

# The PotomacTerm

The Alumni Magazine of The Potomac School • Spring 2011



## A Wider World

Partnering with Tsinghua High School



# ALUMNI

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Dear Potomac Community,

As our students continue to grow as learners — a lifetime process — they come to understand themselves as part of a wider world. This idea of preparing students to define themselves within a global context is critical to academic excellence and to our students' success as adults. Our core mission is to enable each child to identify his or her particular gifts in order to engage effectively in the world. Central to achieving that mission is that every child also develop the capacity to understand the unique gifts of others. It is in partnership with others that our students will be best prepared to question, create and work effectively in an increasingly linked, yet increasingly complicated, world.

Today's students, as tomorrow's leaders, require a host of 21<sup>st</sup>-century skills in order to function at their greatest capacity. Beyond academic mastery, students will be required to think critically and creatively. They will have to understand how to frame challenging questions and hypotheses. They will need to be flexible and resilient. As always, they must be guided by a solid ethical foundation. And they must know how to collaborate with others in order to develop something bigger than they might create on their own.

Seeing beyond our own perspectives is the ongoing work of Potomac's diversity and inclusion initiatives. We strive for diversity and inclusion in the conviction that a learning community is intellectually and morally strengthened when many different voices, viewpoints and backgrounds are engaged. In the process, we learn how to communicate effectively, and to develop and maintain productive, interdependent and respectful relationships. At Potomac we believe that the foundation for higher learning is based on these kinds of relationships. *I grow by listening to understand your point of view and experience.* With the ever-evolving social networking tools available to more and more people across the world, we are able to build relationships on different levels — not just around what we have in common, but also by addressing our differences.

Our graduates will be dealing with big issues: our commitment to democracy and the rights that come with it, our responsibility to others and our role as a nation in a complex world. We will need our best minds working together to produce better ideas. I have every confidence that Potomac alumni will be among those "best minds."

Sincerely,



Geoffrey Jones  
Head of School





## The PotomacTerm

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**On the Cover:** Junior Jamie Lovegrove and Chinese exchange student Mao Junxiong. Read about Potomac's partnership with Tsinghua High School on page 4.

In spring 2010, fifth graders visited the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Washington, DC.



*The Potomac Term* is published twice a year. Send letters, comments and article submissions to the address above, or email to [jlucas@potomacschool.org](mailto:jlucas@potomacschool.org). Alumni inquiries should be directed to The Potomac School Alumni Office at [alumni@potomacschool.org](mailto:alumni@potomacschool.org). Please help us use our resources wisely. Email [alumni@potomacschool.org](mailto:alumni@potomacschool.org) with any changes of address (including for college students or adult children who have left home) or notice of missing or duplicate copies so that we may update our list. Thank you!



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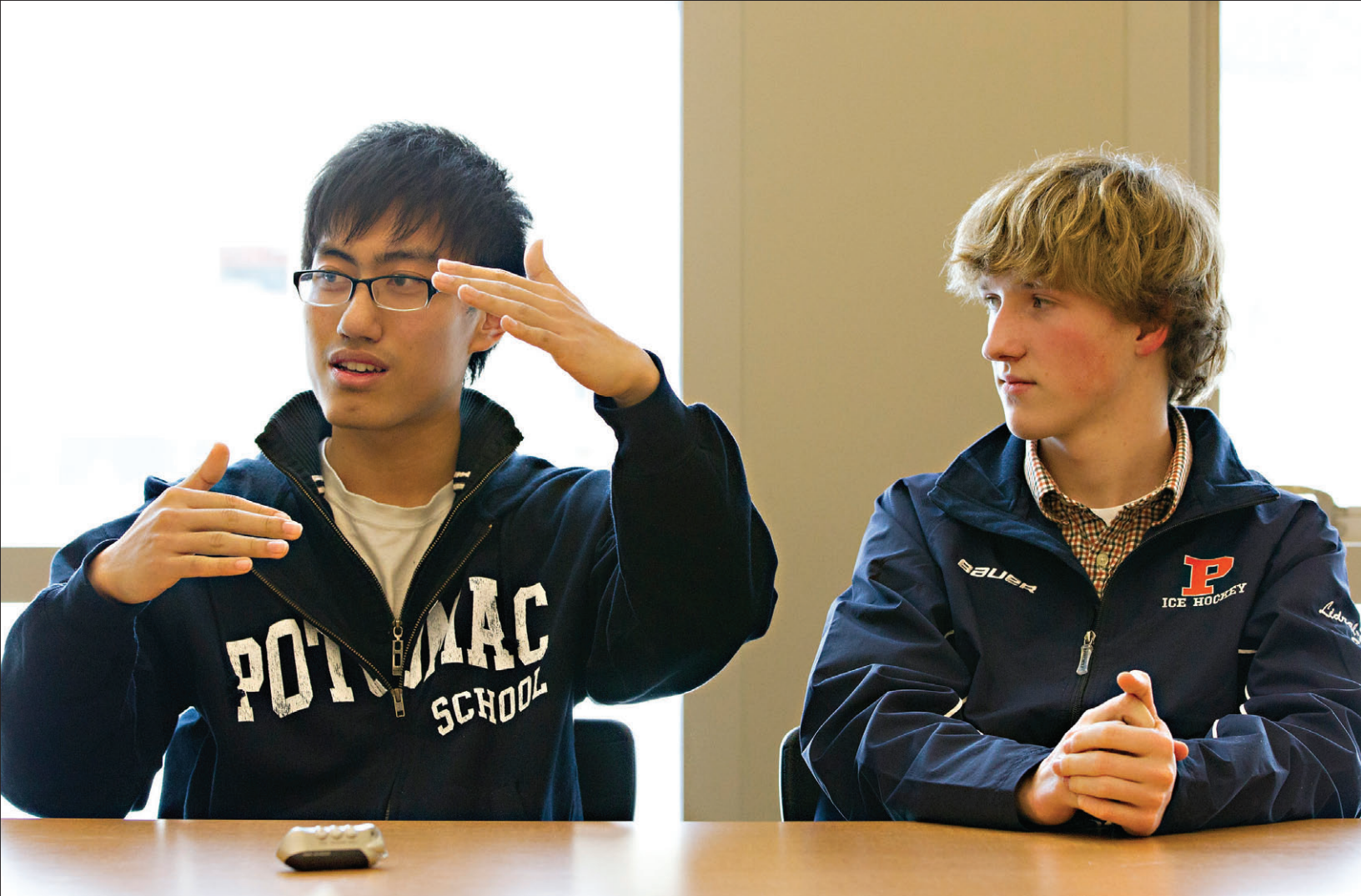
Middle School student Will Schmidt in the Chinese ambassador's personal reception room.



# A Special Generation



*"Our generation is a very special generation. We are growing up in China, but our minds are really here and here and there — everywhere."*



Chinese exchange student Gu Feng and junior Keenan Lidal-Porter first met in spring 2010, when a group of Potomac students visited Tsinghua High School in Beijing.

## CHINESE EXCHANGE REVEALS Cultural Complexity

When 20 Potomac Upper School students first arrived in Beijing to visit the campus of Tsinghua High School in March 2010, they saw nothing but red. Winds had blown in tons of sand from the deserts of inner Mongolia, painting everything a single shade. But as the two-week visit progressed, as the students tasted *youtiao* (fried dough twists) and got to know their host families, the veil of dust lifted to reveal the city's true colors and complexity — an apt metaphor for the study-abroad experience.

Almost a year later, in January 2011, a Mid-Atlantic ice storm temporarily delayed the Chinese students' arrival in the DC metro area, where they would learn to make biodiesel in a Potomac science class, watch the Super Bowl with their American host families and see the region's most famous attractions. During the Chinese students' two-week visit, junior Keenan Lidal-Porter and his Chinese student “buddy,” Gu Feng, spoke with the *The Term*. They shared insights about revolution, tiger mothers and how the Chinese are like (and not like) Americans.

古风

Gu Feng's  
name means  
“ancient wind.”

# 矛盾

## CHANGE in China

The Chinese word for paradox is *máodùn*, literally “spear-shield.” The term comes from a story about a man who tried to sell a spear and shield. The spear, he said, could pierce any shield, and the shield could resist any spear.

Another man asked, what would happen if the spear met the shield? The seller had no answer.

•

“We have conflicting images of China, and they’re all equally true. China is a rich country and a poor country. It’s backwards, and it’s modern. It’s Eastern and inscrutable, and it’s Western and familiar.”

— Graham Bauerle, Chinese Studies Teacher

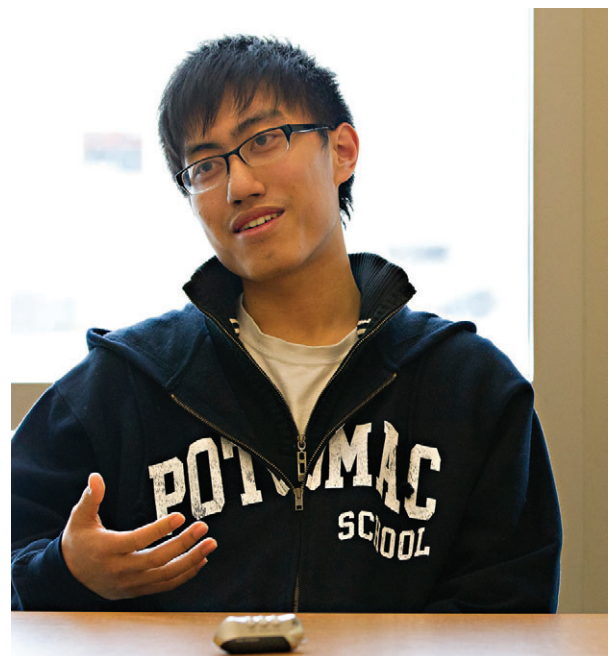
***The Term:*** The Chinese government seems to be opening up. Gu Feng, what do young people think about that? Are you curious about our system of government?

Gu Feng: Our generation is a very special generation. On the one hand, we have to study strictly to get into [for example] Tsinghua University, like our parents or grandparents. On the other hand, we see a lot of western things, American things. We are growing up in China, but our minds are really here and here and there — everywhere. So we feel a little — not a little — sometimes very confused about our future. Coming to America, we have seen a lot of things more directly. Living with our host families has made us more clear about our feelings. Many people are complaining about the Chinese government. Especially Chinese people. But from the inside of Chinese people’s hearts, they are friendly. They don’t want to do something in a violent way. We are a friendly people, and we want harmony. But we see a lot of things. We know that maybe Taiwan is better, America is better, that they have a better system than we do. So there’s a paradox.

Keenan Lidral-Porter: I think their generation is definitely going to be around when a big kind of shake-up or change or maybe revolution occurs. It’s interesting to see how they think about that and what their idea is moving forward.

***The Term:*** Gu Feng, is your generation prepared for the current pace of change in China to continue so rapidly?

Gu Feng: My personal view is that there won’t be huge change [overnight], but very slow change. Not revolution. My father said that if the things in Tiananmen Square in 1989 would be brought into the history books, that would be a big step forward.





Fifth graders celebrate Chinese New Year with the exchange students.

## SCHOOL AND Home Life



***The Term:*** Keenan, what surprised you about your trip to China?

Keenan Lidral-Porter: How different the school atmosphere is. At Potomac it's more interactive. Over there, it's much more like a lecture.

***The Term:*** Which environment is more rigorous?

Keenan Lidral-Porter: His seems more rigorous to me. They take a lot more classes.

***The Term:*** Gu Feng, how many hours a day do you spend in school in China?

Gu Feng: From around 8 am until 12:20 pm and from 1:40 to 5 pm. Most of us have to take class Saturday morning.

***The Term:*** So is it true what we've read in Amy Chua's book *Battle Hymn of the Tiger Mother*? Are Chinese mothers extremely strict?

Keenan Lidral-Porter: Gu Feng's mom was very nice. Very kind and sympathizing, really. She didn't seem strict at all. Gu Feng seemed to have a lot of freedom at home.

Gu Feng: In the big cities like Beijing, this [Tiger Mother] phenomenon is not so popular. Many of our parents come from the poorest villages or cities. So they had the education that made them study to make a better life. Some of them want to push us to study

“I think that Gu Feng saw Keenan’s family as free, but with a moral compass.

Keenan’s family chooses vegetarianism; they choose to limit themselves.

•  
“Communism initially rejected the Confucian moral compass, religious spiritual beliefs and the Western individualist mantra. But since the early ‘80s, Chinese communism has lost a lot of its meaning as increasing prosperity has led to increasing disparity in wealth. Now China seems to be looking for some code or ethos that can imbue things with meaning beyond pure material profit.”

— Graham Bauerle, Chinese Studies Teacher

like that too. But most of them had that experience, so they won’t push, push, push because they know that is not very good.

***The Term:*** Do the Chinese think of American families in a certain way?

Gu Feng: Before I came here, I thought that American families gave their children more space to learn or play as they like. Then I met Keenan’s family, and I think [that’s true], but his family is also special. They are all vegetarians. So they have some spiritual things [to guide them]. It’s cool. People cannot live without that. Maybe this is what Chinese people now lack.

***The Term:*** Keenan, how did your host family welcome you to Beijing?

Keenan Lidral-Porter: About a week before I came, they found out I was a vegetarian. They’d had a traditional Chinese dinner planned with a few courses of meat. But they had to cut that plan and start anew. His dad did an incredible job. There were a bunch of vegetables that I hadn’t had before, like lotus [root]. It was delicious. They take how much you eat as a sign of how comfortable you are, and I ate *a lot*.

Junior Matayo Rague and exchange student Sheng Shangran in U.S. history class.



**Andrew Hebeler '85**

## Revitalizing Tourism in Mozambique

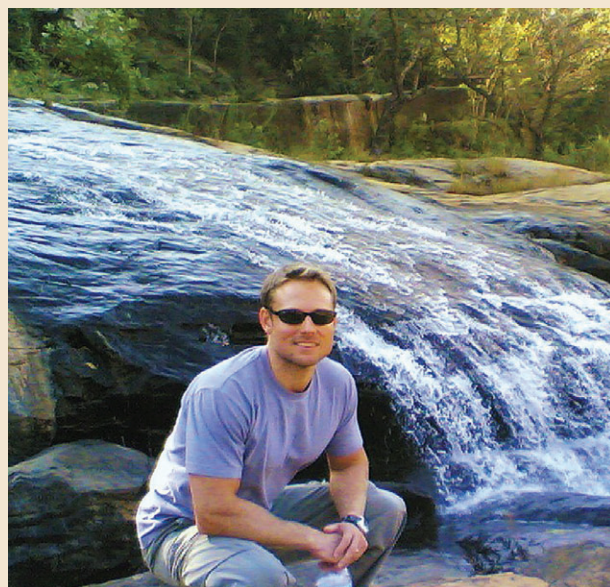
Whenever he can, Andrew Hebeler finds time for flying high over the Mozambique Channel, body harnessed to the tail of a taut kite. Hebeler, a self-described kitesurfing addict, first took up the sport in 2006, when he began working to promote natural resource conservation and tourism in Mozambique. If the country isn't yet synonymous with "vacation destination," maybe it should be. "It has incredible beaches, bush, game parks," says Hebeler, who lives with his wife and three children in Maputo. "If you're a beach bum like me, this is paradise."

Forty years ago, Hebeler's assertion might have seemed commonplace. Once a hot spot for tourists, the pre-independence country lured visitors with 1500 miles of coast (more than twice the length of California's coastline) and the spectacularly diverse Gorongosa National Park. But years of civil war following Communist takeover ravished the country's reputation and assets; today its tourism industry is smaller than that of any adjacent country except Malawi.

Thanks in part to organizations such as the U.S. Agency for International Development, for which Hebeler has worked directly and as a consultant, the natural resources for which Mozambique was once known are staging a comeback. Hebeler takes pride in his recent work helping to rebuild Gorongosa National Park and restore its badly depleted wildlife population. He also helped create an aquatic reserve on Lake Niassa.

"I've always had a strong interest in science and the outdoors," says Hebeler. "I attribute that to Peter Monroe, a very good friend and teacher. He made science so interesting. Potomac was fantastic because of the nature trails, the places you could actually go. [Science] was real for us."

Hebeler's experience promoting Mozambique's tourism industry gives him special insight into how tourism in places such as Egypt might suffer as a result of



**Andrew Hebeler in Swaziland.**

instability. He points to Kenya as a model for recovery: although violence and unrest significantly impacted tourism in 2007, the industry rebounded within just a few years.

Today Hebeler travels around the continent working for Metrica, a private-sector company that provides business infrastructure support services to corporate and government clients. This work has given him the chance to learn firsthand what challenges small and mid-sized African businesses face. "The obstacles in many countries are considerable, but the number of opportunities for those who are persistent is also great. I think overall that the desire of ordinary people to improve their lives and create opportunities will have the greatest development impact. It's impressive to see the lengths to which some post-conflict countries like Mozambique and Rwanda have gone in putting the past behind them and working toward stability and growth."

