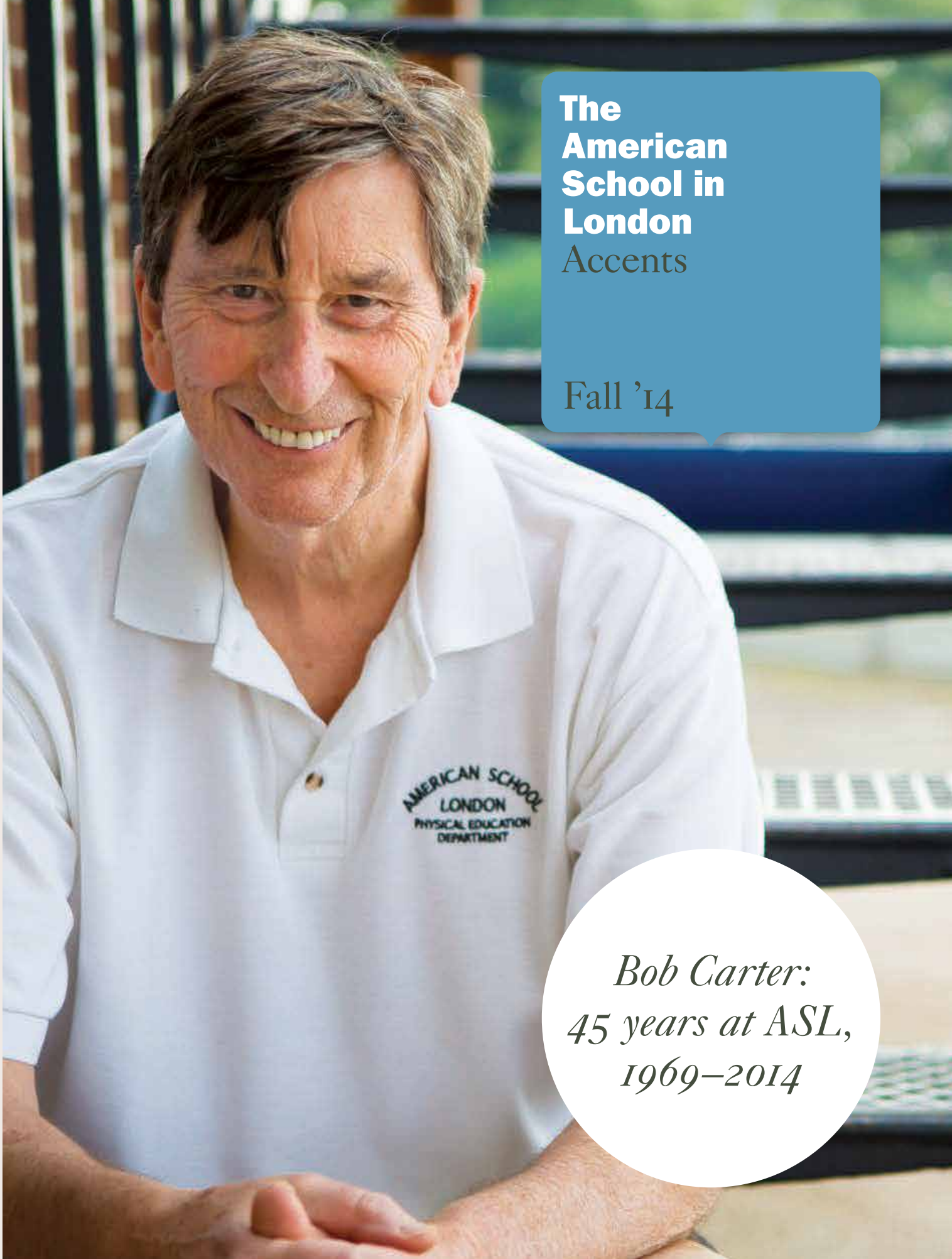


The American School in London
One Waverley Place
London NW8 ONP



**The
American
School in
London**
Accents

Fall '14

*Bob Carter:
45 years at ASL,
1969–2014*

Cover:

Bob Carter (ASL 1969–2014) at
Canons Park, summer 2014
Photograph by Di Holmes

Read about Bob, ASL's longest-serving
member of faculty/staff, on page 5.

Accents, Fall 2014
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The magazine is mailed without charge to current parents, alumni and former faculty and staff, and to many parents of alumni and friends of the School.
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Feature Illustrations: Jacinta Sullivan
Design and art direction: Powell Allen Ltd
Printer: Allied Printing Services

The American School in London, founded in 1951, is an independent, non-profit,
college preparatory day school for students in Kindergarten through Grade 12.
The student body comprises 1,350 boys and girls who represent more than
50 nationalities.

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Letter from the Head of School

This issue of *Accents* will make you want to cheer! The glowing faces and heart-warming accounts of generations of ASL athletes truly underscore the transformative impact that coaches have on the lives of students. And whether it's celebrating 45 years of Bob Carter at ASL or 40 seasons of Meg Bailey's coaching, we feel fortunate that so many dedicated professionals have taken up the challenge of guiding and leading our athletes. And then it was icing on the cake that ASL was in four gold-medal matches at this fall's ISST competition!

And the venues? From the 20th anniversary of Canons Park to the first-ever swim meet at the 2012 Olympic pool, ASL athletes benefit from the opportunities we have at home and in London. A special moment this fall was the dedication of the Bob Carter Field at Canons Park in recognition of Bob's extraordinary commitment to ASL athletics as a teacher and coach. From character-building to championship-winning to field-naming, the athletic spirit at ASL lives on.

This fall's issue of *Accents* is filled with an extraordinary array of activities on campus, from the Global Festival to the new construction projects, from the excitement of graduation to our successful Learning Institute for educators from all over the globe. And our wonderful alumni Class Notes, filled with fabulous news about ASL graduates. Aren't we lucky? Have fun reading this issue of *Accents*, and Go Eagles!

Warmly,

Coreen R. Hester

Coreen R. Hester
(P '02 '04; ASL 1995–97, 2007–present)
Head of School

Left:
Alessandra de Costanza '11
Mrs. Hester, 2011

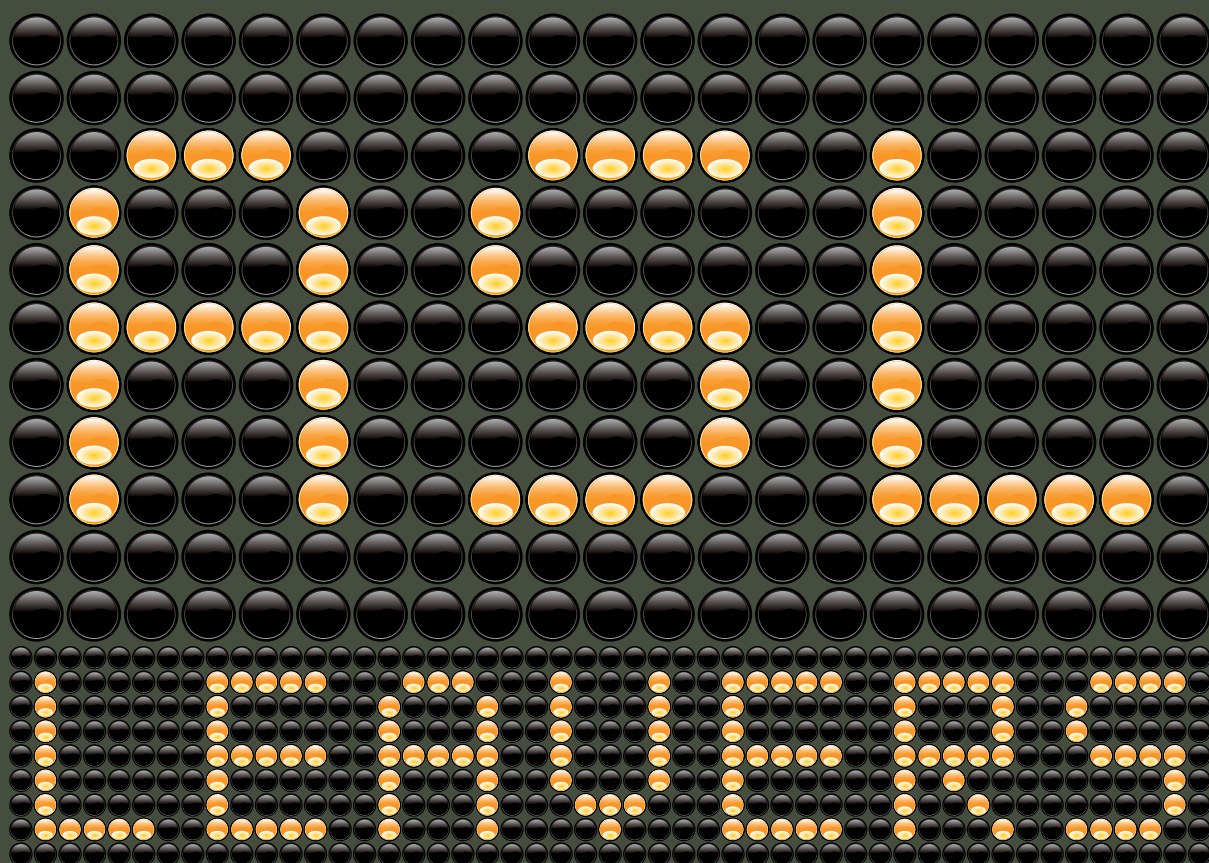
Below:
Georgia LaScala '23
Sunflower
Watercolor on paper

LS visual arts teacher **Mary Jordan (ASL 2009–present)** says, "Van Gogh was our artist of the month in September. After studying Van Gogh and his life, the students set about observing sunflowers in preparation for creating works inspired by his techniques. They took a close look at sunflowers in a vase

in the classroom, as well as watching these magnificent flowers grow outside on the terrace. After careful research, the students were keen to get to work using their newly learned wet-into-wet watercolor techniques. Using professional watercolors and paper, students painted their flowers while deeply engaged in the process. Once the paintings were dry, their creators used a fine art pen to outline the color changes in the paint. That's when their paintings truly came alive!"

Artist Georgia's favorite subjects at ASL are music and art. She says, "I enjoy art because it's a way to express your feelings—and I love painting. Music is fun because you get to work closely with other people." Outside of school Georgia enjoys painting, writing and watching TV. Her favorite thing to do is spend summers by the ocean with her family. Along with her parents and brothers, Georgia moved to London from Japan in 2013.





1 Bob Carter, with Head of School Coreen R. Hester and Director of Athletics John Farmer '97, at the naming ceremony for "Bob Carter Field" at Canons Park, 6 November 2014



WITH nearly 80 years of service to ASL among them, Bob Carter (ASL 1969–2014), Meg Bailey (ASL 1990–2014) and Judy Kisor (ASL 1994–2014) certainly left their mark on ASL, both in and out of the classroom. In June 2014, we bade a fond farewell to three of our longest-serving, much-loved faculty members, whose teaching and coaching legacies will live on in the hallways of ASL.

Bob Carter (ASL 1969–2014) Bob Carter first stepped into ASL, then housed in York Gate, when he substituted for the late **Eddie Hufford (ASL 1967–2003)** in the spring of 1969. Eddie had taken off to attend a two-week course in the US. This stint at the School led to another, when Bob covered **John Lockwood's (ASL 1967–2007)** classes while John participated in the Saracens rugby tour of the US. And so began the association of three of ASL's longest-serving teachers, who among them clocked up 121 years of service to the School!

In those early days, the High School numbered less than 300, but ASL was expanding. North Sea oil had just been discovered and the Loudoun Road site was under construction to enable the School to accommodate its burgeoning student body. Bob spent his first two years at the Working Men's College before moving full-time to ASL's current site in 1971 as a HS PE teacher.

Of the newly built ASL Bob recalls, "There wasn't another school like it. There were no classroom walls—a bone of contention for some. **Don Jesse (ASL 1964–91)** and **Paul Morton (ASL 1963–97)** brought in curtains! So it wasn't surprising that after a year or so, walls started to go up. That said, this ultra-modern school was the envy of many in the early 70s. Visiting teams could hardly believe our carpeted locker rooms and likened ASL to a health club! Professional teams came to play here; we could seat 2,000 in our gym, so it was perfect for them."

In 1973, Bob became HS athletics director, a role he held for the next seven years. At this time, the ISST program was still in its early infancy and the only ISST sports ASL played were soccer and volleyball in the fall; basketball in winter; and track and field, and tennis in spring. Since the first ISST tournament in 1968 until his retirement from full-time teaching in 2006, Bob claims to have missed only two; the first because he hadn't yet joined ASL, and once again in 1981 owing to his being on an exchange program in Cleveland, OH.

In 1984, Bob remembers the US and Japanese Olympic volleyball teams playing in our gym while on a tour of Europe prior to the LA games that year. Bob reveals, "It was filmed at ASL and shown on the BBC!"

For Bob, the highlight of his extensive ASL career has been working with such an eclectic group of teachers and students. He says, "I can count on one hand the number of days when I haven't

enjoyed coming to work." Prior to ASL, Bob worked as a supply teacher in London for five years. He assures us that had he stayed in the English system, he would not have enjoyed a teaching career that has spanned 45 years!

Bob was appointed PE department head in 2003, a role he held until retiring from day-to-day teaching in 2006, because, in his own words, "I no longer wished to be the oldest PE teacher in the world."

Of course, Bob didn't retire; he continued to be heavily involved in the Summer Program, and then **Sandy Lloyd (ASL 2009–14)**, asked him to take on the role of sports facility coordinator at Canons Park in 2010—an offer he was quick to accept. So have we really seen the last of Bob, officially ASL's longest-serving employee? It remains to be seen.

The last word goes to Bob, "ASL has been an amazing life experience, which I would not have wanted to miss for anything."

Editor's note: I was privileged to interview Bob Carter back in 2006 when he retired from teaching PE. I asked him what plans he had for his 'retirement.' He told me that his great hope was to see New England in the fall, having never been able to do this with a full teaching schedule. This past June I reminded him of our conversation. He retorted, "I've still not seen it. I've not had time!"



Meg Bailey (ASL 1990–2014)
Meg Bailey came to ASL to teach middle school in 1990—on a cargo ship—and soon became known for being a genuine team player; someone who gave generously of her time and intellect. Always excited to develop new projects to improve the student experience both in and out of the classroom, Meg was instrumental in establishing the Grade 8 Outward Bound experience, Grade 8 readers and writers workshop, and the crew team. In 1998, Meg left the Middle School to teach social studies and serve as a grade-level dean in the High School, where she set about introducing AP Human Geography and was part of the team that established the Grade 9 Foundations course. Stories abound of Meg Bailey: teacher, colleague and friend.

When the Mellon family moved to London, sisters **Gretchen (Mellon) Aubuchon '94**, **Courtney (Mellon) Dubois '95** and **Kathleen (Mellon) Cozzi '98** were keen to row. Following an unsteady first season, they asked Meg to help them to form an ASL crew. Their mother, **Margaret Mellon P '94 '95 '98**, writes, “Without the help and professionalism from Meg, the crew team would have failed. Those first years were hard in many ways; but we persevered and crew came to be what it is today—because of Meg Bailey. We experienced the value of a good teacher; one who cared and mentored, who worked as hard as the students she taught.”

In her time at ASL, Meg coached 40 seasons—soccer, track and crew—taking students to the UK national rowing championships and helping **Dave Noble**



(ASL 1971–98) coach four ISST championship-winning girls' soccer teams. The crew team named a boat after her.

