Innovation in teaching and learning

“Much Ado” about Alexis Denisof ’83

Schreiber ’98 battles cancer from the inside and out
A Question of Honor

What does it mean to live honorably in the St. Paul’s School community?
In asking this question at our Fall Convocation, I insisted that it is not rhetorical. In many ways the answers are deeply fundamental in the nature and to the purpose of this school, and they need to be sought earnestly and frequently.

We strive to live by a written standard here – our Honor Code, which students developed and adopted, and which reflects the grounding virtues of honesty and respect. It is important, I stressed that morning, to understand how those virtues should extend throughout our lives here together. To live honorably, as I wrote to parents as the school year was beginning, means much more than refusing to cheat or steal – the themes of many school honor codes. To truly value each other, to honor one another, despite differences, despite disagreements, is to live fully into our ideal of community at St. Paul’s School.

To honor one another. And to honor all others. In an environment of the most intense academic rigor and concentration on excellence in every area, that kind of honor is not always a natural inclination. But to remind ourselves of its absolute centrality in our lives together is the reason we gather in Chapel during the week and pray that we may “be thoughtful of those less happy than ourselves.” It is the purpose of Seated Meal, of advisee dinners, of collaboration in the classroom, on the stage and in the laboratory, of membership on an athletic team.

I suggested that morning that we could move noticeably closer to realizing our vast potential as a community if we not only continually examined what it means to live honorably, but more importantly, if we recommitted to practicing, actively practicing, living honorably on the smallest scale in our daily lives.

A friend of mine told me recently, “To honor a person is to bear witness to that person’s story.” To look someone in the eye as you pass each other on the grounds, to sit beside someone you’ve never spoken with before and introduce yourself, to pay attention to someone else’s unhappiness, to someone else’s story. To listen.

This is the source of our strength and of our deepest learning.

Michael G. Hirschfeld ’85
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New Form Plaques

Editor’s note: Using a grant from the Form of 1973 Mentor Fellowship, SPS Archive Assistant Lisa Laughy, who moonlights as a woodcarver, has been commissioned to revive the form plaque project. The project was initiated in 1921 by Fourth Rector Samuel Drury and carried out by original woodcarver John Gregory Wiggins, who memorialized School history in wood from 1921 to 1953. Production of the plaques ceased in 1990 – until Laughy’s proposal to reignite the tradition in the spring of 2010. Plaque descriptions have traditionally been printed in Alumni Horae.


A large snowflake design represents the blizzard of March 1993, which covered Millville in snow. The spirals (middle left and right) represent the blizzard’s intense winds. An open book with the initials “DVH” represents the appointment of David Verne Hicks as Tenth Rector. The book symbolizes the Rural Record, a journal of day-to-day life at the School from 1857 into the early 20th century. The Tien Track, outlined in the upper right corner, was dedicated in October 1992.

The New Hampshire State House dome is the central image of the 1998 plaque, representing the march by more than 300 SPS community members to the State House lawn to encourage the addition of Martin Luther King Jr.’s name to the holiday, previously called Civil Rights Day. An open book with the initials “CBA” represents the appointment of Bishop Craig Barry Anderson as Eleventh Rector. The IV inscribed on the trophy represents the four sports teams to win New England championships that year – field hockey, wrestling, and boys and girls crew.

The 2008 economic recession is represented in the central image by a grumpy bear holding a stock market chart with its arrow pointing down. The boys varsity squash team won the New England championship, an event represented by the two crossed squash racquets behind the bear. The year 2008 saw the end of the use of lunch trays in the dining hall as seen in the monogrammed SPS tray located to the left of the bear. The SPS waffle depicts the newly acquired waffle iron, complete with SPS crest-branding capabilities. The winter of 2007–08 produced record levels of snow and ice. The background behind the bear depicts the snow-covered School grounds, with a layer of ice extending beneath the ursine feet.

An open book with the initials “MGH” represents the appointment of Michael Gifford Hirschfeld ’85 as Thirteenth Rector. The Greek letter Delta surrounded by a laurel wreath represents the Delphians, winners of the Club Cup competition for the school year. The World Trade Center towers, dated 9/11/11, mark the 10th anniversary of the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. A snowman holding a jack-o’-lantern recalls the big storm near Halloween – the only significant snowfall of the winter season. In the lower left corner is the newly constructed Lindsay Center for Mathematics and Science, dedicated on November 29, 2011.

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Frozen Fenway

The SPS girls hockey team has been invited to play at Fenway Park as part of Frozen Fenway’s Independent School League hockey day. The Big Red will face ISL opponent Governor’s Academy on January 8, 2014. Game time is 1:30 p.m.

Fenway Park has been a venue for ice hockey games since January 2010, when the Boston Bruins hosted the Philadelphia Flyers in the National Hockey League’s Winter Classic event. When the SPS girls team plays at the 101-year-old home of the Boston Red Sox, it will mark the third edition of Frozen Fenway, an event initiated to showcase the many levels of hockey that exist in and around the Boston area, including regional and league rivalries.

The 17-day ice event will run from December 28 to January 13 and will include seven public and private high school hockey games and nine men’s and women’s college hockey games.

“The team is both honored and ecstatic to be invited to play at Frozen Fenway,” said Head Coach Heather Farrell, who enters her third year at the helm of the SPS girls program. “It’s a great opportunity to play a unique game in a unique setting. We are excited to play a team like Governor’s, which has such a storied history in hockey, in front of what we hope is a great crowd.”

The SPS girls hockey team comes off its best campaign in program history, a 23-2-1 mark that included a trip to the New England semifinal.

“We are excited to be a part of this great tradition,” said SPS Athletic Director Scott Heitmiller ’81. “What an amazing opportunity for the girls and the School to have this experience. I hope many SPS fans will come to support the team.”

Tickets can be purchased online at www.redsox.com/frozenfenway or by calling 877-733-7699.

Reviving the Reredos

Scaffolding that seemed a mile high adorned the altar of the Chapel for much of the summer as restoration artists armed with cotton swabs and small paintbrushes worked to reinvigorate the nine paintings on the reredos.

The entire section of the altar, which includes the paintings and yards of intricate woodwork, was donated near the turn of the century by the Vanderbilt family in memory of William Henry Vanderbilt of the Form of 1889.

The eight-week reredos restoration, spearheaded by Connecticut-based John Canning Studios, included revival of the paintings, some of which were flaking and cracking, using tiny brushes and a neutral–pH aqueous solution. The project also included cleaning the masonry and the fumed oak woodwork and replacing a starlight fixture at the peak of the ceiling.

“The most noticeable difference will be in the paintings, which will show more detail, vibrancy, and depth of color,” said restoration artist Cynthia Fiorini from her perch on the second level of the multi-tiered scaffolding. “We will spend between 20 and 30 hours [each] on the paintings that need the most reconditioning.”

Into the Wild

When the pilot Fourth Form Wilderness Adventure was conceived last year, its goals included welcoming and orienting participants to the Fourth Form year, helping them to establish friendships and community before the start of the school year, developing problem-solving and teamwork skills, learning outdoor skills, and deepening participants’ appreciation for the natural world.

“Getting to know four other returning students very well and two faculty members at the School before I came to SPS was a huge help to me, and it put me in a new friend circle,” said Luther vom Eigen, a new Fourth Former from Hampden, Maine. “I had much more confidence coming to school after the camping trip.”

Vom Eigen was one of 19 Fourth Formers to participate in the three-day wilderness journey designed to introduce new students to St. Paul’s and to help new and returning Fourth Formers in their transition to what can be a challenging high school year. He was one of 11 new members of the Form of 2016 to join eight returning Fourth Formers, three returning upper-formers, and eight faculty chaperones from September 3 to 6 on a camping and hiking trip in New Hampshire’s White Mountains. The trip included a 5.5-mile hike up and down Mt. Chocorua and a night at Steele Farm in Wonalancet, N.H., complete with a jamboree and contra dancing.

Dean of Students Chad Green was one of the faculty members to initiate and develop the pilot program. In addition to helping new students acclimate to St. Paul’s before the bustle of the new school year, Green said he hoped the wilderness trips, and, if he hoped, future ones, will serve as reminders to students of the beauty of the School’s natural surroundings.

Dream in Gold

At a lunch with 60 students in the Lower Dining Room, three-time Olympic gold medalist Misty May–Treanor spoke of the dedication required to be an Olympian, relating her experience to what it takes to be successful in the classroom.

“You are all at this school to stay one step ahead,” said May–Treanor, who visited SPS on October 7. “Do the little things because those are the things that are going to make a difference, even though nobody is going to see you doing them.”

Recognized with partner Kerri Walsh Jennings as the most successful beach volleyball duo of all–time, May–Treanor spent the day at St. Paul’s as a Conroy Visitor. She first ate lunch with the smaller group, taking questions and posing with one of her three (2004, 2008, 2012) gold medals before moving on to Memorial Hall, where she addressed the entire school.

In both sessions, May–Treanor delivered a consistent message: success comes as a result of hard work, and it should not be taken for granted. She told the students...
that while training for the Olympics, she spent five days a week on the “sand.” A typical day included between 10 and 11 hours of training of some sort, including track workouts, practice with Walsh, and physical therapy.

May-Treanor related her experience as an Olympian to the work students must do to get ahead in the classroom, telling them “the work you put in is what you will get out.” She spoke of playing in her first volleyball tournament with her father when she was eight, of loving both soccer and volleyball but discovering she loved volleyball just that much more. She stressed the importance of setting goals and shared that she enjoyed watching Olympic table tennis in Beijing because “it’s not how we play at our home.”

After speaking in Memorial Hall, May–Treanor observed the SPS varsity volleyball practice in the Athletic and Fitness Center. As for what’s next, she told students that she has not ruled out a fourth Olympics in 2016.

**Habitat Habit**

*By Bill Matthews ’61*

It was evening in Questa, New Mexico, and 10 of us from the Form of 1961 – seven formmates and three spouses – finished our last meal together by reciting the School Prayer.

We took some time to reflect on the meaning of those powerful words in the context of the Habitat for Humanity week we had just completed in this small town about 30 miles north of Taos. The night before we had enjoyed a simple but delicious dinner at the Habitat offices, prepared by the children of the single mother, working three jobs, who would be moving into the home we built. The family was filled with pride, happiness, and appreciation as they anticipated moving into their first owned home. The trailer in the park where they rented had been breached three times in the last six months. For all of us who worked on the house, meeting Crystal and her children was the highlight of our trip.

Mike Seymour, our form director, organized the week in New Mexico, where members of the form represented a variety of skills, ranging from those of master carpenter Will Pier to my own unskilled hands. Mark, the construction foreman from Habitat who oversaw our work, was relentlessly cheerful and encouraging. Crystal and her children put in 500 hours of sweat equity themselves and, with the help of a nonprofit mortgage from Habitat and the work of many volunteers, will make payments on a mortgage of $80,000 over 30 years, manageable, but barely so, on Crystal’s $20,000 annual income. The home sits in the high-desert country, surrounded on all sides by majestic mountains, with brilliant red sunsets, the beautiful land dotted with cottonwood, sagebrush, and ponderosa and pinyon pine.

Will, Mike, and Jim Hatch were the skilled carpenters, while Sherm Barker and Rick Leach cleared and landscaped the lot, buying and planting fruit trees. Bobby and Carroll Clark, Maggie Seymour, and Marcia and I cleaned, stained, sealed floors, and painted floorboards and walls. Mark, in a kind way, told us we were considerably older than the usual group he works with, and most of us joked at the end of the day about our aching knees and joints. In the evenings, we talked easily and comfortably of our days at SPS and in the last six months. For all of us who worked on the house, meeting Crystal and her family was the highlight of our trip.

Show and Tell

Six members of the Science Department shared their classroom innovations in the first “show and tell” initiated by Dean of Curriculum and Teaching Lawrence Smith.

In the October 9 presentation at the Lindsay Center, biology teachers Carlin Aloe and Julie Cepiel explained the concept of a “flipped” classroom, which reverses the cycle of lecture and homework. The teachers have developed a series of short video presentations called “prezis” that cover the course material. Students are charged with viewing the presentations in the evenings and taking notes so they are armed with questions for class time, which is dominated by collaborative activities and “homework.”

“The approach promotes group learning, working together and taking ownership of their own learning,” said Aloe, noting that few students, if any, refer to the textbook, which is optional for the course.

Colleague Emily Hewitt also spoke of shedding the textbook in favor of project-based learning in her molecular biology classes. “It’s more like a research lab than a traditional classroom,” she said, describing her approach as real-world science and lab experience as the context for classroom learning. At the end of a unit on genetics, Hewitt said her students’ understanding of the material far surpassed that of previous years.

Physics First teacher Joe Holland discussed the construction of a low-tunnel greenhouse on campus, providing homemade salsa prepared by the SPS Farm Team with tomatoes, peppers, onions, and cilantro as an example of the students’ learning about harvesting their own food.

New engineering teacher Will Renauld shared the technological capabilities of the School’s 3D printer, including an 8” plastic replica of the Chapel, while science teacher Darik Vélez demonstrated the possibilities of the School’s Science on a Sphere, a large globe that can project images and programs, including the world’s air-traffic control system, weather systems, and how Facebook connects people around the world. Vélez will teach a class this spring with a focus on students designing applications for use on the sphere that will have multidisciplinary implications.
Getting to St. Paul’s had been a challenge for Eleanor Roosevelt. First, as she drove from Poughkeepsie, N.Y., she faced a long detour due to the flooding that had washed out the bridge spanning the Connecticut River near Brattleboro. Then, perhaps because she was distracted by the devastation she’d witnessed – breached dams, flooded homes and businesses, homeless men, women, and children – she initially missed the entrance to the School. But finally, on April 27, 1936, the first lady arrived at St. Paul’s.

Mrs. Roosevelt had been invited by Fourth Rector Samuel Drury and the School’s “head boy,” her own nephew, Daniel Roosevelt of the Form of 1936. Daniel was not her only relative who attended St. Paul’s; his brother Henry had graduated in 1934, and her cousin, Douglas Robinson Jr., was a member of the Form of 1872. Her father, Elliott Roosevelt, had also attended briefly in 1875.

The first lady toured the Chapel, watched the Lower School students rowing on Long Pond, and admired the swans preening themselves on the still waters. She was suitably impressed by the beauty of the campus.

“The grounds and the trees and so much water make the place most attractive, and because the buildings are widely scattered, you are not really as conscious of a great many boys around you,” she said.

Later she was invited to address the students in a crowded study hall. The boys sat on “any place they could find to perch themselves” – benches, atop desks, balanced on radiators. Mrs. Roosevelt talked to them about personal and national challenges, encouraging the young men to “learn to take your chances.” When she opened the floor to questions, there was no shortage. “Instead of the usual long pause in which you wonder if anyone will ever get up the courage to say anything,” she later reported, “this group jumped in almost immediately.”

Several of the students asked about the unemployed. This was a frequent topic for the first lady, who worked hard to try to convey the desperation of Americans devastated by the Great Depression.

She explained, “I often wonder how we can make the more fortunate in this country fully aware of the fact that the problem of the unemployed is not a mechanical one. It is a problem alive and throbbing with human pain.” She urged the boys in the audience to remember “how easily we ourselves might be unemployed, given a different turn of fortune’s wheel.”

Though she worried about the nation, Mrs. Roosevelt found promise in the boys’ bright faces on that spring day in 1936. She later recalled her visit, noting, “There is something very touching in the contact with these youngsters, so full of fire and curiosity about life.”

The first lady believed firmly that the future was in the hands of these young men on the cusp of adulthood. “Youth has courage and the spirit of adventure,” she advised, “and we should give it our confidence.”

Michele Albion is the editor of The Quotable Eleanor Roosevelt, The Quotable Henry Ford, The Quotable Edison and The Florida Life of Thomas Edison. She lives in New Hampshire.
LETTERS

Editor’s Note: A few readers have asked us to identify the photograph that opens the article “Finding Meaning” in the Spring 2013 issue of Alumni Horae. Some of you will recognize the view upward into the narrow, spiral stairs that lead to the tower of the Chapel of St. Peter and St. Paul. ▶

Please keep writing to: The Editor, Alumni Horae, 325 Pleasant St., Concord, NH 03301 or to alumni@sps.edu.

All in One Magazine Stroke

I have been reading the Alumni Horae for Spring 2013 this morning. What a superb issue of the magazine. There are so many themes, handled so wonderfully, and yet the final segment has alumni notes as always and as faithful Horae readers have come to expect. The photography and the printing are beautiful. All in one magazine stroke, a remembrance of the several celebrations is accomplished with distinction. This certainly is a high testament to the group of advisors and writers and planners who clearly have been deeply involved in this for some time. An excellent job, and congratulations.

William Oates, Eighth Rector
Westwood, Mass.
June 19, 2013

New Goals

I want to thank you guys for the best Alumni Horae ever [Spring 2013], and I am happy to say that I do not feel this way simply because it includes my uncle’s obit (Jack Hollister ’43). The three lead articles are just outstanding! Not sure that I can pull this off, but my goal is to appear to check the Chapel for all the gems captured by Karen Bobotas, most of which (typically) I had not known to exist. Again, many thanks!

J.J. Stevenson III ’59
Watch Hill, R.I.
June 16, 2013

Apostles’ Creed

It seems unnecessary to write six pages on the question of whether St. Paul’s is still an Episcopal school. Is the Apostles’ Creed recited regularly on Sundays (participation presumably being voluntary)? If yes, it is. If no, it isn’t.

Bill Brigham ’61
Putnam Valley, N.Y.
June 18, 2013

Finding Meaning

I appreciated the article “Finding Meaning” in the Spring 2013 edition. May I offer two observations?

First, the report of a recent self-assessment was quoted: “Four mornings a week, students and faculty gather in the School Chapel to celebrate community, engage in prayer and meditation, and begin the academic day just as the first three students did 157 years ago.” It seems to me that today the students and faculty do not gather just as they did at the school’s founding. Indeed, the claim to meaningful historical continuity appears quite stretched. This is borne out by another article published in the same issue, “Architect and Builder,” by Douglas Marshall. The author recounts, “It was to the Chapel that the School repaired twice daily and three times on Sunday. At intervals, every boy in the School was required to publicly answer questions from the catechism. At the appropriate age, all were confirmed. In the early years of St. Paul’s, all of the masters were unmarried clergy.”

Second, the Reverend Michael Spencer, SPS dean of Chapel and religious life, was represented as emphatically denying that for families who send their children to an Episcopal school this “means indoctrinating them into the Episcopal faith.” Further on, the story was told of a mother who initially drove to the School on Easter in order to take her son to Roman Catholic services under the impression that “it didn’t count unless we went to a Catholic church.” But four years later, for him “the idea of going someplace else for services is just crazy.” Now as a matter of fact, according to the Catechism of the Catholic Church, Catholics are required to attend Catholic services on Sunday. In this case, then, the young man was indoctrinated into the Episcopal faith; he now sees the teaching of his church as “crazy.” While this could be discounted as a poor choice of words, it could also be taken as indicative of the ardor felt by a new convert.
I value greatly the education that I received at St. Paul’s, especially the religious formation, so much so that I was ordained in the Episcopal Church, and in the Old Chapel itself. My name appears on the plaque of alumni clergy (of which a picture appears on the page preceding your article). However, as I learned more scripture and theology and history, I came to see how far the Episcopal Church has departed from the Christian tradition. Certainly, some of that tradition remains, most visibly in the Chapel of St. Peter and St. Paul itself. May those who continue to gather there discover its clues and follow them.

Rev. Oliver R. Vietor
St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church
Phoenix, Ariz.
August 21, 2013

Roots of Change

In appreciation of Jana F. Brown’s article “Finding Meaning” at St. Paul’s School and in partial rebuttal of Zach Allen ’56, I would like to call attention to two significant changes in the approach of the School to religion during the 20th century.

These changes occurred due to the reform measures of the Form of 1968 and the measures of the 70s. The 1968 reforms were called upon the spring before I came to St. Paul’s. The reforms from 1970 to 1972 followed. In the spring of 1970, artistic members of the Form of 1970 constructed letters in the form of “Love” upon the Chapel lawn. This began the movement. Afterwards, the Form of 1971 and 1972 opened up academics to include non-European studies such as African and Chinese history. With them, the approach of sacred studies to the School opened up to include studies of Hinduism, Buddhism, and Islam.

So you see, diversity was well on its way at the School before the 21st century. I think offering and worshipping in many faiths was well rooted in the School by 1972. I think the School can hold onto its Episcopalian roots and traditions at the same time as it honors and respects other religious expressions. Indeed, it is in so doing that it remains a Christian school, open as Jesus was to the whole world.

Clint Van Dusen ’72
Pittsburgh, Pa.
June 17, 2013

A Soul-Searching Peace

I wish to tell you a story about the “new” Chapel, related to your article in the Spring 2013 Alumni Horae. Your article did not mention the acoustics of the building, which are excellent. I played in the band and would take my cornet to the Chapel at night and play a few songs I heard from the records I knew (Herb Alpert and Al Hirt were my favorites). The door opened one night, and it was the first security guard hired by the School – Mr. C, I think. He asked me what I was doing, and I said I was practicing for Carnegie Hall. He said it was fine, but that I should leave soon. I often blasted my heart out and soon after would hear a far door close. I think Mr. C was there, but I never saw him again. My Carnegie Hall was at SPS, alone in that magnificent edifice, and it gave me a soul-searching peace.

Stephen Gasperini ’74
Victoria, Texas
June 13, 2013

Important Questions

Thank you for your enlightening articles and extensive study of athletics (Fall 2012) and religion (Spring 2013) at St. Paul’s. I have shared and discussed these with friends and fellow coaches.

I am very thankful for the gift of my education at St. Paul’s. The School changed my life. I arrived with very little religious instruction or practice. Rector Kelly Clark confirmed me and several of my friends as Third Formers. Ms. Kerr taught our year-long religion class, which one of my formmates called “the spiritual bedrock of [his] time at St. Paul’s.” The spark we read about in The Chosen grew in me. Later in life, I served as a missionary overseas, where I met my wife. I have been blessed and transformed by SPS and its spiritual instruction.

Thank you for examining the important question of what it means to be St. Paul’s School.

Bill Kessler ’87
Charlotte, N.C.
July 21, 2013

Brawn and Brains

Much of the article “Brawn and Brains” (AH, Winter 2013) about farming alumni was heartening, and the section on Oliver Griswold in particular caught my eye. My husband and I enjoy a group of Highland cattle for neighbors (kept just for grazing a national park field), and we share Griswold’s affection for these gentle, shaggy characters.

