



# MODUS VIVENDI

JUNE 2007



Photo: Nick Elliott

## WELCOMING OUR NEW HEAD OF SCHOOL

Patrick Carruth will join The Bear Creek School on July 2nd as the new Head of School.

Shown here with Karen Beman, Interim Head of School. See story on page 4.



## A FINAL NOTE FROM THE DESK OF THE INTERIM HEAD OF SCHOOL

Shortly after we announced the selection of our new Head of School, a dear friend of mine handed me this verse:

*"Then I will give you shepherds after my own heart, who will lead you with knowledge and understanding."*

Jeremiah 3:15

It was plainly evident to me then, and more clearly now, that God has once again demonstrated His faithfulness to The Bear Creek School in drawing Patrick Carruth and his family to our community. He truly is a man after God's own heart, who will shepherd us with knowledge and understanding. He has been prepared and is equipped to lead and navigate us through the "dark educational waters" and faith fragmentation of our time. He is a torchbearer for the powerful and transformational integration of classical and Christian, and we will flourish under his leadership.

We have been mightily blessed.

As I am fond of saying – and will take the liberty to say these words one last time– "Consider this – it is no small thing that you have been called here." My heart is full of deep gratitude when I think of all the many willing shepherds that walk our halls and demonstrate through word and deed that Christ is at the heart and center of The Bear Creek School.

It has been, and will continue to be, a privilege to stand among you in the days and years ahead!

Blessings to each of you,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Karen Beman". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Karen Beman



# BOARD OF TRUSTEES



Every year at commencement, I think about the two conflicting emotions that I experience: remembering and anticipating both at the same time. As my son completes his 12-year Bear Creek experience with the 2007 commencement exercises (way to go Colin; I'm so proud of you!), I'm thrown even more into my musings. With this close-of-the-year issue of Modus, I'd like to both look back over this past year as well as look ahead to our future.

Looking back...From the perspective of the board, this has been one of the most critical years in our history as we recruited and appointed a new Head of School for Bear Creek. I am proud of our school community for the resilience, patience and support they have shown during this time of transition. I am honored to be partnered with my fellow Trustees, as I have observed first-hand the energy, time, and dedication they have exhibited throughout this most critical time. The Head Search Committee, which devoted hundreds of hours individually to this process, has shepherded for our community an invaluable gift: a new Head of School who understands and is excited about our mission and vision and will build on the strong foundation built over the past 20 years.

The Board of Trustees has been active on a number of other fronts as well, including marshalling our Conditional Use Permit for a new Lower School facility through the King County approval process, continuing our strategic planning process, and recruiting new members for the Board of Trustees. We are excited to welcome Sue Diamond, Dr. Steve Meyer, and Curt Kraft as new members of the board this past year.

Trustee Pete Petesch is retiring from the board at the end of this school year after eight years of service. The board has been privileged to work with Pete as a fellow trustee. Pete has been one of the most loyal, hard working, and generous supporters Bear Creek has ever known. In addition to serving as a trustee, Pete served as the school's treasurer for many years and, along with his wife, Tina, chaired the Campaign for the Bear Creek School, our capital campaign that raised money for the main Redmond campus. We are indebted to and extremely thankful for Pete and his selfless service to Bear Creek over so many years.

Finally, no review of this past year would be complete without a long, loud, and heart-felt chorus of thank yous to a wonderful partner in this work, our Interim Head of School, Mrs. Karen Beman. I've said before that times of transition really test organizations. Especially when they involve revered founders, transitions can drive organizations to either

implode or flourish. We've been blessed over this past year because our time of transition has been one of excitement, anticipation, and growth. The fact that we have grown and flourished over this past year is due to outstanding and thoughtful leadership, and that has come from Karen Beman.

In her parting letter to the community in this edition of Modus Vivendi, Karen included this verse: "Then I will give you shepherds after my own heart, who will lead you with knowledge and understanding." Jeremiah 3:15

While she was talking about Patrick coming to Bear Creek, I would apply this to her leadership of Bear Creek as well. Because that is precisely who Karen is – a person after God's own heart – and it is exactly what she has done for us – leading us with knowledge and understanding.

Karen is one of those rare people that you run across during your lifetime, when you realize that you're in the presence of somebody special – someone insightful, full of grace and integrity, thoughtful, and truly interested in bringing out the best in others. God has blessed our community by providing us with Karen Beman to be our leader over these past 16 months. She has partnered tirelessly with the board, our faculty and staff, and our parents and students. She has been a light and a delight and has touched the lives of so many of our school family in such a positive way. As she transitions back into her role as Director of College Advising and serves as a special advisor to Patrick Carruth next year, on behalf of the entire Bear Creek community I want to say THANK YOU to Karen for her leadership, partnership, and for giving so selflessly to our school. Karen, you are a gem!

Looking ahead...I look ahead to the 2007-2008 school year with such excitement and anticipation. I am thrilled to have the opportunity to welcome Patrick Carruth into his role as the Head of The Bear Creek School. Patrick brings such a wealth of experience and perspective, as well as a wonderful heart for God and for young people. We are blessed to have Patrick join the leadership team, and we look forward to welcoming Patrick, his wife Paige, and their four children into the Bear Creek family this summer.

The Bear Creek School is alive and well, and we look forward to an exciting future as we partner with our community to live out our mission and deliver on the commitment to know TRUTH, discover PURPOSE, and make a DIFFERENCE.

Have a great summer!