Another parent of alumni, **Sue Cielinski P '08 '12**, writes that Meg had an absolutely transformative effect on her family. Tales from Meg's Human Geography class had the whole family hooked. Sue says, “What I remember most about my first parent-teacher conference with Meg is that I came out with about five books to read. And such books. How much poorer we would be, individually and collectively, if our daughter had not signed up for that class.”

A close colleague says of Meg, “The one consistent is her willingness to simply be available when needed. Whether it is calming a stressed-out student, professionally dealing with a frustrated parent, or simply offering a hug to a tired co-worker, Meg always seems to have the right thing to say at the perfect moment. Her ability to remember the subtle details of each person's life makes her an amazing teacher and dean, but an even better colleague and friend.”

At an assembly to honor leaving faculty in June, students from the Class of 2015 paid tribute to Meg, who had been their dean throughout high school. “She is always available, through the tears, temper tantrums and heartaches.” “She is always so patient and kind.” “She always has the best advice.”

Former colleague, **Briarly Kilburn (ASL 2001–04)** writes, “Meg was unwavering in her willingness to help me fit into the ASL community. She taught me what I needed to know quickly and believed in my own areas of expertise, leading me towards ways that I could contribute and bring value to the team. She is extremely skilled in student and parent meetings alike. In the classroom, it was obvious that Meg's students adored her.”

Max Jenkins '02 summarizes Meg's impact on his ASL experience and beyond. He writes, “In my high school years, Meg was the most central and necessary person in the universe from my vantage point. Without her, I really would not have liked or taken advantage of high school at all; I would not have discovered the sublime athletic outlet I found in rowing. I likely would not have gone to Yale (note, my college essay was about crew). I know that I wouldn't want to inhabit any possible world in which Meg had not coached and taught me, looked out for me, and been my friend.”

Meg is now teaching middle and high school English at the Chadwick School in Palos Verdes, California. ASL's loss is truly Chadwick's gain.

#1



“JUDY KISOR IS MY HERO”

Judy Kisor (ASL 1994–2014)

To say that Judy Kisor accomplished a great deal at ASL since 1994 is somewhat an understatement. She taught AP Art History; served as high social studies department head; headed up experiential education; chaired the high school leadership group; chaired the committee for Global Character Service and Leadership; served as head coach to the girls' crew team (she, too, has a boat named in her honor!); and designed, planned and launched the Outdoor Leadership Program, which challenges students to grow in teamwork, self-assurance and good citizenship through intensive wilderness exhibitions.

Patrick Lee (ASL 1992–95; 1999–present) describes Judy as “amazing teacher who believes in empowering students to take ownership of their own learning, the importance of knowing each child's strengths and the power of experiential education in an academic setting. She wants her students to take risks, make mistakes and to learn that failure is ok.”

Patrick is not alone. Another colleague, **Ivan Hauck (ASL 2013–present)** says of Judy, “Her willingness to expertly facilitate even the most challenging activities makes others more comfortable, while her desire to push people to their comfortable limits make us all better. She has that rare gift of bringing the most natural and often the best side out of everyone. It is enjoyable to hear about, but an even greater pleasure to experience.”

Leading from the front as usual, Judy wrote in 2010 about what it takes to build a successful high school, “We must devise a 9–12 program in which all kids like themselves, develop a sense of identity, and want to engage in the world beyond, not because of transcripts or ticking boxes, but because that authentic human interaction/contact enriches them, makes them feel whole, makes them want to be a part of things.”

Most important to Judy, of course, are her students. In June, a high schooler wrote, “I have only been a student of Ms. Kisor's for a year, but I can honestly say that out of all the high school teachers, she has had the largest effect on me. She made me fall in love with a subject I had not an inkling of knowledge about (Art History) and taught me how to write analytically, give a presentation powerfully and be a thoughtful listener.”

Another wrote simply, “Judy Kisor is my hero.”

A former colleague, **Briarly Kilburn (ASL 2001–04)**, remembers, “She was open and honest, sharing her materials and expertise, welcoming me into the department. She was totally open to me sitting in on many of her classes. I was mesmerized by her keen knowledge of the material and her ability to command the class and move the kids' thinking beyond where they thought they could go. It was easy to tell that the students would do anything for her. She had a knack for inspiring leadership in her

students, and their pride in themselves was readily apparent.”

Some time ago, Judy was asked to talk about her commitment to teaching. She responded, “I'm in education because I hope I can make the world a better place. I've realized the best way is small steps. I believe that if we set high standards for kids, give them the skills and experiences to feel confident, competent and centered in themselves, we are going to create young citizens who will find it easier to be tolerant, patient and compassionate with others. My aim is to create those good citizens, who are willing to take responsibility and take risks, always knowing that they're part of a community that supports them.”

As she left ASL, Judy was awarded the **Sunny Neutze (ASL 1984–2011)** prize at the leavers' luncheon on 12 June. The award is given annually to a member of ASL's faculty or staff who exhibits an exceptional commitment to excellence in the furtherance of education and in support of the mission of the School, and in Judy's case, richly deserved.

Judy joins Meg at the Chadwick School in Palos Verdes, where she is teaching global studies in grade 9 and world religions and US history in grade 10.

Editor's note: This article owes a great deal to the research of **Patrick Lee (ASL 1992–95; 1999–present)** and **Jodi (Coats) Warren (ASL 1988–present)**.

SO-LONG, FAREWELL

- 1 Joey Sinreich (ASL 1993–95; 1999–2014)
- 2 Joe Chodl (ASL 2001–14) with Shahira Moola (ASL 2013–present)
- 3 Keith Montgomery (ASL 2001–14)
- 4 Angelle Thibodeaux (ASL 2002–14)
- 5 Ann Wade (ASL 1996–98; 2003–14)
- 6 Chris Clark (ASL 2004–14)



In June 2014, we also said goodbye to **Joey Sinreich (ASL 1993–95; 1999–2014)**. Joey taught high school math since joining us in the early 90s and then again in 1999 when he returned to the School. “I missed being in London and its multicultural experience,” he recalls. So much so, he stayed for 15 years for his second stint at ASL! Joey is returning to the US to be closer to the four generations of his family, and he hopes to play a lot of music. He says, “The School has a culture of positivity, and encourages an open forum for discussion. This has always impressed me.” He and his wife, Nancy, recently bought a house in North Carolina.

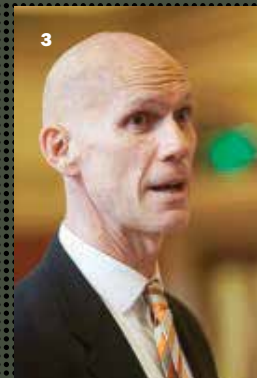
Joe Chodl P '22 '26 (ASL 2001–14), high school dean of students and long-serving basketball coach, left ASL to become upper school principal at Rutgers Preparatory School, NJ. Joe's association with the School goes back 15 years, when he began his ASL coaching career that has included baseball, volleyball and, of course, his beloved basketball. On leaving the School, Joe says he'll miss ASL's people: the students and his colleagues, but he looks forward to catching up with a host of ASL alumni in the New York area.

An offer to serve as executive director of the Association for Music in International Schools (AMIS) proved too good to turn down for performing arts teacher **Keith Montgomery (ASL 2001–14)**. A former head of department, musician Keith says he'll miss seeing his incredibly talented colleagues at ASL every day. He recalls his best ASL moment on a Music Tour to Gozo in 2011 during a concert in the First Lady of Malta Cathedral. “The choir sang Eternity by Danish composer Michael Bojesen. Wrapped around the audience, those students achieved the ultimate goal for a choir—to communicate with the audience. There were tears and a standing ovation.”

After 25 years of teaching, **Angelle Thibodeaux (ASL 2002–14)** is excited to be taking up a new role at the American School of Bombay, Mumbai, as an early learning and social communication expert—an interest piqued through her sabbatical work. Ms. Angelle will miss her amazing students and their supportive parents, and also her colleagues, who rallied around her when Hurricane Katrina devastated her birthplace, New Orleans. “The people at ASL couldn't do enough to help those affected by the disaster.” She's grateful for having had the opportunity to take some of the early trips to the Nirvana School, where she fell in love with India. “My time at ASL has been tremendous for my professional growth. It's been wonderful.”

Ann Wade P '00 (ASL 1996–98; 2003–14) began her career as a lawyer in the US, but made the transition to teaching nearly 20 years ago. Ann taught math and science at ASL for two years in the 90s, while son Andrew '00 attended the School, before she returned to ASL as a learning specialist in 2003. She even found time to coach girls basketball in an undefeated season that culminated in the loss of their final game by one basket! Ann will miss her students and her colleagues as she embarks on the next stage of her life. Now happily settled in Florida, Ann is looking forward to a very active retirement, full of traveling, reading, swimming and cycling.

Media Services Coordinator and music teacher **Chris Clark (ASL 2004–14)** has opted for a change of career and is now working for a hedge fund, Horizon Asset LLP as well as studying for an LLM in international finance, development and justice, with a focus on human rights, at the University of London. As well as pioneering ASL Radio, Chris coached rugby and crew for many years at the School. In his new role, Chris will miss coaching and working with students in the recording studio.



ISST Swimming Championships

Director of Athletics John Farmer '97 writes, "In March, the ISST Swimming Championships—co-hosted by ACS Cobham, ACS Hillingdon and ASL—took place at the London Aquatics Centre, Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, where the 2012 Games were held. It was truly a magnificent event.

"One of the best, most enjoyable parts of the Championships was watching the student athletes walk into the center and smile, recognizing what a unique, once-in-a-lifetime experience this would be in such a gorgeous, state-of-the-art facility.

"Once the ISST began, the atmosphere changed from awe and excitement to one of competitive enthusiasm. The athletes were focused on achieving 'PBs' (personal bests) and leading their respective teams to victory. The various swimming events kicked off with preliminaries. The competition heated up in the afternoon with the finals of the morning's events.

"More than that, though, the dynamic in the building changed when the whole ASL High School arrived to cheer on their home team Eagle swimmers. It was amazing; good-spirited chanting, cheering and singing from the crowd, while the ASL swimmers swam exceptionally well. One of our swimmers, Will Rittenhouse '14, broke an ISST record on his way to a Gold Medal, much to the fans' delight!"



2014

Commencement



T seems we always begin this graduation article with a comment on the weather. Traditionally, the sun makes a welcome appearance and smiles fondly on our graduating students. Not to flout an annual ritual—we are thrilled to report that it was a warm and sunny day that dawned on Friday, 13 June 2014! As everyone reading this article who has spent time on this scepter'd isle will know, such weather conditions are to be much celebrated.

Inside the ornate dome of Central Hall Westminster, families gathered to see their children, grandchildren, brothers, sisters and friends at their commencement exercises of the American School in London.

The willowy figure of **Keith Montgomery (ASL 2001–2014)**, in his final graduation ceremony for ASL, dominated the organ loft in his role of the 'eyes' of the organist, who, with his back to the proceedings, was playing Elgar's *Pomp and Circumstance March No. 1*, as the members of the graduating class made their entrance and took their seats in the Victorian choir stalls, like so many classes before. As the dying notes of Elgar's magnum opus faded, Head of School Coreen R. Hester took to the lectern to deliver her opening remarks. Mrs. Hester issued a warm, ASL welcome to everyone assembled.

She congratulated the class of 2014. She advised, "It's not about the specifics, although they are important, we care much more about the big questions, such as will you develop a sense of purpose."

Referring to the words of the great American author and poet Maya Angelou, Mrs. Hester shared, "I've learned that people will forget what you said, people forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel." She went on to say that how you treat others is your legacy, and she hoped the members of the class will work to make the world a better place.

Describing the attributes of the Class of 2014, Mrs. Hester deemed them a standout company of actors—referring to the extraordinary production of *Avenue Q* earlier in the year—encouraging the audience to reflect on thought-provoking issues. In addition, they are musicians, artists, athletic captains, journalists, writers and engineers. She considered them bridge builders in London and beyond for their meaningful connections with others, showing true kinship. As nascent graduates, Mrs. Hester said, "We eagerly await the harvest of what has been sown. Please keep us posted."

Board Chair **Lori E. Fields (P '08 '10 '14)**, wearing both her parental and official hats, introduced the Lord Mayor of Westminster. Ms. Fields congratulated class members on their accomplishments.

"You are worthy representatives of ASL. We're proud of who you've become," she declared. "And we're looking forward to watching you grow even more."

Interspersed with songs from the ASL Concert Choir, High School Principal **Jack Phillips (ASL 2013–present; P '27)** introduced Salutatorian Colin Poler and Valedictorian Katherine Kennedy, who both delivered thought-provoking, self-reflective speeches, which were very well received by the assembly.

Following the Men's Ensemble's rendition of Simon and Garfunkel's 'Homeward Bound,' Mrs. Hester returned to introduce Commencement Speaker, author and *CBS This Morning* contributor **Lee Woodruff (P '09 '11)**.

In her address, Mrs. Woodruff stressed the importance of gratitude and explained the reason for her deep-felt thanks to the vast number of people who contributed to the recovery of her husband, former *ABC News* anchor Bob Woodruff, following his near-fatal injuries from a roadside bomb in Iraq in 2006. The family's experience has made her more aware of the significance of showing appreciation.

Mrs. Woodruff advised the students to strengthen their gratitude muscle. "Lavish, unleash and dispense your gratitude, and remember, if nothing else, the benefit of a hand-written thank-you note. At the very least, it will make your mother happy."



Dr. Phillips stepped up to acknowledge the lifers in the class; those who have attended ASL from Grade 1 or before: **Fares Chehabi, Johnathan Cirenza, Patrick Collins, Riley Henderson, Aaron Kelly-Penso, Clayton Marsh, Will Muoio, Hayden Nadler, Thomas Risinger, William Rittenhouse, Elizabeth Robertson, Noa Roedy, Miranda Roman, Hamish Stephenson and Eli Zeigler.**

Then followed the presentation of the diplomas to the graduating class by Ms. Fields, Mrs. Hester and **Joe Chodl (ASL 2001–14; P '22 '26)**.

Dr. Phillips presented the newly graduated students before delivering closing remarks. Since joining the School but a year ago, he discovered that the quality of a school can be measured in the quality of its graduates. To the class, he pronounced, "You have shown me that the quality of this school is exceptional." On behalf of the School and its faculty, Dr. Phillips told the class, "We have given you all that we have. As you head out into the world, if you know that you will always have a place at ASL that you can call home, where we are always here to support you—it will make us very happy indeed." ■





To view full coverage of the ceremony, visit www.asl.org/commencement. To learn more about Lee Woodruff, visit www.leewoodruff.com; to read about the work of the Bob Woodruff Foundation, visit www.bobwoodrufffoundation.org.