It’s encouraging to read of Griswold’s children and their innate discomfort with slaughter, (“cheerfully” and blithely trivialized as just “one very bad day” earlier in the article). May they indeed “question conventional wisdom” that eating animal-based foods is necessary and healthful, and that choosing to kill for pleasure is OK. May they un-“adjust” and revert to their natural state, learn truly the value of sentient life — not as dollars per pound of market weight — and allow nonhuman animals to live out their lives. May we all follow suit, and embrace farming which is genuinely sustainable, abundant, just for all, and disease-fighting: with land devoted to a rich variety of vegetables, grains, legumes, fruits, and seeds.

Ellen Kennelly ’81
Lincoln, Mass.
May 2, 2013
The summer of 2001 brought unrest and violence to Zimbabwe. Under the rule of President Robert Mugabe, the government was in the midst of seizing more than 4,500 local farms without compensating their white owners. More violence was expected with the approach of the February 2002 elections, and the United States had threatened sanctions against Zimbabwe in an attempt to cease the bloodshed and uncertainty under Mugabe’s rule.

It was early September 2001 when Sean Wilkinson ’04 embarked for America, leaving his home and his family in Bulawayo, the second-largest city in Zimbabwe. A squash player who already had earned a spot on Zimbabwe’s U-14 national team roster, Wilkinson followed fellow Zimbabweans Linda McNair ’01, Gavin Johnstone-Butcher ’02, and Katia Stipinovich ’03 to St. Paul’s, with the promise of a stable environment, a rigorous education, and the opportunity to test his squash acumen across the world. It was an emotional goodbye with his family, including Sean’s father, who was ill at the time.

Fast forward to May 5, 2013, the day Wilkinson was offered the opportunity to become the eighth head coach in the history of Princeton University men’s squash.

“In appointing Sean Wilkinson as the new head coach of men’s squash, the search advisory committee sought a candidate who possessed the coaching ability and personal qualities of former coach Bob Callahan,” Princeton’s Director of Athletics Gary Walters said in a release. “We believe that Sean will prove to be a worthy successor of Bob’s, will be embraced by the Princeton squash stakeholders, and will eventually put his own stamp on the program.”

It was former longtime SPS boys squash coach Roy McNamara who, on an annual pilgrimage to Zimbabwe in 2000, recognized Wilkinson’s squash talent and convinced the family that St. Paul’s would be the best place for Sean.

“It was a difficult time for him,” says McNamara. “It was a long way from home. His family was really tight-knit. But squash was a great gateway for him to come to America.”

Wilkinson’s father was a barrister at Barclays bank, focused on lending to farmers. With Mugabe’s charge to confiscate white-owned farms without compensation, the family’s livelihood was uncertain. The Wilkinson’s were a family struggling to survive.

“I was a little young to realize the impact in the long term,” says Wilkinson, now 27. “But I knew something could happen to anyone in my family at any time.”

It was his older brother, Ian, who initially took up the sport when Sean was in grade school. When the family moved across the street from Suburbs Squash Club, “I just couldn’t stop,” Wilkinson says, noting that he abandoned cricket and field hockey to pursue the racquet sport. “Squash took over everything.”

McNair, Johnstone-Butcher, and Stipinovich already were students at SPS, and Wilkinson applied to the School with fellow Bulawayo native Natalie Thomas ’04. Though McNamara wants no credit for Sean’s continued success, it turns out that chance meeting with the then-SPS squash coach has made all the difference for Wilkinson, who has followed his athletic talent from one opportunity to the next.

With an unpredictable mail system a barrier to his next step, Wilkinson learned of his SPS acceptance only when his mother called the School one Saturday morning seeking the answer. “Other than the ones I knew who had gone to St. Paul’s, people stayed with their families,” he recalls. “Nobody went to boarding school in America. I knew it was a great opportunity.”

The transition to St. Paul’s was difficult, Wilkinson admits, and he struggled at first with the culture, his studies, and homesickness. But he thrived on the squash court, playing No. 1 on the SPS ladder for two seasons and earning All-ISL honors. Still, his St. Paul’s future was in doubt. In the summer before his Sixth Form year, Wilkinson returned to Zimbabwe to discover a collapsed economy. His father was gravely ill and his mother had been a recent carjacking victim. His parents sat him down to explain that, though he had a generous financial aid package from St. Paul’s, the family would be unable to pay his other expenses, including books and travel. Resigned by circumstance, Wilkinson sent an e-mail to his best friend Deacon Chapin ’05, sharing the news.

“Within three hours, Deacon’s father, David, whom I had met once or twice, was on the phone, telling my parents he’d take care of me,” recalls Wilkinson.
“For a young Zimbabwean to be able to come to the U.S., complete his high school at St. Paul’s, continue his studies at Bates College, and now be the head coach at Princeton is an unbelievable story.”

“The Chapins really became a foster family for me. They took me into their lives completely.”

The Chapins covered Sean’s travel and other expenses, included him on family vacations, and accompanied him on his college visits. “Once he met the Chapin family,” says McNamara, “that was his breakthrough – he now had a family here.”

David Chapin encouraged Wilkinson to apply early to Bates College, where Sean eventually was accepted – in part as a squash recruit.

“It has been gratifying,” says David Chapin, “to watch a boy from Zimbabwe grow into such a fine young man. We are all better for this ongoing relationship.”

Wilkinson went on to captain the Bates men’s varsity for three seasons, filling in as a player-coach for the men’s and women’s teams when the Bates coach left unexpectedly mid-season of Wilkinson’s senior year.

“I became a coach by chance,” he says now, after helping the Bates men to the Hoehn Cup at Nationals in 2008. He was named to the NESCAC first team and received the Bates College Sportsmanship Award. A summer coaching gig at Williams College followed, and it was there that Wilkinson met former world No. 1 squash player Peter Nicol. The two became friends and, a few weeks later, Nicol called Wilkinson with an opportunity – coaching squash in Milan, Italy.

“Peter played an important mentoring role for me,” he says. “We talked often about coaching and I decided college squash was where I really wanted to be.”

Two years into his stay in Milan, Wilkinson was offered an assistantship at Brown University under veteran coach Stuart leGassick. In the spring of 2011, Wilkinson received a call from yet another squash associate – a former top-ranked player in the world, John White. White’s offer? Come to Drexel University and help him start a squash program. Together, White and Wilkinson took the fledgling men’s and women’s programs into the nation’s top 25 and Drexel was awarded the 2012–13 Most Improved Team award by the Collegiate Squash Association. But in April, while watching Nicol play, Wilkinson ran into Columbia squash coach Jacques Swanepoel, who encouraged him to apply for a position at Princeton left vacant by the retirement of beloved 32-year men’s coach Bob Callahan, who was battling cancer.

“I thought it would be good interview experience,” says Wilkinson.

Within days of his interview, Wilkinson was offered the Princeton job.

“I still remember Sean sitting in the office after being offered the job and asking me what he should do,” says White. “I told him in the nicest of ways that he needed to leave [Drexel] as he may never have this opportunity come along again. Squash has played a very big role in giving Sean a great life so far and will for many years to come. For a young Zimbabwean to be able to come to the U.S., complete his high school at St. Paul’s,
continue his studies at Bates College, and now be the head coach at Princeton is an unbelievable story. He has put endless hours into this game and is now being rewarded for all this hard work."

McNamara, whose belief in Wilkinson’s squash ability helped to make all of this possible, says he is “extremely proud of Sean. He deserves everything he has worked for.” Nicol has been impressed with his friend’s humility, describing Wilkinson as someone who chooses not to dwell on the difficult times in his life.

“The first time I met him, he was a young counselor at camp, but he got coaching from the very first minute,” says Nicol, now a close friend who recently asked Wilkinson to be godfather to his first child. “He is a lot of fun and at the same time incredibly thoughtful and demanding. His circumstances in life have been tough at times and he has gone through those with a great spirit, always looking forward. He takes that into his coaching. He will be awesome for Princeton. He will get those kids fighting for him and for each other.”

Fresh off a recruiting trip to Asia for Princeton, Wilkinson is only now enjoying time to reflect on the series of turns his life has taken.

“Squash has been incredibly important to me,” he says. “If I had never met Roy McNamara, I’m not sure where I’d be. The squash community is so small, always willing to help. I’ve had incredible mentors who have turned into friends. I am grateful for this opportunity at Princeton. It’s something I never thought would happen this soon. I am very willing to give back—so many people have helped me.”

Wilkinson, whose remaining immediate family has left Zimbabwe in the intervening years (his father died in 2006), hopes to attend the Junior World Championships in Namibia in 2014. His home country remains in a state of unrest. On August 22, 2013, Mugabe, now 89, was sworn in amid protests for an additional five-year term.

“I may pop over to Zimbabwe as well,” he says. “But I don’t know who is left there.”

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**Spring Sports Highlights**

The girls lacrosse team went undefeated in 2013.

ISL opponent St. Mark’s was the 16th and final victim of the undefeated Big Red girls lacrosse team, which went 16-0 to claim the ISL title and its most wins since 2001 (12-1). The season was a result of a team loaded with talent.

Heading the pack was Duke-bound All-American midfielder Maddie Crutchfield ’14 (68g, 51a), daughter of longtime coach Heather Crutchfield. Other serious threats included attacker Rosemary Scalise ’15 (53g, 15a), Colorado-Boulder-bound Emily Bresnahan ’13 (38g, 15a), and Stanford-bound co-captain Charlotte Ward ’13 (19g, 31a), among others. Defender Michaela O’Connor ’13 (Columbia) and goaltender Julia Reiley ’13 (Dartmouth) guarded the back end with help from many others. Cumulatively, the Big Red outscored opponents 225-96.

The Big Red boys laxers went 7-8 in ISL play, with Cam McCusker ’14 (23g, 22a), Max Krieg ’13 (27g, 9a), and Chad Morse ’15 (23g, 8a) leading the attack.

At a rainy NEIRA Regatta on Worcester’s Lake Quinsigamond over Memorial Day Weekend, the Big Red girls third crew placed third in New England to take home the bronze medal in its division.

The SPS track team enjoyed much success this spring, with the boys team posting a 12-3 record. The boys and girls combined to set three new school records while Richard Bradley ’13 set a new ISTA record in the javelin with a throw of 182’4” and then broke it at New Englands with a throw of 197’11”. Kerry Swartz ’15 established new SPS girls marks in the 200m (26.13) and the 400m record (60.21). At the season-ending NEPSTA meet, the 18 competing SPS athletes produced 18 personal bests.

Elsewhere, George Congdon ’15 was an All-ISL selection for the boys tennis team, which went 10-5 (sixth place) in ISL play and qualified for New Englands.

**Sports Summary**

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| GRAND TOTAL | 130 | 120  | 1    |
There is no TEACHING without LEARNING.

Mentor teacher Lucie Eckersall (r.) helps first-year teaching fellow Abhinanda Bhattacharyya prepare her first lesson. PHOTO: Peter Finger
There is no TEACHING without LEARNING.

The Penn Residency Master’s in Teaching program is a key to the cultural shift in teaching and learning at the School.

by Jana F. Brown
There was a time when being a new teacher was a relatively solitary practice, when teaching fellows were overworked and under—mentored, leaving them, in the words of SPS Dean of Curriculum and Teaching Lawrence Smith, to “sink or swim.”

The power of collaboration should never be dismissed. It was through the sharing of ideas that two opposing rowing coaches — Smith, then a faculty member at Phillips Exeter Academy, and SPS Rector Mike Hirschfeld ’85, then a vice rector at the School — began to shape a vision that would change the way young teachers are developed in the boarding school environment.

“Lawrence and I have known each other for a long time,” says Hirschfeld. “We got to know each other through these two–hour launch rides once a year as our crews competed against each other. We would talk a little bit about rowing but also a lot about schools, and how schools work — just about the life of these places.”

It was after Hirschfeld stopped coaching in 2010 that he encountered Smith in front of the Crum–packer Boathouse while checking in on his former charges. The two men were soon engaged in a conversation about the professionalization of teaching in boarding school environments. Explains Hirschfeld, “It was a discussion about making the profession more professional.”

“I remember throwing out the idea of a few schools pulling together with a criterion for a certification to mirror what public schools do. And Lawrence said, ‘Why wouldn’t we talk to an education school about making this a master’s program?’” Hirschfeld said.

Smith describes the idea as not as much an altruistic plan to help young teachers along, but as a symbiotic relationship to “infuse our schools with life and energy and enthusiasm while we create a pool of really qualified young teachers.”

In the fall of 2012, the vision of Smith and Hirschfeld became a reality. In partnership with the University of Pennsylvania’s Graduate School of Education, St. Paul’s led eight other Northeastern boarding schools to create the Penn Residency Master’s in Teaching program. The PRMT is a two–year program that includes mentoring, once–per–term weekend conferences for all 50 of the fellows from the respective schools to come together with Penn faculty, a week at Penn’s Philadelphia campus in the summer, and regular assignments from and contact with the Penn professors to support the classroom side of the fellows’ development.

There are weekly small–group chats online with fellows from similar disciplines, with discussions facilitated by online mentors – faculty members from one of the member schools.

The fellows themselves arrange frequent informal Skype sessions to share their work with one another, a powerful example of cohort learning in the age of technology. Stealing is encouraged, as fellows often offer video of a lesson that worked particularly well for the purpose of sharing new approaches with their colleagues.

St. Paul’s is home to 10 fellows, including five in their second year. Other consortium schools include Deerfield Academy, the Hotchkiss School, Lawrenceville School, Loomis Chaffee School, Milton Academy, Miss Porter’s School, Northfield Mount Hermon, and Taft School.

“The talk was about how we could develop something that was from the start collaborative,” says Earl Ball, director of the PRMT and former head of Philadelphia’s Penn Charter School, noting the long struggle of independent schools with the idea of professional preparation for its teachers.

“For years there was a stress on academic preparation, but not many options for pedagogical thought. Boarding schools have historically brought in wonderful people and thrown them in the deep end. We used to be able to ignore a lot of what was being said in teacher education. Now with better knowledge of learning styles and emphasis on collaborative learning, there is an impetus for more formal education.”

“This idea makes sense for the schools and also helps Penn develop broader ideas of education. Boarding schools get out of this a focused program and Penn gets the opportunity to work with talented students and test some approaches that could be applied more broadly to other programs.”

While the approach to developing the fellows differs slightly at the various consortium schools, at St. Paul’s each fellow is assigned a mentor teacher to shadow in their first term. They meet formally each week and count in on his former charges. The two men were soon engaged in a conversation about the professionalization of teaching in boarding school environments. Explains Hirschfeld, “It was a discussion about making the profession more professional.”

“I remember throwing out the idea of a few schools pulling together with a criterion for a certification to mirror what public schools do. And Lawrence said, ‘Why wouldn’t we talk to an education school about making this a master’s program?’” Hirschfeld said.

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“One of the greatest benefits is simply working collaboratively with teachers at other schools and breaking down the barriers that somehow exist between schools.”
Candice Dale, a longtime SPS humanities teacher, is a mentor to second-year fellow Lina Feuerstein. Dale says that, in the past, the SPS fellows were overworked and assumed able to adjust to school life with little guidance. “The intentional support in the classroom and training outside have never been as explicit and thoughtful as this,” she says of the PRMT.

Sam Crihfield is a Harvard graduate and a second-year Penn Fellow. But what differentiates Crihfield from his nine peers is the year he spent in 2011-12 as an SPS teaching fellow before the formalization of the Penn Program. Crihfield, who is mentored by humanities teacher George Chase, says the biggest difference between his first year and now as a fellow in the PRMT is the support of the cohort. They commiserate with one another when good lessons go bad, offer suggestions and feedback, and remind one another that it’s not “sink or swim,” as Smith put it, but they are all in the same boat.

“Some of the things we have learned from each other have transformed the way I think about teaching,” Crihfield says. “Some of what the St. Paul’s faculty as a whole is talking about, we fellows got a jump-start on from Penn – understanding by design, the idea of teaching from central questions and planning assessments before you plan units – teaching backwards, differentiated instruction – how to vary my class and reach different learners. The framework for planning a class has been transformational. These are concepts I didn’t even consider in my first year. It makes me a much better teacher.”

While the focus of the PRMT is fundamentally the development of young teachers, Crihfield’s experience is proof of what Hirschfeld and Smith hoped would evolve in the process of their development. The fellows, students themselves who are learning the latest on brain research and varied teaching and learning styles, are sparking the conversation from the roots – and they are reaching the higher branches.

“I learned so much from Lina all year long,” says Dale. “She would bring things to the classroom from Penn or from what she had learned in college; she inspired me. It’s always tricky to have someone else in your classroom – it makes you so self-conscious. But it also makes me think harder about what I am trying to achieve in the classroom.”

Leslie Chamberlain has a Ph.D. in astrophysics from the University of North Carolina. She is also a mentor to second-year teaching fellow Ishiaka Mansaray. Chamberlain concurs with Dale that being a mentor has changed her teaching for the better, noting that the need to explain her methodology to Mansaray has allowed her to be more reflective about her own practice. Mansaray, she says, has also brought fresh ideas to the physics classroom, including the idea for students to keep a journal of the physics they encounter in their daily lives.

“Another cool thing about the program is that the fellows are spending a lot of time learning – it’s intense professional development – and Ishi is a filter for me,” Chamberlain says. “[Last year] he’d read all this stuff and pull out what was important to our class. He brought articles to me that were relevant to what we were trying to do in physics. These are things I wouldn’t otherwise have time to do.”

It’s not only the mentors who have benefited from the increased emphasis on teaching and learning spawned by the Penn program. The School’s new strategic plan, A
Strategic Vision for St. Paul's School: Education toward a Greater Good, calls for an increased focus on professional development.

“The plan reflects very closely my charge to the Strategic Planning Committee that our next efforts must address, more than any other concern, the student experience,” says Hirschfeld. “To ensure the depth of that experience requires that our faculty be composed of the most outstanding teachers, made even better with adequate support for their continuing professional development.”

Many SPS faculty members already have benefited from participation in the School’s Ongoing Professional Learning program (OPL), which includes guest–observer travel by SPS faculty and reciprocal visits from colleagues at peer schools. The OPL takes place in a faculty member’s first and third years of employment, and every fourth year thereafter, with participants earning 15 hours of professional development for their efforts.

“One of the greatest benefits is simply working collaboratively with teachers at other schools and breaking down the barriers that somehow exist between schools,” says Smith. “We are all in the same business and collaborating promotes good will, a free exchange of ideas, better teaching, and opportunities for learning for all concerned.”

SPS science teacher Carlin Aloe rearranged her classroom after spending a day observing history classes at St. George’s and witnessing the change in atmosphere when students were facing one another in a circle. Now Aloe is working with longtime science teacher Theresa Gerardo-Gettens to eliminate teaching from a textbook in the anatomy and physiology classroom, building the curriculum instead on case studies. Second-year SPS faculty member Julie Cepiel is working with Aloe to do similar work in biology, limiting the traditional focus of getting through the unwieldy textbook and instead focusing on the core concepts of the subject to help breed deeper understanding in her students. They use an approach called “the flipped classroom” – recorded lectures are available for students to watch at their own pace in the evenings, and homework and activities are done collaboratively during class time.

In Physics First, required for all Third Formers, Chamberlain is leading a project–oriented curriculum. Second-year SPS teacher Emily Hewitt has “lost the textbook” in her courses as well, describing her classroom as “more like a research lab than a traditional classroom,” where students use the tools of molecular biology to investigate other topics in science.

In September, a couple of weeks into the Fall Term, first–year fellow Lester Batiste accompanied mentor Alisa Barnard ’94, humanities teacher and SPS dean of studies, on what Smith calls a “walkabout” – visiting as many classes as possible in a 60–minute block to get an idea of the different atmospheres and teaching styles from one classroom to the next. Between class visits, Barnard and Batiste discussed their observations: whether the teacher was lecturing more or if the class was conducted in a discussion format, how the classroom was organized, what the seating and lighting were like and how that might impact the learning environment. The duo visited a dance class conducted by Dance Director Jennifer Howard ’92 and discussed how her methods required physical demonstration. Theatre Director David Valdes’s Introduction to Acting class was reflective, asking students to perform a scene and then dissect it on the spot to evaluate their own performances – learning on the fly. Jorge Pardo’s advanced Spanish class featured a casual seating arrangement and a complete conversational approach – all in the foreign language.

Veteran faculty members have been invited and encouraged to arrange their own walkabouts to glean knowledge from how their colleagues conduct their classrooms – an opportunity they have not traditionally made time for in the busy daily schedule. Smith has introduced professional development lunch sessions in the Upper, with opportunities for growth built into the workday.

“The real beauty with the Penn program is that you have structured conversations about teaching – thought–ful, built–in, reflective practice, which is incredible,” says Hirschfeld. “One of the incredible benefits of the program has been the teaching of that kind of thinking onto the mentors; these young people are leading hugely important
conversations about teaching. We hoped that was going to happen, but to see it happen and to have veteran teachers talk about it happening is really exciting.”

Second-year humanities teaching fellow Max Gordon describes his relationship with mentor Relinde de Greef as a collaborative one, in which he is able to question methods of teaching practice and de Greef, in turn, is able to reflect on her own practice as she works to explain those methods. Both say it results in a better experience for students, as Hirschfeld envisioned.

“I had a lot of good teachers in college and in high school,” says Gordon, a graduate of Phillips Exeter Academy and Carnegie Mellon University, “but learning about the profession makes you respect how hard the really good teachers work. So much goes into running a good class. It doesn’t just happen all the time. It takes a lot of planning and buildup. Seeing what good teaching looks like makes me think about being a teenager like my students are and wishing I had known all this when I was their age. Seeing how much goes into it increases your respect for teachers.”

With excitement brewing around the application of new approaches to teaching and learning, Hirschfeld is quick to caution that this is not an indictment of previous practices, but rather an attempt to inject the newest methodology through professional development. For alumni who may question if these new practices are a rejection of the education they received as SPS students, and to the parents who may question the logic of inserting inexperienced teachers into their children’s lives, Hirschfeld speaks of the need for schools to evolve.