Chinese and Potomac students create a form of biodiesel using methanol and discarded cooking oil from a local fast food restaurant. Potomac's bus fleet uses a biodiesel blend originally developed by Bill Peery's Intermediate School science class and adapted for use in our buses by Potomac's senior mechanic Dwaine Cunningham.





## SIMILARITIES AND Differences

**The Term:** Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner recently said that Americans and Chinese have a lot in common. He said we're both very direct and optimistic.

Do you agree?

Keenan Lidral-Porter: I noticed that Gu Feng seems to be very direct and also optimistic and very flexible. You can tell in his diet, he's not really picky. He can eat vegetarian. Asking him what he thinks about America, he seems very truthful and not subtle. If he doesn't like something, or if it wasn't what he thought, he's very direct about that.

**The Term:** The United States is such a young country. How does that strike you, Gu Feng, since you're from a civilization that's been around for thousands of years?

Gu Feng: We have a long history. The mainstream of the world nowadays is very fast. But traditional Chinese are not so fast. They are very polite and do a lot of bureaucratic things.

**The Term:** We have bureaucracy too.

Gu Feng: We have much more!

**The Term:** You've had a lot longer to perfect it.

Gu Feng: In hundreds of years, there have been many changes in China. One hundred years are short. So Chinese people's minds are changing, but in their deep hearts, they are Chinese. ■

“One of the biggest things we took away from the exchange was that we have just as many similarities as differences, but the differences are important.”

— Graham Bauerle, Chinese Studies Teacher

# Potomac Profile

## Protector of the Peace Corps

While other teenagers reveled in rebellion, Burke Brownfeld dreamt of protecting the peace. "My goal was to become a police officer," he says. "I liked the idea that I would be the person coming to save the screaming woman, the person to go towards the danger when everyone else was running away." Today, Brownfeld works for the Peace Corps as the Regional Safety and Security Officer for South America and the Caribbean. Based in Lima, Peru, he regularly travels to eight different countries overseeing volunteer safety, sampling the world's best coffee and learning about his own country by visiting those of others.

**Driving force:** Helping people.

**Most exciting project:** Getting the Peace Corps program in Colombia started. The first group of volunteers

arrived in Colombia in September 2010. I trained the volunteers in personal safety, wrote policies, trained new staff members and worked closely with the Colombian National Police and the U.S. Embassy to build relationships and identify safe places for volunteers to work.

**Trickiest challenge:**

Supporting volunteers who are victims of crime. It can be challenging to navigate the different criminal justice systems and to make sure that the volunteer feels supported when he or she is

so far from home.

**Secret to safety:** Acceptance and integration into the community. When a volunteer is truly integrated, community members often look out for the well-being of the volunteer, teach the volunteer about local customs or norms and care for the volunteer as if he or she is really a member of the community.

## Burke Brownfeld '00



Burke Brownfeld in the mountains overlooking Quito, Ecuador.

**Why he never became a Peace Corps volunteer:**

I always loved volunteering, but [after college] I was really interested in becoming a police officer. So I struck a balance by spending my vacation time as a volunteer with the Sisters of Mercy in Guyana and my professional time as a police officer in Alexandria, Virginia.

**Teen cop:** At age 15 I found a volunteer opportunity at the Alexandria Police Department. Then I joined the police explorers and began to spend as much free time as possible hanging around the station. I would volunteer every summer, and in the evenings I would do ride-alongs with the officers from the evening shift and midnight shift. I'm sure that many of the officers were confused about why this chubby, pimply kid kept showing up at the station in his free time!

**Generosity of spirit:** For my senior project at Potomac, I did a volunteer internship with the police department. Partially as a result of that project, I went on to become a police officer. I always felt like community service was a true priority at the School.

**A quote he likes:** "What do they know of England, who only England know?" —Rudyard Kipling

**Last excellent meal:** Peruvian ceviche (raw fish) and arroz a la cubana (a typical Peruvian dish consisting of rice with fried egg and fried banana).

**Where his heart is:** I would love to return to the Alexandria area at some point and bring some of these skills and experiences back home. One of my goals, which is consistent with the goals of the Peace Corps, is to share my experiences with people in the United States.

### What's in a Name?

Brownfeld's parents named him after political philosopher Edmund Burke, and today two of the philosopher's quotes are central to the way Brownfeld lives his life:

"No one could make a greater mistake than he who did nothing because he could only do little."

"All that is necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing."



## Cross-Cultural, Cross-Disciplinary

# New Middle School Spanish Program Breaks Boundaries

A classroom full of Potomac fifth graders giggle as they watch a cartoon about human anatomy. But by the end, the students can correctly answer sophisticated questions about the circulatory, lymphatic, integumentary and other bodily systems. What's more, they can answer in Spanish.

*“Qué sistema contiene todas las glándulas hormonales que controlan el crecimiento del cuerpo y la reproducción?”* asks Señora Diana Page.

Hands shoot up around the room. Everyone seems to know the answer: *el sistema endocrino*. To Foreign Language Department Chair Daniel Shannon, this is just one example of how Potomac's new

Middle School (MS) Spanish program isn't only about Spanish. “Just as exciting as language learning,” he says, “is the evolution of this new, more integrated approach to curriculum, where science doesn't just happen in the science class, history doesn't just happen in the history class. Where traditional boundaries of learning are broken.”

Since the fall of 2010, new MS Spanish teachers Diana Page and Michele Maxson have been zigzagging up and down the MS hallways, implementing a highly interdisciplinary Spanish curriculum. Why are Page and Maxson always on the move? The teachers bring Spanish to the students, teaching in a dozen different classrooms to emphasize that Spanish is

not an isolated subject area. That means Spanish labels decorate the homeroom walls students see all day long, and some homeroom teachers even pepper their regular lessons with Spanish vocabulary. “We want the kids to notice the link between Spanish and the regular classroom,” says MS Head John Mathews.

Beginning this year, every fourth, fifth and sixth grader takes Spanish for 30 minutes a day, four days a week. The frequency and all other aspects of the program were carefully researched over a period of three years by a committee of parents and teachers from different divisions and areas of expertise, and then planned out by a second committee of MS teachers. The resulting program is

immersive (the teachers speak nothing but Spanish from day one), frequent and content-based. It was strongly influenced by the Georgia Elementary School Foreign Languages Model Program, which began in 1992 and which the Center for Applied Linguistics still recognizes as a “state-of-the-art model.”



**The new Middle School Spanish Program incorporates Total Physical Response (TPR), a language-learning method based on the coordination of speech and action. During one class, Michele Maxson's sixth graders used TPR to learn Spanish vocabulary related to the water cycle, the life cycle of a butterfly and the parts of the human body.**

The program design attracted Page and Maxson, who together have 26 years of experience teaching in public, private, international, bilingual and Spanish-only settings. “It’s a different approach,” says Page. “It very much mimics the way children learn their first language.”

Page and Maxson spent the summer looking for ways to weave math, science and every other subject in the regular MS curriculum into their Spanish lesson plans, which they created without the aid of a textbook. “There is no textbook that’s content based,” says Maxson. “With a textbook, you learn the present irregular; you learn the imperfect. That’s not how you learn a language.” Instead of drilling verbs and vocabulary, Potomac sixth graders are studying medieval Spain and Flamenco

dance, which intersects with their study of Medieval Europe in Social Studies. Next year, Page wants to bring in an Aztec priest to complement the students’ history lesson on the Aztecs and the Incas.

As interdisciplinary boundaries dissolve, so do cultural boundaries. “I think it does a great deal for the appreciation of diversity,” says Mathews. “The students are definitely learning about elements of hispano hablante cultures.” And with the Latino population in the United States growing by leaps and bounds, Spanish will prove increasingly practical.

The Middle School currently has about a dozen heritage Spanish speakers — students who learned Spanish at a young age at home. Because of the new Spanish program, these students are receiving recognition and special instruction the way a

*uno de mis cuentos favoritos de mi joven.*”

“I tried to say that it was one of my favorite stories from childhood,” says Mathews, who studied Spanish years ago. “But I’m pretty sure *joven* doesn’t mean ‘childhood.’”

Many adults who studied foreign language as children wouldn’t dare test their rusty abilities today in a conversation, let alone a public forum. But Mathews’ willingness to make a mistake was very much in the spirit of the Spanish program and the School as a whole. Both encourage risks and see mistakes as part of the learning process.

“There are so many language learners who say, ‘I can read it, and I can write it, but I can’t speak it.’ They’re too nervous,” says Maxson. “It’s great when kids can start learning a language at an early age,



talented piano player or athlete might. “I feel like bilingualism is this amazing skill,” says Mathews. “But it’s something that our socialization traditionally quashes. Now it’s becoming celebrated.”

In March Angela Bullock’s fourth grade class performed *Ferdinand el Toro!*, in which almost every student spoke some Spanish. At the end of the play, Mathews took the stage and attempted a few Spanish words: “*El historia de Ferdinand fue*

when they’re less self-conscious.”

Page, too, values an experimental learning environment. She tells her classes, “Try it out! See what happens!”

Helping students to see that there are no boundaries to their abilities is just as important as erasing boundaries between disciplines. “*No hablo Español*” — as one student insisted upon first meeting Maxson — is a contradiction in terms. ■

## Laura Smith '01

### Beyond the Comfort Zone

Carrying machine guns and rocket launchers, six Russian soldiers rappel from a hovering helicopter onto Laura Smith's boat to offer protection. One by one, the men lie flat as they hit the deck, which is fortified with fire hoses, lookout dummies and barbed wire to ward off attackers. Smith is on a direct path through the Somali Pirate Zone.

As a certified coxswain and Marine Seismic Acquisitions Engineer for WesternGeco, Smith spends five weeks at sea (sometimes passing through treacherous water such as these), followed by three weeks in an office in Oslo, Norway, and then two weeks wherever doing whatever she wants. On the job, she works to create three-dimensional maps of the ocean floor — maps that help oil companies find oil. Her boat tows eight cables, each about 5 miles long and equipped with miniature microphones called hydrophones. Every 10 to 15 seconds, air guns on the boat fire, and the hydrophones record the sound as it bounces off the ocean floor and the geological layers below. Since being

hired in 2006, Smith has documented her travels and travails in her appropriately titled blog, "Laura: Staying in One Place Is Difficult."

Of course, a job that requires moving from place to place is more difficult by most people's standards, but Smith seems to relish taking on new challenges — something she

did a lot as a student at Potomac. In her first year as a new seventh grader, she was cut from the tennis team, she didn't make the musical and she lost the student government election. Smith remembers math teacher Tom Harding calling her mom to see how she was handling the rejection. Smith's mom, knowing her daughter, said she was fine. But they both appreciated the sentiment. In an e-mail sent from somewhere off the

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#### Blogging from the Blue

**"Imagine going into an office and everyone is sitting at the desks typing away, but with one hand bracing themselves. You would laugh. But in rough weather that is what we do. We are sitting in our chairs, one arm is always bracing. Or our legs are set as brackets against the swivel."**

Read more from Smith's blog at:  
<http://laurakosmith.blogspot.com/>

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**Laura Smith goes exploring under the hull of the *Western Pride* while it sits in dry dock in Walvis Bay, Namibia.**

coast of Equatorial Guinea, Smith writes, "Potomac was a very safe place to have failures." Surviving and thriving taught her that she enjoys leaving her comfort zone, even if it means falling short, at least temporarily, of success.

Smith soon rebounded by taking up squash and field hockey, sports she'd never heard of before coming to Potomac. She also cultivated a love for travel and exploration by joining the Intermediate School Spanish and Latin trips to Europe. The summer before her freshman year at Princeton, where she would go on to earn a B.S. in Engineering, she hiked the Pyrenees with art teacher Cort Morgan.

So when WesternGeco gave Smith a map of the United States and asked her to choose where she would like to work and live, Smith turned over the map and wrote down all the reasons she felt qualified to work internationally. It was a bold move, as was her decision to defer accepting the position offered by the firm for one year so she could teach English in Vietnam. "I wanted to know that I could handle myself in a country where I did not speak the language," she writes. "It was a challenge. A big one."

Smith's next challenge? Helping her Argentine boyfriend build a sailboat that, she hopes, they will one day sail to Antarctica. They call their boat *Quijote*, a name that implies their dream might be a foolish one. But Smith doesn't seem to take foolishness too seriously — after all, a mistake is just an opportunity to learn.



Upper School Spanish teacher Troy Prinkey tries to recreate an immersive environment in his classroom.

# Imitating the Inimitable

*Can Today's Language Classrooms Simulate Study Abroad?*

BY TROY PRINKEY, UPPER SCHOOL SPANISH TEACHER

While studying in Madrid as a college junior, everything started making sense to me as a language learner — just like my teachers had told me it would. I felt connections forming while living with the Vallejo family and their three children. These connections transcended mere linguistic insight or turns of phrase. Non-verbal gestures, facial expressions, idioms and colloquialisms all vary from culture to culture. Foreign language students at

American schools struggle with what might appear to be an obvious reality: they typically don't reside in the host culture for which we language teachers serve as proxies. We then face the dilemma of how to simulate an immersive environment for our students.

If you remember your high school days, you probably remember flags, posters and *realia* (or cultural artifacts of one form or another) dotting the foreign language classroom in an effort to recreate a sense

of “being there.” My own classroom, and those of most of my colleagues, might look familiar in this regard; however, now there are devices and other modern, technological advances that serve as scaffolding for students. For example, a document camera can project images of menus, coins, maps, manuscripts or anything else you put under its lens. YouTube is a veritable trove of video recordings from Spanish-speaking countries, La Francophonie, China and Taiwan. Students can



record their own voices, save the .mp3 file to the school's files server and get digital feedback from teachers in less than a day. Suffice it to say, the language labs of yore have fallen away, and any modern laptop now possesses infinitely more capabilities for assisting language learning.

The purpose of technology in education is to enrich and supplement instruction, not to supplant it, because what remains constant and at the core of teaching and learning a foreign language is genuine, workshop-style interaction with students. Moreover, students can teach each other in collaborative fashion through dialogues, short skits and cultural presentations. Time in the classroom cannot merely be replaced with online time, and advances in technology fall far short of recreating the goose bumps students feel

when they correctly intuit meaning — or the goose bumps *teachers* feel when their students correctly intuit meaning.

Study abroad students have often written home to us saying, “I get it now,” or “You were right — I learned so fast here in Paris.” Second Language Acquisition Theory backs this up. Our own experiences as language teachers tell us, on both an intuitive and an experiential level, that it is only right that learning abroad opportunities should be a central pillar to language learning at Potomac. I hope that the School's learning abroad trips to Spain, France, China and elsewhere give students the confidence to embark on longer immersive experiences after graduation. And I hope to receive many more correspondences from afar that contain the words: “You were right.” ■

## Learning Abroad

Over the years, Potomac has organized many international excursions, including these most recent offerings:

**China:** Exchange program with Tsinghua High School, Beijing

**Costa Rica:** Service and leadership program with World Leadership School in the Central Valley

**France:** Exchange program with Centre Madeleine Danielou near Paris

**Kenya:** Service program with Red Rose School in Kibera

**Spain:** Immersion program with Spanish Learning Abroad in Seville

## Kevin Mayer '04

### Training the Afghan National Police

**"Absolutely incredible"** aren't words one typically associates with military deployment in Afghanistan. But Second Lieutenant Kevin Mayer doesn't hesitate to describe his experience in glowing terms. Since August, Mayer has worked as the Assistant Officer in Charge of a Police Advisor Team, training, advising and partnering with the Afghan National Police (ANP). "The time has absolutely flown by," he says. "I'm normally so busy that I don't spend too much time thinking about when we'll be heading home." Mayer emailed *The Term* from the Zad District in Helmand Province about training and learning from the ANP.

#### **When did you decide to join the Marine Corps?**

During my senior year at Duke University. It was something I had thought about doing since way back in eighth grade at Potomac. The Marines' history, heritage and values represent everything that I wanted to be a part of, and everything that the United States stands for.

**Describe a typical day.** Absolutely anything can happen. In general, I spend 90 percent of my day with the police. Some days we do security patrols throughout the surrounding area; some days we focus on training; and other days we respond to reports of enemy activity in the area.



**What has surprised you most about military life and life in Afghanistan?** Despite all the differences in culture, language, etc., I've been pleasantly surprised with how strong a relationship and friendship I've made with the police here. We joke around, laugh and hang out, but at the same time understand the serious situation we are in. Despite our different backgrounds, we're in this together, and we share the same risks on a

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#### **Deep Joy, Deep Need**

**When Mayer was growing up, his dad used to say, "The best thing you can do is find where your deep joy intersects the world's deep need."**

**Mayer remembers, "He would say that to all of us every morning when he dropped me and my brothers off at the Flag Circle because it was something his dad always told him when he was growing up. The saying definitely resonates with me, and I absolutely feel like I'm doing my best to live up to that now."**

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daily basis, which ultimately helps strengthen our bond. Most of the time, I don't look at working with the ANP as work at all. We operate side by side and enjoy our time together.

**Have you had any particularly funny or unusual experiences?** The cops are a rowdy bunch of guys who love having a good time and joking around. Almost daily they'll challenge me or one of the Marines to a wrestling match, which is always good for some laughs. They also have this "whatever happens, happens" attitude that can make even the most serious situations funny. Being in firefights, finding improvised explosive devices (IEDs) or hitting IEDs could definitely count as unusual experiences. But at the same time, considering where we are and what we do, it's not all that unusual.