Life after ASL for the Class of 2014

Susan Abdelmalek	The George Washington University
Ben Abrams	University of Southern California
Nicole Adams	Bucknell University
Tariq Akrouk	Emory University
Haya Al Askar	King's College London
Daniela Al-Saleh	Parsons The New School for Design
Mafalda Albanell	Boston University
Nico Albanese	University of Southern California
Mac Anabtawi	Babson College
Eliza Ball	Tufts University
Nico Baravalle	New York University
Alexandra Bennett	St. Lawrence University
Ron Bertasi	Northeastern University
Tanya Bhalla	Barnard College
Svena Bhasin	Georgetown University
Nikolai Birch	Occidental College
Caitlin Boerner	James Madison University
Maddie Briggs	Northwestern University
Caroline Brown	Cornell University
Alex Calvert	Colgate University
Reed Campbell	University of Southern California
Nick Canavan	University of Stirling
Michael Carpenter	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Holly Carter	Harvard University
Camillo Cavarretta	University of Bologna
Fares Chehabi	Boston College
Johnathan Cirenza	Stanford University
Hartley Clifford	Northeastern University
Torrey Coe	New York University
Patrick Collins	Johns Hopkins University
Will Conway	Pomona College
Kate Daly	McGill University
Jacque Davis	Bard College Berlin, a Liberal Arts College
Cole DeClaris	University of Miami
Katie Dillon	Fordham University
Sarah Dolan	Trinity College
Jack Douglas	Fordham University
Omar Elmasry	University of Chicago
James Fallin	Wake Forest University
Alexandra Floe	Rhodes College
Sam Fossum	Johns Hopkins University
Laura Galligan	Boston College
Chloe Gardner	Northwestern University
Harry Gray	Amherst College
Zach Griffin	Cornell University
Jessica Haghani	University of Pennsylvania
Riley Henderson	Cornell University
Charlie Hennessy	Pitzer College
Joseph Hennessy	New York University
Erik Hess	University of Miami
Abhishek Hinduja	New York University
Hayley Hogg	Northland College
Adam Isaacs	University of Exeter
Abby Jacoba	Colorado State University
Becca Jones	University of Southern California
Sixten Jordan	University of Colorado at Boulder
Aamir Jumani	Occidental College
Inbal Kadim	Emerson College
Issy Kelly	Claremont McKenna College
Aaron Kelly-Penso	Wesleyan University
Katie Kennedy	Princeton University

Kate Kennedy	Williams College
Ben Kollek	University of Chicago
Adam Koren	University of Manchester
Maggie Kupitz	Johns Hopkins University
Audrey Leland	Bowdoin College
Henry LeMaire	Syracuse University
Chris Lezny	Villanova University
Clayton Marsh	Princeton University
Maalik Mbatch	Providence College
Aya McCarthy	King's College London
Rhea Mehra	Case Western Reserve University
Erik Merlino	University of Redlands
Nick Milazzo	Middlebury College
Zac Mistry	Swarthmore College
Arthur Monnickendam	University of Manchester
Julia Morris	Bowdoin College
Will Muoio	Syracuse University
Hayden Nadler	University College London
Tarika Nalwa	New York University
Mina Omar Nazim	University of St. Andrews
Emma Nealis	Harvard University
Lukas Nichols	Northern Arizona University
Alexandra O'Bryan	University of Richmond
Can Ozturk	Purdue University
Alex Pabarcius	Colorado College
Colin Poler	Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Lucia Proctor-Bonbright	Wesleyan University
Tamara Rasamny	Georgetown University
Erica Rawald	New York University
Casey Reilly	American University
Thomas Risinger	Duke University
Will Rittenhouse	United States Naval Academy
Elizabeth Robertson	Georgetown University
Olivia Rodrigues	Wesleyan University
Noa Roedy	The George Washington University
Miranda Roman	Columbia University
Paul Rozenbroek	University of Exeter
Alexandre Ruimy	University of Pennsylvania
Paul Ryan	Cornell University
Ella Sammons	Parsons The New School for Design
Dhruv Sarup	University of Warwick
Clayton Sasaki	Cornell University
Colin Sears	Cornell University
Isaac Semaya	Brown University
Ananya Sethi	University of Pennsylvania
Sabrina Sigismondi	University of Southern California
Victor Simpson	University of Maryland, College Park
Peter Skow	Dartmouth College
Hamish Stephenson	University of Warwick
Emily Stuart	Rutgers University-New Brunswick
Sky Swanson	Northwestern University
Will Thompson	Whitman College
Chrissie Timbers	Vanderbilt University
Caroline Tisdale	Yale University
Matthew Tucker	Emory University
Jonathan Udow	Columbia University
Elias Vere Nicoll	Yale University
Harley Williamson	University of California, Berkeley
Charlotte Woodhams	Davidson College
Hyun-Ji Yang	Washington University in St. Louis
Lena Youness	Georgetown University
Elena Zeigler	Vassar College



Global Festival 2014: a celebration of nations and cultures at ASL!

The 2014 PCA-ICC Global Festival on Sunday, 16 March, saw more than 1,800 members of the ASL community gather on campus for our biennial tradition of international food, entertainment, activities and games!

This year's theme was One World and brought together all the international communities united within ASL. A wonderful opening ceremony took place in the School Center and showcased more than 100 children dressed in costumes from their native lands, holding flags, while singing "It's a Small World."

The Farmer Family Gymnasium was filled with lively chatter, world music and food from every continent—Australian lamingtons, Turkish lahmacun, Ethiopian

miser wot lentils, Dutch poffertjes and English Bakewell tarts. In the Commons and Blue Gym, families enjoyed traditional games and had an opportunity to try on kimonos, dirndls and ottoman dresses, and have hands decorated with henna.

More than 54 nations were represented and kids of all ages proudly displayed their heritages with a flag or two painted on their faces. Everyone danced along to the wonderful entertainment—salsa, African music, Taiko drumming, a jazz band and a bagpiper. The biennial Global Festival is a marvelous tradition and a great way to share our cultures at ASL!

- 1 & 2** Global Festival 2014: One World
3 Cruikshank Award winners, Julie Carlin-Sasaki and Maria Driano
4 2013–14 Annual Fund chairs, Eileen and Liad Meidar



And the Cruikshank Award goes to...

...**Julie Carlin-Sasaki P '12 '14** and **Maria Driano P '14 '18**! The prestigious Harold T. Cruikshank Award is presented by the Board of Trustees to acknowledge extraordinary service and contribution to the American School in London.

Board Vice Chair **David Novak P '18 '20** presented the award to the worthy recipients at this year's Trustees' Reception for faculty and staff at the Museum of London on Friday, 12 September.

Maria Driano is a former PCA president who volunteers in so many ways to serve our community. Maria's involvement in school activities includes community service, supporting the Annual Fund, serving as a room and a team parent, acting as PCA auction co-chair, and organizing ISSTs.

Julie Carlin-Sasaki spearheaded the 2012 Global Festival and served on the PCA board as VP for the International Community Committee. Julie was a key player in the Welcome Family Program, and a strong supporter of the robotics program at ASL.

Previous Cruikshank award winners include **Paul Morton (ASL 1963–97)**, former middle school teacher with a perfect attendance record in a 34-year career at ASL, and **David Newkirk P '05 '12**, a major force in integrating technology into the all-school curriculum.

Drum roll, please!



Thank you one and all for your generous contribution to the 2013–14 Annual Fund! A wonderfully successful parent volunteer effort led by our chairs, **Eileen and Liad Meidar (P '23 '26)**, our 2013–14 Annual Fund raised £1,747,023 in support of ASL's operating budget, which in turn benefits every student and all that we do on campus each day.

A warm round of applause to our donors—trustees, parents, alumni, parents of alumni, grandparents, and our faculty and staff—whose participation in ASL's top fundraising effort made it a true success.

And special thanks to our 2013–14 Annual Fund parent volunteers and alumni class agents with their dedicated time and tremendous efforts in reaching out to parents and alumni to help increase overall participation—from 50 percent in 2012–13 to 59 percent in 2013–14 for parents, and a nice boost from alumni, as well!

Annual Fund contributions provide 5 percent toward ASL's operating

budget on a yearly basis as tuition revenue alone does not cover the cost of educating each student. Your donation helps to cover costs associated with running a strong academic program—from outdoor and cultural opportunities for our students to faculty professional development—and we thank you for ensuring that ASL continues to provide the resources that make this extraordinary experience possible for our children.

As the new 2014–15 school year is now underway, our Annual Fund is off and running and we hope we can count on your participation and support. You are welcome to make your gift in USD (\$) or in GBP (£). Please visit our newly designed website and make your online gift today, www.asl.org/giving.

Go, Team ASL!

The Learning Institute

at ASL

The mission of the Learning Institute at ASL is to inspire excellence in teaching and learning through innovative, research-based professional development opportunities for educators world-wide.

Save the date... Next summer's Institute: 15–18 June 2015

Previous course offerings include "Creating a Culture of Thinking" with Ron Ritchhart, and "Pedagogy and Approaches to Teaching and Learning in a Technology-Enriched Environment" with Jeff Utecht.

Visit www.asl.org/LI for more information!

The Institute, in its sixth year, goes from strength to strength in providing world-class professional learning opportunities for educators in the heart of London. Hosted by ASL, our courses are handpicked to reflect the most current educational trends and research.

Trustee news

We are delighted to announce the appointment of four new trustees: **David Abrams P '14 '16 '18**, **Ivan Gazidis P '15 '17**, **Larry Richter P '16 '18** and **Thomas Sheehan P '16 '19 '23**. David brings to the Board a great deal of professional fundraising expertise and is leading the effort on corporate solicitations. Ivan was born in South Africa and educated in the UK; his international perspective and valuable non-profit experience benefit the work of our trustees. Larry's extensive experience from his many international postings is a welcome addition to the Board. Thomas brings financial expertise and valuable board experience to ASL.

Visit asl.org > About > Board of Trustees, to read about the work of the ASL Board and biographies of all members.



- 1 Larry Richter
- 2 Ivan Gazidis
- 3 David Abrams
- 4 Thomas Sheehan
- 5 AMIS festival at ASL, Coreen R. Hester with Dick and Georgia Bassett

Keep in touch!

Connect with friends, classmates and the ASL community online:

Facebook: facebook.com/americanschoolinlondon

Twitter: twitter.com/aslnews

LinkedIn: <http://tinyurl.com/linkedinasl>

Stay updated with life at One Waverley Place, from service-learning activities and athletics news updates to the latest from the student editors at the *Standard*, asl.org/socialmedia



AMIS returns to ASL

On Saturday, 22 March, ASL hosted the Association for Music in International School's Honor Band and Mixed Choir Festival. Due to the overwhelming size of this year's event—more than 700 people attended, with 200 students from 46 schools around the globe having auditioned for the highly prestigious places—two concerts were needed.

It was felicitous in so many ways to have this year's festival at ASL, as this is where it all began 39 years ago with two ASL teachers, Richard and Georgia Bassett (pictured with Head of School Coreen R. Hester). The Bassetts (**Dick, ASL 1974–96; Georgia, ASL 1974–95**) began organizing festivals for

international schools while still teaching. They left ASL to set up AMIS, and over the years, they have increased its scope and reputation. This year, however, the Bassetts are taking a step back and passing on the reins to our very own **Keith Montgomery (ASL 2001–2014)**, who left the classroom in order to take over at the helm of the organization this fall.

Congratulations to all the performers, musicians and conductors on a spectacular concert! ■

NEW FRONTIERS *Our Promise. Our Future.*

A transformational moment for ASL

It's all change at One Waverley Place as we embark on *New Frontiers* for ASL. The twin goals of our capital campaign are to grow our endowment for student financial assistance and build state-of-the-art facilities to ensure all students receive an outstanding education.

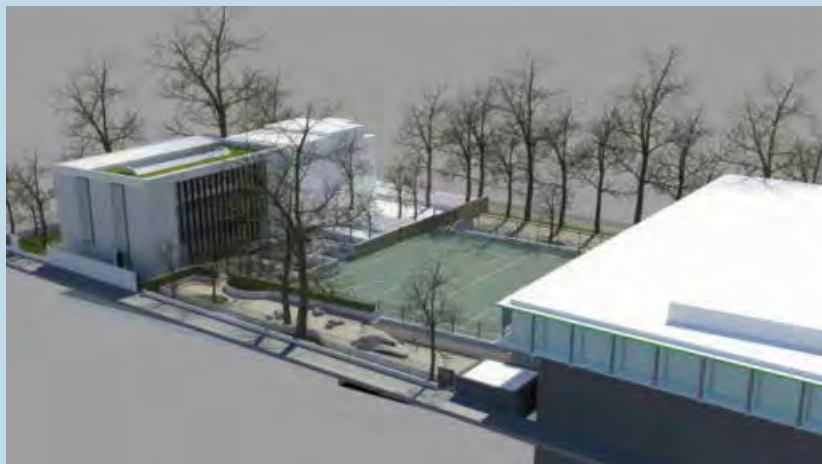




GROWING our endowment for student financial assistance will help us achieve greater diversity, which is a component of educational excellence. Students learn and grow from people with differing views of the world. We are committed to making ASL more socioeconomically diverse by attracting talented students, regardless of their financial situation.

We are also committed to an outstanding educational program, which in turn requires additional space and excellent facilities. By building a Community Arts Building on the corner of Grove End Road and Waverley Place, we add top-flight visual arts facilities as well as create the space we need in our current building for 21st century science classrooms, dramatically enhancing our art, science and technology programs. Digging below the Waverley playground to add an Aquatic & Fitness Center enables us to offer all five strands of physical education and, most importantly, will give us the flexibility in our schedule to make our students' academic experience the best it can be. These building projects unlock the potential of ASL, allowing for key intellectual development and growth.

We hope you will join us in this transformational moment for our School,



which builds on the foresight and generosity of prior generations. As we envision the future—the New Frontiers that ASL students will face—we thank you for your participation and support.

To learn more about New Frontiers, please visit www.asl.org/newfrontiers

Facts from the building contractors! Clipper Fairtrade tea is the builders' drink of choice

The builders get their breakfast baguettes from one of London's famous cabmen's shelters, on Wellington Place

The Cat 2 lorries that shift earth from the site are permitted to travel with loads of more than 38 tonnes

The crane on site is a Comedil, manufactured in 2006. Its mast height is 23.8m (78ft) and the jib length is 40m (131ft)

Arsenal FC is the most popular club among the contractors on site

Estwing hammers are the favored hammers of our carpenters. The Estwing hammer is made in the USA!

26,500

Additional sq ft for the Art and Fitness buildings represents a 13% increase in ASL's floor space

22M

Campaign goal

14,000

Square foot Aquatic & Fitness Center

1,350

ASL students

350

Faculty and staff

125

Volunteers

64

Years since ASL was founded

8

Renovated science labs

6

Lanes in our brand new 25-meter swimming pool

4

Four-story Community Arts Building

Priceless

Endowment growth to sustain a dynamic, diverse and inclusive community



What our teachers have to say...

"For the first time ever, ASL will have its very own pool. This will have a profound impact on the School as a whole. Specifically with athletics, our athletes will be able to train before and after school, right here on campus in our six-lane pool. This will save a great deal on rental costs, and it will allow us to host swim meets. Everyone is incredibly excited."

— JOHN FARMER JR. '97, DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS

"Both faculty and students are looking forward to the new Arts Building, particularly for the increase of natural light in the studios and the addition of a beautiful purpose-built gallery space to display student work."

— JENNY THOMAS, MS/HS VISUAL ARTS

"New facilities to go along with the Next Generation of Science Standards (NGSS) will mean that our students have the opportunity to study science as scientists do! Bigger and better labs will allow us to do more project-based learning, engage in creative design and engineering challenges, and use science to solve real-world problems."

— JANET BRADSHAW, MS SCIENCE DEPARTMENT HEAD

"Having a swimming pool will enable us to add aquatics to our existing PE curriculum to bring us into line with international curriculum standards. Opportunities for extracurricular clubs will be huge, not just in competitive swim training but with all sorts of fun activities for every member of ASL community."

