.

Kindergarten classes still entertain us with their Halloween Parade, and Friday morning assemblies with Mrs. Smith and Mrs. Wilson remain highlights of every week. With resounding gratitude to Cammy Passarella, Donna Lewis and our entire Lower School faculty (past and present), a priceless lesson has been learned: one can survive change, and sometimes change can even be good. In the end, the most important things like the comfort, good will, generosity of spirit and community of our Lower School have not only remained intact but have strengthened and deepened. ■

NEW LEADERS CONTINUE TO GUIDE POTOMAC'S MISSION

Potomac welcomed three new board members to the Board of Trustees this fall.



In addition to being a Potomac parent, **Barbara Overstreet** is president of Alaska Native Arts Foundation, project manager for The Bernstein Companies, and on the Board of Trustees at St. Timothy's School in Stevenson, MD. She lives with her husband John Overstreet and their two children Jack '10 and Ellen '11 in McLean.



McLean attorney **Sam Chappell** and his wife Nancy have four children attending Potomac: Lele '07, Lissie '09, Mariah '12 and Lena '14. Sam has been an active volunteer parent as president of the Father's Association and serving on the Parent Annual Giving Committee for many years.



Gene Upshaw and his wife Terri are parents of Justin '05 and Daniel '09. Gene is a former AFL/NFL football player and helped lead the Raiders to two Super Bowl titles in 1976 and 1980. He is currently the executive director of the NFL Players Association.

Trustee Nominations Wanted..

Once again, the Board of Trustees needs your help in identifying new members for the Board. As a reminder, the Board's primary task is to ensure that the school is positioned to accomplish its mission for the next generation of students*. Prior board experience, particularly non-profit, is valuable for the proposed candidates as well as a willingness to participate in the school's development activities.

One need not be a Potomac parent to be considered. If you know of someone who you believe should be considered for the Board (including yourself), please submit his or her name, along with information on background and current activities, and the reasons for your recommendation, to:

Ivy Broder, Dean of Academic Affairs, American University, Leonard Hall, Lower Level, 4400 Massachusetts Ave, NW, Washington DC 20016

*More information about The Board of Trustees is available in the Handbook for Parents and Students

UPPER SCHOOL STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN NATIONAL JOURNALISM CONFERENCE

By Regina Lee '04 and Meredith Hassett '06

About 5,000 journalism students and teachers from across the country packed into the shrinking ballroom. The excited murmur subsided as a smiling man stepped up to the podium. Keynote speaker, Bob Shieffer, an anchor of CBS News' Face-the-Nation, began to narrate his firsthand investigative reporting accounts during the JFK assassination and in Vietnam.

Eleven students from the Upper School's student newspaper staff and their faculty advisor Cindy Swope attended the JEA/NSPA National High School Journalism Convention held this year in Washington D.C. Students attended various interviewing, writing, and lay-out classes, exchanged ideas with journalism students from other schools, and listened to speakers such as PBS' nightly news anchor Ray Suarez describe the twists and turns of their journalism careers, and give advice to students eager to follow similar paths.

One of the Potomac students' favorite sessions focused on "Investigative Reporting Post-Watergate" and was led by Sari Horwitz. Horwitz is a staff writer for the Washington Post and a member of two Pulitzer Prize-winning

investigative reporting teams. In the session, she described her early journalism career working on a police beat, where she investigated a Washington foster care system cover-up of the deaths of at least eight innocent children.

While investigating this story, Horwitz traveled to a rough part of the city to get an important interview. Although she gained major insights for her story, she ran into big trouble when she left the scene of the interview. Upon returning to her car, a group of young men held a gun to her window to intimidate her and then smashed the glass. Fortunately, she made it out unharmed with her story.

Hearing such stories of real journalists following their leads demonstrated to Potomac students how interesting, exciting, and even dangerous the life of a reporter truly is, and what a career in journalism might mean for them in the future.

Although Bob Schieffer and Sari Horwitz addressed reporting on a national level, New York Times' staffer Robert Greenman's session, "Take it From the Times" related directly to high school newspapers. Greenman proposed that school

newspapers should use the New York Times as their textbooks for journalism. He explained that the Times provides story ideas, background material, and writing styles. Greenman showed students that seemingly huge stories could be localized to make a great story for their own papers.

Other students attended a computer design course focusing on the tips and tricks of using PageMaker and Photoshop, a layout and a photo-editing program that has become critical for producing high school newspapers.

Editors participated in the 'Swap Shop,' a session to allow students from various schools to critique each other's newspapers. Students gleaned additional story ideas and gained a greater understanding of high school journalism across the country looking at the spectrum of newspapers. Potomac students were proud of their paper, *The Current*, especially since it is produced entirely as an extracurricular activity, whereas the majority of other student newspapers are produced through



journalism classes for which the students earn grades.

The conference was a breath of fresh air for Potomac journalists. It allowed them to see what kinds of high school newspapers are out there and the kinds of controversial and complex stories other writers are undertaking. The conference also sparked a host of ideas that will help to make *The Current* a better, more comprehensive newspaper. ■

FOUR DECADES OF SERVICE: JOE MOORE

by Perry Swope



This fall we payed honor and bid a fond farewell to a Potomac fixture. I am speaking of Joe Moore who announced his retirement this fall. Not all of you will necessarily have known this gentleman, but he has been a presence on campus for what seems like forever. I'd like to tell you exactly how long Joe Moore has been here, but no one's been around long enough to really know...though by our guess it's over 40 years...suffice it to say that, by my count he has been through: 10 headmasters, 5 business managers, 6 transportation directors, well over a dozen division heads and eight American presidents in his tenure here. In that time he has served many functions at Potomac but is best known as a school bus driver and general goodwill ambassador for the school. Joe has touched literally hundreds of school bus riding

families over two full generations. He has become a core thread in the tapestry that is this school family. His good nature, old world character, humor, kindness, and yes, even his cantankerousness have graced us all. We have had the benefit of his having loved Potomac and all that it is and all that we are for over 4 decades. He leaves behind countless good memories and many devoted friends. Joe has returned to Tappahanock, Virginia in the Tidewater region to be with family and enjoy a slower pace. We miss him greatly and wish him well. Please join me in saying au revoir to a Potomac legend.

READING... YOUR PASSPORT TO ADVENTURE BOOK FAIR 2004



ALUMNI & SPECIAL FRIENDS NIGHT

Tuesday, March 16 6:00-8:30pm

Visiting Author: George Will, Pulitzer Prize-winning author, columnist and television commentator will speak on "Baseball, In the Nick of Time."

DIVERSITY AT POTOMAC – WEAVING THE THREADS

by Carol Fontein, Parent Diversity Committee

On the eve of our centennial year, Potomac has much to celebrate — a century of academic excellence, character building, growth, and a commitment to community. In keeping with this tradition, Potomac in recent years amended its mission statement to acknowledge that our children's education, indeed our education, is enriched by an inclusive community that embraces diversity of every kind. When we opened in 1904, few could have foreseen the variety of races, religions, sexual orientation, and income levels now represented at Potomac. While we can and should be very proud of our record with regard to diversity, it is important not to become too complacent and mistakenly think the numbers indicate our diversity work is done. The numbers are neither the whole story nor the most important story.

Now in its third full year, the Parents Diversity Committee is working with the administration, faculty, staff, parents and students, to look beyond the numbers and define more clearly what diversity — inclusiveness — really means for our community. The Committee already has a number of accomplishments that, though small, represent positive strides. We've helped identify Potomac parents and others to speak at Intermediate and Middle School assemblies on character building and diversity issues; we've helped the Admissions Office develop a plan to improve outreach to Latino families; we've developed a calendar of religious and cultural holidays and associated dietary and homework impacts for use by each division; we've worked with the Athletic Department to facilitate space for US students who need a place to stay between morning and afternoon practices during pre-season and we've created a parent resources guide for the division heads (list of parents who have offered to share their cultural heritage with classrooms.) Perhaps more important than these accomplishments, are the insights we have gained that will help us in clarifying our definition of diversity. One of the most significant lessons we've learned to date is that diversity is in the details. If our school, our community, indeed our lives were a patchwork quilt, we would want diversity to be not a single patch, but the thread that is inextricably interwoven through, in, and around each and every square. Inclusiveness is in the everyday interactions we have with each other, that our children have with each other, and in the day-to-day bits and pieces.

Potomac is of course a microcosm of our overall society. The issues we face at Potomac are not unique to Potomac and are no more Potomac's problem than society's problem. At Potomac for example, as in the world at large, we sometimes

make assumptions about each other. Students are sometimes assumed to be on scholarship; parents are sometimes assumed to be grandparents; parents are sometimes assumed to be service workers or support staff; we sometimes assume what topics students will be more knowledgeable about, etc. But assumptions based on skin color or someone's last name or cost of the car we drive are hurtful, divisive, and make inclusiveness that much harder to achieve. These assumptions are not born at Potomac. We all come to

Potomac with a

another example, whereas *welcoming* schools project a "positive image" about people of color or minority religions, etc. but still present it as 'us' studying about 'them', *transforming* schools "challenge racism and other isms—when looking at the experiences of [minorities] that have been historically marginalized". A last example: at *welcoming* schools, recruitment efforts are aimed at increasing the number of minority students at the school, but at *transforming* schools, recruitment efforts are aimed at families of all colors and cultures who are fully committed to diversity.



Potomac students enjoy the diverse array of goods at the Fall Frolics International Bazaar sponsored by the Parent Diversity Committee.

predisposition for making assumptions about people. But if inclusiveness starts with accepting each other without assumptions and judgments, it makes sense for us to try to teach each other and our children to see people as who they really are rather than through the lens of stereotype. One of the ways we try to do this at Potomac is to focus on inclusiveness in every thread of our curriculum. Our committee has been looking closely at one school which has made great progress in this area - the Nashoba Brooks School in Concord, Mass. The diversity coordinator there has identified characteristics of what she calls *welcoming* schools on the one hand and *transforming* schools on the other*. For example, in *welcoming* schools "multiculturalism is an additive to the curriculum—such as Black History month in February or only when 'time is available' or when there is a student in the class that represents diversity (a Jewish student, a Chinese-American student)". In *transforming* schools on the other hand, "multiculturalism is an integral part of the curriculum (i.e. in U.S. History class, there is a study of the experience of African-Americans throughout history of the U.S. or discussions of dominant culture vs. 'other cultures')." We have made significant progress in doing this at Potomac, but we can do more. In

Molding Potomac into a *transforming* school is a challenging undertaking, but one that holds great benefits for all our children. The road will be often difficult but worth taking. Diversity is, in fact, as much the journey as the destination. And while we may never be totally free of prejudice, as individuals or as an institution, every step we take toward the goal is important. The good news, from the Parents Diversity Committee's perspective, is that we believe we can get there. We have successfully addressed several inequities and are working on others. We continue to reach out to the community to enlist families for whom diversity is not just acceptable, but

necessary. We have solid leadership on the faculty and in the administration that is strongly committed to diversity, and we are fortunate that this leadership begins at the top. With his broad and deep vision, Geoff Jones is fully engaged in moving us forward on these fronts. Our Board of Trustees has recently reestablished a committee on diversity, and our own committee has enlisted a committed group of parents working on several fronts with each division. The PDC is committed to working closely with the Faculty/Staff Diversity Committee, the Board of Trustees Diversity Committee, Geoff Jones and others in the administration, faculty and greater Potomac community to continue our progress on diversity as we move into our second century. We are hopeful that with a greater understanding of the challenges that still lie ahead all of our parents will renew their commitment to helping to weave the threads of inclusiveness at home and at Potomac. ■

* from Lisa Sun, Diversity Coordinator, Nashoba Brooks School, Concord, Mass. Paper delivered at NAIS People of Color Conference 2002, Chicago, IL.

FACULTY PROFILES

“A teacher affects eternity; he can never tell where his influence stops.”

- Henry Adams

Profiles written by Darcy Swope, LS; Brian Parry, MS; Lis Fogt, IS; and Bob Riley, US.

Mother and Daughter: LINDA SMITH, Lower School Music and KRISTIN SMITH '94, First Grade

POTOMAC'S LOWER SCHOOL is fortunate to have two outstanding teachers on its faculty who, amongst many notable attributes, are also mother and daughter. Linda Smith teaches music to grades one through three and is the Chair of the Music Department; she has been at Potomac for eighteen years. She was joined this fall by her daughter Kristin Smith '94, a first grade classroom teacher.

Kristin graduated from Potomac in 1994. While at Potomac she volunteered her time as a lower school aide and also worked with young children in Summer Programs. She pursued her innate love for teaching by earning a B.S. in Education from Baylor University, followed by an M.S. in 2000 from UVA. During that time, Kristin spent a year at Potomac as an intern, and was an instant asset to the faculty. Warm and caring, Kristin brought commitment and dedication to children in the Lower School, as well as sharing these qualities generously with adults.

After her internship, Kristin was hired at St. Patrick's Episcopal Day School, where she taught first grade for three years. The memory of Potomac, as an alum and intern, drew Kristin back this fall. "I had the privilege of working with so many wonderful people as an intern in the Lower School, that after having an experience at a

different school I wanted to rejoin the faculty here," said Miss Smith. When asked what she liked about teaching, Kristin replied, "I love having the opportunity to work with children and be a part of their learning and growing processes. There is nothing like watching children grasp a new concept or become readers when they had not been before. I am never doing the same thing the same exact way in the classroom. It is a daily adventure of sharing, respect and building community."



Kristin pays tribute to her mother, grandmother, and aunt for supporting and deepening her passion for teaching, as they were career teachers who had a great influence on her development. She could not have had a better example of a superior career teacher than her own mother.

"I have wanted to be a music teacher since I was in sixth grade," says Linda Smith. "I had a wonderful and inspiring music teacher from fourth through seventh grade, and I wanted to be like her. She gave me opportunities to sing solos and made me believe that I had something to offer and contribute." Mrs. Smith now has twenty-seven years of experience since earning a degree in Music Education from Longwood College. Like her daughter, she brings to Potomac a deep sense of commitment and dedication, both to music and to the school itself. A pillar of hope, caring and respect, there is no denying that Linda Smith is a core member of not only the Lower School faculty,

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FROM ITS FOUNDING in 1904, Potomac continues its rich history of excellence in teaching. Teachers are the backbone of any great school and the passion for teaching and learning that our teachers possess is what makes Potomac such a special place. Potomac teachers are blessed with good facilities and resources but it is the community of students, colleagues and parents that keep them here year after year. Since it is not possible to feature the entire faculty, we chose a small sampling of teachers, some new to Potomac and some who have been here through many seasons of change. We hope you enjoy learning more about these teachers as much as we did. ■

Above: Linda Smith believes in teaching children that music can make the world a happier place.

Left: Kristin Smith '94 loves engaging her students in new ways.



but the Potomac community. "Potomac is a very special place," she says, "I have found that music and all the arts are valued, appreciated and encouraged here. Both of my daughters graduated from Potomac and were wonderfully prepared for college. I respect their teachers and value my colleagues. What pride I feel in both of my daughters, and what a pleasure it is to have Kristin as a colleague now!"

Aside from her full-time responsibilities at our school, Mrs. Smith also finds time and energy to immerse herself in music service outside of Potomac. She served as the choral director and soloist for the Vienna Light Opera Company from 1976-2000. In addition to directing children's choirs for various churches for as long as she can remember, she continues to sing in an adult choir at her church, and has directed the same from time to time. When asked why she enjoys teaching, Mrs. Smith's response echoes her daughter's answer. "There has never been a day that I have not loved my job or dreaded coming to work, and there has never been a day that is exactly like the one before - "boring" is not a word that I associate with teaching! I love teaching because I love music and children. I believe that music can make the world a happier place." What Linda and Kristin Smith need to know is that Potomac School and its children, faculty and staff are all happier because of their presence, positive spirit and superlative gifts as unparalleled, superior teachers.



ANGELA BULLOCK, fourth grade

TWENTY-SEVEN YEARS AGO, Angela Bullock stepped onto the Potomac campus for the first time. Since that very first day Angela has seen one constant—"a common thread that was true when I first came and is still true today. Potomac is a special place, where children are supported and can grow at their own pace and in their own individual way." Born in the Czech Republic but raised and educated in England, Angela chose

teaching as a profession so she could work with children and teach them to read. After receiving her teaching certificate at the University of Manchester, she accepted her first teaching position working with first graders in London. She soon realized an added bonus to the profession; it would allow her to pursue another great interest, travel. After meeting her husband in Paris, Angela taught in Belgium and Tanzania before arriving in the United States in 1976. A friend teaching kindergarten, Sally Boylen (Potomac teacher from 1972-1976), encouraged her to apply to Potomac, and she accepted a position teaching third grade for what she expected to be three years.

After 27 years, the addition of a high school, the construction of an arts center, and two Presidents named George Bush, Angela is still at Potomac following her heart's desire. After teaching all

“...they are excited about discovery, eager to learn, and, for the most part, they still love their teacher.”

grades from K to 6 in her early years, Angela soon settled into her school home for the last 15 years, a cozy fourth grade classroom overlooking the Middle School recess area. Not surprisingly, the fourth graders quickly became her favorite. "I particularly like fourth graders because they are old enough to work independently. They have the basic skills in place, so they are able to work more creatively, but they are still at the age where they are excited about discovery, eager to learn, and, for the most part, they still love their teacher."

Though Angela settled down in McLean, past and present students are well aware of her long-standing interest in geography, world history, and current events. She has long filled the role of unofficial geography guru for the Middle School, conducting the yearly National Geographic Geography Bee and running geography clubs at lunchtime.