Kurt Maass  
President

## THE BEAR CREEK SCHOOL WELCOMES PATRICK CARRUTH & FAMILY

This summer, Patrick Carruth, his wife Paige, and their four young children will say goodbye to the South and prepare to make the Evergreen State and The Bear Creek School their home. Patrick comes to us from Memphis, Tennessee, having served for the last seven years as Academic Dean at Evangelical Christian School (ECS). Because he considers himself a Southerner at heart, he will miss the azaleas in early spring, Saturday afternoons of University of Georgia football games, and the humidity. We'll do our best to convince him that we, too, enjoy our azaleas in the spring and have our own Pacific Northwest humidity. He admits that leaving behind friends, family, and colleagues will be difficult, but he is looking forward to the opportunity to continue the mission and expand the vision of quality classical Christian education in the Pacific Northwest. He says, "Paige, my children and I are truly humbled to be part of the Bear Creek



Patrick and his wife, Paige, take a break from interviewing at Bear Creek to see some of the local sights.

community. We see the recovery of the liberal arts tradition grounded in a Christian worldview as a mighty work in the kingdom of God for today's children and for future generations, and we are delighted to participate in this work at The Bear Creek School."



Future 3rd grader Joseph and 5th grader Grace are looking forward to their move to Redmond.

As Academic Dean at ECS, Patrick was pivotal in the development of the Christian liberal arts and Christian worldview integration. Specifically, Mr. Carruth was responsible for curriculum development for ECS's K-12 program, including systematic analyses of standardized testing results, development and management of summer curriculum workshops, establishment of a network of local education professionals to share best practices, and development and implementation of specific curricula for the English and Humanities departments. Mr. Carruth had overall responsibility for faculty recruitment, development and mentoring, evaluation, and retention. He also chaired ECS's accreditation committee, managed and developed its strategic plan, and served on the ECS admissions committee.

Prior to assuming his administrative responsibilities at ECS, Mr. Carruth served as an English teacher, English department chair, football coach, and baseball coach. Mr. Carruth holds a bachelor of arts degree from the University of Georgia and a master of arts in literature from the University of Memphis. He has also done post-graduate coursework at Cumberland University in Tennessee.

Patrick's wife of 13 years, Paige, is a native of Memphis and has an impressive resume herself. She holds a bachelor's degree in psychology and a master's degree in counseling. Most importantly, she is mother to the Carruth's four young children. Catherine is 10 years old and will join the 5th grade class at TBCS. The prospect of visiting Pike Place Market and being near her Aunt Amanda, Uncle Michael, and their dog Cooper makes the move so exciting for her. Joseph is 8 years old and will join our 3rd grade class. He is eagerly anticipating his first climb up the Space Needle. Jack (aka John) is 6 years old and will join the 1st grade class at Bear Creek. He is quite

sure that orca whales are easily visible throughout the Puget Sound and looks forward to his first sighting. Finally, Eleanor is 4 years old. Her desire is to see our large mountains up close and personal.

If you've had the privilege of meeting Mr. Carruth, you may have noticed his distinctive style of dress. As we prepare to welcome Patrick as our new Head of School, we couldn't help but ask the question, "What's with the bow tie?" Patrick would only laugh and say with a smug smile, "The memory is still too painful for me to talk about." On a more serious note, Patrick shared that he chose to accept the position at Bear Creek because of its well-executed mission which integrates rigorous academics and a Christian worldview.

We could not, in good conscience, fully accept Patrick without a little more background information. His favorite food is filet mignon, perfectly cooked to medium rare, of course. His favorite music includes movie soundtracks (Meet Joe Black, Pride and Prejudice, Pirates of the Caribbean, etc.), classical arrangements, U2, and James



Seeing the great Northwest outdoors is eagerly anticipated by Eleanor and future 1st grader Jack.

Taylor. With his strong literary background, he is most fond of classical literature that predates the modern novel. Above all else, Patrick is always mindful of the Westminster Shorter Catechism which asks, "What is the chief end of man?" It is, of course, "To glorify God and to enjoy him forever." This is something that governs Patrick's life.

Please join us in extending a warm welcome to Patrick and his family. We know that God has brought him to Bear Creek to fulfill His mission and we look forward to seeing that played out in the lives and hearts of our children.

#### **FAVORITE BIBLE VERSES:**

Romans 12:2, Ephesians 2:8/9, Acts 17, and Colossians 1:19/20

#### **FAVORITE QUOTES:**

##### **John Milton**

The end then of learning is to repair the ruins of our first parents by regaining to know God aright, and out of that knowledge to love him, to imitate him, to be like him, as we may the nearest by possessing our souls of true virtue, which being united to the heavenly grace of faith makes up the highest perfection.

##### **C.S. Lewis**

Every age has its own outlook. It is especially good at seeing certain truths and especially liable to make certain mistakes. We all therefore need the books that will correct the characteristic mistakes of our own period.... The only palliative is to keep the clean sea breeze of the centuries blowing through our minds and this can only be done by reading old books.

##### **G.K. Chesterton**

For grown-up people are not strong enough to exult in monotony. But perhaps God is strong enough to exult in monotony. It is possible that God says every morning, "Do it again" to the sun; and every evening, "Do it again" to the moon. It may not be automatic necessity that makes all daisies alike; it may be that God makes every daisy separately, but has never got tired of making them. It may be that He has the eternal appetite of infancy; for we have sinned and grown old, and our Father is younger than we.

##### **Aristotle**

To be always seeking after the useful does not become free and exalted souls.

## TWO BEAR CREEK FAMILIES ON A MISSION

Mark 16:15 “And he said to them, ‘Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation.’”

Over Mid-Winter Break, two Bear Creek families went on foreign mission trips to Latin America with their respective churches. The Alleva family went to a rural area in Nicaragua and the Lee family went to a town in Chile.