— KATE NEWNS, K-12 PE DEPARTMENT HEAD

"In short, the new Arts Building will allow us to give students a range of new art-related experiences we've not been able to offer so extensively before, while also creating a venue for our entire community to come together to celebrate student artwork."

— ERIK NIEMI, VISUAL ARTS DEPARTMENT HEAD ■

Canons Park: *The fulfillment of an ASL dream 20 years on*

AS SL marks 20 years of Canons Park, Alice Iacuesssa (ASL 1979–2000) and Cathy Adams (ASL 1974–2005) asked a host of ASLers past and present to cast their minds back to recall the history of the school's playing fields at Canons Park.

This year marks the 20th anniversary of the school's purchase of Canons Park playing fields on Honeypot Lane, Stanmore. For many years, the absence of outdoor athletics facilities at ASL had presented a significant problem for the School. At the time, our fifth head of school, **Judith Glickman (ASL 1992–98)**, commented, "We have been at the mercy of rents, schedules and usage rules of local parks...I am immensely pleased that we have acquired such a superb facility." Erstwhile athletics director John Lockwood

added, "At long last, we can have home games!"

Being situated in London, the School was incredibly lucky to find such a large expanse of green in a location accessible in less than half an hour, served by the Jubilee underground line. Captain of the 1994 girls soccer team **Kristen Deaton '94** approved of the purchase. "It's great having home fields and being able to host tournaments," she declared in 1994.

The School took possession of the 21-acre site in January 1994, an acquisition made possible by donations and pledges from ASL parents, alumni, friends and corporations, and overseen by then board chair **John Farmer (P '91 '94 '97)**, and director of institutional advancement **Don Kirkwood (ASL 1992–94; P '96 '08)**. A fun-filled day of

celebration to officially open the fields took place on Saturday, 30 April 1994, organized in true ASL style by a group of dedicated parents. Local residents were also invited, including fields neighbor Jack Packer, who opined, "In the 35 years I've lived here, we've never seen such a happy occasion!"

At the time of purchase the fields were owned by the Parochial Foundation of the Church of England and ASL was given a 250-year lease. The land was overgrown and neglected and a combine harvester had to be hired to cut the grass. Stanmore Tennis Club continued to use the fields for a year after ASL took ownership, and Watford Football Club approached **Alf Buksh (ASL 1994–2010)**, who refereed Watford's games, to ask to use the fields for training sessions during the week. Watford stayed for five years, and was elevated to the Premier League during this period.

Back in the present day, Athletic Assistant **Doreen Murphy (ASL 1988–present)**, who attended the celebration in 1994, observes, "Over the years there have been massive changes at Canons Park. The grounds now have four 11-a-side soccer fields, three 8-a-side soccer fields, two rugby fields, two permanent baseball fields and one permanent softball field."

To broaden the program for our youngest students, 2005 saw the launch of the lower school environmental project,

which gives our students an opportunity to learn in a way that is qualitatively different from their classroom experience. Lower school students visit the garden for a full day six times during the school year. Environmental Education Teacher **Lee Phifer (ASL 1992–present)** has led the project since its inception. Writing in 2008, Lee expressed, "Every day, students make discoveries as nature opens up a new world to them. Visiting the same place repeatedly gives them a chance to compare, to hone their connections with nature and its components...Nature is a great teacher."

The pavilion received a complete refurbishment thanks to the PCA in 2011, which also brought improvements to the play and study spaces. The facility now benefits from a bright and airy function room, a modern kitchen, improved

changing rooms, a physio room, offices and storage areas. In celebration, an ice-cream social was enjoyed by the community in October that year, along with a quiz night for faculty and staff the previous month.

Canons Park is also used during the summer for a significant part of the ASL Summer Program, organized for many years by **Trevor Jones (ASL mid-80s–present)** and his team and, until his retirement this year, **Bob Carter (ASL 1969–2014)**.

Remembering Canons in the early days, **Ollie Weiner '96** describes the rather neglected facilities, "The fields held great promise, but the locker room looked like it had been frozen in time, years previously. Dirt and dust were everywhere. Thankfully, my mind has blocked any memory of the shower area!"



The American School in London

Accents Fall '14



“There is buried treasure at Canons Park. Before ISSTs, the girls buried personal mementos at the fields. If the team won, they were dug up; if the team lost, they stayed in the ground forever. One year, the team buried a stuffed kangaroo. The team won the ISST championship and the girls were more interested in digging up the kangaroo than getting medals!”

Mark Dodson '98 has memories of both Alf and Bob as kind gentlemen, who took a lot of pride in their work. He goes on to recall an incident involving Bob and Trevor Jones in the late 90s. “Bob was particularly proud of the grounds. Trevor was overseeing the Summer Program and was boasting to the students at lunch about his golf skills. The students challenged him to prove it, and everyone went outside to watch Trevor hit golf balls. What they didn’t see, however, was that Bob had cordoned off a section of the main soccer field next to the clubhouse because he had just reseeded it. Trevor proceeded to hit balls one after the other, taking huge divots with each swing! Bob was all the way across the park at the time. When he saw what Trevor was doing with his beloved turf, he sprinted across from the far corner, yelling madly all the way. He may have been red faced from running and screaming, but the students were impressed with his pace!”

Mark also has memories of Alf having to put up with the Dodson family dog, Quincy. On more than one occasion, referee Alf had to stop a soccer game because Quincy had arrived late and bounded onto the pitch to greet him.

Nicole Ceccacci '97, a member of the girls soccer team, recalls the commute, which seemed quite a way to students living in central London. “At first the girls dreaded the trip, but in the end it gave them more time to laugh, joke and chat.

The team always stopped to get candy on the way home, much to the dismay of Coach **Dave Noble (ASL 1971–1998)!** ASL enjoying home facilities ultimately won over the students. Ollie Weiner remembers that pre Canons Park, the rugby team practiced at Primrose Hill or Regent’s Park, “Both of which were horrible. Even the flattest part of Primrose Hill felt like the bottom of Kilimanjaro, with concrete sidewalks running through it, but the camaraderie was there.” It was, he says, a unique group of boys, coached by a man who drove a convertible and carried an acoustic guitar—Trevor Jones.

In 1996, ASL hosted its first ISST at Canons Park—rugby. Doreen Murphy recalls that the kitchen facilities were not yet finished, so the nearby Busy Bee Café served the referees. The ASL team

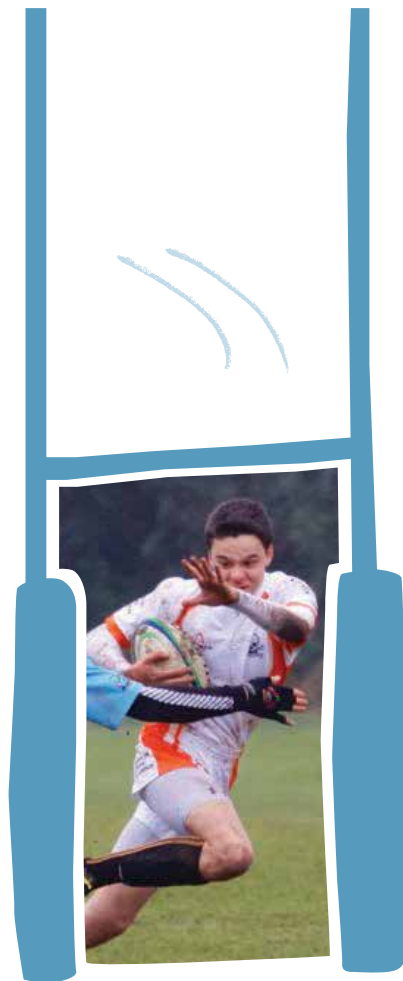


didn’t win any medals, but, according to Ollie, it finally had a home at Canons Park.

The softball team was another group to use the fields in the early days, but not just for practicing softball. As Coach **Keith Bing (ASL 1981–2003)** recounts, “There is buried treasure at Canons Park. Before ISSTs, the girls buried personal mementos at the fields. If the team won, they were dug up; if the team lost, they stayed in the ground forever. One year, the team buried a stuffed kangaroo. The team won the ISST championship and the girls were more interested in digging up the kangaroo than getting medals!”

It seems the softball team also loved to play pranks. Coach Bing elaborates, “One year, the prank was on the varsity boys baseball team. Just before the boys departed for their ISST, the softball girls painted the boys’ catching gear and batting helmets pink, and included flowers and slogans.” Keith recalls that the baseball team finished second in the ISST, above projections, so the pink and flowers helped the boys. The softball team also hosted a mock wedding for Keith and wife **Sharon (ASL 1994–2003)** at Canons Park prior to their official ceremony.

The athletes and coaches who used Canons Park in the mid 90s could not have imagined the 21st-century facility we enjoy today, but they did embrace the fields as home and started to create ASL memories.



Doreen Murphy recalls the state of the grounds, “The field was a marshland and had to be drained two or three times. The baseball team was the first to use Canons Park, but we had trouble getting red sand to build the diamond. And the gates had to be widened to accommodate the athletes’ buses.” It’s reported that neighbors became annoyed because balls kept going into their gardens. John Lockwood had to make peace.

But progress began and **Bob James (ASL 1994–2006)** was hired as groundsman that first summer and moved into the house at the fields with his family. Alf Buksh was also hired as custodian. While Bob lovingly nurtured the turf, Alf oversaw the running of Canons by scheduling events, hiring referees, maintaining uniforms, and working with the Booster Club.

1 Dan Hughes, left, with Ben Barton and Omar Chehab on the varsity boys soccer team in fall 2007

a selflessness that, as players, we tried to emulate. He wanted us to have an appreciation for what we had and to learn from every experience, while at the same time, have fun and not take anything too seriously. I went on to play division three soccer at Hamilton College, and Coach Chodl wanted that for me as much as I did. In fact, all my ASL coaches championed me. **Andy Patros (ASL 2000–present)** coached me in soccer my junior and senior years; he's a great friend and a great coach. **Terry Gladis (ASL 1998–present)** was my baseball coach who helped me stay focused on the right things, in baseball and in the classroom. Terry made me a better ball player and a better writer.

After playing soccer and majoring in economics at Hamilton, I moved to New York for a stockbroker job on Wall Street. Finance wasn't for me, however, and I subsequently landed at a tech start-up to do sales. It was a great gig, but I wasn't fulfilled. While working for the start-up, I ran into **Stuart Fern (ASL 2007–12)**, who was finishing his second year of coaching at Avenues, a brand new school in Manhattan. We caught up and then went our separate ways, but I ended up running into him again a week later. When our paths crossed a third time, I thought it must mean something and asked if he had any leads about part-time coaching positions. As it turned out, the Avenues middle school boys' soccer team was down an assistant coach, and I jumped on it. Eventually, my commitments at Avenues started to expand: chaperoning field trips, teaching PE, coaching intramural soccer. I'm now pursuing a master's in education while teaching first grade and coaching high school basketball. I'm happy to be here every single day. As a coach, I hope to establish a good relationship with the players just like I had with my coaches at ASL. Being on a team is a highly intensive learning experience. You're given exposure to failure, teamwork and commitment that you might not have if you're only participating in group projects once a month. You learn to cope, to work with others, to manage your time. These lessons can inform the rest of your life. Joe Chodl recently moved to New Jersey for his new job as an upper school principal. We've been talking about meeting up so he can share some of his secrets for coaching success."



Dan Hughes '08
Associate Teacher, Avenues
New York, NY

"My older brother played basketball at ASL, so I felt very much a part of the program even before I was in high school. After playing JV my freshman year, **Joe Chodl (ASL 2001–14)** pulled me up to varsity when I was a sophomore. He took a vested interest in making me a better player. For Dr. Chodl, it was always about developing talent: as a student, as an athlete and as a young man. This was his mindset, to work hard in everything you do. I still have our basketball playbook and look through it to this day. It's not just about plays; the book includes content about how to behave as student athletes and how to represent our school. I respect that. If you swore in the gym, Coach Chodl would make you run or sit you out. There was a pervasive feeling that you didn't yell at another teammate or bring anyone down. Off the court, he always had his office door open. As a coach and a mentor, he embodied

UPON his retirement from ASL in June, Coach Bob Carter (ASL 1989–2014) remarked, "I hope that at least some of my soccer students learned something." The outpour of well-wishes and gratitude from his ex-players in response confirmed that Bob leaves a legacy of extraordinary teaching and coaching to generations of ASL athletes. "Thank you for giving a young man guidance and memories that will continue to last a lifetime," wrote Peter Menzies '72. Patty Danver '76 said of Bob, "The finest teacher, colleague and friend." Thanks to the leadership of Bob and numerous others, the ASL athletics program has generated some of the most formative experiences for our alumni. Here, past Eagles weigh in on the coaches who made them champions—and so much more.

BY LIBBY JONES,
DIRECTOR OF ALUMNI RELATIONS

THE COACHES WHO MADE A DIFFERENCE



- 1 Polly Farmer played on ASL's first girls varsity soccer team
- 2 Jeff Reynolds visited ASL in summer 2014

“My two years at ASL, 1975 to 1977, were the best two school years of my life. From the teachers, administrators and coaches to the experiences of visiting different countries, the School encompasses everything you want your child to experience.”

— JEFF REYNOLDS '77



Polly (Farmer) Pringle '91
Middle School Principal,
Ambrit International School
Rome, Italy

“I arrived at ASL in September 1988. It was the polar opposite of my suburban high school in Northern California. I was used to open space, soccer fields and tennis courts right there on campus. ASL struck me as compact and vertical because of its towers, and at the time, most student athletes were using facilities at Paddington, Regent's Park and Primrose Hill. But still, the school was buzzing in a way my previous school wasn't. Rubbing elbows with people from all over the world, in London, created palpable positivity and excitement.

Because there wasn't a girls' soccer team to compete on that first fall season, I played volleyball instead under **Ed Ladd ASL (1983–1990)**. I had never played before, but the girls were really welcoming to me, and we went on to win ISSTs in Brussels. But it wasn't until basketball season, when Mr. Ladd was once again my coach, that everything started to click for me. That was a defining experience. Our team bonded during constant travel to other schools in the DODDS (Department of Defense Dependent Schools) League. Basketball was intense and the expectations were very high; we were taught to work harder than we thought we could. It was eye-opening, that commitment to perseverance. Mr. Ladd knew what his players were capable of before they did, so they really strived to meet his expectations. He pushed you to be your best, but like a good parent, it was because he believed in you. I had experienced other coaches who coached in addition to their teaching, but with Mr. Ladd, he considered coaching basketball as much as his job as teaching English. They were of equal importance, as were the lessons learned. All of our hard work paid off too, because we won the basketball ISSTs that year.

My experience as a student athlete helped me to find inner strength and resilience I didn't know I had. There's no curriculum for that. In my nine seasons at ASL, I learned how to condition my strengths, acknowledge my weaknesses and develop strategies to work on both. This self-assessment and reflection helped shape my career in education as a teacher, mentor, homeroom advisor and now principal. I also spent several years coaching middle school and varsity sports, including basketball, volleyball and soccer. I had such great ASL coaching models and memories to draw from: **Mr. Ladd, Dave Noble (ASL 1971–98)** and **Keith Bing (ASL 1981–2003)**, and I took the best of what they gave me. I still remember losing the soccer finals my junior year, the first year girls soccer became an ASL sport. It was a heartbreaking defeat because we were the better team. Mr. Noble sat us down and told us, 'Look, sometimes that's the way things go.' He was right, of course. We came back next year and won ISSTs because we remembered the previous year's defeat. All of my coaches gave their athletes a form of independence that allowed them to explore who they were. But if you weren't doing your best, they gave you a gentle nudge to do better. I appreciate, looking back, that they were watching and that they knew. This informed my own coaching.”