And when it finally comes time to retire from Potomac, she still entertains the idea of another stint teaching abroad, perhaps even in the Middle East, though not until a more peaceful time. One of her favorite books recently deals with this area. "I would recommend *Desert Queen* by Janet Wallach about the extraordinary life of Gertrude Bell, a Victorian woman who played a major part in creating the modern Middle East. The book provides a framework for a deeper understanding of the history of Iraq and an explanation of the current situation."

For younger readers she would recommend *Because of Winn-Dixie* by Kate DiCamillo, "an

enchanted story about a girl, a dog, and the South," all topics important to Angela. An avowed warm weather worshipper and Florida convert, she loves to take her golden retriever for walks in her free time, and she has always been a devoted mother to her daughter, Potomac graduate, Alexandra '96. "I have spent 27 years teaching at Potomac, and I have loved every minute. It has been a pleasure to work with bright and motivated students who are so eager to learn and also with wonderful professional and creative colleagues."



JILL BALLOTTA, fifth grade

WHILE NEW FIFTH grade teacher Jill Ballotta has been teaching only four years, she has already had a remarkably wide range of teaching experiences. Jill began her career as a corps member for Teach for America, the fifteen year-old program that places recent college graduates in low-income communities for a two-year stint. Her placement was as a third grade ESL teacher at San Antonio Elementary in San Jose, California, a predominantly Latino school with a mix of other first-generation Americans from countries such as Vietnam and the Philippines. While not always the case at Teach for America projects, she and her corps members were welcomed by a supportive faculty.

Still the experience was not without its shocks. Many of her third grade students did not know the alphabet at the beginning of the year, yet they all left reading at grade level or beyond. On one occasion she was forced to hold family meetings on how to keep third graders from being recruited into gangs. Despite the obvious differences between San Antonio and Potomac, there were similarities. "(San Antonio Elementary) had a strong sense of unity, and Potomac does as well. I saw that schools with all different communities and serving all different kids can be strong." The experience with Teach for America prepared Jill well, instilling in her a great respect for strong collaboration, and "trained (her) to expect that all kids learn in a different way, but they all can reach their highest potential regardless of their differences."

“The pride that everybody feels in the school is super evident. Everyone feels that they are welcome here and they belong. In short, everybody is happy to be here.”

After finishing her two years on the West Coast, Jill was eager to return to Washington, where she had attended college at American University. She soon found a job at a bilingual elementary school in the District, teaching a fourth and fifth grade combination class. Jill enjoyed the special nature of a combination class because it “forces children to live in a diverse community in which you have one child who has been retained and may be thirteen and another who is nine. It forces them to look at their neighbor and say, whoa, we are very different, but we are part of the same learning community.” Unfortunately the collaborative spirit she so valued amongst the faculty and administration was missing, so she began the search for a new position.

Having spent two years working for a service-oriented program, Potomac’s strong community service emphasis attracted Jill’s attention. Jill’s first months at Potomac have gone well. On a practical level, she enjoys the school because many of the obstacles to teaching are removed. “I can arrive in the morning and start teaching until the bell rings at the end of the day, and everybody is ready to learn.” On a different level, she recognizes something more. “The pride that everybody feels in the school is super evident. Everyone feels that they are welcome here and they belong. In short, everybody is happy to be here.”

In her spare time, Jill enjoys needlepoint, running, and reading. After an eye injury while playing field hockey, she began needlepoint as therapy. Her first project, appropriately enough for an elementary teacher, was a glasses’ case that looks like a Crayola box, and for the past year she has been working on a huge American flag. One of her favorite books is *Savage Inequalities* by



Carol Costa gets her students to interact not only in the classroom but also on week-long excursions to Spain during Spring Break.

Jonathan Kozol, a book that helped inspire her to become a teacher. Recently she has enjoyed reading *Middlesex* by Jeffrey Eugenides, a modern Greek epic that follows the story of a single hermaphrodite gene through several generations of a Greek American family. In closing, she writes that her “favorite part of teaching is that every moment with my students is unique. There is a constant challenge in facing the unanticipated and celebrating the different learning styles and personalities in my classroom.”

CAROL COSTA, Spanish

CAROL COSTA KNOWS Potomac, and Potomac knows her. “I feel like I can be myself at this school—inside the classroom and outside of the classroom,” says the seventh and eighth grade Spanish teacher, who is in her eighteenth year of teaching at Potomac. When Costa came to Potomac, the Upper School building was under construction, the Intermediate School wing was half as wide as it is now, and **some** students took no foreign language at all. French and Latin were more popular choices for students then. Now, she and the other members of the department are proud of the strong Spanish program that has developed over the years.

Asked about her start in the field, Costa replies, “There wasn’t one moment when I knew I was meant to teach. When I grew up, choices for women were limited; teaching was a common option.” It didn’t take long for Costa to realize that teaching was right for her. She loved her first job at a high school in rural Southern California. Costa taught there for four years. She also taught in Venezuela for three years and spent one year at an all-boys school in Maryland. Potomac has had a lot to do with Costa’s continuing passion for her profession. “It’s a great place to work,” she says. She appreciates the support and freedom Potomac’s administrators bestow on their teachers. “The major thing that keeps me here, though, is the kids, who are just incredible.”

For ten years, Costa has led groups of eighth grade Spanish students on week-long trips to Spain during Spring Break. She loves to see the light that turns on in students’ eyes and brains when they see the places they’ve been learning about in class. “They get to see the things they’ve seen on the videos they watch in class,” she explains. “And also, it’s such a wonderful bonding experience for the kids.”

Not surprisingly, Costa counts travel as one of her hobbies. “We love Europe,” she says. Last

summer, they completed a month-long bicycle tour in the French countryside. “It was a real challenge to get ready for and carry out,” she said, “but it was a fabulous experience, to be so free, without even a car to separate us from the scenery. France is just so beautiful!”

She also likes to cook and to read. Favorite authors include Dominican and Chilean writers, respectively, Julia Alvarez and Isabel Allende. She likes to read Allende in Spanish, demonstrating that crossover between personal and professional interests that signifies a passionate teacher.



BRIAN WILKINSON, Math

BRIAN WILKINSON HAS been teaching for a long time, longer than the ten-plus years that his resume suggests. “When I was growing up, my family had friends who were teachers,” he explained. “I would go in and help them set up their classroom or file papers. I’ve always been interested in teaching.”

If you walk down the Intermediate School hallway before or after school, you can tell that Mr. Wilkinson’s interest is still alive, and it’s contagious. Rarely a free period goes by when students don’t come in to visit or to ask a question. There is often a small group of seventh or eighth graders clustered around his desk, sometimes seeking math help, sometimes just wanting to talk or tell jokes.

“I enjoy the kids so much,” Wilkinson says. “They’re just so much fun to teach. This is a job that never becomes monotonous. Every class, every student is different. It’s impossible to get into a rut; the kids always keep you on your toes.”

Wilkinson came to Potomac in 2002 from Connelly School of the Holy Child in Potomac, MD. He teaches seventh grade math, advises ten seventh graders, and coaches I.S. baseball.

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Besides the students, one of Wilkinson's favorite things about Potomac is the encouragement teachers are given to grow as professionals. He has taken advantage of Potomac's generous provision for faculty and staff professional development by attending conferences on both educational technology and differentiation and by attending Saturday classes at a local community college.

Outside of school, Wilkinson enjoys many personal hobbies. He loves to read and see movies. His taste in both pursuits tends towards the "slightly offbeat." His all-time favorite book is *Slaughterhouse Five* by Kurt Vonnegut. "I think it's the best anti-war book ever written," he says. "His writing is poetry. It leaves you thinking, 'Is this sci-fi or is this guy just insane?'"

His weekly Tae Kwon Do practice keeps him refreshed both physically and mentally. "You forget about everything external and focus on one thing. During that fifty minutes, I don't think about anything else." Wilkinson enjoys the martial art for the exercise it provides and for its benefits as a confidence-builder and stress-reliever.

Wilkinson's first school, in a poor New Hampshire mill town, was very different from Potomac. "That was a real experience. It was very difficult," he recalls. Wilkinson taught science to seventh and eighth graders there for five years. "The school was the opposite of Potomac. Many students failed out; few went on to college."

Though he ended up loving that first school, he is happy to be at Potomac now. "The people at Potomac are fantastic, the campus is beautiful, the facilities are great, and everyone is so supportive—colleagues, administration, parents. The kids are enthusiastic about learning. It's a pretty great place to work."



GAIL NIELDS, History

MOST TEACHERS OF American History lecture their students on the importance of being informed, responsible citizens. What makes Gail Nields remarkable is that after 27 years in the

classroom at Potomac she continues to be passionate about her subject and to practice what she preaches.

Gail earned a B.A. in history from the University of Pennsylvania and an M.A. in history from Bryn Mawr. The proud mother of three talented

“...always interested in what’s going on, and she is never too busy to get involved.”

daughters, all of whom graduated from Potomac (Nerissa '82, Katryna '84, and Abigail '92), Gail said she has loved school since she entered The Brearley School in New York as a child. When she was invited to join the Potomac faculty in 1976, two years after Nerissa and Katryna entered the Lower School "and seemed to love everything about it," she jumped at the chance to share in the Potomac experience. She said she loves teaching because, like parenting, it's about conveying knowledge and values in a nurturing way.

"It's also a wonderful way to keep growing," she said. In 1987, she moved across the tundra to play a major role in shaping the direction of the new Upper School. During her distinguished tenure, Gail has taught courses in comparative government, U.S. History, both regular and A.P., and senior electives in African American History and American social history since World War II. For eleven years, she also served as the varsity girls tennis coach.

Blessed with seemingly boundless energy, Gail was for many years an outstanding tennis player until a recent back injury forced her to give up competitive play. Although the game continues to be a daily source of pleasurable exercise for her, it's clear she misses the excitement of tournament tennis, which, she said, reached its peak for her in 1977 when she and John were ranked number one in the nation in the husband and wife category by the United States Tennis Association.

But Gail continues to live at the top of her game otherwise. She still enjoys hiking in the Adirondacks during the summer and seems proud that she has managed to keep up with John and their three daughters in gaining entry into "The 46 Club," which restricts its membership to hikers who have climbed all 46 mountains in New York state over 4,000 feet in height. Next summer, however, Gail plans to conquer the summit of another mountain by completing a historical novel for young adults entitled *New Birth of Freedom*. Featuring a runaway slave as its protagonist, she said "the novel is intended to be a snapshot of New York

during 1863"— a defining year in American History marked by draft riots, major Civil War battles, the Emancipation Proclamation, and the Gettysburg Address.

Eric Waples, the chairman of Potomac's history department, said that when it comes to social and political issues, "Gail is always interested in what's going on, and she is never too busy to get involved." For seven years, she and her husband John, an attorney, were involved in helping 65 underprivileged students from southeast Washington, D.C. make their dream of going to college a reality.

Called "I Have a Dream," the program required Gail and John to commit part of every Saturday during those years to tutoring a group of "dreamers." However, their commitment didn't end there. They also agreed — together with the other participants — to fund the students' educational expenses once they were admitted to college. Of the 65 students who started out in the program, Gail said "approximately half" enrolled in some form of post-secondary education. But she made sure to point out the program continues. Soon a new group of "dreamers" will begin their quest. "If anyone is interested in getting involved, that would be really terrific," she added. (*The "I Have a Dream" program is administered by Immanuel Presbyterian Church in McLean. The phone number is 703-356-3042.*)



DAWN JEFFERSON, English

ENTHUSIASTIC, CREATIVE, POSITIVE, centered, deeply intelligent — those were the words members of the English Department in the Upper School used to describe Dawn Jefferson, their new colleague. Blessed with a lively wit and a clear sense of who she is and what she believes, Dawn loves the intellectual give-and-take of class discussion and the sense of fulfillment that comes from helping students express what they think and feel. Too often, she says, younger students feel like strangers in a strange land when they are asked to say what they mean about a work of literature. "It's as if they feel they have no right so say anything about it."

To help them begin to overcome their feelings of inadequacy, Dawn has students discuss works of music, which they seem to feel more confident

talking about. If students like a piece, she may ask them why. This can lead to other questions, such as: Is it enough for one to say, "It's good because I like it?" Or should one be expected to show, by some objective standard, why the piece is "good?" If so, how does one do that? What are the criteria, and who has final say? By the end of the first semester, Dawn's students have begun to discover that many of the questions raised during their discussions about music early in the year continue to come up during discussions of literature. "The music opens doors into literature," she said. After several months of working with Ms. Jefferson, her students have begun to discover that trying to interpret literature doesn't seem so foreign or forbidding anymore. Their confidence, like their skill as readers, has begun to grow.

A graduate of the University of Virginia with a B.A. in American Studies and English, and the recent recipient of a Masters degree in Education from Teachers College, Columbia University, Dawn enjoys trying to make connections between things that may, at first glance, appear to have nothing in common. The poet Samuel Taylor Coleridge called that — the ability to "discover unity in variety" — the essence of creativity.

“ It is one thing to be bright or gifted, and is another to exceed the limitations of your own expectations, to push the envelope of your imagination and your ability to analyze. ”

Intrigued by the mysterious power of metaphors, Dawn finds it interesting that writers with different aims can use the same metaphor, yet the impact of their use of that metaphor can differ greatly. To appreciate what she means, she suggests reading *Siddhartha* by Hermann Hesse and *Deep River: and The Negro Spiritual Speaks of Life and Death* by Howard Thurman, preferably back-to-back. She says both employ the metaphor of the river, but Hesse's work is a novel and Thurman's work is non-fiction. How do we respond to each writer's use of the river as metaphor? How can a single metaphor represent so many "journeys" as reader, writer, and sojourner? Dawn says that one of her many goals as a teacher "is to inspire our students to make their own connections between valid ideas in literature and life itself."

Although Dawn has been at Potomac for only one semester, she compares the start of her full-time teaching career to beginning a meal with a delicious dessert. "Everyone around here is so

brilliant," she said. "How can I not grow?" She adds that she was drawn to Potomac by the professionalism of its faculty, the caliber of its students, and her desire to return to Virginia, which she grew to love during her years at the University of Virginia. She says she continues to be impressed by the school's ongoing commitment "to becoming an intentional community of compassionate intellectuals."

The beneficiary of an independent school education herself, Dawn says her teachers at The Horace Mann School in New York "pushed me to the limit." She emphasizes that "Without them, I would have probably settled for mediocrity." She then adds "It is one thing to be bright or gifted, and another to exceed the limitations of your own expectations, to push the envelope of your imagination and your ability to analyze." Evidently Dawn was speaking from experience because she ultimately graduated from Horace Mann as valedictorian of her class. ■

Other Alumni Faculty



Other alumnae who have returned to campus: Michelle O'Hara '93 is a new Kindergarten Aide and the Summer Programs Director (left), Kathie Kaplan '73 (above) has been teaching Lower School Science since 1982, and (right) Nora Cameron '91 has taught Potomac fourth graders since 2002.

POTOMAC VOLUNTEERS...MAKE THE DIFFERENCE FOR THE ANNUAL FUND

THIS FALL 60 CURRENT parents, trustees, as well as parents of alumni gathered at Potomac School for phonathons to make calls for the Annual Fund. Together they secured almost \$400,000 in pledges, giving this annual campaign a record start. Over 100 volunteers on 5 committees generously make a gift of their time by writing and signing letters and making calls on behalf of the Annual Fund each year. We celebrate the efforts of our trustees, alumni, parents, parents of alumni, grandparents, faculty and staff. Our volunteers' dedication to Potomac's mission is truly making a difference. It helps maintain the high level of excellence for which Potomac is known, stabilizes the cost of tuition, and allows the School to offer a unique educational environment which fosters the growth of each Potomac student. In addition, each year a committee of parents of senior students works to raise funds for a special gift to the school in honor of their children's graduation from Potomac.



Shelley Gunner, Leadership Co-Chair of the Parent Annual Giving Committee.



Greg Lewis, Co-Chair of the Parent Annual Giving Committee.



Gene Upshaw, parent Trustee.



JC Ewing '78, Chair of the Alumni Annual Giving Committee, Reunion Gift Co-Chair, Class of '78.



Norma Ramsey, a parent Trustee and Chair of the Buildings and Grounds Committee of the Board.



Barbie Harper, Chair, Grandparents Committee for Annual Giving.



Stacie Lee Banks, Parent Annual Giving Committee.

THE GIFT TO HONOR THE CLASS OF 2004

The Parents of the Class of '04 are funding the construction of a much-needed campus concession stand that will be located in the old wrestling room of the Chester Athletic Center. Complete with windows and a terraced seating area outside, it will prove to be a welcome addition to the Potomac campus. The administration plans include use of the facility after school each day, and during athletic events and other campus activities.

In addition their gift will provide enhanced lighting/sound technology in the Performing Arts Center, which will improve the quality of theater and musical performances and assemblies. The remaining funds will be added to the Endowment for Faculty Professional Development.



Co-Chairs of the Senior Parent Gift Committee: Nancy and Marty Mc Nerney, and Janet Killmon (missing is Kip Killmon.)



Jane Blair, grandmother of Katherine Jones '06, and Nevin Kuhl, grandfather of Helen Labadie '11 and Clara Labadie '08, sign letters for the Annual Fund at their fall meeting.

Donations to The Potomac School Annual Fund are accepted until June 15, 2004. Thank you for your continued generosity!

RECORD TURNOUT FOR FATHERS' ASSOCIATION FAMILY PICNIC



This year's FAPS Family Picnic coincided not only with the Varsity football game, Potomac vs. Dominion High School but also with the aftermath of Hurricane Isabel. Football, wide spread power outages, and the enticement of great food with family and friends brought out record crowds. Thanks to all who helped to make this such a successful event!

