

The PotomacTerm

The Alumni Magazine of The Potomac School • Spring 2012

Individual Accomplishment



Sasha DiGiulian '11



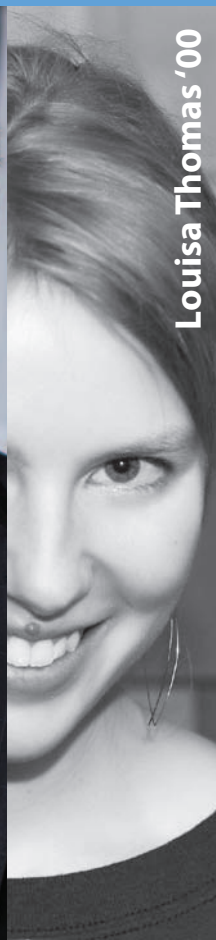
Alex Ross '83



Zal Batmanglij '98



Jody Goehring '99



Louisa Thomas '00



Whitney Tymas '76

April 27–28, 2012



REUNION '12

WELCOME HOME

In just a few weeks, Potomac alumni will return to campus once again to celebrate and reconnect with classmates, friends and faculty. Join us **April 27 and 28** to relive May Day, walk the trails you explored as children, and experience new traditions that help us grow as a community.

ALL Potomac alumni, regardless of graduation year, are invited to come together for Reunion '12. We will celebrate milestones for classes ending in 2 and 7!

SPECIAL PERFORMANCE THIS YEAR ON FRIDAY, APRIL 27

7:00–11:00 pm: All-Alumni Cocktail Party and Live Music

Join alumni and past and current faculty for a cocktail party in the Upper School's Kettler Crossroads and Civali Courtyard.

Don't miss this musical extravaganza with:

Baron Tymas '75 Associate Professor of Music
and Assistant Director of Jazz Studies at NCCU

Kofi Burbridge '76 The Derek Trucks Band and Tedeschi Trucks Band

Oteil Burbridge '79 Grammy Award-winning musician,
Allman Brothers Band and Tedeschi Trucks Band

David Moses '76, drummer

These accomplished musicians first launched their band at Potomac in the 1970s.

To see the schedule and register go to www.potomacschool.org/alumni.
Questions? Contact Laura Miller, Director of Alumni of Relations
at lmiller@potomacschool.org or 703-749-6356

A CONVERSATION

Head of School Geoff Jones and Alumni Governing Council President Ann Renzy Maclean '86

Tell me about the Strategic Plan and specifically about the goal around individual accomplishment.

While our goal is to be continually strategic, periodically we engage in a deliberate assessment and planning process that involves the entire community. Some of the strategic goals represent continuing work that has been going on for some time; other initiatives are new. Our 2010-2016 Strategic Plan focuses on four goals: Transformative Teaching, Individual Accomplishment, Connected Community and Financial Sustainability.

Individual accomplishment builds on one of the great strengths of this School, which is the collaborative environment. You really can't have a strong collaborative environment unless everyone is bringing forth his or her best effort. That is what we are seeking, and that has been the traditional strength of Potomac. You have to understand excellence from a large communal place as well as from the individual perspective, allowing each person to be more effective and inspiring to others.

Define what an "accomplished individual" looks like.

We are not talking about an accomplished individual per se; we are talking about life-long learners. That is the baseline. The idea is that Potomac graduates will be broadly and deeply informed individuals who are contributors and leaders. This is not a passive process, it's an active process. There will be milestones along the way and setbacks. In fact, the setbacks may result in more of an accomplishment than the milestones.



Strategic Plan Goal #2

Individual Accomplishment

Expand break-through opportunities for every student in the pursuit of self-discovery, wholeness and extraordinary achievement in and beyond traditional academic categories.

It sounds like the six alumni highlighted in the magazine tell us something about individual accomplishment.

These alumni are exploring and developing their personal interests and skills. That exploration leads to opportunities throughout one's life and tells us something about how we might pursue our own passions. At Potomac we have always created an environment that allows individual accomplishment to emerge. You find your passion, and the job will create itself.

What would you like to say to alumni about the shared Potomac experience?

I am so proud of the accomplishments of our alumni. We treasure all of you as individuals and as an important part of our community. No matter where in your educational journey you joined us, or how long you stayed, you are part of the traditions that guide our work. One of our community's strengths has been our willingness and ability to change with the times and yet be the School every alum would know from his or her own experience.



The PotomacTerm

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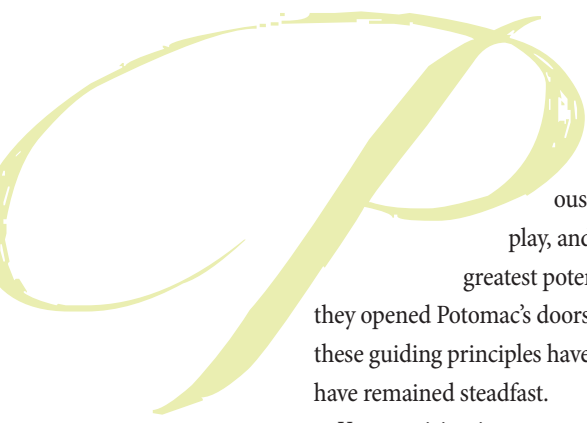
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Individual accomplishment



Potomac's distinctive character was formed more than a century ago. Discovery, a child's spontaneous ability to explore and to engage the world through play, and the power of community to elicit each student's greatest potential were the tenets that three women embraced as they opened Potomac's doors on Dupont Circle in 1904. For generations since, these guiding principles have held true. And our character, values and ideals have remained steadfast.

Yet our vision is never static: we continually assess our work, looking for ways to adapt, grow and improve. We understand that our students are entering a world of constant change. They will need to be flexible, resourceful and innovative thinkers. At Potomac, we create a dynamic foundation from which they can embark on a lifetime of learning, service and self-fulfillment.

This issue of *The Term* focuses on individual accomplishment, one of the goals of our current Strategic Plan. As we look to the future, we are seeking to expand break-through opportunities for every student in the pursuit of self discovery, wholeness and extraordinary achievement in and beyond traditional academic categories. As we reflect on our present and our past we find numerous examples of extraordinary accomplishment. On the pages that follow are just a few of our many alumni who have followed their hearts and passions, who have demonstrated impressive individual accomplishment, and who have demonstrated great imagination in their lives' work.



The outstanding achievements of our alumni speak to the time-tested power of Potomac's educational model: a high bar for all students in the context of a supportive learning environment.

Cindy Swope, French teacher since 1992



The joy of self-discovery, delight in exploring one's emerging gifts, and the patient maturing of a deliberate practice—Potomac excels at creating an environment rich in these foundational experiences.

Bill Cook, Assistant Head of School for Academics, teacher/administrator since 1987



Innovation is not for the faint of heart. It takes tremendous courage to put forth 10,000 ideas, watch 9,999 of them fail, and then follow through on the one. At Potomac, it's a skill that is not as much learned as it is lived.

Jonathan Lindsay, science teacher since 1999

A photograph of Zal Batmanglij on a film set. He is in the foreground, smiling and looking towards the right. He has dark, wavy hair and is wearing a dark t-shirt. In the background, several people are visible, some in white clothing, and there are studio lights and equipment hanging from the ceiling.

Zal Batmanglij '98

Seeing and Being Seen

Writer and director Zal Batmanglij's '98 first feature film hits theaters April 27

How might I describe his mind? Kaleidoscopic," remembers Dean of Faculty and English teacher Sheila O'Marah. "He would see multiple facets inherent in an idea, always looking to advance the complexity and depth of the subject."

One of *Variety's* 10 Directors to

Watch in 2012, Zal Batmanglij '98 has been on a wild ride since submitting *Sound of My Voice* to the 2011 Sundance Film Festival. The ultra-low-budget film garnered significant buzz: a "terrific and engrossing venture into speculative fiction," glowed the *Hollywood Reporter*; "bracingly ambitious" and "forward-thinking," wrote *The*

Washington Post. The attention piqued the interest of Fox Searchlight, which acquired the film in April 2011 and plans a nationwide release this year on April 27.

Home for the holidays in late December, after wrapping shooting on his second feature film, *The East*, Zal spoke with *The Term* before heading



back to LA for five months of 12-hour days in the editing studio.

For all the glamour associated with Hollywood filmmaking, the act itself involves less glitz than grit and guts. “It’s like the army. We wake up at 7 am and we don’t finish shooting ‘til 9 pm. We have 20 minutes off for lunch. It’s an intense, regimented day. Your brain

cannot be going off in a kaleidoscopic fashion if you want to get your work done,” he says. “At the same time, it’s because I can run on multiple frequencies that I can oversee and pay attention to all the many different aspects of filmmaking.”

What could this mean for Zal’s first film? It’s safe to say that Searchlight’s support will give *Sound of My Voice* a fighting chance. After all, this is the same studio that released indie hits *Juno*, *Slumdog Millionaire*, *Sideways* and *Little Miss Sunshine*. But *Sound of My Voice* is no *Little Miss Sunshine*. It is darker, coarser — more akin to *The Wrestler* and *Black Swan* (also Searchlight features), but made on a smaller budget and originally conceived as a serial for the Web. *Voice* is a fictional film about two documentary filmmakers who infiltrate a cult intending to expose it. Along the way, one of them seems to fall under the spell of the cult leader, who may or may not be from the future.

“I am hungry for the authentic experience, the unmitigated experience, a raw experience,” says Zal. “I think we all are. We’re really hungry to connect fully with human beings and also to have something real transpire between us and other people, but also us and the world.”

At Potomac, that affinity for connection expressed itself even in history class. Retired Upper School history teacher Gail Nields remembers, “He connected with the historical people and what they were grappling with so that history wasn’t just memorizing facts. History was understanding why people made the decisions they did. And that makes for an extraordinary history student.”

This longing to see inside — to be

inside — the minds and communities of others might have something to do with being transplanted from one culture to another at an early age. Born in France, Zal moved with his family to the U.S. at age 7. From then on he expressed an enthusiasm for engagement remembered clearly by all of his favorite teachers.

“He was very enthusiastic about everything,” remembers retired sixth grade teacher Jane Lorentz. “It doesn’t matter what it was. Whatever he was asked to do, he jumped right in and gave it his all.” Such as rehearsing his Oscar acceptance speech.

“She *made* me practice it,” Zal insists. “First he would thank his parents,”

“We’re really hungry to connect fully with human beings and also to have something real transpire between us and other people, but also us and the world.”

says Ms. Lorentz, “then he’d thank some other people. Then I would make him say, ‘And I want to especially thank my sixth grade teacher.’”

Although Zal claims indifference on the subject of Oscars today, he feels passionately about the lessons he learned in Ms. Lorentz’s classroom, which he remembers as especially strict and structured. “Sometimes people think that to be a creative person you have to be really creatively free all the time,” he says. “I don’t think that’s necessarily true. At least for me, structure and fairness and safety, emotional and physical, inspire more creative freedom. And Mrs. Lorentz definitely taught me that.”

Zal’s job as a director, then, is to create a similarly safe space for his actors,



"I think your big break is whenever you're seen. You really remember the times when someone sees you."

who might be asked to cry, sing, dance or make love in front of a film crew and camera on any given day. "That's pretty intense work that can easily devolve into being really unsafe or emotionally way too overwhelming. Part of what I do is set the parameters: these are the boundaries we're not going to cross."

Of course, there were instances in Zal's Potomac career when he perceived himself as outside of the safe inner circle of some group or other. Although he pined to be an actor, he says he wasn't cast in any good parts in the seventh and eighth grade plays. "So I spent the entire time watching Mr. Moriarty and

Mr. Morgan directing. I was like, clearly I've been mistaken and directing is a lot more fun than acting. You get to tell everyone what to do." Which was particularly appealing to Zal, who says he sometimes felt powerless as a child. "The really good teachers cultivate in their students a feeling of agency rather than letting them feel powerless, which of course they are."

Perhaps even more meaningful to Zal than the bonds he formed with his teachers were those he established with friends. "I had some amazing friends at Potomac that educated me about the quality of people you can find out there in the world," he says. "We forged such intense, close, intimate relationships. I came out of high school used to that and then hungry to find that in college. And that was a major part of why I'm making movies today, because I met [filmmaker] Mike Cahill and then Brit Marling at Georgetown. We formed relationships that were very similar to the relationships I had in high school."

Now Zal and Mike Cahill find themselves among a small stable of up-and-coming young directors being groomed by Fox Searchlight. "We were so chuffed and happy just to do movies at Sundance. Little did we know that the best studio in the world for

independent films would pick up our movies." And although Zal is extremely grateful for and excited by this, he doesn't necessarily see Searchlight as his one big break.

"I think your big break is whenever you're seen," he says. "You really remember the times when someone sees you. Your life comes into focus — from the kaleidoscopic to the focused. I felt that Jane Lorentz saw me, and it changed my life. That's another asset of Potomac: if one teacher does not see you, which happened to me many times, then another teacher will. And then your life leaps forward."



A portrait of Whitney Tymas '76, a woman with dark hair, smiling, wearing a blue and white striped shirt under a dark blazer. The background is a blurred bookshelf. A vertical blue bar is on the left side of the image.

Whitney Tymas '76

Power Concedes Nothing
Without a Demand

An Interview with Whitney Tymas '76, Director of the Vera Institute's Prosecution and Racial Justice Program

More than 1 in 100 American adults is locked up. We've got more people incarcerated than any country in the world. America held more than 2.3 million adults in its prison system in 2008. China came second with about a million and a half. Russia was a distant third with less than a million. We are the global leader when it comes to putting our people behind bars. That's shocking unto itself. Then you start breaking the numbers down by who's getting locked up: one in 30 men between the ages of 20 and 34 is now incarcerated. For black men between 20 and 34, that number is 1 in 9.

This just happened. It is the result of steady growth in our criminal justice system over the past four decades. Much of the prison boom was fueled by the war on drugs. The result is a serious situation with dire implications for everyone, but particularly for communities of color. Not only do these communities face the immediate hardship of disproportionate contact with law enforcement, they face ancillary consequences. For example, when people are labeled felons, they stand to lose more than their liberty. They also lose their

full share of rights within our democracy — to certain housing, jobs, public benefits and, most importantly, to vote. Imagine the aggregate impacts of black and brown people disproportionately losing the right to vote.

These numbers are not some inexplicable anomaly. They reflect our priorities and our policies. And viewed in the context of our nation's legacy of



Whitney and her brother, Baron Tymas '75

racism, there is a growing awareness that significant bias exists in the criminal justice system. It just does. I can say this with utter conviction, having been a defense attorney, having been a prosecutor. Against that backdrop, folks started scrutinizing judges and police officers. Recently, through Vera's Prosecution and Racial Justice Program, attention is now being directed towards the prosecutor's role.

Of all the actors in the criminal justice system, it's the prosecutor that wields the greatest power. Prosecutors get to decide what and how many charges to file, whether to upgrade or reduce charges, what types of plea offers and sentencing recommendations to make, and a host of other things. A lot of the decisions that prosecutors make might not be the result of conscious racism, but we all carry our biases. They're deep, unconscious and internalized. And the impact, when you look at many thousands of cases, can be very harmful and can result in vast societal disparity.

The Prosecution and Racial Justice Program is the first of its kind. To help prosecutors do their jobs more fairly, we work with them to look at all of the points at which they exercise discretion. If we uncover areas of concern, we work closely with the offices to find out what's going on, why unwarranted disparities exist, and then to address them through the development of policy where necessary. No one's ever attempted this before. While people may have had hunches about how prosecutors do business, no one else has actually gone into these offices, analyzed the numbers and worked collaboratively to address racial disparity.

If there is no struggle there is no progress. Those who profess to favor freedom and yet deprecate agitation are men who want crops without plowing up the ground; they want rain without thunder and lightning. They want the ocean without the awful roar of its many waters. This struggle may be a moral one, or it may be a physical one, and it may be both moral and physical, but it must be a struggle. Power concedes nothing without a demand. It never did and it never will.

—Frederick Douglass, 1857

The environment in which prosecutors make decisions has been compared to the “black box.” So it takes a rare prosecutor to invite an organization in to look for areas of racial disparity — one who is forward thinking and committed to transparency and accountability. The first few jurisdictions we worked with were Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Mecklenburg, North Carolina; and San Diego, California. We just started work in Manhattan this January.

I definitely did not go to law school intending to be a prosecutor. I started out with the Neighborhood Defender Service of Harlem, which was an experimental, completely innovative Vera project. NDS was the first office of its kind to provide criminal defense to indigent clients in a holistic way. It was a community-based law office designed to function like a private law firm, to deliver the highest quality of services. We were

And I had to get from Southeast Washington to McLean, Virginia, every day to go to Potomac, which was kind of a trek across the world. I think I always hoped I would do work that might make the world a better place.

open and available to help our clients and their families around the clock.

People are not going to want to cooperate or participate in the administration of justice if they’re not being treated fairly. Witnesses will not want to come forward. Communities just won’t buy in if historical tensions and mistreatment continue. That will result in

less justice and less safety for everyone.

I grew up in the ‘60s during a period of great civil unrest. I was, as a young kid, aware daily of the chasm between the haves and the have-nots. I was also blessed to have been born to parents who reinforced in me commitments to service and who talked about current events and told me why people were out protesting on the Mall every weekend. And I had to get from Southeast Washington to McLean, Virginia, every day to go to Potomac, which was kind of a trek across the world. I think I always hoped I would do work that might make the world a better place.

Potomac is special. It respects and celebrates the individuality of each young person, and it values each student as a unique member of the community. I think the emphasis on creativity and self-expression is very healthy, and the environment, the proximity to trees and grass — those are wonderful components to an education. And certainly the relationships that I developed at Potomac have nourished me throughout my life.

I have many heroes who are unknown. I think that life for regular people is challenging. It always has been. So my heroes are the people who have the strength to get up every day and do jobs they may not want to do. They’re people who are committed to helping others in small ways and without getting credit. I don’t have a groupie bone in my body. I tend to respond in the same way to people who are famous as I would to regular people. That’s a lasting consequence of a childhood at Potomac, surrounded by so many notable parents. It really demystified fame.

Listening to Aretha Franklin singing “Young, Gifted and Black” and

In June 2011, Whitney Tymas became director of the Prosecution and Racial Justice Program at the Vera

Institute of Justice, a nonprofit center for justice policy and practice. Tymas began her career as a public defender with the Neighborhood Defender Service of Harlem. She later worked at the Office of the Appellate Defender in New York and as a prosecutor in Richmond, Virginia. She also ran the Gun and Gang Violence Prosecution Program and the Southwest Border Crime Program for the National District Attorneys Association. Tymas holds a BA from Barnard and a JD from New York University.

Stevie Wonder singing “Living for the City” — those were the anthems of my youth. I couldn’t hear “Living for the City” without crying as a kid. I had to turn the record player off. These cultural icons had an impact on the direction my life took. So in addition to the nameless heroes and ancestors who basically worked and died for the likes of me, there were others who in a cultural context were so inspiring to many kids of my generation.

I remember growing up hearing Frederick Douglass’ statement: “Power concedes nothing without a demand. It never did and it never will.” This statement emphasized how important it is to work for your freedom. To agitate when necessary. To make noise when necessary. History has shown that this may lead to a verbal or even a physical struggle. But there is a measure of work and demand that’s always necessary for people to achieve their own freedom.

A photograph of Jody Goehring '99, a man with short brown hair, standing in a menswear store. He is wearing a dark navy blazer over a grey V-neck sweater and a patterned collared shirt. His hands are in his pockets. The background shows racks of shirts and a display of ties on a wooden table.

Jody Goehring '99

Well Suited

As director of operations for premium menswear label Alton Lane, Jody Goehring '99 does business with style.

BY LEAH FAYE COOPER '02

Jody Goehring '99 is at the helm of a revolution. His location: New York City. His title: director of operations. His mission: to make buying menswear such a tailor-made experience that the term “shopping” assumes a brand new identity.

Jody hopes to accomplish this fashionable feat by shaking up the retail industry with Alton Lane — the premium, custom menswear label he joined in March 2011. Housed on the sixth floor of an unassuming brick building in Manhattan’s Flatiron district, the Alton Lane headquarters seems less a store and more a modern, distinguished gentlemen’s lair. Roomy leather furniture, hardwood floors and a sleek, well-stocked bar provide the setting for Alton Lane’s cache of custom menswear services. “This is an experience,” Jody says of a visit to the showroom. “You’re not walking into some store where you flip through the racks trying to find your size. You come in, you

have a seat on the couch, and you can have a scotch or a beer. The TV is on,” he says, pointing to a flat screen tuned to ESPN, “and there are games and music.”

A first-time visitor steps into a 3D body scanner that snaps close to 2000 pictures of his figure and stores his virtual profile in Alton Lane’s computer system. From there, an in-house tailor cross-checks key measurements, and the client peruses a vast selection of suiting fabrics and embellishments. Offerings include bespoke dress shirts, blazers, slacks and ties, all fitting for the label’s core clientele of young professionals who primarily work in business, finance or law. Clients can mix-and-match the colors of their collars and cuffs, opt for a mitre or no mitre, and pick their favorite hue of buttons.

Falling into the attainable luxury niche, Alton Lane’s introductory suits start at \$595 — roughly 40–60 percent below other premium brands, though they boast the same quality. Several factors contribute to their relatively reasonable price point, among them Alton Lane’s elimination of the mark-ups that come with selling through high-end department stores, as well as a reliance on word-of-mouth to promote the company rather than pricey ad campaigns. Thus, Alton Lane can offer their Thomas Ogilvy Suit for \$695 while a similar Hugo Boss ensemble costs about \$1300, sans customization.

“Something that you’d find at Bergdorf’s or Barney’s, you’re going to find here,” Jody says, noting that the company sources high-end fabrics from Europe and invests heavily in perfecting their signature pattern and fit. The dif-

ference is that Alton Lane’s appointments are as customizable as their suits. At noon, a 22-year-old analyst can have a Coors Light while he picks out a blazer; at 4 pm his managing director can watch C-Span and place an order for a tux. “They can have two separate experiences,” Jody says. That perk is drawing a growing number of clients to the custom clothier, many of whom feel overwhelmed in a traditional retail setting.

Prior to joining the 17-person team behind Alton Lane, Jody earned an MBA from the University of Chicago and was on a traditional post-business school track working in investment banking at UBS. However, when his friend, Peyton Jenkins emailed him in late 2010 about a position with the custom clothing company he’d founded with UVA buddy Colin Hunter, Jody soon traded finance for fine clothes.

Today, the University of Pennsylvania alum is responsible for managing the complex supply chain that follows a client’s order. The four-to-five-week process involves ordering fabrics from across the pond, shipping them to an expert-tailor-staffed factory in Thailand, and then sending the finished pieces to the same Massachusetts distributor that houses looks from Zara and Gilt Groupe. From there, the garments are shipped directly to a customer’s home.