“At St. Paul’s and places like it, we talk really casually in my view about being leading boarding schools,” the Rector says. “Ensuring the very best teaching here and institutionalizing a dialogue about teaching and best practices in the classroom and outside the classroom—we should be doing that. To me, we are doing what we have always been doing because we think it’s best for our students. That our relevance will ultimately depend on the quality of teaching is a really safe, smart bet. I make no assumptions about why we are great. Let’s just make sure we are great and make sure we are providing great teaching.

“For a faculty so successful in their careers, this can be hard. We want to become, at the end of the day, a much more reflective institution and culture. It’s hard to critically look at what we do. But again, that’s a key element of good teaching, being able to think about what and why, and how you’re doing what you’re doing. My job is to provide an environment where that can happen.”

Addressing the issue of parents who might question why they are paying for their children to be taught, in some cases, by inexperienced teachers, Gordon speaks of the slow introduction of the fellows to the classroom and also of his ability to relate to the students. While he is a teacher, he is also a student at the same time. Feuerstein says she understands why there could be concern, but speaks of the student-centered learning endorsed by the Penn faculty, concepts about which the fellows are constantly thinking.

“I think it’s a legitimate concern,” Feuerstein says. “But I would say everybody has to start somewhere, and these are the best first days I could have had as a budding teacher. Everyone in this program really wants to devote their lives to teaching and learning. I would want that type of teacher to teach my child, someone who wants to learn to be better.”

Despite the positive reviews of the PRMT thus far, there are no plans to expand, primarily because the administrators who steward the program are pleased with the current structure.

“We have schools clamoring to get involved, but we think the program is at its ideal size,” says Penn professor Christopher Pupik Dean, the assistant director of the PRMT. “We would like to see it grow somehow; it’s a very productive model. But part of the effectiveness of this is the relatively small size of the cohort.”

Second-year fellow Max Gordon meets weekly with his mentor, Relinde de Greef.
Taylor Schreiber ’98 was a rising star in cancer and immunology research when he received a stunning diagnosis.

by Andrew Gustin ’98
Taylor Schreiber ’98 knew something was wrong. He had run barely a third of a mile on the treadmill when he found himself doubled over, gasping for breath, unable to continue. Schreiber, then 31, had always been athletic, and running several miles at the gym was a regular part of his fitness routine.

Schreiber had just returned from a weeklong vacation with his wife, Nicki, in Costa Rica. He had been feeling a sense of sluggishness and had noticed a persistent dry cough for a few weeks. On several nights, he had woken up drenched in sweat. But when he could not run even half a mile, he finally decided to get himself checked out. Schreiber was a respected graduate student in cancer biology and immunology research at the University of Miami at the time. He had completed his Ph.D., was wrapping up a year of post-graduate research, and preparing for his first clinical year of medical school, on the way to his M.D.

Less than a week later, on April Fool’s Day 2011, Schreiber received a shocking diagnosis: He had stage 3B Hodgkin’s lymphoma, a cancer of the lymph nodes.

In an e-mail to family and friends a few weeks later, Schreiber called his diagnosis “the ultimate irony of my life.” The focus of his research was oncology hematology, studying and treating leukemias and lymphomas, and he already had made significant discoveries, distinguishing himself as a rising star in the field.

Few SPS alumni achieve as much as Schreiber had so soon after graduation. Even fewer face the same dire circumstances. “This was what I wanted to focus my life’s work on,” he says, “and all of a sudden it happened to me.”

Schreiber, who grew up in Amherst, N.H., had been interested in science and medicine from an early age. “I always had a natural curiosity to know what was going on inside of things,” he recalls.

Schreiber lost his maternal grandfather to lung cancer when he was 10. Rather than let Taylor and his brother see their grandfather on his deathbed at Maine Medical Center, his parents brought them to another wing of the hospital. Schreiber’s uncle, a radiologist, let Taylor and his brother hold a probe and other tools in his lab. This was Schreiber’s first introduction to medicine, and he was hooked.

The summer before entering St. Paul’s as a Third Former in 1994, Schreiber worked in the cafeteria at Catholic Medical Center in Manchester, N.H., serving meals and washing dishes. “My parents told me I needed a summer job, and I wanted to try to be as close to medicine as possible,” he recalls.

During his Sixth Form year at SPS, Schreiber pursued an Independent Study Project, working with a radiologist at Concord Hospital. He went on to Bucknell University, where he majored in biology and began preparing to apply to medical school.

The summer between his freshman and sophomore years at Bucknell, he interned in a kidney research lab at the Harvard Institutes of Medicine. Schreiber was thrilled and fascinated by his surroundings in the lab. “It was an absolutely terrifying experience,” he recalls. “You go in there for the first time, and it’s like being in a foreign landscape, with chemicals all over the place.”

Schreiber returned for the next two summers, gradually developing expertise in scientific research. Following his senior year at Bucknell, he decided to defer medical school and return to Harvard, to a different lab, working with Dr. Robert Sackstein in the department of dermatology.

Sackstein became one of Schreiber’s most important mentors and a close friend. “Taylor is phenomenally focused and incredibly intelligent,” Sackstein says. “Put those things together and you get someone bound for greatness. He’s just a remarkable person.”

During his two years in Sackstein’s lab, Schreiber’s interests began to focus on cancer and immunology. Sackstein’s dermatology lab was studying graft-versus-host disease, a skin condition associated with bone marrow transplants in the treatment of lymphoma. Around the same time, Schreiber read several newly published papers in prominent medical journals discussing the role of the immune system in cancer.

“During those two years,” Schreiber recalls, “I developed a fascination with the immune system and how our bodies defend us from disease.”

Under Sackstein’s tutelage, Schreiber eventually decided that, as important as medicine was to him, pure scientific research held equal importance. He began focusing on applying to joint-degree M.D./Ph.D. programs. The M.D. would allow him to work with patients, while the Ph.D. program would provide a much more rigorous foundation in scientific research.

With a glowing recommendation from Sackstein, Schreiber was admitted with a full scholarship into the M.D./Ph.D. program at the University of Miami’s Miller School of Medicine.

Schreiber flourished in Miami. During the first few years of medical school, he rotated through several labs and continued to develop his interests in immunology.
and oncology. Eventually, he joined a newly created program in cancer biology, choosing as his adviser the chairman of the department of immunology, Dr. Eckhard Podack.

Schreiber quickly became a star in Podack’s lab. “He’s been my best student,” Podack says. “He has all the character, motivations, intelligence, and initiative that a great scientist needs to have.”

Mainstream cancer therapies such as chemotherapy and radiation degrade the human immune system while attacking tumors. Podack and his team were working on developing new approaches that could harness the immune system itself to fight cancer.

Working with a group of about 15 scientists in the lab, Schreiber began to make significant contributions of his own. In a discovery that Podack describes as “astonishing and unanticipated,” Schreiber isolated an antibody that reacted with immune regulatory cells, and which might eventually be able to control them. In time, this could enable doctors to program the immune system to tolerate organ transplants, as well as to activate specific tumor-fighting cells.

In late 2007, biotech entrepreneur Jeff Wolf founded Heat Biologics to license and commercialize Podack’s discoveries. Wolf, a Stanford M.B.A. but not a scientist, needed someone who understood the intricacies of the research better than he did. Podack suggested his best student. In the fall of 2008, Schreiber began meeting with Wolf on Saturdays to tutor him in the science he and Podack were developing.

Meanwhile, Schreiber’s research career continued to take off. His dissertation was awarded the Best Ph.D. Thesis of 2010 by the Miami medical school faculty, and he was nominated as a “future leader in translational cancer research” at the annual meeting of the American Association for Cancer Research.

But Schreiber’s work was about to become very personal.

His wife Nicki, who was completing her training at Emory University, got a rare week off from her residency in early March 2011, and the Schreibers planned a trip together to Costa Rica. Taylor had mentioned to Nicki over Skype that he wasn’t feeling well, but it was not until they were together in Costa Rica that she became more concerned. Hiking together in the rainforest, Taylor couldn’t keep up with her.

“I was probably in denial in those three or four weeks, when I’d been having symptoms and didn’t do anything about it,” Taylor recalls. Finally, after returning home and breaking down on the treadmill after running less than half a mile, Schreiber went to see a family physician who served many of the medical school students on campus.

Schreiber remembers sitting in the doctor’s office while a medical student conducted his physical. Taylor joked aloud that his symptoms were probably nothing. But he noticed something in the student’s demeanor that suggested otherwise. “That’s when I started getting a sense that they knew something I didn’t know,” he recalls. He soon learned that initial blood tests had revealed an elevated T-cell count and evidence of inflammation. These were troubling signs.

Schreiber was sent for a chest x-ray, and reviewed the results himself. He could see that “things looked a little larger than normal.” That night, he called his friend Joe Rosenblatt, head of the cancer center and a member of his thesis committee. He described his symptoms and the preliminary tests results. Rosenblatt’s response: “Smells like Hodgkin’s. Come see me tomorrow morning.”

Two days later, Schreiber was in the operating room at Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center, undergoing a mediastinoscopy, in which samples of tissue inside the chest are examined. Nicki, who had flown home from Atlanta, delivered the news to Taylor as he awoke in the post-op room; his tissue samples contained cells confirming the diagnosis of Hodgkin’s. The date was April 1, 2011.

Hodgkin’s lymphoma, also known as Hodgkin’s disease,
is a cancer originating in white blood cells in the lymph nodes. A critical organ in the immune system, lymph nodes help filter foreign particles and ward off infections. As a medical student, Schreiber had been taught that some cancers are much worse than others. His odds were relatively good – the five-year survival rate for Stage III Hodgkin’s is about 80 percent. Nevertheless, it was impossible not to wonder if he could be in the other 20 percent. “It was terrifying,” he says. He resolved immediately to fight “with guns blazing.”

The following Wednesday, doctors installed a chemotherapy port – a catheter connecting the surface of his chest to his jugular vein and heart. Schreiber and his physicians decided on a highly toxic regimen of chemo that would attack his cancer most aggressively.

That very weekend, Schreiber attended the wedding of formmate JP Berkery ’98, in Jupiter Island, Fla. Surrounded by SPS friends, Schreiber kept his diagnosis a secret over the weekend, not wanting to detract from the celebration. “It really showed what an incredibly selfless person Taylor is,” says Berkery.

The following Tuesday, Schreiber began a grinding six-month routine of chemotherapy. Within a few weeks, the 31-year-old began to lose his hair. His T-cell count plummeted, compromising his immune system. To protect against infection, he wore a face mask every time he went outside.

Schreiber’s groundbreaking research focused on helping the body’s immune system fight against cancer. Now he had cancer in his own immune system’s central organ, and the chemo regimen further compromised that immune system.

Schreiber received tremendous support from family and friends. Nicki, his parents, and a revolving cast of close friends would sit with him as he received his treatment. A steady stream of notes and care packages came from friends around the country.

After two months, on June 3, 2011, a PET scan showed that Schreiber was responding to chemotherapy. He and Nicki were thrilled, but knew they had another four months to go before they could be confident that all was well. “Every time you go into a doctor’s office for one of these scans,” Schreiber recalls, “you re-experience the horror that something is going to show up.”

Despite the fatigue and other side effects of chemo, Schreiber continued his research in the lab as best he could. “From the beginning, I was determined that with whatever amount of time I had left, I was going to make the most of it,” he says. “Sitting at home and letting myself just be a cancer patient was going to be detrimental to my mental health.”

Schreiber managed to take on an even greater role within Heat. In between chemo sessions, he traveled to California alongside Wolf to meet with a major biotech company. With a hairless head and no eyebrows, Schreiber presented the company’s science to a rapt audience.

After six months of chemotherapy, in early October 2011, Schreiber underwent a final PET scan and other tests showing that he was in complete remission.

Now two years removed from that news, Schreiber says that experiencing cancer and chemotherapy as a patient has informed his work in two ways. “Learning to be a patient is something that every doctor would benefit from going through,” he says.

Experiencing chemotherapy also reinforced Schreiber’s interest in immunotherapy, studying less toxic alternatives to chemo. “On the science side, I never lacked for motivation,” he says. “But 10, 20, 30 years from now, I really hope we’ll have therapeutic choices for cancer which extend well beyond chemo.”

Upon formal completion of his M.D. in early 2014, Schreiber plans to join Heat Biologics full time to lead their scientific team, reporting to CEO Jeff Wolf. “Taylor is a really special individual, someone with an incredible mind and an incredible heart as well,” says Wolf.

Schreiber has also worked closely with fellow SPS alumni Ed Smith ’93 and Josiah Hornblower ’94, early investors in Heat. They created a sister company, spun off to Heat shareholders, to commercialize more of Schreiber’s discoveries. In a nod to their SPS roots, they named the company Pelican Therapeutics.

Like many of Schreiber’s friends and colleagues, Hornblower describes him with profound admiration. “Taylor is not only one of my truest friends, but also my hero,” he says. “He is indefatigable and braver than anyone I know.”

In July 2013, the three Paulies joined Wolf and Podack to ring the Nasdaq’s closing bell on the day of Heat’s IPO. Meanwhile, Taylor and Nicki Schreiber learned that they would soon welcome the birth of a baby boy. Pierce Vincent Schreiber arrived on September 15, 2013.
Mindful of the moment is a mantra for Jessica Morey '97

by Michael Matros

The exercise goes something like this: Hold a single raisin in your palm and try to imagine you’ve never encountered such a thing before. Closely examine this small, wrinkled item. Turn it around between your thumb and forefinger. What does it feel like? Does it have an aroma? Finally, place it in your mouth and take a minute – yes, a minute – to taste, bite, chew, and swallow it.

Demonstrated on PBS for Bill Moyers by Jon Kabat-Zinn of the University of Massachusetts Medical School, this exercise is not really designed to commune with the raisin’s innermost being, but instead to focus for the sake of focus, to be deeply within the moment. To be mindful of where you are and what you’re doing.

Mindfulness is the point, the recognition that the here and now is all you can truly know, and, as Keats might say, all you need to know.

But such concentration takes work, or “training the attention,” as meditation teacher Jessica Morey ’97 told students on a visit to St. Paul’s last year. The idea, though, is profoundly simple, as Morey explains:

Mindfulness can be practiced formally, sitting comfortably or lying down for a period of time and training the attention. It can also be practiced informally as you go about your day, paying conscious attention to everyday experiences like showering, eating, walking and talking.

You can try it right now.

Take a moment to listen to the sounds around you, near and far. Notice your posture. Feel the sensations in your body. Are there any places of tension or relaxation? Wiggle your toes and bring your attention down into your feet. Now notice the sensations in your hands as you hold the magazine. What kinds of thoughts or emotions are you experiencing right now? That’s being mindful.

Morey now serves as executive director of Inward Bound Mindfulness Education in Northampton, Mass., which offers “transformative retreats for teens, parents, and professionals.” During her visit to the School, she met with teachers in the required Living in Community course, discussing ways to include mindfulness training in the curriculum.

She had come to the School on the invitation of Michael Spencer, SPS dean of Chapel and religious life, who hopes she can return soon for a retreat with interested students.

Morey began meditation practice at age 14, the summer before matriculating at SPS.

“I attended a four-day teen meditation retreat in Massachusetts,” she explains, “where we practiced silent, formal sitting and walking meditation five hours a day – 30 minutes at a time. I remember how agonizingly long that seemed at the time and how desperately I awaited the freeing sound of the large metal bowl at the front of the meditation hall. It seemed like torture.”

But she returned to the retreat every summer during high school, observing the “light kindness I felt in myself on retreat and reverberating for weeks afterwards.”

“I also felt I got to glimpse another way of being in the world,” she says, “and a group of adults who were at ease. I wanted to have what they had. Each year my commitment to the silent meditation practice and interest in understanding the experience of my own mind grew deeper. Before my senior year I even tried a 10-day adult retreat.”
Meanwhile, at St. Paul’s, Morey formed a meditation club; during her Sixth Form year, sometimes joined by others, she would meditate a half hour every day before Chapel.

Continuing her practice after SPS, she deferred Dartmouth for a year to practice intensive meditation in a monastery in Burma. “This was one of the toughest experiences of my life,” she says, “but I have no regrets – particularly as I’ve learned more over the years about the benefits of mindfulness and its significant impacts on the brain – which at 18 was still rapidly developing.”

“Becoming a nun was what I was thinking about through college,” she wrote in an article for the journal Shambala Sun. “My attraction to ordination, though, was that it was a kind of running away. Sometimes it’s hard to be in the world. I start to want stuff, like fancy houses, and I get frustrated when I’m not being mindful. Now I’m comfortable with the lay life.”

The current popularity of mindfulness meditation – the two words, often seen together, are virtually interchangeable – was inaugurated by most accounts in the late 1970s by biologist Kabat-Zinn. The practice has since reached into households and workplaces across the Western world. The source, however, is decidedly Eastern, predominantly Buddhist, but appearing regularly in the American zeitgeist – from Thoreau’s “stop to smell the roses” to Maharishi Mahesh Yogi’s Transcendental Meditation with the Beatles to the “be here now” mantra of Ram Dass and beyond.

Mindfulness as taught in today’s workshops and seminars – from an eight-week course taught by Kabat-Zinn’s disciples to shorter introductions presented in office canteens – rarely appeals to the non-secular origins of the exercise. Instead, to avoid alienating those wary of religious indoctrination, mindfulness is more often offered as a technique for stress reduction, pain relief, memory enhancement, and other forms of self-improvement, including professional success.
In Silicon Valley, where mindfulness—aka meditation—training has become omnipresent over recent years, the emphasis, such as in Google’s “Search Inside Yourself” course for employees, is to introduce “the new caffeine, the fuel that allegedly unlocks productivity and creative bursts,” writes Noah Shachtman in the July 2013 Wired magazine.

“These companies are doing more than simply seizing on Buddhist practices,” Shachtman continues. “Entrepreneurs and engineers are taking millennia-old traditions and re-shaping them to fit the Valley’s goal-oriented, data-driven, largely atheistic culture. Forget past lives; never mind nirvana. The technology community of Northern California wants return on its investment in meditation. ‘All the woo-woo mystical stuff, that’s really retrograde,’ says Kenneth Folk, an influential meditation teacher in San Francisco.”

While Folk and others may demean the mystical tradition of meditation, peace, not productivity, is more the purpose of mindfulness moments as practiced at a school that celebrates in its central philosophy the possibility of spiritual transcendence, or, as some would say, a direct communication with God.

Morning Chapel, explains Dean Spencer, always begins with a minute of silence, with everyone “focusing on their breath, being present to each other.”

“When the organ stops,” Spencer says, “the community breathes together. The idea is not to do, but to be.”

After a while, Spencer and his colleagues in the Chaplaincy weren’t sure if the students wanted the ritual to continue, and so they asked the question in a survey about Chapel practices.

“The response was overwhelming,” Spencer says. “They loved the moment to breathe.”

His classes also begin with a moment of silence, as a student “starts the singing bowl,” a sort of bell with origins in Tibetan Buddhism but which has come to be used widely in the West for its gentle sound to initiate and end meditation. “People are rushing from one thing to another here,” Spencer says. “The silent moment gives space for transition.”

Is meditation the same as prayer? Spencer’s answer is a qualified yes, at least for him: “I think prayer is a discerning of how God is present in the circumstances of my life in this moment.”

Meditation, he says, “is a practice that makes you aware of who you are, where you are, why you are.”

Practicing mindfulness allows for “paying attention to what’s actually happening as you live this human life,” says Margaret Fletcher, an SPS community member who studied with Kabat-Zinn and now teaches mindfulness-based stress reduction at the Center for Health Promotion at Concord Hospital.

Tanisha Ekerberg, a staff member in the Admission Office, is among SPS adults who have taken the course with Fletcher. “I sleep better, throughout the night,” she says. “The stress of the pace of life—you don’t notice that so much anymore. And everything’s more enhanced.”

Having life more enhanced, though, can be threatening. “We have habits to protect ourselves from experiences that are painful,” Fletcher explains. “If something doesn’t feel good, we develop ways of not feeling what we’re experiencing.”

“But life has a spectrum from the sublime to the utterly painful,” Fletcher says. And meditation can help you “become honest with yourself, to be willing to make space for your pain, which can be a courageous step.” The alternatives to acknowledging pain, she says, are too often negative or even destructive—trying to numb the pain with distractions, “maybe gravitating to drinking, overworking, over-anything. Then the pain won’t be tended to.”

Part of the problem, she says, is that modern humans have taken the very useful reactions to physical threats provided by the brain’s amygdala—our fight/flight/freeze responses—and adopted them for emotional stress, with accompanying rises in respiration and heart rate, which are unnecessary for the situation and, over years, unhealthy. The benefits of meditation, she says, are quantifiable, with significant improvements demonstrated in relief from pain, stress, and depression, among other effects.

As one explanation of such improvement, Fletcher points out, studies have shown that meditating can change the brain’s structure over time. In the January 2011 issue of Psychiatry Research: Neuroimaging, researchers reported on alterations they found in the brains of participants in Kabat–Zinn’s mindfulness course. As The New York Times summarized the study: “M.R.I. brain scans taken before and after the participants’ meditation regimen found increased gray matter in the hippocampus, an area important for learning and memory. The images also showed a reduction of gray matter in the amygdala, a region connected to anxiety and stress. A control group that did not practice meditation showed no such changes.”

Margaret Fletcher’s husband, Bill, who teaches music theory, composition, and voice at St. Paul’s, leads sessions

MINDFUL E-MAILING
Take three breaths after typing an e-mail or Facebook message, look again, imagine how other people might receive it, visualizing both their mental and emotional responses, and then alter it if necessary.
— from Google’s mindfulness training course
in the Clark House meditation room for “quiet sitting,” as he calls the practice. Five to ten students and possibly an adult or two might arrange themselves on the cushions on a given evening.

“If it speaks to them,” Fletcher says, “they come back.”

While he serves as chaplain to the School’s Hindu and Buddhist communities, Fletcher avoids inserting a religious context into the mindfulness sessions. As participants “look at their whole inward journey,” he says, “they all couch it in the frame of reference from which they come.”

“I’m not really a mindful guy,” Fletcher adds. “I meditated regularly for many years,” he explains. “I don’t meditate now; rather, I feel I meditate all the time. I can’t remember the last time I felt stress. Stress is self-caused. It starts to come up, I see it right away, I have a little chuckle, and it goes away.”

While he finds his wife’s insights into the science of mindfulness intriguing, still he shrugs and says, “It works, and that’s what’s important.”