UPCOMING FAPS EVENTS

- Family Ski Trip to Whitetail**
Saturday, February 28, 2004
- Gold Cup**
Saturday, May 1, 2004
- Golf Tournament**
Monday, May 24, 2004



The Second Annual Potomac School Golf Tournament to Support Financial Aid

Monday, May 24, 2004
Piedmont Club - Haymarket, VA

Co-sponsored by FAPS and The Alumni Association

Please save the date and make plans to join us! Invitations will be mailed locally in the Washington Metropolitan area, however if you'll be in town that day or would like to contribute, visit our website for specific details about teams, sponsorship opportunities, to download the golf brochure, or to register online (www.potomacschool.org).



come play a round with us

FALL FROLICS FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE & FAMILY FAIR

Potomac families and friends, alumni and faculty/staff showed their Panther Pride by supporting Fall Frolics. Anjanette Murphy and her committee have worked all year to create this community celebration. New this year in the Marketplace was an evening "Shoppportunity" to browse the booths with friends, nibble on a delectable array of food, get a jump on holiday shopping and get their purchases gift wrapped for free! Friday Night Live was a resounding success. On Saturday the campus was thronged with children and parents enjoying the many rides and games on the Tundra and perusing the many offerings at Trinkets to Treasures, Marketplace and Nearly New. Thanks again to the scores of volunteers who make this event fun and successful. The money raised by Fall Frolics supports student financial aid and faculty enrichment.

For more information about Potomac's Fall Frolics visit the website at potomacschool.org (click on Quicklinks to Fall Frolics.)

SAVE THE DATE
Spring Fling on May 7, 2004.
 Details to be announced.







THE POTOMAC SCHOOL

Dear Potomac Alumni:

I am honored to serve as president of the Alumni Governing Council and continue to be amazed by the dedication of the members of our Council and that of the alumni association at large. The Alumni Governing Council meets regularly during the school year to plan events and programs for alumni, and I want to thank the council members for all they do throughout the year to help make our alumni events and programs successful. Although Potomac has evolved to a kindergarten through 12th grade school and changed accordingly, so many of the "old" Potomac traditions are alive and well. I would like to encourage you to come out to the school and attend an assembly or other gathering to see this for yourself.

As always, the fall proved to be an exciting and busy time for Potomac alumni, and we are looking forward to a full schedule of events this spring. The school year began with an alumni town hall-style meeting with Head of School, Geoff Jones at his home. Geoff presented a state of the school and then a lively discussion ensued. Just a few weeks later, alumni were treated to an exceptional evening at the Smithsonian. Retired *Time* Magazine White House photographer, Diana Hardin Walker '56 led a tour for Potomac alumni of her new photography exhibit at The Museum of American History. We felt so honored to have Diana share the anecdotal stories behind the photographs. Diana reminisced about her beginning year in photography at Potomac as photography editor of the yearbook. Also in October, the Alumni Governing Council welcomed alumni back on campus for both Homecoming Weekend and Fall Frolics. I hope you will take advantage of opportunities like this to return to campus and experience all of the exciting events taking place during the year.

Our new Director of Alumni Relations, Maria Graceffa, traveled to New York for a New York City young alumni gathering. Alumni from the classes of 1975 through 1999 celebrated together at the west side's Black Door restaurant. I would like to extend a special thanks to our New York representatives and their committee for throwing such a successful event! You can see pictures of the New York Reception on the Alumni Events page in this issue of *The Term* as well as on the website.

Thanksgiving vacation brought young alumni together for the annual alumni/varsity basketball game and the first annual alumni squash tournament on November 28. Directly after the game alumni basketball players gathered for dinner to reminisce and catch up with their former teammates. Later that evening alumni from the classes of 1994-1999 packed the upstairs of Garrett's in Georgetown. In December, it was on to a long-standing Potomac tradition, the opening night of Washington Revels program at Lisner Auditorium. Over 75 Potomac alumni and past parents kicked off the holiday season with a reception at the George Washington University Club before joining even more alums to attend the show, which brought alumni back to their Potomac School musical roots.

Looking ahead to 2004, the Alumni Governing Council has a variety of events planned:

- The Alumni Association will sponsor Career Day for current Potomac Juniors and Seniors on February 6th;
- Town hall-style meeting for alumni and past parents with Geoff Jones, Head of School on March 11, 2004;
- The Second Annual Spring Stewardship Day on April 17th - join other alumni in community service projects on campus;
- Reunion Weekend 2004 for classes ending in 3, 4, 8, 9 on April 30th and May 1st - mark your calendars now;
- The annual senior dinner on May 17 when we will welcome the Class of 2004 to the Alumni Association; and,
- The Second Annual Potomac School Golf Tournament to Support Financial Aid will be held on Monday, May 24, 2004 at the Piedmont Club in Haymarket, Virginia.

As you have probably learned, we are moving Reunion Weekend back to the spring this year. In order to do this we are clustering some classes together. The next Reunion Weekend will begin on April 30, 2004 (May Day!) and will include all whose graduation year ends in 3, 4, 8 and 9. With so many coming back to campus, it should be a wonderful event. You can see more details about reunion weekend as well as read about the reunion survey results on page 40.

It is such an exciting time to be part of the Potomac alumni community, especially as we launch a year-long celebration of our Centennial. Potomac's centennial celebration year will start in June 2004 and conclude in June 2005. We welcome your participation in planning these and other alumni events. On behalf of the Alumni Governing Council, we look forward to seeing you soon at an event or on campus.

Sincerely,
Prentiss Vallender Lay '85, President

ALUMNI PROFILE

Phil Frisbee '70

An Artist Reaches "The Level of the Place"

Philip Langley Frisbee (class of 1970) was born to draw—and paint, sculpt, photograph, design, build, write, hammer, chisel, and pen calligraphy. The boy who reentered Potomac School in fourth grade (his family had temporarily relocated to New Jersey and Canada after his pre-K year) drew on notebooks, textbooks, hymnals, homework, chalkboards, desks, and sometimes even art paper. Phil's artistic roots were noted early—a report card from pre-K describes a child who knows he likes to spend time with art. In the years since, Philip has shaped his life and craft deliberately and purposefully, with a career spanning art, photography, art administration, journalism, radio, boat building, and architecture. Sadly, many of those art forms are impossible for him today, when a diagnosis of multiple sclerosis in August 2000 explained a numbness he had experienced in his hands.

As the disease has become progressively more disabling, Phil has increasingly concentrated on adjusting to it and dealing with the fatigue and frustration it brings. In the center of his life is his 2-year-old son, August Bell Currier and August's mother, Andrea Bruce Currier. Phil was graced with the prospect of fatherhood soon after becoming aware of the MS. The irony of the double curve of fortune is not lost on him, yet "Lucky Dog" is the bumper sticker he chose for his golf cart, his means of transportation around the extensive grounds of Kinloch where he lives. Although Phil had ceased making art when he was first diagnosed, in 2002 he started working again. In May 2003 he and Andrea hosted a retrospective exhibition and "extravaganza" at Kinloch. Journals, paintings, drawings, collages, and poems; sculpture made from found materials (many from tree limbs collected around the farm); and installations centered on his life as an artist, his struggle with MS, and his love for his family. Titled "The Level of the Place," the exhibition was named in honor of his father, who once shared the idea that "you have to produce to the level of the place." In his artist's statement, Phil explained: "I imagine the level of the place to [my father] meant not alone the material, physical place, but also the everything of what went into a place. Art takes extraordinary determination, foresight, skill, deliberation, and luck to make happen. This was the commitment he was talking about."

Probably representing Phil's commitment more completely than any other medium

he explores are his journals, one of which was displayed at the entrance to the exhibition. Those detailed childhood doodles presaged the hundreds of journals Phil has kept in his adult life; in fine lettering accompanied by meticulous sketches, he has recorded years of thoughts, feelings, ideas, and poetry ("I've been doing journals ever since God created the Osmoroid® pen," he says.) The journal was immediately striking for the fact of being on exhibit—how many of us open up our private world that way?—and for the intricacy of the lettering and drawings it contains. Despite his orientation around words, Phil claims he is strictly a visual person. The journal keeping was compulsive, he says, but he was not interested in the words, just in the drawings. "In drawing, there are no words. Drawing clears the mind, doesn't make you think. Your mind being cleared, it thinks more clearly. So much of our communication is not visual—it's all words, words, words." Yet the journals—and the words—reveal Phil's respect for the process of creating art as one and the same with shaping the self. That disciplined, meditative process nurtured an articulate, thoughtful, and communicative person whose centeredness, ironically, evolved from the seemingly peripatetic lifestyle he manifested over many years.

Not surprisingly, much of Phil's art, especially the wall-hung work, integrates text and letter forms. Phil's preoccupation with type has a long history. With an interest in calligraphy first developed at Potomac, where middle-schoolers used to receive calligraphy pens to study italic script, Phil went on to apprentice to a local calligrapher during his Corcoran school days; his mastery led him to the opportunity to hand letter White House invitations. In works in the exhibition, words are used cryptically, with the sheer force of the love of letters (plain wood panels have "TREE TOPS" painted over a schematic mountain image), or they become the subject of a work, such as in an alphabet painting made for August. Phil's formal gold-on-black lettering of "By Thy wide grace show me Thy narrow gate" is attached to a discarded wood gate.

Phil treasures the painstaking work he can no longer do but today makes art that demands less of his fine motor skills. Poems are typed on sheets of white paper glued to brown paper bags and nailed to the wall. Wood planks and other objects are affixed to wood panels for wall hangings; paintbrushes and tools are glued to a wood panel in a sculptural piece dedicated to a

friend. Alongside these works celebrating wood is a dog form from the 1970s hewn from a log and adorned with a bandana, resulting in a freestanding image that looks much like Phil's dog Lucky.

For large-scale work, whether for indoors or out, Phil culls sculpture from fallen tree branches around the farm, with recognition and respect for their different attributes. The gnarly apple branch, Phil says, called out to him, "What do you want?!" while the welcoming beech said, "Hello, there." The resulting forms are precarious but rooted; individual components are in balance and present as one. Ropes and a stripped-down skinless hull recall his boat-building days (he built his last boat in 1999) and speak at once of movement and stillness, loftiness and gravity, form and function. Installations—of his desk, for example, with his manual typewriter and seersucker jacket, and another of bare furnishings and a hand-lettered mailbox bearing Phil's name—grip the viewer with the pull of the personal. Friends recognize the items, and his particular take on them, as quintessentially "Phil." Others are intrigued by the aesthetic placement of objects and sense the person behind the composition who has imbued daily life with awe in these simple domestic scenes.

A viewer emerges from the exhibition with a deeply felt respect for Phil's devotion to nature, memory, meaning, form, and the people in his life. Phil has coaxed art from tree limbs and the detritus and paraphernalia of life, while gently composing his thoughts as if in harmony with the "beautiful stretches of land and vistas" surrounding him. A man much like his father—who was an editor, writer, professor, and sometime poet—Phil has reached the place his father described. He has perfected the tools of his art over decades and responded to his time and place to his fullest. Those qualities, in turn, have forged the deep resources of his character that nourish his healing attitude and the disciplined approach to the life he now lives. Despite hardship and limitations, Phil continues to flourish. He has indeed found "the level of the place." ■

Jane McAllister, a friend of Phil's from the class of 1970, has been active in many alumni activities and is a current Potomac parent (of Maxwell Speil, 1st grade). Photos are by Jane McAllister unless otherwise noted.



Phil Frisbee concentrates on an art project in fourth grade (1964–65). Photo by Suzanne Szasz, New York, New York.



Phil Frisbee in August 2003. Many in the Potomac community remember Phil's leadership role in the School's Celebration of the Arts held in April 1998.



Interior sculpture created with natural materials

on reflection

Journey to America

A wartime adventure recorded from childhood memories by Maria Somary Twaalfhoven '46

With thanks to my brothers, Wolfgang and Johannes Somary for refreshing my memory.

Geneva

In the late summer of 1940 there was a great unrest in Switzerland. Surrounded by Germany, Austria, Italy, and France, and having no sea harbor from which it could maneuver, there was palpable fear of momentary attack. Even the German Swiss, who had once let some German scout leaders visit our schools and tell us about the "glorious" Hitler Jugend, realized the perils of neighborly friendship when Schaffhausen was "accidentally" bombed.

All Swiss men, aged 18 to 59, were mobilized. That is, they went to work with their guns. When we were ill, the doctor paid us a visit on his motorcycle with his gun strapped across his back. The way he'd get us to swallow our medicine was by letting us put on his military helmet and saluting. A woman came to measure our heads for gas masks because there was a rumor that the Germans planned to throw gas bombs. To this day I doubt any of us would have survived with those rubber masks that fit much too tight and had no connection to an oxygen tank. But it all looked patriotic. We kids were instructed never to pick up "candy" thrown from planes or cars. Black cloth curtains hung over windows and blue light bulbs replaced the white ones. No more reading in the evenings. It was black-out regime. We practiced going into cellars, even though we often didn't know whether the frequent sirens were on the Swiss or the French side, since France was just across the lake and we could see the houses there. Only once did we see German fighter planes cross the lake of Geneva. Swiss fighter planes came from three sides and chased them back.

We got food rationing cards, which we had to start using right away. Aunt Ella, whom I had never seen do anything before, got up to actually boil the eggs from our chickens and put them into some yellow conservation liquid in glass jars. We picked all the fruit and vegetables our garden produced and stuffed them into these glass jars. The city sent farmers to advise us city folk on how to turn flower gardens into agricultural wonders overnight. They also counted our chickens and said that we had too many for a non-commercial household. Afraid that they might take away my favorite, Gosette, I sneaked her to my bedroom where she promptly laid an egg and something else on my bed, for which I got a good hiding.



Insert photo of Maria Somary Twaalfhoven '46 in 1940, at age 9.

Mother was getting understandably nervous. Her husband, our father, was in the United States, as a Swiss economist on an advisory diplomatic mission to the Roosevelt government. He had sent mother back to look after us but had no time to return himself. Civilian air travel did not yet exist. Father was considering bringing us over to America, but mother would have to cross the ocean without his physical presence. It was still thought that the Germans would not spare Switzerland. After all, they had occupied neutral Holland, whose queen was married to a German. Why would they spare the Swiss?

The "Conti di Savoya" was to sail from Genua in September. Perhaps we could board her to New York. In Italy, meanwhile, a little misunderstanding occurred. A telegram circulated saying, "get rid of the Count of Savoy." While the man by that name managed to escape, the ship by that name didn't. It was bombed, for the wrong reason.

We started looking for other escape routes to America. Father got advice from friends and used postcards with the New York skyline to keep mother informed. Postcards were open and thus much less prone to suspicion than closed letters.

We packed only essentials. No books, no toys, (no chickens.) One warm coat and hat for going into winter. I had just gotten new patent leather shoes which I presumably would not outgrow in the next three months. So off to America I went in party shoes.

France

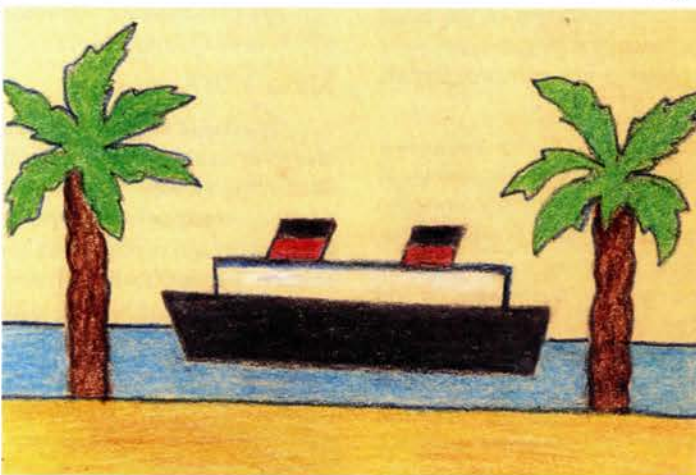
Southern France was still unoccupied because of the Vichy pact. We hired a small van with a chauffeur to drive us through France and Spain. Then by train to Portugal, from where export ships were sailing to America. These ships now frequently put more humans than other products into their hulls, and so far had managed to drop them off safely in New York.

So on an October day we took off. Mother with her three children aged nine, seven, and four. My two aunts, and Putsi the poodle who was their only child and our governess, an eighteen-year-old orphan whom we never obeyed. Four other passengers joined us, but we were not allowed to become friendly with them because "it was war." They were particularly not allowed to know that we were going to America. So even when they greeted us, we children did not answer, for fear of saying too much. It was a quiet trip. Until

“...mother woke us during the night. Had more jewelry been sold? We drove in darkness and silence to a ship.”

my brothers got car sick. And the dog had to wee. In Grenoble, the “strange passengers” got out, for good – probably not because they found Grenoble a nice place to visit, but because our company became too much to take. Or did the Germans take them away? I didn’t get car sick, but I got awfully hungry. “We have to wait,” said mother. Her tone was unusually gentle. We went on to Valence, where mother tried to buy food. She discovered she could not use her ration coupons. One needed French ration coupons to buy food, but only the French could get those coupons. People just shrugged their shoulders and said, “pauvre Madame.”

German soldiers walked in the hotel lobby, feeling very much at home, it seemed. Mother and I shared a room that night. Aunt Ella came in and put two bracelets and a broche on the night table, kissed me goodnight and told me to go to sleep. Then in came a man who whispered to her, took the jewels and left behind a parcel with bread and sausage. We started eating very carefully.



Next day, we drove on to Perpignan. Suddenly, in the distance, we saw the sea. We had never before seen a body of water so big that you could not see the other side. Little Switzerland has lakes, and from some you can see another country across the water. It was harvest time, but there were no men to pick the apple trees and walnut trees. The men had gone to war. We stopped the van and got out to gather all the apples and nuts that we could, in our skirts and scarves and on the floor of the van. The fancy shoes came in handy for cracking nuts.