Second Lieutenant Kevin Mayer with an Afghan National Policeman.

**How do you communicate with the ANP?** Since I've been here, I've been able to pick up a solid amount of Pashto. Ninety-nine percent of the ANP here speak only Pashto, as opposed to Dari. By now, I've learned enough to have a decent conversation without an interpreter, and to tell lots of (inappropriate) jokes. Our team has four interpreters to help us. They're incredibly skilled linguists, so we never really run into the issue of miscommunication.

**What are the best and worst things about being a Marine in Afghanistan?** Best part: knowing I'm helping to make a difference here. We've already gained a ton of ground in the area, and the police that we work with have produced some incredible results. In the long run, the ANP will be responsible for this area, and seeing them take ownership of that responsibility and put their lives

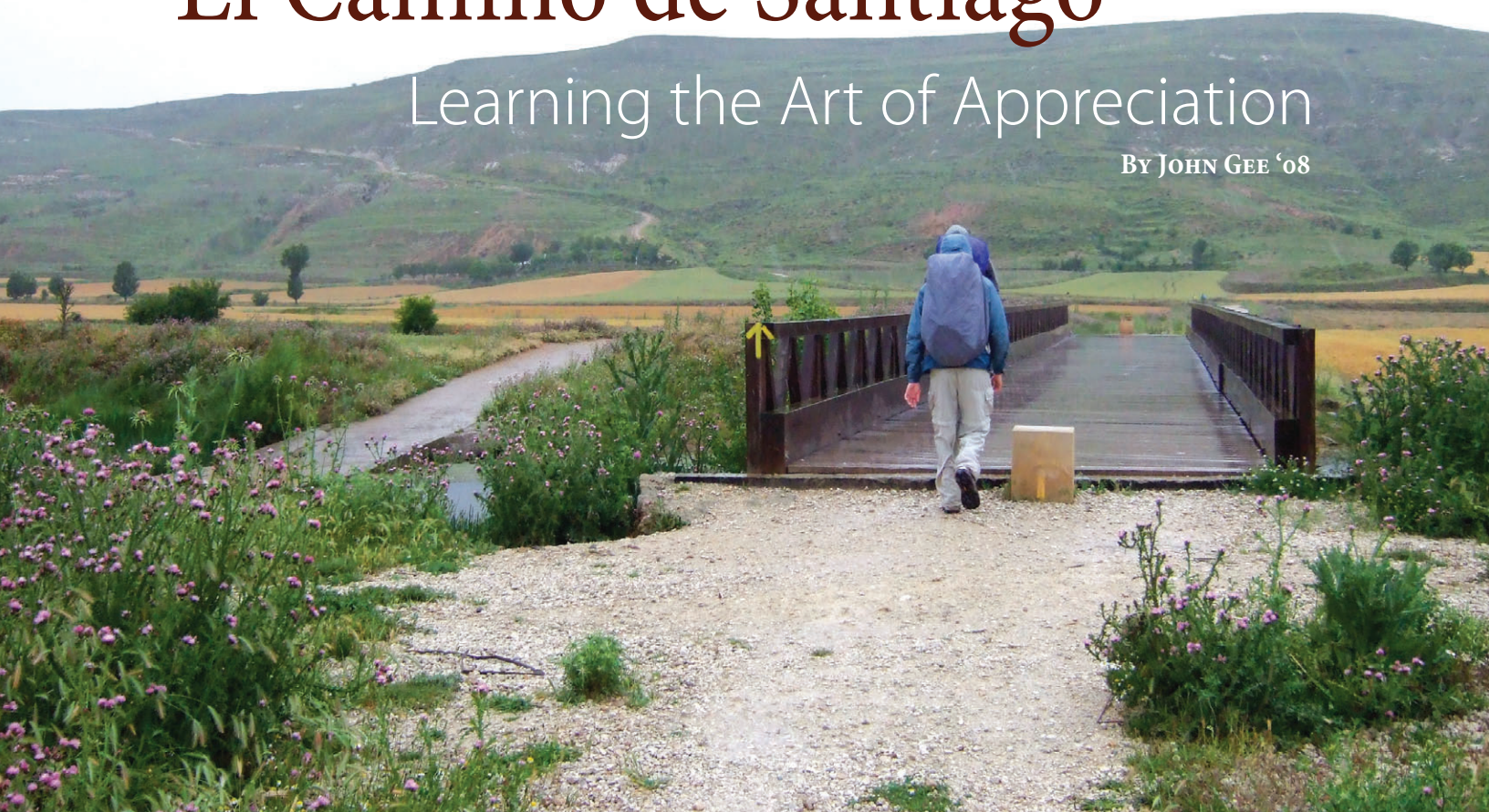
on the line makes it an awesome experience to work so closely with them. Worst part: I don't really have one. So far, I've had an absolutely incredible experience here and have nothing to complain about. At the same time, I understand that could all change in an instant. That's just the way it is, and everyone understands that.

**Did any of your Potomac teachers or coaches influence how you feel about service?** Christian Cook was my lacrosse coach for a couple years at Potomac, and we've stayed in close touch since then. He helped me mature a lot while I was there and drove me to excel, which in turn led to me having the opportunity to play lacrosse at Duke. He also served in the Secret Service, which I admired at the time and still do today. I can't thank him enough for his positive impact.

# El Camino de Santiago

## Learning the Art of Appreciation

BY JOHN GEE '08



John Gee leaves Castrojeriz, a town along the Camino de Santiago.

During the summers after my junior and senior years at Potomac, I went with Mark Dewey and several classmates to Spain. We hiked the Camino de Santiago, a Christian pilgrimage route dating from the time of the Crusades. (When Jerusalem was under Muslim control, pilgrims would visit the supposed remains of Saint James in northwest Spain instead.) Rather than visit the Prado, the Alhambra or the running of the bulls, we visited countless churches, hostels, mountains, rivers and fields. Rather than pass through the busy crowd, we passed fellow pilgrims on the trail, giving each other the universal greeting, “*buen peregrino*.” It was a very different experience from the typical study abroad.

Walking an average of between 15 and 20 miles a day, we spent a lot of time in motion. But for me at least, the most vivid memories were the pauses — the moments when we reached the top of the mountain, or stopped at a memorial site, or stepped into a church or cathedral. On the road, to stop for something means to appreciate it. The five minutes I spent looking at the view over the ridge were worth the five minutes more it took me to reach the day’s end.

I study history now, and I’d like to keep doing it as a job eventually. I’d be lying if I said that the Camino gave me some appreciation for “the journey of civilization” that helped me make that choice. More likely, it gave me an appreciation for the small human details in almost everything we see. We were guided by arrows, painted onto the trail or arranged with rocks. People had to put those arrows there, and other people had to leave them be. Hundreds of years of labor went into the cathedrals we saw, and a thousand years of small traditions have gone into the trails and hostels and water fountains and shops along the Camino.

We brought along very little with us: sleeping bags, clothes, water bottles, toiletries and perhaps journals. Whatever else we got, including food, water and shelter, we got from people who gave or sold them to us. Somehow, even when you’re getting by with little you need a lot of help. The Camino teaches you the art of appreciation. In the words of one saying we found hung up on walls everywhere, “The tourist asks; the pilgrim gives thanks.”

Gee is a junior at the University of Pennsylvania. ■

# Potomac Profile

## James Kessler, Former Potomac Teacher

### Living History in Sudan

When James Kessler was a boy growing up in land-locked Indiana, he pored over *Kon-Tiki*, Thor Heyerdahl's account of sailing a reed raft from South America to the Polynesian Islands. Today, stories like Heyerdahl's inspire but don't quite satisfy Kessler, who taught history at Potomac from 2005 to 2010. He hungers to live history, not just read it. That meant moving to Khartoum this past fall to experience an historical moment firsthand: south Sudan's secession from the North.

This winter, as Sudan split into pieces, Kessler taught and travelled, fitting together a picture of the world in his mind. "It's like a big, unending puzzle for me," says Kessler. "Every time I travel, the picture becomes clearer. I can see how things connect across places and time."

Since leaving Potomac last spring, Kessler has visited the United Arab Emirates, Oman, Qatar, Ethiopia and Djibouti, where he swam so close to whale sharks he got smacked in the face with a tail fin. This summer, he hopes to explore Tanzania, Kenya and Uganda. Not bad for a guy living in a country that requires a permit just to leave the city. "Everything is done by permit," says Kessler, even taking a photo. Still, Kessler has come to love where he is. "It's not a pretty city. It's dusty. It's half-built. Things fall apart. But it has a weird charm for me."

Kessler teaches history and social sciences at The Khartoum American School, where Americans are in fact few. Although U.S. State Department families founded the school in the 1950s, today State Department workers are not allowed to bring their families to Sudan. So Kessler's students hail from all over the globe and include oil company kids, ambassadors' children and two Qatari princesses. Only a handful of students at Kessler's school hold U.S. passports, and only a handful speak English as a first language.

Whereas language differences pose challenges for both teachers and students, cultural differences provide opportunities. "My students are each coming from different educational, family and cultural backgrounds," says Kessler. "I can rely on the students themselves to help teach each other."

Leading up to winter break, the school made preparations in case referendum violence caused it to close. But when Kessler returned from his vacation



James Kessler visits Sudan's Meroë pyramids.

in January, right in the middle of the week-long referendum, "it was as if nothing was happening. You would never know that an historic event was in process."

Kessler predicts that his school and Khartoum, which he calls a "bubble," will remain relatively unchanged, at least in the short term. On his private blog (kept private so that he can speak his mind about Sudan without repercussions), he wonders how regional unrest will affect the seceding South.

How the new countries will fit together remains to be seen. In the meantime, Kessler continues to piece together his own puzzle, sharing his insights with his students and encouraging them to make their own connections.

# alumni activities

**Virginia is for Panthers:** Upper School English teacher and UVA alum Dawn Jefferson hosted a breakfast at the university for all Potomac alumni. *September 25*

❶ Jenna Meza '10, Chanel Cooper '10 and CeCe Conner '10

**Home rules:** While the Potomac football team trounced the Poolesville Falcons 41-0, alumni reconnected with classmates and scored T-shirts, pennants, snacks and other goodies at the alumni table. *October 23*

❷ Robert McDowell '78 and daughter Mary-Shea '20 ❸ Prentiss Vallender Lay '85 and Ayse Uzer Crowely '85 ❹ Paul '78, Gretchen and Will '21 Fearey

## University of Virginia



## Homecoming



## New York City



8



9



10



11

## Environmental Stewardship Day



5



6



7

**Just add worms:** After a morning of trail restoration, alumni and current students got their hands dirty whipping up worm compost with Bern Hoffmann '86 and Albert Pingree '00.  
*November 6*

5 Avery McCaffrey '13 and Jinene Christian, Associate Director of Development 6 Kevin Munroe '85, Carter Clarke '11 and Alex Day '11 (son of Roxana Oppenheimer Day '71) 7 Christine Rosenhauer Sharkey '83

Hosts: Alumni Relations Office, Community Service Club, Environmental Sustainability Office, Gardening Club, Parents Association, Science Club and Students for Environmental Action

**Fifty years of friends:** Alumni from classes spanning 50 years ('56 to '06) reunited in the Big Apple's Helen Mills Event Space and Theater, along with past parents, Head of School Geoff Jones and Upper School theater teacher Michael Bergman.  
*October 21*

8 Lisa Shimamura '90 and Stefanie Thomas '03 9 Oliver Cannell '04, Matt Hassett '04, Chris Moore '04 and Mike Diamond '04 10 Garrett Jewett '70 11 Mike Kirkman '03

**Go Panthers!** After some pre-game food and festivities, alumni cheered on the varsity football team at the state championship game in Charlottesville against St. Anne's-Belfield.  
*November 19*

12 Parent Jim Kahl and Steve Shashy '04

**Got game?** Facing off against current students, alumni teams took part in heated games of soccer, squash and basketball, including girls basketball — new this year to the fall alumni games.  
*November 24 and 26*

13 Charlie Lonaeus '07 and Alex Alvarez '11

14 John Warin '00 and Mike Kirkman '03

15 Chris Martin '14, Dominic Dickerson '04, John Backus '12 and Devin Hill '12

## Football State Championship



12

## Fall Alumni Games



13



14



15

## After-Thanksgiving Alumni Night



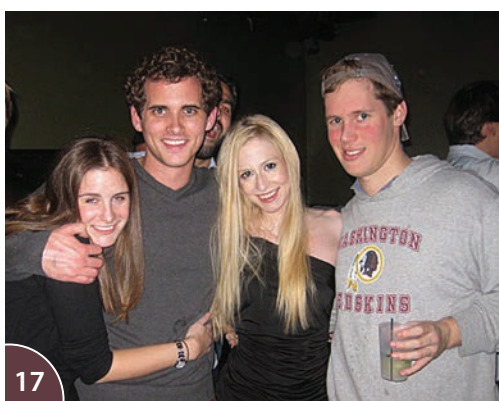
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**Après turkey:** Continuing the tradition, more than 200 alumni burned off their turkey dinners partying at George in Washington, DC, the day after Thanksgiving.

*November 26*

**16** Ellen Lewis '98, Elena Sylos-Labini '98, Ilyse Stempler '98, Jason Nadeau '03 and Warner Lewis '02

**17** Margaret McClintic '03, Marty McNerney '03, Elizabeth Hussey '03 and Phinney McIntire '06



17

**Run to remember:** In celebration of Landon Schmitt's ('99) life as a champion runner and friend, alumni and friends ran the Potomac trails Landon loved on Thanksgiving Day. *November 25*

**18** Barry Gamble '99, Tom Cannell '01, Steve Shashy '04, Libby Huffman Wilkinson '96 and others

Hosts: Linda Anderson; Tom Cannell; CJ Fahey; Matt Meenan; Ben Rose; Dick Dabney and Jonathan Schmitt; and Chris Soverow

## Landon Schmitt Memorial Run



18

**Champagne and Chi-Town:** Cocktails flowed, and hors d'oeuvres made the rounds at Pops for Champagne in Chicago, where alumni from classes '69 to '06 gathered to network and reconnect. *January 24*

19 Alex Marshall '00, Nia Raymond '85, Craig David '69, Lola Singletary '78, Ernest Roberts, Kerry Sheridan, Erin Hatch '06, Liz Teter '06, Belen Aquino '99 and Laura Miller 20 Allegra Rich '85 21 Craig David '69 and Lola Singletary '78

Hosts: Belen Aquino '99 and John Warin '00

**Joyful, joyful:** The Potomac community never tires of this tradition: celebrating life and light with the Washington Revels. *December 4*

22 Bill Hoffmann '79 and other cast members

## Chicago



Photo credit: Drew Perfilio



## Christmas Revels



Photo credit: Sheppard Ferguson

## Sunset Blvd.



23



24

## Sushi Class



25

**A Washington first:** Signature Theatre wowed an audience of alumni with the Washington, DC, premiere of Andrew Lloyd Webber's *Sunset Boulevard*. February 3

23 Jamie and Mimsy Stirn, Linda Jackson (wife of Broadway Jackson, Jr. '76) and past parent Dick Schmitt  
24 Ann Renzy Maclean '86 and husband Nick

Hosts: Enrico Cecchi '85, Stephanie Amann Kapsis '01, Ann Renzy Maclean '86, Lola Singletary '78 and The Potomac School Alumni Association

**Rawsome:** Trevor Corson '84, author of *The Story of Sushi*, gave more than 40 alumni, past parents and faculty a private hands-on sushi class in the state-of-the-art kitchens of CulinAerie in Washington, DC. February 9

25 Sushi lovers learn sushi history and technique  
26 John Mullenholz '00 27 Trevor Corson '84



26



27

# news on campus

## New Lower School Head Brings Leadership Experience to Potomac

It's Dr. Suess' birthday, and new Lower School Head Gayle Andrews is reading *Yertle the Turtle* to a rapt audience of young learners, some of whom are wearing funny socks and hats to honor the author.

Andrews wears a neon pink top hat with a black diamond pattern that would make "The Cat" proud. She has a huge collection of hats, "one for every special occasion," she says.

"I love reading silly books and poems. It's a great way to get the children's attention and speak to that exuberance that Potomac students and teachers share," says Andrews.

Andrews clearly enjoys her job. "Lower School is a very joyful place," says Andrews. "Students, teachers and parents seem to cherish what they have here." According to Middle School Head John Mathews, "Gayle has a good eye for the right way to run a school, bespeaking a certain insightfulness about people, especially kids."

That instinct for running a

school is born of the wisdom and experience she brings to the job after 17 years leading Fairfax County elementary schools. Andrews also has extensive experience mentoring and evaluating teachers in primary school settings, as well as teaching and developing curriculum for education majors in a university setting. "She has a level of confidence about her leadership," says Mathews, who is serving as her Potomac mentor, "and the kids see that as well."