Why go on a mission trip? Parents Fil and Holly Alleva realized that the way we live in America is not the only way. At ages 10 and 12, they also felt that their children were old enough to be exposed to the way much of the world lives.

Parents Phil and Lori Lee were inspired by Phil’s previous mission trip to Chile. After that, they decided that when their sons were old enough, they would take them to Chile. They also wanted their children to experience another culture and to see that other people who spoke a different language and lived in a different place, loved and worshipped the same God they did.

After deciding to go, both families prepared ahead of time by attending weekly training sessions with their trip’s other participants. Both families gathered supplies specific to their particular mission, and both families worked to spread God’s love.

### THE ALLEVA’S STORY

Fil, Holly (Valley Campus Library Assistant), Zachary (grade 7), Erin (grade 5), and Caleb (grade 5) Alleva went to Nicaragua for their first family mission trip. They traveled with five other families from their church, First Presbyterian Church of Bellevue. The families went to Nicaragua to work with missionaries Halle and Cathy August from Bellevue. The Augusts operate a preschool and a sports complex outside of the capital city of Managua.

The group accomplished several tasks in Nicaragua. While still in the United States, they collected 48 duffel bags of clothes for a clothing sale in Nicaragua. The clothes were sold at a minimal cost to local people, both to raise money for the complex and also to allow the locals the dignity of making their own purchases with their own money. The families also performed maintenance on



Painting was just one of the many tasks Zach, Caleb, and Erin Alleva performed while in Nicaragua.

buildings in the complex. Finally, one member of the group was a dentist, and for several days, Holly became his assistant.

The Augusts’ preschool operates an after-school program that is similar to a Vacation Bible School. The Alleva children especially enjoyed helping with the program and learning that kids are kids—no matter what language they speak. Zachary, as the oldest boy on the trip, was especially popular with the Nicaraguan children. Twins Erin and Caleb joined him in having fun playing games with the children and helping with the activities. Finally, all the children assisted the parents with maintenance on the compound’s buildings.

The Allevas certainly felt God’s presence during their trip, starting much earlier than they thought they would. While they all arrived safely in Managua, Holly’s luggage did not. She didn’t see it again until after she had been back in Redmond for several days. Luckily, she was able to wear some of the clothes that had been donated to the clothing sale and supplement with a few purchases. She felt surprisingly at ease about the whole thing.

Several people on the trip were worried about the heat in Central America, so the group prayed that they would all cope well. God did more than just calm their fears; He took away the issue! The

weather was beautiful with temperatures in the 90s, but with a constant wind blowing that made it not feel hot at all. The food tasted good, no one got sick, and they all felt quite safe.

The trip was not all work, however. The team got to do some sightseeing around the area, but their favorite excursion was a trip to the beach. They spent an afternoon playing in the warm Pacific Ocean, riding the waves on boards.

Are there more trips in the Allevas' future? The family definitely felt that God wanted them to go on this trip, and the children would like to go again. Several days after their return, Erin said, "I miss Nicaragua!"

### THE LEE'S STORY

The Lee family, Phil, Lori (Development Associate, Redmond), Benjamin (grade 4), and Joshua (grade 2), traveled to Maipu, Chile, a large suburb of Santiago. Their church, Evergreen Christian Fellowship in Issaquah, supports Doug and Shelley Kalestad. The Kalestads are church planters in Maipu working for IberoAmerican Ministries.

The Lees went to the Oriente church and school that was the second church plant in Chile. There were two purposes for the Lee's trip. One was to paint, clean, and repair the classrooms of a school and complete light construction work around the church. The other was holding joint outreach campaigns in the evenings with the Chilean church members. The team's verse for the trip was Ecclesiastes 4:9: "Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their work."

The typical schedule was to work around the church during the day. Then, after dinner, the team went out on their campaigns. The team held the campaigns in the local park where they played games, offered face painting, made balloon animals, and helped the Chilean teens with a puppet show and a drama. They ended with distributing the balloon animals, salvation bracelet kits, and goodie bags to the kids in the audience. The group assembled the kits and goodie bags in the States prior to the trip.

Benjamin and Joshua stated that one of their concerns before the trip was not speaking Spanish. Joshua also prayed that the plane would not crash and that he would make a friend. Both boys

worried about the long plane flight (Lori told them that at least they got to ride on a plane; Paul and the disciples had to walk). Finally, the whole family prayed that people would come to know the Lord.

Did God answer those prayers? The Lees say, "YES!" The flight was smooth, they made friends immediately, people accepted Christ at every campaign, and language was not a barrier when there was a common goal and purpose – especially between kids.



The Lee family pauses for a picture in front of the Oriente church in Maipu, Chile, before heading out on an outreach campaign.

Their favorite things about the trip? Topping the list was playing with all the kids. Next were the campaigns, visiting other churches IberoAmerican planted, and touring Santiago.

Will the Lees return? Even before they left Santiago, they were discussing a return next year. They arrived back in Seattle full of wonderful memories of working side by side as a family, seeing God work, and holding a new appreciation of the mission field. They can't wait until the next trip!

## DISNEYLAND DREAMS

### SINGING AND SPACE MOUNTAIN, MUSIC AND THE MATTERHORN

By Tara Sackman and Gunny Kim

The following article ran in the April issue of Bear Creek Current, our Upper School student newspaper. Reprinted with permission from the authors and journalism adviser.

Right: The Bear Creek Upper School choir and band members enjoy the wonderful world of Disney. Photo courtesy of Ted Frantz.