Perpignan was still a French city. While German soldiers drank in the hotel lobby, Moroccan soldiers stood watch facing out to sea. These young Moroccans, ready to die for France, wearing red fezzes on top of ramrod straight bodies, were the first black people we had ever seen. So they made an extra big impression on us, and we still wonder what became of them the next day. Because that night, the Germans already made it clear that they laughed at the Vichy Pact. Their bombers sent us scurrying into the hotel’s wine cellar. The soprano shrieks of sirens, the bass drone of bombers, and the occasional crash, an orchestra that disorients the mind more than it frightens. I remember surprise at looking out the window next day and seeing the buildings on the street still standing.

Spain

Our driver disappeared the night the bombs fell. We children recalled only that we had to follow closely behind distraught and arguing elders, and that we left “unimportant” luggage behind in the hotel room. We caught a train to Barcelona.

Spain had just finished fighting the Civil War. There was extreme poverty everywhere. People were lying in the streets, under blankets and coats, sleeping or begging, seemingly too weak and beaten to move on in life. Wolfgang, not yet eight, was so impressed with the great baroque cathedral that he wanted to go back to it again and again.

Up to this day, he is a wonderful tour guide through cities with old churches and museums. My less poetic soul was only stuck on that first confrontation with real poverty. When we could not finish our first hot meal in the hotel, the waiters quickly cleared our plates and ate the rest on the way to the kitchen.

Portugal

After endless train travel via Madrid and Lisbon, we finally faced the Atlantic ocean in Estoril, now a famous beach resort. No one could tell us what day our ship the “Excaliber” would leave. To confuse the Germans, and to prevent overloading of the ship, the Captain kept the date secret. The streets were teeming with people who had tickets for a ship to America. We children were ordered to stay close to our hotel, which was pleasant enough because we could play on one of the world’s most beautiful beaches. A bellboy gave me paper and pencils and I drew a ship that passed which I dreamed would be our passage to a new life.

Some nights later mother woke us during the night. Had more jewelry been sold? We drove in darkness and silence to a ship. The ship was loaded in darkness and silence. Some of us were taken to the few cabins at the top, the rest settled in lounges, dining room, and hallway corners. There were mattresses from school gyms leaning against all the walls. We were three hundred passengers on a ship that normally takes twenty, plus cargo.

At one point we realized that we were moving. We were moving out to sea. Goodbye, Europe.

continued on next page

“Have we heard? The Excalibur has sunk. Hit by a German submarine.....You went back to save more people, but lost against destiny. Those of us who made it will remember you.”

The Excalibur

The ship was wonderful for kids. A real cruise holiday for kids who can't go to school, can't take a bath, and whose elders are too seasick or worried about war to get cross at them. I made instant friends with a bunch of Jewish French children who were being sent to American relatives with only a seasick lady to look after them. We ran all over the deck playing "war" and getting in the crew's way. Eventually, the other passengers got tired of our escapades, and a school teacher was discovered, who gathered us into the dining room a couple of hours a day and played the accordion while we played musical chairs. On one particularly rough day, some sick passengers kept to their mattresses on the dining room floor and we couldn't dance and sing, but we were made to sit at the tables and learn a few words of English, "Ello, 'ou are you?" Fine, tenk you."

We had no idea how long we would be out at sea, because submarines might force us to change our course. In fact, we could distinctly spot a periscope one day, alongside us for some hours. Occasionally we had a fire drill. That meant putting on our lifejackets and going out on deck to our designated lifeboats. One night the alarm went off and we were whisked outside. The sea and sky were one mass of dark gray humidity. We sat on the floor of the deck tired and shivering, listening to the spray of the eternal waves. Suddenly, the crew started lowering the lifeboats. They had not done that before. Word was passed that the periscope had been sighted again. Mother sat on deck, hugging her three children. While the lifeboats swayed from their ropes at the side of the ship we started praying, "Our Father." Nothing happened. We prayed "Our Father" again, "Our Father, who art in Heaven." Little Hannes had fallen asleep. Where was our earthly father? Was he thinking of us now, I wondered? Nothing more happened that night. There was enough food for those who felt like eating. But sweet water was entirely reserved for drinking, cooking, and one glass a day for brushing of teeth. Sometimes, buckets of seawater were out on deck so we could wash ourselves and our clothes. Fore, the menfolk. Aft, the women. I still recall kneeling on deck while the governess disentangled my hair in a bucket of freezing Atlantic water and told me not to stare at the other passengers.

Land

Was it a week later? A month? We sighted land. Bermuda. A green island in a beautiful sunset. Everyone was reborn, out on deck, singing and praying. The sunset was legendary.

We were not allowed into the harbor because we might defect or spread disease. Military yachts brought us food, medicine, water, and more blankets. We were told that the Bermudians had no water wells but that they collected all

the rainwater in strips on the white roofs of their houses. As I looked over at that green island dotted with white I prayed they would always have enough rain. To mother's happy surprise, our family friends, the Greaves, also came on board. They wanted to get back home to America while they still could.

That night, we sailed on. The weather turned winterish, we got less in the crew's way on deck and talked of what we'd do once we got to America. Some would see family again. We'd go to school, but what grade would we fit into? We'd learn English. We'd have to make new friends. A new life.

The periscope did not reappear on the horizon.
America, Land of Hope.

New York

One day, as the salt water buckets were raised on deck, everyone scrubbed real hard in spite of the cold. Tomorrow, God willing, we would arrive in New York. The last passengers this ship would deliver to the United States, among whom the Hungarian composer Bela Bartok. There was no luggage to pack. Just anticipation.

The gray drizzle of late autumn. A very gradual change in the rigid straight line of the horizon, gray flecks forming. There, it's Ellis Island. And over there, look, the Statue of Liberty! Look well, children, this is a country of liberty. And out of the drizzle, as if by chance, the New York skyline with the Empire State, the world's tallest building.

And the overture ended with a bang as we docked and the customs and health officials came on board, and this man with a large hat who suddenly stopped and stared at his family – Father, after nine long months. Welcome to America!

Two weeks later-

Have we heard? The Excalibur has sunk. Hit by a German submarine. No passengers on board. Only the captain and his crew. Joaquino, Joao, Vasco, you guys who chased us from the deck, served us meals, lowered the life boats for us that night in October. You went back to save more people, but lost against destiny. Those of us who made it will remember you. ■

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Maria Theresa Somary was born in Zurich in 1931 and moved with the family to Geneva at the age of eight. At that time her father, a Swiss banker, went frequently to America on diplomatic missions and took his wife with him, leaving his children with governesses – until the Second World War broke out, and the whole family fled Europe in October 1940. The author has never been able to find out exactly how long the trip took – estimates are three to four weeks. The family remained in Washington, DC during the war and Maria then attended Marymount College in New York where she met a Dutch Fordham student. They have been married 43 years, have eight children and ten grandchildren both in the United States and in Europe. Maria, who never stopped painting and signs her works Resi, writes stories of her youth for her grandchildren, who have the privilege to grow up in freedom.

ALUMNI NEWS

Potomac School Class Notes

1935

From Lucy Blundon:

David Acheson writes, "I am now a grandparent of a teenager and four younger ones. A very interesting transition to watch with no responsibility. Wrote lead op-eds for the Washington Post and Houston Chronicle on the implications of the Columbia Shuttle disaster, drawing on my experience with the Challenger Shuttle investigating communications. Otherwise, enjoying leisure, tennis and good health."

1941

From the Alumni Office:

Ann Distler Brown has been doing volunteer work and has a part time job as the linchpin in the household of a lady with Alzheimer's. She spent a week in Venice and a week cruising to Dalmatian Coast in May - beautiful!

1943

From the Alumni Office:

Day Ely Ravenscroft writes that she is living in Tucson, AZ with her husband, Jack. She published a book about her parents entitled *Matched Pair - The Elys of Embassy Row* by Jarvis Harriman. Her daughter, Virginia, is living in real country, twenty miles west of Madison, WI.

REUNION



Jack and Day Ravenscroft '43 at Day's 75th birthday party in September 2003.

1945

From Tricia Briska:

Because of many coincidences, this is a minute column in number of people represented. During the last four years your editor, **Patricia Mulligan Briska**, has been delighted to trapse regularly to Italy to see her daughter, Marguerite Crozier and family. Her last trip will be this spring because the family will be posted to Brunswick, ME in 2004. This past August she met the family in Luxembourg and progressed to Amsterdam where **Maria Theresa Somary Twaalfhaven '46** took all to luncheon

at the Van Gogh Museum. Maria couldn't imagine why the museum was so crowded, "such a burst of art lovers", but it dawned on all that this was one of the few air-conditioned buildings in the Netherlands and it was very hot! It was wonderful seeing Maria after so many years (last meeting in Florida in 1989) and the family was enchanted to meet her. We went on to Bruges and to Paris for a week, the week 5,000 people died in that city. Many hotel rooms never dropped below 99 degrees. Paris had designated sections along the Seine River as "the beach." The city had trucked in large quantities of sand to spread along the river, had turned on sprinklers, set up beach chairs, volleyball courts and other sports normally played in the sand. Pedestrians were walking, fully clad, through the sprinklers for heat relief. Others, in bathing suits, were sitting on the beach chairs reading or with eyes closed pretending to be on holiday. It was fascinating! My son, Michael, married Donna Tropsa last February. It was a lovely ceremony held on the coldest day of the year at Manhattanville College, Purchase, NY. After the wedding and before returning to Naples, Marguerite and children, Franklin and Patricia, joined your editor at the Hotel Lucerne on the west side of Central Park from which vantage point they enjoyed the New York City Blizzard of 2003. The children were able to play in the snow and visit major museums. For the first time since 1995, daughter, Liza, and husband, John McKee, are back living in Gulf Breeze. **Beatrice Berle Meyerson** and her husband, John LeMoyne Ellicott, spent a wonderful October in Spain and England. She expected her three sons and five grandsons for Thanksgiving. **Bea** has experienced a bout of sciatica but is improving rapidly. **Dove Martin Morse** writes that she and Breton attended his brother's funeral in Charlottesville. "It was nice and simple, attended only by family members. Breton and his brother, Alex, both taught art at Potomac School. Weeks later off to Providence for Breton's 50th reunion at Rhode Island School of Design. So many exciting changes made in Providence, a great town but hilly." **Elizabeth Beach Rea, Frances Rowan, and Anne MacKall Sasscer**, enjoyed their annual luncheon in Upper Marlboro, an opportunity to catch up and reminisce. **Frances Rowan** will spend parts of February and March on Captiva Island off the coast of Fort Meyer. **Patricia Mulligan Briska** and **Louise Hoover Neuhoff** look forward to visiting her there. An enchanted moment in time away from life's pressing endless doings. **Georgiana**



Trisha Briska '54 with Maria Somary Twaalfhaven '46 and Trisha's grandchildren Patricia and Franklin Crozier during a visit to Amsterdam in August 2003.



ALUMNI PAGES ONLINE

Check out the Alumni page on the School's website - you can enter classnews, update your profile, and find out what your classmates have been up to.

CLASS CORRESPONDENTS

1932

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

1938

John Dugger
5813 Rockmere Dr.
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1942

Katharine Stanley-Brown Abbott
3 Tuck's Point Rd.
Manchester, MA 01944-1434
glasshead@nii.net

1945

Patricia Mulligan Briska
201 Silverthorn Rd.
Gulf Breeze, FL 32561-4361

1949

Laura Lee Larson
14101 Lewisdale Rd.
Clarksburg, MD 20871-9629

1953

Mary Murray Bradley Coleman
22 Wildwood Dr.
Cape Elizabeth, ME 04107

1955

Elizabeth Swift Cronin
POB 143
Rectortown, VA 20140
acronin2@aol.com

1962

Carol Mattusch
12301 Fairfax Station Rd.
Clifton, VA 20124-1631
mattusch@gmu.edu

1964

Gail Weinmann
7106 Florida Street
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1967

Thomas Macy
9401 Saybrook Ave
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1969

Sandy Dominik
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Scottsdale, AZ 85254-9207
aldominik@cox.net

Glenn Rodiger tells of her travels up the Yangtze River in China before it was flooded. "Fascinating to see the signs all along the banks stating 135m or 175m knowing the water would soon cover the banks, towns, and farms." Forever more.

From the Alumni Office:

Louise Neuhoff writes, "Roger and I traveled to St. Petersburg through the Baltic and then to Austria to do some ballooning. What a thrill to be drifting over Salzburg at dusk with the Alps all around! Our family is thriving and growing in years. Two grandsons are looking at colleges for next year and the rest of the grandchildren are right behind (10 in all.) Our next trip is to Maui, Hawaii, where our youngest son, Alex, lives with his three children - we go for Thanksgiving every year."

1947

From the Alumni Office:

Sally White Lee writes that she only went to Potomac for three years during World War II and enjoyed it very much. She is now married, has four children and eleven grandchildren - three of whom are already off to college. Sally writes, "We are very lucky. Our children are always in touch." At the time that she wrote this she was in Prouts Neck, Maine for the summer. **Audrey Gordon Woodgate** reports that she and Arthur moved to the Austin, TX area two years ago to get away from snowy winters. They love it there and enjoy the outdoors year round. She writes that her children are scattered all over, her eldest son is a chef in Atlanta, her daughter is in Boston working as a medical language interpreter. She speaks six languages! Her other daughter is in San Francisco in Public Relations. Audrey still does volunteer tutoring for high school students in French, Spanish and English as a Second Language. Arthur designs websites. They stay busy and active. **Nancy Dickey Harding** informs us that she has left beautiful McLean, VA for the Gulf Coast of Florida horse country. She lives on a dirt road and occasionally goes to Tampa for excitement. She travels to see old flamenco friends (she studied to be a "maestra" many years ago) in Spain, and visits Australia, Baja, and Fiji friends also. Nancy says that she enjoys reading about the doings of classmates!

1951

From the Alumni Office:

Cynthia Butterworth Burns was awaiting the arrival of her daughter, Abby, and family from Arizona at the time that she wrote this. They went to visit her on Martha's Vineyard. Cynthia's grandson, Eric, one, was christened there with his older brother, Brian, three. Both of their sons, David and Walter, were around during parts of the summer. In November 2002, they went to Vanuatu to visit Walter, who was in the Peace Corps there. He is now at Brandeis for a Masters in International Studies. **Clara Hoover Hendin** writes that she is still breeding, caring for and competing Morgan horses; she has 20 at

the moment. She won championships at shows and at competitive trail drives this summer.

1957

From Susan Cooley:

Marjorie Hornblower Bauer married Chuck Johnson, M.D. in September and is now living mostly in Golden, Colorado, while at the same time maintaining her garage apartment on the Hudson River in Piermont, NY. Congratulations. **Anne Palms Chalmers** continues to design books on her "little Macintosh," including a recently published cookbook, *Aquavit*, ("fabulous.") She also sings in a 30-person chorus that performed Handel's *Israel in Egypt* ("not boring but smashing!") Her son, Chris, is now an architect in Oakland "with a job!" She reports that she saw **Celina Kellogg Moore** ("glorious as usual") in a great production of *The Magic Flute* in Vermont this summer. More recent news of Celina is that she is to be married in March to Eric Esselstyn, our former classmate **Mickey Bingham's** widower. Congratulations. **Jo Field** reports that she is leaving Peterborough, NH after 36 years and building in the next town south, Sharon. She claims that it's "quite traumatic." To calm her nerves she's taken up croquet! **Courtney Hagner** has quit her fulltime job managing two audiology offices to do part time real estate and travel more. Playing tennis has given way to biking and doing exercises that stretch and strengthen. She has enjoyed the company of her sister-in-law, **Marguerite Hagner Benson '58**, who was living with Courtney while her apartment was being finalized. **Jane Vander Poel Lenzetti** and her husband, Eduardo, are back in Washington for six months while Jane compiles the poetry of her aunt who just died. As she says, "Who has the heart to throw out the work of a lifetime!?" **Alice Fales Stewart** writes that the two high points in her year were: (1) getting together with **Susie Cooley** in Vermont this summer (the class scribe notes: the feeling was mutual) and (2) getting to play violin with Celina Barton (daughter of our own Celina Kellogg Moore, see above) in a concert at the main DC public library." Alice closes, "It's been a good year: interesting work and enough of it, time to spend with friends and to play chamber music, and good health." **Judy Ray Van Dyke** and her husband, Peter, are spending more and more time on Maryland's Eastern Shore where she gardens and he hunts (according to the seasons). Their grandchildren join them for boat rides, swims and pond walks. Susan says, "Thank you all for writing. I'm now hooked up to the internet with a new address and would love to hear from you anytime. I'm: scooley@vtlink.net."

1959

From the Alumni Office:

Christina O'Dunne Griffin writes that she and her husband took a wonderful trip around South America and the Falkland Islands last January. "Our first cruise, but it was so luxe that it was easy to get used to!" They

REUNION

went to China with National Geographic in October. Christina writes, "Gotta see everything while we can still walk and talk! Can't believe we're coming up on our 45th reunion." **Kitty Bass Cloud** reports that she and her husband divide their time between Woods Hole, MA and Peterborough, NH. She has been doing a lot of painting in pastels and oil and is represented in galleries in both places. She and a friend developed a website to display their work. Check it out - www.newenglandpastels.com. Kitty says that she would love feedback. Kitty writes that she is also the proud, doting, completely besotted grandmother of two: Caroline, 2 and Teddy, 6 months. **Carol Langstaff** writes, "I am happily choreographing to extraordinary music and living on two continents. Having just completed my suite of five "Dream Theatre" pieces, my FLOCK Dance Troupe is now readying to tour next year in New England. My winter home for 6 months, in Galway, Ireland, will involve a performance of *GO! MOVE! SHIFT!* in early March. If you'd like to see photos and descriptions see www.flockdance.org." See photo of Carol directing.