Jeff Reynolds '77
Boys' Lower/Middle School Athletics
Director, Sacred Heart Schools
Atherton, CA

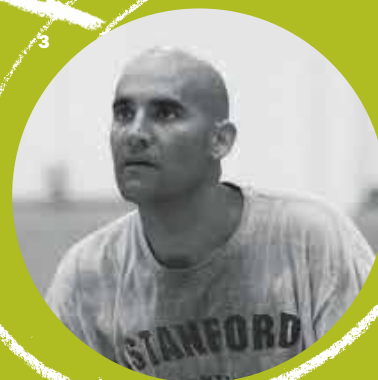
“My two years at ASL, 1975 to 1977, were the best two school years of my life. From the teachers, administrators and coaches to the experiences of visiting different countries, the School encompasses everything you want your child to experience. I competed on three ISST championship teams during my ASL tenure—volleyball, basketball and track. These sports fostered fantastic relationships and friendships among teammates and coaches alike. It was like one big family. At the time, **Bob Carter (ASL 1969–2014)** was athletic director and **Chuck Dodson (ASL 1973–2001)** was a varsity basketball coach. Those two men gave me a solid understanding of

coaching and helped me realize that I wanted to follow in their footsteps and pursue PE and coaching as a profession. After graduating from Santa Clara University, California, I went on to earn my teaching credential from San Jose State University and have been working at Sacred Heart Schools, Atherton (SHS) since 1982. Thirty-three years in the same job speaks for itself. Bob and Chuck led me to my career. As a student athlete, their attitude, organization and style stood out to me. They stressed academics as well as sports and made sure we were making the right decisions. They got involved in our lives. One of the important lessons that Coach Carter and Coach Dodson instilled in us was the importance of being humble. My teammates and I were talented, and we gave 100 percent, but we knew better than to do anything to show up our opponents. We were taught that success comes with both hard work and humility. The starting group wasn't better than the group sitting on the bench. Everyone felt a part of the team, and everyone felt they could contribute to it.

I've coached all our sports at SHS: basketball, football, soccer and baseball. Over my long career, I endeavor to keep perspective and remember what my coaches taught me: athletics has to be fun as well as hard work. It's important to be able to take the pressure off, to keep things light hearted, especially in this day and age when kids are being pushed too hard. I keep hold of my ASL athletic roots. I couldn't be prouder to be an alumnus.”



- 1 Christine Zoffinger
- 2 Christine, seated center, on the varsity cheerleading squad in 1989
- 3 Doug Gilbert spent years coaching students after his student athlete experience at ASL



Doug Gilbert '94
Social Science and World History Teacher, Canyon Crest Academy San Diego, CA

"When I moved to London from Huntington Beach, California in 1991, I ended up sneaking into ASL's gym to shoot baskets even before I was officially a student. It was summer and the school year hadn't started yet, but even then, without any kids around, I could tell that this was going to be an exciting place to meet new people and grow as a person.

I arrived at ASL as an experienced athlete and promptly joined the basketball, volleyball and basketball teams. The teams were competitive, especially basketball, where I had five teammates who were over 6 feet 5 inches. But even better than their height was their camaraderie: I met my three best friends on that team, and we were all in one another's weddings. Last year, a bunch of us who played together between 1993 and 1996 got together for a basketball reunion in New York City. We scrimmaged against each other at Chelsea Piers, and it was amazing that we all performed our formers roles on the court, 20 years later. Everyone's game was still about the same, and it was a lot of fun. The connection we still feel for the ASL basketball program and for our former coach, **Chuck Dodson (ASL 1973–2001)**, keeps pulling us back.

While researching this issue of Accents, we came across a letter from Frank O'Hara '74 who recalls his days of middle school rugby with John Lockwood (ASL 1967–2007) in the late 60s.

"Newly arrived in London and at ASL in 1968, I was one of the lucky ones who, in Bob Carter's words, 'had John as a PE teacher' and coach. (I also had Bob, as well as the late Eddie Hufford, but that's for another letter.) Mr. Lockwood, who looked like he was chiseled from granite, moved gracefully and mastered the sporting techniques. I can still see him instructing us in proper corner kick fundamentals on one of the pitches in Regent's Park behind York Gate.

"And I'll never forget one Monday PE class conducted in his usual no-nonsense manner, his words sporadically punctuated by a whistling sound. We eventually discovered a gap where several front teeth had been knocked out during his Saracens rugby match at the weekend (Mind the Gap?) Surely a bunch of 7th graders, already most impressed that he was a top-class rugby player, couldn't treat that as any ordinary Monday! True to form, John was modest about his rugby success, and barely mentioned it in my three years at ASL.

"Our family returned to the States in 1971, and no PE teacher or coach thereafter even came close to John Lockwood."

Frank's teammate, Tom Turnbull '74, writes about his recollections of the late Eddie Hufford (ASL 1967–2003) as coach and mentor.

"I met Mr. Hufford in 1966, when ASL was still at York Gate, and I was in the 5th grade. Most of my contact with him was in gym class and after-school sports, although he seemed to be everywhere. My six years in London were full of interactions with him at York Gate, at the Working Men's College, and at the new school on Loudoun Road. I always liked him, felt safe in his company, and admired his personality and sense of humor. My fellow athletes and I even had a song about him (all good natured). He was a definite positive influence on my life, and was part of what I consider to be the 'holy trinity' of ASL athletics back then, along with John Lockwood and Bob Carter. Not many days go by even now, nearly 50 years later, when I do not think of these three men with great affection. As a young man, I always had the impression that they all worked together well and enjoyed each other enormously. A final memory: I recall sitting next to Mr. Hufford on a flight to an international schools competition, when, during take-off, he suddenly grabbed my hand—clasping it firmly until we were safely in the air. He had a genuine terror of this part of flying; the reasons behind it he explained to me then, but are long forgotten today. Now that he is gone, how I wish I could sit next to him again, shake his hand, and tell him 'thank you' for enhancing my childhood and love of sportsmanship. He certainly was a steady presence and friendly face growing up. Thank you, Mr. Hufford. I will always sing your praises!"

Playing for Coach Dodson had a big impact on me. He took a personal interest in his players and had an uncanny ability to connect with others. Chuck had high expectations of his players and led practices at a high level, but he could still enjoy himself. He shared our enthusiasm for both the game and the team. He demonstrated confidence in us to make good decisions on and off the court. Chuck stressed hard work and staying positive, two things I took to coaching in my professional life. Life post-ASL brought me to the University of San Diego, where I earned my B.A., and Stanford, to obtain a master's in education. I've been teaching and

coaching throughout my career in Southern California high schools. For me, the best part of high school athletics was the opportunity to build friendships with players and coaches. Together we made incredible memories: I still feel the victory of winning the championship in Brussels in 1993 by one point, the last time ASL has won the basketball ISST. I love being able to create those types of memories for the kids under my care. I am certain that ASL maintains a competitive athletic program because of the coaches, past and present, who continue to promote hard work, being positive and studying the craft. These should be the ideals of all student athletes." ■

Back in New Jersey, I was a competitive cheerleader. My high school had one of the leading cheerleading programs in the US, and when I made varsity my freshman year, we placed fifth nationwide at a competition in Florida. ASL had no cheerleading program when I arrived in 1988, and I was not thrilled. I had been dancing my whole life, so I persuaded my mother to start a cheerleading program at ASL. It was her first foray into coaching, and she had no background in dance, but she felt guilty for pulling me away from such a strong squad at my previous school. Together we brought our high school coach over to London to work with me and seven other girls. We had so much fun. That same coach took a job at Rutgers University, and convinced me to apply there and try out for their dance team. So I followed his advice and joined the Rutgers dance team when I graduated from ASL. Five years later, I was hired as the assistant coach. I'm now in my 19th year of coaching and oversee the entire spirit program for the university. Rutgers just entered the Big Ten athletic conference, and our dance and cheer teams perform at all of the football games. It's really exciting. For me, my favorite part of the job is the chance to build relationships with the kids. I gain so much from their energy and enthusiasm; they keep me young. I try to look at each athlete as an individual. Some kids can be pushed; some kids need building up. But I put responsibility on all of them to make a commitment and stick it through. Participation in athletic competition teaches you a different skillset from academics. On a team, you have to work collectively to achieve a goal—it's not just about yourself. You have to learn to deal with situations that you don't think are fair. There are times when you hate going to practice and you're tired and it's stressful, but you're asked to do your best anyway. These challenges make you a well-rounded person, and understanding the importance of dedication will serve you well long after your season is over."



Christine Zoffinger '90
Head Coach of Cheerleading and Dance, Rutgers University New Brunswick, NJ

"I had lived in the same New Jersey town my whole life when my dad's job transferred our family to London my junior year, away from peers I had grown up with since childhood. I wasn't super excited to go. But after only one month at ASL, I realized what a great school it was, with so many wonderful opportunities. I still remember my Alternatives art trip to Florence. Moving to London turned out to be one of the greatest things my parents did for me.

Coach Bing

Coach Carter

Coach Chodl

Coach Dodson

Coach Glades

Coach Hufford

Coach Ladd

Coach Lockwood

Coach Noble

Coach Patros

Class notes

'59

Roger Jones and wife Mary visited ASL on Friday, 4 April. Roger was one of nine students who was part of the Grade 9 graduating class of 1956. ASL founding headmaster **Stephen Eckard (ASL 1951-71)** and President Harry Truman presided over his graduation ceremony at Grosvenor Square. Roger and his family arrived in London in March of 1956. His father worked for Mobil Oil, and his tenure finished in July. Their time in London was short but memorable. Roger recalls eating lunch in the basement of the US Embassy and chancing a glimpse of Soviet Union leader Nikita Khrushchev en route to the nearby Russian Embassy. Roger took basket weaving as a class. For PE, he and his friends would play touch football in Hyde Park. His family's apartment had divots in the wall from flying shrapnel during World War II.

'61

Georgia Bergman writes, "I haven't been in touch with anyone in my ASL class for decades, so it's fascinating to check in and see where we have landed. I'm in Pasadena. I spent most of my time in the music business, starting in London with the Beatles and the Stones and moving to New York and LA for Warner Brothers Records. I'm now writing and working with a regional theater company based in Pasadena."

Jim Bexfield left his job in the Office of the Secretary of Defense in 2012 and now works occasionally as a consultant on defense analytical issues. He continues to enjoy bridge and is learning how to play squash.

Susan (Savage) Cavanagh was floored to learn that the Class of 2014's commencement exercises were live streamed. "When we graduated, the ceremony was held at the (then) new American Embassy," she recalled. "There were 19 of us; at least four of us were named Susan, and all the girls wore white dresses. **Steven Eckard** invited us all for lunch and the famous strawberries and cream back at 14 Gloucester Gate. How is it possible that happened 53 years ago?" Susan met her husband, **Bob Cavanagh**, at ASL in 1959, when she was 14. Bob recently celebrated his 70th birthday at the couple's cottage in Canada with the whole family in attendance.

'63

John Ehrlich writes, "I have been retired from American Airlines for more than 10 years. My wife, Ann, and I enjoy traveling, and I especially enjoy going to Mizzou football games!"

'67

Linda Austin is delighted to announce the opening of her art gallery and artist co-op in Coronado, CA. Visit the website to learn more, www.austinsgallery.com, or 'like' Linda's Gallery on Facebook!



'69

Linda Lee shares, "During my junior year at ASL, I played Mrs. Keeney in Eugene O'Neill's one-act play *Ile*, then played the title character in *The Madwoman of Chaillot* my senior year. What great memories! I've had a varied career in the theater, starting as a professional actress, director, costumer, composer, photographer and teacher, then moving into management. Currently, I serve as the Immediate Past President of the American Association of Community Theatre, Treasurer of Texans for the Arts, Treasurer for the Live Theatre League of Tarrant County, and Executive Director of Texas Nonprofit Theatres. Last January, I had the joy of directing an alumni show filled with students from my 15 years with the Creative Arts Theatre & School (CATS), many of whom are now in their late 30s to mid 40s. ASL provided the launching pad for me, and I will forever be grateful for the unique experiences I had in London."



'74

Sherrie Deanne Lee created a Facebook group, American School in London Class of 1974, for her classmates to stay connected. Contact her for more information: ss_travel55@yahoo.com

'77

This summer, **Jeffrey Reynolds** visited ASL with a colleague from Sacred Heart in Santa Clara. Jeff is the MS athletics director at Sacred Heart, and he hadn't been back to London since 1979! Before stopping by St. John's Wood, Jeff spent the morning wandering around Wimbledon. He was off to hit the tourist sites in London this weekend before visiting a friend in Wales. Jeff attended the '99 reunion in DC and hopes to get to another all-school reunion soon.

In March, **Lauri Semarne** visited ASL, her alma mater for nine years, with her husband, Lisle Leete. Lauri spent the better part of a decade writing and performing critically acclaimed sketch comedy in New York City with a college

'78

Steven Yates writes, "I have written a book about my son's triumph over autism called *Getting my First Hug*, available on Amazon. If you love someone with special needs or know someone else who does, consider getting the book. Any profits will go to an autism-related charity."

'79

Janet Hadley Champlin and her spouse, Anne Pillion, visited ASL over the summer from their home in Intervale, NH. Anne is an environmental scientist with

- 1 Lisle Leete and Lauri Semarne
- 2 Amir Morgan with mother Erika (left) and LS teacher Miss Ackerman, 1974
- 3 John Di Silvestro
- 4 Mary and Roger Jones
- 5 Sally Marlow, Ruth Heuman, Anne Pillion and Janet Champlin
- 6 Roger Jones sits with his classmates at Grade 9 graduation, 1956
- 7 Tracey Sanders in the Mellon Library
- 8 Georgia Bergman

the federal government, and Janet retired from the Portsmouth, NH police department as captain of detectives. She continues to work part time for the Bartlett Police Department and also plays her French horn in a local community band. "I got my start in the middle school band at ASL!" she remembers. Janet writes, "**Ruth Heuman (ASL 1970-2009)** was my 7th grade homeroom and math teacher, and **Sally Marlow (ASL 1964-1995)** was one of my teachers in 8th grade. My brother **Jeff Champlin '75** also graduated from ASL. ASL gave me a wonderful educational foundation, and the teachers were insightful, creative and original. London is still the greatest city in the world!"

'80

While dropping her daughter off at university, **Tracey Sanders** paid a visit to ASL. The trip brought back fond memories for Tracey. "It was great to see that new memories are being created for students attending the school now," she said.

'81

Congratulations to the team of alumni who were involved in the success of *Dirty Wars*, a thrilling documentary that won a prize at the Sundance Film Festival in 2013. Co-written and edited by **David Riker**, who worked on the project with **Brenda Coughlin '89**, one of the film's producers, *Dirty Wars* received sponsorship from **Danny Coughlin** and was met with critical acclaim.

In May, **John Di Silvestro** stopped by campus when business brought him to London from Milford, OH. In a follow-up email, John wrote, "It is comforting to know that the ASL 'recipe' has been maintained: lots of globally astute, bright kids, full of hope and energy."