Though notoriously hard to impress, the fashion industry has started to notice Alton Lane, and the buzz is palpable. A feature in New York’s *Gotham* magazine and mentions on websites like Forbes.com and Daily Candy have driven considerable traffic to Alton Lane’s site. A piece on UrbanDaddy.com

garnered close to 300 new appointments within a day of being published. And last year, the brand earned a coveted spot on New York magazine’s “Best of List,” which recognized Alton Lane as one of the five best suiting outfitters in the city. In late 2011 the company expanded to DC, opening a showroom situated in the historic Dupont Circle building that’s also home to the East Coast’s first Starbucks.

Alton Lane recently hosted Potomac School mixers at both showrooms. The fetes not only introduced alums to the brand, but were also a thank you of sorts from Jody to the school where he and his brothers, Kirk ‘03 and Lee ‘09, spent their formative years. Jody credits Potomac with teaching him the principles he applies to his job daily, among them personal leadership and team-based results. Generosity of spirit could easily be added to the list, as Alton Lane invests 10 percent of its profits in social and environmental causes aimed at helping impoverished communities. The fact that Jody doesn’t bring this up without being asked is much like a custom Alton Lane suit. Classy.

Leah Faye Cooper ’02 holds a master’s degree from Columbia University’s Graduate School of Journalism and was a recipient of the Richard T. Baker Award for Outstanding Performance in Magazine Production. She is currently a freelance writer reporting on fashion trends and news for Time Out New York.

A close-up portrait of Alex Ross, a man with short dark hair and a slight smile, looking directly at the camera. The background is a blurred cityscape with yellow buildings and a clear sky.

Alex Ross '83

Music That Speaks on Every Level

*An Interview with Alex Ross '83, New Yorker music critic,
best-selling author and emissary of classical music*

What do you remember about music at Potomac?

It was a fantastic music program. Allen Lentz was leading the program at that time. I remember that so many of the kids were involved. Allen was tremendously encouraging of my budding interest in composing, playing music and learning music theory and music history.

And of course there was the John Langstaff factor — some of my most unforgettable early musical memories were when he came for the Christmas celebrations and led the singing of *Lord of the Dance*. His voice was such a thrilling sound. I think he was very much the architect of the music program as it stood, with its emphasis on participation and on so many different kinds of musical traditions: classical,

folk, a bit of popular. Music was just part of the fabric of life. It was not some kind of elite endeavor, but it was something anyone could do if they put their mind to it.

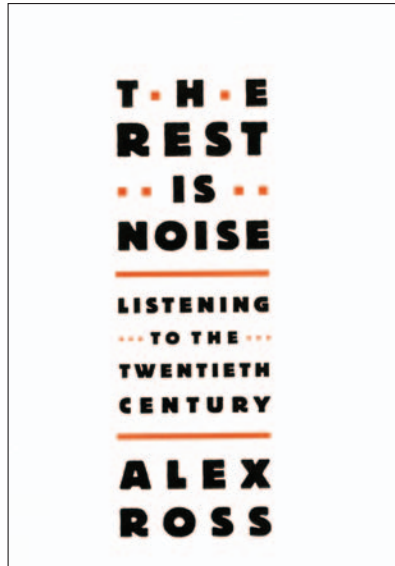
You bought your first LP at age 10: Anton Bruckner's Ninth Symphony. Why did your interest in music veer so much from the mainstream at that early age?

Well, I consider classical music mainstream, of course. For me it was what was playing in the house. [My parents] also took me to concerts, mostly chamber music concerts, around the DC area. I started buying records myself with money that I made from mowing lawns and cat-sitting and so on. My parents didn't have any Bruckner or Mahler — the late Romantic composers. I started checking records out of the library, and then I decided I needed to own some of these symphonies for myself.

Classical music was absolutely natural to me. It didn't seem unusual or strange. It was music that spoke to me on every

Alex Ross '83 has been the music critic of *The New Yorker* since 1996. He is the author of *The Rest is Noise: Listening to the Twentieth Century*, which was a finalist for the 2008 Pulitzer Prize and won the 2007 National Book Critics Circle Award. His second book, *Listen to This*, is a collection of his essays for *The New Yorker*. Alex says in his opening essay, "I hate 'classical music': not the thing but the name." Music, whether classical or popular is for Alex a central expression of the human condition, "It encompasses the high, the low, empire, underground, dance, prayer, silence, noise."

level, emotional and intellectual, and I was somewhat puzzled to discover that all my friends didn't feel the same. And I'm still puzzled by it, actually. I don't know why classical music isn't more a part of everyone's lives because it's such a powerful tradition. When people think about the visual arts, they want

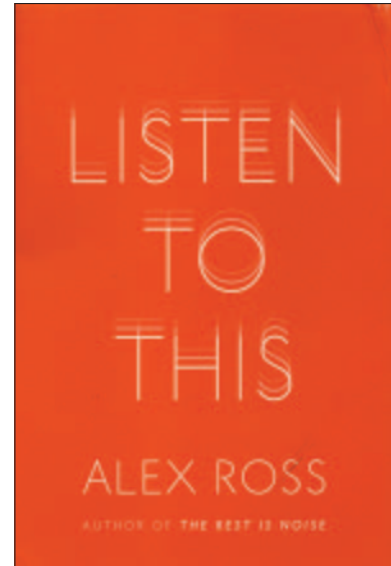


to know about the great Renaissance painters, and Rembrandt and Van Gogh, as well as today's painters. Likewise I feel people should be more aware of the great history of music as well as what's going on in the present time.

Why don't music lovers make classical music a priority, the way art lovers make a point of learning about art history?

A lot of people just aren't exposed to it early on. In so many schools, there's a lack of a really good music education program. There are some classical music institutions trying to give people some of the information they need to understand this music, which for the most part explains itself. When you sit down and listen to a Mahler symphony, the emotion is overwhelming. The narrative is huge and compelling and sweeping and doesn't require a great deal of prior knowledge to fall in love with this music. But it helps to deepen your appreciation, and that's what's needed now.

And when you look at the media these days, it's completely fixated on popular music and almost entirely ignores classical music. I'm the only



writer in the entire country who's writing full time about classical music for a national magazine.

You've written that popular artists today do actually appreciate and draw from classical music.

It's always been that way. Before the end of the 19th century, there wasn't a real distinction between what was popular and what was classical. All the great composers of the previous centuries drew on the popular music of their day. And then this division started to appear at the end of the 19th century, early 20th century. A separate culture formed around popular music, and classical music [began] to withdraw somewhat from the mainstream. And yet there have always been these strong links [between classical and popular music]. In the 1920s you had Gershwin straddling the worlds of jazz and classical music. The same thing happened in the Second World War with bebop; there was a great deal of interchange between jazz and classical musicians and composers then. And then in the 1960s you had the Beatles listening to avant garde classical music — John Cage and Stockhausen and so on.

So in every decade of the 20th century there's been a very lively conversation between the classical and popular worlds, and the same thing is going on today. A lot of [indie rock and pop artists] were actually trained in classical music. Joanna Newsom, Sufjan Stevens, Bjork and the members of Radiohead — they all have classical roots. And you have a lot of younger classical composers today who grew up with pop music, and they reflect it in their work. So this conversation seems especially lively right at the present moment.

How did Sonic Youth and Pere Ubu change your perspective on popular music?

I was so absorbed in classical music when I was young that I wasn't listening to any other kind of music. Once I got to college, I became very involved in 20th-century classical music — avant garde composers like Cage and Stockhausen who experimented with the kind of music that bordered on noise. And then I realized that very similar things were going on in neighboring areas of popular music, in free jazz, in the kind of progressive end of rock. So the first rock bands I ever listened to seriously were Pere Ubu and Sonic Youth. That was a very exciting discovery, and from there my perspective widened enormously. I realized there's so much in popular music, not just the experimental end, but the much more mainstream zone, that I should be paying attention to.

How does one begin to cultivate a taste for classical music?

You can start anywhere. The idea is to find a sound that catches your ear and then to dig in and learn more. With classical music, the key is familiarity. So many people are used to a four- or five-minute-long song format. It can be

quite intimidating to confront a half-hour-long or even hour-long symphony. But if you drive the same path a number of times in your car, you start to recognize all the landmarks along the way. It's the same way with a long-form classical piece.

I can't tell anyone in advance what kind of music they're going to love. The really crucial thing is to go to a live performance. That's where the music truly takes life. Recordings are wonderful, but this is a living art form. Musicians are making their living almost entirely from performances these days. So I definitely urge people to become part of the live performance culture because that's how it's going to be sustained. And pay attention to living composers.

How did you succeed in mixing your writing career with your passion for classical music?

I hadn't planned on a journalistic writing career. After college I was doing a little writing on the side, first for a record review magazine that paid \$2 for each review. But I got the free CDs and was able to listen to a lot of music and get a lot of practice writing, which is very important. A little later I got a couple of freelance assignments from magazines. On the basis of those, the *New York Times* became interested in hiring me as their junior fifth string critic. So I moved to New York in 1992.

A couple years later I started getting some articles in *The New Yorker*. It's a paradise for a writer. So much attention is devoted to the writing itself — the wonderful copyediting and fact checking, the sense of freedom the editors give you to explore subjects that you feel passionate about. And you get a lot of time to work on the pieces. I enjoyed that so much that I basically started

praying that I would someday get a job at *The New Yorker*, and that indeed happened. I'm very lucky to have had a series of opportunities come my way leading me to a job that I feel is absolutely perfect for me.

In *The Rest is Noise*, Alex lists Ten Recommended Recordings for the uninitiated as well as the seasoned concertgoer:

Schoenberg, Berg, and Webern, *Pieces for Orchestra*, Levine/Berlin Philharmonic (DG/ArkivMusic.com)

Stravinsky, *Rite of Spring and Petruska*, Stravinsky/Columbia Symphony (Sony)

Bartók, *Concerto for Orchestra and Music for Strings, Percussion, and Celesta*, Reiner/Chicago Symphony (RCA)

Sibelius, *Symphonies Nos. 4-7*, Karajan/Berlin Philharmonic (DG)

Britten, *Peter Grimes*, Davis/Royal Opera House (Philips)

Copland *the Populist*, Tilson Thomas/San Francisco Symphony (RCA)

Shostakovich, *Symphonies Nos. 5 and 9*, Bernstein/New York Philharmonic (Sony)

Messiaen, *Quartet for the End of Time*, Tashi (RCA)

Legeti, *Atmosphères and Lontano*, Nott/Berlin Philharmonic (Teldec)

Reich, *Music for 18 Musicians* (ECM)



Louisa Thomas '00

An excerpt from...

Conscience

Two Soldiers, Two Pacifists, One Family—A Test of Will and Faith in World War I

BY LOUISA THOMAS '00

pictured above (left) with her sister Mary '03

Norman Thomas was expecting bad news. His country was at war, his brothers were in danger, and he was the subject of suspicion. Even so, the telegrams that arrived in the hot days of late August 1918 were worse than he feared. One said that his brother Evan, a conscientious objector, had been hospitalized at Fort Riley, a military training camp in Kansas, during a hunger strike against the draft. Then came word that another brother, Ralph, a captain in the Army

Corps of Engineers, had been wounded by a German artillery shell on the western front in France.

With two sons who were pacifists and two sons who were soldiers, Norman's mother, Emma, had already felt anxious. Now she was beside herself. She had misgivings about Norman's pacifism and worried that his activism would get him in trouble. She believed that Evan's hunger strike amounted to suicide, and she had no idea what exactly had happened to Ralph or where he had been taken. Even her youngest son, Arthur, wasn't safe. He was at

training camp in Texas flying flimsy practice planes. Yet she was proud of them all. Her relationships with each of her sons were as complicated as theirs were with one another.

Norman and his mother could do nothing to help Ralph on the western front. They could, however, go to Evan in Kansas. They left New York City on August 28. As the train sped west, Norman dwelled on his brothers and the demands of citizens and the state. "The situation of Mother—Evan—Military—myself has no promise of simplicity and ease," he wrote to his wife, Violet.

Late in the summer of 1918, the Thomas brothers' conflicts were apparent—and irreconcilable. All of them believed they were fighting for freedom. Evan had become a conscientious objector to protest the government's conscription of life and conscience. Ralph had enlisted in the army immediately after the United States declared war, and Arthur had followed several months later, answering President Woodrow Wilson's call to fight for "the privilege of men everywhere to choose their way of life and of obedience." Norman, too, wanted to make it possible for all men and women to pursue their own ends, but he thought that violence undermined Wilson's aims. So did the repressive atmosphere at home, where saying the wrong thing could land a man in jail, and being radical, or being black, or

being foreign could get a man lynched. Through his work as a Presbyterian minister in New York City tenements and as an officer of antiwar organizations, Norman had seen unconscionable degradation and despair, too much inequality and too many abuses of power. American society had to change, Norman thought, and he was starting to believe he had a part to play.



Brothers have always disagreed; families have always fought. Some fights are bigger than others. When the Thomas brothers staked out their positions during that war, they had to reckon to an unusual degree with the questions of how to live, what to fight for, and why.

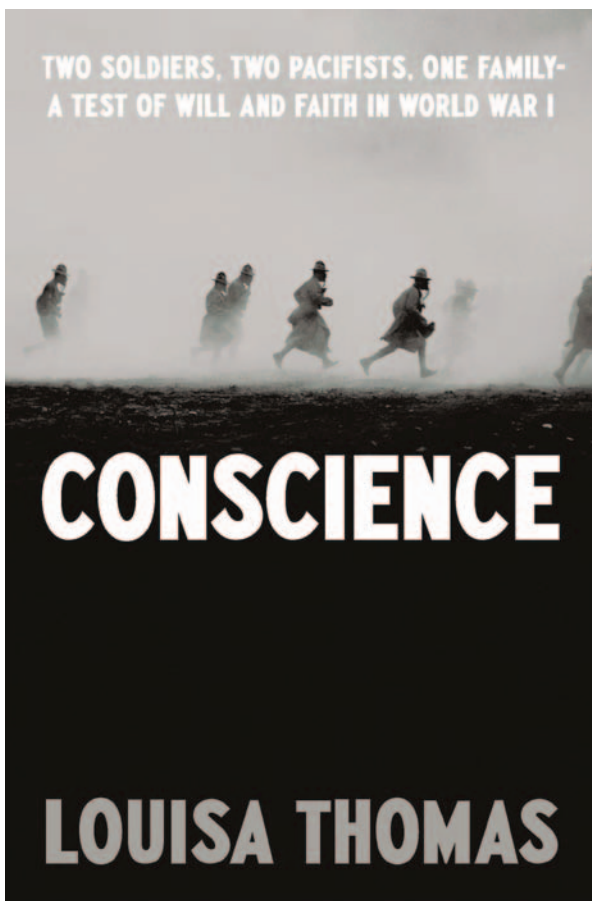
They had to answer to one another, and they had to answer to themselves. That process of reevaluating, explaining, defending, and acting on his beliefs during World War I changed the course of Norman's life. And after the war was over, he dedicated himself to trying to help others change their own.

Norman Thomas is now largely forgotten, but for much of the twentieth century it was commonplace to call him America's conscience. In a special remembrance that ran two days after his front-page obituary in 1968, the *New York Times* wrote, "He spoke to the feelings that most Americans have about themselves: that they are a fair people; that it is somehow wrong for poverty to

exist amid plenty; that it is a perversion of justice to be jailed for political reasons; that Constitutional rights should be respected regardless of race or creed." He understood that these political, economic, and social problems were moral problems, and he confronted those problems publicly. He wanted others to do the same.

At the end of World War I, Norman became a Socialist. He would go on to run for president six times on the Socialist ticket, and he represented democratic socialism until the day he died. Though many of his goals for social reform, from civil rights legislation to unemployment insurance, are now law, he was not a good politician, and he always fared badly at the polls. His failure as a politician, though, matters less than the reasons he traveled down the path he did. He became a Socialist because he despaired at what he saw and held out hope for something better. He thought society had lost the balance between opportunity and equality, creativity and security, the individual and the community. He was convinced that the capitalist emphasis on self-interest and profit engendered injustice, irresponsibility, and class conflict, and that it was perverse that money was treated with greater reverence than the lives of workers. He was a pacifist before he was a Socialist, believing methods of force were antithetical to freedom. But his pacifism helped lead him to socialism, after he came to see war as the result and ultimate expression of capitalist exploitation.

As a politician he never managed (nor really tried) to put forth a coherent political philosophy, except to say what he was not: not a Marxist, not a communist, not a liberal, not a capitalist. At



times, during party battles, he tried to adopt a more orthodox socialism. He was pessimistic about the state bureaucracy from the start, however, and he became less dogmatic after long and bruising fights with communists, of whom he was an early and determined opponent. With his hand in many causes, he spoke everywhere, in chapels and high school gyms, atop soapboxes and on the stage at Madison Square Garden. He cut a striking figure: tall and thin, with a high forehead and penetrating blue eyes. His voice resounded, and when he made a point he cut the air with the jab of a finger. He connected freedom to justice and justice to human beings.

But that came later. When World War I broke out, Norman was an unknown minister, more extraordinary for his promise as a pastor than for his politics. Soon after the United States entered the war, he lost his church. He also lost his faith in the aims and efforts of many liberals, including his old professor Woodrow Wilson. Yet it was also a time of discovery. Norman developed a new sense of purpose and a new understanding of what makes men free: freedom of conscience. Every person, he believed, has a conscience—a sense that he is more than a creature of instinct, an awareness of ultimate ethical ends—but not everyone is ordinarily free to heed it. A person is not free while fighting in war or living in extreme poverty. A person is not free if he is censored or unjustly jailed. During the war, Norman's own brother Evan was sentenced to life in prison for refusing an order to eat.

The politicians who led their countries into World War I described it as a war for freedom. But Norman became convinced that an ethical society could not emerge from the inferno of battle.

Courage was important, but what was necessary was courage in daily life—the courage to judge right from wrong and oneself before others. He thought freedom required the conditions that would satisfy the basic needs of men and women so they might have the chance to cultivate their own way of life, and so they might also treat others and be treated by others with dignity and respect.

Norman's faith in freedom of conscience raised questions about citizenship and responsibility that could not easily be answered, if at all. His brothers answered those questions differently than he did. No brother was always right, nor always wise nor always fair. Still, each understood that he was not alone; he had brothers.



Norman Thomas was young, only thirty-three years old, when World War I ended. Yet his journey had already been long. Its lessons, many of which would remain with him always, were evident in his application for membership in the Socialist Party. He has been both praised and disparaged for being an idealist or a utopian. He did have ideals, but he was less naïve about human nature or about schemes of salvation than those epithets suggest. In the letter that accompanied his application, he wrote that he believed in the necessity of establishing a more just economic order than capitalism provided, but noted that he was applying with reservations. “My accepting of the Socialist platform is on the basis of general principles rather than of details,” he wrote. He was wary that the Socialists had not always guar-

anteed civil liberties. He harbored “a profound fear of the undue exaltation of the State and a profound faith that the new world we desire must depend upon freedom and fellowship rather than upon any sort of coercion whatsoever.” Despite his qualms, he believed that socialism represented the best hope for a better world.

He thought society had lost the balance between opportunity and equality, creativity and security, the individual and the community.

Norman's application to the Socialist Party was returned, “not because of the exceptions you wish to be recorded upon, but because you have not filled out the other side.” Caught up in his statement of principles, Norman had forgotten to include his address and personal information.

The criticism that Norman was more concerned with listening to his conscience than attending to practical considerations has been leveled many times. But the accusation assumes that he considered himself a solitary arbiter of right and wrong, removed from the mess of daily life. In fact, his conscience was formed by practical experience and was responsive to it. He had a moral instinct, but his convictions and actions were also shaped by his family, friends, school, and work, by what he did and what he saw. His story is part of the shifting intellectual, social, and religious context of the early twentieth century. It is also part of his family's story. For the Thomas family, conscience was not an empty word. It made demands.



The Thomas family, left to right: Emma (Jr.), Agnes, Emma (Sr.), Arthur, Welling, Ralph, Norman and Evan



This book ends just after the end of World War I. It has little to say about Norman as a politician, because Norman was not then a politician. It is instead about his turn toward politics and the experiences that shaped him and his enduring commitments. He is the central figure in this story, but it is also a story about his family, and especially about his brothers. It moves from the crowded rivers of Bangkok to the clipped lawns of Princeton University, from the tenements of New York City to the West Wing of the White House. It traces the fault lines between liberal Christianity and fundamentalism, civic duty and civil liberties. During the early

twentieth century, the American government began to play a role in the lives of its citizens it had never played before. New technologies, immigration, scientific advances, religious conflicts, and ideological battles were changing the world. There emerged a new language about the common cause of humanity and cooperation among states, women's suffrage, a new conception of civil liberties, and the groundwork of movements to come. The most vivid manifestation of that turmoil was a war that killed nine million soldiers and sailors by the time the guns were silenced, lives lost in the mud of Argonne, Verdun, Tannenberg, the Somme.

After World War I, Norman wrote a book called *The Conscientious Objector in America*. The first page read:

to
the brave
who went for conscience' sake
to trench or to prison
this book is dedicated

The dedication was to his brothers, with whom he had so often disagreed. That book was, therefore, a family story, and so is this. It happens to be my own family—Norman Thomas was my great-grandfather—but Norman took a more expansive view of brotherhood, and so will I. In the Thomas brothers' history, we all might find some of our own.

Reprinted from *Conscience: Two Soldiers, Two Pacifists, One Family—A Test of Will and Faith in World War I* by Louisa Thomas. Copyright ©2011. Published by Penguin Press.

A full-page photograph of a female rock climber, Sasha DiGiulian, in the middle of a climb. She is wearing a bright pink crop top, light grey pants, and a climbing harness with orange straps. She is holding onto a rock face with her right arm extended upwards and her left hand reaching out. Her legs are spread wide, and she is wearing climbing shoes. The rock face is a mix of brown and tan colors with some white chalk marks. The background is a blurred view of the surrounding landscape.

Sasha DiGiulian '11

*A Profile of Sasha DiGiulian '11,
winner of the overall gold medal
at the 2011 Climbing World
Championships*

By KYLE MASSEY '11

Rock Solid



There is something quite elemental to the task of scaling an obstacle to see what might be on the other side.

The first time I grappled my way to the top of our backyard fence as a child to peer onto my neighbors' property, I sensed the same gratification Columbus might have felt when setting foot on dry land on the far side of the Atlantic.

But now that all of the frontiers

have been explored, all the mountains conquered and all the oceans crossed, there remains a peculiar contingent of humanity that seeks out the roughest of these former boundaries in order to traverse them all over again, for fun.

Just ask Sasha DiGiulian '11, who emailed me this January to say she would have to postpone our interview. "I'm in a canyon climbing, and I don't know if we will make it out in time."

I can only assume that she typed the message on her phone while dangling from a rope in some uninhabitable chasm of the American West. Fair enough. One does not rise to the top of a sport at the age of 19 by sitting around the house waiting to give interviews.

When Sasha won the overall gold medal at the 2011 Climbing World Championships in Arco, Italy, last July, she enjoyed a fleeting moment of reflection as she stood in front of the crowd and listened to the first chords of a familiar tune.

"Standing on top of the podium with the American National Anthem playing was an incredible feeling of satisfaction and pride," she told me, "not so much personal, but more pride for the journey and for realizing that when you set your eyes on a goal and believe that it is possible, it is a truly momentous force that is pretty hard to hinder." Of course, it would have to be about the journey, because what else really matters to the climber?