1961

From the Alumni Office:

Emma Bragdon writes that she sometimes meets **Bo Cushing** at yoga class. **Marion Symington Werner** joined her on a group tour to witness the extraordinary Brazilian healer, John of God, in March 2003. "Spiritual Alliances: Discovering the Roots of Health at the Casa Dom Inácio" was recently published. Now she is working on a new book on healing centers in Brazil, which will also be a documentary film. Life is very exciting! **Cinda Train Longstreth** writes that her daughter is doing well in school and has nine college credits, which, when more of the same are organized, she will use to go to fashion school. Cinda's husband is on sabbatical and is writing a book. She has had three art shows this past summer in New York state and in June 2004 will be showing with another artist at The Lake Placid Center for the Arts. Some of her work will also be published in a book.

1963

From the Alumni Office:

Wendy Neel Ellsworth writes, "I was ordained as an Interfaith Minister in December 2002 and perform rituals and ceremonies like weddings, memorial services, rites of passage, etc. I was given a Fellowship from the PA Council on the Arts this year and am going to spend the month of November in Kenya researching the beadwork of the Maasai and Samburu peoples as well as going on safaris and snorkeling along the coast for more inspiration for my beaded "SeaForm" series. I also co-authored a new book on beading projects with Dichroic glass, wrote an article on "The Challenges of 3-D Beadwork" for *Surface Design Journal* and had my work profiled in the June issue of *Beadwork Magazine*. Life is full and very busy!" **Chris Ripman** writes, "I'm happy to report an amazing summer,

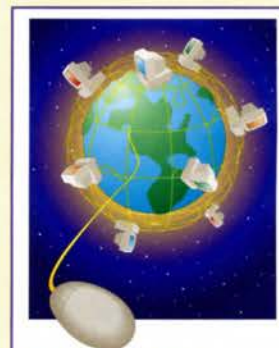
REUNION

first with a two week trip to England with my son, Seth, 12, to tour Cornwall and London; then two weeks in Vegas, Sequoia, Yosemite, and rafting in the Grand Canyon with Ben, my 18 year old - now off to Bowdoin (oh my aching wallet); followed by the reopening of the Cutler Majestic Theater in Boston (formerly the Emerson Majestic, now restored to all of its 1907 carbon filament electric glory by my company, Ripman Lighting Consultants); followed by the reopening of the Kennedy School of Government Forum (new lighting - see your TV screens for a Hardball broadcast!); followed by the opening of a new \$100+ million dollar ten-story research building for the Harvard



Carol Langstaff '59 directing her dance troupe.

Medical School in the Longwood Medical area (lighting again by RLC.) Now we are deep in construction of restoring and recreating the lighting for the Sargent Gallery and the Abbey Rooms of the Boston Public Library. The beat goes on! But one of the greatest joys of the last three years has been singing with the Revels. I dared to try out and got in, and even made the cover of their website (that's me on the right!) Last week, Jack Langstaff - still hale and hearty at 82 - dropped into our rehearsal and sang the Lord of the Dance with us - just AFTER my video camera had run out of film, of course! Oh well... Not only that, but he was kind enough to come to my 55th birthday party, bearing a Musical Gift - a song he spoke of teaching me when I was in third grade! Come and catch us during the run of the Christmas Revels at Sanders, and stop by backstage after the show! **Anne Williams** writes, "I am single again after 20 years of marriage. Challenges make us stronger. My business consulting practice is doing well, and I am expanding into tax practice as well. My daughter Amanda is a freshman at Boston University and loves everything about it. Hope to see everyone at the reunion." **Carroll Rogers Rooth** writes, "I really don't have any news other than our oldest is at NYU/Tisch School of the Arts for graduate work in theater and our youngest is a ninth grader here but applying to prep schools in Massachusetts, Connecticut and New Hampshire for next year. We are renovating this 120 year old house for the umpteenth time due to water and termite damage that goes with the territory.



ALUMNI PAGES ONLINE

Check out the Alumni page on the School's website - you can enter classnews, update your profile, and find out what your classmates have been up to.

CLASS CORRESPONDENTS

1970

Lindsay Potts
2055 Marengo Street
Toledo, OH 43614-4214

1971

Ann Edgeworth
161 W. 15th St., #21
New York, NY 10011-6725

1972

Rosamond Parker Smythe
331 North Street
Medfield, MA 02052

1974

Jennifer Just
157 Center Rd.
Woodbridge, CT 06525
jenniferjust@yahoo.com

1975

Alison Macdonald von
Klemperer
192 Leroy Ave.
Darien, CT 06820-3417
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1978

John Ewing
1337 Merchant Lane
McLean, VA 22101-2413
ruanne13@aol.com

1979

Speke Wilson
7309 University Avenue
Glen Echo, MD 20812
spekew@comcast.net

1980

Julia Oppenheimer
1325 18th St., NW, #505
Washington, DC 20036
dewieo@hotmail.com

1982

Reid Wilson
29 E. Blodgett Ave.
Lake Bluff, IL 60044-2109
nassau5@aol.com

1985

Christina Halvorson Ross
5206 Sherier Pl. NW
Washington, DC 20016
cross@parkmont.org

1986

Holly Green
203 W 102nd Street, Apt. 4F
New York, NY 10025-4424
holly.c.green@abc.com

Still have my old thoroughbred (22) and a Cairn Terrier who is a therapy dog and a young German Shepherd, plus a 14 year old cat. The therapy dog and I work with Pediatric Hospital patients as well as children traumatized by gun violence. I am a co-founder of the local chapter of The Million Mom March/Brady Campaign, and despite having an unsympathetic administration, we keep on doing what we can to push for stronger gun control legislation, and provide support for victims of gun violence. It is very rewarding but heartbreaking. I am definitely coming for our Reunion! Can't wait to see you all! Saw **Marisa Domeyko** three years ago when we came up for the Million Mom March, and am really looking forward to another visit to old D.C." **Dede Hacking** informs us that she and Jeremy celebrated their 30th anniversary in June. Their eldest, Jack, graduated from Tulane Law School this year and is seeking employment in New York City. Their youngest, J.B., graduated from McGill and is a residential don at his old school. He hopes to find a job in sports team management. She is hoping to attend the 40th reunion and asks "Does anyone want a roommate?" All the best to everyone.

1965

From the Alumni Office:

Betty Lindsten Mulrey writes to us that she is a kindergarten teacher and mentor for student teachers at Rivier College's Early Childhood Center Laboratory School in Nashua, NH. Her daughter, Kate, is a senior in high school and she is hoping to be an astronaut some day, Clare is a sophomore and is hoping for a career in interior design, and her son, Jack is in eighth grade and is hoping to be a chef – they like it when he cooks for them!

1967

From Thomas L. Macy:

Bill Resor writes that their eldest daughter, Avery, has just started at Duke University while their younger daughter is now a junior at Jackson (WY) High School. **Lori Todd** continues to live in L.A. and her two boys are now seven and eleven. She would love to see a mid-USA reunion and meet the children of other classmates. **Alice Major** writes that her oldest daughter is living happily in Denver, her two boys are at university in Florida, and her younger daughter is an avid soccer player. Alice helped manage two club soccer teams and sponsored four Brazilian girls who lived with her family and played on the teams. She has stopped practicing law and looks forward to traveling in an RV once the nest becomes empty. **Jeffrey Allen** continues to be a practicing psychologist, but he writes that more and more of his work is guiding trips in the wilderness. His son Gabriel just turned nine. **John Wolf** writes that since leaving Roomful of Blues in 1999 to spend more time with his son, he's been busy performing with one of St. Louis' most popular blues bands, doing some freelance performing and recording, running his sole

proprietorships – Bonhenge Music and Soulard Refrigeration and Machine – and participating in the political arena by co-founding (and serving as treasurer of) the Gateway Civil Liberties Alliance. He even ran for State Representative in 2000 (Libertarian party!) His son, Alexander, is a sophomore at Chaminade College Prep. John writes, "...the Wolf family is still present and accounted for and in good health. Greetings to all, and if any of you visit our fair city, please get in touch! (johnwolf@bonehenge.com, 314-962-3266.)

From Boucie Addison:

Alexandra Hand Mateer writes from Port Douglas, Australia: She and her partner recently bought a chinese junk, the Shaolin, and take people out to the low Isles on the Great Barrier reef. Her son Jules lives in Sydney and works as a financial planner, and her other son, Rianon, lives in London and is a financial planner. Alexandra would love to see any alumni who are planning to be down under. I recently saw **Susie Armstrong Hamberger** at **Tilly Koehler Rothwell's '66** and **Lisa Koehler's '72** mother's funeral. We wanted to extend our condolences to them and their families. **Laura Dalley Tobin** writes that she and her family remain in London. Son, Jamie, is attending Wheaton College in Boston, and 15-year-old daughter, Lydia, is a sophomore in London. Laura has traded "puppies for painting" as a hobby. Don't forget that next year is the Centennial celebration of Potomac's 100 years. Try to plan on coming back for some of the activities that are planned. It would be a great excuse to get together after many years. Also, Lilly, our daughter will be graduating from Potomac in 2005.

1969

REUNION

From the Alumni Office:

Jim Epstein reports that he is still in the Washington area and is working as president of his family's investment company. Their big project right now is developing a mixed-use, pedestrian friendly community on the Occoquan River in Woodbridge, VA (Belmont-Bay.com.) In November 2002, *The Washington Post* survey found that the two condo complexes he is building on the site are the fastest selling project in the Washington Metropolitan area. Sales for the third complex began at the end of October 2003. Jim writes that he is officially divorced as of last January but has two great kids, Jules, 8, and Justine, 11, with whom he spends lots of time. **Ted Davis** writes, "It's hard to believe it, but our daughter, Amanda, is headed to college next year! Laura and I have been busy this past summer and fall with college trips to New Hampshire, Massachusetts, New York, and Virginia. Amanda continues to expand her passion for writing, having attended the young writers workshop at UVA this past summer. Son, James, almost 13 has developed a passion for history and all things Japanese. Life in the telecommunications business at Equinix had been a roller coaster ride over the past few years, but now more stable and a bit less stressful. Laura is teaching again, art to first graders now, and is enjoying the experience."

1971

From Ann Edgeworth:

Jane Soyster writes from Andover, MA, where she reports that she is the new rector of a multilingual, multi-racial Episcopal parish in Lynn, MA. Her husband, John, continues to teach English at Phillips Academy - Andover, where Sam has just started the ninth grade. Gardner graduated high school last June and is at Kenyon College. Jane had been to the Galapagos Islands for a Kellogg Foundation Leadership Fellows seminar and recently co-chaired the Massachusetts Deputation of the Episcopal General Convention. I just missed seeing **Terry May** in Rehoboth at the end of the summer. He and his wife, Rachel, were there with their three children. EN is a senior at Langley High, Kayla is in the eighth grade at Cooper Middle School, and Michael is doing well, but was having an operation at Children's Hospital this fall. We hope all is going well. **Somers Randolph** and his wife, Hillary, are enjoying parenting daughter, Comfort, in Santa Fe. She is three feet tall at 15 months. Somers' jewelry business is doing well, you can look for it at fitzandfitzjewelry.com. Somers is also doing some sculpting and recently bought 50 tons of marble from **Carrie Gibson's '73** husband. He has also seen **Steve Freligh** and **Nick Lowery**. I saw **Kim Shorb** and **John Benzinger** at my mother's 70th birthday party that I and my sisters **Julie '73** and **Lizzie '75** threw in July. I also saw that **Anny Lowery Meza** had edited **Charles Guggenheim's** last documentary, which was on television last spring. My husband, Ronald Brooks, has been working in Philadelphia on *The Village* and I have been working on a re-make of *The Stepford Wives*. Best wishes to all for a happy and healthy new year.

1973

From Liza Gookin Hodskins:

REUNION

Julie Downes Edgeworth sends her sympathies to the Kennedy family as she still thinks of Michael near this anniversary of his death. Julie has been a success in the local music world, she was recently featured in *The Washington Post* for her performance at the Kennedy Center. **Bill Calfee** (see and write him through www.billcalfee.com) sent the following: "Building a new house as my old one is about to fall in. Very exciting to think of having stuff exactly as we want it! Still small (just under 2000 sf), but will have a shop and storage and two bathrooms etc. Life is good here—doing some teaching: Ornithology for VT Institute of Natural Sciences, an online course for Skidmore College, and substituting for High School math and science classes. Still researching the evolution of bird migration. It's cold here in VT—trying to think about skiing and other winter sports, but not quite ready yet!" (Bill's also been keeping in touch with Mr. Doswell, who plans to come for the Centennial, at least.) **Chad Loeb** Chad_L@msn.com writes: "I've spent the last few years restoring an old farmhouse in RI, working as a fishing guide in Key West, and having fun with non-profit and for-profit endeavors

in various places. No wife or kids (yet), but some magnificent godchildren!" **Armin St. George** ArminStG@aol.com is looking forward to the April 30th reunion. **Charles Spalding** cls@trisan.com rightfully crows: "Here in Costa Rica things are going great! The big news this year is that our son Christopher became the Number One Ranked 14-and-Under Tennis Player in Costa Rica—earning him invitations to play at the Eddie Herr and Orange Bowl Jr. Tennis tournaments in the U.S. later this year. We are very proud of his accomplishments. Stephanie, too, impresses us with her accomplishments in gymnastics and constantly excites us with her enthusiasm. Basically, Mom and Dad just go along for the ride! It's been a lot of fun! Business has been both interesting and good—actually a tough and challenging year. I still believe strongly in the Smart Card business. But, who knows, there could be some interesting changes on the horizon." **Cathie Davis Kaplan** ckaplan@potomacschool.org thought she didn't have anything new to contribute, but she was wrong! She exclaims: "I am in my 22nd year of teaching science in the Lower School at Potomac and enjoying it more than ever! Currently we are doing a study in 3rd grade at Pimmit Run (the stream at the back of the school). The children have found many old and interesting artifacts some dating as far back as the Civil War. I stay in touch with **Tina Adler** and look forward to seeing her and other classmates at our reunion in the spring. Potomac is also celebrating 100 years beginning in Sept. 2004 and hope that anyone who can, will return for some of the special events during that school year." **John Chester** john.chester@wildapple.com muses: "It's hard to believe that my older son is now in ninth grade - which used to be the tippity top at Potomac! At the time, that felt so old...and there was no sign of gray hair back then. We are as entrenched as ever here in Woodstock, VT, especially since our kids (Tommy, 15, and David, 11) don't like to travel as much as Laurie and I do. But, like the ogres we are, we insist on taking family trips, which they usually end up enjoying (don't ask about the exceptions). We're looking forward to traveling to Reunions - see you there!" **Tony Hass** thass@sbcglobal.net sends this from California: "Our two boys are keeping us busy. Will (3) has joined Henry (4) at a local elementary school where a couple of St. Albans alum are also parents. We took advantage of summer vacation and went to Kauai, the northern-most island in Hawaii. Very green, lots of big waves, sea turtles, and of course, dinosaurs, so the boys were happy. **Carrie Gibson** has recently moved to Los Angeles, so we are excited to get reunited with her. Otherwise, I look forward to seeing everyone at the reunion." **Carrie Gibson** carriegibson@earthlink.net probably won't make it to the reunion but tells us this: "I think my wandering urge has finally been satisfied by moving to Venice Beach. My husband Michael showed his paintings at the William Turner Gallery at Bergamot this fall. I got a great agent and look forward to lots of auditioning for film and TV, and cut my demo for voice-



SAVE THE DATE

for the 2nd Annual
Parents of Alumni
Reunion Reception

May 12, 2004

6:30 p.m.

details to follow



ALUMNI PAGES ONLINE

Check out the Alumni page on the School's website - you can enter classnews, update your profile, and find out what your classmates have been up to.

overs. Our 10-year-old daughter, Elsa, just landed a manager and is ready to surpass her mother's career aspirations, a strange feeling... Hope to run into any and all of you one of these days." (like mother, like daughter—Carrie's mom was recently featured in the *Washington Post* for her many years of recording books on tape!-LH) **Frank Bennett** Fbennet@inphonic.com tickled me with this announcement: the arrival of a third son in early January, 2004. "One of John's friends in sixth grade at Potomac said to his mother, 'I didn't know people that old could have children.' Philip, our next youngest, is in 3rd grade in Lower School and is already cheering his little brother for getting him upgraded to a bigger bedroom. I have been enjoying serving on the Father's Association executive committee at Potomac—their events, from campouts to theater, are terrific (and open to alums). Work at InPhonic continues to be super busy—we are now the biggest wireless phone company on the Internet and have grown to about 650 people. The arrival of wireless number portability is expected to drive 20 million Americans to switch. We are expecting exciting times around the holidays! I talked to **Channing Page** and her Mom in McLean this fall, and am looking forward to seeing everyone at next year's reunion." **Chrissie Albert Carnes** JBCGYPSY@aol.com is thrilled to announce: "Another grandchild is on the way to join Jenna, who's 1! In my defense this is my stepson's child, but grandmotherhood at 44 in Kentucky is no big deal.



Lizzie Edgeworth Cantacuzene's children, Nicholas, Elizabeth and Clarissa.