Lauren (Benson) Todd and her family visited London from Huntsville, AL. Lauren studied math at Clemson and attributes her Grade 7 math teacher **Frank Rudolph (ASL 1972-2000)** with helping her recognize her love for the subject.



'82

An Independence Day reunion for the Class of 1982

Fourteen alumni, 9 guests, 3 former teachers, 2 pubs, 1 school tour... all on the 4th of July! Members of the Class of 1982 gathered in London from all corners of the world to collectively celebrate their 50th birthdays. This much-anticipated reunion, organized by “El Capitan” **Bill McCarrick**, provided a chance for classmates to return to campus and revisit fond memories (as well as the old stomping grounds). In attendance were **George Biancardi**, **Steven Seligson**, **Jeffrey DeVore**, **Ted Sickinger**, **Laura (Levering) Athey**, **Julie Levering '80**, **Neal Coble**, **Sue Katzen**, **Katie Butler**, **Richard Tunnah**, **Tara Newley '81**, **Courtney Winfree** and **Sara Brombart**. Several alumni brought along their families and partners to partake in the revelry. A tour of ASL kicked off the festive weekend. After marveling at the School Center and renovated Farmer Family Gymnasium, the group made their way to the Salt House for a special happy hour. They were joined by former faculty **Bob Carter (ASL 1969–2014)**, **Paul Morton (ASL 1963–1997)** and **Tim Watson (ASL 1973–2007)**. Visiting with these beloved teachers was the true highlight of the evening. Following a few hours of talking and toasting, the Class of 1982 continued the party at the Holly Bush in Hampstead. The next day was filled with sightseeing, capped off with a dinner cruise down the Thames. It was a birthday to remember, for America and for these energetic alumni! We are grateful ASL remains such a significant, unifying part of their story.



'82

Sue Katzen attended the Class of 1982 reunion in London in July. She has worked in advertising at *Cosmopolitan* for the past 11 years and now lives on the Upper West Side in New York City.

Tamara (Morrison) McDonald lives in the Seattle area. After teaching high school for many years, followed by a stint as a stay-at-home mom, she went back to school and became an event planner. Tam's two older kids are grown (a daughter in New York, a son in Seattle), but she and her husband, a local fire chief, still have a 16-year-old son at home. She'd love to hear from any ASLers local to the Seattle area!

'84

Life coach **Scott Abbott** has a new book out, *Level-Up to Professional: Elevate Your Success at Business, Work and Life*.

The sequel to *Pocket Porchlights*, his latest edition aims to help young professionals develop “career-centric life skills.”

Joe Coleman recently marked his 11th anniversary at JPMorgan Chase in Boulder, CO, and enjoys coaching his two boys with the Superior Rugby Club. Joe's not sure they will score as many tries as he did back at ASL but thinks they will get close.

Shaun Dakin has started his own digital strategy marketing firm, Dakin Associates, based in the Washington, DC, area. The firm is focused on non-profits.

Farid Gargour lives in London with his wife Emilie and two children, Lily (7) and Gilbert Victor (3). He works for RAB Capital, a small UK fund manager, where he helps manage a high-yield bond fund. Farid moved back to London in 1999 after 14 years in the US. He is still in touch with a few ASLers, including his brothers, **Rajah '86** and **Taher '88**.

Deb Hardy lives in Seattle, WA, where she works as a technical editor for EMC Corporation in the Isilon Storage Division. She enjoys making mixed-media art, writing, reading, volunteering with animals, and traveling with her husband of three years, Marc. She has thoroughly enjoyed reconnecting with many ASL classmates online.

Carla (Rath-Lenaerts) Harris lives in Windsor, Ontario, with her husband of 22 years and three children, the oldest of whom started university this fall. Still with Canada Post after 26 years, Carla is starting to think about retirement. She likes to craft and read in her spare time and travels whenever and wherever possible.

Scott Harrison and his wife, Amy, visited ASL during their vacation in London, where they were celebrating their wedding anniversary. Scott snapped photos of the music room, his old stomping grounds, and caught up with **Christine Rudolph '85**.

Classmates **Andi Kornfeld**, **Marnie Semple** and **Nicola (Hitch) Mueller**, along with **Mindi (Crank) Stephens '86** and **Lisa (Valdez) Barnett '85**, had a reunion weekend in Raleigh, North Carolina last January. Writes Andi, “We had a fabulous time catching up and are planning another weekend in May. The years melted away, and we were all reminded why we are all friends for a lifetime.”

Stacey (Cashen) Mitchel lives near Dallas, TX, with her husband, Roy. She still teaches fifth grade and loves it. Stacey and Roy spend their vacations cross-country motorcycling and took a 4,000-mile journey this summer. In her free time, Stacey reads, takes photos, enjoys boxing and kickboxing and visits her children and granddaughter. She cannot believe it's been 30 years since graduating from ASL!

While going through things at his parents' house, **Amir Morgan** was delighted to come across a photo snapped during his ASL lower school days. The picture dates back to December 1974 and features his teacher **Miss Ackerman**, his mother, **Erika P '84**, and a young Amir standing before a beautiful German gingerbread house that Erika created.

Chris (Selgas) Muhart lives in San Diego with her husband and seven-year-old daughter.

Brad Nelson lives in San Diego, CA, with his wife, Lisa. They have three children: Daniela (14), Lucas (12) and Carolina (10). Brad writes, “Right now it

seems our life is dominated by homework and shuttling kids to and from soccer, baseball, and other school activities. Occasionally we squeeze in time at the beach, a little surfing, or running with our dog Paco. We celebrated this past Christmas and New Year's with Lisa's family in Puerto Rico.” Brad planned to get out to Colorado this past summer to visit his parents. His sister, **Melisa (Nelson) Gaudreau '83**, lives in Sacramento, CA, with her husband, Ed, and two boys, Evan (13) and Will (11).

Julie (Phillips) Rodriguez has lived in Allen, TX, for the past seven years. She serves as PTA president for her son's school and also substitute teaches. Julie is active at her church. Her sixth grade son stays busy with martial arts, band, Boy Scouts and church youth activities. Her husband, Ben, is an executive consultant for a Canadian-based firm and travels frequently. Writes Julie, “We enjoy traveling, especially to Hawaii.”

Ann Skaja works at Target headquarters as a senior media producer in Minneapolis, MN. She has visited ASL once since she left in 1983 for TASIS Cyprus, from which she graduated.

Maria Tuomy-Seeds has been working as a flight attendant for 13 years and currently flies for Spirit Airlines based in Las Vegas. She graduated with a B.A. in commercial art in 1990 and more recently earned an A.A. in web design in 2011. Maria also has a freelance web and graphic design business. She still keeps in touch with **Amal Al Muhanna**, whom she visited last summer. Her three brothers, all ASL graduates, live in different cities around the US with families of their own. “I hope everyone is doing well!” she wrote.

Patrick Victor has lived in Brooklyn, NY, for the past 14 years. He tours nationally and internationally as a singer-songwriter and most recently has been working with a trio, Brother Sun, which he likens to Crosby, Stills and Nash. Visit the group's website to learn more: www.brothersunmusic.com

'86

Former director of capital giving **Katherine Precht (ASL 1993–2009; P '08 '15)** reported that **Hilary Berliner**, her colleague at Friends Seminary School in New York City, where Katherine is director of development, had dinner with **Norah Vincent**. ASL connections take place all over the world!

- 1 Neal Coble, Courtney Winfree, Bill McCarrick and former math teacher Paul Morton
- 2 The Class of 1982 at The Salt House
- 3 Lauren (Benson) Todd and her family
- 4 Scott Harrison
- 5 Norah Vincent and Hilary Berliner
- 6 Leann (Borton) Harvey visits ASL

Over the summer, **Amy Scanlan** stopped by ASL with her husband and two children. The family was visiting from Denver, CO, where Amy works as a doctor and her husband teaches high school science. Amy credits **Ed Ladd (ASL 1983–90)** and **Georgia Bassett (ASL 1974–1995)** as two of the most important influences on her life aside from her parents.

'87

Felicia Santelli-Fry stopped by with her four daughters on the afternoon of Independence Day; her first trip back to ASL since she graduated! Her family moved to London when her father's job at IBM transferred him from the Paris office. An avid basketball and volleyball player, Felicia went on to play these sports at UVA. She and her family now live in Sunnyvale, CA.

'89

Robert P. Dorr is a director within the US Department of Homeland Security. He lives in Arlington, VA, with his wife, Lisa Fritsch-Dorr, and his two children, Robbie (11) and Sophia (9).

'91

In August, alumnus and current parent **Brandon Bakshi** caught up with classmate **Jordan Newhouse** at the Polar Music Prize at the Grand Hotel in Stockholm. Earlier in May, Brandon had the opportunity to see **Libby (Pons) Vine '91** in Singapore when he traveled there for Music Matters, the Asia Pacific Music Forum.

- 1 Kate, Tallullah and Clay Fuller
- 2 Brandon Bakshi and Jordan Newhouse
- 3 Brian Gotosa and Emily Ebersole
- 4 Brandon Bakshi and Libby (Pons) Vine
- 5 Jonathan and Lindsay (Botts) Gruhl
- 6 ASLers at Isabelle Stransky's wedding
- 7 The wedding of Bob Montgomery
- 8 Rachel Kobrin and family
- 9 Matthews Banda and Muntasir Sattar in Pakistan
- 10 Megan and Ryan Au
- 11 The Brown sisters: Annamarie, Britlese and Bryna
- 12 Sophia Ann, daughter of Patrick and Charlotte (Jarvis) Mellors
- 13 Sandeep Allakki and Vijetha Reddy



ASL at this beautiful celebration were twin brother **Philip**, older brother **Tom '80**, sister **Oonagh '85**, parents **Jan and Claude P '80 '82 '85 '98 '98**, classmates **Kim Krockner, Sarah Roeder**, and **Jackie Saleh**, as well as ASL staff **Caitlin Huson (ASL 2010–present)**, **Libby Jones (ASL 2012–present)**, **Trish O'Malley (ASL 2007–present)** and **Jodi Warren (ASL 1988–present)**. C'était top!

NYC native **David Votano** visited ASL in July. He enjoyed checking out the Gym and School Center, and he shared fond memories of performing *The Wizard of Oz* in Grade 4. David works for a luxury fashion retail company.

Lindsay (Botts) Gruhl visited ASL with husband Jonathan last February. The couple lives in San Francisco with their children Jasper (4) and Devlin (2).

'97 John Jensen was recently appointed director of career development and associate dean of students at Washington and Lee University.

In March, **Matthews Banda** traveled to Pakistan to visit **Muntasir Sattar**. "It was a super time," he wrote. Matthews is still living in South Africa, where he specializes in psychiatry at the University of Pretoria.

Bryna Brown, Annamarie (Brown) Windham '99 and **Britlese (Brown) Thomas '02** visited ASL with their father, Jim, to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the family's move to London. No strangers to the stage, the sisters reminisced over photos of the productions of their school days: from *Guys and Dolls* to *Hamlet*, there was sure to be a Brown in the cast list. The sisters also played basketball at ASL and during their visit the family caught up with Athletics Director **John Farmer Jr. '97 (ASL 2012–present)**. After returning to London for graduate school, Bryna now teaches preschool in Seattle. Annamarie and Britlese both live in Tacoma with their husbands, and they each have three children.

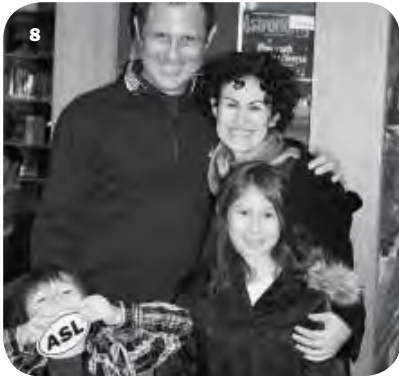
Isabelle Stransky (ASL 2004–13) married Clinton Lander on 2 October 2014 in Provence, France. Representing

'92 Rebecca Prime shares the exciting news that she recently published her first book, *Hollywood Exiles in Europe: The Blacklist and Cold War Film Culture*. The book tells the untold story of the American directors, screenwriters and actors who exiled themselves to Europe as a result of the Hollywood blacklist. Rebecca is grateful to her former MS teacher **Alice Leader (ASL 1975–2010; P '98 '00)** and Alice's husband, **Zachary**, for their support and help with her research.

'93 Bob Montgomery got married to **Aoife Meehan** on 26 April 2014 in New York City. His twin, **Mike Montgomery**, served as best man. Also present from ASL were sister of the groom **Liz Montgomery '90**, and brothers of the bride **Jim Meehan '86**, **Shane Meehan '87** and **Gavan Meehan '90**. Other ASL guests included **Marty Cornelius '86**, and 1993 classmates **Tommy Benz**, **Dale Foss**, **Ram Salman** and **Joel Yaffe**.

'96 David Ames and wife Dorilyn are new parents. Mallory Lynn Ames was born on 18 September 2013.

Trial lawyer **Courtney Ervin** was elected to partner at Andrews Kurth, a corporate and litigation law firm based in Texas. She graduated magna cum laude from the University of Houston Law Center in 2005.



'99 Sandeep Allakki and his wife, Vijetha Reddy, visited ASL while in London on their vacation. The couple lives in Queens, New York.

'00 Talented thespian **Michael Benz** returned to the stage this fall to star as Sebastian in the Sheffield Theatre's production of Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night*.

Patrick and **Charlotte (Jarvis) Mellors** joyfully welcomed the arrival of their daughter, Sophia Ann, on 20 May 2014. Sophia joins big brother Fred!



Kate Reid recently moved to San Francisco and would love to reconnect with other ASLers.

'02 While visiting her family in London, **Kate (Manthos) Fuller** stopped by ASL with her husband, Clay, and 3-year-old daughter, Tallulah. The family live in Lookout Mountain, GA. Kate was delighted to catch up with **Bhupendra Patel (ASL 1998–present)**, who made her a special ASL ID badge in honor of her birthday. Clay recently retired from the Air Force and is preparing to start a nonprofit.

Chris Jamison and his wife, Meg, welcomed the arrival of Hatton Thomas on 24 August. The family lives in Jerome, AZ, where Chris writes, records and



performs music full time, often for baby Hatton!

In August, **Matt McLoughlin** married Suzanne Lynner. The couple lives in Boston.

After earning a master's in urban planning from UPenn, **Cory Zimmerman** relocated to DC and is working as a college counselor at Sidwell Friends School. He's thrilled to be back in the education world.

'04 Ryan Au and wife Megan visited ASL during a trip to London in May. Ryan and Megan live in New York City and have been married a year. During a tour of the School, they enjoyed catching up with Coach **Joe Chodl (ASL 2001–2014)**, Coach **Terry Gladis (ASL 1998–present; P '27)** and **Derek Fleming (ASL 2000–present)**. During his time at ASL, Ryan played basketball, baseball and golf. He noticed the biggest difference to campus from 2004 was the Commons and cafeteria. Ryan was excited to learn about the New Frontiers projects for ASL's future.

Emily Ebersole married Brian Michael Gotosa on 27 September 2013. Emily and Brian, who is a citizen of Zimbabwe, met on a move-in day of freshman year

- 1 The Powers family at Henley Regatta
- 2 The Cregan family
- 3 Chris, Meg and Hatton Jamison
- 4 The Class of 2004 in New York City

at James Madison University. The couple lives in Arlington, VA.