The weekly mindfulness sessions organized by Rick Pacelli, who teaches physics, astronomy, and robotics, reflect some of his own background in Christianity, as a practicing Catholic but who also, as verger in the Episcopal Cathedral of St. Peter and St. Paul, leads the clergy and choir in their processional recessions and receditions.

Pacelli worked in the 1980s at New York City’s Covenant House, a center for homeless youth, “helping 18- to 20-year-olds put their lives back together in a spiritual and communal way.” He coordinated volunteers in the city and eventually became international director of the Covenant House-affiliated organization Community.

During those years Pacelli prayed and meditated an hour each day. His practice, he explains, was influenced most directly by the “centering prayer” approach developed by the Cistercian monk Thomas Keating at St. Joseph’s Abbey in Spencer, Mass., and by the writings of Thomas Merton, a Trappist monk whose own practice of contemplative prayer owed much to his friendship with the Vietnamese Buddhist monk Thich Nhat Hanh.

“Merton and Keating called the Catholic community back to its roots,” Pacelli says, “and were very helpful to me in my life.”

But while Catholicism informs his meditation, he finds the practice to be “a thread that ties together every genre of spirituality.”

In 2008, Pacelli attended a ten-day meditation retreat in Colorado and, during a sabbatical two years ago, traveled to Duluth, Minn., for an extended course in preparation to be a meditation instructor.

In the Clark House meditation room, he might begin his weekly sessions with students by “giving a little spiel about the physical, mental, and spiritual benefits” of mindfulness.

“I teach about using breath or a mantra to help in letting go of thoughts,” he says, urging students as they choose a mantra “not to pick a word that takes them away on a mind trip.”

Researchers have compared the brain activity of monks in deep meditation with that of subjects on LSD and other psychoactive drugs, sometimes finding close similarities between such so-called altered states of consciousness. In her work with young people, though, Jessica Morey insists she’s attempting to help them toward just the opposite of an “altered state.”

“I’m trying to get teens to connect to their everyday, mundane lives,” she says, “to know what they’re eating, to be aware of the activities we typically ignore and space out on.”

“Unfortunately, most of us live our lives ‘mindlessly’ on autopilot,” Morey finds, “hardly noticing the food we eat, our commute to work or what’s happening in the world around us. Instead we are preoccupied with our to-do lists, ruminating about a difficult conversation, planning our next vacation. And, as we get more and more wired, it seems to be getting easier to be out of the present and not notice the world right around us. We seem to be living more often staring into a rectangular screen than noticing the sights, smells and humans around us.”

As she works with teenagers in mindfulness practice, Morey watches them develop qualities of mind that she found rewarding in her own adolescence: “concentration, increased ability and willingness towards self-reflection, greater levels of compassion towards themselves and others, and increased access to the insight and wisdom at the depths of their own inner life.”

What most touches her, she says, is hearing the kids’ responses. “Today for the first time I found myself offering myself loving kindness in a troubling moment,” a 16-year-old girl told her. “It was such an amazing experience to realize that I could actually want myself to be happy!”
How in the world did you come to learn so much about SEAL training? I had a few friends in the Teams. I reached out to them; they then connected me with others. I listened. I read everything I could find. I went to Coronado, and watched the beach.

One of the most powerful aspects of this book is the relationship between mother and son. As the mother of two boys, how did this inform your writing? How does your own mom’s life experience factor in here? I thought about the fact that if, like my mother, I had married at 19, I could have a son serving now. Motherhood maybe gave me confidence to look at something – war – I might not have had the courage to look at otherwise. On emotions, I was coming through loss. Loss and the fear of loss are interwoven; navigating one is a route to channeling the other, and the book is in part about the fear of loss.

I loved the role of landscape and food in this novel – garden, baseball hat, key chain, running shoes – all of the objects of life seemed to tether Sarah to the earth when nothing else did. What made you choose some of those specific objects? If I tried to do anything, I tried to write a simple story, one that could be read easily, almost as a fable, but one that for a certain audience would resonate at a deeper level. The red laces on the first page are a nod to Dorothy’s slippers, and Oz, taking the reader to a mythical place. The garden, the chain – these are elements in my own life. The farmhouse, the flag – I have a flag flown in Yemen. My mother has flags flown in Afghanistan and Iraq.

Eleven Days has been compared to Denis Johnson’s Tree of Smoke, a novel of the Vietnam War. Did you think of Eleven Days as commenting on war in Afghanistan and Iraq? I would be punching way above my weight to comment on those wars. I felt I could comment on the choice to serve in them though, on the character of men serving. I do feel I’ve had a master class on it all now – the politics, the players, the choices, the guns, the acronyms.

There’s very little fiction that’s come out of the Afghan and Iraq wars. Why do you think that is? It’s coming. Next winter Phil Klay’s collection, Redeployment, is coming and it’s extraordinary. Fiction, as you know, has never been a leading indicator, though Ben Fountain set a bar.

You were already writing when we were 15 or 16. You were also on stage interpreting Brecht’s Caucasian Chalk Circle. At Princeton, I remember an adaptation you worked on of Eliot’s “The Waste Land.” What did those early years on stage teach you about language? How do they factor in to the novelist you’ve become? Writing is what you experience plus what you’ve read. In the theater, you have to rehearse the language, so it stays with you. SPS left me with a lot of Brecht, Pinter, and Shakespeare milling around in my mind. And it’s sort of embarrassing to admit that Brecht, Pinter, and Shakespeare all appear in this book.

I know you are deeply committed to improving the lives of our veterans. Did that come before you decided to write this novel or did it come out of the work? Writing the book changed the way I see the world. I am working on something now that would involve collecting stories of service post–9/11. But it is early days.

In The Milk of Birds, Sylvia Whitman ’79 examines the damaging consequences of a war–torn Sudan against the frustrations of a young American girl with learning disabilities. The contrast provides a dynamic outlet for Whitman’s prose and creates a platform for the development of Nawra and K.C., pen pals matched through a relief organization and through whose letters the story unfolds. Whitman’s selection of customs and historic events infuse the story with necessary drive but do not detract from its true focus – the coming of age of two very different girls.

It is Whitman’s careful handling of the exchanges between K.C. and Nawra that allows the reader to see the differing worlds in which these teenagers find themselves, without suffering long spouts of narrative. The letters flow from one setting and time zone to another, with a precision that carries the reader along in the tone of a bedtime story. The seamless transition allows for a graceful character arc with desired yet unexpected outcomes.

Of particular note is Whitman’s portrayal of Nawra, the young woman displaced from her village in Darfur. Nawra easily could become stereotyped or lost among the ravages of war. But the process of her maturation in a volatile environment allows her to become a distinct entity in the story, one the reader champions. No one picture of Nawra is perfectly clear, for the girl’s shifting persona matches the backdrop of the world in which she finds herself, emphasizing the common theme of change throughout the story.

Whitman’s beautiful use of character interwoven with the customs and historic developments of both the United States and Darfur lend this story a dimension that elevates it above the level of similar efforts. A story that could easily rely on the horrors of war to make it memorable needs no such support.
Impeccable Connections: The Rise and Fall of Richard Whitney
by Malcolm MacKay ’59
Brick Tower Press, 117 pages, $12.95

Reviewed by Richard Davis, faculty emeritus

For his entire adult life, Malcolm MacKay has been thinking about why Richard Whitney went from sitting president of the New York Stock Exchange to residing in a prison cell in Sing Sing. As a boy and young man, MacKay knew Whitney. In searching for the answer to Whitney’s fall, the author traces his life from Groton to Harvard, from the Stock Exchange in the Great Depression to a life of embezzlement. It’s a fascinating story well told.

Richard Whitney was the man “exquisitely dressed in a three-piece suit with a watch chain displaying the gold pig charm of Harvard’s exclusive Porcellian Club” who, on Black Thursday (October 24, 1929), strolled through the Exchange buying stocks in a bankers’ effort to stop the crash. By the next day he had become a national figure; he then served as president of the Exchange from 1930 to 1935, helping it become, in his own description, a national figure; he then served as president of the Exchange from 1930 to 1935, helping it become, in his own description, “the Stock Exchange to millions of people.”

In telling Whitney’s story, MacKay reviews a relevant and thought-provoking period in America’s history — the development of church schools, the difference between Boston and New York in the Depression, and the culture of the upper class that Whitney worked to join. Whitney’s fight against New Deal reforms reminds us of the struggle over financial regulation now being enacted. In his time, Whitney argued that the self-regulating Exchange was “a perfect institution” and fought to retain its independence, arguing that government regulation would lead to socialism.

In his own world, Whitney lived in Brahmin style, with a five-story townhouse in New York City and a 500-acre country estate in Far Hills, N.J., with servants at both residences and a separate staff of a dozen to care for his 20 horses and a variety of livestock.

While he was saving the Exchange, Whitney’s own questionable investments began to fail. To save himself and his business from going under, he first leaned on friends for loans before turning to theft from the NYSE and other organizations to keep himself afloat. The “what” is well established in the many histories of that time; it’s the “why” that MacKay explores in his book and that readers will look to for insight.

If I were still teaching, I would use this for my history, economics, and law and government classes. You don’t need to be a history buff to be drawn in by this story of a spectacular downfall that foreshadowed the modern-day Bernie Madoff scandal.

On the Shelf . . .

Citizens DisUnited
Robert A.G. Monks ’50
Monks, an experienced, highly successful businessman, Fortune 500 board member, lawyer, and former public official explains how a few individuals could reverse the trends that threaten the very fabric of the United States — and calls them out by name.

Bruce B. White ’47
The author writes about the best times of his life, spent on a small farm in Nelson, New Hampshire, in the 1930s and 40s. This story provides a boy’s view of the town’s incredibly wonderful characters, including mailmen, policemen, and storekeepers, of the Depression and war years.

Anything That Moves: Renegade Chefs, Fearless Eaters, and the Making of a New American Food Culture
Dana Goodyear ’94
New Yorker writer Dana Goodyear combines the style of Mary Roach with the on-the-ground food savvy of Anthony Bourdain in a rollicking narrative look at the shocking extremes of the contemporary American food world. Anything That Moves is simultaneously a humorous adventure, a behind-the-scenes look at food preparation, and an attempt to understand the implications of the way we eat. The result is a highly entertaining, revelatory look into the raucous, strange, fascinatingly complex world of contemporary American food culture, and the places where the extreme is bleeding into the mainstream.

Rough Passage to London: A Sea Captain’s Tale
Robin Lloyd ’69
This historical novel is filled with seafaring mystery and suspense. The protagonist, real American ship captain Elisha Ely Morgan, was a close friend of Charles Dickens about whom Dickens wrote the short story “A Message from the Sea.” The book tells Morgan’s story, beginning with his escape from home to become a cabin boy on a London-bound ship. The author, a direct descendant of Morgan, combined meticulous research and rich imagination to fill in the details of Morgan’s voyages across the Atlantic over a 30-year period. Morgan’s story parallels America’s coming of age in the 19th century, when American tall ships dominated the horizon.

Views from the Rector’s Porch: Lessons of a Headmaster
William A. Oates, Selected and Introduced by Todd S. Purdum ’78
Eighth Rector William Oates led a progressive renaissance during his St. Paul’s School tenure. Here, journalist Todd Purdum, a former student and longtime friend of the Oates family, has compiled an anthology of Oates’s diverse writings, which record the educational philosophy and moral outlook of this distinguished educator. It is also a paean to the vital academy that is St. Paul’s School, which continues to produce leaders in American government, diplomacy, finance, religion, law, and letters.
COMMUNITY

SEATTLE, WASHINGTON
Community reception, home of Suzy and Kit Tangen ’88, Aug. 8

PROUTS NECK, MAINE
Community reception, home of Bonnie and Oggie White ’55, Aug. 10

PORTLAND, OREGON
Community reception, home of Greg Kubicek and Betsy Cramer ’76, Aug. 11

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
Midwestern Pelicans: Chicago Cubs, Aug. 19

NEW YORK CITY
NYC Pelicans: John Colpitts ’91 (a.k.a. “Kid Millions”), June 8
1856 Society, home of Eric Ruttenberg ’74, Oct. 10
Parent Reception for international families, Oct. 17

FORM OF 1960, HARVARD CLUB
Form of 1960, Harvard Club, Oct. 24

FORMER TRUSTEES DINNER, LINKS CLUB
Former Trustees Dinner, Links Club, Nov. 5

PRESIDENTS COUNCIL DINNER, PRINCETON CLUB
Presidents Council Dinner, Princeton Club, Nov. 6

PARENT RECEPTION
Parent reception, hosted by Emily Bogle, Nov. 6

WASHINGTON, D.C.
Young Alumni, home of Sam Reid ’81, Sept. 8
Young Alumni, Front Page, Nov. 6
DC Pelicans: Day of Service, Nov. 24

CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE
Alumni new parents reception, Sept. 6

Alumni Volunteer Weekend, Sept. 27-28
Family Weekend and PAFC reception, Oct. 18-19

NORWALK, CONNECTICUT
SPS Sparks: On the Sound, Sept. 7

CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA
South Florida Pelican Network, Sept. 27

NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND
SPS Sparks: Day of Service, Nov. 24
At the April 2, 2014, Annual Meeting of the Alumni Association, the Board of Directors will elect a new president. A committee will vet the nominees and present them to the Board of Directors for a vote. The nomination deadline is January 3, 2014. For further information or to submit a nomination for president, please contact Bob Rettew ’69, executive director of the Alumni Association, at brettew@sps.edu.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR MORE SPS ALUMNI EVENTS!

December 5: New York City, Forms of 1950–69, home of Archie Cox ’58

December 5: Los Angeles, Calif., Young Alumni Reception, Smith House Tap & Grill

December 11: Pittsburgh, Pa., Alumni all-in at the Duquesne Club

December 15: Concord, N.H., Lessons & Carols

December 18: Boston, Mass., Church of the Advent, Lessons & Carols with Chapel Choir

January 23: New York City, Millville Dinner

March 4: London, UK, Chapel Choir, hosted by Matthew Barzun ’88

April 2: New York City, Alumni Association Annual Meeting and Awards

For details or to register for these events, go to www.sps.edu/alumnievents. Be sure you receive invitations to upcoming alumni events by sending updated contact information to updates@sps.edu.
Jay Cushman ’54
Double Inductee into the John Hargate Society

Resume of a true St. Paul’s School leader:
✓ Form Director
✓ Main Agent
✓ Alumni Officer
✓ Parents Fund Participant

In addition to his long career of raising friends and funds for the School, Jay has included SPS in his estate plans – twice! He named the School as a beneficiary by will and also established a charitable remainder unitrust (CRUT), from which the School will ultimately benefit.

“I was a scholarship kid during my time at SPS, so there’s a sense of payback here,” he explains. “Considering the large tuition subsidy that students and parents receive from the endowment, I believe the continuing obligation for alumni to support the School financially is compelling. SPS is a vital, enduring institution beginning a new chapter in its passion for self-improvement and equipping its students to serve and to lead in the 21st century. It should be an exciting ride.”

To share your reasons for including SPS in your estate plans, please contact Bob Barr, director of gift planning, at 603-229-4875, rbarr@sps.edu; or visit our website at www.sps.edu/plannedgiving.
The Formnotes below reflect information received through October 2013. Please send news and/or photos of yourself or other alumni to include in these pages. The address is Formnotes Editor, Alumni Horae, St. Paul’s School, 325 Pleasant St., Concord, N.H. 03301 or alumni@sps.edu. Thank you.

**1939**

Harry Hilliard wrote this brief update: “As time marches on, I am ever more grateful for the educational, social, and environmental experiences that I still remember from my four years at SPS.”

Goodwin Millar reported in October: “I’m gung-ho for the 75th Anniversary! I’m looking forward to it!”

**1943**

Norm Walker walkerns@verizon.net

On September 26, Robert Pennoyer was honored at a gala dinner in New York City and presented with the Champion of Justice Award from the Alliance for Justice in recognition of his civil and human rights advocacy. The Alliance for Justice is dedicated to preserving the concept of equal justice under law and to protecting the ability of everyday Americans to actively participate in civic institutions and democratic processes.

**1944**

Link Wheeler hwheeler@jelliff.net
www.sps.edu/1944

Clive Runnells and his wife, Nancy, were celebrated at a luncheon of the Mental Health America of Greater Houston. The Runnells have been promoting mental health in the Houston area since the 1980s, when Nancy co-founded The Gathering Place, which provides a supportive environment for people with mental illness. Having received the Ima Hogg Award in May 1993 for their contributions to mental health, the Runnells continued their work, with Clive serving on the board of the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston. At the university they founded the Fierce, Nancy, and Clive Runnells Chair in Neurosurgery, the University of Texas Embryonic Stem Cell Research Fund, and the University of Texas Distinguished Chair in Emergency Medicine. The Runnells family also supports stem cell research at the Brown Foundation Institute of Molecular Medicine for the Prevention of Human Diseases. Their philanthropic efforts have allowed the IMM to develop four of their own stem cell lines, two of which have been approved by the National Institutes of Health.

**1949**

John A. Scully jasfishnet@aol.com
www.sps.edu/1949

Sam Cooley, John Wagley, and I returned to SPS for Alumni Volunteer Weekend. Things are really going well at SPS, and it was uplifting to visit. Among other things, it is indicative of the spirit that students all say “hello” when you pass them going one way or another. While we still can, we must go back, to see the School and each other, at our 65th reunion from May 30 to June 1, 2014. We shall have transportation to and from campus and on Saturday are invited for a small dinner at the Rectory. I haven’t been inside the Rectory, and many of you probably haven’t either (except possibly under some long-past disciplinary circumstances). Late May/early June is a beautiful time in Concord, and it will be fun to see each other. Meanwhile, stay healthy, and do make the effort to come. More about arrangements will follow shortly.

**1950**

Dean Howells hhi@ix.netcom.com

News from Dick Paine: “This is my year for experiencing the dreaded college admission process with our five grandchildren: SATs, grades, sports, etc. Three grandchildren are in college (two at Trinity and one at Hamilton) and two more to go as seniors. Over 50 applications sent so far! Forget the Ivy League (unless your child wins American Idol or is a 6’9” quarterback or NHL recruit). The old days of all-around, multi-sport days and gentleman B’s are gone. Good luck to the SPS Form of 2014.”

**1951**

John Lorenz cossacks4ever@fairpoint.net

Flix Kloman, John Lorenz, Charlie Van Doren, Mark Cluett and David Morrish gathered in Belfast, Maine, on July 22, 2013, for the SPS 1951 Midcoast Maine summer luncheon.
An autumn comment from Fran Winans, wife of Peter Winans: “Peter is doing fairly well here in Delray Beach. After several heart attacks, an operation to remove part of his foot, and dozens of other problems due to his diabetes, he is still with us. He walks with a walker and sits a lot, but he keeps up with the news and still has a pretty active mind. Thanks to John Lorenz, we are kept current on SPS and Peter’s friends. We had a great time last year at lunch in Palm Beach and hope we will repeat next winter. Amazing to see old friends so many years later!”

Oggie White writes: “This summer three generations came together for a Big Red summer event at our home in Prouts Neck. I was joined at the event by my daughter, Jennifer Walsh ’79, and grandsons, Sam Walsh ’08, Ben Walsh ’09, and Gus Walsh ‘14.”

Oggie White ’55 in Prouts Neck, Maine, with daughter Jennifer Walsh ’79 and grandsons Sam Walsh ’08, Ben Walsh ’09, and Gus Walsh ‘14.

1954

Ed Harding
barnhill@hardinggroup.com
www.sps.edu/1954

Keith Lorenz sent this update: “I collaborated on a beautiful book that will be available in November (www.chesleyphotovoyage.com). I wrote all the essays. Most of them are on Southeast Asia and the Pacific, based on many years working as a news correspondent in that theatre. The photographer, Paul Chesley, who also lives in Honolulu, is one of the greatest and has done much work for National Geographic. Many of the essays have a reflective quality. I even got the School’s name in twice, once in the Thailand essay amidst a reference to the mysterious, vanished Jim Thompson ’24, whom I knew!”

1955

Morris Cheston Jr.
chestonm@ballardspahr.com

Henry Shaw shared this update: “Mike Elliman and I, along with wives Sally and Judy, met this past June on Blakely Island, Puget Sound, a wilderness where the Ellimans spend their summers. Mike likes the peace and quiet. Only way you can get there is by private boat or plane. Mike gave me a one-hour tour on an ATV, which covered most of the island, population about 100. This was followed by a round of bocce, which Mike won. No wonder, as I found out later he owned the court. Cocktails overlooking the northern Pacific Ocean, then elegant dinner prepared by Sally made for an evening we’ll remember. Early next morning, a sumptuous breakfast with a panoramic view of the San Juan Islands, which take up much of Puget Sound. Later in the morning, Mike and Sally motored the boat back to Anacortes, from where Judy and I took a short drive back to Seattle. What a country!”

1957

William T. de Haven
bill_dehaven316@hotmail.com

George de Man writes: “I joined Tony Stout and Susan Cobleigh for Sunday ‘carving’ at the Bell Inn, Chittlehampton, Devon, in July. Tony has a farm nearby and Susan’s ancestors, requiescat in pace, are under brass effigies in the ‘most beautiful church in Devon’ nearby.”

Sandy Holloway sent us a note: “Ted Rust has moved to San Francisco (415–926–8156 home, tedrust@gmail.com). Take a look at www.dolciduo.us to see what he and Viva Knight are doing for the Bay Area’s classical music scene on oboe and piano.”

Our next “mini–reunion” will be in Jackson, Wyo., September 4–8, 2014. Details? See your letter from SPS or e–mail Sandy. Holloway@yahoo.com.

1959

David Atkinson
david.atkinson1@mac.com
www.sps.edu/1959

Save the dates! Our Form of 1959 pre–reunion will be held at the Woodstock Inn in Woodstock, Vt., on May 28–29, 2014, and then we’ll head to Concord for our 55th reunion, May 30–June 1. Sydney Waud has already started planning our traditional clambake celebration on Saturday night. Visit our website at www.sps.edu/1959 for more details and to RSVP. Please plan to join us!

Peter de Bretteville shared:
*After teaching for more than 20 years at Yale School of Architecture, I was thrilled at this year's graduation to receive the Yale School of Architecture's Professor King-Lui Wu Teaching Award, awarded each year to a faculty member who combines architectural practice with outstanding teaching. Recipients are selected by the vote of graduating students. Nothing could be more gratifying than being recognized by your students!* In August, a TV program themed as *You Live in What?* will be shooting what will be the third special on my practice. Doesn’t sound like other I will also be attending to Kong University. Somehow or teaching an advanced Archi-Design Institute. I will also be at atmospheric, at Hong Kong environment, both oceanic and project related to the changing where we will be carrying out a will be in Hong Kong for the fall, water tank house. Sheila and I will be the third special on my in What?