Andrews says her transition to Potomac has been smooth, with lots of help from the teachers, parents and her young students. She is spending the year learning about the School's culture and traditions. "My goals include developing a productive working relationship with



every faculty member. Working collaboratively as a team is very important to me."

Her favorite parts of the day are greeting the children in the morning and saying goodbye

in the afternoon. "I love seeing the kids arriving so happy, and I know when they head home each day how much they have learned and grown."

# New Upper School Head “Gets” Potomac

What makes a school thrive? “The magical connection between adults and kids,” says new Upper School Head Don Firke. At Potomac, he believes that connection is omnipresent. “Our administrators and faculty devote their professional lives to these students, who are always showing us they’re worth it. The teachers respond by going above and beyond what is expected.”

Firke brings to Potomac a deep understanding of the ingredients of a successful school — both the challenges and the possibilities. His impressive resume includes broad academic and administrative experience, most recently as Head of the Latin School of Chicago. He began his career as an economist before turning to teaching, which remains his great love. He taught at the



## Mr. Firke's 7 Essential Literacies for Every Potomac Graduate

### 1. Communications/Rhetorical

Students need to be able to speak and write effectively and persuasively, and to listen well.

### 2. Analytical

The content of our math and science courses is important, but so are the problem-solving skills that will help our graduates face challenges that will arise over the course of their lifetimes.

### 3. Informational/Statistical

This literacy will allow our graduates to use their problem-solving skills in a fully informed manner when dealing with data and texts.

### 4. Cultural

Students will need to know the historical, political and economic forces that have led to the creation of the current societal structures and processes.

### 5. Multicultural

Thomas Friedman's latest book, *Hot, Flat, and Crowded*, reminds us that our children will live in an increasingly interdependent global community. Literacy in a second language (and culture) will be essential to full participation in that world.

### 6. Aesthetic

Our students need to know the language of design, structure and presentation in both visual and performing arts.

### 7. Ethical

None of the first six literacies means much if we don't raise children with a strong moral compass.

Hackley School in Tarrytown, New York, and the Cranbrook School in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan. Over a 20-year period at Choate Rosemary Hall in Wallingford, Connecticut, he taught Latin; coached soccer and baseball; and served as Dean of Faculty, Academic Dean and Language Department Head.

“What I think I like most about Potomac is the care and intentionality through which everything is done here, with kids at the front and center of that care,” Firke says. He believes the key to becoming a successful student is a blend of confidence and humility, an understanding of how and when to seek help, and the ability to be flexible and adaptable.

Firke displays an easy rapport with students, teachers and parents. Student Government President Marie Henneberg says, “Mr. Firke

‘gets’ Potomac. He reflects the quintessential Potomac student — thoughtful and hard-working, yet fun-loving and amiable. Not only does he always greet students with a wide grin and warm hello, but he also leaves his office door open for whenever we need an understanding advocate.”

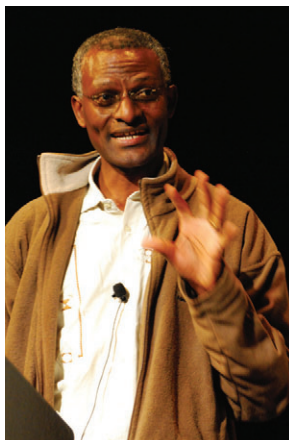
Perhaps less pertinent but interesting is Firke's somewhat unusual fascination with the animated cartoon series *Rocky and Bullwinkle*. He has a lot of *Rocky and Bullwinkle* stuff — glasses, comic books, bendable figures, T-shirts, sweatshirts, a hand-painted tie and even a full-size pin ball machine. “I just think they are very funny,” he says.

He is married to Lisa, a poet and essayist, who designs websites for writers. Their two children, Ben and Marian, are students at Wesleyan and Swarthmore Colleges.

## Distinguished Speakers Series



Author and activist **Lina Abirafeh**'s words painted a bleak picture of the conditions that many women face in certain parts of the world such as Afghanistan, where she set up an international nongovernmental organization to provide services and training for Afghan women. *October 5*

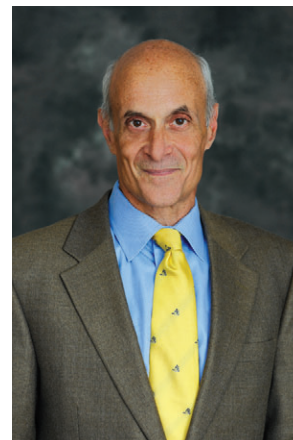


**Eugene Rutagarama**, Director of the International Gorilla Conservation Programme, recalled his exile from Rwanda at the height of the 1990s conflict, and his return home to rebuild the national park system and protect the mountain gorilla habitat. *November 17*

## Speakers Expand Potomac's Worldview

Visit [www.potomacschool.org/campus-life/speakers-series](http://www.potomacschool.org/campus-life/speakers-series) for a complete description of the many interesting speakers who have presented to our students and community over the last two years.

## Open Questions Forum



**Secretary Michael Chertoff**, second Homeland Security Secretary and co-author of the USA PATRIOT Act, spoke about "The Balance between Freedom and Security" and emphasized that we all bear responsibilities for our personal and communal welfare. *January 12*

## Conferences Focus on Inclusive Community-Building



The annual People of Color Conference and Student Diversity Leadership Conference in San Diego drew Robert von Glahn, Pasha Davoudian, Lucia Krul, William Gutierrez, Katie Tata, David Grant and Carolina Alvarez-Correa. Not pictured but also in attendance at this December event: Cindy Cheadle, Jevin Clark, Melissa Davis, Chrissy Fennell, Bern Hoffman, Carla Lukas, Inga Schoenbrun and Tae Yi.

*"It was not just learning about other people and diversity, but also learning about ourselves through learning about other people."*

- JUNIOR KATIE TATA

*"It was neat to meet people who shared the same experience as me. When you come from a multicultural background, most people see you as one thing, but there are really many different sides."*

- JUNIOR CAROLINA ALVAREZ-CORREA

## Top 5 Reasons to Love the New Turf Field



The new turf field brought good luck to the boys varsity football team on the field's dedication day, September 10.

Director of Physical Education Carol Hilderbrand tells *The Term* why the PE Department treasures the new turf field.

- ❶ "Our field hockey unit has become so much more enjoyable for our Middle School girls. The ball rolls faster, and the game is much more dynamic."
- ❷ "We no longer have to wait for the field to dry out after a rainy night. Our turf field is ready to go for our first Middle School classes of the day."
- ❸ "All the lines are well marked for a variety of games."
- ❹ "Our Lower School students enjoy the field during kicking, throwing and catching activities. The turf field is also a neat place for tag and running games."
- ❺ "When the sun is out during the cold days of January and February, the field is warm and dry for recess play."

## Volunteer Spotlight

### Farida Robinson

Everyone who knows Farida fondly refers to her as Potomac's volunteer guru. "I like giving back to the Potomac community, and volunteering my time is a great way to do that," she says. Over the years she has coordinated thousands of volunteer posts and given her all volunteering for Fall Frolics, Book Fair and the Diversity Committee, and as a Parent Rep and Library Volunteer. "Volunteering has enabled me to cross paths with parents from all divisions," she says. "Thanks to my volunteer experiences, I

have formed friendships with members of the Potomac community whom I may not have otherwise met."

### Jo Peele

Every year for the past decade, for six hours a day for almost three months, Jo has sat anchored in front of a computer entering hundreds of items into the Spring Auction database. As Auction Administrator she has led from behind the scenes, ensuring that this important Potomac fundraiser runs smoothly. Her hard work has endeared her to all with whom she has ever



Potomac thanks Farida Robinson (left) and Jo Peele (right) for countless hours of service.

worked. She began volunteering at Potomac 12 years ago at the House and Garden booth at Fall Frolics. Every year since, she has worked on Fall Frolics and Spring Auction.

She has also made costumes for the Kindergarten Circus, Middle School plays and Intermediate School musicals; volunteered in the library; and served as a Parent Rep.

# Three Teachers Earn National Board Certification

**W**hat do you get when you add hundreds of preparation hours, six half-hour exams, and a four-part video portfolio of a teacher's best classroom practices? One National Board Certification — a gold star for teachers who pass a test more grueling than any they will ever give.

"It's exhausting," says grade 4 teacher Carrie Zulanis, one of three Potomac teachers to become certified in 2010. "However, it really gets you to reflect on your teaching."

Over the course of six months, Zulanis, Catherine Fields (grade 6) and Tina Salamone (IS Spanish) video-recorded themselves teaching, analyzed their performances, developed lesson plans and studied for content-based exams.

"I learned that I need to listen more," says Zulanis. "In the video, there were times when I asked a question and immediately gave an answer."

Middle School Head John Mathews says he particularly supports the video-recording portion of the certification process. "We're all about taking initiative and being reflective about the risks that we've taken," he says.

According to Director of Physical Education Carol Hilderbrand, who mentors teachers as they pursue certification, Potomac is one of only

a few independent schools in the area that funds the certification process.

"We're so lucky to have the professional development op-

portunities we have here," says Zulanis. "I got to spend six months focusing on being the best teacher I could be. It was truly a gift."

## National Board Certified Potomac Teachers

Mary Cahill	Lois Rothman
Janet Dewey	Tina Salamone
Catherine Fields	Sharyn Stein
Jen Gardner	Joy Webster
Carol Hilderbrand	Carrie Zulanis
Jon Lindsay	



**Tina Salamone (left), Carrie Zulanis (middle) and Catherine Fields (right) earned National Board Certification on their first attempt — a feat accomplished by only 40 percent of teachers who attempt this professional development milestone.**



A complicated math problem captivates third grader Anna Lerner, daughter of Renée Lettow Lerner '83, and her grandfather Charles Lettow on Grandparents Day.

## Generations Remember Grandparents Day

### Renée Lettow Lerner '83

*Alum and Parent*

#### What did Grandparents Day mean to you as a young child at Potomac?

I talked to my grandparents so much about School, and finally I had the chance to show them what I had been talking about. It was also a lot of fun to meet my friends' grandparents, and to learn more about their families. Grandparents Day helped give the feeling that School was not an isolated part of our lives, but linked with the rest of what we did and where we came from.

**Do you have a favorite memory?** Showing my grandmother an illuminated manuscript I had made in sixth grade when we studied the Middle Ages. I was so proud, and she was very appreciative. I recited for her the passage from Ecclesiastics I had illuminated: "A faithful friend is a strong defense."

#### Why do you think it has become such a lasting tradition at Potomac?

Potomac is very family oriented, and Grandparents Day helps to keep all generations connected with the School.

### Charles Lettow

*Past Parent and Grandparent*

#### What do you most enjoy about Grandparents Day?

I am always impressed with the poise the children develop at an early age and [how they learn] to handle different situations, including the presence of grandparents. A notable secondary pleasure is visiting with other grandparents, a number of whom my wife and I knew when we were parents of Potomac students.

**Why is it important to you?** It gives the grandparents an opportunity to see their

grandchildren in an environment that is normal for them but which the grandparent would only hear about, not see, and to connect with the School at the same time.

**How has Grandparents Day evolved since your daughter attended Potomac?** Much is the same. The size of the School [then] was only about half of what it is today. Happily, the individual classes remain about the same size. Overall, the School seems to have retained a quite noticeable and familiar approach, and it is reassuring to see that continuity.

# athletics highlights



Potomac finished undefeated in regular season play. Conor McNerney led the offense with 1842 yards rushing and 27 touchdowns.

# Football Clinches Historic First MAC Title, Advances to State Championship

This year's varsity football team put the "MAC" in Potomac, capturing the Mid-Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAC) high school football championship for the first time in the School's history. The team, led by first-year Head Coach Patrick Duffy, went on to play in the state finals, but the highlight of the season had to be the team's MAC-title-winning performance against arch rival Flint Hill.

The Potomac/Flint Hill face-off was both teams' last game of the regular season, and both teams were at that point undefeated in league play, promising an exciting contest for the coveted MAC title. With four straight MAC championships under their belts, the Flint Hill Huskies might have felt primed

for another win. But with less than a minute to go in the first quarter, senior Conor McNerney threw a touchdown pass to senior Mike Duffy, putting the wheels in motion for a series of great offensive and defensive plays that would culminate in the Panthers' stunning 36-0 win over the Huskies.

"We thought it was going to be a close game," says Coach Duffy. "We went with a no-huddle, hurry-up offense that we installed during the week leading up to the game. Other than a few hiccups, we executed as well as we did all year."

The history-making season began with the dedication of the new turf field and the solid defeat of Randolph Macon Academy 44-0. That triumph kicked off a 10-game win-

ning streak, including a 41-0 homecoming victory against Poolsville. At the state playoffs against Pope John Paul the Great, Potomac allowed only a single touchdown before taking control of the game and winning 38-7.

Finally, the Panthers advanced to the state finals, where they lost against St. Anne's-Belfield 14-7 in the last few seconds of the game.

Just as he did last year,

McNerney led the team's offensive play, this time with 1842 yards rushing and an astounding 27 touchdowns.

"In all my years in athletics, I've never seen a team as close-knit as this one," says Duffy. "The team never stopped believing that it could overcome and win no matter what had happened earlier in the game. They really learned how far you can get doing the best you can regardless of the circumstances."



# Girls Varsity Soccer #1 in the Area

For the first time since 1999, *The Washington Post* ranked Potomac's girls varsity soccer team #1 in the area, a ranking they fully deserve after an undefeated season during which they outscored opponents by a margin of 38-6. The *Post* also honored the team's coach, grade 2 teacher Ross McEwen, as coach of the year.

The team swept the Independent School League regular season and tournament titles, capping the tournament with a decisive 3-1 victory over National Cathedral School (NCS). NCS got off to a good start with an early goal, and for seven minutes the Panthers trailed their opponents for the first and only time all season. Freshmen Monica Spafford and Emily Perkinson both scored in the first half, and junior Samantha Kaplan sealed the team's fate with another goal in the final 10 minutes of the game. Last year, the team's only loss of the season was to NCS, making this year's championship victory particularly sweet.

"When we played against our biggest rivals, we played

our best games," says Coach McEwen, referring to games against NCS and Georgetown Visitation.

The team posted 10 shut-outs, with strong performances from goalkeeper Erin Cummings and defenders Kathleen Smith and Casey Mann. Senior captain Campbell Millar, who committed to the University of Virginia before the beginning of the season, led the team's offense.

Emily Perkinson also made a phenomenal contribution to the team's offense, especially given her freshman status. "She is one of those girls who you realize is a pure goal scorer," says McEwen. "That was one of the things we lacked from years before." With 13 goals in 15 games, Perkinson went on to become the team's leading scorer of the season, boding well for the future of the team.





The Panthers outscored opponents 38-6, winning both the Independent School League (ISL) regular season and tournament titles.



# Girls Varsity Tennis Team Wins ISL Post-Season Tournament

The girls varsity tennis team began the season with one goal: to finish the season with a championship banner to hang in the Chester Gym. The girls achieved that and more, winning the Independent School League (ISL) A Division post-season tournament and then advancing as far as the state semi-finals.

For Coach Susan Lehmann, one of the season's highlights was "seeing how well the seniors kept everyone focused on the goal they had set." That intense focus successfully channeled the energy of the team's talented underclassmen, including three freshman singles players. "These girls came in at a very high level and maintained it," says Lehmann.

The girls started off with two big wins at home against Bishop

Ireton (6-1) and Flint Hill (5-2). They later celebrated a hard-fought 4-3 win over Sidwell Friends. After amassing six consecutive victories, the Panthers lost a close match to St. Stephen's and St. Agnes — their first and only loss of the regular season.

The team went on to win in the ISL A Division post-season tournament. Winners in the tournament finals included Tammy Vo and Alexa Santry at #3 and #4 singles, respectively, and all three doubles tandems of Sarah Gimont/Soraya Batmanghelidg, Lucy Gibson/Stacey Chiu and Kelly McGrath/Rachel Chason. "We really trounced them," says Lehmann. "It was a nice validation."

In a state quarter-final match, the girls varsity tennis team beat Paul VI. Leading 4-2 after the singles matches, new doubles teams of Caroline

Meisel/Tammy Vo and Kathleen Wilson/Alexa Santry combined with veterans Gimont/Batmanghelidg to sweep all three matches for the 7-2 final. The team entered the state semi-finals as the fifth-seeded team,

but lost to St. Catherine's in Richmond 5-1.

When asked to describe this year's team in a word, Lehmann laughs and says, "Young!" And that means good things for next season and beyond.



The varsity girls tennis team finished the season with a record of 13-2 thanks to focused seniors and unusually talented underclassmen.



## Post-Season Awards

The Independent School League (ISL), the Mid-Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAC), the Virginia Independent School Athletic Association (VISAA) and *The Washington Post* recognized the following outstanding student athletes with post-season awards.