Jess is in high school and adjusting well to it. We traveled to the Northwest Coast for an elderhostel with my mom. If you've never attended one (you have to be 50 so find a slightly older person), I highly recommend it. The one we went to was very active - high ropes, canoeing, teams courses, kayaking, hiking. We went to one in Idaho last year and it was great, too. The rest of the family is fine. Lots of pets!! Work is fine—still the lovely schedule of 3-1/2 days for the most part. Veterinary medicine is a good career for that. Did you know human doctors usually have to work full-time because they have to pay those ungodly insurance premiums? Mine is only \$500 a year. A friend recently quit altogether because hers was \$54,000. Ick." **Diana Morgan** DianaInter@aol.com reports: "We are all well in Chevy Chase. I am a programming director at AOL. Julian is in 10th grade at GDS—his cross-country team recently competed at

Potomac and to hear this city boy's descriptions of the 'horribly' muddy, wooded tracks could only make me laugh. Camilla is loving 7th grade at GDS where she is on the tennis team." **Dorsey Davidge Chapin** dorsey.chapin@verizon.net is hoping to come to the reunion, though April 30th is her school's Grandparents Day, which she's in charge of. "Hopefully I can hand the

reins over to someone else here for the day so I can make it. May Day was always one of my favorite days at Potomac. I'm still working on the Centennial Campaign of Hackley School in Tarrytown, NY and loving it. This is Cate's first year of school. She is in a dual-language immersion Kindergarten program, with the goal of becoming fluent in Spanish. Daisy has started nursery school and is wonderful." As for me, **Liza Gookin Hodskins** (LHodskins@yahoo.com) the layoffs finally caught up to me at The Nature Conservancy—now I'm working at Potomac in the Admissions office! The weirdness is slowly rubbing off, but I occasionally get these strange flashbacks... While job-hunting I wrote some articles for the *Washington Post*, became the editor for our neighborhood association newsletter, started swing dancing, and organized a grassroots revolt against a developer who's tearing down our charismatic houses in Clarendon (Arlington, VA) to build million-dollar McMansions—a hard battle. Steve and I traveled in Europe this summer, and were able to visit with **Alexandra** (Alexandra.zuPappenheim@freesurf.ch) in Zurich, who was a gracious hostess, despite her confining pain after three back operations. I'm looking forward to our reunion, and will be calling you to ensure a great turnout. If there are any teachers or staff you'd like to have invited, please let me know.

1975

From **Peggy Griffin Labat**:

Lizzie Edgeworth writes, "One of the greatest joys about living in Washington is seeing alums and friends of Potomac from many generations. This spring, my mother and I attended **Sommers Randolph's '71** jewelry show, supporting Children's Hospital in honor of his father, Dr. Judson Randolph. In attendance were **Leslie Hyde '71**, **John and Georgia Chaffee Nassikas '74**, **Winkie Hamilton Bierbower '70** and many others including **Chris Kloman**, **Curtis Bohlen's** parents and **Chris Hamilton's** mother, who is a leader in fundraising at Children's Hospital. Also this spring, I went to a party for **Marshall Tucker '76**, his wife and their new son. It was great to see all of the Tuckers including **Michael '73** and **Elinor '80**. Of course, a Tucker party would not be complete without **Tony Hass '73** and **Jay Hass '76**. My sister **Julie '73** was there too and it seemed like old times. It was just over a year ago that my father passed away of cancer and support from the Potomac community was wonderful. Classmates who attended his memorial service were: **Margaret Evans Beers** from Hartford, CT, **Susan Holmes** from NYC and local alums **Sandy Sterrett** and **Lisa Brown**. I also received lovely notes from classmates **Chris Hamilton**, **Elizabeth Leigh** and **Jon Redway**. Thank you all. Life in Washington continues to be busy. My husband Michael and I and our three children, Nicholas, 4, Elizabeth, 2 1/2, and Clarissa, 16 months (see photo) recently moved to a newly renovated 1911 house near the Cathedral. Our oldest child, Nicholas, just began Pre-K at Beauvoir, just a 10-minute walk. I see on a more

regular basis our classmate **Sandy Sterrett, DeLancy Joyce Webster '73** and **Aen Webster '72**. My sister **Julie '73** works just down the road and visits us often. I see my sister **Ann '71** rather frequently, even though she lives in New York. With three small children, I do not get to NYC, but she makes a great effort to come and see us all in Washington or in Rehoboth. **Greg Scott** writes, "My wife Paula and I moved last year to Warrenton, Virginia but continue to work in D.C. — enjoying the daily commute on I-66! I am still a lawyer/lobbyist in D.C. and a partner at Collier Shannon Scott, where I've been for 12 years. We are expecting our first child (a little girl!) in January (we have gotten a late start on parenting compared to many of my former classmates), so we expect our lives to change in a lot of ways, generally for the better. Otherwise, work, horses, dogs, and hobbies keep us very busy and happy. I hope to catch up with everyone at a future Potomac event. I missed our 25th reunion because of a family wedding in Houston and was very disappointed that there was a conflict in my schedule. Oh well, maybe I can make the 30th! **Pam Mars Wright** writes that life in Wyoming is fabulous and a "peaceful reprieve from work and travel" but her life is hectic with kids, pets, job, etc. **Margaret Evans Beers** has a wide spread of school age children with one in college, two in high school and the youngest in Kindergarten! She looks forward to seeing everyone at our 30th in 2005.

As for me, still dealing with clean up from hurricane Isabel - with a four foot tide in Oxford - I canoed down the road to my Mom's house! My oldest is an eighth grader now and we are looking at boarding schools - I can still remember how hard that decision was when we all left Potomac after ninth grade.

1977

From Wendy Arundel Willauer:

Richard Li wrote to say that after a few years of bouncing around, he has settled into a job with the City of Milwaukee. He left the public finance field shortly before John Nuveen & Co. sold their investment banking division. He moved to Kansas City and tried his hand at risk management, retail brokerage, and a short stint as a financial systems analyst at Aquila (an Enron wannabe before their debacle), before taking a chair across the table from his former competitors. Richard now manages the annual \$300 million of debt issued by the city, and enjoys making the "experts" earn their confiscatory fees. Richard said he moved to Chicago after high school, so the move to Milwaukee is like a move back to the Chicago suburbs. His wife, Wendy, and three kids (ages 8-14) are slowly adjusting to new friends and schools, and enjoy the return to the cooler summers of the "north." However, he declined to comment about Chicago/Milwaukee winters except to say that in the first year he worked in downtown Chicago, he had to stop in each building between the train and the office to warm up. Richard is proud to announce that his oldest daughter, Natasha, just graduated from Stanford, and is putzing around until she starts graduate

school this fall. He also mentioned that a few years ago he crossed paths with **Rufus Johnson** when they both lived in Kansas City, and was interested to read that Rufus was now in Iowa. Richard was disappointed to miss the 25-year reunion last year, but the job change made it difficult to take time off. Hopefully life will be much more settled in time for the 30-year reunion.

From David Spaulding:

Greetings members of the class of '77!! I recently bought a house in Dover, NH so I have been busy fixing it up. Looking forward to another ski season in New England, anyone care to join me at Sugarloaf in Maine? I recently heard from **Laura Gill** who welcomed Bennet Hartley on June 19th. Laura has also been busy doing research on Nile crocodiles in Northern Botswana!!!! I think she is the only member of our class to be stung by a scorpion, glad to hear that the trip was overall a great success. **Mary Blow Provost** writes that she is the Dean of Students and a lower school counselor at a private school in New Orleans. Can you believe that her oldest son Justin will be 18!!! in March and Madeleine will be 13. Mary loves the New Orleans music scene, including Al Green and Stevie Wonder concerts at the "House of Blues." Hope everyone is doing well, I have not been to DC in years, I might have to swing down to say hi. All the best.

From the Alumni Office:

Cass Field Powell writes, "Things are great with me. I am still working at Saturn of Gaithersburg. Now I am working in the service department, with our online customers. Sort of an online service advisor. I like it; however I do miss sales (although I don't miss the long hours of sales). I recently bought the new Saturn VUE (the small SUV); I love it (my 3rd Saturn). My girls are doing well. Katherine is 4 1/2, loves reading and preschool, and is smart and stubborn; a dangerous combination! Emily is 2 1/2 and is a little angel-she must take after her Dad. My husband Jeff is still working in the home renovation business, and is keeping quite busy. We all went up to Chesterfield, NH for the Thanksgiving holiday, to see my Dad, who lives in Newfane, VT, and my two sisters, **Whitney '81** and **Elizabeth '79**, and my niece Jessica, who all live in and around Keene, NH. I haven't talked to **Andrew Edwards** since the summer; he and his wife Sue live on the Northern Neck of Virginia, on a farm with lots of dogs, cats, and hoping for horses. He and Sue are doing well. I'm looking forward to the next Potomac reunion. The last one at **Isabelle's** house was great!"



Laura Gill's son Bennet Hartley



ALUMNI PAGES ONLINE

Check out the Alumni page on the School's website - you can enter classnews, update your profile, and find out what your classmates have been up to.

CLASS CORRESPONDENTS

1990

Carter Smith
105 Duane Street
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carter.smith@lehman.com

1991

Thea Lehming Brandt
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thea_lehming@lycos.com

1993

Malissa Crichton Soong
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1994

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1995

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1997

Alexis Vanderhye
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McLean, VA 22101
avanderhye@yahoo.com

1998

Jessica Ohly
6650 Holland St.
McLean, VA 22101-1611
02jbo@williams.edu

1999

Daryn Cambridge
2393 North Kenmore Street
Arlington, VA 22207

2000

Alison Weisgall
5309 Edgemoor Lane
Bethesda, MD 20814

1978

From the Alumni Office:

Ian Angus N.M. Kerr married Miss Tomoko Nacao, a Japanese princess, in July aboard a ship in the waters off New York City. The couple now resides in both New York City and Tokyo.

REUNION

1979

From the Alumni Office:

Katherine Cox Folger writes that she is teaching ninth and eleventh grade English at South Hagerstown High School. She was recently in touch with **Barbara Greenewalt Dregallo** and **Damaris Abeles** who are doing well, too.

REUNION

1983

From the Alumni Office

Adria deLeonibus was married on September 27 to George Myers. The couple currently reside in Raleigh, NC and Adria is happily working with children at The Ravenscroft School.

REUNION

1985

From Christy Halvorson Ross:

Hello Class of '85! As always, it was wonderful to hear from some of you. I would like to, once again, put out my plea for more e-mail addresses, as it seems to be the easiest way to get in touch with alumni! Please let me (cross@parkmont.org) or Potomac's Alumni Office know if you correspond with any classmates via e-mail. Many thanks! Congratulations to **James Newbold**, who was married in May to Andrea Labarca. They are living in Santiago, Chile and just moved into a new apartment and are enjoying training their Westie puppy, Polo. They hope to see Potomac alumni passing through Chile! It was fun to hear from **Elen Ivorian-Jones Rogers**, who now has two children. Elen wrote: "Henry, 3, is in preschool three mornings (he loves it and so do I!!) - and Kate is 18 months and extremely busy!! They are lots of fun. My parents just moved back to our old house in

McLean from South Africa after eight years away! It is so nice to have them living on the same continent again - they came up to Boston a couple of weeks ago to babysit for a whole week so Arty and I could go to Italy on our own - it was fantastic!!! The other great thing about having them back in the DC area is that we will be coming down now and again - so it would be great if we could get together sometime. I'd love to see some old Potomac friends on my next visit (just after Christmas)." Garth and I also have two children now, Si, 2½, and Eva, almost one! We've been enjoying watching them play together and develop their adorable sense-of-humors. It's amazing how fast they grow and learn—our latest excitements are Si's beautifully sung ABC's and Eva's walking! **India Swayze Mann** and her husband Chris are also parents of two: Savitri, 4, and Ivan, newly-turned one. They are still living in and enjoying Chicago. My family was sad to see our neighbors and friends **Liz Padwe Muhlbaum**, David, and Sarah (now 1½) move all the way across the river, from Palisades, DC to Arlington, where they are enjoying their new, larger house. Please keep in touch, everyone! I do hope you are all well.



James Newbold '85 and his wife at their wedding. Also pictured Thomas Newbold '83 and his wife, Vera Havlova Newbold.



Many Potomac School faces, past and present, helped celebrate the wedding of Adria deLeonibus '83 to George Myers including (first row) Claire Hebler Harrington '83 with baby Fiona, Sara Hebler (former faculty), Jeanette Bolton, Moira Symanski, Tiffany Bridgewater, Prentiss Vallendar Lay '85, Winkie Grandison (former faculty), Sofia Scanlan. Back row: Elise Ravenscroft, Karen Gray, Wanda Hill (former faculty), Henry Courtney (former faculty), George Myers, Adria deLeonibus Myers '83, David and Mary Hardman (former Head of School and faculty), Jerry Rich, Jane Lorentz (former faculty), Mark Lay, and Amy Jones (former faculty).

1986

From the Alumni Office:

Serena B. Wille has just moved from New York City to Washington, DC to take a job with the 9/11 Commission (the independent bipartisan commission investigating the terror attacks and making policy recommendations based on their findings.) She looks forward to catching up with Potomac folks in the DC area.

1991

From Thea Lehming Brandt:

Thea sends her hellos from Seattle where she and her new husband, Adam Brandt, are settling into the long drizzly winter and their lives as a newly married couple. "Come on out for a visit! We love to teach snowboarding to newcomers so if you find yourself out in the Pacific Northwest give us a call for a lesson or simply a fun evening out on the town (insert coffee joke here!) Please send me your news! I'd love to see how you fellow Potomac alums are doing! **Aimee Barkley** - please email me because I lost your phone number almost as soon as I got it and I'd love to catch up with you! Now that life has calmed down it would be great to catch up with whomever is interested in doing so. At the least, please send me your news for the Term so in the next issue there'll be lots to report for the class of 1991! Best to you all!" Thea Lehming Brandt, thea_lehming@lycos.com

From the class of 1991:

John Lettow and his wife, Phoebe Smith, have settled back in the DC area where John is working as a chemical engineer. They will celebrate the second birthday of their son, Eli, this December. **Patrick Redmond** continues to work for Deutsche Bank and recently got engaged to Brooke Gaffney in Boston, MA. Their wedding is planned for the fall of 2004.

1992

From Ama Adams:

Trip Lilly passed the Chartered Financial Analyst exam (a three level finance exam in which each level is only offered once a year) and continues to manage Institutional Fixed Income Portfolios on Wall Street. Trip has also been busy filming a reality based television show for the Metro Channel in New York called "To Live and Date in New York," which finished production at the end of September and will air in October for nine episodes. The show may go national so keep your eyes open. He also filmed a 'cameo' episode for "Single in the Hamptons" which will air in the fall on the Women's Entertainment Network. **Lisa Jankowsky Brawn** and **Darius Brawn '95** are expecting their first child, a baby boy, in January. They are still living in NYC, and Lisa continue as Director of Admissions for Middle and Upper School at The Browning School, an all-boys private school. Darius is Managing Director at The Endicott Group, a hedge-fund here in NYC. They frequently see many other

Potomac alums including: **Tim Wisecarver '91**, **Morgan Till '91**, **Mike Semchyshyn '91**, **Josh Stinchcomb '91**, **Josh Bowers '91**, **Kathy Modecki**, **Kelley Johnson**, **Leslie Hamady** and **Antonia Stout**. All but Leslie Hamady and Josh Bowers were able to attend Darius' 30th birthday party in NYC this past spring. **Allyson Bloom** has a new baby, her first, Theodore (Teddy) born on October 11, 2003. Allyson is in her second year residency in emergency medicine at George Washington University Hospital. She and her husband Daniel Gerkin will be moving to McLean.

1993

REUNION

From Malissa Crichton Soong:

Hi everyone. Thanks to all who responded with current news. An exciting announcement from me is that my husband, Tony, and I are expecting our first baby in December 2003! **Tara Barrett Ciongoli** received her MBA from Harvard in 2002 and is working as a consultant for McKinsey and Company in Boston. She married Greg Ciongoli in August 2003 in Martha's Vineyard. **Michelle O'Hara** and **Erin Cleary**, both of whom now live and work in the DC area, were in her wedding party. **David Carpio** received his Master's from Columbia University and is working as a Union Organizer in New York. He married Michelle Rief, a college professor, in August 2003.

Lauren Banks-Amos '94, **Katie Carberry '94**, and **Gina Cordero '94** all attended his wedding in Florida. **Louise Nickerson** lives in London where she is earning her Master's in Computer Science. She plans to start her PhD in the next six months. Louise and her fiancée are to be married in January 2004. **Leah Quadrino** is an attorney in the litigation department of Steptoe & Johnson, LLP in DC. She recently saw **Chris Seline** and **Elliot Schneider** at a musical performance by

Gist, a band of which **Nayan Bhula** and **Fred Burton** are members. Nayan and Fred have also opened a record store, Revolution Records, that sells new and used CD's. The store is located in D.C. on Connecticut Avenue, just one block from the VanNess Metro. **Charlotte Martin** has moved to New York City and started her own business. See photo of her with two of her former



Thea Lehming Brandt '91 and her husband Adam Brandt on their wedding day



Tara Barret Ciongoli and Erin Cleary at Tara's wedding in August 2003

students. **Michelle O'Hara** has returned to Potomac, running Summer Programs and serving as an assistant in Ms. Norton's kindergarten class.



Charlotte Martin '93 with former students selling her artwork at a Fall Frolics Marketplace booth. Her new business is called *Alphabet Soup*. She does watercolor illustrations of a child's name individualized to incorporate favorite activities and interests. If you are interested, contact her at charlottesalphabetsoup@yahoo.com, 318 Mansion Drive, Alexandria VA 22302 or 175 W 87th St. Apt 2A, New York NY 10024.

1994

From the Alumni Office:

Julia Morrill is working at Sports Illustrated and recently has begun writing her own weekly column, "What to Watch and Watch for."