Sasha's journey began at the age of seven when she accompanied her older brother, Charlie, to a local climbing gym for his birthday party. As Sasha puts it, she found herself "drawn to the excitement of going higher and higher."

To watch Sasha go higher and higher is an exercise in disbelief and humility. As she contorts her 5' 2" frame from one angle to another, always with three points of contact to the wall, always with her head tilted skyward, you can't help but imagine the effect this might have on your own knees, fingers and ligaments, not to mention your courage.

Under the tutelage of longtime coach Claudiu Vidulescu, it didn't take long for Sasha to build a reputation within the tight-knit climbing community as a precocious young talent. As she grew

more aware of this herself, Sasha found that her mentor instilled in her “a sense of determination that stems from someone else believing in your abilities to do something. The most important thing I find in sports, but also in everyday experiences, is self-worth and confidence.”

For Sasha to take home the gold from the World Championships, she bested all other female competitors with her combined score in the three main disciplines of the competition: bouldering, sport climbing and speed climbing. Each discipline offers a slightly different brand of physical torment.

“Bouldering competitions consist of a series of problems that are shorter, and your score is a composite of your overall performance on that series of problems,” she explained. The “problems,” that she refers to are the various nuances of the climber’s route to the top of the wall, obstacles that she must encounter and circumvent with no prior knowledge of their locations.

She continued, “Sport climbing comprises just one long route.” Competitors again have no idea what type of obstacles they’ll be facing, and simply try to scramble as far up the wall as possible; the highest up wins.

Finally, speed climbing is the competition that measures the climber’s ability to ignore the natural inclination not to rush when clutching to a few protrusions on the wall at a perilous height.

Honing her skills in each discipline while also attending Potomac required a level of devotion that would be much to ask of an adult, let alone a young person enveloped by the social and academic demands of a challenging independent school. “I did a lot of homework on airplanes,” she said. “Potomac doesn’t skimp on course load, but the faculty

was incredibly supportive towards working with me and my schedule and helping me have my work done ahead of time so that I wouldn’t fall behind.”

As for the dances, the birthday parties, the basketball games and all the other requisite social gatherings of the high school student? “Unfortunately I had to sacrifice a lot of school-oriented social events because I was out of town most weekends,” she said. “I am pretty sure that a lot of students weren’t totally sure what I was doing—just out there somewhere in the world ‘climbing.’ But all of my friends were always really supportive of my ventures. Everyone at Potomac is unique and has something interesting that they aspire to, and climbing was just what did, and still does, inspire me.”

Having received her Potomac diploma and deferred acceptance to Columbia University, Sasha finds herself in the midst of a gap year, although one that offers no respite from pursuing her goals and serving the climbing community. “I am interested in the development of climbing and its growth into more of a mainstream sport.” Serving on the International Federation of Sport Climbing Board as an athlete representative, Sasha has spent much of her time advocating with the International Olympic Committee in hopes of seeing climbing recognized as an Olympic sport. At 19 she has plenty of time, but she remains determined not to miss the chance to compete on the sporting world’s most venerable stage.

“As an Athlete Ambassador for the IFSC, I represent the voice of the athletes in event planning, rules commissioning and general terms of conduct,” she said. Sasha explained that climbing is one of five new sports that remain under consideration for the 2020 Olym-

pics, but the addition of a new sport typically requires that an old one be dropped, so for now, she waits.

In addition to that project, a deal with one of her sponsors recently led Sasha to the Geta Valley of Southwest China, where she worked alongside other athletes to promote climbing in the bucolic Chinese countryside. The Geta Valley is a five-hour bus ride from the nearest big city, Guiyang, one of the poorest cities in China. “Going out of my comfort zone and into such an unfamiliar world made me respect and cherish the good fortune that we have here in America,” she said. “It also made me more aware of the different cultures coexisting in our modern world today.”

How will her life change when she

“...when you set your eyes on a goal and believe that it is possible, it is a truly momentous force that is pretty hard to hinder.”

returns to the classroom at Columbia University in fall 2012? “A lot less traveling, a lot more studying, but hopefully not too much less climbing! I will continue to train at the gyms and compete in a more select series of competitions, and when I have time off from school, go on outdoor climbing trips.”

Such a driven individual scarcely has time to look back on the physical tribulations of a young career, but when prompted, she remembers “broken fingers and toes, ankle injuries, a broken back, some odd tweaks. But overall I’ve been pretty lucky.”

They say that good luck typically follows the industrious. I doubt Sasha DiGiulian has ever lacked that quality.

alumni activities

Meet Your Alumni Governing Council

Who IS ON THE ALUMNI GOVERNING COUNCIL (AGC)?



Not Pictured: Lolly Cunningham '05, Caroline Dalton '03, Marie Henneburg '11, Taylor Manning '05, Eric Rosenthal '03, James Stump '91

What DOES THE AGC DO?

The mission of the Alumni Association is to foster a sense of community among Potomac alumni and to cultivate relationships with other members of the Potomac community, including current students, current and past teachers and administrators, and current and past parents. The Alumni Association also encourages alumni to further the School's welfare and promote its values.

To accomplish this mission, the Governing Council of the Alumni Association proposes and conducts activities designed

to connect alumni with the School and bring members together. Additionally, the Council fosters communication between alumni and other members of the Potomac community.

The AGC meets approximately every month, from September to May. Committees of the Alumni Governing Council include Executive, Reunion, Strategic Planning, Development and Young Alumni. In addition the AGC hosts alumni events throughout the year.

How CAN I SERVE ON THE AGC?

The AGC has approximately 20 members who serve two-year terms. Each March the AGC, as well as alumni, can nominate themselves or their classmates to fill vacancies. We strive for a mix of alumni that represent all decades and experiences

so that we can best serve the community. If you are interested in serving on the Council contact Laura Miller, Director of Alumni Relations, at lmiller@potomacschool.org or (703) 749-6356 or any AGC member.

Alumni Networking Opportunities

Q&A with Alumni Relations Director Laura Miller

How can alumni connect through Potomac's social media tools?

Alumni are using our facebook, Twitter, Flickr and LinkedIn media channels. And we have an amazing new alumni App for Android and iPhones that includes a people locator, event listings and an easy-to-use online directory. The App has a cool feature called "Alumni Nearby," so you can find your classmates when you travel.

What do you find alumni are most interested in?

Alums tell us they want to know what's going on at School, especially how our sports teams are doing and upcoming plays and concerts. You can find that information

on the web and through our mobile App. And we know that alumni want to find out what their fellow classmates are doing. A button on our School web page links to our facebook page, and to the 1,700 alums we've connected! A great way to stay in touch—find out who's moved, who's had a baby, who's doing what.

What about networking for professional reasons?

Potomac people are helping each other professionally through LinkedIn. We are also developing a mentoring program so that alumni can help each other with job searches and professional development. And this year we joined Net@Night, a consortium of independent schools in the



Washington area, which organizes events twice a year for networking opportunities. The program includes interesting speakers and "Speed Networking," a twist on speed dating!

I know you want to talk about Reunion 2012!

Of course! We hope alumni from every class will join us April 27 and 28. To register, go to our web page and click on the Reunion button.

Scotch and Suits

More than 100 alums joined the fun at the February alumni celebration at Alton Lane's newest location on Dupont Circle. Thank you to host Jody Goehring '99 and his committee: Adam Randolph '79, Carl Lettow '85, Azali Kassum '91, Sandy Gentles '94, Geoff Burr '95, Heather Wilson '96, Jamie Sullivan '96, Reed Landry '99, Lolly Cunningham '05, Taylor Manning '05, Annie Harris Kettler '05, Caroline Kettler '05, Warner Lewis '02, Pamela Barris '03 and Andrew Warin '03.

- 1 Carl Lettow '85 and Adam Randolph '76
- 2 Trenholm Boggs '99 and Sheila O'Marah
- 3 Roxanna Brandao, Christian Gomez '99, Mike Banks '99, Lauren Banks Amos '94, and Charlotte Hutton Cox '99



Potomac NET@Nights Networking Events

This year Potomac School's Alumni Association partnered with several peer schools for two Net@Night events. In February author Pamela Meyer talked about her book *Liespotting: Proven Techniques to Detect Deception*, with networking opportunities before and after her remarks. In March we offered Speed Networking, a round-robin career networking session. If you are interested in career networking opportunities call the Alumni Office (703) 749-6356.

- 4 Marty McNerney '03 and Jen Friedlander '92



Potomac Goes West: Two Great Cities, Two Great Events

In January the Alumni Office and Host Committees gathered with over 80 alumni in San Francisco and Los Angeles. The alumni community reconnected with each other, as well as with faculty, including Linda Anderson, Cort Morgan, Bill Peery and Sharyn Stein. Thank you to the host committees.

San Francisco Host Committee: Rachel Dyke '03, Patsy Dugger '91, Todd Kincaide '99 and Gary Hill '79.

Los Angeles Host Committee: Wilson Stiner '04, Matt Kline '01, CJ Fahey '01, Danny Adrien '96, Clark Landry '95 and Davis Guggenheim '79.

- 5 Leila Batmanghelidj '03, Andrew Duncan '03 and Linda Anderson
- 6 Rachel Dyke '03, Bill Peery, and Leila Batmanghelidj '03
- 7 Dabney Schmitt, Bill Peery, Cort Morgan, Linda Anderson, Sharyn Stein



The Christmas Revels



In December Potomac alumni and families gathered for the 29th Annual Production of The Christmas Revels. Past Parents Greg and Susan Lewis produced the wonderful show. Alums Bill Hoffman '79, Roxana Oppenheimer Day, '71, and Terry Winslow '58 were part of the fabulous cast and crew. Potomac's involvement with the Revels dates back over 50 years, when Revels founder John M. ("Jack") Langstaff, music teacher and director at Potomac from 1955 to 1967, gathered students to create seasonal

celebrations of the winter solstice and the rebirth of spring. Potomac students made up the children's chorus in that first Christmas Revels and (along with many other members of the Potomac community) have acted and sung in every show since then.

Thanksgiving Weekend @ Potomac

Thanksgiving weekend is always a wonderful time to come back to School. In November over 100 alumni returned for the 3rd Annual Landon Schmitt Memorial Run. The following day, alumni ranging from the early '70s to the class of '11 enjoyed squash, soccer, and boys and girls basketball games with current students. That evening almost 200 alumni converged at the popular nightclub George for another annual gathering.



- 8 Tyler Stilwell '07, Charlie Lonaeus '07 and Brian Donovan '07
- 9 Dick Schmitt and Reed Landry '99
- 10 Rob Lee and family
- 11 Ann Bellinger '10 and Jake Gross '04
- 12 Alumni from the '70's participate in the After-Thanksgiving soccer match.



- 13 Alumni Soccer
- 14 After Thanksgiving Gathering at George in Washington, DC



To see more photos go to
Potomac Panther on facebook.

Potomac in the City

For the third year in a row, Potomac alumni gathered in New York for cocktails, hors d'oeuvres and fun. Jody Goehring '99, partner at the men's retailer Alton Lane, provided a wonderful setting to mix and mingle with faculty, including Bill and Ida Cook, and Alex Thomas. Thanks to our terrific Host Committee, which included: Maura Myers Bisogni '00, Julia Bissell '97, Jody Goehring '99, Mike Kirkman '03, Eric Rosenthal '03, Lisa Shimamura '90, Sophia Smith '06, Cynthia Starr '03, Josh Stinchcomb '91 and Katie Stirn '07.

- 15 Alex Thomas and Lindsay Smith '11
- 16 Sartaj Singh Ajrawat '02, Gigi Swift '02, Andrew Weisgall '02, Emily Morse Sower '02, and Patrick Eakin '02



15



16



17

17 Peter Lerman '00, Jon Darman '99,
Susanna Mitchell '99, Ida Cook

18 Alice Fisk MacKenzie '78 and
Stephen Hill '79



18

34th Annual Fall Frolics & Homecoming

Classmates, friends and faculty came to campus on October 15 to celebrate one of Potomac's most beloved traditions—Fall Frolics! Alumni and their families enjoyed food, fun, games, prizes and shopping. The Homecoming football game against the Sidwell Friends School Quakers (a victory!) followed the frolicking. The Alumni Hospitality tent hosted by the Alumni Governing Council was a great place to gather to see friends and faculty, and to pick up a free T-shirt & other Potomac souvenirs! Lolly Cunningham '03, Caroline Kettler '05 and Taylor Manning '05 chaired this event.



20



19

- 19 Jim Kapsis, Stephanie Amann Kapsis '01, and Bill Cook
- 20 Caroline Kettler '05 and Lolly Cunningham '05
- 21 Taylor Kettler '02



21

Local College Gathering

The Alumni Office hosted a casual dinner this past November in Washington, DC for local alumni college students attending Georgetown, George Washington, Howard and Trinity. Faculty member Dawn Jefferson joined in on the fun as the alumni talked about their college experiences, memories of Potomac and future aspirations.

22 Katie Rosenberg '11, Niya Watkins '11, Dawn Jefferson, Elle Leonsis '10, Lucy Gibson '11



Potomac Alumni Summer Gathering

In August alumni in Washington, DC, gathered at Town Hall for the 3rd Annual Potomac Alumni Summer Bar Night. Hosts included: John Mullenholz '00, Diana Barris '07, Trenholm Boggs '99, Phinney McIntire '06, Eddie Smith '98, Cameron Kilberg '98, Taylor Manning '05, Jamie Sullivan '96, Patrick Harris '04, George Wisecarver '95, Andrew Warin '03, Caroline Dalton '03, Sandy Gentles '94, Tracy Phillip '02, Jay Farrell '92, Win Huffman '01, Azali Kassum '91 and Jamie Stump '91.

Potomac Alumnae enjoy a night of Fashion & Fun

A group of alumnae spent a September evening viewing fashion for work and play at Saks in Tysons Corner, VA. Ten percent of all purchases made during the event went to The Potomac School Annual Fund. Thanks to the host committee: Anne Metcalf '79, Ann Renzy Maclean '86, Azali Kassum '91, Alexandra Fielding Wilson '95, Libby Huffman Wilkinson '96, Blair Farr Underwood '96, Caroline Dalton '03, Lolly Cunningham '05 and Caroline Kettler '05.

If you are interested in hosting an event in your city please contact Laura Miller at (703) 749-6356.

news on campus

Lower School Lunch Buddies Interview

Nancy Powell, Longtime Potomac Teacher and New Lower School Head

Christopher: When you were young what did you want to be when you grew up?

Mrs. Powell: I always knew I wanted to be a teacher. I haven't told many people this, but when I was 11, I used to have my own school in my basement. I would knock on the neighbors' doors and collect preschoolers to bring to my school. We would read books, play games and eat graham crackers.

When I was in second grade my teacher's name was Mrs. Powell. Who would have guessed I would one day grow up to be a second grade teacher named Mrs. Powell?

Kay: What is your favorite part of being the Head of the Lower School?

Mrs. Powell: Of course the kids are the best part. I think children are the most interesting people on the planet. Lower School kids are smart, funny and never boring. When kids discover something for the very first time, it's magical. Every day I learn something new from a Lower School stu-

dent. And every day, I get to laugh! You can't beat that!

Maya: Was anything the same in your Lower School [when you were a girl]?

Mrs. Powell: No, my Lower School was very different. We all read the same books at the same time. Our classroom

comfortable helping kids think critically and do their best. Kids have such creative minds and are open to so many possibilities.

How do you teach kids to think?

First you model taking risks. When you take risks, you

"When kids discover something for the very first time, it's magical. Every day I learn something new from a Lower School student. And every day, I get to laugh! You can't beat that!"

teacher taught everything; there were no special subject classes. We even had PE in our classroom. I can remember my third grade teacher pushing the desks against the wall and rolling out tumbling mats so we could do gymnastics in our classroom.

Henry: Would you rather help a grown up think or a kid think?

Mrs. Powell: That is such a great question! I am more

comfortable helping kids think critically and do their best. Kids have such creative minds and are open to so many possibilities. First you model taking risks. When you take risks, you might not always be "right," but sometimes you come up with amazing ideas. I make mistakes all the time, and when I do, I hope it helps me to be a better thinker and learner. Another way to teach kids to think is by having them explain how they get an answer. We ask kids to explain their ideas about characters in books or explain their solutions in math. And each time, they show that they are becoming better thinkers.

Charlotte: What do you do when you are not teaching?

Mrs. Powell: I love to read in my big green chair or go for long walks in my neighborhood. I like to knit when I have time. I also love to dance, although I am not very good at it. (Ask my children!) My very favorite thing to do is to spend time with my husband, daughter, sons and son-in-law. And I love the beach.

Claudia: What inspired you to be the Head of the Lower School?

Mrs. Powell: I've had so many great role models. Some are teachers and some are heads. Lower School teachers are the most caring professionals I've ever met, and they make me want to do the best job I can. Mrs. Passarella, who used to be Lower School Head, hired me to teach first grade at Potomac. She was always so calm and patient, and she made teachers and kids feel important and valued. She is the reason I'm here today! Mrs. Lewis was an incredible leader, and she helped teach-



ers and kids grow in amazing ways. And Mrs. Davis inspires me to keep growing and learning. She's so smart and so insightful, and we love sharing ideas about kids.

Michael: Did you work at any other schools besides Potomac?

Mrs. Powell: Yes. My first teaching job was in Fairfax County teaching kindergarten. I also taught first and second grades at Hutchison Elementary. (I still see my teacher friends from Hutchison.) I taught first grade math and reading as well as 5th grade at Little Langley.

When I came to interview

at Potomac, I knew it was a very special place. There were groups of kindergarteners working in the hallway and each one was happy and involved. I thought to myself, "If I get this job, I'm going to stay here for the rest of my career." I could see that Potomac was an extraordinary place! I was right!

Charlotte: What is it like to be the Lower School principal?

Mrs. Powell: Everyday is a surprise! I never know what is going to happen. I have more meetings than I used to, but I try to get into classrooms as often as I can so I can see all

the cool things that are going on.

When I was little, the principal's office was where you went when you were "bad." I'm glad that kids feel comfortable coming to my office to share the happy moments in their day. I get lots of cupcakes, too.

Charlotte: Don't kids sometimes come to your office to have a loose tooth pulled?

Mrs. Powell: Yes, some students think I'm a dentist!

Maya: What do you want to accomplish with students this year?

Mrs. Powell: First I want our

four character traits to be a part of everything we do in and out of the classroom. Who knows what they are?

Kids: Caring, respect, trustworthiness and responsibility. (Answered in 10 seconds!)

Mrs. Powell: I also want to work with the students and teachers to think about how we can serve the community in meaningful ways. Service learning is a good way for kids to understand the importance of helping others. Children can make a big difference.

Plus, (I don't know if I can make this happen), I think we need some snow days!



Jerry Kountz, New Intermediate School Head

Georges County and was twice nominated for *The Washington Post's* Outstanding Principal award. Most recently, he served as founding Head of

**"The Potomac
kids understand
that you are
responsible
for you."**

the SEED School of Maryland, a public, statewide college preparatory boarding school for underserved students and the second SEED School in the nation.

For Kountz the biggest difference between the two schools is how adept Potomac students are at self-managing. "The Potomac kids understand that you are responsible for you." Academic demands are greater at Potomac but at both schools students are dealing with many of the same social and developmental issues. "Adolescents are adolescents are adolescents. SEED kids are dealing with not enough, some of our kids are dealing with too much. Potomac kids are fully scheduled; SEED kids

don't have enough to do.

"Before SEED no one had ever asked these students to think. They had floated through their previous schools with nobody to encourage them. They didn't have role models. Although that's a big struggle still, I watched these students develop into enlightened, academic individuals. That was the glory of things that happened at SEED."

Kountz is remembered at SEED as "the type of personality that people gravitated to, whether you were 11 or 50," according to SEED administrator Anna Williams. His was a participatory leadership style where everyone was involved in the decision-making process.

At Potomac Kountz has established an immediate rapport with students and faculty. He understands and appreciates the adolescent journey as well as the nuanced balance of support and challenge necessary for 7th and 8th graders to flourish. Just as in his former school, Kountz is that center of gravity for Potomac students as they transition from the elementary grades to high school.

What's up gentlemen? Pep in your step ladies—keep moving. That's a great idea, let me know how I can help." Jerry Kountz, Potomac's Intermediate School Head, is working the crowd, weaving among the students, asking questions, paying attention.

Faculty heard early and continue to hear often Kountz's mantra, "What's

best for the kids?" That sense of concern extends to the teachers. "All of us know that he's got our backs," said IS humanities teacher Mike Fishback. "He's a tough but humble leader who is really on top of things."

Kountz joined Potomac last summer after a distinguished career in adolescent education. He has served as principal of a number of middle schools (grades 7-8) in Prince

DISTINGUISHED SPEAKERS SERIES



“Chinese are very curious about America,” said **Conrad Wong**, uncle of junior Shing-Wai Koo and Intellectual Property Rights Officer with the U.S. Consulate General in Guangzhou, China. Wong, who represents the interests of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, shared with students the role of US diplomats working abroad in embassies and consulates general. He said the two questions he gets most often are, “Why is America so anti-China?” and “Why don’t you [America] get your house in order?” **October 19**



Working for National Geographic is an opportunity to witness firsthand the challenges facing our planet and our communities, according to **Ford Cochran**, environmental scientist, writer and web producer for *National Geographic*. Cochran has reported on a wide range of subjects for the Geographic and led National Geographic Student Expeditions (including a trip to the glaciers and lava fields of Iceland with Potomac students). **January 18**

Principal of the SEED Public Charter School of Washington, DC **Kara Stacks** focused her discussion on perception, choice and effort. SEED schools are college-preparatory, public boarding schools that teach life skills as well as academics and provide a safe environment for low income students. Ms. Stacks became a DC public school principal when she was just 24-years-old. **January 5**



When the Shriver kids came home from school each afternoon, their mother always asked, “What did you do today—to help people?” **Mark Shriver** ’79, who runs U.S. programs for Save the Children, said he got the same message at Potomac. Shriver spoke about the high rate of poverty in the U.S. today and especially the number of kids—one in four—that live with limited access to the things that the rest of us take for granted. **February 22**



OPEN QUESTIONS FORUM

Open Questions, initiated in 2010 in partnership with the Harvard Club of Washington, are evening presentations featuring significant thinkers, explorers and creators. Integral to each event is the active engagement of the audience: Potomac students, teachers, parents, Potomac and Harvard alumni, and guests from the Evermay neighborhood.