Thanks to **Elaine Harris**, members of the Class of 2004 in or around New York City came together to mark their 10 year high school reunion in July. “It was wonderful to reconnect!” Elaine shares. The group met up in the West Village, coincidentally not too far from Waverley Place (Manhattan)! Those in attendance were **Sara Frantzen, Kim Pucher, Kika Gilbert, Patton Hindle, Meghan Cross, Elisabeth Schwab, Alejandro Paschalides, Katherine (Rosenthal) Davis, Eddie Beaulac, Alex Robinson, Garroch Neil, Alex Kemmsies, Samir Mishra, Jaclyn Hummel, Tony Pilnik, Ryan Au, Alex Frantzen, Jibu Banerji** and **Stephen Hughes**.

'05

In August, the Cregan family visited ASL. **Kathleen (Cregan) Alderink** is now living in Northamptonshire with her husband, Bob, and daughter Maggie May, which prompted a visit from her parents, **Linda and William Cregan P '02 '03 '05**, brother **Chris '02**, and sister **Lindsey '03**. It's the first time the family has been back to London since they left in 2000. Lindsey is studying for her PhD in clinical psychology at University of Detroit Mercy. William worked for Ford Motor Company and the family returned to Ann Arbor after leaving London. Kathleen's husband is in the military, and they plan to be in England for three years.

Sara Molinaro is finishing her final year of law school at City University of New York (CUNY). She spent her summer interning with the Federal Defenders of New York.

'07

After training in dance at Juilliard, **Olivia Ancona** has been based in Tel Aviv since 2010, dancing with the Batsheva Dance Company and then with L-E-V. Over the summer, she performed *Faun* under choreographer Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui at Sadler's Wells in London. Olivia will soon be moving to Stockholm to join the Royal Swedish Ballet.



'08

Sophie Ong writes, “After graduating from Smith College in 2012 and taking last year off, I decided to go back to graduate school. This past fall, I moved to New Jersey and am in the art history PhD program at Rutgers University.”

'09

At the National Open Art Exhibition **Jean-Luc Almond** received a Cass Art Prize for his painting, *Dripping Man*.

Kate James graduated from Wake Forest and is teaching 5th grade at the Brookwood School, located outside of Boston. She's pursuing a cooperative internship, which includes graduate school at Lesley University.

Betty Kaye graduated from Camberwell College of Art in 2013. She had a role in the film *Detachment*, starring Adrien Brody.

'10

After graduating from Connecticut College last May, **Will Tucker** moved to DC to commence his master's program in sports administration at Georgetown

University. In addition to studying, he will be interning with the premium sales and marketing team of the Washington Redskins.

'11

After returning from a semester in Australia, **Alice James** is in her senior year at Wake Forest. Over the summer, she took a 'business for non-business majors' summer program to learn the ropes in accounting, economics and marketing.

Katie Lelinski is studying at Southwestern University outside of Austin, TX. After interning at Accenture in Philadelphia over the summer, she is spending her fall semester studying in London.

While studying and interning in London for the summer, **Caroline Reid** and her mother, **Elizabeth P '06 '11**, stopped by campus for a visit. Caroline just finished her junior year at the University of Georgia and hopes to land a job in interior design when she graduates.

'13

Over the summer, **Deirdre Ely** participated in an intensive Spanish immersion program at Middlebury College, which she greatly enjoyed.

'15

Reid James is a senior at Woodberry Forest School outside of Charlottesville, VA. He spent the summer in China pursuing a program in Beijing and a home stay in Liuzhou.



'16

In July, **Will Powers** and his crew team from Brunswick School in Greenwich, CT, competed in Henley Royal Regatta. After a two-day winning streak, they narrowly lost in the quarter-finals. The experience was a valuable one for all of the boys, and the Powers were happy to bump into **Karen and Greg Conway P '12 '14** while at the regatta.

Barbara Rose P '16 writes, “We remember fondly our time in London and the wonderful staff at ASL. Wishing you all the best.”

'22

Scott Hitchens P '22 '25 writes on behalf of his children, **Madi '22** and **Drew '25**, “Hello! Sending you fondest wishes from the USA. We miss London, ASL and all the teachers, staff and students!”



LET US HEAR FROM YOU!

Make sure we have your up-to-date email and address, and you'll receive:

London Calling: the alumni e-newsletter

Regional Reception Invitations: events in Boston, San Francisco, New York, London and more

Access to the Online Directory: find classmates and friends

Send us your details! Email alumni@asl.org.

Want to connect with ASL? Have an update to share?

Contact your Class Agent!

Email alumni@asl.org for more information.

2014 Ella Sammons, samme765@newschool.edu	1998 Forth Bagley, forth.bagley@gmail.com
2013 Deirdre Ely, dely@princeton.edu	1997 John Jensen, jensenj@wlu.edu
2011 Vivek Jois, joisv@wharton.upenn.edu	1986 Thomas Hayes, thehayesatl@bellsouth.net
2010 Will Tucker, wt188@georgetown.edu	1964 Charles Scudder, Charles.Scudder@akzonobel.com
2009 Michael Molinaro, michael.v.molinaro@gmail.com	1961 Jim Bexfield, jim_bexfield@comcast.net
2005 Sara Molinaro, sara.c.molinaro@gmail.com	
2004 Diana Lazareva, Diana.Lazareva@gtpractice.com	
2003 A.M. Dupee, amdupee@gmail.com	
2000 Emily (Wasley) Seyller, easeyller@gmail.com	

Alumni News



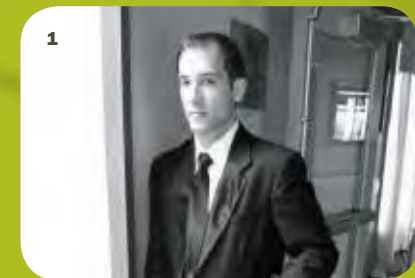
- 1 Andrew Pease
- 2 Carolynn Crabtree
- 3 Larry Porges
- 4 Lizzy Plapinger



Carolynn Crabtree '02 co-founds Cornerstone Reputation

"Observe. Educate. Build." This is the mantra of Cornerstone Reputation, the newly launched company of **Carolynn Crabtree '02**. With a mission to teach teens how to use the Internet safely and powerfully, Cornerstone Reputation provides services and mentorship to help students prepare their online reputation for the college admissions process. Back when she was at ASL, Carolynn and her peers didn't have to worry too much about their virtual selves. "The Internet was where I went to email my older siblings at college, stay in touch with friends and do lots of research for school projects," she recalled. As for texting and tweeting, forget it. "My cell phone was the size of a Walkie Talkie!" The evolution of technology and social media has rapidly changed the landscape for students since Carolynn graduated, first from ASL and then from Princeton, where she majored in art history. Navigating these web tools can be tricky and can often lead to unwelcome consequences. "The biggest Internet danger teens face now is their false sense of anonymity," explains Carolynn. "Nothing you post online is impermanent or anonymous."

In fact, web content is up for grabs to everyone, including college admissions officers. Thus, Carolynn and her Cornerstone team work to educate students about how to make smarter choices online while at the same time, empowering them to build a web presence that enhances their candidacy for college. "The Internet can be a tool to show a 3D, creative and interesting version of yourself," she enthused. Cornerstone brings together experts from college admissions, online reputation management and high school educators to support their college admission service, mentoring program and efforts to tackle cyberbullying. "Our goal is to lay the foundation of healthy teen Internet use," sums up Carolynn. Well said! Want to learn more about Cornerstone Reputation and how it works? Visit the website, www.cornerstonereputation.com



American Idol, American School in London alumnus!

Last year, if you called in to vote for one of the top 13 American Idol contestants, you would have heard a special voice at the other end of the phone: it belonged to **Andrew Pease '97**! A resident of Los Angeles, Andrew works as the CFO of Telescope, an audience-interaction company that boosts participation, consumer engagement and mobile technology for live television. A toll-free, phone-in vote for your favorite Idol resulted in hearing a pre-recorded message from Andrew, which thanked voters for calling and offers further instructions.



London according to Larry Porges '79

Did you know that the first banana seen in Britain was sold in London on 10 April 1633? You'll learn this and other compelling quips of trivia when you read National Geographic *London Book of Lists: The City's Best, Worst, Oldest, Greatest, and Quirkiest*—co-authored by an ASL alumnus! **Larry Porges '79** spent three years as an ASL student when his dad, a journalist, moved their family across the pond from northern New Jersey. This formative expat experience was life changing, according to Larry. "I love London," he enthused. "Living here will change you forever." Larry's stint abroad influenced him professionally as well as personally; he has spent the past 15 years at National Geographic, where he currently edits travel books. "To work at Nat Geo and edit books about London... does it get any better than that?" he laughed. London Book of Lists is the first time Larry has been on the writing side of book publishing, a project he enjoyed immensely. He spent a year researching and sourcing material for the book, which measures everything from 'best fish-and-chip shops' to 'actual jobs you can apply for in the Royal household.' There are 139 lists in total: some historic, some linguistic and all entertaining. Does Larry have a favorite? He's partial to the lists he generated from his memories of living here with his family in the 70s, including '10 famous albums recorded at Abbey Road Studios.' "I remember walking past there on my way home to Maida Vale when Pink Floyd's 'Dark Side of the Moon' was being recorded," he said. Larry also vividly recalled sitting near the protesting students who walked out on the late Margaret Thatcher MP when she, as



Minister for Education and Science, was invited to the dedication ceremony of ASL's new building. But Larry's best ASL memory was when he watched the High School rehearse its production of *Tommy* in the Annenberg Theater, a warm cup of hot cocoa in his hand. "I had just come inside from playing soccer on the playground on a crisp, cold day," he recounted. "The sun had just set; it was perfect." *London Book of Lists* went on sale on 4 November in the US. Check it out!



Lizzy Plapinger '06: indie music sensation

Over the summer, Alumni Director **Libby Jones (ASL 2012–present)** caught up with singer-songwriter (and most exciting of all, ASL alumna!) **Lizzy Plapinger '06**, who has been storming music charts with her soulful voice and vibrant multicolored hair. As vocalist of the New York-based pop duo MS MR, she has been heralded as "the Melody Maker" by the *New York Times* and spent the past year touring every corner of the globe, from Tulsa to Moscow. Critics have compared MS MR to Florence and The Machine, and a hit single from their debut album, "Secondhand Rapture," was featured in a trailer for the TV show "Game of Thrones." Recent gig highlights include the Coachella music festival in southern California and the Bonnaroo festival in Manchester, Tennessee. But the big dream, according to Lizzy, is to headline at Glastonbury Festival one day. "That's the end game," she asserted. "What could be better than a three-hour set full of your singles?" For all of her talent and rising stardom, Lizzy is a self-taught musician. During her 10 years at ASL ("I just missed the Endurance Award!"), you were more likely to find her in the gym or an art studio than at choir practice. Even now, she still thinks of her AP art teacher, **Mrs. Wasley (ASL 1975–2008)**, who prepared her well for MS MR's multimedia visual artistry. An avid athlete, Lizzy stayed busy with volleyball, field hockey, crew and dance, captaining both the dance and field hockey teams in her senior year of high school. But London's music scene attracted her from an early age, and it wasn't uncommon for her to go to several concerts a week. Her passion for indie



1 Tarek Azwai with Rudy Menon's dad, Somnath
2 Steve Dwiggins
3 Michael Dwiggins

rock followed her to Vassar College, where in 2008, she and a childhood friend founded Neon Gold Records. Releasing singles from artists like Gotye and Ellie Goulding, the label eventually became part of Atlantic Records. While running Neon Gold in New York, post-college, Lizzy got an email from Vassar classmate Max Hershenow. Max was waiting tables and attending the Martha Graham Center of Contemporary Dance while trying to break into music production, and he wanted to know if she had any leads for new artists with whom he might collaborate. Lizzy did: herself. “I had been writing songs but wasn’t ready to go for it,” she recalled. “Max was as green as I was, and it felt safe to send him my work.” During their initial meet-up in Max’s apartment, the two managed to record a song in three hours. “We just instantly connected,” she summed up. Once Lizzy and Max had five songs under their belt, they came up with a band name and put themselves online, where fan mail from agents and music labels started to trickle in. MS MR’s big break came when their self-made collage web video for the single “Hurricane” went viral. “That elevated us from a niche online buzz band to being everywhere,” explained Lizzy. She and Max are currently at work on their second album, which will be released next spring. When asked about her time at ASL, the 26-year-old became animated about her past teachers, such as English faculty **Mr. Potchatek (ASL 2004–present)** and **Mr. Ingram (ASL 2002–12)**. “They taught me how to share my voice,” she said. “What I learned from them continues to inspire my writing as a lyricist now.” She is also grateful for the mentorship of **Judy Kisor (ASL 1994–2014)** and

Meg Bailey (ASL 1990–2014) and to all of her numerous coaches. ASL taught Lizzy to work hard, a quality that is just as important to her music career as it was to her high school course load. Her advice for aspiring ASL musicians is to put your music first, and stand by it. “It’s so easy to be manipulated into something else,” she warned. She also encourages those starting out to take advantage of technology and the internet. “You don’t have to have a music label or access to a studio,” Lizzy said. “We spent \$500 making our first record with an old mike and a laptop.” These are humble beginnings for a pop star who performed to a crowd of 20,000 in June. “We take it just one step at a time,” she laughed. Visit MS MR’s website, www.msmsounds.com, to learn about upcoming tour dates and news about their next album.

Walking in memory of Rudy Menon ’05
More than 100 friends, family members and supporters turned out to London’s South Bank on Sunday, 8 June to join a walk in memory of ASL alumnus **Rudy Menon ’05**. Rudy was an accomplished young man who tragically lost his life last year to Gliomatosis Cerebri, a rare form of brain cancer. Stretching along the Thames from Westminster to Tower Bridges, the walk aimed to raise funds and awareness for treatment of this disease as well as to honor Rudy’s remarkable legacy. Participants included Rudy’s brother, **Arjun ’09**, his parents, **Somnath and Vidhu P ’05 ’09**, alumnus **Tarek Azwai ’05**, **Deepa Mer P ’13**, LS Creative Arts Assistant Teacher **Preeti Nalwa P ’09 ’14**, and advancement team colleagues **Laurie Hindley (ASL 2006–present)** and **Libby Jones (ASL 2012–present)**.

Save the dates!

Please join us for an ASL alumni event in 2015!

17 December: ASL Homecoming (London)

5 February: Boston

10 February: San Francisco

25 April: Connecticut

27 April: New York City

Visit the alumni events calendar online for more details and updates (www.asl.org/alumni)

The weather was gloriously sunny as the group traversed the river bank, smiles beaming and hopes soaring. We extend a special thank you to the ASL community for helping to make Rudy’s walk such an encouraging and memorable event. To learn more about Rudy and how you can help, visit the website created by his family, www.justgiving.com/RememberingRudyAnirudhMenon ■



DURING a picture-perfect weekend in San Diego last May, 17 ASL classmates, brought together by Charles Scudder ’64, gathered to celebrate their 50th high school reunion. Representing the Class of 1964, they brought with them memories of their Gloucester Gate campus and headmaster, Stephen Eckard. They recalled holding vigil at the US Embassy when President Kennedy was assassinated. They swapped Vietnam war stories and shared photos of their grandchildren. They talked of their pursuits in higher education, their service in the CIA, their travels and long careers. Some came with partners. Some brought old scrapbooks and letters. One flew in from China to be in attendance. Over the course of two days that spanned five decades, the Class of 1964 picked up where they left off, some 50 years ago.