1995

From Katie Sabella:

Greetings Fellow Alums!

After a lengthy hiatus, your class of '95 news is back! Following completion of a second bachelor's in Biology, I started veterinary school this past August at Colorado State.

Todd Trapnell '91 and I have been married a little over two years and just moved up to Fort Collins, CO with our two dogs, Pepper and Barney. Todd works in Denver for MCI as a product manager and "loves" his commute. While Colorado is beautiful, we miss all of our friends and family back home and hope to be back on the east coast in the next four to five years. Here's what everyone from the class had to say: **Mike Alper** is still in Chicago, working as a United States Probation Officer, and is assigned to the presentence investigations division. **Ali Brownfeld** was in AmeriCorps in Tulsa, OK in a literacy program after graduating from William & Mary, and then went to Boston in 2000 to attend Boston College's Master of Education program in elementary education. She student-taught in central Italy, worked in Boston until this past August, then moved back to the DC area where she is teaching second grade at the Islamic Saudi Academy in Alexandria. **Nabeena Chatterjee** is in her last year of law school at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill and spent the past summer doing criminal litigation work. She is engaged to Arnab Banerjee, whom she met at UNC. Their wedding will be in July, 2004 in New Delhi. **Alex Fielding** continues to work as a research assistant at Jefferson Consulting Group in Washington and recently attended the wedding of **Britt Kline**. **Merritt Hicks** recently married her college boyfriend, Mark Engelhardt. They are living in Los Angeles, where Merritt has lived for the past six years, since graduating from Carnegie Mellon. She has been acting when she "can get the work," which is "never often enough," according to her. She still has a second job but hopes someday soon that that will change. The latest part Merritt played was a guest-starring role on "Cold Case," the new CBS drama. She believes it aired around the second week of November. Merritt reports: **Lisa Poretsky** got married recently in Maryland to Kim Hartman. And, **Sarah Kilberg Schermerrhorn** gave birth to her first son, Jack, last year and is currently expecting twin girls. She has moved back to Virginia with her husband Scott. **Kim**

REUNION

Jerro reports that she is back in school and back in the suburbs! She had been living in DC for a while, testing the waters in the business world, and decided that neither the city, nor the career path suited her. She just began graduate school at Marymount University and is studying for a dual Masters in English as a Second Language and Elementary Education. Kim says that she loves being back in the classroom, and she and **Antonia Blackwood** are still playing soccer and see each other here and there along with a handful of other "Potomacins." **Ben Jordan-Downs** graduated in 1999 with a Bachelor of Science in Psychology from Syracuse, then graduated in 2002 with a Master's in Architecture from Virginia Tech. He is currently at Ohio State pursuing a second Masters in Sports Management. Ben serves as a graduate administrative associate in the department of recreational sports at OSU. This past summer Ben worked for the lead design firm for the new recreation center at Ohio State and also attended **John Shoemaker** and **Kim Weber's** wedding. A good time was enjoyed by all in attendance: **Dwaune Jones**, **Chris Carroll ('96)**, **Gus Pappas**, **Geoff Burr**, **Carter Byrnes**, **Bill Frisbie**, **Alex Fielding**, **Lei Francis**, and **Slater Harding**. Ben hopes to settle in Columbus, OH and become a registered architect in the next three years. He also officiates high school basketball and football. **Senem Kudat** recently acquired three new stepsiblings who also happen to be Potomac alums: **Jack Brown '96**, **Kate Brown '97**, and **Lucinda Brown '00!** The DC metropolitan area is home base for all of them. Senem spent a year in London at the London School of Economics, and received a Masters of Science in Urban Economics. She then joined the Mars Company as a marketing manager in Istanbul, Austria, and Croatia. After two years, she returned to Virginia and started an international development consulting company called "Social Assessment." **Reed Kuhn** is living in Arlington, VA, working for a scientific research and development think tank. He is finishing up his master's degree in Systems Engineering through an executive weekend program at the Darden School of Business at UVA. His roommate is **Ted Tzirimis**, and they live across the street from **Bill Frisbie**, **Carter Byrnes**, **Slater Harding**, and **Lei Francis**. **Geoff Burr** and **Matt McBay** also live nearby and Reed sees a lot of the "other locals:" **John and Kim Shoemaker** (formerly **Weber**), **Kim Jerro**, **Mike Stock**, and **Antonia Blackwood**. Reed reports that there are plenty of other Potomac alums around, but it usually takes a special event to get people together, like the "100 Years of Us" party in NYC last year for the collective 25th birthdays of **Nish Herat**, **Aaron Kuney**, **Jessica Wright**, and **Chris Schneider**. Speaking of NYC, **David Maxwell** recently got engaged and partied on the town with **George Wisecarver** and **John Twomey** in the Big Apple. **Eddie McNamara** has been keeping himself busy as a bond trader at Freddie Mac in Tyson's Corner, and has also been coaching the Potomac Boys' Varsity Basketball team in the winter and summer. Eddie says, "It's very strange coaching in the same gym that I used to play in, and even

more strange getting to practice everyday and seeing the row of backpacks and binders piled up outside of the gym (with the schedules stuck in front!!!)....some things never change!" Eddie was also recently in **Brian Pence's** wedding in DC. **Paul Newport** writes: "After wandering aimlessly for three years in the deserts outside Burkina Faso, have somehow found myself in a small theater on Broadway in a sketch comedy show called "Now That You've Seen Me Naked." After the appallingly low turnout at his own debutante ball, I went into a malt for quite some time and kept myself busy with my favorite hobbies of shuffle board and spear fishing in a small suburb outside of Cincinnati. Eventually working up the courage, I headed to the Big Apple with dreams of becoming a seamstress. This dream [was] shattered by his ridiculous taste in color and his total inability to sew, so I took up acting in order to escape himself. Comforted by my friends - who provide me with a couch and a blanket in the colder months - Paul feels ready to handle the unavoidably devastating last season of "Friends." Paul would like to say hello to all his classmates - if any of them would just return his calls." Meanwhile, **Carolyn Ocean** has also been living in New York City since graduating college. She loves it and is working as a Human Resources Manager for Ferragamo USA on Fifth Avenue. She has been with the company almost three years, and has run into **David Maxwell**, **Aaron Kuney**, and **Chase Stock '97** on occasion. **Kathryn Smith** is in her second year of law school at Wake Forest and is currently looking for a job. She misses DC and Atlanta and hopes to settle in one or the other. Kathryn reports that her sister, **Kristin Smith '94**, is happy and teaching first grade at Potomac! **Ted Tzirimis** is living in Arlington, VA with **Reed Kuhn**, and is still working as a senior research analyst for an IT research and advisory company, the META Group, in Reston, VA. Ted has been there since 1999 and has spoken at numerous conferences. Ted is also busy playing on two men's softball teams and two men's soccer teams, and helps train two under-14 girl's soccer teams. Ted is also currently writing a piece for the Potomac madrigals that will hopefully be performed next year. On August 2, 2003, **Jessica Wright** became engaged to her boyfriend of four years, Craig Baldenhoffer! They plan to marry in the spring of 2005. Jessica is living in Hoboken, NJ, working in NYC, and often hangs out with **Nish Herat**, **Chris Schneider**, **Peter Kloman '96**, and **Lane Jost '97**. After finishing her second master's degree in Museum Education, she worked part-time at the Cooper-Hewitt, National Design Museum, and the Museum of Modern Art. Jessica is now the Manager of School Programs at the New York Historical Society Museum in Manhattan.

1996

From the Alumni Office:

Chris Crampton has a new job at Goldman Sachs. He spent his vacation in Ireland. **Randy Starr** is an associate with CB Richard Ellis in Investment Properties, the largest commercial real estate firm in New York City.

1997

From Alexis Vanderhye:

Samantha Granger, a dear friend to so many people at Potomac, passed away December 26, 2003. Everyone who loved and was loved by Sammy is truly blessed. She had too many wonderful qualities to mention, but one thing universally known and loved about Sammy was her warmth and sense of humor. She had the best laugh and was the funniest friend. She was everyone's most adventurous friend too, kayaking, biking, hiking and surfing all over the world. More than anything, Sammy was deeply compassionate and loving. She was humble, miley and inclusive of everyone, a bright spot in life for so many people. She is loved and missed too much, in too many ways to name. May we always please cherish her and life. Only good things for you all in 2004...

Julia Bissell moved to New York City this past year and is fundraising for the capital campaign at the Museum of Modern Art. She's enjoyed running into lots of Potomac classmates. **Caryn Cramer** is currently enrolled in NYU's Draper Program, the country's only interdisciplinary Master's Degree in Social Thought and Humanities. She is also applying to law school for next fall! **Conor Hiney** flies F-15's and loves it. He is being transferred to a base in the mountains of Idaho. **Gillian Kilberg** is a third-grade teacher in Alexandria, Virginia. She is still running *Grandma Rita's Children*, the special trips camp for needy and abused children she founded in her grandma's honor. **Kirsten Lodal** is working as the CEO of the nonprofit



*Samantha Sumners Granger
March 19, 1979–Dec. 26, 2003
Donations in Sam's name may be made to Compassion Over Killing (www.cok.net) and/or the International Institute for Humane Education (www.iihed.org)*



Eliza Sedgwick Brunson '97 with husband Stuart.

she founded in college, National Student Partnerships. **Eliza Sedgwick** married Stuart Brunson on November 1, 2003! Eliza works as a Legislative Liaison to Tennessee's Office of the Governor and Department of Tourism. She and her new husband live in Nashville, Tennessee. **Beau Standish** has returned to the Langley, Virginia area and is doing very well. **Abby Sullivan** is working on the Hill and will be attending Johns Hopkins' School for Advanced International Studies (SAIS) next fall. **Ellen Walker** lives in France and is very happy. **Jamie White** is living in London, spending his days at an acting conservatory. He and **Karl Channell** are working on showing an interactive film they made to investors, and



ALUMNI PAGES ONLINE

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CLASS CORRESPONDENTS

2001

Daphne Chester
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2001

Stirling Kelso
2401 Pearl Street
Austin, TX 78705
mstirlingkelso@mail.utexas.edu

2002

Kathleen Buchanan
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2003

Aleem Ahmed
1624 8th Place
McLean, VA 22101

they're working on several other big projects. **Emily Winland** is living happily in Washington, DC and is engaged. She and her fiancé, Michael Gribble, are planning to marry on May 8, 2004. **Courtney Young** started a program among Washington, DC women (mothers and daughters) and is transforming communities through her leadership (my words, not hers). Everyone else... I hope you are all very happy and doing well. It was really nice to talk to and hear from people. If you have news at any point, please feel free to e-mail (avanderhye@yahoo.com) or call (703.472.5220) anytime! Hopefully we can have more reunions.

From the Alumni Office:

Anna Robertson is pursuing an MFA in Acting at the Actors Studio Drama School in New York City. **Joe Weiss** writes, "I have been living in Kyoto, Japan for the last year and a half and when **Chase Stock** came to visit me in July, we, along with my Japanese friend, Kanaya Nobutaka, decided to climb Mt. Fuji. We took off from the 5th Station (around 1800 meters) at about 10:30 pm, and after some altitude sickness (mine) and time to enjoy the views from the mountain, we reached the top (3776

meters) around 6:00 am. Unfortunately, it was too cloudy to see the sunrise, but the sun came out a little later in the day and we were able to view Japan from well above 3000 meters."



Joe Weiss '97 and Chase Stock '97 on top of Mt. Fuji.

Headquarters in Atlanta. **Elena Sylos-Labini** reports that she is living in Arlington and working as a securities structuring analyst at Freddie Mac. **Brian Carney** wrote that he completed his first year at Tulane Law School and spent the summer working for the Department of Justice in the Criminal Tax Division. He recently got engaged to Kristine Bilotti. **Jonathan Wilson** reports that he is graduating with a Masters from the Medill School of Journalism at Northwestern University. He was interning at ABC News in Washington, DC for the fall 2003. **Carolyn Starr Doolittle** writes that she is married to Cameron Doolittle, also a Stanford graduate. Carolyn is teaching third grade in Concord, California.

1999

From the Alumni Office:

Charlotte Hutton wrote to us that she is helping her university develop a museum while interning this year in historic preservation. If it ever quits raining she can get back to her archeological digs! **G. Trenholm Boggs** reports that he graduated from Colby, finished his honors

REUNION

thesis in American Studies and is looking for a job. **Shauna Burgess** wrote that she graduated from Princeton in June and started law school at NYU this past fall. **Elizabeth Hawkins** reports that she has signed on for a two year stint with Teach for America and is teaching middle school science in East Baton Rouge Parish, Louisiana. **Carlos Blake** graduated from the University of Pittsburgh with five majors: Cognitive Psychology, Psychology, Neuroscience, Math, and Philosophy. He left for Tanzania in September to volunteer for the Peace Corps for two years.

2000

From the Alumni Office:

Molly Gulland wrote that she is the managing editor of the *Daily Princetonian* and an officer in her eating club - Tower. **Burke Brownfeld** wrote that last year he spent his junior year studying at the University of Iceland. This past summer he attended a William & Mary summer session in Florence, Italy and then worked for the Alexandria Police Department. He also spent three weeks working at an orphanage in Guyana, South America for which he received a William & Mary Service Grant. He is now a senior completing his degree in Psychology. **Anne Laughlin** reports that she is an English major and a member of Delta Delta Delta sorority and the Penn water polo team.

2001

From the Alumni Office:

Mallory Shear-Heyman writes that she is a Psychology and Anthropology double major, theatre minor and is working in the psychology perceptions lab at Bucknell doing undergraduate research. **Golnar Oveysi** reports that she is entering her third year as a history and international relations double major with a minor in French. She is looking forward to spending spring semester abroad in London. **Michael Carney** writes that in the fall quarter he began his electrical engineering co-op experience working at Cape Canaveral at the Kennedy Space Center. **Edwin Merrigan** is studying business and cycling and playing racquetball. **Will McIntire** writes that he is in Scotland at the University of Edinburgh this semester. He has seen **Kate Jackson** several times even though Kate is spending the year in Switzerland on her year abroad from the University of Edinburgh.

2002

From the Alumni Office:

Frances Symes spent the summer interning for Senator Joe Biden in the Senate Foreign Relations Office. **Patrick Scanlon** writes that he ran his own landscape business this past summer and in his spare time did construction with Mr. Cox. **Taylor Kelly** reports that he worked with **Chris Steed** during the summer. He is living in the Beta fraternity house this fall. **Blair Boggs** writes that she is finally starting at UVA after taking a year off!

Brad Ash writes that he is enjoying his second year at college and his fraternity – Phi Sigma Kappa. **Jimmy Albrittain** is a sophomore at St. Lawrence University. **Meredith Van Tine** writes that she was inducted into the National Society of Collegiate Scholars and the Phi Eta Sigma Honor Society. She made Dean's List both semesters and was awarded an Echols Scholarship.

2003

From the Alumni Office:

Ashley Albrittain Ross reports that she was an early decision field hockey recruit. Her family has a new home in Vermont. **Andrew Duncan** reports that, "School is fantastic!" **Phillip Wolff** writes that he is attending Georgetown University; he left Paris after being there for two years. His family, including his younger brother, is still there for another year. **Ian MacLeod** writes that he is "psyched to enter the class of 2007 at Wesleyan University." **Emma Jackson** writes that she completed 'high school' in England; she will take a gap year before university in fall 2004. She will be teaching in Thailand and Mongolia! **Mike Kirkman** reports that for two weeks this past summer he toured France, Spain, and Italy with **Sean O'Meara**. The rest of the summer he and Patrick Scanlon '02 used their muscles and creative talents running their own landscaping business. **Danny Gavula** reports that he is a recruited athlete playing soccer (varsity) for Georgetown – starting midfielder. He is majoring in Business at GU. **Margaret McClintic** writes that she spent a month in Paris studying fashion illustration through Parsons School of Design (NYC.) She saw **Ashley Seidlitz** and **Leila Batmanghelidj** there! **Allana Strong** writes, "Hmmm, nothing too big. I'm going to be in Duke's FOCUS Program entitled "Voices of Freedom," but other than that no big events to report." **Ross Condon** reports that he accepted a walk-on position with the Villanova (basketball) Wildcats. Look for Ross wearing #4 during the Maui Classic. **Scott Nelson** spent last summer working as a guide for canoe trips in the Boundary Waters of Northern Minnesota. ■

In Memoriam:

We extend our deepest sympathy to the families of the following members of The Potomac School community.

Hope Alexander Benson, January 2004

Infant daughter of Meghan Alexander (current faculty) and Bob Benson.

Edward Ernst '38, November 28, 2003

Samantha Granger '97, December 26, 2003

Cousin of David Granger '90, Randolph Granger '80, and Whilken Granger '78.

David Greenwalt, October 2, 2003

Father of David Greenwalt '75, Barbara Greenwalt Dragallo '79, Henry Greenwalt '81, Charlotte Greenwalt '84, Frederick Greenwalt '86

Anne Reynolds Kennedy, September 30, 2003

Mother of Tallie Kennedy '77 and Lauren Kennedy Mayle '80

Eleanor Rust Peirce Koehler '25, September 25, 2003

Mother of Mathilde Koehler Rothwell '66 and Lisa Koehler '72

Donald G. MacDonald, January 12, 2004

Father of Jean MacDonald '64

Dr. Harry M. McAllister, February 14, 2003

Father of David McAllister '65, Jane McAllister '70, and Sue McAllister '76. Grandfather of Nate Smith '99, Ben Smith '01 and Max Speil '15.