**1960**

Dimitri Sevastopoulo dimitrisev@nyc.rr.com

A fall formnote from Joe Mechem: “Dimitri Sevas-topoulo hosted a dinner at the Harvard Club for nearly 20 formmates. Attendees included Andy Baxter, Rich Brewster, Sam Brookfield, Bill Burnham, Bill Foulke, Harry Howell, Jack Mechem, Bill Parshall, Michael Patterson, Jud Phelps, Win Rutherford, Peter Stovell, Lane Taylor, Richard Victor, Phil Warner, Sandy Whitman, and Peter Yerkes. Incidentally, Charlie Thomson and Pete Draper couldn’t attend because they were in Africa at the time (different places). This was the third and largest class get-together this year (others in Philadelphia and Boca Grande). During the dinner, I reported on my visit to Alumni Volunteer Weekend (September 27–28), and talked about admissions (SPS and college) and the financial and spiritual strength of the School. A lively discussion ensued. Everyone commented about the need for more frequent get-togethers."

**1964**

Richard S. Sperry overcable@aol.com www.sps.edu/1964

I just visited the School for the annual Alumni Volunteer Weekend. There was a beautiful blue sky for a crisp fall weekend. All was in order. Under the watchful eyes of Form Agent Tony Parker and Form Director Rick Sperry, initial planning for the SPS ’64 50th reunion, May 30–June 1, 2014, is well underway. Major events include a pre–reunion gathering from May 28 to 30 at the beautiful Woodstock Inn in Woodstock, Vt. Room blocks for SPS ’64 at the Woodstock Inn and the Concord Holiday Inn have been reserved, but call now to take advantage of early availabilities. Please make sure to check in with our 50th reunion website to see who is coming so far and to let us know if you will be there. Key events for reunion include the traditional kick-off dinner for the 50th reunion form in the Upper Dining Hall on Friday night, an off–site dinner at the Kimball–Jenkins Estate in Concord on Saturday, and a final Sunday gathering for lunch at the new home of Rob Claflin and his wife, Kyri, nearby on Pleasant Street.

Much work has gone into the creation of a special SPS 50th reunion personal information website (50threunion.sps.edu), which will function as an online reunion yearbook. We encourage all members of the form to take advantage of this first–ever online effort and submit a write–up, whether you are coming or not. Your formmates would love to hear from you. There is plenty of room for photos, links, and videos – anything you wish to include. Terry Lichty, Richard Johnson, and I are organizing this with the assistance of Jessica McQuaid at SPS. The initial deadline for submissions of November 1 has been extended, but the sooner you can respond, the more your formmates will enjoy. Hats off to early responders Terry Lichty, Dean Henry, Ted Morgan, David Irons, Thierry Aube, Jad Roberts, Ted Baehr, Dick Sonderegger, et al. for jumping in.

One nice reunion that took place in June was in Montana where Jos Wiley, Jim Schutze and Monty Orr gathered for their annual July roundup.

We are looking for volunteers to help organize other weekend activities (i.e., a 50th reunion crew at the Boat Races, coordination of main dinner, lunch and brunch activities, selecting and ordering reunion gifts, and any other activities you may suggest).

We look forward to seeing
as many of you at our 50th as possible.

Haven Pell writes: “I joined Bruce Lauritzen ’61 on June 21, 2013, to celebrate two milestones. The first was Bruce’s 70th birthday, but the second – revealed here for the first time – was the 39th anniversary of the invention of social networking. In the spring of 1974, I placed a form note in Alumni Horae saying that I was graduating from law school, marrying Simmy Stockman, and moving to Omaha, Neb., to join a law firm. Lauritzen, who lived in Omaha, read the note, picked up a pen, and wrote a letter offering his welcome to the newlyweds (social networking was not then quite what it has since become). A lifelong family friendship ensued. Facebook, Twitter, and their electronic brethren found their origin in this very magazine almost 40 years ago.”

Steve Whitman, Peter Twining, John Ingram and wife Tamar, Randy Morgan and wife Terry DeKalb, David Parshall, and Ed Bartlett, met in New York City on September 7, and, afterward, a number of us and a few other illustrious guests met at the Guggenheim Museum for a private tour of the James Turrell exhibition. John Ingram, head of the art department at the United Nations International School, was much more knowledgeable about Turrell than any of the rest of us, but we all had a good time. Rick Billings participated in our meeting earlier in the day but was unable to stay for the later festivities, including the museum tour, cocktails, and dinner.

Nat Prentice and his wife, Anita, met up with Kiril Sokoloff and his daughter, Natasha, in the Adirondacks with Anita and Nat Prentice ’65.

Philip Conover has created a provocative blog (peregri-noenelcamino.blogspot.com). The blog focuses on “psycho-history,” defined in Philip’s blog, and also includes a family biography of Philip’s most distinguished “north of the border” ancestors. As some of you may know, Philip is a direct descendant of Henry Coit, the founding Rector of St. Paul’s School. The family biography also includes an appreciation of Philip’s grandfather, the Reverend James Potter Conover (Form of 1876), written by the Reverend Samuel S. Drury and published in the 1932 edition of the Horae Scholasticae.

Richard Woodville rwoodville@verizon.net

This from Roy Coppeedge: “Having just dropped off my youngest child, Peter ’17, 14, at Armour House (it used to be the infirmary), I suspect that I am currently the last member of our form and (possibly) the oldest alumnus with a child at SPS. I’m sure that some of you will want to compete in this matter (Hornblower?). Mercifully, I’m not the oldest parent of a Third Former, much to my son’s relief!”

1966

Richard Woodville rwoodville@verizon.net

On a recent trip to Marrakech, Morocco, to attend a wedding, my wife, Alice Young, and I spent some time with groomsman Darrick Harris ’79, and his daughter, Dashiel. We had the opportunity to have dinner with them the day after the wedding at Sir Richard Branson’s Kasbah Tamadot in the foothills of the Atlas Mountains.

1969

www.sps.edu/1969

The SPS 1969 45th reunion is in the works, and a great one it will be. Call to action: go to
your calendar now and block out the weekend of May 30–June 1, 2014. Come however you are and as early as you can. For Friday evening dinner, we will be warmly embraced at the home of Annie and Bob Retew, where (one authority in the matter recently reported) “beats the heart of the School.” We, as a form, are truly privileged among all to enjoy such friendship and welcome nearly any time we wish at SPS, and this time will be truly special.

At the end of an invigorating Saturday that will swell the heart with pride, we will assemble up-country and under the tent at the venerable Colby Hill Inn in Henniker for a legendary bacchanal with a Yankee flavor. Other entertainments will include stories you’ve never heard, re-meeting people you never knew that well, and the results of at least one contest. Very special guests are signing up as we speak. Make reservations now by calling 800–531–0330.

To bring back the New England experience of your youth, we have commandeered all rooms at the Colby Hill Inn and two other nearby country inns. First—come, first—served for these special accommodations – creaky floors included at no extra charge. Also, bring your bathing suit in case the heat draws you to the Colby Hill swimming pool. Any pool parties will be ad hoc affairs. Finally, if you haven’t already, you’ll want to stay in the know by logging into the SPS 1969 website. Go ahead, blow your mind with this multimedia time capsule, designed exclusively for form members and no one else. All the news (going back almost 50 years) will be there. Visit www.sps1969.org. We can say no more. Questions? E-mail your loyal form director. It’s good to know you’ll be there.

Richard Lyon shares this note: "A few weekends ago, Joe Walker and I cruised from Marion, Mass., to the Vineyard for an overnight with David LeBreton and his wife, Ann. We had been trying to put this visit together for at least two years and finally found a date that worked for everyone. I am headed off to Charlottesville, Va., tomorrow for a long weekend. My wife, Remmi, and I purchased a farm there in 2009 and have been working on it ever since. Our plan is to spend more time there over the next few years. When there, we frequently see Charlie Hickox and his wife, Cheryl.”

Tom Shortall '68 (l.) with Darrick Harris '79 and his daughter, Dashiel, at a wedding in Marrakech, Morocco. Shortall has since lost the beard as an anniversary present to his wife.

1970

Tres Davidson
swdiii@gmail.com

Tres Davidson, Don Lippincott, Guy Nouri, and Steve Crandall report from Norfolk, Conn., after attending a recent Tom Rush concert at Infinity Hall: “We had a great visit with Tom after the show last night; he’s psyched to return to SPS in May 2015 to perform at our 45th reunion. Tom shared many fond memories of growing up at SPS and made reference to growing up ‘at St. Paul’s in 18th–century England’ during his stage show. Lip’s 1965 SPS yearbook, containing a special dedication by the Sixth Form to Tom’s father and mother, brought both a smile to Tom’s face and a tear to his eye.

In other important news, the Form of 1970 was actively engaged in the initial SPS Sparks service activities in May and September. On a beautiful spring day in May, approximately 30 members of the SPS community, including 10 members of our form, converged in, on, and along the banks of the Pawcatuck River in Richmond, R.I., for a river cleanup and dam-building project. The day was highlighted by a visit from the form’s close Rhode Island friend, U.S. Senator Sheldon Whitehouse ’73, who spoke to the group on the importance of service in his life.

Recently, another 25 members of the SPS community, including eight members of our form, gathered at Calf Pasture Beach in Norwalk, Conn., for another SPS Sparks Day of Service and Sharing. This time the volunteers traveled by kayak and powerboat to Chimon and Grassy Islands for a cleanup of the island shores. For more information and some great photos and video from these two events, please go to www.spssparks.org/PastEvents.php.

The next SPS Sparks service activities are being scheduled during the School’s Thanksgiving vacation week of November 24 to December 1. The hope is to encourage current SPS students to serve together with their parents and SPS alumni. Please consider getting together with some of your local formmates and sparking a day of service to stop hunger in your local area.”

1971

Mark M. Wheeler
mwheeler14@nyc.rr.com

Rodney Place writes from South Africa: “Forty years (gulp), 26 (or is it 27?) countries, and at least nine states of the Union later (Texas still has the right to secede and often does), I seem to have come home to SA with a vengeance, this time to do something like help a young South African generation discover the Motown in itself. I’m happy to be doing something that compels me to live many more years, and I’m happy anyway. I’m glad, as well, to have bumped into some formmates in Europe more recently, including our editor!”
And from the newly relocated **Rob Taylor**: “In the two short years since we last met, Sarah Berga and I have moved to the Wake Forest School of Medicine in Winston-Salem, N.C. (the city bearing a rather ironic name for a health science center). She is chair and I am vice chair for research in the Ob/Gyn Department. It’s a wonderfully bucolic location. We live in the historic Moravian town of Old Salem, in a home built in 1822. Pleasant seasons and rolling hills make for a very comfortable lifestyle. It’s a challenging time raising NIH and foundation funding for a new women’s health research initiative but a stimulating community, and my program in uterine biology is growing steadily.”

**Gil Parsons** writes: “After having been out of contact for nearly 40 years, St. Paul’s classmates **Mark Wheeler** and Gil Parsons found themselves collaborating in a scheme to bring a rare set of artifacts of the eighteenth-century Chinese Emperor Qianlong out of Paris to a new and perhaps more fitting home in the United States. When the project went up in flames amidst a flurry of international intrigue (and a large pile of Chinese cash…) the unlikely pair of superannuated Walter Mittys found themselves laughing all the way to the… bar… and plotting further adventure.”

**Dennis Dixon** reported on his recent brush with our medical system: “As for my latest news, in late April I was hospitalized for a pulmonary embolism on my left lung. That got cleaned up, but my intestinal tract was blocked up (big pain) – turned out to be kidney stones, which got zapped. The antibiotics seemed to have taken care of the (light case of) pneumonia, and the gallstones they found are small and ’80 percent of everybody have gallstones – no big deal as long as they don’t hurt.’ And I met with an infectious-disease doctor to take a look at me, because I tested positive for the TB scratch-on-arm test. So, aside from that, I’m having a great time in the warmth and sunshine of our New England springtime and saw Patty Lar-kin in Rockport recently. I went skiing a half-dozen times this past winter – my only complaint is their senior rates don’t kick in for many more years (I hate paying retail).”

We found a note from last fall (Oops. Sorry, Leo) from **Leo Romer**: “As you know, I was in the States for two months and visited ma’ main man, **Guy Antonioili**, in Austin. I took a break from Hurricane Hugo Chavez & Co. Wow, now that was a breather and a change of scene. During my break from our Venezuelan pressure-cooker, I visited my two daughters in Florida and had my 60th birthday in Little Havana, downtown Miami (8th Street), at the Versailles Restaurant with them. My youngest daughter, Maria Carlota, was pregnant back then (February and March). Since then she’s become a mom, and I’m a very freaked out grandfather! I’m still speechless.”

And from one of our resident thespians, **Bram Lewis**: “Working on a new play, *The Mask of the Jaguar King*, with Kate Erbe of *Law & Order* and Ricardo Chavira of *Desperate Housewives*. The reading at Signature Repertory went well, and in attendance were Richard Lederer and **Peter Seymour**.”

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**1972**

**John Henry Low**

jhl@knick.com

**John Henry Low** files this form report: This quarter’s Form of 1972 formnotes are all about our ongoing “When Two or More Are Gathered in My Name” Department. **Pres Stone** reported that he visited Kauai with Susan, his wife of 35 years, to celebrate his Six-0, and “sensed that our former Form Director and Four-0 Reunion Party Impe- sario Charlie Bronson, located in his remote corner of this already remote island, needed a visit from the mainland and his sordid, distant past. Pres and Susan walked away with lighter wallets and more noni than they knew what to do with, noni being Mr. B’s new life mis- sion. But life is not all noni for Charlie, as later they hoisted a few barrels of rum to catch up and reminisce.” Pres further reports that “noni tastes simply awful (think blue cheese), and the rum went a long way in killing the taste. Furthermore, Charlie’s life on the Garden Isle of Hawaii ain’t all bad, as he was surrounded by a bevy of ladies. Wasn’t that always the case?” Pres and Susan continue to live in San Francisco, whence Charlie emigrated. Pres runs the Bay Area local chapter of the Form of 1972 Ale and Quail Society, the bounty of which he will dispense to all visiting 1972 formmates.

In an effort to prevent Char- lie’s recent move to Kauai from tipping the earth’s axis too much toward the left coast, **Keith Rollinson** told us of a move back to the right coast from his current home in West Lynn, Ore., (near Portland) back to Boston. In fact, Keith will, at least temporarily, become a roommate of **Tom Iglehart ’69** in the Jamaica Plain neighbor- hood in Boston. Keith’s new gig will be the post-production manager at Emerson College in Boston. Emerson is a leading university in film, video, audio, and communications. Keith has long been a musician, com- posing old music, new music, and film music, and has been involved with a video and audio post-production career over a couple of decades. Keith did some documentary film work.
in ethnomusicology and will miss some of his left coast encounters with Doug Chan and Graeme Boone, musicians and musicologists extraordinaire. Keith has three grown children, Elizabeth, Toby, and Julian, and Keith’s wife, Marianne, will be joining him on the right coast shortly.

David Holt, our prolific Great White North correspondent, reports that “while in Toronto for a fitness show” (which is related to his work at Optimyz, one of the magazines of which he is editor–in-chief and a partner), “I hung out with Gary Hodder ’73, an attorney.” (Loyal readers of this column [the formnotes] may recall that last quarter, Gary hung out with John Cook, taking in an ice hockey game in South Florida. Looks like Gary is getting more ink in our formnotes than in his own form’s formnotes. Well done, Gary!) David continues, “Gary helped me retrieve a lost notebook that a cabbie had dropped off at the Royal York Hotel. Then we went with his friend Selwyn, whom we happened to meet on the sidewalk, to the Rex Jazz Club. This great trio from Benin played. They were only in Canada for the day, they told me. Also, my mother, Anne (89), died in July, as did my wife Donna’s mother, Marjorie (82); both lived in the same retirement home in Halifax.” David’s September update: “Today and yesterday I cycled, kayaked, and swam in a nearby lake. Last night, I drank some wine on the deck with neighbors. Beautiful end of September in Nova Scotia. Turning 60 in a few days, feeling good. (Found the boat race schedule from our 40th reunion in a jacket pocket.)”

Dierk Groeneman chimes in from Colorado: “Bill Keegan was generous enough to include me in his annual pilgrimage to the Punk Rock Bowling and Music Festival, held every May in Las Vegas. It was great to see favorite old bands (Devo, DRI, Black Flag alumni performing as just Flag but bearing the venerable Black Flag logo). There was also a side trip to a pinball museum, where Bill impressed with his skill and deep knowledge of pinball–machine history. Thank you, Bill, for the chance to remember good times!” Bill, of course, was a Pinball Wizard before Pete Townshend (SPS Form of 1969…I wish) wrote that song. So guys, how about organizing our form outing to Burning Man next year?

Please keep your cards, letters, and e-mails coming for the next issue. And please check out our form’s LinkedIn and Yahoo groups. In the Yahoo group, you will find some information on our form’s plaques that hang in the cloister of the Upper (now called Coit). And we thought we were the first class not to get a class plaque. Looks like the School had a change of heart.

Kent Williams writes: “I hosted an alumni gathering at my home in Newark, Del., on June 30. Folks gathered to chat and catch up with Jose Wiltshire ’73, who was spending time here on the East Coast from Tucson, Ariz. In attendance were Wayne Gilreath, Ed Shockley and his wife, Terri, Jose Luis Huertas-Perez ’75, Peter Patton ’73 and his wife, Anne Castimore, Severo Nieves ’76, and Larry Woody ’72. Although he could not make it down from New York City, Steve Isaac sent a video greeting via smartphone. Lorene Cary also sent her regards via text message.”

Jose Maldonado
splitstep54@earthlink.net

Will Neilson joined the race for the District 19 seat in the Senate in Maine. Neilson is vying for the Democratic nomination and cites his love of the district and especially the city of Bath, where he co–owns the Solo Bistro, an eatery and wine bar, as his drive for seeking the seat.

Art Sistare
sasart@sbcglobal.net
www.sps.edu/1974

Ken Williams writes: “I hosted an alumni gathering at my home in Newark, Del., on June 30. Folks gathered to chat and catch up with Jose Wiltshire ’73, who was spending time here on the East Coast from Tucson, Ariz. In attendance were Wayne Gilreath, Ed Shockley and his wife, Terri, Jose Luis Huertas–Perez ’75, Peter Patton ’73 and his wife, Anne Castimore, Severo Nieves ’76, and Larry Woody ’72. Although he could not make it down from New York City, Steve Isaac sent a video greeting via smartphone. Lorene Cary also sent her regards via text message.”

Nora Tracy Phillips sent this note: “Edie Farwell traveled in style to Dartmouth College to drop off her son, Cedar. The pair traveled the distance between their home in Hartland, Vt., to Hanover, N.H., by canoe, turning what would have been a normal
niece, celebrate the graduation of my Family gathered together to jennie_hunnewell@yahoo.com Jennie Hunnewell Kaplan dasteveson@hotmail.com Walter Hunnewell ’75, my daughter, Sarah H. Kaplan ’17, and my brother, Francis W. Hunnewell ’78.

Summer news from David G. Nelson: “Mark Schneider, John Martin, Eldon Scott, Gifford West, and Rich Perkins took their annual cruise around Long Island Sound. The 22-minute drive into an adventure. It was an adventure made even more challenging when officials released water from the Wilder Dam, increasing the current of the river from about 700 cubic feet per second to 750 cubic feet per second. That is certainly a way for Cedar to make an entrance.”

1979
Dave Stevenson dasteveson@hotmail.com www.sps.edu/1979

1980
Jennie Hunnewell Kaplan jennie_hunnewell@yahoo.com

Family gathered together to celebrate the graduation of my niece, Clara Hunnewell ’13, in June. Those gathered included my brother and Clara’s father, Walter Hunnewell ’75, my daughter, Sarah H. Kaplan ’17, and my brother, Francis W. Hunnewell ’78.

Summer news from David G. Nelson: “Mark Schneider, John Martin, Eldon Scott, Gifford West, Rich Perkins, and I took our annual cruise that has been going for about 12 years. We sailed around Long Island Sound and had a great time.”

1983
Michael Stubbs michaeljstubbs@gmail.com

I am fondly remembering Laurie L’Esperance and sending my heartfelt condolences and best wishes to her friends and family. It is comforting to reconnect with many people from many forms in that regard. I am currently recovering in Los Angeles (if only momentarily) from a surfet of summer travel: New York, Las Vegas, Big Sur (sorry to miss our 30th!), Sicily (thought of Scott Messina as we cruised from Taormina to the Aeolian Islands in June), Aspen (encouraging to hear Alan Khazan ’79 [on national service] and Charles Best ’94 [on education philanthropy/Donors Choose], and great to see Ripley Thomas and her husband, Greg, at the Aspen Ideas Festival in July) and Bermuda (SPS alumnae adjacent [Briana Soto ’06, Madeleine Collins ’09], but no verified sightings while there in August). We’re off to Thailand (Bangkok and Krabi) and Cambodia (Angkor Wat) for a two-week study tour with American Jewish World Service (with Ruth Messinger and Rabbi David Wolpe), working to realize my blessings and paying it forward, I’m actively exploring a departure from motion-picture business affairs to full-time philanthropy, principally in connection with early development and education in underserved communities, as well as foster care and juvenile justice/probation/anti-recidivism advocacy and victim-offender reconciliation.

This from Charlie McKee: “If you’re traveling to über-cool Canada, a guest room awaits in Toronto, where I have settled with spouse, Joe Hamilton. My son, Aidan ’14, is rooming again with Jackson Gates ’14, the son of John Gates ’84.”

1984
Maja Paumgarten-Parker majaapumgarten@gmail.com www.sps.edu/1984

Billy McCullough writes: “I am in Chefchauen, Morocco, a mountain town with much alternative agriculture and a laid-back vibe. Great day with the family – rock-climbed, swam, haggled in the medina with local vendors, and had one of the top-three food experiences of my life – a chicken pastille. Traveling is fun!”