Disneyland is a magical place where it is easy to believe that dreams come true. This time it was the dreams of big kids that came true. On March 29-April 1, the Bear Creek Upper School choir and band traveled to California to perform in Disneyland.

Students anticipated the trip all year, and worked hard to prepare their music in time for the trip which is earlier than their spring concert. Junior Marc Mueller said, "I'm looking forward to having fun in Disneyland, and the performances."

On Friday, students explored Disneyland in the morning before switching gears to get ready to perform. The choir performed first and began an energetic piece entitled *Lamentations of Jeremiah* and eased into *Esto Les Digo*, and Randal Thompson's *Alleluia*. The choir rounded out their performance with a medley of songs from *The Little Mermaid*, and a spiritual style piece called *Let Everything that Hath Breath*. The spiritual included a duet sung by Leigh Ann Greenfield, and Jackson Brammer.

Mrs. Loudenback said that the "most satisfying part was the performance." It was good in that "you all (the choir), knew it was a good performance, I didn't have to tell you." Apparently, in Disneyland not as many people stop to listen to choirs as they do bands. However, "(Bear Creek's) Choir attracted more people than (choirs in Disneyland) usually do."

After the choir performed they participated in a choral workshop. The choir was given the sheet music to common Disney songs from movies such as Pocahontas, High School Musical, and Lilo and Stitch. They then learned the music on the spot and were recorded live singing it.

While recording, each student was given a set of headphones so they could hear the background music to the piece. Mrs. Loudenback said she really enjoyed watching the students with their headphones on. She said, "You looked like you were full of wonder." The songs with the Bear Creek choir singing were then put into the movie clip and played back for the choir to hear.

The same day, the band also played. They performed Psalm by John Paulson, Variations on a Korean Folk Song by John Burnes Chance, and ended their performance with songs from Pirates of the Caribbean.

Afterwards, the band also participated in a workshop. One of the things they got to do was add sound effects to a scene from Tarzan.

One of Mr. Higbee's favorite memories was "seeing all the students bonding...and the smiles on their faces."

After all of the performances were over, the students were let loose to enjoy Disneyland and scream loud on the rides as they wanted to (since they were done performing). On Saturday they spent a sunny day in California Adventure.

The students also had an eventful experience during the Sunday service when they attended Crystal Cathedral on Palm Sunday. They saw a donkey on stage, when some performers came through the aisles simulating Jesus riding into Jerusalem on a donkey. They also saw a former Miss America sing Ride on King Jesus, and they heard Evel Knievel, a well-known daredevil, give his testimony and be baptized.



## ANNUAL FUND SUCCESS

The amazing level of financial support given to The Bear Creek School this year is a true testament to how the Lord is manifesting Himself in the future of the school and of the continued faith our community has shown in that future. During our past year of transition, we have been blessed with our families' generous financial support. In a show of confidence, the Annual Fund financial goal was met before Christmas Break for the first time in our history. Shortly thereafter, with the help of a generous family's challenge match of \$30,000, an extra \$88,000 was raised to purchase new computers for every classroom and library! The auction proved no different. With fewer guests, we surpassed what was raised last year and exceeded our financial goal. The positive sense of community and fellowship was evident, especially as we were able to meet and welcome our new Head of School, Patrick Carruth, with great excitement!

To date, we have raised \$437,000 through the 06-07 Annual Fund and \$233,000 during the auction. There is still time and need for you to participate. 53% of families participated in the Annual Fund. As the school looks to other sources of funding, a strong history of participation from the school community is a driving force in the grantees' decision to award funding. The higher the participation, the more likely we are to be considered for support. Thank you for the amazing level of generosity demonstrated through your time, talent, and treasures!

## DID YOU KNOW...

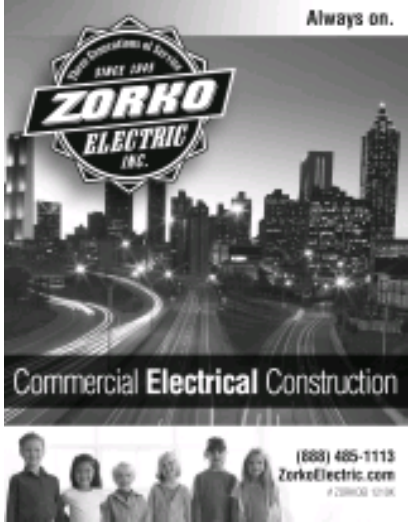
### Gifts of Retirement Plan Assets

The Pension Protection Act of 2006, signed by President Bush on August 17, 2006, contained charitable giving incentives, including the IRA Rollover which allows individuals to transfer funds tax-free from an IRA (or a ROTH IRA) to a charitable organization.

### Requirements for gifts under the new law include:

- Gifts must be completed by December 31, 2007;
- The IRA owner must be age 70.5 or older at the time of the distribution;
- Gifts may not exceed \$100,000 per taxpayer per tax year;
- Distributions must be made directly by the IRA trustee to a charitable organization;
- Gifts must be made in a way that would otherwise be fully deductible.

If you qualify to make a charitable gift under the new law, you will not be required to report the IRA distribution as taxable income. However, you will not be entitled to claim an income tax charitable deduction for the gift. Under the new law, individuals over age 70.5 who must make mandatory withdrawals from their retirement plans, can use the withdrawal to make a significant charitable gift without incurring income tax consequences. Unfortunately, the new law does not permit a tax-free transfer for a deferred charitable giving arrangement such as a charitable gift annuity or charitable remainder trust.



Always on.

**ZORKO**  
ELECTRIC  
INC.

Commercial Electrical Construction

(888) 485-1113  
ZorkoElectric.com  
#ZORKO1104

Thank you to Zorko  
Electric for their  
amazing financial  
sponsorship of this  
year's auction!