Distinguished business leader, former United Nations Under Secretary General of Management, and Potomac father **Christopher B. Burnham** led an exploration of our current complex global economy and the ongoing challenges to world economic growth. As Vice Chairman and Managing Director at Deutsche Bank, Mr. Burnham is well versed in world trends such as aging populations and declining birth rates, and the resultant pressures on health care costs, pensions and social security. He asked students to consider how this combination of challenges will affect their lives. **January 5**

Renowned biophysicist **Harold Morowitz** spoke to the Potomac and Harvard communities on the ancient origins of life on Earth. Professor Morowitz has spent a long and active career exploring the thermodynamics of living systems and reasoning about the likely conditions, about 4 billion years ago, that led inevitably to complex molecular configurations and adaptive systems. He explained to the audience, “Life is a planetary property.” Under certain conditions, which Morowitz believes resembled those in our deep-ocean volcanic trenches, geochemistry gave rise to the emergence of life. **November 2**



athletics highlights

Commitment, Work Ethic Takes Potomac Athletes to Next Level

For scholar-athletes at The Potomac School, competing at a high level means achieving success in the classroom and on the sports field. About 15 percent of Potomac athletes are recruited to play at the collegiate level every year, and many have achieved distinguished sports careers in college. In the last four years 27 student athletes went on to play Division I sports; another 33 played at Division III schools. The colleges our graduates have chosen are as diverse as the sports they are playing: from the Ivies to the NESCAC, from the Big East to the Mountain

“We’re very proud of our student-athletes who have chosen to further challenge themselves by competing at the collegiate level.”

—Cas Blanchard, Girls Athletic Director



Our college-bound athletes: Matt Carney, Erin Cummings, Geoff Danilack, Cullen Hamilton, Cameron Kahl, Jack Kaplan, Geoff Keating, Lacy Rosse, Russell Schmidt, John Steele, Lauren Wackerle. (Not pictured: Ella Barnes, Grace Dewey, Devin Hill, Davon Hill, Casey Mann, Andres Rodlauer)



Potomac won its first championship—
ISL Girls Tennis
—in fall 1991

22 Years of Potomac Varsity Sports 1990-2012

63 teams grades 7-12

21 varsity sports

100 Championships!

47 Mid Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAC) boys Championships

36 Independent School League (ISL) girls Championships

6 Mid Atlantic Squash Championships (boys)

2 Mid Atlantic Squash Championships (girls)

9 Virginia State Championships

"Potomac's success is all the more remarkable when you consider that our first graduating high school class was in 1990." — Rob Lee, Boys Athletic Director

Pacific Sports Federation, Potomac athletes are enjoying the thrill of playing on the collegiate stage.

The class of 2012 is no exception: 17 athletes are headed to college to play such sports as football, basketball, soccer, lacrosse, cross country, track and squash. *The Current* (Upper School Student Newspaper) has profiled a few who committed early to the school and sport of their choice. Excerpts from those profiles follow:

Lauren Wackerle

Yale University — lacrosse

In the final stages of the recruiting process, Lauren considered Brown, Dartmouth, Princeton and Yale. Lauren's lacrosse career began in fourth grade with McLean Youth Lacrosse. Her club team competed against the top teams in the nation, so she knew that she was ready for the tough competition of Division I college

lacrosse. Lauren now coaches a U7 McLean Youth team and helps to improve the children's fundamentals, assisting them just as she was assisted in the beginning of a long journey to lacrosse excellence. —Alex Prezioso

Cullen Hamilton

College of the Holy Cross — basketball

When asked about how they felt about Cullen's commitment, Cullen got nothing but praise from his teammates and coaches who lauded him for his work ethic and selfless play. "Cullen is an outstanding young man," said Coach Levi Franklin, Cullen's coach since his sophomore year. "He is totally coachable, totally committed and a great teammate. It's very rare to come across a player with all those attributes." Cullen was also getting looked at by schools to play football, including Wisconsin, Penn State and the University of Virginia. —Anthony Correia

Erin Cummings

Colgate University — soccer

Her outstanding 2010 soccer season consisted of allowing just 6 goals in 16 games, and earned her a *Washington Post* All-Met honorable mention for goalkeeper. "It's a great accomplishment for me to be committed because it's a reward for so many years of sacrifice and hard work," Erin said. "I've missed birthdays, school events, time with friends and vacations, and it's nice to know that the hard work paid off." —Philip Saba

Matt Carney

St. Mary's College of Maryland — lacrosse

Matt came to Potomac from Gonzaga in tenth grade and has had a prominent impact on the Potomac lacrosse team. "Lacrosse is a sport I have always had a passion for, so I want to play it for as long as I can," said Matt. "You're

going to get out of it as much as you put in," he says to those interested in playing sports at the collegiate level. —Alex Prezioso

Grace Dewey

University of Delaware — basketball

A verbal commitment to the University of Delaware was "the best birthday present ever," says Potomac girls' basketball standout Grace Dewey. "Being able to spend the next four years doing something I love as much as basketball is such a blessing." —Chris Graves

See the names, sports and college choices of our Potomac athletes going back to 1991 on our website: www.potomacschool.org/athletics/panther-alumni/index.aspx



Football Wins MAC Title...Again!

Season Highlights:

- Panthers win state playoff game against Bishop Sullivan 42-19 with 4 touchdowns in 4 minutes; their 3rd consecutive playoff appearance and second straight final
- Panthers beat Flint Hill, 19-14, to win their 2nd consecutive MAC title





Post-Season Awards



Congratulations to the following athletes who were selected to the fall 2011 All State/All Met teams:

Soccer

All Met First Team: Casey Mann

All Met Honorable Mention: Geoff Danilack

Tennis

First Team All State: Kathleen Wilson



Cross-Country

All State: Cope Whitney

Football

First Team All State: Cullen Hamilton

Second Team All State: Jalen Broome,

Willie Crittenberger, Jack O'Brien,

Russell Schmidt, Sean Spasoff;

Honorable Mention All State: Tommy Duffy, Ryan Eckert,

Devin Hill, Cameron Kahl, Johnny Read

Congratulations to the following athletes who were selected to the Fall All League teams:

ISL

Emma Regan: *Field Hockey*

Casey Mann: *Soccer*

Kathleen Wilson: *Tennis*

MAC

Geoff Danilack: *Soccer*

Willie Crittenberger: *Football*

Tommy Duffy: *Football*

Ryan Eckert: *Football*

Cullen Hamilton: *Football*

Devin Hill: *Football*

Cameron Kahl: *Football*

Jack O'Brien: *Football*

Johnny Read: *Football*

Russell Schmidt: *Football*

Sean Spasoff: *Football*

Jack Kaplan: *Cross Country*

Adam Moses: *Cross Country*

Cope Whitney: *Cross Country*

Mike DeSantis: *Golf*

Mark Ramsey: *Golf*



"She leads by example, setting the tone and pace of play." – Coach Ross McEwen

Casey Mann, girls varsity soccer

alumni connections



lower school

Kindergarten

Charles P. Lettow (Carl F. Lettow '85 and Alexandra Lettow)

George R. Stoodly (Anne L. Metcalf '79, John Stoodly)

Josephine R. Stump (James F. Stump '91 and Sarah Stump)

1st Grade

Benjamin M. Gerkin (Allyson Bloom '92 and Daniel Gerkin)

Nicholas W. Langman (Nicholas W. Langman '94 and Jennifer Langman)

Andrew C. Lay (Mark Lay '76 and Prentiss Vallender Lay '85)

Miles B. Malawer (Eric Malawer '92 and Erin D. Malawer)

Louisa R. Tierney (Andrew Tierney '80 and Laurel Tierney)

Finn E. Willems (Megan Bartsch Willems '84 and Rene M. Willems)

Julia C. Winsor (Curtin Winsor III '78 and Deborah Winsor)

Sage S. Wolf (Steven S. Wolf '69 and Lisa Kelly)

2nd Grade

Theodore W. Gerkin (Allyson Bloom '92 and Daniel Gerkin)

Christopher S. Jarquin Manegold (Elizabeth Jarquin Manegold '82 and Raul I. Jarquin)

Harrison R. Kehler (Charles Kehler '84 and Margaret Kehler)

Jennifer L. Kitchen (Erik L. Kitchen '68 and MaryAnn Kitchen)

Elias M. Lerner (Renee Lettow Lerner '83 and Craig Lerner)

Madeline Schermerhorn (Sarah Kilberg Schermerhorn '95, Scott Schermerhorn)

Riley A. Schermerhorn (Sarah Kilberg Schermerhorn '95, Scott Schermerhorn)

Natasha W. Edwards (Anita Winsor-Edwards '79 and William Edwards, Jr.)

3rd Grade

Caroline P. Dunn (Annabelle Redway Dunn '85 and Jackson Dunn)

Emily H. Dunn (Annabelle Redway Dunn '85 and Jackson Dunn)

William C. Fearey (Paul Fearey '78 and Gretchen Fearey)

Anabel M. Kadri (Sarah McClure '82, Jamal Kadri)

Marisa B. Kadri (Sarah McClure '82, Jamal Kadri)

Elizabeth W. McKean (David McKean, Jr. '82 and Jane McKean)

Elizabeth V. Oskoui (Ramin Oskoui '78 and Katrina R. Oskoui)

John W. Sagarese (Sarah Ewing Sagarese '85 and Mark Sagarese)

William J. Schermerhorn (Sarah Kilberg Schermerhorn '95)

Isabel L. Tierney (Andrew Tierney '80 and Laurel Tierney)

Elizabeth Winsor (Curtin Winsor III '78 and Deborah Winsor)

4th Grade

Mikaela Catto (William Catto '78 and Kristina Catto)
Enrico B. Cecchi (Enrico Cecchi '85 and Andrea Cecchi)
Holly U. Crowley (Ayse Uzer Crowley '85 and Kenneth R. Crowley)
Michael D. Johnson (Alisa Hyman '00)
Caroline K. Lay (Mark Lay '76 and Prentiss Vallender Lay '85)
Anna L. Lerner (Renee Lettow Lerner '83 and Craig Lerner)
Mary-Shea V. McDowell (Robert M. McDowell '78 and Jennifer McDowell)
Jacqueline C. McElroy (Charisse Mortenson McElroy '91 and Michael McElroy)
John W. Stoodly (Anne L. Metcalf '79, John Stoodly)
Annabel L. Resor (James P. Resor '75 and Catherine Scott)
Katherine R. Newton (Virginia Young-Newton '83 and David S. Newton)

5th Grade

Emelie S. Jarquin Manegold (Elizabeth Jarquin Manegold '82 and Raul I. Jarquin)
David J. McKean (David McKean, Jr. '82 and Jane McKean)
Ellen P. Oskoui (Ramin Oskoui '78 and Katrina R. Oskoui)
Keeley L. Schulman (Andrew Saltonstall '82 and Tamara Saltonstall)
Megan K. Sharkey (Christine Rosenhauer Sharkey '83 and William Sharkey)
Megan M. Tierney (Christopher Tierney '79 and Ann L. Tierney)

6th Grade

May K. Ausbrook (J. Keith Ausbrook '73 and Kate Ausbrook)
Courtlynne T. Caskin (Christopher Caskin '77 and Cameron Caskin)
Hayden R. Cherouny (Merrell Redway Cherouny '82 and Preston M. Cherouny)
Sebastian B. Cox (Alison Vest Cox '81 and Kenneth B. Cox)
Rebecca W. Crawley (Anne Sprunt Crawley '69 and Drury Crawley)
Drury A. Crawley (Anne Sprunt Crawley '69 and Drury Crawley)
Lily E. Longwell (Natalie Washburn Longwell '86 and John H. Longwell)
Isabella N. Sagarese (Sarah Ewing Sagarese '85 and Mark Sagarese)
Thomas J. Sharkey (Christine Rosenhauer Sharkey '83 and William Sharkey)
Miles W. Wilson (Speke Wilson '79 and Julia Wilson)

middle school



intermediate school



7th Grade

Gwyneth C. Catto (William Catto '78 and Kristina Catto)
Margaret M. Ewing (J.C. Ewing '78 and Ruanne R. Ewing)
Claire M. Pitzer (Lavinia Lemon Pitzer '82 and Andy Pitzer)
Trey A. Schulman (Andrew Saltonstall '82 and Tamara Saltonstall)
Theodore L. Tierney (Christopher Tierney '79 and Ann L. Tierney)

8th Grade

Gabrielle M. Cecchi (Enrico Cecchi '85 and Andrea Cecchi)
Tyler K. Crowley (Ayse Uzer Crowley '85 and Kenneth R. Crowley)
Catherine H. Frank (Randolph A. Frank, Jr. '72 and Susan Frank)
Catherine F. Mathias (Robert F. Mathias '77 and Sarah Mathias)
Konrad S. McKalip (Hope Jewett McKalip '81 and Frederick D. McKalip)
Grace W. Moses (David L. Moses '76 and Daphne S. Barbour)
Tobias M. Robinson (Farida Moreau Robinson '80 and Scott Robinson)
Abraham H. Wilson (Speke Wilson '79 and Julia Wilson)

9th Grade

Brooks Arundel (Peter W. Arundel '75 and Brady Arundel)
Christopher Caskin (Christopher Caskin '77 and Cameron Caskin)
Grace Cherouny (Merrell Redway Cherouny '82 and Preston M. Cherouny)
Maxwell M. Speil (Jane McAllister '70 and Steven G. Speil)
Joseph K. O'Gorman (Scott E. O'Gorman, Jr. '76 and Melissa O'Gorman)
Emma Resor (James P. Resor '75 and Catherine Scott)

10th Grade

William Catto (William Catto '78 and Kristina Catto)
Rosemary S. Ewing (J.C. Ewing '78 and Ruanne R. Ewing)
Adam J. Moses (David L. Moses '76 and Daphne S. Barbour)
Anna E. Regan (Nina Howard Regan '78 and William R. Regan)
Sydney M. Robinson (Farida Moreau Robinson '80 and Scott Robinson)

11th Grade

Max R. Ausbrook (J. Keith Ausbrook '73 and Kate Ausbrook)
Philip L. Bennett (Frank C. Bennett III '73 and Teri R. Bennett)
Randolph A. Frank (Randolph A. Frank, Jr. '72 and Susan Frank)
John S. O'Gorman (Scott E. O'Gorman, Jr. '76 and Melissa O'Gorman)
Caroline Resor (James P. Resor '75 and Catherine Scott)
Allegra R. Wilson (Speke Wilson '79 and Julia Wilson)
Devon H. Winsor (Curtin Winsor III '78, Noelle Winsor)

12th Grade

Rebekah Ausbrook (J. Keith Ausbrook '73 and Kate Ausbrook)
Cameron Kahl (Caroline Baldwin Kahl '72 and James A. Kahl)
Zachary Meza (Scott Meza '71 and Anny Lowery Meza '71)
Emma C. Regan (Nina Howard Regan '78 and William R. Regan)
DeLacy G. Rosse (Gray D. Rosse '74 and Caroline M. Rosse)
Kip Strong (Henry L. Strong '72 and Kathleen C. Strong)

upper school



class notes

Be Connected

Class Notes is the most popular and well-read section of The Term. It provides a forum for classmates to share news of their personal and professional lives, ranging from accolades and personal accomplishments to news of births and deaths, and anything else fellow alumni might find interesting.

We want to thank you, the alumni community, for sharing your news and photos with your classmates over the years. This section would not be possible without the leadership of the Class Correspondents. As you know, Class Correspondents serve a vital role in helping alumni maintain a lifelong affiliation with Potomac. Throughout the year, Class Correspondents gather class news and photos for the fall and spring issues of The Term. So when you get an email calling for class notes, make it a priority!

Send your notes to your Class Correspondent, whose contact information is listed at the top of each class column. If no Class Correspondent is listed, send your class notes directly to alumni@potomacschool.org or Alumni Office, 1301 Potomac School Road, McLean, VA 22101.

Be a Connector

Don't be the class without notes! If your class does not have a Class Correspondent and you would like to fill that role, please contact Laura Miller, Director of Alumni Relations, at (703) 749-6356 or lmiller@potomacschool.org.

1935

In 2011 **David C. Acheson** published the private correspondence of Harry S. Truman and Dean Acheson under the title *Affection and Trust* (Alfred Knopf).

1936

The School celebrated its 30th Anniversary.

1937

1938

Class Correspondent

John Dugger
4970 Sentinel Dr., #106
Bethesda, MD 20816
(301) 229-5425
jadugger@comcast.net

Carol Preston became Head of School through 1961.

1939

Ninth grade was reintroduced for girls.

1940

Minutes of a February Board meeting state

that a school pin was approved by the trustees.

1941

From the Yearbook

"The Graduates of 1941 wish to dedicate this, the first year book, to Miss Preston. Through her guidance and encouragement the school has now become an Alma Mater which we shall always remember and love. We want to take this opportunity to thank her.

1942

REUNION YEAR 70TH

Class Correspondent

Katharine Stanley-Brown Abbott
3 Tucks Point Rd.
Manchester, MA 01944
(978) 526-4436
glasshead@comcast.net

Class Correspondent **Katharine Stanley-Brown Abbott** reports, "In 1942, nine girls were graduated from Potomac, and today, sadly, there are only three left. I was delighted to hear from **Geraldine Warburg Zetzel**, who lives in Cambridge, MA."

Geraldine Warburg Zetzel writes, "Amazingly, I have vivid memories of my years at Potomac — it was the best school of the five I went to in my peripatetic childhood. **Helena Fletcher** lived immediately next door to my house on Tracy Place. We walked to school together, and communicated between our bedroom windows via some kind of means, too. My best friend was **Helen Chapin Metz**. I remember playing with her in Rock Creek Park. Another vivid memory is Girl Scout activities with **Miss Seth-Smith**, aka 'Stalky.'"

My life currently is pleasantly busy with writing. A collection of poems, *Mapping the Sands*, came out in 2010, and I am working towards a second one. I go to 'school' at the Harvard Institute for Learning in Retirement and have been a founding member of Cambridge at Home, an organization to support us elders who hope to stay put as they age. I am an active practitioner of Buddhism. Luckily — and it is real luck! — I don't have any major health problems."

Katharine Stanley-Brown Abbott writes, "My families are all living up and down the Eastern Seaboard, so I can enjoy their company and watch four grandchildren, three step-grandchildren and six step-great-grands as they blossom. I,

too, have happy memories of my days at Potomac. The school was on California Street, an easy walk from my home on Bancroft Place. My best friend was **Anne Commons**, who lived next door to me. We walked to school together and, like **Geraldine**, talked endlessly on the telephone when we got home. Now I'm reliving those days as I watch my four-year-old and 12-year-old twin grandchildren enjoying their nursery and elementary schools, attending Grandparents Day and watching sports and musical events.

Gordon and I are coping with our 80's with exercise, reading, writing (he's finishing a history of the Manchester Yacht Club, founded in 1892) and sporadic trips to warmer climates to escape New England winters. Our four children all live nearby, so we have the pleasure of seeing them often. Happily, we spend most of September each year on Nantucket, where I spent all my childhood summers and still have many old friends.

There were boys in our class through fourth grade, but there's no word from **Brad de Wolf** in Great Falls, VA, or **T. P. Plimpton** in Florida. Nor have I heard from **Elizabeth Kline Grinnell**, but I wish them all well."



Day Ely Ravenscroft '43 pictured with her daughter.

1943

Day Ely Ravenscroft writes, "Here's a picture from my daughter's wedding."

1944

Class Correspondent

Juliet Gill Davis
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From the Yearbook

We, the Class of 1944, would like very much to dedicate this book to Mrs. Gibb, who has helped to make this, our last year at Potomac, one of the truly happiest we've ever had.

1945



Georgiana Glenn Rodiger '45

Georgiana Glenn Rodiger writes, "I celebrated my 80th birthday in February of 2010 in Morocco just before they took to the streets. I love Casablanca. I didn't retire to my easy chair...no way. I traveled extensively and still work full time in my

practice, as Director of the Rodiger Center, and head pastor of Spirit Alive Fellowship. I have an improved outlook on life this year because I have had cataract surgery on both eyes. What a difference! I don't think I've ever seen this clearly. I hope that your year has also been rich with blessings."

1946

Class Correspondent

Jerrie Kohlmeier Bartlett
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Philadelphia, PA 19102
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allen.jerrie@verizon.net

Nancy Hamilton Shepherd writes, "Tom and I take great pleasure each December in attending the Christmas Revels in Boston. As you may know, it was initiated here in the early 70's by John Langstaff. Revels

Miss Preston was one of his teachers, introducing him to folk music, folk dancing and love of Old English traditions. And, of course, she introduced us to much of that as well. I still remember doing the sword dance with wooden swords, and the angel Gabriel at the Christmas assembly, who said to Mary, 'Hail thou who are highly flavored!' Tom and I also went to an evening sponsored by the Revels in which the author Susan Cooper talked about a book she had recently written on John Langstaff titled *The Magic Maker*. It touches on many aspects of his life, including his years teaching at Potomac. He is no longer alive, but I find myself reminded of the richness of the traditions that he helped to pass on to so many people — traditions which were also part of our own Potomac experience. If there is a Christmas Revels in a city near you, you might like to take it in."

Jerrie Kohlmeier Bartlett had some nice telephone conversations with Carol Exnicios Tucker recently. She lives in Tampa, FL, but goes to CT in October and often stays with Julie Merrell Harris on the way. She also attends the Penn Relays in Philadelphia in April, which her son runs."

"Tom and I take great pleasure each December in attending the Christmas Revels in Boston. As you may know, it was initiated here in the early 70's by John Langstaff."

1947

REUNION YEAR 65TH

Sheila Cochran said, "I am so proud of my family — my two children (John and Cary, both Potomac alumni) and my five grandchildren. Am still playing tennis (never mind about the running I used to do) and golf and enjoying watercolor painting and leading some bird walks, as well as gardening."

1948

From the Yearbook

Significant Phrases of the Teachers

Miss Preston - "Here are my glasses."

Miss Seth-Smith - "I'll leave it up to you."

Mrs. Price - "Now, girls."

Miss Joyce - "There ain't no such animal."

Mrs. Gaby - "Taisez-vous."

Mr. Seeley - "No, girls, this is not a test."

Miss Burkhard - "Fill up the paper."

1949

Class Correspondent

Laura Lee Larson
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Clarksburg, MD 20871
(240) 401-4602

From the Yearbook

We, the Class of '49, are proud to dedicate our yearbook to Mrs. Abbott, in deep appreciation of the sincere interest she has taken in us, and our work. Her never failing sympathy and warm understanding has enriched the year and made us all happier and more successful.

1950

From the Yearbook

Dedication to Miss Preston

We want to thank you for all you have given us during our years at Potomac. What we have learned will help us to be better citizens wherever we may go.

1951

Cynthia Butterworth Burns has moved and is now living in a senior resident community in Mesa, AZ, and would look forward to catching up with her classmates.

Betsey Fulbright Winnacker writes, "Things are good out here in mid-Missouri! Five grandkids are thriving — fifth grader through senior year at Sewanee. My son Matt and I are currently pulling hard for the Cardinals in the World Series."

1952

REUNION YEAR 60TH

Class Correspondent

Louise "Beebe" Graham
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lbgraham@myfairpoint.net

Betsy Blair Douglas writes, "Just checking in with my class of '52! I'm still ranching and busy with church and community activities. The family is multiplying at a great pace. Descendants include 28 grandchildren and 20 great-grandchildren. Thus, I'm a matriarch of 74 (including spouses) — at the age of 74. They pretty much take care of my 'spare time,' with

a little quilting and birding wedged in. I hope you all are thriving!"