1985
Donald D. Sung donald.sung@lazard.com

Lise Lemeland writes: “I just moved myself and my three kids to western Mass. and am working in my new studio in Easthampton. My artwork continues to address aerobic flying, and I competed again this summer in aerobic competitions in the Northeast region. Flying upside down never ceases to thrill me! You can see three of my paintings at the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum in Washington, D.C., in an exhibition called “High Art.” It’s up through January 2014; the paintings were collected by the Museum in 2010 for their permanent collection.”

1987
Mona Gibson monagibson@aol.com

Megan Dunbar is a psychotherapist living in Portland, Ore., where she has lived since graduating from college. She is enjoying the “never-grow-up” spirit that is hard to escape there.

1989
Marshall Neilson marshall.neilson@gmail.com www.sps.edu/1989

Andrea Greer reports: “Work for one of my clients has me visiting small towns and their tea rooms, mid-century motels, and church suppers all over East Texas. More fun than it might sound! Inspired by those visits, and after more than 30 years of coming to N.H. on an annual basis (including seven years in school there), I visited the Shaker Village in Canterbury last month. Consider a stop when you next visit SPS.”

A September check-in from Dave Kolojay: “I’m hopeful I will make it to the 25th reunion. I recently moved to Saudi Arabia for approximately two years to work on a project with the Ministry of Health. DaVita is bringing the world’s best kidney care to the Kingdom. I will be working to build and operate 50 new dialysis clinics for 5,000 patients while I’m overseas. Should be a heck of an experience! Hope to be able to make it...”
back to SPS at the end of May."

Amanda Cramer sent us a note: “Amicably left my job of nine years at the end of May. I am taking my first wine-grape harvest off since 1999. If you enjoy drinking Niner, please continue to do so but do so knowing that I am not responsible for anything made after the 2012 vintage. Wineries don’t typically hire during harvest, so I am enjoying a sabbatical of sorts, being soccer mom and volunteering to help “green” my son, Tomas’s, elementary school. I am also attempting to grow veggies in the backyard and training our beautiful black Lab puppy, Sofy, hoping she will somehow turn out to be more obedient than both my husband and child. I am planning to attend the 25th reunion and hoping to see all of you there!”

From Cristina Norcross: “Still the mom of two busy boys who keep me on my toes. Parenthood is a very humbling experience! My fourth poetry collection, The Lava Storyteller, was published in June by Red Mare Press. My poem – “Sacred Outlines” – will be read at a special jazz vespers service at St. Jude’s Anglican Church outside of Toronto. It will be paired with a painting by Canadian artist Derik Hawley and accompanied by improv jazz (inspired by the poem and artwork) on October 6, 2013.

An update from Anne Brumley: “Rob and I are happy to announce the birth of our son, John, born on March 17, 2013. He joins his siblings, Blake (12), Grayson (9) and Hayes (6). Looking forward to reunion next year.”

This from Brian Berlandi: “The Berlandis are well and still living in Sherman, Conn. My law firm (www.bnrlp.com) is in its third year and going strong. Katie continues her work for the Guideposts Foundation and her interior decorating business. Amelia (12) is in seventh grade, Eloise (10) is in fifth grade, and John (4) is in pre-K. All are healthy and happy. We spent two days this summer in Denver with the Kolojays, which was fantastic as usual. Mike Ricard, Kolojay and I are heading to Charlotte in November to stay with the Tenzers for a weekend of golf and to attend the Pats Monday Night Football game in Charlotte. Can’t wait to see everyone at reunion!”

Page Sargisson
pagesargisson@gmail.com

Heather Bragg shared: “On August 1, 2013, I was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel in the USAF at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton, Ohio. In attendance was Dr. Joleen White.”
This news from Sarah Orban Salati: “My husband, Anthony, and I welcomed a second son, Theodore Lawrence Anton Salati, in April. As a result, I missed our 20th reunion. We recently moved back to the U.S. after seven years abroad and are in the D.C. metro area. I would be happy to reconnect with any formmates in the area (particularly if they are up for play dates) and look forward to getting involved in the local Pelican Club.”

**1994**

Tyler Grant
tggrant33@gmail.com
www.sps.edu/1994

Looking forward to seeing everyone at our 20th reunion this spring. We have begun planning, and an official update will be sent this fall. If you plan on attending and would be willing to help, please contact Tyler Grant.

Josiah Hornblower sent us a note: “This past August in Islesboro, Maine, where many past and present generations of SPS alumni have sailed, I had an epic time racing in a Dark Harbor 20 with Andy Gustin ’98, DeWolf Emery ’99, and Quentin Reeve ’03. We followed our skipper, DeWolf, in proper shirtless tradition and placed first. The second-place boat included Chris Allen ’87 and Dana Emery ’83.”

Nick Van Amburg
nvanamburg@gmail.com

A treasure trove of news from members of our form: Joe Zorumski reports that he and his wife, Amanda, dined at Jason Angell’s Longhaul Farm in Garrison, N.Y., where Jason and wife Jocelyn “… made some great food. Andy Bay graciously and expertly played sommelier. Nat Prentice ’65, was also there with his wife, Anita.” And here in Manhattan, Dolly Geary “saw quite a few SPS’ers last night at the opening of our gallery’s latest show at our new gallery space for Jack Geary Contemporary at 185 Varick Street, including Grace Evans, Grace Kim, Isabella Calder, Ed Smith ’93, his dad and my uncle, E.B. Smith ’62, Philip Warner ’94, and Benjy Federbush ’94.”

Adam Giuliano and his wife, Wendy Liu, had their first child, Theodore Kinley Ming "Teddy" Giuliano on September 9 in New York City. “Since my wife went to an all-girls school (Emma Willard) for high school, and that’s therefore off the table, I’ve already secured her unconditional sign-off on SPS as the preferred educational option when the time comes.”

Kary Clark is enjoying the onset of autumn with her husband and son James and is actively looking for her next professional challenge in social media activation, creative copywriting, and branded content generation.

Andrew Fisher is also embracing new professional challenges: “Elda and I (and Indy and Gatsby the dog) are doing well. We’ve moved from Durham, N.C., to Columbus, Ohio, for a year while Elda is completing a fellowship in facial cosmetic surgery. I ‘retired’ from the lawyering business when we moved and am enjoying a second career as chief of the laundry and Columbus exploration divisions here at The Fisher Group. Columbus has been a pleasant surprise, but we’re still very much looking forward to our return to the Old North State.”

Great news from Katie Sears: “I got married to the love of my life, Larry Edwards, on August 17 in Kauai. We had about 70 people in attendance, including Ashley Adams ’96 and Angus Macalurin ’96. It was a beautiful day and a really fun wedding, not to mention a great vacation and honeymoon! Now we’re settling back into life in Cupertino, Calif. Larry works for NASA, and I’ve just been hired on as clinical faculty at Stanford School of Medicine, happy to be the first psychologist hired in cardiology. Sending best wishes out to all the other ‘95ers.”

Also in the nuptials department, Erika Lea and Christopher Simons were married September 7, 2013, in Lyme, N.H. In attendance were Malcom and Eliza, children of Nick ’95 and Cornelia ’97 Van Amburg.
Will McCulloch, Andy Bay and Dahni–El Giles.” For the record: “Erika kept her last name, and our kids’ last name is ‘Lea–Simons.’”

Even more good news from Alyson Jones in Los Angeles: “The Jones Family is excited to welcome another baby boy. Casey Joshua Jones made his entrance August 10 at 4:33 a.m. We are enjoying time home as a family and even escaped to Malibu for some late-summer beach fun. It should be exciting to get all these kiddos together at our 20th reunion.” Morgan Stewart spent a recent weekend with the Jones family. “Spent a picture-perfect day celebrating the birthday of Michael Jones, husband of Alyson, in Malibu with Frances Reath Merrill ’96 and Tyler Grant ’94. Sometimes I miss the East Coast in the fall, but days like this make it easier!” Allyson Pachios and husband Chris Pachios ’94 also have some big family news to share: “We had our fourth child August 23, Andrew Francis Pachios. His older siblings Harry (6), Saylor (5), and Charlie (3) are thrilled to have a baby brother in the home.”

In our lone overseas dispatch, Caroline Sehnaoui Cook says, “All is well in Switzerland. In the winter we live between Geneva and Megève. Get in touch!”

Back where it all began in Millville, Alessia Carega notes that “Alumni Volunteer Weekend just ended at SPS, and it was great to spend quality time walking around the ponds with Courtney Coles Evans. What is now a daily routine for me was even better with a ’95 at my side. In late August, another local catch-up took place with Roberta Bruce at Foothills of Warner. The sticky buns are maybe more enormous than they used to be, or maybe our teenage appetites have finally waned. It’s my third year of working in the Admission Office at SPS, which I love. It is only made better with surprise visits from alumni, so look me up if you’re here. I was sorry to miss a quick visit by Albert Pope earlier this year.”

Upon her return from Alumni Volunteer Weekend, Courtney Evans says, “Mr. Hirschfeld ’85, who is just plain great on so many levels, said in his Chapel speech to volunteers, “Welcome home.” SPS was home and still is. Perhaps it was the autumn foliage calling me, or the universe telling me I needed to reconnect with the woods, but whatever it was, SPS was home again for a brief visit, and it will sustain me until we are there again for our 20th reunion. SPS is in great form, and I hope each of you will take a moment to remember your connection to the School and do something to support it. Download the SPS app, contribute to the Alumni Fund, or reroute your travels to have your own Cricket Holiday there someday soon.”

Will McCulloch is entering his fifth year as the director of communications at New Hampshire. “Summer was pretty memorable, given the opportunity to spend time with Geoff DeVito, Jon Claeyns ’94, Dan Arndt ’94, Andy Bay, and Dahni–El Giles catch up with the Eichelberger family. I also had the pleasure of watching my new neighbors across the street, Chris Simons and Erika Lea, get married in a beautiful ceremony in Lyme, N.H. Their kids are learning how to
dance from my son, Santiago (7), and how to push boundaries from my daughter, Luna (5). I’m surrounded by St. Paul’s connections. Alessia Carega’s husband, Trent, is on the English faculty here, and commutes from Kitt II. Jon Shackett ‘88 is a biology teacher at New Hampton and just became a live-in house parent in the building where I am house head. He gives me a lot of tips when we play music together and has taught me a lot of tips when we play. I found time over the busy weekend to hang out with Dave Mathews ‘96 as well. Although we were in touch, I missed catching up with my sister in law enforcement, Monique Washington ‘87, as work prevented her from getting away. We were all thoroughly surprised to find out that newly transplanted Chicagoan Monique (Bobb) Schlichtman ‘92 literally lives a block away from T.J., and she made a special guest appearance when we gathered on the rooftop of T.J.’s condo.

Speaking of rooftops, Javier Hidalgo hosted a cookout on the roof deck of his building a week later back in Brooklyn. Natasha Cobb ‘97, Quincy Gambrell ‘98, and Kareem Roberts ‘99 joined in the festivities and then it was off to Jamal Johnson’s birthday party later that night, where I met up with even more members of the SPS collective, including Thayer Walker, Curtis Sarles ‘96, Ayesha (Sam) Adamo ‘97, Hannah Gray ‘97, and Nick Yap ‘97.

A personal note from Nick Van Amburg: “I am happy to report that having recently started a new role at Condé Nast Media Group, I have had the pleasure of reconnecting with formmate Cindy Day, a Condé Nast veteran. Keeping up with first year pre-schooler Eliza, son Malcolm, and Cornelia is a marathon, but I wouldn’t have it any other way. If you’re in New York City, drop me a line as I would love to connect.”

Catherine Ruedig Hunter ‘97 and son Morgan, Caroline Bruce Finholt ‘97 and daughter Alexandra and Vanessa, Sarah Stehli Howell ‘97 with her son, Lucius, and Emily Chang Brands ‘96 with her daughter, Annabelle, and son, Henry.

Paulies who gathered recently in New York City included (l. to r.) Catherine Ruedig Hunter ‘97 with her son, Morgan, Caroline Bruce Finholt ‘97 with her daughters, Alexandra and Vanessa, Sarah Stehli Howell ‘97 with her son, Lucius, and Emily Chang Brands ‘96 with her daughter, Annabelle, and son, Henry.

Emily Chang Brands
emilychangbrands@gmail.com

I had a wonderful Paulies’ kick-off to fall with a visit from Jenn Connelly Garcia-Alonso and a play date with a few ’97s in the Durham/Chapel Hill area with
ample room for visitors. It would be wonderful to catch up with any Paulies who are interested in positive youth development (my job) or who might have accidentally wandered more southwest than usual.

Jenna Owens writes: “In fall 2012, I left McKinsey in Miami and moved to Mountain View to run a new Google service called Google Shopping Express. I spent the fall building out the operations team (transportation, customer support, and fulfillment), and we launched publicly in March of this year. Customer feedback has been great so far. If you are in the Bay Area, try us out and let me know what you think (www.google.com/shopping/express/about)!”

1997

Amy Singer
sykes@post.harvard.com
Cornelia Van Amburg
cvanamburg@stribling.com

At a casual get-together in Manhattan, Amy Sykes Singer and I shared some good times along with Brad Aston, Jenna Millman, Alex Beale Schumm, and Alex Schwartz. Jenna is living on the West Side and working at ABC News as a senior producer. Alex Schwartz recently moved back to New York City after completing his M.B.A. at Duke. Amy, Alex Schumm, Brad, and Cornelia all live on the Upper East Side and everybody is working hard.

This from Nick Yap: “I recently visited New York City and got together with many SPS alums, including Ayesha Adamo, Curtis Sarles ’96, Adrian Stafford–Browne ’96, Yuri Francis ’95, Marlon Key ’95, Thayer Walker ’95, and Jamal Johnson ’94.”

Austen Earl reports: “I am still living in Los Angeles, where I recently enjoyed a one–hour visit from Jamie Funk. The two of us split a pair of white sausages at the Red Lion Pub in Silverlake, while listening to a very drunk British man repeatedly tell us the same disparaging joke about Liberace. Then Jamie hopped in his Toyota Corolla rental and drove out of my life until the next time he comes here on business.”

An update from John Rudy: “My wife, Annelena Lobb, and I welcomed the birth of our son, John Gabriel Rudy (8 lbs., 8 oz.), on September 3, 2013, in Boston. Big sister Amelia, who will be three in November, has given him an enthusiastic reception.”

1999

Lucy Stringer Rojansky
lucy.rojansky@gmail.com
www.sps.edu/1999

It’s never too early to start planning your return trip to Millville! In our case, May 30 through June 1, 2014, marks our 15th reunion, and we want to see as many of you as possible. So mark your calendars, book your tickets, and check out www.sps.edu/1999 for more details about the celebration. The website also asks for your help tracking down some of our missing formmates. Your help would be greatly appreciated. No one gets left behind in this form! E-mail Lucy Rojansky if you’re interested in helping plan the festivities.

From John Imbriglia: “My wife, Gillian, and I recently celebrated our one–year anniversary by running the East Hampton half–marathon, a great (albeit slightly painful) way to cap our first year of marriage! We were married in September of 2012 at the Cherokee Plantation in Yemassee, S.C. Several Paulies joined in the celebration, including groomsman Benny Bleiman, Brian Chen, Andrew Jarrett, Brooke Lloyd, and Scott Yates. Also joining were Sara (Imbriglia) Leone ’94, Pete Pachios, Amy (Brown) Graham, and Townsend Baldwin ’92. We live in New York and see St. Paul’s friends frequently, including Taylor Robinson ’01 and his wife, Hanna, who live one floor below us in our building—always a small world. Getting excited to see a great turnout from the Form of 1999 for our 15th.”

Sarah Peña shared this note: “Our daughter, Alma Lucia, was born on May 25, 2013, and joins big brother Milo.”

2000

Kathryn J. Duryea
kathryn.duryea@gmail.com

“Our daughter, Alma Lucia, was born on May 25, 2013, and joins big brother Milo.”

2001

Jim Baehr
jimmybaehr@gmail.com

After finishing my time as a judge advocate lawyer in the Marines, I went down to live in my mother’s country, Argentina, for six months. Now I’m in New Orleans, clerking for a judge on the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals for a year. Anyone and everyone is invited to the city for Mardi Gras. I have space in the French Quarter for you.
Celebrating the wedding of Toby McDougal '02 and
Toby McDougal tymcdougal@gmail.com
From Carrie Schroyer Johnson: “I’m currently finishing the final year of my pediatrics residency at the University of Utah in Salt Lake City. I plan to join an outpatient pediatrics practice in Salt Lake when I graduate in July 2014. Our daughters, Madeline (3) and Elise (1), keep me and my husband, Peter, busy, but we welcome any Paulies who may be in town for the Sundance Film Festival or great skiing and riding that Utah has to offer.”

Tristan Stringer wrote: “I have one small multi-form update. My wife, Kristen, and I met up with Angenette Meaney ’05 and Andrew Meaney ’01 in Japan, a somewhat midway point for all of us. Angenette came from Washington, D.C., Andrew from Seoul, and Kristen and I from Tiburon, Calif.”

This report from Ashley Dunn: “We were excited to see some SPS friends during a recent trip to California. John Baumlter and his wife, Nina, joined us in Santa Barbara with their adorable one-year old, Madeleine. We were hosted in San Francisco by Liz Groeger and Andrew Mace ’98 and enjoyed spending time with Ben Crosby, Christy Wiles, Charlotte MacAusland, Katie Fleishman, and Ellen Powers. Will thought he spent an evening texting with Tristan Besse, but it turned out to be a great friend of Russell Corey. Next time, Besse!”

Celebrating the wedding of Alexandra Garrison Barnett ’03 and
Alexandra Garrison Barnett married Norman Barnett in Atlanta on April 27, 2013. We honeymooned in Maui before returning to Atlanta, where we work as attorneys.”

From Lucia Davis Clifford: “I married Sean Clifford on October 13, 2012, in Cortlandt Manor, N.Y., and many SPS friends were there to celebrate, including Felix Hernandez ’02, Mae Karwowski, Sarah Wu, Pippa Bianco ’07, Laura Dean, and Lucy Price.”

Celebrating the wedding of Valerie Ho ’04 and
Valerie Ho writes: “I had the chance to gather with fellow SPS alumni this summer in Hong Kong, including Jason Lam ’01 and his wife, Isabel Pan, Edmond Cheuk ’05, Kenneth King ’04, Lawrence Cheuk ’06, Jonathan Tam, and Calvin Ma.”

From Laura Hammett: “I was in Boston to cheer on Sarah Burleigh and Elizabeth Mills in the 2013 Boston Marathon. Sarah and Elizabeth both ran the marathon on the Mass General Hospital team. In April 19, 2013, I helped celebrate the wedding of Annie Whetzel on Man-o-War Cay in the Bahamas.”

Celebrating the wedding of Thomas Ho ’04 and
Thomas Ho thomas.patrick.ho@gmail.com
Devin Clifford writes: “I have happily moved back to New Hampshire after living in Louisville, Ky. I am back at Cardigan Mountain School as the director of summer programs. I am excited for the new opportunities to reach out to old SPS friends, as my new job now requires me to travel to many of the big cities, both domestic and international.”

This from Alexandra Garrison Barnett: “I married Norman Barnett in Atlanta on April 27, 2013. We honeymooned in Maui before returning to Atlanta, where we work as attorneys.”

Celebrating the wedding of James Isbell ’04 and
James Isbell jtisbell@gmail.com
www.sps.edu/2004
Valerie Ho writes: “I had the chance to gather with fellow SPS alumni this summer in

2003
Celebrating the wedding of Antonia Ho ’03 and
Antonia Ho writes: “I had the chance to gather with fellow SPS alumni this summer in

2004
Celebrating the wedding of Lucia Davis ’04 and Sean Clifford (l. to r.): Felix Hernandez ’02, Mae Karwowsi ’04, Sarah Wu ’04, the bride, Pippa Bianco ’07, Laura Dean ’04, and Lucy Price ’04.

Celebrating the wedding of Lucia Davis ’04 and Sean Clifford (l. to r.): Felix Hernandez ’02, Mae Karwowsk ’04, Sarah Wu ’04, the bride, Pippa Bianco ’07, Laura Dean ’04, and Lucy Price ’04.

Celebrating the wedding of Lucia Davis ’04 and Sean Clifford (l. to r.): Felix Hernandez ’02, Mae Karwowsi ’04, Sarah Wu ’04, the bride, Pippa Bianco ’07, Laura Dean ’04, and Lucy Price ’04.

Celebrating the wedding of Lucia Davis ’04 and Sean Clifford (l. to r.): Felix Hernandez ’02, Mae Karwowsi ’04, Sarah Wu ’04, the bride, Pippa Bianco ’07, Laura Dean ’04, and Lucy Price ’04.
Elizabeth Van de Graaf ’05 shares:
“I was married to Eric Janofsky on June 30 in Shelburne, Vt. Sarah Callahan and Sarah Van Dyke were both bridesmaids. Eric and I met while traveling in India during college.”

2007

Quincy Darbyshire j.quincy.darbyshire@gmail.com

This past month has been difficult for the Form of 2007, with the passing of our own Donny Dickson, but I have been amazed by the amount of support coming from and going to those in our form. Those who were able to make it to Concord for the service in the Chapel on October 11 were no doubt similarly amazed by the incredible number of people who came to celebrate the joy he brought to so many.

A couple of notes from across the country:
Mary Gamber writes, “I’m excited to join the Bay Area Pelicans! I moved from Washington, D.C., to San Francisco in early September for an exciting program with a nonprofit organization called Education Pioneers. Education Pioneers identifies, trains, connects, and inspires a new generation of leaders dedicated to transforming our education system so that all students receive a quality education. I’m lucky to be placed at Education Pioneers headquarters in the Bay and can’t wait to connect with all the Paulies out here.”

From Catherine Parkhurst: “I am super-excited to be moving down to Washington, D.C., for a new job at the Advisory Board, but also pretty sad to leave behind all of the amazing people I’ve met in Boston over the past two years.”

As for myself, I’m coming off a great weekend of racing at the Head of the Charles regatta with Clayton Sachs ’06 and Lawrence Cheuk ’06. Two months of 5:30 a.m. practices paid off, and we were able to win our event – the Club 4 – and break a course record along the way. I think we all might be more excited about the chance to sleep in a little bit now that it’s over, though. That’s it for now. Hope everyone’s doing well. Please send any updates to me.