## BEAR CREEK STUDENTS SAY “BONJOUR” TO FRANCE

During Mid-Winter break, twelve students currently studying French at TBCS traveled to Paris and Evreux, France, for ten days with their teacher, Madame Garceau, and her husband. The goal of the trip was for the students to improve their language skills.

The highlight of the trip, was the time spent in Evreux, a city of about 50,000 people in the Normandy region of France. The reason this time was so special? The students spent five days staying in the homes of French families.

The host families were volunteers chosen from the local high school. Each host family had a teenager in the high school English class, although the idea was for the Americans to perfect their French and not vice versa. The students spent five days with their French families.

To prepare for the trip, each student exchanged letters with his or her French host family. The Americans all brought a photo album to share, with pictures of their American home and family as an icebreaker. Still, the students were both excited and nervous when they first arrived in Evreux. While they study French and their host “siblings” study English, they had fears of not being able to communicate. The rule of the trip was that French was to be spoken in the hosts’ homes so our kids could improve their French. However, the rule was occasionally bent because the French hosts were excited to practice their English. They found that their fears were unfounded, and their language skills did improve.



During their family stay, our students took a day to discover the sites of Évreux, in Normandy. They began their day with a group picture in front of the city hall.

One day, our Bear Creek students visited the high school that their French hosts attend. They spent most of their time talking to the French students, and some wonderful conversations and debates took place. Topics varied from the war in Iraq to creationism. The French students were very interested in hearing American opinions and points of view, as well as sharing their own. The students also discussed “stereotypes” of how the two countries view each other and perhaps a few were dispelled that day.

Each host family was responsible for its American guest for the majority of the time in Evreux. As a result, each student had a unique visit, and each student experienced France the way his or her family thought best. The hosts were eager to have the

Americans visit and went out of their way to put them at ease. One French father even wore an American T-shirt when he greeted the students at the train station.

Junior Allison Hooker's family took her to see the Palace of Versailles. Allison's host sister and boyfriend took her to Paris to see the Eiffel Tower at night, and they walked around the Place de la Concorde. Junior Cindy Kim's family took her to see the Normandy D-Day beaches and to the city of Rouen. They also took her shopping. Kristin Kelly enjoyed the time she spent at home with her family, trying to talk. She liked being able to communicate in another language.

The Bear Creek students also enjoyed their time in Paris. They especially liked that their hotel was in an ordinary neighborhood in Paris. It made them feel as if they were a part of Paris, and as Cindy Kim said, "Paris makes you dream." Every day, the students had free time to shop or have coffee in neighborhood shops and to practice their French. They enjoyed seeing the Cathedral of Notre Dame and hearing the children's choir that was performing. When they spoke to the performers in French, however, they were surprised to find out that they were actually from England!

Montmartre also won their hearts when they spent an afternoon there – and many of them have portraits of themselves by which to remember it. The final evening, the kids had the opportunity to dress up and have a nice dinner in a restaurant on the Champs Elysees called Chez Clement. It was a great memory with which to end their French experience.

## UPPER SCHOOL EXTENDED LEARNING TRIPS

Bear Creek's Upper School has a program to enhance the subjects students are learning in the classroom with Extended Learning Trips. These trips cover more than one department and are designed to be an extension of classroom study. These trips are optional but are open to all students who meet the course requirements. The trips are not financed by Bear Creek.

The program consists of different rotating trips. The rotation is designed on a three-year schedule for two reasons. Publishing the rotation in advance allows families to plan. In addition, a three-year schedule, rather than a four-year schedule, allows all students taking a modern language to participate in a language immersion trip during the later years of language study.

2007 was the year for the Modern Language Immersion trip. The language trip is open to students who are in their second, third, or fourth year of language study. The purpose of this trip is for students to:

- Experience the language beyond the classroom.
- Experience a family stay abroad to assure genuine immersion.
- Put their newly acquired language skills to use in real-life settings.
- Gain an understanding of another culture to help them become informed and connected citizens of the world.

The other trips in the rotation are:

- 2007-2008 Rome Trip (to experience European history in a tangible way).
- 2008-2009 USA Trip (to experience our capital).

The trip destinations are chosen based on the specific goals for each trip. The French trip chose Paris and Evreux because:

- The cost differential between France and Quebec was small.
- English is less accessible in France than in Quebec, so students would have to rely more on their French.
- Evreux is the city closest to Paris that was available through ISE (International Student Exchange), the agency that set up the family stay.