Ann Walker Gaffney has lived in Brooklyn Heights for 45 years and has the pleasure of novelist daughter Elizabeth Gaffney and her family living in a duplex in Ann's brownstone. Son Walker lives in St. Louis — three grandchildren aged 3-15. Ann still makes art and works for historic preservation organizations. She has a long list of ailments but remains passionate about art, the terrible dysfunction of Congress and the state of the economy. For fun, she recommends 1930's and 40's movies on Turner Classic Movies. A Walker Gaffney family reunion in Montana included sister **Betsy** and her daughters **Ann '71, Julie '73 and Lizzie Edgeworth '75** and brother Mallory and his wife **Diana Hardin Walker '56**. Best wishes for MMXII to all."

Florry Hubbard Lloyd lives in Philadelphia, has four married children and nine grandchildren who live in London, Sydney and Boston. She retired from teaching.

Jane Anderson Moon still lives in southern California, enjoying the mild weather most of the time (except for the occasional

mostly we're quite content at home. I write a bit, work in the garden and sometimes enjoy designing and making 'art quilts.' Maybe I'll have a party in 2013 to celebrate turning 75 — it sounds like fun."

Phil and **Bettina Tierney** are quite close to school both geographically and in knowing its affairs. They have four grandchildren there and one more in the application process, not to mention Bettina and the three Tierney children. Phil and Bettina are on the Grandparents Committee (nice lunch two times a year), and Bettina checks in at school when she can. The current headmaster is very able and available. It is a big job; much of the school is new and heading toward 1,000 students. They have maintained the culture well despite the size.

Louise "Beebe" Graham writes, "Your secretary continues happily in NH, now retired from teaching and involved with the local community more than before. I serve on three Boards of Directors, am busy with a thrift shop and fund-raising efforts through the Episcopal church, which offers meeting and eating space to over a dozen organizations, including two

A Walker Gaffney family reunion in Montana included sister Betsy and her daughters Ann '71, Julie '73 and Lizzie Edgeworth '75 and brother Mallory and his wife Diana Hardin Walker '56. Best wishes for MMXII to all." Ann Walker Gaffney '53

chills and rain and wild wind storms that destroy mature trees). She writes, "We live about 12 miles from the coast near Newport Beach, in the inland town of Orange, which contains Old Towne in the center, a national historic area a mile square with houses dating back into the last quarter of the 1800's. Because I always had a passionate interest in old houses, we have renovated one of those Old Towne properties built in the mid 1930's, now a rental house and studio. We had previously renovated a 1915 house in the early 1980's. My husband retired 11 years ago, and I retired six years ago. We both enjoy the freedom to do what we want and follow our own interests. I teach a couple of classes called Life Storybook in a program for older people (like us) at California State University at Fullerton — people are writing the stories of their lives. It's fun and actually fascinating to get to know so many people from all kinds of places with quite varied past experiences. I attend some classes too, but most of my time is spent enjoying home and family, including our two little dachshunds. We take occasional trips, but

who provide four free or low-cost meals a week to community residents. Politics is an ongoing interest, especially now that the whole country is struggling with what seems a paradigm change partially brought by instant communications. My daughters live in NYC and NH. I have a foster son in NH also, so the seven grandchildren visit when their busy lives permit. Keep the news coming!"

Sorrel McElroy writes, "Not many changes in our life, which is good at our age! We still have four grandchildren at Potomac. I love having the opportunity to visit the school for our various games and programs. It is absolutely amazing in every way. They are lucky to be there."

1953

Class Correspondent

Mary Murray Bradley Coleman
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mcolema2@maine.rr.com

From the Yearbook

We, the class of '53 are proud to dedicate this yearbook to Mrs. Lee in sincere appreciation of all she has contributed to our school. The memory of her inspiring teaching and outstanding example of true character shall always be with us.

1954

Class Correspondent

Elizabeth Knox Radigan
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eradigan@va.metrocast.net

From the Yearbook

Elizabeth Sargent Knox "Tina" K-9

Next School: Undecided

Signature Phrases: "Five-fifteen in the morning" and "Many Times"

Pet Peeve: People who talk too much

Where Found: Getting jokes explained

Desire: To dance the jitter bug decently

1955

Gretchen Becker writes, "I went to Georgia this fall to visit my first thesis advisor, whom I hadn't seen in years. We went through Chattanooga, and I had a wonderful lunch with **Liz Frazier McCallie**, whom I hadn't seen since 1955. It's amazing how long the bonds we forge in our youth stay strong. Otherwise, same-old, same-old. I'm trying to write another book, but it's going slowly."

Sherry Downes writes, "My husband and I have moved to Carleton Willard Retirement Village in Bedford, MA, near Concord. We decided the time was right and were able to sell our condo in Brookline, MA, fairly quickly. Our son Todd Bland and his family live in nearby Milton, Richard Bland is in DC and Edward and family are in Seattle. We have a new puppy called Madeline. She is a Coton de Tulear and very cute. She just reached her six-month birthday. There are several people here who have Potomac connections. One is **Ann Thoron Hale '43**, whom we knew in San Francisco years ago. My best wishes to all my classmates."

Judy Young Flynn says she "would love to have classmates' addresses — I'm retired, living with my husband of 50 years in Ponte Vedra Beach, FL. We have four children — two girls, both married, living on the north shore of Boston; two boys, one married, living in Baltimore, and one single, living in Copenhagen; plus six grandchildren. We play golf and tennis, travel and enjoy the sun! judithflynn@comcast.net"

1956

Anne Palms Chalmers is still busy singing, travelling, painting and puttering, having retired from Houghton Mifflin Harcourt book design in 2009. "The 30-voice Cambridge, MA, chorus, Musical Sacra, is fulfilling and challenging: we sang a marvelous Christmas concert of complex baroque and modern pieces just a month after performing

the Bach Saint Matthew Passion. Holly and I spent a month in Spain last spring in Barcelona and exploring the inspiring history of 12th-15th century southern Spain during the golden age of interconnected science, poetry, architecture, music, philosophy and cooking in Islamic, Jewish and Christian cultures. I'm having fun playing with watercolor technique in paintings of light and patterns in vegetables. One painting was accepted into a juried show of the New England Watercolor Society. We're almost finished with house tasks — the usual needed maintenance and repair — and had a wonderful visit from our son, daughter-in-law and 2.5-year-old grandson: much Lego building and monster playing!"

Melissa Foster Bowerman passed away after a brief illness. Melissa carried the torch of first language acquisition for the Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics for more than 20 years. She was one of the founders of the modern study of child language. Her work explored how children learn every aspect of language, but she was especially famous for her research on how children learn the meanings of words as they differ across languages. Her contributions to the study of child language and the semantics of words have been hugely influential, recognized in her election to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences last October. She was a wonderful colleague, "mother" to many PhD students and a supportive critic to all the Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics research staff. Her wide and deep command of the literature on child language was a valuable resource. She will be deeply missed as researcher, supervisor, supportive friend and warm soul.

1957

REUNION YEAR 55TH



Jane VanderPoel Lenzetti '57 and husband, Edouardo

1958

From the Yearbook

We the graduating class of 1958 are proud to dedicate this yearbook to Miss Archer and Miss

Wilson in grateful acknowledgement of the invaluable help both have given us. We are deeply indebted to them for their understanding and patience with us.

1959

Patsy Cushing writes, "I have finally resurfaced on this side of the Atlantic after many years in France and now reside in Brattleboro, VT. Will I stay here? Very possibly, although 10 years in France accustomed me to a much milder climate, and I wait to see whether I really want the cold for so much of the year. But I am so in favor of our Vermont politics, and I have intentionally put myself into a community where I can sing wonderful music with great people weekly. And the Upper Valley, where I was for 30 years and where my sister, **Bo (Cushing) Gibbs '61** lives, is not far. Apart from singing, I have embarked on a course of mind-body health study that has me very excited, and I have two new grandchildren, Beatrice and Otis, who live in Brooklyn with their parents, Ben Cushing Niles and Jean Burger (Ben teaches at the New Design High School in Manhattan). Ben's brother, Zach (Cushing Niles) is based in Brooklyn as well but is seldom there, as his work takes him far from home. Soon he will head back to Haiti to work on his music/film project called Lakou Mizik (great music on YouTube, if you are interested). A good family. I have just been in touch with **Carol Langstaff '59**, who is working away on a museum/dance project that takes place next month with her FlockDance company. And, lo and behold, my landlord is a Potomac grad as well, **Richard Epstein '73**. The world comes 'round. And 'round: I have just finished Susan Cooper's book, *The Magic Maker*, on Jack Langstaff and realize why I am here, in Brattleboro, singing at pub enings and watching mummerys plays. The traditions go deep when they ring true. Perhaps the cold isn't so very important after all!"

1960

Annie Shields writes, "I am living in the mountainous part of Georgia, near Rome. I have a little farm and raise a few Icelandic horses and chickens. I work as an English teacher in a high school. **Molly Warner, Anne Dunbar** and I are planning a get-together in May at Annie's place near Cambridge, England. I have one grandchild, nearly three. I love being a grandmother."

1961

Emma Bragdon (EBragdon@aol.com) published two books in 2011. *Spiritism and Mental Health* is an anthology of essays written mainly by Brazilian

psychiatrists and psychologists about the practical application of Spiritism in Spiritist Psychiatric Hospitals in Brazil. Whereas the former is a textbook and reference book, *Resources for Extraordinary Healing: Schizophrenia, Bipolar and Other Serious Mental Illnesses* is for patients, their loved ones and health providers who are looking for direction in the effective treatment of mental disturbances, which use psychiatric medications very cautiously. Both books provide models for integrative mental health practices, which are bio-psycho-social and spiritual. Emma received her doctorate in Transpersonal Psychology and has written four other books on themes related to spirituality and health. Since 2001, she has spent half of each year in Brazil.

1962

REUNION YEAR 50TH

Class Correspondent

Deborah Johansen Harris
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Marianna Merrill Russell reports, "Our two daughters have obliged their mother by producing four grandchildren in three years. Rachel has an almost-4-year-old as well as year-old twins, and Katie had her little girl at the end of May.

"I've just decided that I will retire from the University of North Carolina Press this summer. I've been at the press for 23 years, 20 of them as director."

Kate Douglas Torrey '62

Of course, they are all beautiful and enchanting! I am only sorry they don't live a bit closer than Brooklyn and Boston. Better, however, than my son who lives in LA. He is getting married in June, and I am currently in the process of figuring out how to fly out and house the whole family without putting us in the poor-house. We still have my mother's house in Ireland, but have put it on the market as we only get over for two weeks a year."

Wendy Wisner Hazard writes, "I still live on a farm in Belgrade, ME, and am at the University of Maine Augusta, where I teach history. Among my courses is a history of the ancient and early modern world, and I'm ever mindful of and grateful for the inspiration of Miss Moffit, Mrs. Clark and Ms. Stevens. Would that my students could gather around and contribute to the stitching of a magical tapestry! The Christmas Revels in Boston, MA, is always a part

of our lives and the lives of our kids and grandkids, too. It's just one of the places where John Langstaff's great work is celebrated and lives on! Perhaps if there are some New Englanders among us, we could have a reunion at the Boston Revels next year."



Letter and Report on the Discoveries at Herculaneum, with commentary by **Carol Mattusch '62**.

Carol Mattusch writes, "Letter and Report on the Discoveries at Herculaneum by Johann Joachim Winckelmann, with introduction, translation,

and commentary by Carol C. Mattusch, was published in 2011. Winckelmann's controversial letter (1762) and report (1764) display his knowledge of geology, ancient literature and art, along with his critical view of the Spanish Bourbon excavations around the Bay of Naples. My introduction describes the context in which these texts were written; identifies various politicians, academics and collectors; and points out the topics that particularly interested Winckelmann, from artifacts to local customs to ancient papyri," says Carol. "The 18th-century illustrations, particularly those from the Bourbon publication, *Le Antichità di Ercolano* (1757-92), show how these monuments influenced contemporary perceptions of the ancient world."



Liz Murray Platts '62 with grandson, Thayer Gray Platts.

Liz Murray Platts and husband Greg became grandparents in November 2011 when grandson Thayer Gray Platts was born to Charlotte Gray and Chris Platts in Los Angeles, CA. Liz reports that semi-retired life in Washington, DC is great. She is looking forward to seeing many classmates at our reunion this spring.

Kate Douglas Torrey reports, "I've just decided that I will retire from University of North Carolina Press this summer. I've been at the press for 23 years, 20 of them as director. It's been wonderful and great fun publishing a lot of excellent books, and now this feels like the right time to step aside and let someone else have a turn. I'm not sure what'll be next for me, but I'm on the board of our local literacy council and want to give them more time than I've been able to in the past few years; we've got a governor and president who need NC in the "D" column to get reelected; there are bike routes to explore and trips to take; and our son, daughter-in-law and grandson live nearby, so I think I'll find lots of rewarding ways to spend my time. Last year, Allen and I bought an old house, renovated it and now have moved into it (and this year, we hope to sell the former house. If you know anyone moving to Chapel Hill) I have to say that the idea of a 50th reunion is stunning. How did that happen so fast?"

**New job?
New baby?
New outlook
on life?**

Tell The Term! If your class has a Class Correspondent, send your notes to him or her.

Contact information can be found at the top of each class column. If no Class Correspondent is listed, send notes to: alumni@potomacschool.org or Alumni Office, 1301 Potomac School Road, McLean, VA 22101.

Deborah Johansen Harris writes, "I am well and enjoying (pain-free!) double knee and double hip replacements from last year and the year before. No more downhill skiing or running but lots of bike riding, walking/hiking and cross-country skiing. My husband Ted and I took in Boston Symphony Orchestra concerts at Tanglewood in the Berkshires last summer and celebrated my dad's 95th birthday on Cape Cod. He is still pushing the envelope in his architectural design! Without full-time employment (I'm seriously considering throwing in the towel on the job market and retiring), I'm still active as a volunteer in CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates), where I represent the rights of foster children in the court system. I'm also on the board of Preservation Worcester, which works to preserve historical sites in the city. I dearly hope that all our classmates will be able to attend our 50th Reunion on April 27-28. **Liz Murray Platts** has graciously offered to host our class reunion dinner at her house on the evening of Saturday, April 28.

1963

Class Correspondents

Anne Williams
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New York, NY 10128
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annegw200@yahoo.com

Wendy Neel Ellsworth writes, "2012 will take me back to Kenya with my nonprofit Umoja Uaso Womens Fund to work with the Samburu all-women village in N. Kenya. I'll be teaching beading workshops there and around the U.S. throughout the year. My eldest granddaughter was just accepted to Smith College. My mom, **Mary Wilson Neel '32**, is now living in Ormond Beach, FL, near my sister **Mary Neel Gilbert '67**."



Anne Williams '63 with two representatives of the Apada refugee camp Women's Council, Northern Bahr el Ghazal State, South Sudan May 2011.

Anne Williams reports, "I've been fortunate to have connected with **Marisa Knowlton Domeyko**, **Edie Warner**, **Leni Chapman Preston** and **Harriet Sweeney** in DC over the past year, in between work

assignments in Sudan and the world's newest country, South Sudan; Egypt; and Republic of Georgia.

1964

Class Correspondent

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From the Yearbook

We are deeply indebted to Mr. Shiras for his patience and understanding and for the inspiration he has given all of us at Potomac. He has stimulated us in such a way that we will always strive to give the best of ourselves throughout our lives. Leaving behind him the spirit of youth and vigor which he has always personified, he goes on to teach and inspire.

As we leave Potomac together, we, the class of 1964, are proud to dedicate our yearbook to Mr. Shiras, with thanks, appreciation and best wishes for the future years

1965

Class Correspondent

Sallie Ayers Barker
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South Dartmouth, MA 02748
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Lindsey Holdsworth Aquino is well and busy, in spite of a kitchen floor slip-up that resulted in a total hip replacement. She is fine now! Impressive news is that their son Felipe graduated from Northern Virginia Community College and is now at George Mason as a junior. We all commend Lindsey and Sixto for their dedication to Felipe's challenges and his successes. Lindsey also has done some

writing about our historic class! We can look forward to reading her reflections at our next reunion.

Sallie Ayers Barker writes from the shores of Buzzard's Bay that after two years

of interim headmasterships (Washington/Sidwell Friends and Charlotte/Providence Day), she and Steve have settled at Friends Academy in Dartmouth, MA — a very Potomac-like school. She writes, "We are very happy. Mr. and Mrs. Kimball are just around the corner in Chatham, if we need any advice! And **Janet Brown '66** has a summer house just down the road."

Mike Mayer has left Washington and moved to VT.

Lynne Marmet McCombs was spotted on Potomac's fields awhile back; her daughter Julia was there coaching lacrosse.

After five terms, **Charles Meeker** recently stepped down as Mayor of Raleigh, NC.

Thomas Sayre, also in Raleigh, is an acclaimed sculptor.

Caroline Killefer Thayer is taking a year off from teaching elementary school Spanish to talented and gifted students so she can enjoy some fun adventures in Albuquerque with her husband, Jack. Their two daughters are both in CA, one at Mills in Educational Leadership and one a fabric artist.

Sturgis Warner still works in theater in NYC, mostly as a director with new plays. He writes, "I work with playwrights developing scripts, direct and occasionally produce. Life is good, though never easy in the arts. I love what I do."

1966



Sprague Theobald '66 visits Potomac School.

Sprague Theobald visited Potomac in January for the first time in many years. He was in DC speaking to The Explorers Club at The Cosmos Club in DC about his five-month 2009 journey from Rhode Island through the legendary Northwest Passage to Seattle. Check out www.hitproductions.com.

1967

REUNION YEAR 45TH

Class Correspondent

Tom Macy
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Tom Macy has volunteered to be the 2012 Class Reunion Chair and hopes to see all of his classmates at Potomac on April 27 and 28.



John Wolf '67

John Wolf writes, "January marks the beginning of my third year residing here in Wellfleet, on the outer Cape (as in Cape Cod). Having just turned 60, at an age when some are contemplating retirement (whatever that is), my "day job," which is to say my business of refrigeration, restaurant equipment service and general mechanical repair has me busier than I've ever been! The music scene is a little slow in the off-season; Wellfleet definitely isn't St. Louis, and I find I must travel farther afield for performing opportunities. Nevertheless, this area is very artistically inclined, and even in the winter there are performance opportunities to be had. Among other projects taking place this winter will be a performance with one of the members of ROOMFUL OF BLUES at the newly-completed Wellfleet Preservation Hall. Though I was late getting my boat in the water this past summer, my sailing day charter business began to take off in the post-Labor Day fall season, an indication that it should do quite well this coming tourist season; hopefully, June this year won't be the "Juneau" we had last year! Also, I've been doing some commercial shellfishing to supplement my income. Our Wellfleet oysters are second to none. The foregoing is not a prescription for retirement; having made the decision to become "land rich and money poor" like most year-round residents, I don't see that on the radar anytime soon... Son Alexander, well entrenched as a registered nurse in the intensive-care unit at Denver Health (the primary city hospital in Denver, Co.), is now contemplating graduate school, and possibly a career in public health nursing. Brothers **Steve '69** and **Andy '72** are busier than ever in their medical careers,

and Sally is now a resident of Ashburn, Va., now considered a suburb of D.C. The big family news, however, is that our mother, Agnes, who suffered a massive, debilitating stroke last March, is not only still with us and doing far better than anyone expected, but will celebrate her 90th birthday next month! True to form, this will take place at the Womens' National Democratic Club; hopefully Nicholas Annikeef, father of fellow '67 grad **Tony Annikeef**, will join us; he recently turned 99! My mother, in a supreme act of magnanimity, is not writing me out of the will for supporting a Republican in the upcoming primary (Ron Paul)."



Angus McIvor got married to **Jennifer Kirk '73** on a paddle steamer on the Potomac River in 1988. Here we are with our daughter Skye born in Australia in 1992 graduating from Waring School in MA. Great stuff does happen!

1968

T. Barry Davis writes that he has been named Senior Advertising Manager of *The Weekly Standard* magazine and *WeeklyStandard.com*.

Chip Hitchcock writes, "There's nothing new and exciting to report in my life. However, anyone who was at Potomac during the Langstaff years may be interested to know that Susan Cooper has written a sort-of biography: *The Magic Maker: A Portrait of John Langstaff, Creator of the Christmas Revels*. Cooper is a professional writer who volunteered a couple of decades writing pieces of the Revels; she gave a fascinating talk about this experience a few years ago."

1969

Class Correspondent

Alexander "Sandy" Dominick
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From the Yearbook

"It is better to have tried and failed than never to have tried at all."

9th Grade

1970

Class Correspondent

Jane McAllister
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Class Agent

Jane McAllister
(See contact information above)

Bruce Fleming writes, "I'm on the board of my younger daughter's school here in Baltimore (called Park), and the headmaster, Dan Paradis, came from Potomac. He's a wonderful guy and a darn good headmaster. I am writing you from the plane as I head back from a trip to San Francisco and Napa Valley, CA, with my older daughter. She is 21 and a senior at Colby College. She was just accepted into Teach for America, so at least she will have a job for a couple of years!"

Marion Neuhoft Hickman writes, "My husband, Simon, and I traveled the world in 2010. I loved Vietnam especially. In 2011 we held tight to our house and prop-

erty where we live in Vineyard Haven, MA.

you, David, from your 1970 classmates!
Nimmie Addison Huber writes, "Don and I are up in Underhill, VT, where we have just completed our fifth year at our bed and breakfast, The Sinclair Inn. We spent the first two years repainting, re-decorating and sprucing up our 1890 Victorian house. We are very busy from May until after leaf-peeking time in November. During the winter, we welcome a few skiers but mostly recharge ourselves and work on plans for the next season. Northern VT is beautiful. We are at the base of Mount Mansfield so we have come to enjoy walks up old logging roads with our dog, MacDuff. Two of our three children, **Addison '02** and **Andrew '04**, are settled and working in Washington, DC. Our daughter, **Lucy '06**, is in the middle of a three-year master's of writing program in NC. We closed up the inn and spent a warm week in Washington, DC, over Christmas so we could be with the children and many others in my family. One of these days, after our VT adventure, I will trade in my apron and baking tins and return to Washington. We would love to welcome any and all Potomac friends, if they are ever up this way."

"Don and I are up in Underhill, VT,
where we have just completed our
fifth year at our bed and breakfast,
The Sinclair Inn."

Nimmie Addison Huber '70

erty where we live in Vineyard Haven, MA. This year we look forward to all and nothing. Son Julian is 25 and an accountant. Daphne is studying jewelry making. She looks like I did in our Potomac yearbook."

David Holdsworth did not send news, but you will likely read elsewhere in this Term about the gift from his family—through the estate of his mother, Mrs. David (Ray) Holdsworth—that became the lead gift to the new Flag Circle Building. Thank

Marion Lowry writes, "My horse, Dolce, won the Pacific Coast Horseshows Association's 'Horse of the Year' in two divisions. We have the use of two glorious perpetual trophies for the year. It's a very exciting accomplishment in the highly competitive 'A' level hunter/jumper circuit — especially since I was the rider in one division! After 25 years in the advertising business with American Express Publishing, I seem to have a second career at the Robb Report

Magazine, also publishing in the luxury-lifestyle segment. Still focusing on the travel among other things — including private aviation. What a hoot! I am in touch with **Sarah Meeker Jensen** out here in LA. It is quite something to reconnect after so many years."