### ISL All League Team Selections (girls)

<b>Soccer:</b>	Erin Cummings Casey Mann Campbell Millar Kathleen Smith
<b>Tennis:</b>	Caroline Meisel

### MAC All League Team Selections (boys)

<b>Cross Country:</b>	Nick Kensinger Cope Whitney
<b>Football:</b>	Mike Duffy Cullen Hamilton Jorman Heflin Davon Hill Conor McNerney Ian McNerney Jack Rhodes Nick Shashy
<b>Golf:</b>	Chris Graves Chris Lee
<b>Soccer:</b>	Hugh Danilack Jack Kingsley Andreas Rodlauer

### *The Washington Post* All Met Teams

<b>Boys Soccer:</b>	Hugh Danilack — <i>Honorable Mention</i>
<b>Football:</b>	Connor McNerney — <i>Honorable Mention</i>
<b>Girls Soccer:</b>	Casey Mann — <i>First Team</i> Campbell Millar — <i>First Team</i> Erin Cummings — <i>Honorable Mention</i> Kathleen Smith — <i>Honorable Mention</i> Ross McEwen — <i>Coach of the Year</i>

### VISAA All State Teams

<b>Boys Cross Country:</b>	Jack Kaplan — <i>First Team</i> Cope Whitney — <i>First Team</i>
<b>Boys Soccer:</b>	Hugh Danilack — <i>Second Team</i> Andres Rodlauer — <i>Honorable Mention</i>
<b>Football:</b>	Mikey Duffy — <i>First Team</i> Cullen Hamilton — <i>First Team</i> Jorman Heflin — <i>First Team</i> Conor McNerney — <i>First Team</i> Jack Rhodes — <i>First Team</i> Davon Hill — <i>Second Team</i> Ian McNerney — <i>Second Team</i> Jack O'Shea — <i>Honorable Mention</i>
<b>Girls Tennis:</b>	Kathleen Wilson — <i>First Team</i>



# slice of life

The entire Middle School gathered to dedicate their new garden area between the fourth and fifth grade wing and the Englehard Performing Arts Center in October.



Intermediate School students treated the Potomac community to *Fiddler on the Roof* in January.



National Geographic visited campus to film Mary Cahill's class learning about the effects of water erosion on landforms, a lesson from the JASON Project curriculum.



Lower School students dressed up for the annual Halloween parade.



The Upper School performed playwright John Guare's *The House of Blue Leaves*.



Potomac shut out Poolesville for a decisive homecoming victory.



The Middle School celebrated the holiday season with their traditional Festival of Carols assembly.



The School gave thanks at Thanksgiving Assembly, where kindergarteners performed the Turkey Tango.

Postponed by a mid-December snowstorm, Lower School Carols were performed in early January on the eve of Orthodox Christmas.



Norton Juster, author of *The Phantom Tollbooth*, taught a writing workshop for Potomac fifth graders.



At the Upper School's Leadership Conference in November, students worked together to craft questions for guest speakers who addressed the international response to environmental issues.



In a hard-fought game cheered on by a very vocal crowd, the senior girls prevailed in the annual Powderpuff Game.



This year's production of *St. George and the Dragon* by eighth graders had a Harry Potter theme.

# alumni connections



## lower school

### Kindergarten

**Rose C. Cecchi** (Antonio Cecchi '84)  
**Benjamin M. Gerkin** (Allyson Bloom '92)  
**Andrew C. Lay** (Prentiss Vallender Lay '85, and Mark Lay '76)  
**Miles B. Malawer** (Eric Malawer '92)  
**Louisa R. Tierney** (Andrew Tierney '80)  
**Finn E. Willems** (Megan Bartsch Willems '84)  
**Julia C. Winsor** (Curtin Winsor III '78)  
**Sage S. Wolf** (Steven S. Wolf '69)

### 1st Grade

**Natasha W. Edwards** (Anita Winsor-Edwards '79)  
**Theodore W. Gerkin** (Allyson Bloom '92)  
**Harrison R. Kehler** (Charles Kehler '84)  
**Elias M. Lerner** (Renée Lettow Lerner '83)  
**Christopher S. Jarquin Manegold**  
(Elizabeth Jarquin Manegold '82)  
**Madeline Schermerhorn** (Sarah Kilberg Schermerhorn '95)  
**Riley A. Schermerhorn** (Sarah Kilberg Schermerhorn '95)  
Not Pictured: **Giuseppe Cecchi** (Antonio Cecchi '84)

### 2nd Grade

**Malena G. Cecchi** (Antonio Cecchi '84)  
**Emily H. Dunn** (Annabelle Redway Dunn '85)  
**Caroline P. Dunn** (Annabelle R. Dunn '85)  
**William C. Fearey** (Paul Fearey '78)  
**Anabel M. Kadri** (Sarah McClure '82)  
**Marisa B. Kadri** (Sarah McClure '82)  
**Elizabeth W. McKean** (David McKean, Jr. '82)  
**Elisabeth V. Oskoui** (Ramin Oskoui '78)  
**John W. Sagarese** (Sarah Ewing Sagarese '85)  
**William J. Schermerhorn** (Sarah Kilberg Schermerhorn '95)  
**Isabel L. Tierney** (Andrew Tierney '80)  
**Elizabeth Winsor** (Curtin Winsor III '78)

### 3rd Grade

**Enrico B. Cecchi** (Enrico Cecchi '85)  
**Holly U. Crowley** (Alyse Uzer Crowley '85)  
**Caroline K. Lay** (Prentiss Vallender Lay '85 and Mark Lay '76)  
**Anna L. Lerner** (Renee Lettow Lerner '83)  
**Mary-Shea V. McDowell** (Robert M. McDowell '78)  
**Jacqueline C. McElroy** (Charisse Mortenson McElroy '91)  
**Katherine R. Newton** (Virginia Young-Newton '83)  
**John W. Stoodly** (Anne L. Metcalf '79)  
**Annabel L. Resor** (James P. Resor '75)  
Not Pictured: **Mikaela Catto** (William Catto '78)

#### 4th Grade

**Carla B. Cecchi** (Antonio Cecchi '84)  
**Emelie S. Jarquin Manegold** (Elizabeth Jarquin Manegold '82)  
**David J. McKean** (David J. McKean, Jr. '82)  
**Joshua D. Melvin** (Adrienne Slaughter '78)  
**Ellen P. Oskoui** (Ramin Oskoui '78)  
**Megan K. Sharkey** (Christine Rosenhauer Sharkey '83)  
**Megan M. Tierney** (Christopher Tierney '79)

#### 5th Grade

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

#### 6th Grade

**Gwyneth C. Catto** (William Catto '78)  
**Margaret Ewing** (J.C. Ewing '78)  
**Claire M. Pitzer** (Lavinia Lemon Pitzer '82)  
**James L. Pitzer** (Lavinia Lemon Pitzer '82)  
**Trey A. Schulman** (Andrew Saltonstall '82)  
**Theodore L. Tierney** (Christopher Tierney '79)

# middle school





# intermediate school

## 7th Grade

**Gabrielle M. Cecchi** (Enrico Cecchi '85)  
**Tyler K. Crowley** (Ayse Uzer Crowley '85)  
**Catherine H. Frank** (Randolph A. Frank, Jr. '72)  
**Eleanor L. Frank** (Randolph A. Frank, Jr. '72)  
**Sydney Frazier** (David B. Frazier '77)  
**Catherine F. Mathias** (Robert F. Mathias '77)  
**Konrad S. McKalip** (Hope Jewett McKalip '81)  
**Grace W. Moses** (David L. Moses '76)  
**Tobias M. Robinson** (Farida Moreau Robinson '80)  
**Abraham H. Wilson** (Speke Wilson '79)

## 8th Grade

**Brooks Arundel** (Peter W. Arundel '75)  
**Christopher Caskin** (Christopher Caskin '77)  
**Grace Cherouny** (Merrell Redway Cherouny '82)  
**Joseph K. O'Gorman** (Scott E. O'Gorman, Jr. '76)  
**Kyle Paul** (Isabelle P. Chester '77)  
**Emma Resor** (James P. Resor '75)  
**Maxwell M. Speil** (Jane McAllister '70)

**9th Grade**

**William Catto** (William Catto '78)  
**Rosemary S. Ewing** (J.C. Ewing '78)  
**Muna Juma** (Aisha Al Hussein '83)  
**Adam J. Moses** (David L. Moses '76)  
**Anna E. Regan** (Nina Howard Regan '78)  
**Sydney M. Robinson** (Farida Moreau Robinson '80)

**10th Grade**

**Max R. Ausbrook** (J. Keith Ausbrook '73)  
**Philip L. Bennett** (Frank C. Bennett III '73)  
**Randolph A. Frank** (Randolph A. Frank, Jr. '72)  
**Caroline Resor** (James P. Resor '75)  
**Allegra R. Wilson** (Speke Wilson '79)  
**Devon H. Winsor** (Curtin Winsor III '78)  
 Not Pictured: **John S. O'Gorman**  
 (Scott E. O'Gorman, Jr. '76)

**11th Grade**

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

**12th Grade**

**Alexander J. Day** (Roxana Oppenheimer Day '71)  
**Broadway Jackson** (Broadway Jackson, Jr. '76)  
**Carrita M. Thomas** (Paul D. Thomas '76)

# upper school



## Dear Fellow Alumni:


I always look forward to getting *The Term*, discovering the ways my fellow classmates affect the world around us and reading about what is happening on campus. This is an exciting issue of *The Term*. You will read profiles of alumni who are currently making homes and working in the “wider world.” From South America to Africa, our classmates are making contributions both small and large. For some, their adventures can be traced back to their community service work here at Potomac; others found the spirit when teachers encouraged them to take risks at an early age. The seeds of excellence planted during our formative years has taken root and blossoms in the personal and professional accomplishments of Potomac alumni.

Take the time to read all the articles and of course the Class Notes section. I believe you will feel a sense of pride and connection with your alma mater as you learn the breadth and depth of the activities that inspire the entire community.

This letter is my last message as president of the Alumni Governing Council, and I am pleased to announce that in July Ann Renzy Maclean '86 will assume the presidency, Andrew Warin '03 will become vice president and Sandy Gentles '94 will become secretary. This energetic and dynamic Executive Committee will bring fresh ideas about how to engage in and maintain positive alumni relations. Support them by attending reunions and events, sending updates about your life and family and staying connected with your classmates.

In closing, it has been an honor and a privilege representing you for the past three years.

Sincerely,



Lola J. Singletary '78  
President, Alumni Governing Council



Alumni Governing Council Secretary Ann Renzy Maclean '86,  
Vice President Reed Kuhn '95 and President Lola Singletary '78.

# 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, including accolades, personal accomplishments, announcements 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 might know, the Class Correspondent is one of the most visible of all alumni volunteers and plays a vital role in helping classmates 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 notes, make it a priority!

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 your notes directly to [alumni@potomacschool.org](mailto: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](mailto:lmiller@potomacschool.org).

### 1938

#### Class Correspondent

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

**John Dugger '38** daughter **Patsy '91** was recently married. The wedding was held in San Miguel de Allende, Mexico, on



**John Dugger '38** walks daughter **Patsy Dugger '91** down the aisle at her wedding.

October 22, 2010. Patsy married Isaac E. Newton (yes, that is really his name — no relation to Isaac Newton who had no children). Patsy and Isaac both live and work in San Francisco, one block from **Jenny McClelland '91**, Patsy's friend since Potomac school days.

### 1939

**From the archives:** In 1939 ninth grade was reintroduced for girls.

### 1940

**From the archives:** In 1940 Upper School students selected the motto "Labor Omnia Vincit" (labor conquers all).

### 1941

#### REUNION YEAR 70<sup>TH</sup>

**From the archives:** The class of 1941 dedicated the school's first yearbook to Carol Preston.

### 1942

#### Class Correspondent

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

**From the archives:** In 1942 Clare Fahnestock was student council chairman.

### 1943

**From the archives:** In 1943 Potomac students performed scenes from *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

### 1944

#### Class Correspondent

Juliet Gill Davis  
2237 48<sup>th</sup> St., NW  
Washington, DC 20007  
(202) 625-0614  
[julietdavis50@gmail.com](mailto:julietdavis50@gmail.com)

**From the archives:** In 1944 the student publication *Post Script* ran a limerick contest.

### 1945

#### Class Correspondent

Patricia Mulligan Briska  
201 Silverton Road  
Gulf Breeze, FL 32561  
(850) 932-7344

**Patricia Mulligan Briska** spent time in Sacramento, CA, Woodbridge, VA, and Norfolk, VA, visiting family this past summer. She visited friends in the Brooksville, ME, area in the fall.

### 1946

#### REUNION YEAR 65<sup>TH</sup>

#### Class Correspondent

Jerrie Kohlmeier Bartlett  
316 S. 10th St.  
Philadelphia, PA 19102  
(215) 928-0506  
[allan.jerri@gmail.com](mailto:allan.jerri@gmail.com)

**Jerrie Kohlmeier Bartlett** writes, "Hello, everyone! I'm glad to be your scribe again and hope you can send me some news from time to time. Also, I hope you are planning to attend our 65<sup>th</sup> Reunion on April 29–30. Eight of us got together at our 60<sup>th</sup> at the home of **Julie Merrell Harris**, and it was really great to be together after so many years. We still live in Center City, Philadelphia, enjoying the great variety of offerings the city has and being able to walk most places. We have three children, two of whom live in CA and one in CT, with three grandchildren ranging from 8 to 21. We see **Nancy and Tom Shepherd** every summer on our way to Maine, and they enjoy their 11 grandchildren both nearby in Stow and near their farm in VT. Nancy is a retired Episcopal priest, but she continues to do a version of The Potomac School Christmas play every year at her church. Two years ago, we were joined by **Dickie Wellborn Orem (CT)** and **Gerry Wellborn Orem '44 (ME)** for a mini reunion at the Shepherds. **Marjorie Key Andrews** reported to me that last fall her house in Holmes, New York, burned down and that her husband (who had a stroke 17 years ago) and other family members have been living in a one-room apartment since then. Margie said she has kept up with **Anne Legare** who lives in Easton, MD, and raises Welsh Springer spaniels, often showing them at

the Westminster Dog Show. **Marjorie De Witt Robertson** lives in Alexandria, VA, and we have lunch together when I'm in the area. She lost her husband a couple of years ago, but still lives in her house and loves her large garden."

**Rose Kean Lansbury** just turned 80 last month and is "looking forward to the next decade." She has 14 grandchildren ranging from 3 to 24 years old. She writes, "I thought I would be out of the school business by now, but find myself deep in high schools and colleges, fascinated and excited by the changes and similarities since the '40s and even our children's era. I clearly remember my mother's comments as we toured potential boarding schools in 1946. I went to St. Tim's, for reasons I don't remember. Possibly because she could find nothing negative to say. I love living in NYC, where I was born and where there is always action. I moved a year ago to an apartment overlooking Central Park. Every room, even the kitchen, has a wonderful view of the park. I have my breakfast each morning watching the changing light and incredible cloud formations. I'd love to hear from anyone coming through town. I'm in the phone book."

## 1947

**Eleanor Tydings Russell** writes, "My husband John Schapiro passed away six years ago, and I have since remarried Harry Russell. I am well, still foxhunting and active on the board of *Ladew Topiary Gardens* here in Monkton, MD. Daughter Susan Gillet Chewing lives in Middleburg, VA. My son, Francis Warrington Gillet, lives in NYC, and my other son Joseph Davies lives here in Monkton."

## 1948

**From the archives:** In 1948 the School purchased 55 acres from Ward Kirby in McLean, VA, for \$42,506.

## 1949

### Class Correspondent

Laura Lee Larson  
P.O. Box 1139  
Clarksburg, MD 20871  
(240) 401-4602

**From the archives:** In 1949 Helen Seth-Smith took senior girl scouts to England.

## 1950

**From the archives:** In 1950, construction of the main building on the McLean campus began. Every classroom opened to the outdoors.

## 1951

### REUNION YEAR 60<sup>TH</sup>

**From the archives:** In 1951, the campus in McLean opened.

## 1952

### Class Correspondent

Louise "Beebe" Graham  
218 N. Main St.  
Wolfeboro, NH 03894

**Florry Hubbard Lloyd** writes, "Such happy memories of Potomac in my third, fourth and fifth grades, 1946-48 — best to all."

## 1953

### Class Correspondent

Mary Murray Bradley Coleman  
22 Wildwood Dr.  
Cape Elizabeth, ME 04107  
(207) 741-2944  
mcolem2@maine.rr.com

**From the archives:** The class of 1953 dedicated its yearbook to Mrs. Lee.

## 1954

### Class Correspondent

Elizabeth Knox Radigan  
124 Laurel Ln.  
Lancaster, VA 22503  
(804) 435-1503  
eradigan@va.metrocast.net

**From the archives:** In 1954, Potomac celebrated its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

## 1955

**Alice Davison** writes, "In January this year, I went to southern India for a conference in my field, linguistics, where I presented two papers on the language I analyze, Hindi. It was a treat to be in Mysore, the capital of the former Maharaja, where the early January weather was sunny and 80 degrees — a welcome change from IA, where I live, and even Washington, where I was visiting my family. In Washington, I enjoyed seeing **Mary Virginia Gibb Pascoe** right before Thanksgiving.