## GRIZZLY BASKETBALL TEAMS BOOST GREEN & GOLD SPIRIT TO NEW HIGHS

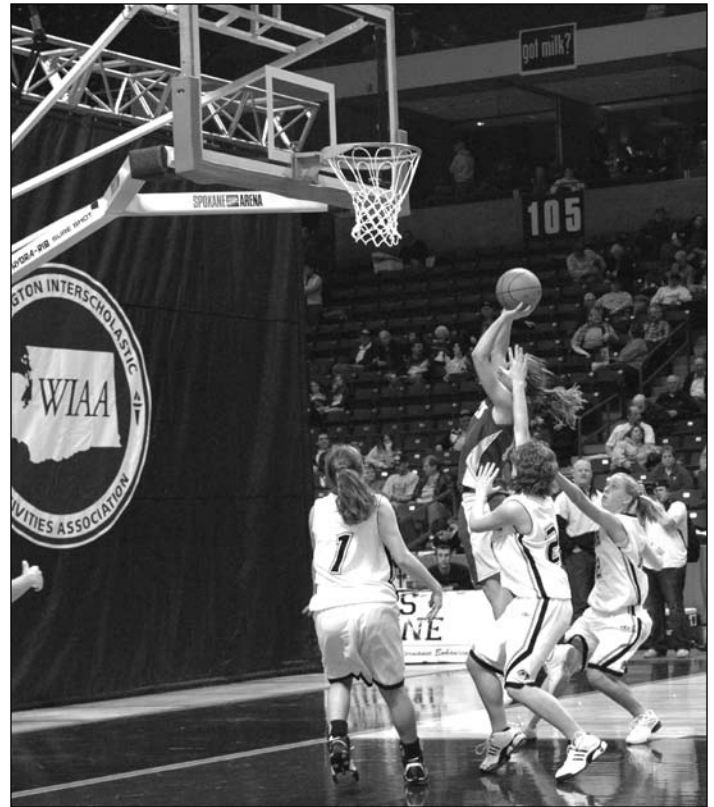
*By Deb Perry, Grizzly Booster Club President*

Watch out! Grizzly spirit is spreading like wild throughout the Bear Creek community. Symptoms include wearing inordinate amounts of green and gold, proudly donning multiple items of Grizzly Gear, and finding oneself still gripping a pom-pom and very hoarse the morning after a big game. But please, if you are infected, pass it on!

When the Redmond campus opened in 2000, a group of parents, school administrators, and the Athletic Director came together to form the Bear Creek Booster Club. It exists solely as a school spirit organization dedicated to raising funds to support student-athletes and enhancing the Grizzly athletic programs. The Fall Kickoff BBQ, Green & Gold Night, and Homecoming are spirit events that the Booster Club is proud to sponsor. With generous support from our membership, the Booster Club has been able to fund significant capital improvements, including soccer goals and netting, a lighted scorer's table, track record board, the west bleachers and an awesome sound system in the Redmond campus gymnasium. Of course, the best payoff is to see those bleachers filled with spectators and to hear the excitement and spirit buzz in the halls –and it is happening!

The growing wave of spirit kicked off in the fall season. The Boys Varsity Soccer team led the way with an undefeated league season and then captured the first State 2B championship in school history! The Varsity Volleyball team chalked up its best season ever, finishing in 5th place in the Sea-Tac league and advancing to the post-season Tri-District competition for the first time. The Cross-Country team captured the Sea-Tac league and District championship. Finally, the Girls Varsity Soccer team continued its 2B domination with an undefeated league season, only losing in a heartbreaker in the Sea-King 1A (higher division) District tournament.

As winter season practices opened in late November, the Boys and Girls Varsity basketball programs became the focal point of this rising tide of Grizzly spirit. Head Coach Scott Moe and the Boys Basketball teams had been working hard since last spring, playing many off-season games and holding open gyms for countless hours. On the girls' side, with only four returning players, first-year Coach Blake DeYoung had good reason to wonder what kind of season lie



Kimi Polhman takes a shot against Napa Vine at the Spokane Arena during the Girl's State Basketball Tournament.

ahead. But what a ride it turned out to be for the players, coaches and, best of all, the fans.

The Boys Varsity Basketball team enjoyed its best season ever. Just how far has the basketball program come? Bear Creek initiated varsity play nine years ago in the 1998-1999 season. Wins were tough to come by and, as recently as three years ago, the team endured a season with just one league win. As a result of much hard work, the boys team enjoyed a very successful season in 2006-2007. They racked up an impressive 9-2 record in the Sea-Tac 2B league and finished third in league standings, the highest ever. The Grizzlies moved on to the Tri-District tournament and competed hard, only losing by two points against Christian Faith in a tough play-off game to end the season. Not surprisingly, Coach Moe and the hard-working players are already pounding the hardwood this spring and have set their sights high for next season.

The fairy tale Girls Varsity Basketball season started ominously with a 1-5 record against tough pre-season Division 3A and 1A competition. With five freshman players, a new coach, and a brand new "system" of offense and defense, it was a rocky road. But the

team steadily improved and gained confidence after winning a Christmas tournament at North Sound Christian. When league play got underway, the girls chalked up seven straight wins, including a critical one over nemesis Seattle Lutheran. The Lady Grizzlies pegged a record high 3rd place in the Sea-Tac 2B league with a 9-2 record and qualified to move on to post-season play for the first time!



Bear Creek fans travelled to Spokane to show their Grizzly Spirit at the Girls Basketball State Tourney.

In the Tri-District tournament, the team amazingly pulled off three straight wins, including a gratifying one against Darrington High School who had beat them soundly in December. Could they actually have a shot at a State Tournament berth? Although that is always the stated goal each season, and every player and fan dreamed of it, no one truly expected it. Next came a tough loss to league rival King's West, but they still had a chance—and they did it! In a hard-fought nail biter of a game, the Lady Grizzlies earned a first-ever TBCS berth to the WIAA State Basketball Tournament with a win over Concrete High School, 50-46. A jubilant crowd of TBCS players, parents, and fans celebrated in the locker room—we were going to state!

There is no denying the positive impact on the student-athletes that classmates and enthusiastic fans have on the game. Several times during the fall season, the school offered "rooter" buses for students to attend away games. A packed rooter bus of enthusiastic students and parents helped fill the stands for the State Soccer Championship game in Tacoma. What a fun experience for everyone to share! When the girls basketball team made it to the State 2B tournament in Spokane, school administration made an insightful decision to allow students to miss a day of school and attend the State tournament in Spokane. A bus full of green and gold adorned Grizzly fans set out bright and early on Thursday, March 1, to root for the Lady Grizzlies in the Spokane Arena! Excitement was high as the 39 Upper School students and 4 adults made a long bus drive (with chains required and snow falling) over Snoqualmie Pass. Every Grizzly player on the court smiled broadly when the throng entered the Spokane

Arena and filled a few rows in the assigned TBCS section to cheer on the team in the first-ever state game for TBCS. The taste of the State Tournament experience for all the fans and the players was incredibly sweet and fun. Despite losing the game, a great time was had by all, and the rooters dutifully headed back to the bus for another long ride back to Redmond.