2010

Deane Schofield Dschofi4@jhu.edu

Zoe Williams sent this note: “The Pelican–Wildcats at Davidson College came together for a dinner of pork tenderloin, watermelon, salad, baked potatoes, and ice cream for dessert. I managed to prepare it all in the little kitchen at my campus apartment. We played the trivia game from the Spring 2012 edition of Alumni Horae and reminisced about sports practices, senior superlatives, teachers, Chapel, and Seated Meal. Attendees included Nathan Argueta ’12, Cam Parker ’11, Mary Schone ’10, Cleveland Stair ’11, Austin Gray ’12, Franzia Martin ’13, Rebecca Richardson ’12, and Robert Kopf ’13. We had a great dinner party!”
1941
John Gilman Ordway Jr.

a resident of Jupiter Island, Fla., known as “Smokey” to most, died in his sleep on May 23, 2012. He was 89.

He was born on November 29, 1922, in St. Paul, Minn., and spent much of his life in nearby White Bear Lake and Wayzata. The youngest of five children, Mr. Ordway was the grandson of Lucius Pond Ordway, who made his fortune as a founder of 3M Co. The younger Mr. Ordway spent his life in public and civic service, serving on boards devoted to the arts, education, and the outdoors in Minnesota, as well as influencing everything from aviation to hockey in the state.

He attended Minnesota’s St. Paul Academy before coming East to enter St. Paul’s School in the fall of 1939. He played hockey and football for Delphian and rowed with Shattuck. He was proud of his hockey-playing days and, later in life, would still recall an undefeated Sixth Form season that included the St. Paul’s team’s defeat of the Yale freshman squad at Madison Square Garden.

Mr. Ordway belonged to the Cadmean Literary Society and was a member of Der Deutsche Verein and the Glee Club. He received a Second Dickey Prize in Mathematics in 1940.

He entered Yale University, but left college early to serve as a fighter pilot with the U.S. Navy during World War II. For two years he flew a Corsair with Bombing Fighting Squadron Six, attached to the aircraft carrier USS Hancock off the coast of Japan. After the war and graduation from Yale, he returned to Minnesota, where he married Margaret McCarthy and began a career at the MacArthur Co. in St. Paul that spanned more than four decades, ultimately serving as CEO and chairman for the construction materials distribution company.

Mr. Ordway was a member of numerous corporate and charitable boards throughout his life, most notably the 3M Company, on which he served for 21 years, the Metropolitan Airports Commission (1974–81), and the University of Minnesota Foundation (chairman, 1977–79), playing a key role in raising funds for the university’s Regents Professors. In 1980, he received the Regents Award for outstanding service to the university. He was a regional representative for St. Paul’s School from 1964 to 1967. In 1984 he established the John G. Ordway Mastership in mathematics. He also was a member of the Millville Society.

Mr. Ordway grew up in a musical family, and his involvement in the Ordway Center for the Performing Arts was a big part of his life. He served on the board for more than 25 years and was a member of the President’s Council. He was also a founding board member of Minnesota Outward Bound and one of eight founding owners of the National Hockey League’s Minnesota North Stars when the team was established in 1967.

Mr. Ordway was an avid sportsman and athlete. In addition to playing hockey in high school and college, he raced lake scows, golfed, hunted birds, and enjoyed fly fishing throughout his life. He was commodore of the Inland Lake Yachting Association, commodore of the White Bear Yacht Club, and president of the Jupiter Island Club in Florida.

Mr. Ordway is survived by his sons, John G. Ordway III ’66 and Philip W. Ordway, and his daughter, Strandy Quesada; eight grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren. His wife of 65 years, Margaret, died on January 23, 2013.
1945
Arthur Adams Jr.

born on November 5, 1926, he was the son of Arthur Adams and Margery Lee (Sargent) Adams and the half-brother of Francis W. Sargent, who served as governor of Massachusetts from 1969 to 1974.

Mr. Adams entered St. Paul’s School as a First Former and was known as a quiet, uncomplaining student who excelled in math and was true to his friends. In a letter of college recommendation, the Rector called him “sound of character and a shrewd observer of his fellows” and said he “takes seriously his social responsibilities.”

In addition to being a standout in math and receiving honors in physics, Mr. Adams played football and hockey for Isthmian and rowed with Shattuck despite health problems that plagued him throughout his youth. He went on to attend Harvard, graduating in 1950, and served two years in the Chemical Corps of the U.S. Army in Maryland and the Panama Canal Zone during the Korean War. Later, he received his M.S. in physics from Northeastern University and commenced a career in the research division of Raytheon as a research physicist, a position he held until his retirement in 1985.

Mr. Adams was perhaps best known for his work with the Boy Scouts in Dover. A Scoutmaster for 41 years, he “brought out the best in his scouts, offering friendship and teaching them camping, mountain-climbing skills, and sailing,” according to his obituary in the Boston Globe. He was also a volunteer fireman and served as Dover’s director of emergency management. When he wasn’t working or serving his community, Mr. Adams could be found sailing his Hinckley Pilot, “Dolphin,” in Casco Bay, Maine.

Mr. Adams is survived by 11 nieces and nephews, their many children and grandchildren, dozens of friends, and his much-loved caregivers.

1945
Joseph Richard Busk Jr.

Born January 5, 1927, he was the son of Joseph R. Busk Sr. of the Form of 1914 and Margaret Busk of New York. Mr. Busk prepared for St. Paul’s at the Harvey School in Katonah, N.Y., before arriving as a Second Former in 1940. He followed in the footsteps of several relatives, including his father, uncle Frederick W. Busk (Form of 1912), and cousins William M. Van Winkle ’31 and Edgar B. Van Winkle ’34.

At SPS, Mr. Busk developed a passion for the arts. He also fondly remembered both his history and English courses throughout his life. He was an avid reader and enjoyed playing on the second Old Hundred football team and rowing with Shattuck’s third crew.

Following his tour of duty with the Navy in World War II, Mr. Busk co-founded Outdoor Traders of Greenwich, Conn., a retail store that “has been outfitting folks for African safaris, Himalayan treks, days at the beach, summer rain squalls, and winter blizzards” for more than 50 years. After raising a family and losing his first wife, Gladys Terbell, to cancer in 1975, Mr. Busk returned to his studies at the Pratt Institute in Brooklyn, N.Y., graduating in 1978 with a B.A. in architecture.

Mr. Busk had a keen interest in sports, with a particular fondness for sailing, hunting, and bicycling. He and his second wife, Grace S. Chambers Tilt, enjoyed traveling by land and sea with their extended family. Mr. Busk was also a member of the Round Hill Club and Indian Harbor Yacht Club, both in Greenwich, and the Quail Valley Club of Vero Beach, Fla.

Mr. Busk is survived by his wife of 38 years, Grace; his daughters, Wendy Busk, Hope Reis, and Gay Thorn; his son, Joseph R. Busk III; four step-children, including Tysh Tilt McGrail ’79 and Alex C. Tilt ’73; six grandchildren; and five step-grandchildren, including Alexandra C. Tilt ’05 and Andrew C. Tilt ’08.

1945
Robert Langford Montgomery Jr.

professor emeritus at the University of California, died at his home in Newport Beach on February 26, 2013, after a long illness. He was 85.

Born on June 15, 1927, he was raised in Connecticut and attended Kingswood School in West Hartford (now Kingswood Oxford) before entering the Fourth Form at St. Paul’s School.

At St. Paul’s he rowed with Halcyon and was a proud Old Hundred, competing in football, hockey, and baseball and managing the club’s 1943 football team.
Mr. Montgomery was a member of the Cadmean Literary Society, Phi Beta Kappa, the Missionary Society, and the Glee Club. He was president of the Library Association and chairman of the Record Committee. “Remarkable in his relations with Lower Schoolers as a supervisor,” he served as a camp counselor. He also had fond memories of playing with a student musical group called the Rubber Band.

A gifted scholar, he earned First testimonials in 1943 and 1944, Second Testimonials in 1942, a Second Dickey Prize in English in 1942 and 1943, a Second Dickey Prize in Latin in 1942, and the Keep Prize in History in 1943. He was awarded an SPS diploma magna cum laude, with honors in English and history.

After serving in the Navy in World War II, he attended Harvard University, graduating with magna cum laude honors in English in 1950. He earned his master’s from Harvard in 1951, the same year he married Margaret “Peggy” Kimball. He went to France on a Fulbright Fellowship before receiving his Ph.D. from Harvard in 1956.

He became a professor of English and comparative literature at the University of Texas at Austin and at Williams College before joining the faculty at the University of California–Irvine in 1967, just two years after its founding.

Mr. Montgomery retired in 1994, although he taught occasionally for a number of years afterward and continued his research on the poetry and prose of the 16th to 18th centuries. He received a Rockefeller Foundation grant to complete his book on Shakespeare’s sonnets, The Perfect Ceremony of Love’s Rite, published in 2006.

He and his wife were avid fossil hunters and collectors and were instrumental in the founding of the Orange County Natural History Foundation.

Mr. Montgomery leaves his wife, Peggy; a daughter, Alexandra; two sons, Robert III and Carleton; a sister, Diane Ferris; and four grandchildren. His uncle, Grenville D. Montgomery, was a member of the SPS Form of 1894.

1946
John Blodgett Stebbins

John Blodgett Stebbins, a beloved lifelong educator, died peacefully on July 25, 2013, after a 15-month fight against lung cancer. He was 85.

Originally from Niagara Falls, N.Y., he was born on July 7, 1928, to Dr. Edward C. Stebbins Jr. and Hope Blodgett Stebbins. As a youth, he recalled having many adventures, among them fishing coins out of the top of the American falls, “securely” anchored by old clothesline.

He attended Maple Ave. School and Deveaux School in Niagara Falls before enrolling at St. Paul’s School as a Fourth Former in the fall of 1943, where, he told people, he learned discipline, crew, and Latin. While at St. Paul’s, Mr. Stebbins was known as “Old Faithful” – a solid, reliable, resolute, well-behaved student. He was associate editor of the Pelican, played of football for Isthmian, and rowed with Shattuck.

Mr. Stebbins went on to Harvard College, where he was a cartoonist for the Lampoon and a member of Hasty Pudding’s “Hairy Leg Chorus.” He earned an English degree in 1950 and entered the Navy, serving in Charleston, S.C. During his enlistment, he acted in many productions at the Dock Street and Footlight theatres, drew and painted their playbills, and met and married Mary Emelie “Toby” Tobias in 1953.

Mr. Stebbins and his wife returned to Niagara Falls, where Mr. Stebbins embarked on a teaching career at his old school, Deveaux. During this time he also nearly completed a Ph.D. program at the University of Buffalo. He left Deveaux to help found Sterling School (now Sterling College) in Craftsbury Common, Vt., with several faculty from the Berkshire School. At Sterling, he served in virtually every position, from school carpenter and night watchman to headmaster. He designed and built his own house near the campus, constructed and played three banjos, helped to launch the local fiddlers’ contest, served as the town’s Republican representative, was a deacon in his church, and continued to act in local theatre.

He earned a master’s in school administration from Johnson State College and served brief stints at Manlius Pebble Hill School in New York and Lamoille Union High School in Vermont. He traveled across the street from Sterling to become principal of Craftsbury Academy, the local high school. Following the 1979 death of his wife, Toby, he moved to Ashburnham, Mass., where he taught English and Latin and coached shot put and discus at Cushing Academy. There he met and married his second wife, Janet Elizabeth Jones.

Mr. Stebbins was passionate about his career as a teacher. In 1981 he wrote to Alumni Horae that he had “given up on school administration — public and private — I’m back to teaching and I love it. First loves are the best.” Over the years, he taught subjects as diverse as astronomy, Latin, English, and history. Despite his classical education and his ubiquitous bow ties, Mr. Stebbins never took himself too seriously.
At Cushing, he continued his woodworking passion and renovated his Maine summer cottage on MacMahan Island. After his retirement, he lived in Westminster and Walpole, Mass., before moving to Pomfret School in Connecticut. There he served as the school’s top English, history, and Latin tutor while continuing his success in watercolor painting, woodwork, and local theatre.

He and his wife moved to an 1840 farmhouse in the neighboring town of Woodstock, Conn., where Mr. Stebbins converted half the old barn into the woodshop of his dreams.

In 2000, he wrote to SPS with news that he continued to teach at the local community college in the Learning in Retirement program. “It’s fun to have students older than I!”

Mr. Stebbins spent his last four years at Piper Shores Lifecare Community on the ocean in Scarborough, Maine.

He celebrated his 85th birthday a few weeks before his death with children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces, and nephews, regaling them with stories. He loved giraffes, model planes and railroads. He always said his demise would come (embarrassingly) by being trampled by butterflies. At the time of his death, he had almost finished memorizing Eliot’s “The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock.”

Mr. Stebbins is survived by his second wife, Janet Jones Stebbins; his children, John Blodgett Stebbins Jr., George Tobias Stebbins, and Elizabeth Stebbins Torkelsen; four grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; his dog, Amber; and many wonderful friends. He was predeceased in 2012 by his brother, Edward C. Stebbins Jr. ’47.

1950
Hiram Edward “Ed” Manville III

passed away on September 29, 2013, surrounded by family at Yale New Haven Hospital. He was 81.

Born in Mt. Kisco, N.Y., on May 21, 1932, to Hiram Edward Manville Jr. of the Form of 1925 and Ethel Schniewind Pratt, he was the great-grandson of the founder of the Johns-Manville Corporation, an insulation and building material giant of the American industrial age. His grandfather, the president of the company, gave a gift to St. Paul’s School to construct Manville House in 1922, when Ed’s father was attending the School.

Mr. Manville attended Eaglebrook School in Deerfield, Mass., before entering the Second Form at St. Paul’s in 1945. His size and coordination made him a capable athlete, and he excelled at football, hockey, and track. He also captained the gym team and was awarded the Jeffreys Medal. He sang in the Choir and, throughout his life, was proud of the solo he performed in “O Pray for the Peace” at his baccalaureate. He was also an enthusiastic member of the Dramatic Club, the Glee Club, and the Rubber Band. Mr. Manville was a skilled and untiring mechanic and was also known for his love of the outdoors.

He attended Brown University and was an Olympic hopeful for the 1952 U.S. ice hockey team. He was most proud of his Korean War record from 1952 to 1954 as a U.S. Navy communications technician, where he deciphered codes for the NSA. His business and hobbies gave him the opportunity to utilize his technical and creative skills; he loved woodworking and building; he was a successful real estate developer; and he was a manufacturer’s representative, selling and consulting on hydraulic torque wrenches, tube repair items, orbital welding equipment, and laser alignment instruments. He also sold insurance for a time and was proud of being named a Chartered Life Underwriter in 1972.

Mr. Manville maintained a strong connection to the School, generously and consistently supporting the SPS Alumni Fund. He also provided communications equipment for the SPS crews in the late 1990s.

Mr. Manville maintained a passion and talent for music (in particular Dixieland and Wild Bill Davidson) and sang four-part barbershop harmony for most of his life. He lived in the mid-Connecticut shore area for many years, but also enjoyed spending time at his home in Sarasota, Fla. In 1997, he joined the Sarasota Chorus of the Keys and formed a quartet there. “Popeye,” as he was affectionately called by three generations of his family, was known and loved for his sharp wit, dry humor, and warm, affectionate nature. A lifelong sports fan, he was a proud supporter of the New York Giants and the Boston Bruins.

He is survived by his beloved wife of 43 years, Nancy Manville; his son, Hiram Edward Manville IV; his adopted daughters, Nancy McMahon and Donna Islieb; his step-children, David J. Tiffany, Jennifer Tiffany, and Andrea Tiffany; his sisters, Ethel Woolverton, Mia de Laire, and Deming Pratt Holleran; and many friends.
Richard Vaille Lee

1955

Richard Vaille Lee was a professor of medicine and dedicated global physician, died suddenly on May 7, 2013, at his home in Orchard Park, N.Y. He was 75.

Born in Islip, N.Y., on May 26, 1937, to Louis and Erma (Little) Lee, he attended Henry W. Saxe Junior High School in New Canaan, Conn., before entering the Third Form at St. Paul’s School in 1951. His father, a building contractor in New York, was in charge of construction of two new St. Paul’s School buildings at the time.

Mr. Lee ranked near the top of his form throughout his four years at the School. He earned Second Testimonials in 1953, 1954, and 1955, and Second Dickey Prizes in English and History in 1954.

A member of the Cadmean/Concordian Literary Society and the Yearbook staff, he also served as a house supervisor. Mr. Lee spent a year at Loretto School in Scotland after graduating cum laude from St. Paul’s. He went on to Yale University, following in the footsteps of both his father and his paternal grandfather, Li Yan Phou, who was one of the first Chinese students to be educated in the United States. Mr. Lee earned his B.S. in 1960. In 1961 he married Susan Bradley. He went on to earn his medical degree from Yale, graduating cum laude in 1964, with membership in the National Honor Medical Society, Alpha Omega Alpha. While at medical school, Mr. Lee was awarded the Ferris Prize in anatomy and the Winternitz Pathology Prize.

He did his internship, residency, and fellowship in infectious disease at Yale–New Haven Hospital. Between his second and third years of residency, he spent two years with the U.S. Public Health Service at the Fort Peck Indian Reservation in Poplar, Mont., followed by a year in general practice in the small town of Chester, Mont., doing everything from surgery and deliveries to house calls and ambulance calls.

He returned to New Haven and became director of medical clinics and later director of the Primary Care Center. He rose to the rank of associate professor of clinical medicine and chief of general medicine of Yale University.

Mr. Lee left Yale in 1976 to become professor and vice chairman of the Department of Medicine at the State University of New York at Buffalo and chief of medical service at Buffalo Veterans Administration Medical Center. In 1979, Mr. Lee became head of the Department of Medicine of Children’s Hospital of Buffalo and remained in that position until 1997. As a faculty member of the University of Buffalo, he held positions in pediatrics, obstetrics–gynecology, social and preventive medicine, and anthropology.

Mr. Lee was a renowned leader in obstetric medicine, a field specializing in the treatment of disease, infection, and complications during pregnancy. He was a founding member of the International Society of Obstetric Medicine and received its C.G. Barnes Award for outstanding contributions to the field in 2007. The North American Society of Obstetric Medicine has established a lecture in Mr. Lee’s name, to be given at its annual meeting.

He was passionate about international health, tropical medicine, and the complexities of managing medical complications of pregnancy and the health state of geographically isolated human populations, including the Rendille tribe of Northern Kenya; the Kayapo, Parakanã, and Apalai tribes of Brazil; and the Ladakh people of Northwestern Himalaya. His work abroad included medical expeditions with graduate students and other physicians to remote villages in India in the 1980s and 1990s, and visits to the Amazon jungle and the Andes. He also provided health services in Thailand to refugees from Laos and Cambodia.

Through his work with Tibetan refugees in India, he became acquainted with the Dalai Lama and later served on the UB committee that brought the spiritual leader to Buffalo in 2006. Mr. Lee and his wife also established a fund to support Tibetan students and Tibetan studies at UB. In addition, Mr. Lee consulted for the World Health Organization’s Collaborating Center for Health in Housing, based in Buffalo.

Mr. Lee was proud of his Chinese heritage and developed a lifelong interest in promoting educational exchanges between the United States and China, both as a trustee of the Yale–China Association and as a member of a UB delegation that visited China to renew the university’s affiliation agreement with Capital University in Beijing.

Among other involvements, Mr. Lee was also a trustee of the Buffalo Academy of Medicine (president from 1985 to 1996); a fellow of the Royal Geographical Society and the Royal Society of Medicine in London, the American College of Physicians, and the Explorers Club in New York; a consultant in internal medicine to the Buffalo Zoo and Bronx Zoo; a trustee of Nichols School in Buffalo; and a board member of the Shaw Festival in Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ont.

Mr. Lee is survived by his wife of 52 years, Susan; his two sons, Matthew and Benjamin; two grandchildren; and many other friends and family.

Jeremiah Evarts Sr.

1960

Jeremiah Evarts Sr., literary scholar and passionate teacher, died at his home in Cornish, N.H., on July 19, 2013, after a battle with cancer. He was 71.

The son of Prescott Evarts of the Form of 1919 and Elizabeth Evarts of New York City and Windsor, Vt., Mr. Evarts was born on October 15, 1941. He prepared for St. Paul’s at the Dalton School in New York City before entering the School as a Second Former in the fall of 1955.

At St. Paul’s, Mr. Evarts excelled not only in the classroom but also on the playing fields and in other student organizations. Together with his roommate and co-editor, Mr. Evarts produced the centennial issue of the student literary magazine Horae Scholasticae during his Sixth Form year, about which he wrote, “Rick Jones and I labored over that, starting in the summer of 1959.” He earned the Horae Editor’s Medal at his graduation. Mr. Evarts was
also a member of the Propylean Literary Society and the Library Association. One particularly formative experience for Mr. Evarts during his years at SPS was a day spent with Conroy Fellow Robert Frost, an event that left an indelible mark on his life as a writer of both poetry and prose.

In addition to his literary prowess, Mr. Evarts was a superb athlete. He excelled in both club and SPS football, serving as captain of both teams during his Fifth Form year; played SPS basketball, serving as captain during his Sixth Form year; and for three years was a member of the Isthmian track team, the club baseball team, and the SPS baseball team. With his seemingly limitless athletic abilities, he was awarded the Gordon Medal, recognizing him as the School’s best athlete in 1960. Mr. Evarts also served as vice president of the Athletic Association and of Isthmian.

Mr. Evarts went on to Columbia University, where he received his B.A., M.A., and M. Phil. magna cum laude, in English literature, completing his studies in 1971. He continued to pursue his love of literature as a professor of English at Cleveland State University before returning to the Dalton School in New York, where he found his passion for high school education while serving as English Department chair. While at Dalton, Mr. Evarts met Jo Curtis Eastman, and the two married in 1979.

Mr. Evarts served in various administrative and teaching roles throughout his successful career in secondary school education, including as director of educational enrichment and English teacher at Ethel Walker School in Simsbury, Conn.; head of the upper school at New Lincoln School in Brooklyn Heights, N.Y.; assistant headmaster at the Fingry School in Short Hills and Martinsville, N.J.; English teacher at Kimball Union Academy in Meriden, N.H.; and finally as head of the upper school at the Runnemede School in Cornish, N.H., which he founded with his wife, Jo.

“We had the pleasure of creating our own curriculum and ethos and high academic expectations...,” Mr. Evarts wrote of Runnemede. “My goals in teaching were always to inspire, to challenge, to draw out, to support, to kindle a fire rather than to fill a vessel, and to lead students to their own learning.”