Clif Cates
After completing Grade 9 and leaving ASL in 1961, I attended Mount Hermon School in Massachusetts, graduating in 1964. I earned my B.A. at Yale in 1968, as did my ASL classmate, **Charles Scudder**. I then spent four years as a naval officer, including one “in country” (Vietnam), followed by three years at Harvard Law School, from which

CLASS OF '64 REUNION



I graduated in 1975. Since then I have been working as a tax lawyer and am presently of counsel to two firms: Ivins, Phillips & Barker in Washington, D.C., and TroyGould in Los Angeles. I have resided in Pasadena, California since 1979. I have two grown sons who live in San Diego. The older is an IT specialist, and the younger is a real estate developer. My outside interests include reading to children in the Pasadena school system, piano, competitive bridge and skiing.

Michael Dwiggins
After graduating from ASL, I attended Whitman College in Walla Walla, Washington, but ultimately received my B.Sc. in 1968 from the University of Oregon. I spent four years in the US Navy and then started my business career in 1973 at Occidental Life

Insurance Company in Los Angeles. In 1977, my wife and I moved to San Luis Obispo, California, where I pursued a career in real estate. In 2002, I entered the Internet industry, ultimately becoming CFO and part owner of a company. My wife and I retired in March 2010 and spend much of the time traveling and playing golf at our local country club in Arnold, California. We have two grown children, one in the real estate industry in San Francisco and one in the entertainment industry in Los Angeles.

Steve Dwiggins
Like my brother, I attended Whitman College for a period of time. After a year off for health issues, I earned a B.A. in history from San Francisco State College (now University). This was the same school from which **Sunni Anderson** graduated, although we did not know we were there at the same time. In 1969, I started working for Pan American World Airways in Los Angeles, which would turn out to be a 42-year-career in the airline industry. After almost 11 years with Pan Am, I was laid off and moved to San Luis Obispo, California, to spend the next 30 years working for SkyWest Airlines, the nation’s largest regional airline. Twenty of those years were spent in SkyWest’s corporate offices in St. George, Utah, handling the airline’s corporate real estate functions. Upon retirement in 2013, my wife and I took a 30-day cruise

- 1 Chaddie Kruger
- 2 John Maybury
- 3 The Class of '64, junior year
- 4 Lisa and Richard Weiner
- 5 Sandy Hunt and Cliff Cates
- 6 Roxanne Johnson and Dan Sanders
- 7 Merilee Olson, Sunni Anderson, Cherie Morris and Chaddie Kruger
- 8 Charles Scudder with Jim McConkie
- 9 The Dwiggins twins



to the South Pacific and continue to enjoy traveling in our RV, visiting family in California, Texas and upstate New York. We've also been dancing and playing bridge while watching our new home being built in a retirement community here in St. George. I'm still in good health and look forward to many happy years in retirement. I like to think that, in the 42 years I spent in the airline industry, I made a positive contribution to the lives of the traveling public as they visited family, friends and exotic destinations throughout the world.

Chaddie Kruger

Firstly, please email me, chaddiekruger@gmail.com! I would love to hear from anyone I knew who wasn't at the reunion (or was!). I have missed you all for so long! Secondly, my update: I ended up getting



an M.A. in Latin and teaching Latin and various areas of classical civilization for over 30 years at high school and university levels. I resigned two years ago and am now doing writing projects. I have a wonderful, crazy husband, a son and daughter (now not-so-children-ish!) and two beautiful grandsons (8 and 4). Thirdly, there are not words to tell you what it feels like, 50 years later, to be with ASL classmates again. It's a heart-clutching time warp—filled with memories that seem totally present, and the same love for ASL that I had in 1964. My ASL group is my family and always will be. I hope the next reunion is soon!

Roxana (Johnson) Lonergan

Post '64 included college years, work in New York City and living in Los Angeles. In the 70s, I worked on *The Waltons* and then got married. We moved to New York. We had two daughters, a family life in Manhattan and summer stays on the North Shore of Massachusetts. The 90s brought a job for me in NYC and our first child going to college. I eventually divorced, left NYC and returned to Los Angeles. 2000 brought a high school boyfriend back into my life. 2003 provided a salaried job in a Santa Monica law office. 2014 includes that same boyfriend, same job, a house and a cat. Not bad.

John Maybury

While most of my 20 classmates dispersed to the Ivy League in 1964,

I headed back to the West Coast to famed party school UC Santa Barbara. It took all of my ASL-learned discipline to withstand UCSB's surf and beer culture, but I eventually found the sweet spot: a combination of academic social sciences and practical journalism (writing and editing for the campus daily and publishing an off-campus newspaper), plus a junior year "abroad" as a volunteer in Service to America (VISTA) in a poor neighborhood of New York City. After college, I drifted in and out of writing and editing, gigs with newspapers, magazines, newsletters, nonprofits, research firms, labor unions and county government, plus sideline work in limousine chauffeuring and Amtrak bartending. Finally, in the mid-1980s, I landed a solid full-time copyediting job, which morphed into my current iteration as a freelance copy editor (see Goofbuster.com). In my spare time, I write columns for the *Pacifica*, *California Tribune* and the Sierra Club Peninsula Chapter's Loma Prieta, and I publish and edit the *Pacifica Riptide* blog. The opening of the Tom Lantos Tunnels at Devil's Slide and the welcome beginning of social security benefits have allowed me to move to a new home in bucolic Moss Beach, California, along with my longtime partner Leslie Davidson. We are surrounded by national, state and county parks, ideal for biking and hiking. We live close to good seafood places in Princeton Harbor and Half Moon Bay.



Cherie Morris

I was at ASL for my sophomore year of high school, but it was the most memorable of the four. My career Navy father was transferred back to the US, and I finished high school in McLean, Virginia. I attended Salem College in Winston Salem, North Carolina, and finished at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. After majoring in American studies and chemistry, I moved to Atlanta and met my husband, John, within six months. John was working in Atlanta after graduating from Georgia Tech. While many of my ASL classmates were serving their country in the military, I spent almost 20 years on the front lines of the war on poverty, working for the USDA's Food and Nutrition Service. I served as the regional director for both the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) and food stamp program. John's work took us to Newport Beach, California, in 1985. Today we are retired, working on staying healthy and playing golf. We have a daughter who is COO of Conservation International and a 7-year-old granddaughter.

David Romano

I am a Greek and Roman archaeologist who teaches in the School of Anthropology at the University of Arizona in Tucson. Previously, I was at the Penn Museum in Philadelphia for 37 years where I studied classical archaeology, eventually working in the Mediterranean section of the museum and teaching at UPENN. I have been involved in fieldwork in Greece for much of the past 40 years and am currently co-director and field director of the Mt. Lykaion Excavation and Survey Project, www.lykaionexcavation.org, in Arcadia at the birthplace of Zeus. I am also the initiator of the Parrhasian Heritage Park of the Peloponnesos, www.parrhasianheritagepark.org, the first large-scale cultural heritage park in Greece. I have been married for 35 years to Irene Bald Romano (also an archaeologist who works at the University of Arizona) and have three daughters, Katy, Lizzie and Sarah. Katy is married, Lizzie works at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, and Sarah lives and works Tucson. I do travel through London most years on my way to Greece and have had the occasion to stop by and see the new American School in London, and a few years ago, to have the opportunity to give a lecture and attend classes there. I consider London to be the most interesting city in the world and am grateful for the one year, 1959–1960, that I spent at ASL. Visit my website, www.davidgilmanromano.org

- 1 Freshman year, 1960–61
- 2 Class of 1964 photo-op in San Diego
- 3 Dan Sanders
- 4 Sophomores, 1961–62
- 5 Charles Scudder



Dan Sanders

After ASL, I went to Stephen Eckard's alma mater, Princeton, where I majored in philosophy, and then earned a master of divinity degree from a Presbyterian theological seminary. Many years later, after being a foreign-service officer in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, and Zagreb, Croatia, I got a Ph.D. I did some teaching (of statistics, sociology, economics, and public administration), but mostly I have been doing social science research: number-crunching survey results (in Kentucky and later China). My first wife and I divorced when our children were teenagers. My son heads a software development team, plays lots of soccer, and is co-owner of the Magnolia Photo Booth Company, www.magbooth.com. My daughter went to Columbia University and then moved to France, where she met her French husband and had a daughter, my first grandchild. She also earned two master's degrees and a Ph.D, and currently teaches at the University of Paris. Nine years ago, I spent a week in Shanghai. It seemed like America in the late 1950s. There was less crime, less obesity, less drug use, more optimism, more discipline and less decadence. Feeling safe and at home, I decided to find a Chinese wife and move to China. At the age of 60, I married a divorced Chinese woman of 50 who has a son in Canada. We live in Hangzhou, which is an hour (by bullet train) south-west of

Shanghai. Kublai Khan ended its century as the capital of China. I have recently developed a scholarly interest in Ancient China. My eight years here have been a wonderful learning experience. I have acted in two Chinese TV commercials in which I had the only speaking role, and had a bit part (as JFK) in a historical mini-series that was shown on national TV. I also got to pat a grown tiger.

Charles Scudder

After graduating from ASL, I received my B.A. from Yale and then spent three years in the US Army in a military intelligence unit in Vicenza, Italy (this was my contribution to the war in Vietnam). I was married to my first wife, Jannette, in Venice in 1970, complete with a gondola procession up the Grand Canal. I returned to the UK in 1971 and studied law at Merton College, Oxford, where I received my degree in 1973. Moving back to the States, I obtained a further law degree from the University of Connecticut and went to work for the old Wall Street firm Winthrop, Stimson, Putnam & Roberts (now Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw

Pittman). I spent seven years with Winthrop and then took a position in house with Conoco Inc., which soon was taken over by DuPont. As a result, we moved from Connecticut to Chadds Ford, Pennsylvania. After a time at DuPont and a stint with Unisys Corporation as their chief corporate and securities lawyer, I spent a number of years in Cincinnati as US General Counsel for the French company CarnaudMetalbox. Eventually, I was brought back to Philadelphia by an offer of equity partnership in the Center City firm of Obermayer Rebmann, Maxwell & Hippel, where I practiced mergers and acquisitions and securities law for a decade. In 2001, one of my clients, Dutch company AkzoNobel N.V., offered me a position to head up their corporate practice in the Americas, where I am to this day. My second wife, Marigrace, and I were married on the island of Capri three years ago, and we now live in Darien, Connecticut. I have three children: Whit, who is a lawyer in Philadelphia; Jocelyn, who works in an art museum in Park City, Utah; and Ansley, who is a tennis professional in Seabrook Island, South Carolina. I still love to ski, enjoy tennis and golf, and play the guitar. I have been out skiing with our classmate **Jim McConkie** in Utah over the years. I am also active on various philanthropic boards of directors. It was wonderful to see everyone at the reunion, some of whom I had not had contact with for 50 years, and great thanks to the ASL team of William and Libby who helped make the reunion such a success. ■

There's No Place Like

Home(coming)!

Wednesday,
17 December

4:30 pm:
alumni vs. faculty basketball game
5-7 pm:
the Commons

It's that time of year
To be ASL bound
For good times and good cheer
At your old stomping ground
Join fellow alums
Share drinks and a bite
See teachers and chums
On Homecoming night!

To RSVP, email Libby Jones,
libby_jones@asl.org!



The
Bruce
House
Society

A bequest
may be best

A bequest in your will may
be the best way to make a
deferred gift to ASL.

A bequest:

- can provide generous support without affecting your current income or cash flow
- can be directed to a specific program or for a specific purpose
- will provide a charitable estate tax deduction
- is easy to accomplish with a simple codicil
- will help future generations at ASL.

The Bruce House Society

The Bruce House Society celebrates the tradition of generosity at ASL and promotes a connection from this generation of ASLers to the next. The Society will recognize those individuals and families who have included the American School in London in their long-term financial or estate plans. Informing the School of a bequest provision, a life-income gift or other deferred giving arrangement, qualifies an individual for membership. Members of the Bruce House Society will be listed in the school's Annual Report and invited to special events.

The Bruce House Society is named for ASL benefactor David K. Bruce, US Ambassador to the Court of St. James's 1961–69, who was instrumental in helping ASL acquire and develop the St. John's Wood campus. Bruce House, the head of school's residence at 49 Grove End Road, is named for Ambassador Bruce who gave generously to the 1970 construction of the site. If you have already included ASL in a bequest or other planned gift, we hope you will let us know. Your willingness to be listed as a member of the Bruce House Society encourages others to follow your example. We acknowledge and respect those who wish to remain anonymous, but we urge you to inform us of your plans on a confidential basis as it supports the school's planning for the future.

If you have not included the School in your plans, and you would like to explore the best options for you and your family, do not hesitate to contact Associate Director of Advancement for Annual and Capital Giving Sandy Mateus, +44 (0)20 7449 1446 or sandy_mateus@asl.org.

In memoriam

- 1 Molly McClure
- 2 Tosh Lee
- 3 Dwaine Steffes
- 4 Bill Mardlin



We are saddened to report the loss of the following members of our community:

Alumni and parents of alumni
Peter O'Meara '60,
on 19 November 2013.

Richard Hughes '80,
on 12 December 2013.

Anna McWethy P '13 '15 '17,
on 1 September 2014, in
Albuquerque, NM.

Dr. Nabil Morgan P '80 '84,
1 March 2014. He is survived by his
children, Soraya '80 and Amir '84.

Former faculty and staff

Former HS English teacher Tosh Lee P '83 (ASL 1975–98) passed away in her home in London on 25 November 2013. Memorial services were held for Tosh in London and in her childhood home in Coon Rapids, IA. A much-loved and fondly remembered teacher, Tosh join the ASL high school English department in 1975, where she remained until her retirement in 1998. Tosh had a lifelong love of music and was a member of the chorus of the Royal Albert Hall and the Royal Choral Society. Tosh is survived by her children, Tim '83 and Amy, and by many family members and friends.

Former ASL middle school teacher Dwaine Steffes P '87 (ASL 1971–91) passed away on 22 February 2014. His funeral took place on 10 March at Clayton Wood Natural Burial Ground, Brighton. Dwaine joined the faculty of ASL in 1971, teaching math, history and English. A keen writer of plays and short stories, he completed his first novel, "The Blue



Goose Stops Here," in February this year. His book on bereavement counseling, "When Someone Dies," was translated into 14 languages. Dwaine is survived by his wife, Majken, daughter Heidi, and son Kristian '87.

Molly McClure (ASL 1979–2008), former library assistant, passed away on 13 August 2014 at her home. A Mass of the Resurrection took place on 3 September at the Church of the Transfiguration, Kensal Rise. Renowned for her boundless knowledge of British history, English literature and Shakespeare, Molly was legendary for pointing students to exactly the right resource on any given era, work or play. She will be missed and fondly remembered by her many friends.

Bill Mardlin, ASL bus driver since 1993, passed away on 15 October 2014. 'Bill the Bus Driver' was enormously popular among students, parents, faculty and staff alike, and he touched the lives of so many in our school community. Transport Manager Alan Clarke says of Bill, "He was conscientious and reliable and cared for each and every child that rode in his bus." Bill will be sadly missed.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to his wife, Linda, children Warren and Jodi, and his grandchildren.

A book in the Mellon Library Collection is dedicated to each member of the ASL community who passes away. For more information, please contact the American Memorial Collection (AMC), amc@asl.org, or visit asl.org > Community/Login > AMC.



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