Not long into the return trip home, Facilities Manager and chaperone, Kelly Saulsbury, learned that I-90 was closed due to a horrendous series of accidents! With darkness closing in and no estimate of when the highway would be re-opened, the spirited group of fans suddenly faced a crisis. What should they do? Thanks to cell phones and an amazing sequence of blessings, chaperones Kristen Sanger and Kailee Siems were able to arrange a pizza dinner for everyone at a restaurant and fourteen hotel rooms in nearby Ellensburg. The entire group spent an unexpected and very memorable night sharing whatever supplies they had and just making do. During the entire crisis, the students were awesome. Leader Kelly Saulsbury stated, "These kids aced the test. In every situation and setting, they were courteous, respectful, helpful, and, most of all, fun." The State Tournament experience truly touched the entire school community and punctuated a great year of spirit building for Bear Creek.

An amazing spring season is just finishing and the Grizzly Spirit wave rolls on. What an amazing and historic year for Bear Creek Athletics, all the student-athletes, and the Grizzly Booster Club! It is an exciting time to be a member of the Bear Creek community and a proud fan of our wonderful student-athletes. Go Grizzlies!



Neither rain, nor sleet, nor SNOW can keep the 'Rooter' bus from making the game.

**Jennifer Baker '02**, is currently living in London, England, in Wandsworth Common. She is employed by R.B.I. Publishing Company. It the largest publishing company in Europe and third largest in the world. Jennie is also engaged to be married to Mr. Conor McKeown. Conor is from Ireland and they are planning an Irish wedding. He is currently working on the Wembly Stadium remodel (as a mechanical engineer).

**Alison Brammer '02**, will graduate in June from the University of Washington with a B.S. in psychology. She currently owns and operates two small businesses. For the next few months, she's helping with promotions for the new bilingual service that is starting at her church, which will focus on attracting Spanish-speakers in the area. She will move to Mexico for the summer, and when she returns in October, she is planning to look for a job in international sales & marketing.

Alison aspires to earn her M.B.A. in the next few years, so she's been debating when and where to attend graduate school. Her advice to students and alumni is, "Think about all the things you'll wish you'd done when you're old, and start doing them!" She encourages everyone, "Make time for relationships with family and friends; if you don't have time for relationships, you're too busy—quit something! Don't get caught up in following the beaten path—follow your own path. And don't be afraid to change your mind."

**Nina Hester '03**, will be graduating from Boston University in May with a degree in electrical engineering. Before entering the real world, she will be traveling to the Dominican Republic, Chicago, Israel, and Hawaii. Nina has officially accepted a job at Boeing and will be moving to the greater Seattle area in mid-July.

**Danny Jacobson '03**, graduated in May from Claremont McKenna College with a degree in economics and finance with an emphasis in accounting. He begins work in July for Darrington Investments (a banking investment firm), located in southern California.

**Geoffrey Baker '04**, is in his junior year at Pepperdine University and is studying sports medicine. He is involved in the Acting on Aids organization and just represented Pepperdine at a national conference in Chicago. He surfs and goes to Disneyland frequently!

**David Jacobson '04**, is still studying abroad at Oxford.

**Tyler Kowal '04**, has had a busy year, running his own business as well as taking a full-time course load at Gonzaga University. On top of all that, he works at Jack and Dan's, the number six ranked sports bar in all the country (ranked by Sports Illustrated). He also volunteers as a Gonzaga Ambassador. Tyler was selected as the Dean's Business Forum scholar and, as a result, received a scholarship and was invited to the Rainer Club (in Seattle) to give a presentation to the Dean's Forum.

**Brittany Robinson '04**, is a junior at Azusa Pacific University in California where she currently serves as a Young Life leader. She is also the assistant editor of APU's yearbook and works as a student intern in the APU Public Relations Department. She and her friends enjoy road trips to San Diego for home cooked meals by her grandma Chris. She also enjoys visiting fellow alums at the various So Cal universities where they attend.

**Jessica Harrang '05**, is currently attending Claremont-McKenna College in southern California where she is double majoring in both math and economics. She has been accepted by the University of Queensland in Brisbane, Australia, for next semester (as part of her foreign exchange program). She will be heading off to school "down under" the beginning of July and returning the beginning of December.

Jessica still competes on the Claremont-McKenna swim team, recently swimming in the SCIAC conference competition. She placed 1st in the 400 Medley Relay (swimming her leg of backstroke in 1:00.13), 1st in the 200 Medley Relay (swimming her leg of backstroke in 28.44), 2nd in the 100 backstroke with a time of 1:00.38, and 3rd on the 200 Backstroke with a time of 2:10.55.