## 1956

### REUNION YEAR 55<sup>TH</sup>

**From the archives:** In 1956 Trustees and parents began to meet to discuss coeducation.

## 1957

**From the archives:** The winter of 1956-1957 marked the first performance of Christmas Revels in NYC and DC.

## 1958

**From the archives:** Construction of the new Lower School building began in the spring.

## 1959

**Roger Kellogg** writes, "I am still in solo practice in Montpelier. There are only three of us left in the area; all the other practices are owned by the local hospital. Electronic medical records are coming, or at least I can hear the hoof beats: they are a mixed blessing at best. If they become mandatory, it will place small practices such as mine on the verge of extinction. They tell me I'm already a dinosaur. And as senior citizenship becomes less a coming abstraction and more of an everyday

reality, I find not only empathy but kinship with those I treat to beat the Reaper. The practice of medicine has been a wonderful career. I hope it doesn't become another casualty of the increasingly bitter political debate. We in medicine have ourselves to blame for pricing the service beyond the reach of most mortals and placing important decisions, therefore, in the hands of the insurance companies. Stay tuned."

## 1960

**Constance Casey** writes "Species," a monthly column for *Landscape Architecture* about interesting plants and creatures. The column is "directly inspired (though with a bit of a time lag) by Duryea Morton."

**Annie Rickert Shields** writes, "I am a high school English teacher in Rome, GA, with one more year before retirement. I have a small farm where I raise Icelandic horses and chickens in the beautiful, mountainous part of northwest GA. So far, I have one grandchild, Odessa. I still see **Anne Dunbar Walston** and **Molly Warner** occasionally."

## 1961

### REUNION YEAR 50<sup>TH</sup>

**Emma Bragdon** writes, "I am enjoying two grandchildren (ages 3 and 6); also traveling and writing. My next book, *Spiritism and Mental Health: Practices from Spiritist Centers and Spiritist Psychiatric Hospitals in Brazil*, will be published by Jessica Kingsley Publishers in the fall of 2011. This is the third book I have written about Brazilian Spiritism. I have been enjoying spending three to six months a year in Brazil since 2001."

## 1962

### Class Correspondent

Deborah Johansen Harris  
30 Anderson Ave.  
Holden, MA 01520

**Deborah Johansen Harris** writes, "I am celebrating a grandchild, the daughter of my birth-daughter, Robin, who lives with her husband near Atlanta. Kate, now 3, is an absolute delight, and I feel blessed that Robin is in my life. Otherwise, I'm in that limbo of wondering whether to hang up my high heels and

retire early to write poetry and fiction or keep looking for a full-time job. Having been unemployed for almost three years, it's a bit daunting to forge out into the high-pressure professional world. My most recent position was Director of Communications at the Harvard University Graduate School of Design — a job I had held for three years. Meanwhile, I also enjoy watercolor painting, writing, gardening and mentoring a group in my church in Education for Ministry. Ted and I traveled to Egypt and Jerusalem last year. Ted is a retired Episcopal priest who taught clerical pastoral education at Beth Israel Hospital in Boston. I loved catching up with many of you by phone and email and hope that our other classmates, who were not able to respond to my call for news, will contribute to the next *Term*. Please keep in touch!"

**Wendy Wisner Hazard** writes, "I live with husband Bruce on a farm in Belgrade, ME. Our children are grown, and our four grandsons are a great joy. I am a history professor at the University of Maine at Augusta. My love of history was ignited early on at Potomac by Ms. Moffat and Ms. Seamans, whose creative energies made history live in class, in plays, in tapestry-weaving and medieval shield designing! They were and continue to be such an inspiration."

**Rachel Kitzinger** is in her last year as Dean of Planning and Academic Affairs at Vassar College, with plans for a phased retirement through the spring of 2012. She has two grandchildren and a third one on the way. "I hope to spend more time in Ireland, where we have a cottage on the West Coast, and to create a life without plans," she reports. "I also see **Nina Nitze Moriarty** as often as I can."

**Bobbi Lanahan** has been busy creating animations, the first of which is titled "The Naked Hitchhiker." This 30-minute animation has been shown at film festivals. The second, "One Alcoholic to Another," might be included in the upcoming film *The Vermont Movie: Freedom and Unity*. "The founders of AA were from Vermont," she notes. Bobbie has three children and two grandchildren.

**Deena Breed Larlee** loves the bike business that she and husband Howard have owned for some years. They got away for a great trip last fall to ME, Cape Cod and elsewhere. A high point of the trip was trying to tour Washington, DC, when they inadvertently got caught in the crush during *Daily Show* host Jon Stewart's Rally to Restore Sanity, which drew a quarter of a million marchers. So much for touring the sites!

**Katherine Marshall** writes, "I'm teaching and am a Senior Fellow at Berkley Center for Religion, Peace, and World Affairs. I also run a small nongovernmental organization. If you are ever interested in what I'm up to, I write every week for the



**Deborah Johansen Harris '62** with husband Ted, birth-daughter Robin, granddaughter Kate and Robin's husband, Scott



**Louise McVickar Marx '62** and family

*Washington Post On Faith* website: [http://onfaith.washingtonpost.com/onfaith/georgetown/faith\\_in\\_action/](http://onfaith.washingtonpost.com/onfaith/georgetown/faith_in_action/). My daughter, Laura, is getting married in May; my son, Patrick, is at Colby College."

**Louise McVickar Marx** has a married daughter in Amsterdam, a son in Wellesley, MA — and six grandsons! She and her husband spend summers at their place on Chappaquiddick, Martha's Vineyard. She enjoys playing golf, bridge and tennis and also gardening at home in Washington, DC.

**Carol Mattusch** has a new book coming out this fall. She provided the introduction, translation and commentary for J. J. Winckelmann's *Letter and Report on the Discoveries at Herculaneum*. The book will be published by J. Paul Getty Museum.

**Liz Murray Platts** writes, "Life in Washington is always interesting, with old friends coming through town, as well as many opportunities to meet new people." She has settled into part-time work at Maret School, where she used to teach. She enjoys bridge, decoupage and pastel portraiture. Her husband, Greg, has just started a part-time work schedule after almost 30 years at National Geographic, so they are hoping to indulge in more travel. Their oldest son works and lives in Seattle, WA, but he visits DC often. Their youngest son married last summer, and he and his wife are halfway through Ph.D. programs in Medieval Art History. She loves to see Potomac classmates — most recently, **Carol Eakin-Burdette, Debby Fort, Anne Darneille Snodgrass and Peak Mason Power.**

**Mimi Merrill Russell's** oldest daughter, Rachel, just had twins. Her other daughter, Katy, who has a baby due in June, works at the Massachusetts College of Art in Boston. Son Daniel is in CA teaching special education. Husband John works at REI. She devotes time to volunteering and taking care of (and now trying to cut back) "a huge garden."

**Chip Wood** writes, "I've been teaching and advising the local government here in Nanjing for five years now, and quite like it. The local government has given me local Sino-ambassadorial status; perhaps because one of my students got early

admittance to Yale with a full scholarship. Not all but some of the students here learn like rocket ships blasting off. The key here is to get them to want it and love it. Hope all is well back there. Happy New Year."



**Chip Wood '62** in Nanjing, China

## 1963

### Class Correspondents

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**Anne Williams**  
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**Marisa Knowlton Domeyko** retired from National Geographic after 28 years in 2008. She took the Master Gardener Volunteer Training Program through the Virginia Cooperative Extension Office last year and is now beginning to participate in community activities. She ran into **Zan Smith Thomas** at a Landscape Management Seminar in Charlottesville in February!

**Wendy Neel Ellsworth** writes, "I just returned from my fifth trip to Kenya to teach beading designs to Maasai and Samburu women. I now have a nonprofit called the Umoja Uaso Women's Fund, Inc. that supports the Umoja Uaso Woman's Group of Samburu in northern Kenya. Check out [www.umojabeadedjewelry.com](http://www.umojabeadedjewelry.com) for more information."



**Barbie Franklin '63**

**Barbie Franklin** writes, "The most exciting event around here besides being in AA 12-Step recovery with 11 years sober is that I expect my 32-year-old son, Benny Adam, and his wife, Eirin, for a summer visit from Oslo! It's been four years since I've seen him and seven since I've seen her. I talk to **Perrin Dulany Pease** and see **Zan Smith Thomas** and **Wendy Neel Ellsworth.**"

**Harriet Sweeney Fraunfelter** and her husband Eric split their time between London and their wonderful little house in France. Harriet travels all over England with the Farrier's Guild as their Recording Secretary.

**Maria Franco Granquist** and Charles spent six weeks at the American Academy in Rome last fall and enjoyed a rendez-

**Wendy Millar Phillips** writes, "Our youngest son will graduate from Middlebury in May, and then we will not have anyone in school for the first time in 32 years! However, I will always be a student. I am continuing to take Spanish classes, do exercise of various sorts and have more time to read. We look forward to visits with our sons and their families. My husband and I enjoy splitting our time between NYC and East Hampton and, happily, are picking up our travel a bit. I would love to see classmates anytime!"



**Leni Chapman Preston '63** dines with daughter **Caroline Preston '98.**

**Leni Chapman Preston** writes, "Health care reform has taken over my life with the Maryland Women's Coalition. I have little time for anything else, but it is extremely gratifying to work with a statewide coalition of women's organizations and to prove that 'women get things done' — something we all learned at Potomac. **Edmund '57** and I are looking forward to a 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration with Maria and her



**Amanda Kreglow '63** (third from left) and her dance troupe

vous with **Sharon Collins Park**, who was there for an International Council on Monuments and Sites conference. Maria and Charles' kids met them in Paris in November where they spent a festive Thanksgiving.

**Amanda Kreglow** writes that after a very successful "Amanda Kreglow Presents Dance by SoCo Dance Theater" annual concert, she said a teary goodbye to her dancers and choreographers in northern CA as she moved to Vancouver, BC. Check out [www.AmandaKreglowProductions.com](http://www.AmandaKreglowProductions.com) for video and photos of the concert.

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husband, Charles, sometime in the spring. Meanwhile our younger generation is thriving. **Caroline '98** is a journalist with the Chronicle of Philanthropy and lives in DC. Daughter Erica and my two grandsons aren't so close unfortunately, but we love our reunions on Lake Champlain each summer. Potomac friends are welcome."

**Edie Warner** and **Anne Williams** have had several visits lately. Anne is still doing international consulting work in women's entrepreneurship, youth and technology. During the past 12 months, she has worked in Afghanistan, Iraq, Turkey, Lebanon, Egypt and Sudan. Her daughter Amanda now lives in San Antonio, TX. She writes, "It's been fun to explore the beautiful Hill Country."

## 1964

### Class Correspondent

Alison Peake  
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alidee1@aol.com

**Elizabeth Dickerson Sinclair** writes, "Hello to all. Last year, a great local artist and I self-published a small book of my poems and her gorgeous oil paintings: *Divinely by the Dozen: Heaven's Flowers for You and Your Children*. It makes a lovely gift book for non-atheists. If interested, please email me at scoutv@aol.com. Or you can buy it locally in Washington, DC, at *Politics and Prose*. Thanks. I'm always looking for great illustrators and still selling real estate for Georgetown Long & Foster. My four 'chips' (Andrew, Alex, David, Kate Earls) are fine in NYC and San Francisco. Of course I think often of Potomac, Jack Langstaff and his musical miracles for us. It's wonderful getting together with **Jennifer Owen Murphy** and **Helen Angleton Khalsa**, but we miss the rest of you."

## 1965

**From the archives:** In 1965 the first coeducational class graduated from the ninth grade.

## 1966

### REUNION YEAR 45<sup>TH</sup>

**From the archives:** In 1966 Peg Jennes was editor of the yearbook.

## 1967

### Class Correspondent

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potomac67@gmail.com

**John Wolf** writes, "In January 2010 I realized a longtime dream and moved to South Wellfleet, MA, on the outer reaches of Cape Cod. My son Alex having graduated from Regis University and begun a career



John Wolf '67 aboard GALA VI in late fall 2010

as an intensive-care nurse in the main city hospital in Denver, I felt free to leave St. Louis after 23 years and put down roots where I grew up spending summers. I realized another dream as well — acquiring my Coast Guard 50-ton Master's license. I continue to perform on trombone and other low brass with a variety of bands as I did in St. Louis, including occasional gigs with Roomful of Blues, a band that has set a record for longevity second only to The Rolling Stones — 43 years and counting. I have also gone into business for myself as what can best be described as a 'multifaceted mechanic' — commercial refrigeration/restaurant equipment repair, HVAC, oil burner service, marine diesel and refrigeration repair, etc. Not unlike what I did in the Midwest, just more varied — it's expensive up here! I will, beginning this summer, also be running day charters on my vintage 1970 Marshall 18 catboat, GALA VI, in between service calls and music jobs. This definitely is not a retirement plan! I'm in regular touch with **Tom Macy '67**, who is now on Nantucket for much of the year, and with **Maria (Moosie) Chavchavadze '68**, who lives about a mile from me and whose house, like mine, abuts picturesque Blackfish Creek. Though I lost my Dad in '06 (at 94), I'm preparing to visit Mom on the occasion of her 89<sup>th</sup> birthday — still sharp as a tack! Brother **Steve '69** and **Andy '72** are blazing trails in the medical profession, and sister Sal recently moved to lovely Ashburn — unbelievably, now a DC suburb! If any of you from the classes of '67-'68 should happen to visit Cape Cod, by all means get in touch and visit! You can email me at johnwolf@bonehenge.com or call me at (508) 214-0176. Don't be shy! I'm also on Facebook, for better or worse..."

## 1968

**Barry Davis** has left Time Warner after 32 year to become Senior Advertising Manager at William Kristol's *The Weekly Standard*.

**Peggy Gill Schaake** writes, "My husband David and I are about to embark on our

second trip to the Bahamas on our sailboat. We will tour many of the islands for the next several months and then return to the U.S. and slowly go north up the East Coast toward Annapolis. If anyone is thinking of doing something similar, please contact me if you want hints on this kind of traveling. There is a lot to learn."

## 1969

### Class Correspondent

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## 1970

### Class Correspondent and Class Agent

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**Nimmie Addison Huber** writes, "How fun to hear from you and other Potomac classmates. I moved to VT, where Don and I own the Sinclair Inn B&B in Jericho. We have had a fun and very interesting time learning the ins and outs of running a successful small hotel. VT is a terrific place to be. We are near the University of Vermont and Burlington, so we get lots of interesting people. The inn keeps us busy, but we do have time to explore. **Peggy Moorhead Williams**, **Winkie Hamilton Bierbower** and several other Potomac folks have already stayed with us. Check out our website, and let me know if you are ever in the area so we can welcome you to the inn: [www.sinclairinnbb.com](http://www.sinclairinnbb.com). After having said that, we do have the inn up for sale, as we are hoping to move on to the next adventure now that all three kids are out of college and on their own."

**Marion Lowry** writes, "The last year or so has been a great time of reconnecting: lunch with **Sarah Bucknell Treco** in NYC, a few dinners chez **Sarah Meeker**

**Jensen** here in Santa Monica, and a Facebook chat with **Jeremy Gordon '68** [brother of **Sam Gordon**]. I'm still riding and competing (my horse was champion this week at Thermal). After a whirlwind of change last year, I'm in a new position now at Robb Report Magazine. Cheers from LA."

**Jane McAllister** writes, "Errata! You may have missed my news in the last *Term* (Fall 2010) because it was inadvertently placed with **Jeremy Gordon's** name in the class of 1968. It was strange to read as Jeremy's news, 'I am still living in McLean, enjoying freelance editing projects and staying involved in Potomac through my son, Max, who will be in eighth grade there.' That, indeed, sounded very much like me — because it is! Max has been enjoying Potomac's Intermediate School, made particularly special this year for his role as Tevye in the *IS Fiddler on the Roof, Jr.* He and fellow cast members did a superb job, and it was a joy all around. I had the fun of seeing **Dana Strong van Loon** recently, when she was able to stop by my house for lunch. With her eldest daughter at American University, we're hoping we'll have more such opportunities. On behalf of the class of 1970, I send condolences to **Duncan Krieger** and his sister, **Claudia Krieger '72**, whose mother passed away in August 2010."

## 1971

### REUNION YEAR 40<sup>TH</sup>

Class Correspondent  
Anne Edgeworth  
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**Ann Edgeworth** writes, "I have been working on HBO projects for the last two years: *In Treatment* and *Boardwalk Empire*. I just started work on the film version of *Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close*. We took a wonderful trip to Portugal last fall — inexpensive and some of the nicest people I have ever met." Also, she reports that **Joan "Palmer" Hill** passed away in September 2010 from complications related to multiple sclerosis. Her mother, **Joan Milligan Hunt**, taught art at Potomac in the 1960s. Palmer graduated from Madeira in 1974, attended Stanford and George Washington and graduated from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She had worked as a reporter in North Carolina; Boston; and Sydney, Australia. Palmer had entered the U.S. Foreign Service and was studying Arabic when she became ill. She returned to North Carolina and began painting full time. As her disease progressed, she lost use of her arms and used a brush in her mouth to continue making art. She is survived by her parents, brother, step-brother and nephew. We send our thoughts out to all who knew and loved her.