Jane McAllister writes, "Last year was a difficult one, before and after my mom's death in August at age 94. (Does anyone recall her occasional presence in the school orchestra, playing violin, most notably in Noye's Fludde at the Cathedral?) Soon after Mom died, I traveled with Steve and **Max '15** to CO to see Steve's family and had a wonderful visit with **Dana Strong van Loon**, who met up with us in Loveland. Max is enjoying Upper School at Potomac and will travel to China with a school group over spring break if it goes. Steve and I are wondering where we can travel in that same time slot! Thanks to all who sent or called with news."

Bill McElwain writes, "I'll be skiing with **Garrett Jewett** in March. We're all well. Daughter **Maria '05** is due back to work in Washington, DC, with Senator Dick Durbin in a few months and will be living in our basement. For now she's back in Chicago, where she's living in an empty apartment, to help with the Chicago office, which is severely short-handed. Son **James '09** is doing well in frozen Minnesota. He loves Macalester College, where he's majoring in Critical Theory and helping coach a high-school debate team on the side. He's hoping to go to Germany this summer to solidify his German and is looking toward grad school after graduation, which is, shockingly, after next year."

From Sorrento, ME, **Liza Noyes** reports that her daughter, Anna, is in her first year at the Iowa Writer's Workshop, from which she'll eventually graduate with an MFA degree.

New job?
New baby?
New outlook
on life?

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(Left to right) **Andrew '04**, **Lucy '06**, and **Addison Huber '02**

Nat Parker writes, "My significant other, Jemille Williams, and I took an unusual vacation last year. Her son is an F-18 Navy pilot. His ship, the USS Ronald Reagan, allows friends and family to ride with the crew on the last leg of a deployment. After spending several days in Hawaii, we joined the crew of the aircraft carrier there. The highlight was departing Pearl Harbor. The deck was crowded with aircraft and civilian 'tigers,' while the crew 'manned the rails' in dress uniform. A Naval historian detailed the devastation from the two waves of the surprise Japanese attack on December 7, 1941, and pointed out the locations of the ships that were damaged or destroyed. I saw where my dad's destroyer, the USS Downes, had been in dry dock and bombed. He was then the acting CO and had given the 'Abandon Ship' order. The Reagan's crew came to attention, and no one spoke as we sailed past the USS Arizona Memorial. The only sounds were from the engine and the flapping of the flags and halyards. I keep busy with work in Roswell, GA, singing with two groups and ballroom dancing — still mediocre. My three sons are all doing great. Alex works with a consulting firm called North Highland. Ben graduates this year from Charleston School of Law. And my youngest son, Zach, has returned for a brief visit from Phuket, Thailand, where he works as a professional poker player."



David Powers '70

David Powers writes, "I'm living in Jamestown, NC, where I run a small photography business. People can contact me at (336) 207-0926 or dpowers12@hotmail.com or visit me at the shop: Creative Snap Photography, 3120 High Bridge Circle, Jamestown, NC 27282."

Bobby Rock writes, "Son Charley, a senior in high school, has been accepted at a number of colleges and is waiting to hear from others. Unfortunately, he had no interest in Hamilton College, my alma mater (and **Jane McAllister's**). Daughter Georgia is interested in theater and hoping to attend a program back east this summer."

Dana Strong writes, "I'm enjoying my new life as a massage therapist and looking to

specialize in geriatric care, which will fill a tremendous need and has come to be a calling for me. My daughter Margot, majoring in U.S./Russian foreign policy at American University, had a fabulous year abroad in St. Petersburg. Daughter Nina is headed to Harvard next year as a freshman and continues her major involvement in épée fencing. I'm considering a move, for part of the year at least, to my home in Water Island, US Virgin Islands. I'm happy to rent the place to friends and family as well. Feel free to contact me!"

1971

Class Correspondent

Ann Edgeworth
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annledgeworth@yahoo.com

From the Yearbook

As our ninth grade homeroom teacher, Mrs. Rose was there to usher us out. Well, she certainly kept everyone on their toes. We are sorry that we could not give her a gold air conditioner to go in her boudoir as she wanted, but we hope she will accept this dedication instead.

We want to thank both Mrs. Hathaway and Mrs. Rose for seeing us through.

1972

REUNION YEAR 40TH

Class Correspondent

Rosamond Parker Smythe
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Starting on the West Coast, **Claudia Krieger-Myers** writes that she and her husband Bill, who is a member of the Screen Actors Guild, have been watching about 60 films in the past month-and-a-half in preparation for the awards season. She saw **Jeremy Gordon '68** and **Bobby Rock '70** at the Rocks' holiday party. For those of you who are on Facebook, she has a picture of herself and Jay Leno posted from a New Year's Day adventure.

Lewis Butler is based in San Francisco, where he continues to work as an architect. One of his projects, a stunning renovation of a neoclassical Northern California house, was in the November 2011 issue of Architectural Digest. He and his wife come east every year to spend a month every summer in Concord, MA.

Cecile Reinhardt Fenstermaker checked in from Naples, Florida where she lives with her husband, John. Her son Paul, 25, worked for the NBA upon graduating from college and is currently enrolled in his first year of law school at Northwestern. Her younger son, Andrew, 22, is only two hours away at Eckert College, where he is on the basketball team and majoring in communications.

Kate Bucknell Maguire writes that she is "still living in London with her adorable husband Bob and our 12-year-old heavy metal drummer son, Jack. The older children are musicians, too: Bobby teaching and composing here in Lambeth, Lucy teaching and conducting in Caracas. I continue to feel certain that John Langstaff is one reason all three of our children are musicians!" She has just finished a 20-year, 1-million-word edit of the diaries of Christopher Isherwood. In her free time, she is preparing to run in the Rome marathon, visits Santa Monica a few times a year and tries "never to miss an American summer, as much of the East Coast and Nantucket as possible, family and old friends."

Rosamond Parker Smythe writes, "On a recent trip to Charleston, SC, for a Smythe family reunion, I reconnected with **David Morton '72** who lives in Mount Pleasant, SC. He works for Trident Technical College and is thriving with his wife, a real estate lawyer, and two boys, aged 8 and 6. It was a pleasure to catch up in person with a Potomac classmate, which did whet my appetite for the upcoming reunion. All goes well for me in Medfield, MA. After five years of commuting to New York, my husband has taken a job in Boston, which is a welcome change. Our son, Jed, 24, has just taken an entry-level job with a law firm in South Carolina with an eye towards applying to law school next year. Our daughters Adelaide and Louisa are in their fourth and second year in college. I continue to be busy with the house, yard and animals. Thanks to all of you who wrote in, and I look forward to hearing from the rest of you in future years."

Andy Wolf writes, "I was disappointed that no other '72 alums showed up for the alumni soccer game over Thanksgiving (I actually blended in pretty well with the Class of '11), but am hoping you'll make up for it with a strong showing at our 40th!"

1973

Class Correspondent

Liza Gookin Hodskins
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Arlington, VA 22201
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ldhodskins@yahoo.com



Bill Calfee '73 and family

Bill Calfee writes, "Well, we have been living on our boat for more than two years, and it has been a wonderful lifestyle

change for us. Simple, connected to the outside and the weather, and focused on 'important things.' Boat is small (38', so we have very little 'stuff'). I spend very little time on the computer, and we don't own a car. Currently we are in Fort Lauderdale, getting ready to go through the Bahamas to the south shore of the Dominican Republic then to Panama. In the photo we had a light air day sailing down the coast of FL, which allowed us to sit on the bow for coffee and watch dolphins. If anyone has ever dreamt of doing this kind of thing, call me up and I will encourage you. Really wonderful for kids: Isobel can identify a bunch of birds, loves to help with all sorts of projects and is exposed to all sorts of practical uses of math, writing, science and art. We visited Potomac over Halloween and she climbed on the turtle and llamas, while I tried to remember where things used to be back in the day."



John Chester '73 and his wife, Laurie during their visit to India

John Chester writes, **Tony Hass** and his wife Anna and his boys Henry and Will were here in Woodstock, VT for the weekend. We got together for brunch and had a wonderful, but all too short time catching up. This fall Laurie and I went to India for my cousin's wedding, and spent about two weeks traveling. We even made it to the Pushkar Camel Fair.

1974

Class Correspondent

Ann Brown
3724 Veazey St., NW
Washington, DC 20016

From the Yearbook

Ann Shippen Brown's page

Biting her fingernails...talking to Marla...Chevy Chase Club... "Hang in there"...her dog Becka...her profile... Ros Case... Tav...

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1975

Class Correspondent

Margaret Griffin Begor
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Oxford, MD 21654
(410) 226-0006
pbebor@gmail.com

From the Yearbook

Margaret T. Griffin's page...

Red Hair...Yale Sweater...breaking her diet at Farrell's...bus perfect...love

math?...soccer...really nice...Easton...her twin brother...crazy...longest composition in English..."Oh, I wish I..."...Mrs. Szekeres...fighting with Squeaky...freckles...Peggy NOT Katy...Peg.

1976

Tony Poole writes, "It was great to host so many '76ers at our home last reunion. Everyone had a wonderful time catching up, sharing stories and checking out photos from our last Potomac yearbook. Many thanks to **Adam Randolph** for pulling everyone together and to **Broadway Jackson** for organizing a fantastic spread of food. Much has transpired since we were all together. In July, I hosted Banknote 2011 — our eighth conference on banknote technology (the technologies that prevent counterfeiting of the stuff in your wallet) attended by 600 delegates from 70 countries. 2011 was a busy year with extensive work in Europe and Asia. This Christmas our family went to the Old Country and celebrated in Germany and Austria — a truly amazing experience."

Whitney Tymas was named director of the Prosecution and Racial Justice Program at the Vera Institute of Justice in June 2011. Read more on page 9.

1977

REUNION YEAR 35TH

Class Correspondent

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Andrey Baxter Young and **Lange Johnson** are the 2012 Class Reunion Chairs and looking forward to seeing all their classmates on April 27 and 28.



Tania Hendrick Coffey '77, Audrey Baxter Young '77 and Wendy Arundel '77

Wendy Arundel writes, "My classmates **Tania Hendrick Coffey**, **Audrey Baxter Young** and **Wendy Arundel** celebrated our 50th birthday year at Tania's ranch in Steamboat Springs, Co.

Correction: In the fall 2011 issue of *The Term*, Peter Tompkins was credited with writing *The Book of the Dead*. The note should have stated that NYC author Ptolomy Tompkins wrote *The Divine Life of Animals*.

1978

Class Correspondent

Julia Twiname Warder
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Scottsdale, AZ 85260
(480) 661-7901
jitwdean@cox.net

Gigi Jefferson Chaapel writes, "I am in L.A. Got married four years ago, and we are doing ministry for Jesus. I am ministering in preaching and music."

Curt over the holidays, both looking great. There was talk with both of organizing an area mini-reunion, though given the occasion of our 35th reunion; perhaps we should push it back to the spring. I know our local numbers now include **Julie Ten Eyck**, who I believe has a child at the school, and **Sally Anne** (both of whom I have yet to see!). Looking forward to seeing all of you at the reunion!"

Nina Howard Regan has two daughters who are at Potomac. **Emma '12** is a senior, and **Anna '14** is a sophomore. "It has

summer going to horse shows. Our son will graduate from the University of New Mexico next year with dual engineering degrees. Our oldest daughter is a traveling nurse, currently working in Springfield, VT. She just returned from a three-week kayaking adventure off the Baja."

Julia Twiname Warder writes, "I have switched careers and am teaching elementary at a Title I public school in the Prince William County Virginia Public schools. I love those children like I love my own, and teaching second and third grade is a

"On a recent trip to Charleston, SC, for a Smythe family reunion, I reconnected with David Morton '72 who lives in Mount Pleasant, SC. He works for Trident Technical College and is thriving with his wife, a real estate lawyer, and two boys, aged 8 and 6. It was a pleasure to catch up in person with a Potomac classmate, which did whet my appetite for the upcoming reunion." Rosamond Parker Smythe '72

Paul Fearey's 9-year-old son **Will '21**, is in third grade at Potomac and is having a blast. "In fact, he can't get enough, as he is in two Potomac after-school classes for chess and hip-hop dancing! Also, my wife Gretchen volunteers weekly, so we are all in the Panther spirit! I hope to see you and the rest of Mr. Rollings' class at our 35th."

Ann Addison Freniere is still working as the middle school director of students at Stone Ridge in Bethesda. "My daughters, Katharine (15) and Maddie (12), are happy in Montgomery County schools and excelling in math, which is more than I ever did."

Brian Homet started a new job this year as a program manager for Fannie Mae. "I spent some time with **Tim Gould** in Charlottesville over the summer and, along with **Chris Tierney '79**, represented the over-the-hill gang in the alumni soccer game the day after Thanksgiving!"

Alexandra Clyde Meskan shares that all is well. Her twins, Madeleine and John, are in fourth grade and are best friends still and into school, sports, friends and everything else.

Wendell Miles writes, "Things are good on the Miles' runaway train! Juliana (3.5 years) is thriving at National Child Research Center and loves alternately scheming with, and tormenting, her brother. Temple is greatly enjoying Beauvoir. I am bereft that he is not at Potomac, but Ann would not put him on the bus for Kindergarten! They both enjoyed the Winter Revels! I had the great pleasure of seeing **Will Catto** at the Fall Frolics! He was attending with some of his children who are at the school. I also ran into **Mittie** and

been a great experience all around. Would love to see our classmates again soon and will try to make the next reunion."

Mittie Brooks Rooney shares, "I am living in Bethesda with my husband Curtis. Our daughter **Cate '08** will graduate from Vanderbilt in May. Our son Tom is in seventh grade, but not at Potomac. We have been very involved in the Children of Kibera Foundation started by former Potomac teacher and current candidate for the Kenyan parliament Ken Okoth. As a result we have had an opportunity to travel to Kenya as a family and spend time with Potomac alum and current parent **Merrell Cherouny '82**. I also ran into **Wendell Miles** and **JC Ewing** from time to time. I am still running a small PR shop in DC. Life is good, but busy."

Adrienne Slaughter's family is doing well. "Joshua no longer attends Potomac. We may revisit that great idea at a later time. He did have a wonderful year in fourth grade last year, and his classroom was Mrs. Meza's classroom with the loft. So Josh attends Minnieville Elementary School along with his sister Daria. They're in grades 4 and 5."

Robin Seidman Volock writes, "I am currently living in Kiowa, CO, with my husband, John, and our many animals. We have 2-year-old horses, a 5-month-old horse, the mommy horse and three miniature horses. I am currently learning how to drive my miniature so he can pull a cart. We have four dogs, too. I have my own bookkeeping business. Our youngest daughter is the Bernalillo County, NM, Rodeo Queen and won first attendant at the State Fair. She is running for the Elizabeth Stampede Queen. We will have a busy

blast! I am on faculty at the University of Phoenix's Northern VA campuses (there are four), and I teach online at Trident University International. I also teach a few cello lessons on the side and love that, too. Suffice it to say, I'm pretty busy. I hope that each and every one of our classmates is having a wonderful new year, and I hope to see you sometime whenever time permits! Love to all!"

Arthur Woolverton writes, "Sheri, Matt, Meg and I are still enjoying life in Cumberland, ME. I am enjoying managing the marketing for Honeywell Building Solutions in the East Region, spending a lot of

**New job?
New baby?
New outlook
on life?**

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time learning about new ways we can help companies, schools, hospitals and municipalities save money on energy! Job takes me all over. If timing is right, we will try to hit our Herndon, VA, office around the time of the reunion!"

1979

Class Correspondent

Speke Wilson
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Bill Hoffmann writes, "I am channeling my inner 'Bill Doswell' as I am in a long term subbing position at Potomac in 8th grade science! To top it off I am teaching in the same classroom where we had 8th grade class with Mr.D.... to top THAT off one of my students is **Speke Wilson's** son, **Bram '16!** I have memories of being partners with **Irene Higginson (then Howard)** for the final lab project (I think

1980

From the Yearbook

Edith Liberty Demas's page

Her red hair...has an eye for ski instructors...dancing with her 50 pounds...her puppy, Travis..."Sarah! Sarah!! Sarah!!!"

1981

Class Correspondent

Julia Smith Lam
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lamj@mail.nih.gov

Class Agent

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Washington, DC 20007
(202) 494-1682
vestcox@verizon.net

Whitney Field writes, "I am living in Keene, NH. I am a grocery manager at the

"I am channeling my inner 'Bill Doswell' as I am in a long term subbing position at Potomac in 8th grade science! To top it off I am teaching in the same classroom where we had 8th grade class with Mr.D...."

Bill Hoffmann '79

it was the final) ... I also recall **Robert Dempsey** writing his name on the table with the Bunsen burner.... oh boy... good times!"

Ralph Savarese writes, "I'm still teaching at Grinnell College in IA. My son, DJ, will be attending Oberlin College in the fall. We have been told that he is the first non-speaking person with autism — he uses a text-to-voice synthesizer to speak — to be admitted to a highly selective college. He is definitely the first to try to live in the dorms. Pretty exciting stuff. He appeared a few years ago on CNN's Anderson Cooper 360, and when Dr. Sanjay Gupta asked him, 'DJ, do you think autism should be treated?' he typed, 'Yes, treated with respect.' He's an amazing young man. I just can't believe that I'm old enough to have a kid going to college!"

Mark Shriver, who runs U.S. programs for Save the Children spoke to the Upper School in February about the high rate of poverty in the U.S. today and especially the number of kids—one in four—that live with limited access to the things that the rest of us take for granted. He showed how the problem for children has become worse over the last few decades and urged students to get involved.

Brattleboro Food Co-op in Brattleboro, VT. I have been there for the last 16 years. This spring we are opening a new store, it should be a fun and challenging time! I am with a wonderful man named Kirk who is a welder and heavy equipment mechanic. He also Morris Dances and is an amazing singer. I was married before and had three stepchildren who gave me four wonderful grandchildren. The two oldest grandkids live nearby, and we go on lots of adventures kayaking, fishing, and hiking in the mountains. They call me "adventure Grammy." My sister **Elizabeth '79** lives right down the road with her daughter. My dad, **Jonathan**, who was head of the Upper School at Potomac, also lives right down the road. My mother Augusta lives in Troy, NY, and my oldest sister **Cassandra '77** still lives in MD with her family. My life is very full and happy. My best to all of my classmates from Potomac."

Charlotte Matthews, Associate Professor of English at the University of Virginia, says, "I'm living in Crozet, VA, with my husband Albert and two children, Emma (13) and Garland (10), two dogs and three chickens. I'm teaching at UVA and at Hollins University. My third book of poems,



Andrea Rankin '82 with family

Some We Gave Them Names, is about the experience of living with cancer."

Julia (Smith) Lam writes, "I continue to live in the lovely town of Shepherdstown, WV, and work at the National Cancer Institute. Last year, I became an empty nester as my youngest son graduated high school and went off to American University. My oldest son is in his last semester at West Virginia University and plans on studying in Portugal for a year prior to starting his master's degree. With both my boys in college it inspired me to return to school, so I'm currently a part-time student at university, but at the rate I'm going I will be the oldest person to ever receive a diploma. Not that I'm in any hurry, as it is all about the journey."

1982

REUNION YEAR 30TH

Class Correspondent

David Tierney
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david@designsbytierney.com

Bennett Donovan writes, "I've been living in Austin for the last 20 years. I am married to Leslie for 11 years and have two children, Logan (7) and Jillian (3). I run a team of project managers and software developers for an Austin-based cloud computing company called Convio. We develop constituent engagement software for nonprofit organizations. So if you've ever registered online for one of those charity walks, then you've probably used our application. Our family enjoys the food, music, creativity and relaxed attitude that makes Austin a great place to live."

Reid Wilson writes, "I'm living in Northfield, IL, and working for the man at JPMorgan in Chicago. Winter is always a bit crazy for me as both son, Alec, and daughter, Nina, are on hockey squads and a lot of time is spent at the rink. I, too, am still playing hockey once a week, although any cardio benefit is typically erased during the post-skate gatherings at the local tavern. So aside from worrying about my daughter going into high school next year, life is good. Would love to hear from any of you

if you happen to pass through Chicago!"

Andrea (Andi) Rankin writes, "My family and I moved to MT 10 years ago, and we have never looked back. We live in Helena and love all that the state has to offer — mountain biking, hiking, skiing and an overall slower pace. I'll be the first to admit that the restaurant variety is not what it could be, and Indian food is a must for trips to a big city. Like David, I have wondered where the time went and how it is that I now have a 10-year-old girl (Lea) and a 12-year-old boy (James). I work part time for the Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education coordinating the evaluation of a grant program called Montana GEAR UP. My husband, Phil, started his own law practice a few years ago. We enjoy the flexibility that these jobs give us. Here's a photo of us in ID last summer. I will try to make it back for our 30th, seeing as I think I have missed all the rest."

1983

Class Correspondent

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jwebber3@maine.rr.com



Adria de Leonibus Black '83 and family

Adria de Leonibus Black writes, "We are in Old Town Alexandria, and I am working at The Beauvoir School as their special events and alumni relations director. My first year not teaching in quite some time. We welcomed Wells Cunningham Black on August 1, 2011. He joins big sister LuLu, who turned 3 in January. Hello to all classmates!"

Alex Ross, classical music critic at *The New Yorker*, is the only full-time classical music critic employed by a national magazine. Read more on page 14.

1984

Trevor Corson writes, "In addition to developing some new book ideas, I have been doing more teaching, and recently joined the faculty of one of the most diverse independent schools in the country, Brooklyn Friends School, to create an East Asian Studies program there. I am teaching beginning Mandarin Chinese language, as well as Chinese and Japanese history, and in the process I am developing a profound new respect for every teacher I've ever had, including of course those who nurtured me at Potomac."

1985

From the Yearbook

The ninth grade continues the tradition of a class play by presenting Bye Bye Birdie. The production was directed by Mrs. DeLeonibus, ninth grade English teacher.

1986

Class Correspondent

Holly Green Gordon
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From the Yearbook

The Potomac Community is a close and cohesive one. Caring for others and becoming involved in many areas of the school are a part of life here.

1990

Class Correspondent

Danielle Klemm Porak de Varna
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Damon Moley writes, "It is with great sadness that I write to inform you that **Richard Cobb Miller Houston** has died. Richard was the founding editor of *The Current* and a varsity tennis player. He taught English at a private school in Honduras, studied in Italy, volunteered on the presidential campaigns of President George Herbert Walker Bush in 1992 and Senator Barack Obama in 2008, and worked for a national trade association and as a researcher and writer for political and literary publications in Washington, DC. He had been pursuing a doctorate in American History at the University of Georgia. Richard was gentlemanly, affable and charming and had an extraordinary gift for acquiring luminous friends and acquaintances. I know from our many conversations over these past decades that the years Richard spent at Potomac were among the happiest times of his life and

that he held Potomac, his teachers and his classmates in abiding affection. We often shared our recollections from that time, and those memories were always suffused with friendship, humor, fondness and warmth: throwing the football with **Carlos, David and David**; misadventures in driving and parking in Georgetown with **Richard** at the wheel of the Big Green Farm Car; learning to appreciate great writing from Mr. Riley and arguing politics with Mrs. Niels; late nights on Mount St. Alban, at Dane's, at Antonia's. In our last conversation just a few months before he died, Richard told me how fortunate he

Jamie Stump writes, "I am an Alumni Governing Council member and proud to report that my daughter Josephine (5) is at Potomac in Ms. Murphy's kindergarten. She frequently gets to see **Nonie Cameron**, who is the Lower School Language Arts Resource Teacher. My younger daughter Mary Parker (3) is at Country Day. All the Stumps, including brother **John '87** and his family, are doing quite well.