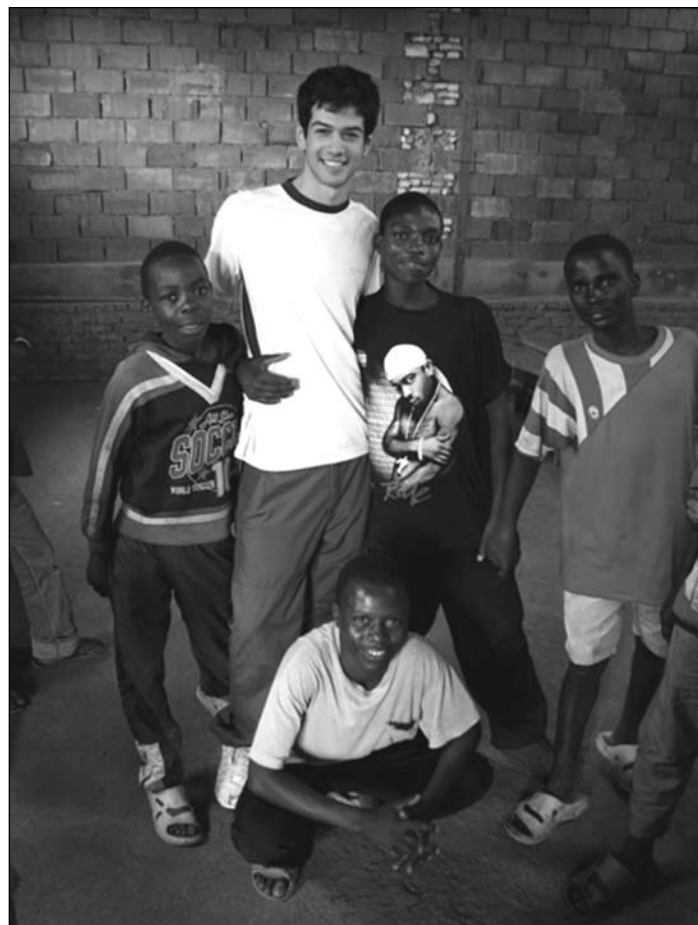
**Dani Pohlman '05**, transferred from UPS to SPU this year where she's completing her sophomore year. She will be going on a six week SPRINT mission (Seattle Pacific Reachout International) to St. Petersburg, Russia this summer.

**Jason Rehfeld '05**, is a business and economics major at Westmont College in Santa Barbara, CA. He just returned from a trip to Rwanda in east central Africa. Along with his dad and two fellow Westmont students, the group had the opportunity to explore many community development projects in Rwanda, including orphanages, primary and secondary schools, fresh water well projects and micro-finance income-generating projects. These micro finance efforts help the poor develop a sustainable income through the use of small loans that allow them to own and operate a personal business to support their families and add value to the local economy. (See [www.rehfeld.com/africa](http://www.rehfeld.com/africa) for more details.) Jason is also attending a semester study-abroad program in Spain through Westmont College this coming fall.

**Easton Thomas '05**, is a sophomore at the University of Michigan where he is finishing the last of his pre-requisites for his major in sound engineering, including Differential Equations, Jazz Theory, and Honors Physics. The university has a newly renovated million dollar studio where Easton spends nearly every weekend with a new project to record. He has also taken over the responsibility as the live sound guy for the weekly meetings of Campus Crusade for Christ and other events.

Easton encourages current students, "College is 10 times as hard as high school, and gets hard with each semester, but if you are pursuing what you love to do, it doesn't really matter." He also suggests, "For those who go into a major like engineering where you eat, sleep and live school work. . . let some of your school work go and have a life outside of studying, it's good for you!"

**Mike Perara '06**, just completed winter quarter at Capernwray Bible School in England and is now traveling through Europe. He and his friends are exploring Spain, France, Italy, Switzerland, Germany, and Portugal, to name a few. He will finish out his year by attending Capernwray Bible School in Austria for his spring quarter. Mike will attend Western Washington next fall. All in all, this has been a great experience for Mike.



Jason Rehfeld poses with his new Rwandan friends.

## LOOKING AHEAD

### June

- 15 **Last Day of School - Honors Assemblies**  
**US End of year party**  
**An Evening of Honors**
- 16 **Graduation**
- 19 **Used Uniform Sale**

### August

- 2 **Dennis Uniform Sale**
- 20 **US Fall Sports begin**
- 29 **New Family Ice Cream Social – Redmond**
- 30 **New Family Ice Cream Social – Valley**

### September

- 4 **First Day of School - Parent Meeting**
- 10 **MS Fall Sports begin**
- 15 **All School Sports Kick-off**
- 18 **MS Curriculum Night**
- 20 **Redmond LS Curriculum Night**
- 25 **Valley Curriculum Night**
- 27 **US Curriculum Night**

### October

- 17 **Grandparent's Day (No school Oct. 18 and 19)**

*Modus Vivendi* is translated as a manner of living or a way of life. The Bear Creek School seeks to develop individuals for whom the classical ideals of excellence in all things, love of learning, spiritual commitment, and self-discipline have become a way of life.

*Modus Vivendi* is a publication for The Bear Creek School community, past and present. Article suggestions should be sent to [modusvivendi@tbcs.org](mailto:modusvivendi@tbcs.org).

Thank you to: Patricia Jones, Deb Perry, the Lee family, the Alleva family, Tara Sackman, Gunny Kim, Nick Elliott, Ted Frantz, and Jason Rehfeld for their contributions to this issue.

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

|                |              |
|----------------|--------------|
| Karen Beman    | Steven Meyer |
| Bill Binford   | Marc Mueller |
| Sue Diamond    | Pete Petesch |
| Curt Kraft     | John Rial    |
| Andrea Lairson | Ted Robinson |
| Kurt Maass     | David Smith  |

|                        |                         |
|------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Karen Beman</b>     | Interim Head of School  |
| <b>Sue Sanford</b>     | Communication Director  |
| <b>Marla Zylstra</b>   | Publications Manager    |
| <b>Jenai Sheffells</b> | Communication Associate |