**Jane Hanson** is living in ID and working as a welder/machinist for a metal furniture manufacturing corporation. Her only child, David John Hanson, was deployed to Iraq last August. He is a 50-caliber gunner on a "Rhino" escort. She adds that she "doesn't have much but is grateful for what she has" and sends her warmest regards to all.

## 1972

### Class Correspondents

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A new LEED Platinum house completed by **Lewis W. Butler's '72** company, Butler Armsden Architects

**Lewis W. Butler** writes, "Recently our architecture firm, Butler Armsden Architects, completed a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Platinum house in Marin County just across the Golden Gate Bridge from San Francisco. LEED Platinum is the highest ranking that one can achieve for an energy-efficient house, and this house might even be at the top of the Platinum scale in terms of points scored in energy conservation. The house features photo voltaic panels, recycled materials, water reuse, sustainable landscaping and just about every other energy conservation/healthy building measure that one can take."

## 1973

### Class Correspondent

Liza Gookin Hodskins  
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**Chrissy Albert Carnes** writes, "Life is grand here. I work part time and play the

rest, training dogs and two pigs that can get to be 400 pounds (enormous fun!) on my farm and building stuff (a bridge over my pond). In the summers I try to take the grandchildren on local trips. Ten years after his heart attack, my husband seems okay. Yay! My sons are established in their lives, and daughter Jess graduates with an accounting degree from college this May."

**Alexandra B. Harvey** writes, "Not too much has changed for me. I'm still practicing law in Boston, but I've cut back my hours a bit and have gotten involved with some nonprofits. I am just finishing up the presidency of one board, which has been a great experience, albeit a lot of work. My kids are 12 and 14. (It's hard to believe that I have a daughter in high school.) Both kids are three-season athletes, so our lives are an endless cycle of driving to sports practices and games."

husband works in the local port driving a pilot vessel. He is an avid windsurfer, and I am a not so avid one. Our son is a keen kitesurfer, so we have some good fun here in the tropics."

"As for me, **Liza Gookin Hodskins**, since the last issue, things have been pretty much the same, plus: I was in a flash mob dance (to "Mama Mia"); took a cheap new bus to NYC just to catch *The Pee Wee Herman Show* (I'm a big fan), but also to sing in a piano bar and visit my sister Allison, her son and his new fiancée; and went with Steve to New Orleans for the first time in 24/36 years, respectively, for a long weekend and did just about everything we should have (and some we shouldn't!). Thanks to those of you who responded to my pleas for info. For those who haven't, if you 'friend' me on Facebook and update me, you can contact the other '73 people I have. (Classmates only, please.) There are many people whose contact info has been lost along the way, so each time I will ask for your help finding some classmates. This time, we'll start internationally: anyone know how to reach **Anthony Mitchell** or **Paolo Pettrigiani**?"

**John Chester, Isabelle '77** and **Charlie '81** lost their father last summer. John writes, "I miss his warmth and humor and continue to hear about what an effect he had on people. He was always a big supporter of Potomac. Next year will be the first in many that I will have no relatives (nieces, nephews, cousins) at Potomac. Tommy (22) is at Augsburg College in Minneapolis, and David (18) is at St. Paul's School. Laurie and I are groupies of David's hockey team. I also play a kinder, gentler version of hockey (see [www.woodieshockey.com](http://www.woodieshockey.com)). Our art publishing company, Wild Apple Graphics, has survived and was recently cited as one of the Best Places to Work in Vermont."

**Victoria Hand** was back in town for a few weeks to oversee repairs to her house in McLean. They had a fire this winter, so she was busy with repairs after having to move everything out of most of the house.

**Sara Carr Karas** is married and works at Lynchburg City Schools/E.C. Glass High School in VA. She performs (voice, recorder, crumhorn) with Otter's Court, a Medieval and Renaissance music ensemble.

**Ellen McLaughlin** writes, "I'm still living and working in New York, mostly in the theater. I've been teaching playwriting at Barnard since 1995, but spend an awful lot of time on the road even so. This fall, I had the great pleasure of getting another whack, this time at Yale Repertory Theatre, in the extraordinary role of Claire in Albee's *A Delicate Balance*. The first time I did it was at Arena Stage right after the inauguration, a great time to be back in DC, and it gave me the opportunity to see some old friends, including the indomitable Imogen Rose, my beloved former Latin teacher. I've been working with the New York company Ripe Time on my own adaptation of Woolf's *Mrs. Dalloway* entitled *Septimus and Clarissa*, and it will

be mounted Off-Broadway in October. But before that, I'll be down in NC at Playmakers' Repertory acting in Didion's *The Year of Magical Thinking* — an hour-and-40-minute monologue I should probably be memorizing right this minute rather than writing this. I'm delighted to report that my husband Rinde Eckert was nominated for a Grammy for best classical album of the year. He wrote the libretto for a new oratorio called *Dream House* and sang it with the Boston Modern Orchestra Project. We thought we might as well go out to LA and sample the weirdness. Quite a scene — remarkable if only for the sight of the many women hobbling around, all of us martyred by our own shoes. But we got to meet Herbie Hancock and Neil Young and grapple firsthand with the continuing mystery that is Lady Gaga's appeal. (Can someone explain this to me?) Rinde didn't expect to win — he was up against not only the entire world but 500 years of classical music and a rather impressive roster of dead guys. When he lost, it was to Verdi, for God's sake, who's rather good, really, so he didn't feel too bad."

**Diana Morgan** writes that she "left the corporate world last summer to study at Wesley Theological Seminary in DC and at yoga schools here and in LA. I am also writing for *Washingtonian Magazine* and hoping to teach yoga. My blog, [www.lionsbreathyoga.com](http://www.lionsbreathyoga.com), should be up and running by the spring issue. My son Julian graduated from Johns Hopkins last summer and is working at the University of Chicago in their cognitive science laboratory. Daughter Camilla is studying English and film at Lawrence University in WI."

**Louise Putnam** writes, "Well, I have more news to report than will fit in the class notes section — so the shortest version is: 22-year-old daughter, Jenny, working in Charlottesville after graduating from University of Virginia in three and a half years; 20 year-old son, Nick, in second year at James Madison University in Harrisonburg (yay for the second in-state tuition), bio major, Fiji frat brother; 16-year-old daughter, Sarah, in junior year of high school at Middlesex School in Concord, MA, and starting the final college search. Since moving to Boston after my mother's

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death, I got a new apartment, a new job and a new(ish) beau, all in a new town. She would be proud of me — she never was one for taking baby steps! I started a job at the University of Massachusetts Boston at the end of September 2010 and am just beginning to come up for air. I live in an apartment in town and, after 30 years of living in the country, have taken to city life like duck to water — particularly as I didn't have to shovel any of the 6 feet of snow that fell here so far this winter. I missed **Nancy White's** open house in Concord before Christmas, but hope to cross paths with her and **Channing Page** at some point in the near future. Anyone else in Boston want to go out for dinner some night? I'm looking for entertainment after work!"

**Charles L. Spalding** writes, "Amid the remarkable times that we are living in because of the financial crisis of past years and now the turmoil in the Middle East, I am pleased to say that we are well down here in Costa Rica. Our son, Christopher, is to graduate Elon University this May and will set off on his path, and our daughter, Stephanie, will graduate from high school here next year and plans to head up to the U.S. or Europe to continue on with her studies. At the same time, Patricia and I graduated from and both received our latest post-graduate degrees in 25 years of marriage and gifted ourselves a wonderful trip to Paris, Lyon and Geneva last fall!"

## 1974

**From the archives:** In 1974 the swimming pool was constructed, and the summer camp was expanded.

## 1975

### Class Correspondents

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**From the archives:** In 1975 Irving Seeley retired after 30 years at Potomac.

## 1976

### REUNION YEAR 35<sup>TH</sup>

**Tony Poole** lives in Arlington, VA, with his wife Elizabeth and twin daughters, Alison and Natalie. The winter has been consumed with the girls' soccer and basketball games and rehearsals for the musical *Godspell* to be held in early March — the music brings back memories of fourth grade at Potomac when *Godspell* first hit the stage. This July he will direct a conference on banknote technology ([www.banknoteconference.com](http://www.banknoteconference.com)) hosting 600 government and industry delegates from nearly 70 countries for four days in

Washington, DC. He is looking forward to reconnecting with long lost classmates of 35 years ago in April.

**Adam Randolph** writes, "I just had the most wonderful tour of the campus with the Director of Alumni Relations, Laura Miller. I had not been on campus since 1973. What a place! WOW! I was absolutely blown away, but more importantly I was filled with gratitude that the spirit of The Potomac School has not only survived but thrived into this century. I moved back to Washington about a year and a half ago. It has been great being back here. Ironically I live half a block from where Joe the Bus Driver used to rumble down the hill to the canal to cross Chain Bridge every morning. I have started in private practice as a therapist; something that I love that also allows me to continue in my career as an oil painter. It's good to be home!"

## 1977

### Class Correspondent

Wendy Arundel  
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**Wendy Arundel** reports, "My father died in February. He leaves a giant void in our family and the community. Dad packed at least 10 lives into the one he was given. I am grateful for supportive emails from classmates, especially **Rob Mathias**, who lost his dad last year. Condolences also to **Ptolemy**, whose mother passed away the same week my father died. I am putting my Sherborn house on the market and moving back to VA."

**Dawn Renzy Bellinger** writes, "It's been a busy year for the Bellingers. John is enjoying private practice more than I think he thought he would and is still traveling quite a bit around the world as a senior fellow for the Council on Foreign Relations as well as for his private international law practice. I've been enjoying not working for pay for the first time in many years and have been riding more and traveling with John, and have even taken up yoga. I'm also teaching myself Web design with the thought of launching a home-based business in 2012. Our oldest daughter is a junior at Princeton following in her father's footsteps in the Woodrow Wilson School of Public Policy with a feverish passion and seeming talent for education reform. Our youngest daughter is taking a gap year before heading north to Tufts to pursue her passion of eventing. She's a working student for Kelli Temple, an Olympic three-day event rider from Round Hill, VA. John and I have an empty nest for the first time in 20 years, and (we have to whisper this part) we're loving it!"

**Laurence (IV) Hewes** writes, "More races, more dogs. Money and wife-to-be still elusive. I welcome all alums to visit: snow's great; forests, rivers and coasts beckon. I want an IT strategy, software

design, race event production or enterprise mobile app design job in a big city, so would love help from your networks."

**Sara Faulkner Maley** writes, "2010 was a year with ups and downs, but as I grow older I tend to go with the flow a little more easily. My 22-year-old came home from college and landed a wonderful job as a professional whipper-in for the Rolling Rock Hunt in Ligonier, PA. Her house is bigger than mine (go figure). My 19-year-old joined the Navy and is about to start boot camp. My 11-year-old now attends Wakefield Country Day in Huntley, VA, and loves it. I'm still a vision therapist, and my husband Donnie is a farrier and whipper-in for the Thornton Hill Hounds. We live in gorgeous Rappahannock County, VA."

**Cass Field Powell** writes, "2010 was an interesting year. I was laid off in September (for the second time in two years). I had been working as a dispatcher for the grocery delivery company Peapod, which was always interesting, fast paced, stressful and fun. It was also exhausting and didn't pay all that well. Getting laid off turned out to be a blessing in disguise. It gave me the opportunity to spend lots of quality time with my daughters: helping them with

alumni as 'friends' on Facebook, and I enjoy keeping in touch with them. Hope all my fellow classmates are doing well."

**David Spalding** writes, "I am getting a lot of mail from AARP! Yikes!"

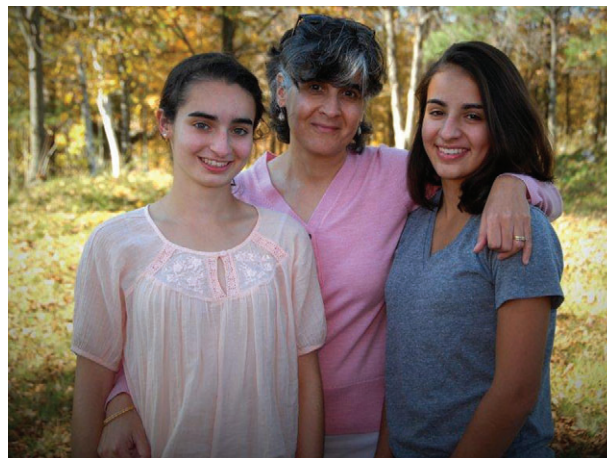
## 1978

### Class Correspondent

Julia Twiname Warder  
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jtwarder@cox.net

**Chuck Day** writes, "I live in Atlanta, GA, where I operate my IT company, Data Systems and Games, Inc. (DS&G). DS&G has operated the backup data center for the Georgia Lottery for the past 17 years. However, I am often in Washington, DC, and I remain friends with **Dr. Ramin Oskoui**. In fact, Ramin is my cardiologist. For the last five years, Ramin and I find time every April to go to NYC for the Tribeca Film Festival. Ramin has a great family, and when I am in DC you can often find me at his house sipping on margaritas and playing with his two lovely daughters!"

**Sally Anne Epstein** moved back to the DC area two and a half years ago. "I had been away for 20 years (nine in Memphis



**Nina Regan '78** (center) with daughters **Nina '12** (left) and **Anna '14** (right)

their homework, walking them to and from school/the bus stop, volunteering at their schools, etc. I was also able to enjoy the beautiful fall weather, make some new friends, walk and work out a lot and catch up on my sleep for the first time in years. In November, I started working at UPS for the holiday season as a driver's helper (I was the one delivering the packages, jumping on and off the truck, running up driveways, sidewalks and stairs....talk about a great work out!). It was lots of fun, and I now have tremendous respect for the guys (and gals) who do that for a living. Just before Christmas, I found a new job at a wonderful small company up in Columbia, MD. The UPS job ended on Christmas Eve, and I was able to enjoy the holidays with my husband and girls before starting my new job in January. I have lots of Potomac

and 11 in Montana), and all I can say is, 'My, how it's grown!' Though we still miss the Big Sky, we have really enjoyed all of the opportunities the DC area has to offer. I have run into a number of old Potomacites around town and have reconnected with **Lola Singletary** and am very proud of her work heading up the Alumni Governing Council."

Two classmates have returned to the DC area with their families. **Brian Homet** is back "after spending a wonderful 18 months living and working in the Netherlands. With our youngest turning 13 this month, we are now riding the waves of three teenagers!" **Tim Gould** has also returned to the area. He has his hands full, as each of his kids play three sports all in the same season.

**Byron Hope** writes that all is quiet on his home front and that he is blessed with two granddaughters and Byron Hope IV. "I saw **Ramin** a couple of months ago. He is looking happy and well. I am also starting to count down the days before retirement: 32 months, three days and, at the time of this writing, three hours and 40 minutes!"

**Sarah Willens Kass** writes, "I teach eighth grade English at Westland Middle School in Montgomery County. I have been teaching for over 20 years now, and I credit Potomac teachers like Mrs. Parker, **Mr. Rollings '62** and Mrs. Goldbeck with inspiring me to choose this work. My second oldest son Elliot went off to college this fall, following his brother Jacob out west to beautiful California. They are students at Occidental College and Claremont McKenna College, respectively. Still at home, gracefully enduring close parental scrutiny, is 12-year-old daughter Valerie. She is an applicant to Potomac for eighth grade, so we have our fingers crossed! My husband, Mark, continues to practice business law. His focus is on high-tech and biotech start-ups, with a particular interest in Israeli companies."

**Wendell Miles** writes, "We are in the thick of applying to schools for Temple, now a five year old at National Child Research Center preschool. I am happy to say that the new Lower School at Potomac is something to behold! Sad to hear the complaint from current little ones riding the bus that the older kids are all plugged into their iPods. Juliana, at two and a half, is trying hard to keep up with Temple, and they are both keeping Ann and I on our toes! Here's hoping we can get the greater-DC classmates together this summer for a BBQ!"

**Nina Howard Regan** writes, "My husband, Bill, and I continue to try to adapt as our daughters (Emma, 16, and Anna, 15) make their way through the teenage years. They are both loving their time at Potomac, and we are most grateful."

**Julie Twiname Warder** had a "more challenging year" with her husband, Laurie, working in China. He was working with the Chinese Tennis Federation and their Professional Women Players. "It was very trying for my twins (age 9) and my 13-year-old son. It just made me think of how much harder it would be for families of our troops. I am grateful for their sacrifices. I have been way too busy for a 'stay-at-home mom,' volunteering as president of the school's parent organization and teaching Sunday school. It has been my way to get my dose of working with young children and some intellectual stimulation, but I am looking forward to resigning from the parent organization in May."

"Hello and best wishes to all" from **Hil-dreth Willson**. "My husband is learning the banjo; the kids are amazing; the backyard now boasts a pétanque court; and I am taking a long-awaited break from full-time work. I am volunteering in the kids' classrooms for the first time ever and am trying to think how to restructure life to

continue at this more restful pace by combining it with part-time work. Schwab has been great, but being home for a bit feels even better! Loving this interval until I decide what's next. Last but not least, I am still singing with the California Revels. That always feels good."