Azali Kassum writes, "Planning our 20th reunion in the spring of 2011 was a great way to reconnect with so many of our classmates, including co-chairs

**Chris Winland '94 was named
the interim director of the newly
established Clean Energy Incubator at
the University of Texas at San Antonio,
so if anyone hears of a promising
early-stage clean energy company that
wouldn't mind getting started in Texas,
send them his way.**

felt to have gone to Potomac and known so many wonderful people there. Richard was a good friend and a good man, and he is missed."

1991

Class Correspondent

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Class Agents

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Patsy Dugger and her husband, Isaac, still love living in San Francisco and will be happily joining the ranks of parents with the arrival of their first child, a little girl, in early March. Patsy will be taking some time off from her role at Ecova, a sustainability consultancy, where she designs and promotes energy efficiency programs for utilities throughout the U.S. and Canada.

Jamie Stump and **Morgan Till**, as well as **Erika Melman** and **Richard Bland** here in Washington, plus everyone who managed to attend the festivities in April. Just before the holidays, I was able to spend time in Raleigh, NC, with **Kate Rylander Morley** and her daughters Abby and Elizabeth. And through my work with the Alumni Governing Council, I had the opportunity to attend our alumni event in San Francisco (co-hosted by **Patsy Dugger**), where I also caught up with **Jennie McClelland**!

1992

REUNION YEAR 20TH

Class Correspondent

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Ama Amoako Adams writes, "I was recently elected into the partnership at Baker Botts and continue to practice international trade law. I had a great time seeing **Shauna McBay Loneragan**, who was in town from Seattle with her beautiful daughter, Skye. I also got to see **Tamara Bechara** a few times this past year in New York and DC.

Zed Adams is a philosophy professor in NYC at the New School for Social Research. He writes papers on topics such as, "Why your kids' drawings really are less realistic than Mrs. Cook's drawings" and "Why it's important that 'Blade Runner' was filmed at the Bradbury Building." He recently gave a series of sold out public lectures in LA titled "What if Esquimaux had no words for blue?"

Buckley Anne Kuhn Fricker, JD, GCM, has a book coming out in February 2012. Here is a website with all the details: www.theroadtogrowingold.com.

Jen Friedlander writes, "I lived in NYC for most of my adult life, acting in mostly comedic roles which led into an improv/sketch comedy show that I was in for three years. We even ended up filming a pilot, but our band broke up after lots of fighting, which led me to writing and performing stand-up comedy. I think like Steven Wright, but I have Sarah Silverman's naughty sarcastic/bitchy innocence. I have been performing for about seven years in comedy clubs and at private parties. I just recently moved back to McLean, VA, this past August to be the chair of event planning and fundraising for The Stroke Comeback Center (because this is where my grandfather recovered from his stroke). I always loved planning parties, and now I am taking my performing love and planning amazing and meaningful events. I am, by the way, recruiting people to be on my event-planning and fundraising committee, so if you know anyone who wants to do charity work please send them my way. Also I still hope to check out the stand-up comedy scene in DC."

Scott Mader has been living in Belize for many years now. He has a real estate company there and is currently planning a three-day festival to celebrate the end of the Mayan calendar on December 21, 2012. Here is a link to his real estate

**New job?
New baby?
New outlook
on life?**

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company: www.progressoshores.com/. Learn more about Scott here: www.couchsurfing.org/people/scottmader/.

Finally, **Nicole Kleman Neufeld** and **Ally Bloom** are greatly looking forward to seeing everyone at our 20th reunion in April.

1993

Kristina Cook writes, "Life is peaceful and full of beauty in the mountains of southwest VA. My husband, Adam, and I have lived here for 16 years now. We have two daughters. Emma will be 11 in May, and Rose is 7. Looking forward to our reunion in 2013!"

Michelle O'Hara Levin writes, "I am happy to announce the birth of our second son, James Benjamin O'Hara Levin, who surprised us by coming at the end of December rather than the end of January. Happily, all are well and his big (3.5 year old) brother was able to wish this new little man a happy new year!"

1994

Class Correspondent

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Minu Arianne Aghevli is living in Baltimore City, struggling to maintain control over her two huskies, lab and 3-year-old daughter. She and her husband just came to their senses and decided to move out of a row house to somewhere with a yard. She is a Veterans Affairs psychologist running the methadone clinic at the downtown Baltimore Veterans Affairs hospital. Her husband (the same person she has been with since NCS) is a record producer. "Weird thing: I can still call roll from Ms. Street's first grade. I realize this periodically..."

Lauren Banks Amos writes, "I am living in DC, mentally adjusting to the fact that I am officially a soccer mom to an entirely too tall 9-year-old. I am working in behavior and social science research and technical assistance for the American Institutes for Research primarily serving federal, state and nonprofit clients. I just entered my ninth year as an assistant track coach at Potomac. If you haven't seen the changes on campus, I highly recommend a visit! I enjoyed attending **Kate (Carberry) Irving's** wedding in April with **Gina Cordero**, **Michelle (Pollack) Landwehr**, **Jody Morse Al-Saigh** and **David Carpio '93**."



Kate Irving '94 with husband, Josh on their wedding day

Kate (Carberry) Irving's wedding to Josh Irving in April 2011 was a blur of happiness and she was lucky enough to share the day with her five Potomac besties: **Lauren (Banks) Amos**, **Michelle (Pollack) Landwehr**, **David Carpio '93**, **Jody (Morse) Al-Saigh** and **Gina Cordero**. The following month she purchased an awesome house with her awesome husband and finished off the month of May by completing her Counseling Masters at Hunter in NYC. Now she spends her days resting and preparing for another group of worthy seniors to enter the college application process. Life is good.

K.C. (Swope) Kourtz (kckourtz@gmail.com) finished her M.A. in English in 2007 at Georgetown University. Shortly thereafter, she moved to Boston, where she now lives with her husband, Richard Kourtz, and their dog, Abby. For the past several years she has worked as the program associate for technology at Facing History and Ourselves, an educational nonprofit based in Brookline, MA. She was married in June 2010, in Saint Martin, French West Indies. **William Lamb '94** attended, and it was a wonderful time.

After more than a dozen years as a reporter, **Will Lamb** retired his notebook and pen in November to take a job "on the desk" as an assignment editor at The Record and NorthJersey.com, a newspaper and website that covers an expanse of suburban New Jersey outside New York City. He manages a team of four reporters and a columnist, and directs the paper's coverage of federal and state courts, in addition to breaking news. He exercises his writing muscles by penning occasional pieces for Dwell magazine, which is ably edited by **Sam Grawe**. He and his wife Gina live with their cat, Scoop, in Jersey City, N.J.

Matt Rowan recently became an associate at Gensler in DC, and is one of the regional practice area leaders for product design and studio leaders for our hospitality design group. He led the team that just created new nationwide prototypes for the Comfort Inn and Sleep Inn chains, and he is thrilled to report that the latter have already begun roll-outs while the former

will roll out this fall. He also wrapped up work on the U.S. Delegation of the European Union here in DC, as well as environmental graphic design projects for several law firms around town and across the country. "We're also in the process of erecting a signage and wayfinding pilot project in Rosslyn, with the intention of expanding it throughout the entirety of Arlington County. When I'm not at work, I love being a horrible influence for my two boys, William (5) and Andrew (3), and consider my wife Claire to be a saint for putting up with my questionable antics for the past 9 years."

Perry (Aldige) Shure reports that **Paige Mader** moved to Boston with her husband, Felix, after finishing a master's in architecture at Columbia. **Cynthia Robinson** and **Jon Rivers '94** had a baby girl, **Mia Whang Spikers' girl** Portia turned 3 in September and **Abigail Whitehead** and **Clark Crain '92** moved back to McLean. Perry and her husband moved to Houston, Texas, last January, and their baby boy Benjamin celebrated his first birthday on June 12.

Michael Wilhelm is living south of Yokohama, Japan, working as a head and neck surgeon at Yokosuka Naval Hospital (even though he is in the Army). He and his family live up on a hill overlooking Tokyo Bay and can see Mt. Fuji from their neighborhood. When not operating, he and his family are out and about in Japan enjoying the people, the food and the weather. He and his wife Sara have four kids: Andrew (9), Peter (8), Emma (5) and Abigail (3). "Sara has enjoyed being back where she grew up, and I have enjoyed being able to see over everyone's heads on the train. We are doing our part to help things get back to normal after the earthquake and hope that Mother Nature will leave Japan alone for a while. We had fun seeing **Gina Cordero** this summer when we were evacuated back to Virginia. Hope to see some more folks over this way soon."

Chris Winland was named the interim director of the newly established Clean Energy Incubator at the University of Texas at San Antonio, so if anyone hears of a promising early-stage clean energy company that wouldn't mind getting started in Texas, send them his way. He was also glad to be back in DC recently as part of the Austin Chamber of Commerce's legislative delegation, but can't believe Metro is still using farecards that demagnetize every time he puts them in his pocket.

Sam Young spent the summer solving the mystery of the abandoned silver mine (it was Old Man Abernathy all along!), taking breaks only to tour Nicaragua and play drag queen bingo with **Lauren Banks Amos** at a local bar.

1995

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Chris DeMuth, Jr. and family just moved to a new home in New Canaan, CT.

1996

Class Correspondents

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Chris Crampton, **Jamie Sullivan** and **James Maxwell** joined **Christina Bennison** at Puffy's Tavern in New York to celebrate the engagement of **Juliana Bennison '01** to Jeff Battaglia. A great time was had by all, with the group sharing fond memories of the Gum Tree field and the Rolly Polly Hill.

1997

REUNION YEAR 15TH

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Rich Ellis, **Abby Sullivan** and **Scott Trabant** are the 2012 Class Reunion Chairs and look forward to seeing their classmates on April 27 and 28.



Ali Jost '97 and husband, **Michael Dax Iacovone** on their wedding day.

Ali Jost writes, "I am still living and working in Washington, DC. Last year, I made the big move to leave my work at the Service Employees International Union where I directed their immigration campaigns and built my business as a professional life and career coach. I'm also back in school to get my master's in clinical social work. In the future I hope to meld the coaching and therapy work in a private practice here in Washington, DC. More importantly, I got married in 2011 to my long-time partner Michael Dax Iacovone,

who is an artist and a teacher in the DC Public Schools. Potomac friends like **Lane** (obviously), **Heather Wilson '96**, **Matt Shuba '96**, **Nish Herat '95** and **Jessica Martin Hayne '96** were at the big party. I am really looking forward to seeing you all and catching up at the reunion this year."

1998

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Zal Batmanglij's first feature film, *Sound of My Voice*, hits theaters April 27. Read more on page 6.

1999

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Class Agent

Reed Landry
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Steve Anderson and Term editor **Johana Droubay** welcomed baby girl Della on February 10. Former faculty **Linda Anderson** seems pretty pleased with her fourth grand baby.

James Aldige lives in NY and works as one of five employees at an investment firm affiliated with Tiger Management. Last summer, he worked with **Chris Soverow** and the **Schmitt family** in helping to organize a NY fundraiser for the Landon Schmitt Memorial Foundation, and was grateful to solicit generous donations for the silent auction from classmates **Monique Pean** (who has her own jewelry line), **Jody Goehring** (shirts from Alton Lane) and **Paul Tribble** (shirts from Ledbury). This past weekend, James spent a snowy Saturday in Greenwich Village with **Susanna Mitchell**, **Laura Reiter Fleischer** and **Liz Seidlitz**. They all agreed they miss snow days in McLean.

Yorke Allen currently lives in McLean with his wife, Virginia Allen, and two daughters, Alice (2 years) and Annabelle (5 months). He is vice president at Jones Lang LaSalle, a commercial real estate company, in their Tysons Corner office. Yorke still keeps up with his racquet sports and enjoys playing when he can.

Sahar Batmanghelidj and her husband, Sam Miotke, recently welcomed their baby girl, Bibi Batmanghelidj Miotke. Sahar works on the TARP program within the Department of the Treasury. She looks forward to a full night's sleep.

Trenholm Boggs recently called it quits and left Georgetown for the tony neighborhood of McLean, where he now lives with his wife Avery. He spent the past year traveling the globe for his job with the Government Printing Office and training his dog Lady on how to retrieve ducks that he shoots out of the air.

Jody Goehring and his wife, Katherine, have a baby on the way, due April 20. After two years at UBS, Jody joined men's bespoke clothing company Alton Lane as Director of Operations. In August, Alton Lane expanded to Washington, DC, and opened a showroom in Dupont Circle. Jody is regularly back in town and will be hosting a Potomac alumni "Scotch and Suits" night at Alton Lane on Thursday, February 23. Read more about Jody on page 12.

Christian Gomez graduated in December with an MBA from Wharton in management and an MA from Johns Hopkins-SAIS in Latin American Studies. He is living in Logan Circle in Washington, DC, figuring out the next step, and he enjoys running into **Reed Landry**, **Trenholm Boggs**, **Keith Huffman** and **Daryn Cambridge**.

Keith Huffman graduated from Catholic University Law School last spring, passed the bar and now works at Mowry & Grimson. He recently got engaged to Brooke Daley, his girlfriend of four years.

Pamela Kasenetz is practicing Internal Medicine at the Alexandria Primary Care Associates group in Alexandria, VA. She is thrilled to be done with Residency!

In June 2011, **Todd Kincaide** received an MBA from The Kellogg School of Management. He currently lives in San Francisco, where he works for a young technology start-up called Wednesdays.com, which helps organizations schedule small group lunches for their members. On weekends, he can be found in wine country at one of San Francisco's amazing farmers markets or biking the Marin Headlands.

Reed Landry got married in September

and lives with his wife, Julie, in Georgetown. This fall, he and his three business partners opened Mason Inn, a sports bar and live music venue in Glover Park. On New Year's Eve, **Truman Morrison '03** and **Willie Morrison '06** played at his New Year's Eve party at Mellon Auditorium. Reed is in his seventh season as a high school wrestling official and continues to serve on the Potomac Alumni Governing Council. He enjoys seeing his fellow '99 classmates on a weekly basis.

Susanna Mitchell lives in Brooklyn, NY, with her husband. She is an attorney for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. She spends time with **Jonathan Darman**, **Liz Seidlitz**, **Ashely Seidlitz '03**, **James Aldige** and **Laura Reiter Fleischer**.

Alyson Lipsky and **Daryn Cambridge** live in Falls Church, VA, with their dog, Reginald. Alyson works at DAI, an international development firm where she does health and livelihoods work in Sub-Saharan Africa. Daryn works at the International Center on Nonviolent Conflict, an educational foundation that encourages the study and practice of nonviolent civil resistance as a method of struggle. He is also an adjunct professor at American University, where he teaches courses on education for international development and peace education.

Dana Stroul is living in Washington, DC, and working on Middle East policy for the Office of the Secretary of Defense. Highlights of 2011 include a work trip with Secretary of Defense Gates to Iraq and other countries in the region on his "doomsday plane" and a vacation in Peru to hike the Inca trail.

2000

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Class Agent

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Llia Doman '00 on her wedding day

Llia Doman writes, "I married my college sweetheart, Sean Hueber, in July of 2011. We tied the knot on a beach in HI. **Zalika Murray '01** and her mother attended the wedding. I also moved from Ventura, CA, to LA just last week to accept a news producing job with KABC."

Turn to page 17 to read the preface to Louisa Thomas' first book, *Conscience: Two Soldiers, Two Pacifists, One Family — a Test of Will and Faith in World War I*.



Truman Morrison '03 and **Willie Morrison '06** of The Morrison Brothers performing at The 9:30 Club

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2001

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Hello from the class of 2001! If there's anything to be said about our class this year, it's that we are a very global group. Graduates currently live all over the map, including the UK, Colombia, Hong Kong, Dubai, all over the U.S. of A., and, in the case of **Laura Smith**, on a 12-meter steel-hulled sailboat making its way from Argentina to the Caribbean.

Matthew Kline writes, "I was elected to the Venice (CA) Neighborhood Council in September, returning to elected office for the first time since I was sophomore class president at Potomac in '99. In my free time I enjoy catching touchdowns from **Adam Smith** on the beach."

Also in LA: **CJ Fahey**, working for Fox International Channels, and **Valerie Stempler**, who is studying at the University of Southern California Marshall School of Business.

Skipp Calvert is also making a move West, noting that he "recently completed a six-month deployment on board the USS Enterprise and is now moving to Northern California to become an instructor pilot flying the Navy's F/A-18 Super Hornet."

Across the Pond, **Kate Jackson Wendelboe** married Adam Wendelboe in April and is living in Cambridge doing a one-year MBA specializing in arts, culture and media management. She says, "As well as studying hard, of course, I'm playing water polo for the university, and producing a TEDx Oxbridge conference this summer." She sees **Marian Smith** on occasion, who is living in London where she and her husband Dan Montalbano are currently renovating a little Victorian house. Marian works as an editor/writer for msnbc.com.

Bryan Bennett lives with his wife, Emily, in Washington, DC, and currently works for Booz & Co.

Stephanie Amann Kapsis and her husband Jim live close by in Alexandria. Stephanie is a program director for Teach for America.

John Ohly is working on the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform in the U.S. House of Representatives and lives in McLean with his wife, Kiley.

Whitney Petersmeyer Senger is also working for Teach for America in Boston as the chief of staff to the president.

Elena Knappen, also in education, is now the Dean of her school in Brooklyn.

"After a long, long wait," writes **Steven John**, "my first novel, *Three A.M.*, will finally be published on March 27. I shamelessly beg you to buy it. I need bread! Also the book's own merits and whatnot..."

Carrie Johnson will graduate from The Catholic University of America, Columbus School of Law in May. After graduation, she will begin a one-year clerkship for a judge in the Anne Arundel County Circuit Court in Annapolis, MD.

Andrew Duncan relocated during fall, 2011 to the San Francisco Bay Area. He has really enjoyed being able to see fellow 2003 grads **Rachel Dyke '03** and **Leila Batmanghelidj '03** around town!

Down South, **Rory Byrnes** graduates from the University of North Carolina with an MBA this May.

Stirling Kelso Neff lives in Austin, TX, with her husband Josh and is a freelance writer for Travel + Leisure and Food & Wine, among other publications. She and a handful of other Potomac alums will be heading to **Lina Gomez's** wedding in Marbella, Spain, in June. Lina and her fiancé Roberto Clausell continue to publish high-end city guides in Cartagena and Bogota, Colombia. Check out their work at lurecartagena.com.



Golnar Oveyssi '01 married in Tuscany, Italy last August

Golnar Oveyssi moved from London to Dubai in September 2011 where she is now tutoring students in various subjects as well as helping children with special needs. In August 2011, she got married to Behzad Farsian in Tuscany, Italy. While Golnar misses her family and friends back in the States and in London, she is excited to start a new adventure in Dubai!

Circling back to **Laura Smith**, she's currently the chief of the acquisition department on Geco Eagle for WesternGeco, a geophysical services company. She's getting married this summer. After that, she says, "we are not sure where the winds will take us!"

Cecily (Hutton) Cutshall writes, "I live in Arlington with my husband Jason (we got married December 30, 2010) while I finish up my master's in conflict resolution. Still trying to figure out what I want to be when I grow up, but I'm loving the coursework and graduate in May with a focus on climate issues. I spent last summer in Liberia (West Africa) doing community peace-building work, worked at the State Department in the fall with European and Eurasian affairs, and am now working part-time with community dialogues in MD concerning sea-level rise and associated risks to homeowners. I haven't kept in touch very well with my Potomac School classmates, but have aspirations of getting together with other DC-ers soon."

Edwin Merrigan owns a Firehouse Subs franchise in Manassas, VA, and just completed his second Ironman in Cozumel Mexico. Edwin, **Bradley Allen** and **Stephen Gavula** celebrated **Matt Nim's** wedding to Julie Frasch at Wren Hall in Williamsburg, VA, on October 1.

Elissa Brown continues to work on several interesting projects in the documentary film world. She recently moved to Bozeman, MT, with her fiancé, Graham Charles, who is a photographer, filmmaker and Antarctic/Arctic expedition leader from New Zealand. They will be married at her family home in Middleburg, VA, in September 2012.

Juliana Bennison is a first-year medical student at Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia. She is engaged to Jeff Battaglia, who is the CFO of an asset management firm in NYC, and they are planning a Spring, 2013 wedding in FL.



Daphne Chester '01 and husband, Kevin Crowe

Daphne Chester was married to Kevin Crowe on August 20 at her family's ranch in Ennis, MT, with Potomac friends **Whitney Petersmeyer Senger**, **Elissa Brown**, **Alexa Andrews '02** and **Alexa Rubenstein Rachlin '03** in attendance. They moved to Hong Kong a few weeks after the wedding and are very much enjoying life in Asia. Daphne will start business school in Hong Kong in July 2012.

Lauren Willard graduated with a joint-degree from University of Virginia Law School and Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies last spring. She's currently out in Pasadena, CA, clerking on the Ninth Circuit for Chief Judge Alex Kozinski. She's looking forward to moving back to DC next year, where she'll be clerking for Justice Kennedy at the Supreme Court.



Pictured left to right: **Lizzie Copson '01**; **Sara Blanchard Petchey**, Past Faculty; **Elissa Brown '01**; **Kate Jackson Wendelboe '01**; **Emma Jackson '03**; **Marian Smith '01**. Bottom row: **Tom Cannell '01** and **CJ Fahey '01**.

2002

REUNION YEAR 10TH

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Meredith Murphy says, "I am still teaching kindergarten at Potomac and I spent three and a half weeks in Kenya this past summer working with the Children of Kibera Foundation. I am also the 2012 Class Reunion Chair and hope to see all of my classmates at Potomac on April 27 and 28."

2003

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Leila Batmanghelidj writes, "I moved to San Francisco in October to work for Survival International, an international tribal rights organization. I enjoy spending time with '03 alums **Rachel Dyke** and **Andrew Duncan**."

Pete Carrington writes, "I have moved deeper into the nether regions of south Brooklyn, however I continue to work at Bedford Stuyvesant Family Center of Brooklyn Community Services as a social worker delivering therapy and assistance to needy families in the area. My locale has impeded my ability to see my Potomac folks in the city. It was good catching up with old friends **Truman Morrison**, **Frank Craighill** and **Squeek Scollari** over the break. Frank and I regrettably bought Redskins tickets and have been subjecting ourselves to their mediocrity throughout the fall. Also, I got a car that I can wear jean jackets in."

Dan Gavula is working on a project in Kansas City, MO, building his field of dreams.