After retiring from the secondary school academic life in 2005, Mr. Evarts spent his time writing and publishing poems and novels, directing Shakespeare plays in the theater he and Jo created out of two barns on their Cornish property, and hosting playwriting contests. He also taught courses on James Joyce and J.D. Salinger at the Institute for Lifelong Education at Dartmouth (ILEAD).

Mr. Evarts was the founding editor of The Complete Hoot, a monthly arts and events magazine in the Upper Valley of New Hampshire. Perhaps most important to him was his role as creator and director of the Twilight Arts Shakespeare program for youths, now celebrating its 20th year.

Mr. Evarts’s passion extended beyond the classroom and the stage – he was a loving husband, devoted father, and inspiring and loyal friend. He is survived by his wife of 34 years, Jo; his daughter, Katherine Elizabeth Evarts; his sons, Jeremiah Evarts Jr. ’00, Sean Eastman, and Maxwell Evarts; and three grandchildren.

1983
Laura Ann “Laurie” L’Esperance

L’Esperance prepared for St. Paul’s at Convent of the Sacred Heart, where she was known as an “extremely well-motivated and ambitious student.” In addition to her academics, she was a talented figure skater, winning competitions in the Northeast, including the tri-state figure skating championship at the age of 12.

Ms. L’Esperance enrolled at SPS as a Third Former in the fall of 1979. Described by one of her classmates as “fun-loving and energetic, with a passion for new experiences, friends, and sports,” she formed the first SPS figure skating club and later traded in her figure skates for hockey skates as a member of the fledgling girls varsity hockey team. She also enjoyed playing JV lacrosse when the ice had melted for the season. Outside of sports, Ms. L’Esperance was a staff writer for the Pelican, a member of Le Cercle Français and the Missionary Society, and sang in the Choir.

Following her 1983 graduation from SPS, Ms. L’Esperance attended Tulane University and later the Gemological Institute of America. She went on to become an accomplished gemologist, working with Baumgold Fine Jewelry, Harry Winston, and Kaufmann Suisse. She enjoyed volunteering at the New York Junior League. Forever an athlete, Ms. L’Esperance was an equestrian and also enjoyed open-water scuba diving. She was a devoted mother to her daughter, Winston, and took great pride in watching her grow and mature. Only two weeks before her death, Ms. L’Esperance had accompanied Winston to Deerfield Academy, where she began her freshman year.

Ms. L’Esperance is survived by her daughter, Winston Aylesworth Rossetter; her parents, Francis and Ellen L’Esperance; her brother, Francis A. L’Esperance III; and her sister, Linda L’Esperance Lartigau.
Mr. Gerstner worked for a time in investment banking, venture capital, private equity, and hedge funds with Frostmann Little & Co., JNet Ventures, and Priderock, before turning his attention full-time to the work of the Gerstner Family Foundation, which he served as president until his death.

His sister, Elizabeth Gerstner ’93, spoke of Mr. Gerstner’s energy, of which he had plenty for his family, his friends, and his work. He was a champion of the causes supported by the foundation, and found most particularly rewarding the opportunity to join with Catholic schools through the Partnership for Inner-City Education to provide scholarships to qualified students in Manhattan, the Bronx, and Staten Island. He loved receiving notes from the children whose educations he helped to support, cherishing the knowledge that he had made a difference. Another of his projects was working with the Modest Needs Foundation, which offers grants to low-income, often working-poor families, who are facing a one-time, emergency crisis.

Mr. Gerstner was a member of the Young Lions Committee, a group of young New Yorkers committed to supporting the work of the New York Public Library. He was a longtime friend of the TEAK Fellowship, a program that helps “talented New York City students from low-income families gain admission to and succeed at top high schools and colleges.” Lynn Sorensen, executive director of TEAK, recalled Mr. Gerstner’s strong belief in equal educational access. She appreciated how he took time to visit with TEAK scholars and learn their personal stories.

Mr. Gerstner was first and foremost a devoted father to his daughters, Grace, 10, and Olivia, 8. His sister spoke of how he was always able to make his daughters laugh and would often take them to dinners in their dress-up clothes so they could “feel fancy in New York.” He was also a loyal friend, the life of the party, who went out of his way to make others comfortable. He was a gifted conversationalist, who could talk to anybody and who had a genuine interest in connecting with others. Elizabeth Gerstner, a neuro-oncologist at Massachusetts General Hospital, spoke of Mr. Gerstner’s incredible photographic memory, a gift she “wished I had possessed in medical school.” She recalled him as the quintessential protective big brother, who took her under his wing when she arrived at St. Paul’s and made sure she made friends and knew her way around the campus.

Mr. Gerstner maintained many close friendships, including particularly strong bonds with friends he made at St. Paul’s. At a September 27 dinner in his honor, Elizabeth Gerstner and family were touched as friends shared their “Louis” stories, noting his generosity and constant good cheer. One of those who made a toast was his closest SPS friend, Chris Buccini ’90, who recalled Louis’s brightness and sharp wit. He joked that he spent 25 years trying to win an argument with his friend, who was a world-class debater.

“But it was his heart that touched us the most,” said Buccini, who is a godparent to Mr. Gerstner’s daughter, Grace.

“He was a prince of a man who, despite his mind and his privileged upbringing, encompassed great humility – he possessed the common touch. He was always wanting to make those around him comfortable.”

His friend Lea Carpenter Brokaw ’91 remembered Mr. Gerstner as the smartest guy in the room.

“And his heart matched his mind in its depth,” she said. “His affection, communicated through wit and loyalty, was the thing we prized, and will miss.”

Outside of his family, friends, and work, Mr. Gerstner enjoyed traveling and had particularly relished time spent in France, Hong Kong, and South America. He noted his interest in travel on his St. Paul’s application back in 1987, writing that he “enjoyed seeing how other people live.”

Mr. Gerstner is survived by his daughters, Grace and Olivia; his parents, Louis Jr. and Robin; and his sister, Elizabeth ’93. His family has set up the Louis V. Gerstner III Research Fund at Massachusetts General Hospital in his honor.
Donovan Sean “Donny” Dickson

beloved son of Douglas and Laurie (McLaughlin) Dickson, younger brother of Mackswell ’04 and Bowman ’05, and friend to too many to count, died on October 4, 2013, in New York City. He was 24 years old.

Born on March 9, 1989, Donny was a sweet and beautiful boy with a bright outlook and a contagious positive manner, who had grown into a wonderful adult, loved and admired by his students and colleagues at the Peddie School in Hightstown, N.J., where he taught math and coached boys cross country, track, and wrestling. He injected happiness and spirit into every occasion or encounter in which he was involved, whether as emcee of a variety show (something he had done many times), singing karaoke with friends, or just sharing his infectious smile with a stranger he passed on the street. He loved to laugh and make others laugh, and was always the first one to don a cape, face paint, or a costume to celebrate any occasion, introducing his special brand of humor and life into the most elaborate or mundane events. But he was also a serious student and teacher, admired for his intellect and his patience with those he taught.

Donny grew up on the campus of St. Paul’s School, where his father, Doug, was a longtime faculty member. He attended Concord public schools until high school, when he enrolled at St. Paul’s, graduating summa cum laude with the Form of 2007, with distinction in fine arts, languages, mathematics, and sciences. He was elected to the Cum Laude Society as a Sixth Former.

At St. Paul’s he was an All-New England runner and an accomplished wrestler, who captained the SPS cross country and wrestling teams. He served as a prefect in Armour House and volunteered with the Friends Program to mentor a local child.

He brought house spirit to his dormmates in many ways, including participation in the Fiske Cup house play competition. At his graduation, he received the Benjamin Rush Toland Award, recognizing intellectual achievement, athletic ability, and a gallant spirit.

Donny embodied the St. Paul’s School Prayer, which urges kindness, unselfishness in friendship, thoughtfulness, and an “eagerness to bear the burdens of others.” He was kind and accepting of everyone he met, something that was not lost on those who knew him.

Though his family moved to Austin, Texas, in 2008, Donny remained in New England to attend Middlebury College, where he majored in math and German, co–captained the cross country team, earned league honors in cross country and track, and served as a peer tutor in calculus and writing. He was chosen by his peers as the commencement speaker for Middlebury’s Class of 2011. He went to work at Peddie upon his graduation, following in the footsteps of his family of teachers.

He continued running as an adult and had recently qualified for the 2014 Boston Marathon.

Donny loved St. Paul’s and considered it his home. For the last three summers, he returned to Concord, first as an intern and then for two years as an assistant director of the Advanced Studies Program, where he distinguished himself as a kind and caring mentor and a respected authority figure, who also shared his humor and enthusiasm with his students.

A memorial service to celebrate Donny’s life was held in the Chapel of St. Peter and St. Paul on October 11 and was attended by close to 1,000 mourners.

He leaves his parents, Doug and Laurie; his brothers, Mackswell ’04 and Bowman ’05; his paternal grandmother, Pauline Dickson; his maternal grandmother, Mary McLaughlin; many aunts, uncles, and cousins; his dogs, Moose and Penny; and enough friends to fill a stadium. He was predeceased by his grandfathers, Donald J. Dickson and Francis J. McLaughlin.

Donations may be made in Donny’s memory to a scholarship fund in his name at St. Paul’s School.
I enrolled at St. Paul’s out of Seattle Country Day School. My family was from the East Coast and my mother had attended boarding school, so it was a concept that, while unusual in Seattle, was not so unusual in our family. Looking back, my St. Paul’s experience is one of the definitive journeys in a life full of many journeys.

St. Paul’s was a new world for me in every conceivable way. I am a dilettante, so I tried a little bit of everything and had mixed results. But I did excel in theater and in fine arts. I did [Harold Pinter’s] two-man play The Dumb Waiter with my pal Tod Brainard ’83. I also remember a cool production of Biedermann and the Firebugs, where we used the whole room – it was very interactive, crawling around pipes in the ceiling. I also remember a small role in Jesus Christ Superstar.

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My first paid acting job was in a music video for the song “Got My Mind Set on You” by George Harrison. I had just graduated from the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art, and was hoping for a career in classical theater, but it was this music video that helped pay the rent. I was paid the princely sum of £500 to buy me out for the run of the video. As often as I am asked about it, and every time I hear the song, I think they got the better deal.

Since the mid-1980s, the actor has appeared in numerous films and television shows, including lead roles in the dramas Angel and Buffy the Vampire Slayer, where he met writer/director Joss Whedon. Denisof stars in one of Whedon’s latest projects, the indie film Much Ado About Nothing, filmed on a shoestring at Whedon’s Los Angeles-area home. Having created a buzz among those who love Shakespeare (and some converts as well), the film was recently released in theaters and is now available on DVD. Denisof spoke with Alumni Horae Editor Jana Brown about his acting career and about the film’s unexpected success.

[Former theater director] David Newman transformed my experience at St. Paul’s. He gave me amazing experiences in theater. He encouraged my strengths. Doug Marshall (retired classics) and Cliff Gillespie tutored me outside the classroom and taught me the value of persistence through challenges. And, thanks to Vice Rector DJ Quirk, I discovered the value of learning from my mistakes.
From there I auditioned into the Royal Shakespeare Company and had a small part in a production of Hamlet that has now become one of the definitive productions of that work – it was my first paying theater job.

Playing Benedick in Much Ado About Nothing brings me full circle to my early theater experiences. I was thrilled to be a part of this film. It was a collection of friends and colleagues, including [director] Joss Whedon (Toy Story, The Avengers, Buffy the Vampire Slayer), who I had worked with on a few occasions.

For many years, Joss had been hosting informal readings of Shakespeare’s plays at his house, in which I would always participate. They had no motive beyond the fun of hearing a great play read aloud. Out of those casual meetings sprang the idea to one day film a reading of that work – it was my first paying theater job.

We only had time for a couple of takes, so whatever happened, right or wrong, is in the movie. Things were going hilariously wrong at times, but somehow it all worked out. There is a scene in a little girl’s room filled with stuffed animals, tutus, and a dollhouse, and my character wrestles with Claudio on a bed. We knocked over a little musical ballerina from the bedside table and it squeaked out a couple notes of music in the middle of our dialogue. We stopped for a moment of slight panic, not sure whether to continue – luckily we both decided to keep going. It’s one of those moments that make me smile and, when you watch, it seems perfectly natural.

I would be sad if I could pick my favorite role. I have pursued a career of passion, so I try to take roles that will interest and excite me. But I guess the two that I have certainly loved are Benedick in Much Ado and also five years of playing Wesley Wyndam-Pryce on Buffy the Vampire Slayer and on Angel. That was a very substantial journey as an actor that I enjoyed enormously. I also love that silly news anchorman in How I Met Your Mother.

I think I’d be a good villain. I haven’t done a really juicy villain yet, but I always tend to come back to comedy and I love clowns of all shapes and sizes. I have always pursued versatility – going from SPS to London to study classical theater and then going to L.A. and working in TV and film. I’ve always tried to broaden my horizons, so I think of myself as a toolkit that has quite a few tools in it now, and I really enjoy them all.

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For many years, Joss had been hosting informal readings of Shakespeare’s plays at his house, in which I would always participate. They had no motive beyond the fun of hearing a great play read aloud. Out of those casual meetings sprang the idea to one day film a reading of the play in some capacity. Years later, after he had finished shooting The Avengers, he arrived at my house in L.A. with a rolled-up copy of the Much Ado script. He told me he had two weeks off and what did I think of shooting this play at his house with me as Benedick. Of course I jumped at the chance.

Little did we know it was going to become a feature film. We would learn our lines, wear our own clothes for practical reasons, use his house [in Santa Monica]. People brought their passion and expertise, and we already had a strong rapport. At some point during filming, Joss turned to me with a surprised tone and said, “This is good!” The film premiered at the Toronto Film Festival, where it was seen by distributors, picked up, and is slowly making its way around the world in art-house cinemas.

It was important to me to bring a contemporary, authentic feel to Shakespeare so it was not overly sophisticated or intimidating. People who don’t like Shakespeare – or think they don’t – have been bored by it in a high school classroom or gone to see a snooty production where they felt condescended to, watching the actors prancing around in tights and ruffled shirts. Our approach was not the well-worn path of reproducing a classic play in a classic style. Our intent was to make it contemporary and approachable. Once you understand this play or any Shakespeare play, that’s when they become thrilling because you realize he is writing not for his time, but for any time.

We were liberated by not having studio execs making decisions for us or deciding they want to cut this or add that. The script is locked – it was locked 400 years ago – and we didn’t change that, other than making cuts. Knowing the dialogue is perfect left us all free to focus on the art of the job we love without the constraints of a studio looking over us. But we also didn’t have the support of the studio; that’s my suit I’m wearing and there is now a hole in the knee and it is Joss’s house with scuffed floors.

There is a lot of opportunity for independent filmmaking now outside of the studio system. With the focus on producing franchise films, it leaves the field empty and clear for a little black-and-white Shakespeare movie. But the nuts and bolts of going to work as an actor are really the same.

Next I am going to do a recurring role on the NBC series Grimm [which stars Silas Weir Mitchell ‘87]. It’s inspired by the children’s stories of the Brothers Grimm. I play a cousin to one of the primary characters. I also have a sci-fi web series, H+, that did well in its first season. And I occasionally pop up on [the CBS series] How I Met Your Mother, which my wife Alyson Hannigan stars in, and in which I play a preposterous news anchor.
A part of the spirit of the Form of 1978 resides at 194 Pleasant Street in Concord, less than a mile from the entrance to St. Paul’s School. That’s where Earle Simpson ’78 operates a nonprofit dental clinic that reflects not only his own giving spirit, but those of his formmates.

When Simpson closed a successful private dental practice in Bedford, N.H., in favor of opening Saving People’s Smiles (“SPS”) in March 2012, he did so with the help of many in his form. Five years ago, as the form neared its 30th anniversary, Simpson and others began to reflect on their personal and collective legacies.

“It was a time in my life when I was close to turning 50,” says Simpson, now 53. “You’re at the top of the mountain, coming down the other side. I wondered: When I go into the next life, what have I left behind?”

After much discussion with his formmates about how they could give back, Simpson was encouraged to open a nonprofit dental center in Concord, which would serve two purposes: provide a community outreach opportunity for members of the Form of 1978 and fill a void in Concord, Simpson’s hometown and the common locale for him and his formmates. The State of New Hampshire boasts more than a dozen similar facilities, but none were in Concord until Simpson’s formmates donated their time and money to launch a new SPS.

“That Earle is so overtly giving back to Concord now that he has grown up is just plain admirable,” says Simpson’s friend Nora Tracy Phillips ’78. Earle credits her and Kevin Foley ’78 for spearheading the efforts on behalf of SPS dental.

“Earle is a strangely charismatic figure,” Phillips said. “He’s very smart, but sounds every bit the Common Man when he speaks.

“He comes off to those of us in the form as the real deal, someone people are instantly inclined to believe in. When he speaks about the lofty vision he has for his dental practice and what it could mean to the people he serves, he’s got us in his pocket. And we are more than happy to be there.”

To get the operation off the ground, the Form first raised nearly $70,000 to cover the costs of opening the clinic – operating rooms, exam rooms, computers and software, desks and chairs, and seating for the waiting room. They donated artwork, and Curtis Starr ’78 and his wife, Amy Nobu ’78, painted a mural of Simpson looking out at Lower School Pond that adorns the office waiting area. Then, near the end of 2011, two dozen members of the Form of 1978 descended on Concord, ready to work.

“They came in and – you name it – cleaned windows, vacuumed floors, painted – everything that needed to be done. They flew in from all over, just to help out, and those who couldn’t make it sent checks. I still keep getting checks from classmates. So it was a little piece of everybody, which means a lot to me. When I walk into work each day and see that, it reminds me of my classmates. How cool is that?”

It’s no coincidence that the clinic’s acronym spells “SPS” – it’s Simpson’s tribute to his classmates and to the School.

“I love St. Paul’s; it’s everything to me,” Simpson says, adding that the office building that houses Saving People’s Smiles is owned by Peter Milnes ’75, who provides the clinic space free of charge. The Pleasant Street clinic is one half of Simpson’s dedication to nonprofit dental care. He also runs a mobile dental van that travels to elementary schools throughout New Hampshire, often reaching out to provide blankets, clothing, and food to homeless families whose paths he crosses in the process of evaluating their oral health. He also hopes to expand his office practice to include free meeting space for local dentists.

The dental SPS serves the homeless, the uninsured, those on Medicaid, veterans, and families without access to proper dental care. Simpson and his two associates have partnered with the N.H. state mental institution. They take pro bono cases or charge reduced rates, sometimes asking patients to pay simply what they can. Some patients use a bartering system in return for their care, paying, for example, in office supplies or latex gloves.

“Oral health affects overall health,” Simpson says. “As healthcare providers, our main focus is trying to put ourselves out of business. We don’t want to be doing fillings and extractions. We would love to see patients only every six months for checkups. There is nothing like a nice smile, but it’s not really about teeth.”
The Quiet Revolution of Bill Oates
by Todd Purdum ’78

It was no accident that when I arrived in the doorway of the Rectory as a frightened Fourth Former in the fall of 1975, the member of the St. Paul’s School community whom I already knew best was the smiling man who shook my hand: Bill Oates. After all, I had come to SPS solely because of my family’s long friendship with Bill’s daughter-in-law Muffy Macy Oates, who grew up in my hometown in Illinois. On my visit to the School, I had met the director of admissions, of course, but I couldn’t shake the feeling that my interview with Bill himself was the one that counted.

So I was surprised to realize, when former Vice Rector Bob Duke asked me a couple of years ago to edit a compilation of Bill’s writings, just how much I did not know about the Eighth Rector, and his transformative role in the life of this school. For one thing, I had not understood the depth of Bill’s own Midwestern roots, the unlikely path that had taken him first to Harvard and then to Millville, the tremendous drive and achievement he had shown from the earliest age (he was an Eagle Scout by age 13 1/2) or the full depth of the complex challenges he faced in dragging St. Paul’s into the late 20th century, and preparing it for the 21st.

In my student days, Mr. Oates was a formidable figure. In his crisp Brooks Brothers suits and polished Peal & Co. shoes, he could have been one of the corporate CEOs with whom he served on the SPS Board of Trustees. His rule was absolute. To the faculty, he could sometimes seem imperious; to the students, remote. He did not suffer fools — of any age or station — gladly. Yet always, at the start of each term, and at every Saturday-night open house in the Rectory, there was that warm smile, that firm handshake, that calling—by—name that had begun with first acquaintance and never wavered.

It was this abiding civility, this trust in the smallest signs and symbols of community life, which shone through again and again in the voluminous materials that Bill and his faithful assistant, Emily Bruell, culled for consideration as we worked on Views from the Rector’s Porch. To a school long known for rigidity and orthodoxy, Bill brought — in a measure I had never fully understood — a quietly radical humanism. He introduced co—education in carefully considered stages that ensured its success. He permitted upper—class students to smoke (with parental permission), and thus so diminished a bad habit’s illicit appeal that it had died out almost entirely by his tenure’s end. He expanded the faculty to include psychologists and counselors and encouraged role—playing and experimentation. He resisted simplistic black—and—white notions of discipline or dress code (to the frequent frustration of faculty, parents, and alumni alike), all the while maintaining St. Paul’s most cherished traditions, folkways, and aspirations — from regular Chapel services and Cricket Holiday, to unyielding standards of personal honor and academic achievement.

“A considerable quiet revolution had taken place,” as he himself would write.

Historians teach us that revolutions occur in times of rising expectations, and the revolution over which Bill presided would bring its own challenges, complications and recalibrations, as the School sought to adapt to new pressures and realities from the wider world. Nearly 40 years after I first met him, I am approaching the age that Bill was on the occasion of our first handshake — and he is approaching his centenary!

But his quiet civility remains an ageless inspiration, as do the opening words of one of his favorite school prayers: “Grant, O Lord, that in all the joys of life, we may never forget to be kind.” May we never forget what Bill Oates has taught us, either.
The path she has taken through St. Paul’s School has been an experience like no other we can imagine. Where else is a high school student touring with the choir in Cuba or acting in a play in Scotland? She has used her time well at St. Paul’s, working hard, engaging herself in a wide variety of activities, and giving back when she can. Maybe this is the expected course of a student at St. Paul’s. For us, it has been nothing short of extraordinary.

— Jeffrey and Renee Gildehaus P’13

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