Pamela L. O'Neill '58, June 8, 2003

Sister of Carol O'Neill '63 and Phebe O'Neill '75

George Plimpton '36, September 26, 2003

Brother of Francis T. P. Plimpton '42

G.B. "Chip" Reid, Jr., October 3, 2003

Husband of Rosi Reid, father of Elizabeth Reid Miller '95 and Caroline Reid '04, stepfather of Emily Reiter '96 and Laura Reiter '99. Former Trustee of Potomac School Board.

Henry Hatch Dent Sterrett, Jr., October 21, 2003

Brother of Samuel Sterrett '37, brother-in-law of Jeane McBride Sterrett '39, uncle of Samuel Sterrett '75 and Robin Sterrett '77

Julia G. Warner '29

Sister of Mary Warner Hamilton '27, aunt of Judd A. Gregg (past parent), great aunt of Sarah Gregg '98 and Joshua Gregg '02.



PAST FACULTY & STAFF NEWS

Please send your news about past faculty and staff to alumni@potomachool.org or call the Alumni Office at 1-800-725-8664.



CLASS OF 2004 LIFERS

Back row: Derek Thompson, Billy DuVal, Zachary Kaplan, Drew Durbin, Edmund Rucci, Michael Diamond, Michael Amann, Christopher Moore, Patrick Harris, Robbie de Picciotto, Michael Murphy, Kevin Mayer, Oliver Cannell, and Pete Dalla. Front row: Kelly Hackett, Kelsey Killmon, Claire Linden, Margot Kabalkin, Libby Carson, McKenzie Millar, Regina Lee, Christine Montgomery, Caroline Reid, Claire Robertson, Jaya Chatterjee, and Golbanou Tabatabaie.



ALUMNI BASKETBALL GAME

For the 2nd year in a row the boys basketball team has been ranked as one of the top twenty teams in the Washington Metropolitan area. And, the 2nd year in a row the current team hardily defeated the alumni under the skilled coaching of Matt Carlin, Pat Herwig, and Tim Fudd. It was all smiles as the alumni celebrated after the game at Chadwicks.

Photo to right: Carl Fairbank '00, Evan Dannemiller '00, Brett Nelson '95, Brendan O'Connell '02, Brendon Jackson '02, Philip O'Bannon '02, Brian Fairbank '03, Jon Direnfeld '00, Alex Mikszewski '01, Sean Sullivan '02, Marty McNerney '03, and Brian Newell '01.



Brett Nelson '96, Garrett Nelson '97, Coach Matt Carlin, Alex Mikszewski '01, Brian Newell '01, and Coach Pat Herwig.



George Kambanis '98, Joey Wright '98, Coach Tim Fudd, Aris Pappas '99, and Brandon Jackson '02

Calendar of Events Spring 2004

MARCH

- 11 Alumni Town Hall Meeting
- 16 Book Fair Alumni & Family Night 6:30 pm
(visiting author George F. Will - 7:30 pm)

APRIL

- 17 Spring Stewardship Day
- 30 May Day - 1 pm
Reunion Weekend (April 30 & May 1)

MAY

- 1 Reunion Weekend
- 3 Alumni news due for Term summer issue
- 12 Parents of Alumni Reunion Reception
- 17 Alumni/Senior Dinner
- 24 Golf Tournament

JUNE

- 7 Upper School Red/Blue Day
- 9 Graduation and Reception

Please check alumni website for other alumni events as well as additional information at www.potomacschool.org. Have an idea for an alumni event? Contact Maria Graceffa by phone 703-749-6356 or 1-800-725-8994 or by email alumni@potomacschool.org.

Private Tour



Potomac alumna Diana Hardin Walker '56 signs copies of her book *Public and Private: Twenty Years Photographing the Presidency*, after giving potomac alumni a personal tour of her exhibit *Diana Walker: Photojournalist* at the Smithsonian National Museum of American History.

REVELS - WASHINGTON, DC

There was a fabulous turnout for the annual Alumni and Past Parent Revels Reception despite the snowy weather. 80 alumni gathered at the George Washington University Club to celebrate the season. There were about 100 alumni and past parents at the performance that night at the Lisner Auditorium.



Pam Kloman (right) enjoying the reception



David Frazier '77 and Sandra Panetta



Sarah Holms Briggs '74, Jean McDonald '64, Geoff Jones, Prentiss Vallender Lay '85



John G Dugger '39, Suzanne Helm, and David Langstaff.
Below: Sally Hand Heren '54 and Leslie Hyde '71



Above: Sara Hebeler Below: Jane McAllister '70, Lucy Jewett Lowenthal '68 and Ann Sprint Crawley '69



Above: Peter Lowenthal and Chris Kloman.
Below: David Langstaff and Norma Dugger



NEW YORK RECEPTION

Alumni Governing Council New York Representatives Julia Bissell '97 and Carter Smith '90 with the help of Amy Demas '85, Edie Demas '80, and Lisa Shimamura '90, organized a gathering for Potomac Alumni from the classes of 1975-1999. The event was held at the Black Door on New York's west side. It was a great opportunity for Potomac alumni to re-connect with classmates who are also in New York City as well as meet some new Potomac alumni from other classes. New Director of Alumni Relations Maria Graceffa traveled to New York for the event to get to know some of the New York alumni.



Carter Smith '90, Edie Demas '80, Julia Bissell '97, Amy Demas '85, Lisa Shimamura '90, and Maria Graceffa, Director of Alumni Relations.



Chip Chapin '75, Alexis Vanderhye '97, and Ivan Blinoff '75.



Lisa Shimamura '90 talking with a guest.

ALUMNI CONNECTIONS



Kindergarten: Back Row: James Pitzer, (Vinnie Lemon Pitzer '82 and grandmother Lavinia Plumely Packard '57) Toby Robinson (Scott R. Robinson '80 and Farida Robinson '80), Justin Frazier (David B. Frazier '77 and uncle Christopher Frazier '80) Charlie Ausbrook (J. Keith Ausbrook '73 and uncle Michael Ausbrook '71), Holly Frank (Randy Frank '72, uncle Lanier Frank '76 and aunt Eleanor Frank Hazard '73), Grace Moses (David Moses '76 and aunts Barbara Moses '71, Jennifer Moses '74, Amalie Moses Reichblum '78), Sheila Reitano (grandmother Sorrel Mackall McElroy '52) Front Row: Bram Wilson (Speke Wilson '79) ,Tyler Crowley (Ayse Uzer Crowley '85), Catie Mathias (Rob Mathias '77 and uncle Charles Mathias '74)



First Grade: Back row: Tricia Yeonas (cousin Jason Ellis '03, Richard Ellis, Jr. '97), Max Spiel (Jane McAllister '70, uncle David McAllister '65 and aunt Susan McAllister '76), Kyle Paul (Isabelle Chester Paul '77, uncles John Chester '73 and Charlie Chester '81, and grandmother Clara Mills Chester '45), Christopher Caskin (Christopher Caskin and uncles Francis Caskin '76 and Michael Caskin '81), Emma Resor (father James Resor '75, uncle Tom Resor '73), Front Row: Brooks Arundel (Peter Arundel '75, aunt Wendy Arundel Willauer '77, and uncles John Arundel '81 and Tom Arundel '90), Will Langstaff (aunts Carol Langstaff '59, Deborah Langstaff '69, uncles John Langstaff, Jr. '66, Peter Langstaff '68, great uncle Jack Langstaff (past faculty), Mark Betts (grandmother Alice Patterson Slade '45), Greta Schaaf (Lise Metzger '72 and uncle Jon Metzger '74), and Grace Cherouny (Merrell Redway Cherouny '82, aunt Annabelle Redway Dunn '85 and grandmother Annabelle Loud Redway '52.)



Second Grade: Back row: Adam Moses (David Moses '76 and aunts Barbara Moses '71, Jennifer Moses '74, Amalie Moses Reichblum '78), Catherine Arnold (uncle Gilbert Keech, Jr. '68), Jessica Howard (Victoria Howard '77, uncle Jay Howard '75 and aunt Irene Howard Higginson '79), Clare Mathias (Rob Mathias '77 and uncle Charles Mathias '74), Rosemary Ewing (father JC Ewing '78 and aunt Cynthia Ewing '79), Front Row: Ben Rietano (grandmother Sorrel Mackall McElroy '52), Nicholas Arundel (Peter Arundel '75, aunt Wendy Arundel Willauer '77, and uncles John Arundel '81 and Tom Arundel '90), and Emmett Darman (brothers William Darman '94 and Jon Darman '99.)



Third Grade: Back row: Max Ausbrook (J. Keith Ausbrook '73 and uncle Michael Ausbrook '71), Caroline Resor (Jamie Resor '75), Devon Winsor (Curt Winsor '78 and aunts Anita Winsor Edwards '79, Monica Winsor Washburn '83, and Rebecca Winsor '97), Allegra Wilson (Speke Wilson '79 and uncle Reid Wilson '82) Front Row: Jack O'Gorman (Scott O'Gorman '76), Cyrus Nassikas (John Nassikas III '74 and Georgia Chafee Nassikas '74), Derek Rush (sibling Kristen Rush '98), Ellie Pitzer (Vinnie Lemon Pitzer '82 and grandmother Lavinia Plumely Packard '57.)

ALUMNI CONNECTIONS



Fourth Grade: Left to Right: Lacy Rosse (Gray D. Rosse '74), Alexandra Harper (Jeffrey Harper '72 and aunts Deborah Harper Hailey '69 and Elizabeth Harper Danello '74), Kip Strong (Henry Strong '72 and aunts Sigrid Strong Reynolds '67, Barbara Strong Doty '68, and Dana Strong van Loon '70), Cameron Kahl (Caroline Baldwin Kahl '72), Rebekah Ausbrook (J. Keith Ausbrook '73 and uncle Michael Ausbrook '71), Matthew Harper (Jeffrey Harper '72, and aunts Deborah Harper Hailey '69 and Elizabeth Harper Danello '74), Zachary Meza (Anny Lowery Meza '71 and Scott Meza '71 and uncles Christopher Lowery '66, Mark Lowery '66, and Nick Lowery '71.)



Fifth Grade: Left to Right: Eliza Redway (Jon Redway '75, grandmother Tilda de Kauffman Redway '43, and great-grandmother Charlotte MacDougall de Kauffman '13), Kyra Paul (Isabelle Chester Paul '77, uncles John Chester '73 and Charlie Chester '81, and grandmother Clara Mills Chester '45), Christopher Jaffe (Kim Shorb '71), John Diamond (uncles John O'Neill '69 and Stephen O'Neill '74 and aunt Barbara O'Neill Douglas '71), Campbell Millar (sister Brady Millar '00), Cara Smith (brothers Adam Smith '01, Edward Smith '98), Ali Moses (David Moses '76 and aunts Barbara Moses '71, Jennifer Moses '74, Amalie Moses Reichblum '78), Hana Betts (grandmother Alice Patterson Slade '45), B.J. Jackson (Broadway Jackson '76.)



Sixth Grade: Left to Right: Hailey Burton (sister Camden Burton '02), Alexander Nassikas (John Nassikas III '74, Georgia Chafee Nassikas '74, uncles John Chafee '71, Quentin Chafee '77), John Bennett (father Frank Bennett III '73), Ann Bellinger (Dawn Renzy Bellinger '77 and aunts Rachel Renzy Meima '82 and Ann Renzy '86), Jenna Meza (Anny Lowery Meza '71 and Scott Meza '71 and uncles Christopher Lowery '66, Mark Lowery '66, and Nick Lowery '71), Jessica Catto (William Catto '78 and aunt Isa Catto '80), John Henry Strong (Henry Strong '72, and aunts Sigrid Strong Reynolds '67, Barbara Strong Doty '68, and Dana Strong van Loon '70), Lucy Green (grandmother Julie Arnold '49.)

ALUMNI CONNECTIONS (NOT PHOTOGRAPHED)

Intermediate School students with close alumni connections: Ethan Redway (Jon Redway '75, grandmother Tilda de Kauffman Redway '43, and great-grandmother Charlotte MacDougall de Kauffman '13), James McElwain (Bill McElwain '70), William Chester (aunt Isabelle Chester Paul '77, uncles John Chester '73 and Charlie Chester '81, and great-aunt Clara Mills Chester '45), Ann MacMurray (Worth MacMurray '68, aunt Adelaide MacMurray Aitken '60 and grandmother Rose Chatfield-Taylor MacMurray '35), Catherine Kahl (Caroline Baldwin Kahl '72), Samantha Betts (grandmother Alice Patterson Slade '45), Jessie Diamond (uncles John O'Neill '69 and Stephen O'Neill '74 and aunt Barbara O'Neill Douglas '71), Louisa Chafee (aunt Georgia Nassikas '74, uncles John H. Chafee '71, Quentin Chafee '77 and grandmother Sophie Finkenstaedt Danforth '43), Katie DuVal (Clive DuVal '64 and uncle Dan DuVal '68), Jonathan Eakin (Richard Eakin '65), Christopher Ewing (father JC Ewing '78 and aunt Cynthia Ewing '79), Clara Labadie (Liza Kuhl Labadie '72), Todd Langstaff (aunts Carol Langstaff '59, Deborah Langstaff '69, uncles John Langstaff, Jr. '66, Peter Langstaff '68, great uncle Jack Langstaff—past faculty), Sarah Moses (David Moses '76 and aunts Barbara Moses '71, Jennifer Moses '74, Amalie Moses Reichblum '78.)

Upper School students with close alumni connections: Ben Weisgall (uncle David MacDonald '77 and aunt Alison MacDonald von Klemperer '75), DeDe Potts (uncle David H. Potts '65 and aunt Lindsay V. Potts '70), Robbie Taylor (Nancy Lindsten Taylor '67 and aunts Betty Lindsten Mulrey '65 and Karen Lindsten Devlin '71), Martha Diamond (uncles John O'Neill '69 and Stephen O'Neill '74 and aunt Barbara O'Neill Douglas '71), Tribbie Nassikas (John Nassikas '74, Georgia Chafee Nassikas '74 and uncle John Chafee '71), and Halley Dodge (aunt Lalla Dodge Brutoco '64), Aja Ewing (father JC Ewing '78, aunt Cynthia Ewing '79), Chanel Jackson (father Broadway Jackson '76), Patricia Green (grandmother, Julie Arnold '49), Allie Rowan (mother, Emily Train Rowan '65, grandfather, Russell E. Train '33), Kate Jones (mother, Liz Blair Jones '69), Maria McElwain (father, William G. McElwain '70), Amanda Gutierrez (mother, Polly Pittman '74, grandmother, Barbara White Pittman '47), Charlotte Lawson (uncle C.C. Carter '74), Nicholas Nassikas (aunt Georgia Nassikas '74, uncles John H. Chafee '71, Quentin Chafee '77, and grandmother Sophie Finkenstaedt Danforth '43), Lilly Adams (mother Boucie Addison '67), Billy DuVal (father Daniel DuVal '68, uncle Clive DuVal III '64), Emily Rowan (mother Emily Train Rowan '65, grandfather Russell Train '33.)

Take a walk down memory lane...



Here's what Alumni said on the Reunion Survey:

An e-mail survey was sent out this fall to learn what alumni want to see and do on their reunion weekends. Here's what you said:

79% of alumni said they would attend a **Friday night event**

The **top events** that alumni would like to see are:

- Cocktail Party
- Memorabilia display
- Nature Trail Walk
- Alumni Speaker

95% of alumni said that the **number one reason** they would return to Potomac for reunion is to **see classmates**. You will be missed if you do not attend – mark your calendars now for **Reunion 2004 – April 30 – May 1 2004!**

We welcome your suggestions – please contact Maria Graceffa, Director of Alumni Relations at alumni@potomacschool.org or 1-800-PALUMNI (1-800-725-8664)

REUNION 2004 TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Friday, April 30

- 12:00-3:00** Registration in the Engelhard Performing Arts Center lobby
- 1:00** May Day Celebration
- 6:30-8:30** Welcome Reception for all reunion classes (childcare available)
- 7:30-8:30** Celebration Dinner for 50th reunion classes

Saturday, May 1

- 9:00-12:00** Registration in the Engelhard Performing Arts Center lobby
- 10:00** Walk the Nature Trail with Peter Munroe
- 10:00-12:00** Tours of campus
- 12:00-1:00** Alumni luncheon
- 1:30** Class photos taken
- 2:15-3:15** Alumni classes - Choose from one of the following:
 - "The Greek Alphabet" with Imogen Rose
 - "Re-discover Ancient Egypt" with Angela Bullock
 - "Giotto and Dante" with Ida Cook and Bill Brown
- 3:15** Sing-a-long
- 2:00-4:00** Call classmates not attending reunion in Development Office
- 10:00-4:00** Memorabilia Display
- Share your memories with Centennial History Committee
- 11:00-4:00** Kids Club Childcare
- 6:00** Class dinners in private homes and/or on campus

Class Dinners in the evening

The following classes will be our guest for their dinners on campus: 1928, 1929, 1933, 1934, 1938, 1939, 1943, 1944, 1948, 1949, 1953, 1958, 1968, and 1994.

All other classes will celebrate their class dinners off campus at a classmate's home.

R.S.V.P.

Invitation will be mailed to your home or register online (www.potomacschool.org) by April 9, 2004. For your convenience we accept Visa/MasterCard.

Questions?

Call Maria Graceffa, Director of Alumni Relations 800.725.8664 or email Aumni@PotomacSchool.org.

Families Welcome!

STUDENT GALLERY

creative works by student artists



The Potomac School art programs provide students with an opportunity to use and experiment with a wide variety of mediums. Samples on this page include Lower School cut paper collages as well as Middle and Intermediate School projects done with paints and/or pastels. Upper school art students are shown creating wall sculptures using designs cut from thick cardboard and applied pastel coloring.