Alison Heyman '03 and daughter, **Emma Elizabeth**

Alison Heyman (formerly Ayer) and her husband, David, welcomed their first baby, Emma Elizabeth Heyman, on September 10. Alison has been enjoying her maternity leave and will be returning to her job at Google in March. She is also very excited to be matron-of-honor in Ashley Bender's upcoming wedding!

Truman Morrison shared, "The Morrison Brothers Band, which features alums **Truman Morrison**, **Willie Morrison '06** and **Julie Grass '04**, headlined The 9:30 Club in Northwest DC on January 19. Countless members of the Potomac community were among the crowd of 600 in attendance, from former classmates **Andrew Warin**, **Michael Murphy** and **Zach Leonsis** to current high school teacher **Daniel Shannon**."

Cal Nannes writes, "I am more than halfway through my first year of medical residency at the University of Maryland. I am training in an internal medicine and pediatrics combined program, meaning that I spend half of my training with adults and half of my training with children and will ultimately be certified to treat all age groups. Thus far, I have completed a wide variety of rotations ranging from well visits in the office to taking care of critically ill patients in the intensive care unit."

Over Thanksgiving, I was lucky enough to get to spend time with **Maya Jaafar** and her new fiancé, Sean. We caught a gorgeous day and took advantage of it by going on a hike on the Billy Goat Trail in Potomac, MD.

Luke Parker got married on August 5 to his college sweetheart, Dana Black, at the Newberry Library in Chicago. **Marc Lewis '02** was the best man, and **Eric Taylor** was a groomsman. The ceremony was performed by **Ernie Mitchell '02**. **Juliet Dillard '05** and **Genevieve Parker '08** were bridesmaids. In attendance were **Meredith Van Tine '02** and **Tyler Friedlander '02**.



Emma Jackson '03 and **Jenny Redding '03** pose for a picture in London, England

Jenny Redding writes, "2011 was a great year! I spent a week over the summer in London visiting **Emma Jackson**. We spent time exploring the city, and I got to see what was being prepared for the summer Olympics. In December, I got engaged in NYC to Douglas Ullman. I am very excited for the next year and the wedding preparations that await."

Eric Rosenthal is living in NY and working in commercial real estate. Eric contin-

ues to clean up after his roommate **Kirk Goehring**, who is working in finance at Metalmarch Capital.

Britney Cuffee recently travelled to Kenya for an amazing two-week experience and was able to visit Ethiopia and Greece during her travels. Britney enjoyed the safaris, the sights and the people. Britney is in her fourth year of teaching at a high needs/Title 1 school in Prince George's County, MD, where she teaches Spanish.

Robbie de Picciotto moved to NY at the end of the summer to work as an account manager at a large marketing and advertising firm called G2, part of the WPP company.

Brent Locey recently moved to the Big Apple to work for Robert A.M. Stern Architects. When he's not soaking up all that is NYC, Brent tries to hold on to his basketball glory days and recently played in a league with Robbie de Picciotto.

"I moved to San Francisco in October to work for Survival International, an international tribal rights organization."

Leila Batmanghelidj '03

ues to clean up after his roommate **Kirk Goehring**, who is working in finance at Metalmarch Capital.

2004

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David Brady moved back to DC after spending two years in Charm City pursuing a master's in real estate development from JHU and working for a commercial

Kevin Mayer recently began his second deployment in Helmand Province, Afghanistan. Kevin is a Combined Anti Armor Platoon Commander and expects to return home sometime around Labor Day.

Caroline Reid Peterson and her husband, Mark, bought a house in Rockville,

New job?
New baby?
New outlook
on life?

Tell The Term! If your class has a Class Correspondent, send your notes to him or her.

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MD, last spring and are having fun exploring life on the other side of the river. Their son, Patrick, celebrated his first birthday in September and is keeping them busy! Caroline enjoys being a stay-at-home mom and working on freelance graphic design projects in her spare time.

Shevin Tantula writes, "After seven years in Los Angeles—attending USC and working as a digital producer for magazine publisher Modern Luxury Media—I recently relocated to London, where I am pursuing a masters in International Tourism, and enjoying the opportunity to travel around Europe."

Ryan Yonkman and wife and Mary welcomed their new baby girl, Nora Eloise (Ellie), on December 26.

2005

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Lolly Cunningham '05 with a group of school children in Kayonza, Rwanda.

Lolly Cunningham writes, "I'm still working in development at Women for Women International (WfWI), a DC-based nongovernmental organization that helps women survivors of war transition from crisis and poverty to stability and self-sufficiency. This past summer, I had the incredible opportunity to lead a group of donors to visit our programs in Rwanda, one of the eight countries in which we work. I was even able to meet my 'sister,' Angeline, the Rwandan woman I sponsor

through WfWI's unique sponsorship program. I'm currently organizing our 2012 trip to Rwanda and hoping that I will be able to return again this summer."

Jimmie Guntle is attending a graduate program in London studying international finance. He will be running in the London Marathon this spring.



Annie Harris '05 and **Taylor Kettler '02** on their wedding day

Annie Harris and **Taylor Kettler '02** were married October 1 in Easton, MD. Annie and Taylor met at Potomac as high schoolers. After Potomac, Taylor attended Southern Methodist University in Dallas, TX, and Annie attended Rollins College

2006

Class Correspondents

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teach over 400 kids in grades four through six in two public schools: Houjing Elementary School and Oil Refinery Elementary School, located in Nanzi District. I decided to organize a pen pal exchange between my two public schools in Taiwan with public schools in the United States. I truly believe that this type of cultural learning not only opens these children's mind to the world, but also improves cultural understanding and international relations. The impact has been amazing as I watch the enthusiasm and excitement in my kids' eyes."

"I can't believe we are all getting ready for our 5th year reunion at Potomac! Time has really flown by."

Zachary Leonsis '07

From the Yearbook

Breaking it down on the outside, The Potomac School looks like an institution that produces fine young adults ready to take on any challenges that present themselves. However this year the yearbook is breaking down the entire school to show its individual components. These components help make the student a unique person with solid values and strong intellectual curiosity. Without these components Potomac would not have such a diverse but connected community.

2007

REUNION YEAR 5TH

Class Correspondents

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Brittany Carroll was featured in the Fulbright newsletter, where she wrote a piece about assistant teaching in Taiwan. Here's an excerpt: "As a Fulbright English Teaching Assistant in Kaohsiung, Taiwan, my experience thus far has not only been educational and culturally enlightening, but also rewarding. I currently assistant

Jonathan Chu writes, "I am currently working for Sughrie Mion, PLLC in Washington, DC. I am also becoming a volunteer EMT with Bethesda Chevy Chase Rescue Squad."

Jeffery Diamond writes, "I am moving to Beverly Hills and will be working for William Morris Endeavor, in lifetime pursuit of becoming a Hollywood talent agent."

Patrick Foust writes, "I recently moved to a new apartment in Arlington and have been working as a production assistant for a small documentary film company based out of Bethesda. I'm enjoying learning the ins and outs of the film industry and hope to apply this experience to a future in reality television production. I've also been supplementing my income with a job at Georgetown's newest dessert sensation, Pie Sisters, which opened in January. Stop in and see me for a delicious slice of pie!"

BG Green writes, "Post graduation and a national championship win in Women's Ultimate, I moved out of Northfield, MN, and on to another FINE Midwestern city, Chicago! I am now teaching K-8 Spanish for Teach For America in Gary, IN. Halfway through my first year, I have been thinking about Potomac a lot and also new and engaging ways to motivate my kids. I get called anything from Ms. Green, to Ms. Spanish Teacher, to Ms. Lady on a daily basis. I have planned a quinceañera, had a kindergartner eat two markers, had 100 percent of my eighth graders learn how to conjugate present tense verbs!"

Aaron Kur is busy working in NY and will be the Class Reunion Chair for Reunion 2012.

Zachary Leonsis writes, "I can't believe we are all getting ready for our 5th year reunion at Potomac! Time has really flown by! After four amazing years at Penn, I graduated from the College of Arts and Sciences and am now working for Monumental Sports & Entertainment, right here in Washington,

DC. I'm thrilled to be back home in the city that I love and feel very lucky that so many members of our class have also decided to return to DC for work after graduation. I'm looking forward to seeing everyone soon!"

Chip Levergood writes, "I am working with a company that is overseeing the construction of a large power plant in Northern Vietnam. In June I'll be moving to Vietnam for the rest of the project, which will be three to four years. Outside of that, life is pretty normal."

2008

This January, **Catharine Bellinger** was named one of *TIME Magazine's* "12 Education Activists of 2012." Catharine co-founded the organization Students for Education Reform (SFER) in 2009, while she was an undergraduate student at Princeton University. The organization's mission is to mobilize college students to take an active role in education reform and to help provide students in grades K-12 with a better education by encouraging current college students to work in the field. SFER has 71 chapters in 28 states, and one of its student members was elected to a California school board in 2011. Read more about Catharine and her work with SFER at www.studentsforeducation.org/.

2009

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Catharine Bellinger '08 was named one of TIME Magazine's "12 Education Activists of 2012."

Ian Blades is currently serving a two-year proselytizing mission for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Uganda. He has lived in small, rural villages and in the capital city of Kampala; seen the headwaters of the Nile; ridden a camel; and enjoyed meeting and teaching the people he has met. He returns from his mission in February 2013.

2010

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Grier Barnes (Yale) helped start-up TEDxYale, an independently organized branch of TED talks. She has continued tutoring at a local prison and also works at the Yale Writing Center. This semester she is studying in South Africa at the University of Capetown and was asked to help out with the newly licensed TEDxUCT (University of Capetown).

Esfandiyar Batmanghelidj (Columbia) is double-majoring in political science and Middle Eastern studies and is looking forward to having a paper on the political economy of cigarette consumption published in May in the *Journal of Iranian Studies*.

Ann Bellinger (Tufts) finished her first semester at Tufts and is on the pre-vet track.

John Bennett (University of Virginia) went to Honduras in January to help dig irrigation works for the village of El Canton.

Clara Beyer (Brown) is majoring in linguistics and working on a new blog project. She is the chief layout editor of *Post-magazine*.

Jill Britton (Dartmouth) will be spending three months of her spring semester working in Lima, Peru, for an anti-drug program and will be spending the rest of her semester studying in Paris.

this semester as an advisor, serving as a resource for anyone who is accused of an honor offense.

Suzanna Gluck (University of Virginia) was accepted as an Echols Scholar and is studying at St. Andrews in Scotland for her spring semester.



Alex Guntle '10 beside her cross country team trophy

Alex Guntle's LaSalle University Division 1 Cross Country Team won the Atlantic-10 Championship.

Chloe Grishaw (William and Mary) is majoring in kinesiology with a minor in psychology and is involved with Operation Smile.

Sarah Hunt now attends University of Colorado.

Taylor Jones (Morehouse) is studying in Valparaíso, Chile, for his spring semester and has been working for Americans Elect, a political nominating platform gaining momentum to be on the 2012 ballot.

Reilley Keane (Villanova) is majoring in Electrical Engineering and was elected as scholarship chair for his fraternity Phi Sigma Kappa. This summer he will work for Exelon Nuclear in Philadelphia.

Claire Watson (Oberlin) is double-majoring in neuroscience and cinema studies. She spent her winter term in Prague studying film, sound and soundscapes.

Shivani Kochhar (Wesleyan) is double-majoring in economics and sociology. She also works at the Wesleyan Writing Center.

Catherine Lazerwitz (University of Pennsylvania) is majoring in French and will be interning with a local paper in Paris this summer. She will also spend her fall semester in Paris.

Jessica Lee (Carnegie Mellon) is double-majoring in math and physics and is a research assistant in the cognitive science department.

Drew Morrison (Yale) is majoring in economics and political science (urban studies) and runs an organization, New Haven Action, which makes documentaries for nonprofits and does advocacy work in the community. This summer he

will work for the Montgomery County government on its transportation and bioscience initiatives.

Mauricio Palazzi (Babson) now lives in Puerto Rico and has been working with a political group called Estadistas Unidos, a group that encourages the absentee ballot

in favor of statehood activism and republican values.

Mollie Sheerin (Bradley) is double-majoring in political science and criminal justice and double-minoring in sociology and leadership studies. She will take her police officer's exam this semester and will get her gun license along with it.

Paul Taylor is enjoying his sophomore year at Williams College, where he is studying math, physics and French and playing lacrosse. Paul enjoyed his summer internship in Shanghai, China, where he worked for an international financial consulting firm. Paul says he is well-prepared for college thanks to The Potomac School.

New job? New baby? New outlook on life?

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**Carrita Thomas '11 is taking a gap year...
and loving it! She spent two months
in Tanzania, teaching English to prison
children ages 6 and 7 alongside nuns and
other international volunteers.**

.....

David Will (Princeton) was elected as the vice president of Princeton College Republicans. This summer he will be working in DC as a law clerk for the Institute for Justice.

Anneka Wilson (Columbia) is a financial economics major and interned at Miu Miu during the fall semester. She is also involved in Girls on the Run in New York.

Yasmeen Zahar (Concordia) is majoring in environmental science and was elected as an Independent Councilor on the Arts and Science Federation of Associations Council, where she represents the 18,000 arts and science students at their monthly council meetings.

2011

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Sasha DiGiulian is the 2011 overall gold medal winner of the World Championship in Sport Climbing—see article on page 21.

Julia Diamond (Skidmore College) is a certified “mediator” in the “Fight Club.” She helps students in conflict come up with their own resolutions.

Charlotte Eberle (Villanova) is majoring in chemical engineering and playing on the club lacrosse team.

Lucy Gibson absolutely loves Georgetown University. She is a pre-med student and a member of the club squash team.

Sarah Gimont writes, “I graduated from Potomac last year and half-heartedly searched for an internship with a Potomac alum working at PBS but in the end decided to get a summer job. However, I remember hearing that there were also Potomac alums working at NPR, and that is definitely something I am interested in for this summer. I was planning on filling out

the NPR internship application online, but any advice or information about Potomac people at NPR would be great!”



Andrew Lee '11

Andrew Lee (University of Delaware) is studying Civil Engineering and playing ice hockey.

Conor McEnerney is playing rugby for the University of Virginia and planning to join a fraternity in the spring.

Charlotte Morris (UC Davis) joined Delta Gamma sorority and plays on the UC Davis women's lacrosse team. Jorman Heflin (UC Davis) and Charlotte remain friends.

Ellen Overstreet is dancing with Houston Ballet II after training for a year in San Francisco. She danced in 24 of Houston Ballet's Nutcracker performances. In the spring, she'll go on tour to locations such as Louisiana and Las Vegas.

Claire Paganussi (Fordham) will be interning at a fashion institution in New York this summer.

Jessica Parker interned with the Sierra Club's Beyond Oil campaign in the fall. She focused on media communications, research, and organizing around the Keystone XL pipeline and tar sands oil. She also worked at Busboys and Poets in Shirlington, VA and spent two weeks visiting **Rachel Bloom (McGuill)** in Argentina. She started Middlebury in February.

Giovanni Passamonti (University of Edinburgh) is studying Ancient Mediterranean Civilizations. He is a skipper for the Universities' Sailing Club Racing Team. He moved to Vienna, Austria with his family in early September.

Madhu Ramankutty (Princeton) is the secretary for the Undergraduate Student Government. She is also a member of the

Human Values Forum, the Princeton Debate Panel, and the Students for Education Reform group. She was also recently initiated into the sorority Pi Beta Phi.

Harris Rosenblum is singing with Green Envy, one of Tulane's a Cappella groups. They will be recording a new album in the spring (available on iTunes)!

Katie Sheerin (Ripon College) pledged to the Gamma Tau chapter of Kappa Delta Sorority.

Kathleen Smith (Bowdoin) is enjoying playing on the college's soccer team.



Carrita Thomas with one of her students in Tanzania

Carrita Thomas is taking a gap year... and loving it! She spent two months in Tanzania, teaching English to prison children ages 6 and 7 alongside nuns and other international volunteers. She also traveled to the Serengeti, Zanzibar, and the foothills of Kilimanjaro. Her next adventure took place in Cusco, Peru, where she spent 2 months doing another teaching project. In the spring she hopes to do an organic farming project in the Pacific Northwest.

Former Faculty

Chris Kloman writes, “I retired in 2005 from Washington Episcopal School, having started the WES Middle School in 1995. I’m currently a house leader with Habitat for Humanity (Northern VA), building a 12-unit condo in south Arlington, and shortly to embark on a new Habitat for Humanity program, A Brush With Kindness. I’m wrapping up a three year-term on the Vestry at St. John’s Episcopal Church here in McLean, having been involved in their Outreach/Missions program in particular. The church has been instrumental in building a trade school in the Dominican Republic. I continue to serve as Chairman of the Education Committee for The Society of the Cincinnati. I’m currently working on a revision of the text *Why America Is Free*, marketing the *Revolutionary War Literacy Standards* and *La Route de l’Indépendance ... de Versailles à Yorktown*, a French paperback “comix” about the Revolutionary War. I continue to be involved with the Claude Moore Colonial Farm at Turkey Run, across route 193 from Potomac School. Pam and I have five terrific grandchildren in the Boston area, and we continue to enjoy summers in Maine.”

Former fourth-grade teacher **Anne Paris** has two daughters, Hannah and Claire, who are now 13 and 10. She’s living in Arlington and working on some writing projects. She keeps up with many of her students (who are now all in their 20s) through Facebook, and she’d love to hear from all of them at achparis@gmail.com.

in memoriam

Melissa Foster Bowerman '57

Arnaud de Borchgrave '67

Mary Rust Clarke (Past Grandparent)
Grandparent of Garrett '01, Lauren '05, and George '11

Read Devereux '58

Richard Cobb Miller Houston '90

Aysegul Akin-Karasapan (Parent)
Mother of Sinan '08 and Altinay '12

Joe Robert (Parent)
Father of Luke (5th)

Frances Rowan '45

Enhancements to the Intermediate School Will Create Open, Integrated Environment



A visitor to the Intermediate School between bells would find himself in a tight spot. The throng of students pressing their way onward to the next class requires some nimble navigation to get around or through. Five years ago the IS accommodated 150 students—today we are 190!

But with a little imagination and funding we can truly improve our IS learning environment. Initial plans call for an outside covered walkway to relieve that hallway crowding, 2-4 new classrooms, a two-story “Gathering” that will fit the entire 7th and 8th grades, tutoring spaces, two new art rooms (one for Middle School), improved entrances, and a courtyard “play” space and garden.

These enhancements are all about addressing the unique needs of the early adolescent—academically, socially and emotionally. “The architects want to create a space that will feed the excitement and love of learning that characterize this age group,” said IS teacher Nancy Waller who brainstormed with the architects, parents and teachers.

As of March 15 we have raised \$2.4 million for the combined Flag Circle Building/IS Enhancement project. Another \$2.6 million will allow us to complete all of the enhancements listed above. We hope to raise enough to begin construction this summer. Thank you for your support. Please contact Dabney Schmitt, Potomac’s Director of Development at (703)749-6330 or dschmitt@potomac-school.org if you would like to make a gift.



“I Know My Mom Would Really Be Very Pleased”

Lindesay Holdsworth Aquino '65

The next time you merge onto Georgetown Pike from Route 123 and head west, take note of the large white house with the wraparound porch on your left, just beyond the Langley Mart. This property and its former owners have played a significant role at The Potomac School for more than five decades. In fact, the family's gift of the Holdsworth home has made construction of the Flag Circle building possible. The family's generosity to Potomac also included the establishment of the School Archives, helping to ensure that the history of the School is preserved and accessible to all for generations to come.

Built sometime between the late 1840s and early 1850s, the house at 1101 Chain Bridge Road was used during the Civil War as a headquarters for a New York battalion, as well as a hospital. The attic and one of the bedroom walls were covered in pencil signatures of the military men who were either patients or soldiers there. Later, the house served as a post office and general store for the small community of Langley. The property was believed to have been an inn at one point, due to its location as the last toll stop on Georgetown Pike before Georgetown. Farmers traveling to and from Georgetown to sell their wares would stop at the house during their travels. The small toll house across the street remains today.

David and Ray Holdsworth moved into the house with their three children Lindesay '65, Kim '68, and David '70 in 1957. All three attended Potomac, as did their granddaughter Belen, who graduated in 1999. As a Potomac grandparent during the 1980s, Mrs. Holdsworth began volunteering her time in the Development Office, assisting with stuffing envelopes and assembling mailings. Her interest in preserving the history of the School motivated her to take an Archives class at the Library of Congress.

At the time, Potomac's Archives consisted of several boxes of materials, including photographs, objects and documents dating to the School's founding in 1904. These boxes were stored in a small storage closet off the Preston Gym. Mrs. Holdsworth and a group of dedicated volunteers took charge of sorting, identifying and organizing, until they outgrew the space and moved to the Seth-Smith Building (razed during the 1988-89 academic year), which provided almost triple



the space of the storage closet. For the better part of a decade, Mrs. Holdsworth and her volunteers worked to set up Potomac's Archives, currently located in the Engelhard Performing Arts Center.

The spirit of community was thriving at Potomac. Mrs. Holdsworth enjoyed the personal connections she made with parents, alumni and her children's former teachers. Daughter Lindesay '65 recalls, "She loved the Archives. She had such fun. She got so much pleasure out of it."

Mrs. Holdsworth worked on the Archives until the early 1990s, when illness prevented her from continuing. As her

illness progressed, she was faced with the decision of what to do with her house. After consulting with her children, Mrs. Holdsworth decided to leave the house and grounds to Potomac. She worked with the School to craft an arrangement that would allow her to transfer ownership of the house to the School, but live there for seven years and receive an annual income. Mrs. Holdsworth died in 2009. The sale of her house became the lead gift to Potomac's Flag Circle Building campaign.

It is fitting that the Flag Circle Building will house the Archives that Mrs. Holdsworth established years ago. The building's central location will make the Archives accessible to our many alumni and visitors. In recognition of Mrs. Holdsworth's dedication to Potomac and extraordinary generosity, the School is pleased to name the Archives in her honor. This new, larger space will allow her work to continue in a facility that has been designed specifically for the purpose of preserving and displaying the history of Potomac School.

Ray Holdsworth was the second generation to be involved with Potomac, as her mother, Mrs. Edward A. Bacon, donated Graham Field (our football field), in honor of her father, Dr. Edwin Graham. All of us at The Potomac School would like to express our gratitude to the Holdsworth family. Their generosity and deep commitment to Potomac will benefit students, faculty and staff for generations to come.

Gifts of real estate, bequests, and other planned giving arrangements afford significant tax benefits while allowing you to establish a lasting relationship with The Potomac School. For more information, please contact Jinene Christian in the Development Office at 703-749-6326.

The connections Potomac alumni make as students are ties that bind.
Wherever life takes you, Potomac will always say,
"Welcome Home."



Welcome today's generation of Potomac students and teachers by making your gift to the Annual Fund.

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- **Alumni Nearby:** find alumni wherever your travels take you
- **News:** Get the latest news about Potomac, sports events and the alumni community
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Questions? Contact Laura Miller, Director of Alumni Relations, at lmiller@potomacschool.org or (703) 749-6356