## 1979

### Class Correspondent

Speke Wilson  
7309 University Ave.  
Glen Echo, MD 20812  
(301) 320-2331  
spekew@comcast.net

**Irene Howard Higginson** is living in Raleigh, NC, and enjoying her job as a realtor with the Allen Tate Company. Her three daughters are now 19 (and spending a Gap year in London, England), 16 and 12. Phil is working in Raleigh as the assistant head of institutional advancement for Ravenscroft School, a pre-K through 12<sup>th</sup>-grade school much like Potomac. She writes, "If you're moving *anywhere* or ever in the Raleigh area call me, and I'll refer you to a great Realtor."

**Bill Hoffmann** writes, "I have returned to the U.S. for a while after many years of living overseas. I had the chance to do some subbing and bus driving at Potomac this past fall, and it was great to connect with the school again! I am now up near Albany, NY, to be nearer to my partner Donna's family. Her folks have some health concerns, and it is good to be close by! We hope to return to overseas teaching in a year or so! Also: If you are on Facebook and I have not had a chance to share our class page with you, please let me know and I will be happy to do that! All the best to you all!"

## 1980

### Class Correspondent

Chase Bradley  
33 Village Dr.  
East Lyme, CT 06333  
(860) 739-5754  
chasejeanb@aol.com

**From the archives:** In the spring of 1980, students celebrated the school's 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary at an assembly with a cake big enough for the whole school to have a piece.

## 1981

### REUNION YEAR 30<sup>TH</sup>

### Class Correspondent

Julia Smith Lam  
72 Maddex Farm Rd.  
Shepherdstown, WV 25443  
(304) 876-8475  
lamj@mail.nih.gov

**John Arundel** lives in Alexandria, VA, where he is married to Christine Arundel and lives with two lively and beautiful kids, William (8) and Amelia (2). He enjoys his job as associate publisher at *Washington Life* magazine, where he recently



John Arundel '81 and wife Christine

returned from a journalistic exchange trip to Beijing and Shanghai, and where he hosted events last year for the magazine honoring Morgan Freeman, Woody Harrelson, Oliver Stone and Anna Kournikova. He writes, "In February, I was saddened by the loss of my dad, Arthur W. Arundel, a real life force in northern VA, and a long-time booster of The Potomac School."

**Kim Dryfoos Carmody** writes, "I am still living in Olney, MD, with my husband, Mike, and daughters, Erin (10) and Megan (7). I am working for an environmental management firm and trying to stay on top of our kids' schedules! Both girls are playing lacrosse, and I coached my youngest's instructional team last year, which was a lot of fun."

**Charlie Chester** writes, "Despite raising three kids (Sam, Caleb and Sophia) and teaching environmental policy at Brandeis and Tufts Universities, I'm still spending most of my days thinking about ice cream. Some things never change."

**Carole Kennedy Hooven** writes, "After graduating from Potomac, I moved back home to Weston, MA, to finish high school. I graduated from Antioch College in 1984 and worked in a start-up in the financial software industry for about 12 years. I was not really passionate about my career, so I quit, went to Uganda to research chimpanzees, then got a Ph.D. at Harvard in biological anthropology. I now teach about hormones and behavior in the human evolutionary biology department at Harvard. I feel lucky to have a job I love. I live in Cambridge, MA, with Alex and our son Griffin (born in February 2009). I also feel lucky to have a family I love."

## 1982

**From the archives:** In 1982, the Arundel Family Library was dedicated.

## 1983

### Class Correspondent

Jennifer T. Webber  
8 Plymouth Rd.  
South Portland, ME 04106  
(207) 774-2206  
jwebber3@maine.rr.com

**Peter Hamady** writes, "I live in downtown Palo Alto, CA, with my dog, Finn. I moved here for a program at Stanford in

2004 and have been involved in fitness-related start-ups ever since. I spend time in the summer in Northern Michigan, DC and NYC visiting family and friends."

**Renée Lettow Lerner** writes, "I'm leading a heavily and happily Potomac life these days. Craig's and my two older children, Anna (8) in third grade and Elias (6) in first grade, are going to Potomac and loving it. At the beginning of last school year, we moved to Evermay, a few blocks from where I grew up, so Anna and Elias walk to school. Anna is in the same class as **GINNA YOUNG-NEWTON's '83** daughter Kate, **PRENTISS VALLENDER LAY's '85** daughter Caroline, and **ENRICO CECCHI's '85** son Enrico. Maria (3) keeps us all on our toes. Craig and I are both academics: Craig at George Mason Law School, where he's associate dean, and I at George Washington Law School. The children think everyone goes to school all their lives. I teach criminal procedure, legal history and comparative law. I've co-authored a frothy book called *History of the Common Law: The Development of Anglo-American Legal Institutions*. The older four of us are all taking piano lessons, with the children rapidly overtaking the parents, and Maria chimes in with various princess themes." Read about Renée's memories of Grandparents Day on page 33.

**Alison Kirk Long** writes, "In an attempt to keep up with my three boys and my husband, I play 'D' on The Mighty Moms Hockey team at the Chevy Chase Club with four other Potomac grads: **JEANNETTE MATHESSON LUSSI '79**, **BARBARA PARROT KATZ '74**, **PRENTISS VALLENDER LAY '85** and **SALLY EWING SAGARESE '85**. When not on the ice, I work for Bethesda Lacrosse; play tennis; and drive my three boys to hockey, lacrosse, tennis, piano and guitar. So much for finding time to write that novel."

**Mallory Archer Samson** writes, "My husband Bill, our three kids, Calvin (13), Spencer (11) and Gigi (9), and I moved to Chicago from Philadelphia in April 2010. We live in a suburb called Glen Ellyn and have adapted to Midwestern life pretty quickly. I am now the Global Knowledge Manager for the Financial Officers Practice at Heidrick & Struggles — and still just as crazy as ever. However, my daughter is a little mini-me, so I have my hands full. She just started singing with a group, so the house is full of music. We

## Send Us Your Notes!

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don't get back to DC often, unfortunately. It is fun to see so many classmates on Facebook and to see how everyone is doing."

**Peter Swayze** writes, "I am living in Chicago on the north side where it is currently very snowy. I am a writer and a teacher and am finishing a master's in teaching English as a second language. My wife and I lived and worked in China from 2007 to 2008, and hope to return to Asia for further adventures."

**Jennifer Webber** writes, "I am still in Maine running my own communications consulting business. I do a lot of political work, which I love. I live very near my brother, **John Webber '82**, and my sister, **Sarah Webber Bischoff '84**, so I see them often. It was great to hear from so many classmates. If you did not hear from me, please send me your email address (jwebber3@maine.rr.com) so I can include you next time!"

## 1984

### Class Correspondent

James Quigley  
5143 Macomb St., NW  
Washington, DC 20016  
jsquigley@gmail.com

**From the archives:** In 1984 Nancy Camp retired after 25 years at Potomac.

## 1985

How will unrest in Africa affect tourism? Find out what Mozambique resident and kitesurfer **Andrew Hebler** thinks on page 9.

## 1986

### REUNION YEAR 25<sup>TH</sup>

### Class Correspondent

Holly Green Gordon  
203 W. 102nd St., Apt. 4F  
New York, NY 10025  
(212) 665-6655  
gordon.holly@gmail.com

**Syed Masood** is now a lawyer and writer.

## 1987

**From the archives:** In 1987 the new Upper School opened with ninth and 10<sup>th</sup> graders.

## 1988

**From the archives:** In 1988 the Upper School performed *Anything Goes*.

## 1989

**From the archives:** In 1989 French teacher Chris Summerford retired.

## 1990

### Class Correspondent

Danielle Klemm Porak de Varna  
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Denver, CO 80202  
(202) 333-5350  
danielle@anasano.com



**Ricky Stokes '90** and wife **Monaz Stokes**

**Richard L. Stokes, IV** writes, "I am currently living in Atlanta building my wealth management practice in Atlanta, GA; Charleston, SC; and Washington, DC. I have two children. London, my daughter, is 4.5 years old and Logan, my son, is 20 months. My brother **Michael Stokes '90** lives in Atlanta as well. My sister, **Lee Stokes '82**, lives in Reston, VA.

## 1991

### REUNION YEAR 20<sup>TH</sup>

### Class Correspondent

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Seattle, WA 98103  
(206) 245-5129  
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### Class Agents

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Herndon, VA 20170  
703-572-7847  
jfstump@yahoo.com  
Tim Wisecarver  
5742 15th St. North  
Arlington, VA 22205  
(703) 790-9529  
twisecarver@qlarion.com

**Erika Melman** writes, "Our first child, Robert James Valentine Hohman (RJ for short), was born on October 3, 2010. He was 9 pounds, 12 ounces and 21.75 inches long, with a full head of hair. He is keeping his parents very busy! We are living in the Del Ray section of Alexandria, VA,



**Erika Melman '91** with husband, Robert Hohman, and their newest addition, Robert James Valentine Hohman

and love having a baby in such a family-friendly neighborhood.

## 1992

### Class Correspondent

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Alexandria, VA 22301  
ama.adams@bakerbotts.com

### Class Agents

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allybl@gvmail.gwu.edu

Jon-Claud Nix  
4117 W St., NW, Apt. 201  
Washington, DC 20007  
(808) 263-2512  
jcanix@gmail.com

**Abigail Nields Hillman** writes, "I live in Newton, MA, with my awesome husband, first grade twins and new baby boy. I work for myself as a private tutor after teaching high school history (yep, apple fell right under the tree). Hope everyone is well!"



Husband Scott, daughter Amelia (9), son Kelly (17), **Buckley Anne Kuhn Fricker '92** and son Elliot (3)

**Buckley Kuhn Frickler** writes, "I love the flexibility of running my small business, Buckley's for Seniors, LLC, and teaching at Northern Virginia Community College on retirement and elder care issues. We live in Reston, VA, and I am able to keep up with many Potomac friends via Facebook."

## 1993

**Austin Roeder Hamill** writes, "I am currently living in Jupiter, FL, with my husband and son and am a stay-at-home mom to our son, Carter, whom we adopted in November 2009, taking a break from my career as a high school guidance counselor. I have enjoyed catching up with old Potomac friends on Facebook and see **Lori Comparato D'Angelo** a lot, as she lives only 45 minutes away."



**Austin Roeder Hamill's '93** son Christopher

## 1994

### Class Correspondent

Lauren Banks Amos  
4207 Blagden Ave., NW  
Washington, DC 20011  
(571) 594-6053  
laurenbanksamos@gmail.com

### Class Agent



**Sandy Gentles '94** and family

Perry Aldige Shure  
2630 Centenary St.  
Houston, TX 77055  
perryshure@me.com

Laura and **Sandy Gentles** excitedly welcomed a baby girl to the family April 26. Sandy works for Eagle Hill Consulting, a management consulting firm that was recently awarded the 2011 U.S. Chamber of Commerce Blue Ribbon Small Business Award.

## 1995

## Class Correspondent

Erin Vagley  
649 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave., Apt. 3H  
New York, NY 10016  
(202) 215-3756

## Class Agent

George Wisecarver  
1222 Michigan Ct.  
Alexandria, VA 22314  
(571) 312-3028  
jodge22@hotmail.com

**Jessica Wright Baldenhofer** writes, "My husband, Craig, and I are back living in New York. I am working at The Museum of Modern Art (MoMA) overseeing school programs, and he is building his private practice in plastic and reconstructive surgery. We are living in the city and loving being back!"

**Antonia Blackwood** writes, "We welcomed our second son, Liam Alexander Grisard, in December. He joins big brother Austin. They enjoy play-dates with **Kim 'Jerro' McCorry's** sons, Jack and Peter. We also were busy last year with a move to a new home in Vienna, VA. In my spare time, I enjoy playing U.S. Tennis Association tennis and try to maintain a semblance of a career with part-time fundraising and marketing work."



**Meredith Bower '95** receives a kiss from husband, Newton Holt.

**Meredith L. Bower** married Newton Holt (East Carolina '96) on September 4, 2010, in Annapolis, MD. They met at work three years earlier, but Newton quickly changed jobs so they could see each other without breaking her "no dating colleagues" rule. They honeymooned for two weeks in New Zealand and reside with their two mutts in Northeast Washington, DC. Meredith is senior manager of membership for a large professional association (ASAE), and Newton is chief editor at the Institute of Transportation Engineers.

**Ben Jordan-Downs** and his wife celebrated the birth of their first child, a boy, on February 9 at 4:47 am. His name is Knox Campbell Jordan-Downs and was 6 pounds, 8 ounces and 19.5 inches at birth.

**Ana Koch-Weser Maloney** writes from her home in Germany, "I'm working in private practice as a clinical psychologist and

coach. And I have a lovely family: husband Sebastien and 3-year-old daughter Lea Sophia."

**Mary Nicholson Peacock** writes, "Husband Glen and I are enjoying life in McLean, where we have two young boys, ages 5 and 1. Glen Peacock is in commercial real estate, and I have opened up my own law firm called Burt & Peacock. Our boys keep us in giggles and just sane enough."

## 1996

REUNION YEAR 15<sup>TH</sup>

## Class Correspondent

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New York, NY 10012  
(202) 492-3398  
cpc297@stern.nyu.edu

## Class Agent

David Jankowsky  
2441 P St., NW  
Washington, DC 20007  
(202) 904-0158

A host of Potomac alumni (**Emily Andrews '98**, **Caroline Andrews MacDonald**, **Juliana Bennison '01**, **Elissa Brown '01**, **Tanner Campbell '95**, **William Clarkson**, **Chris Crampton**, **Kate Crampton Phillips '98**, **Stan Deland**, **Blair Farr Underwood**, **Seth Gaudreau**, **David Jankowsky**, **Will Lamson**, **James Maxwell**, **Bill Miller**, **Tom Serafin**, **Jamie Sullivan** and **Mark Zeisel**) made the trip to Florida in late January for a preview of their 15<sup>th</sup> Potomac Reunion and the wedding of **Christina Bennison** and **Wilhelmus Bryan**.

**Chris Cramer** writes, "I finished an MBA at New York University Stern School of Business in May of 2010 and spent several months travelling before starting a new position in the supply chain strategy group at Cummins, Inc. My travels took me through Rome, Italy, for a few days, where I visited **Peter Brownfeld**, his wife **Ida** and their three children. Peter is a political military affairs officer at the U.S.

embassy in Rome, and the family has lived in Rome for over three years now, but will be moving back to Washington this coming summer."

**Blair Farr Underwood** is having her second baby in May.



**Meredith White '96**

**Meredith White** writes, "Since graduating from James Madison University in 2000, I have been employed at AOL in Ashburn, VA. I implement and launch banner campaigns sold out of Chicago and Canada and love coming to work every day. In my spare time, I still love to travel and am going on my 18<sup>th</sup> cruise on the new Allure of the Seas in April. I have been married for five years and have a wonderful 7-year-old stepdaughter, Payton, who lives with us."

**Peter Young** lives in Falls Church, VA, with his wife Leah, a world history teacher at Washington-Lee High School in Arlington, VA, and 1-year-old daughter, Gillian Blake Young. He just began a new job as an assistant principal at Lafayette Elementary School in Upper Northwest. He continues to enjoy golf, tennis, football and spending time with his family.



Potomac alumni at **Christina Bennison's '96** wedding

## 1997

## Class Correspondents

Elizabeth Race Terborgh  
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elizabethrace@hotmail.com

Alexis Vanderhye  
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Cambridge, MA 02138  
(703) 472-5220  
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## Class Agent

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Baltimore, MD 21231  
(917) 751-1913  
stockch@wharton.upenn.edu

**Karl Channell** enjoyed seeing classmates **Chris Martin**, **Scott Trabant** and **Brad Yoho** over Thanksgiving.



**Michael Meenan '97** with son, Jack, and their newest addition, Margaret Sanders Meenan (Maisy)

**Michael Meenan** writes, "My wife, Anna, and I are proud parents of a baby girl, Margaret Sanders Meenan (Maisy), who was born October 13, 2010, at Sibley Hospital. Our son, Jack, is 17 months and will be a great big brother."

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alumni@potomacschool.org or  
Alumni Office, 1301 Potomac School Road,  
McLean, VA 22101.

## 1998

## Class Correspondent

Jessica Ohly  
17 Saint Germain St., Apt. 3  
Boston, MA 02115  
(703) 356-9525  
jessicabohly@yahoo.com

**Jessica Ohly** writes, "I am teaching fourth grade in Needham, MA, and living in Boston. Last spring I ran the Boston Marathon. I know that **Anne Gasho** is working in the Tyson's area, and **Sarah Swain** is living, working and attending law school in Chicago. My brother **John '01** got married in October to Kiley Herring. **Skip Calvert '01**, **Stephen Gavula '01** and **Carrie Johnson '01** were some of the Potomac graduates who attended."



**Valerie Plesch '98** and a local farmer in Kabul, Afghanistan

**Valerie Plesch** writes, "I am currently working in Kabul, Afghanistan, with Chemonics International, an international development consulting firm based in Washington, DC. I am serving as the director of operations and finance for a U.S. Agency for International Development-funded project in Kabul that works in the agriculture sector all over Afghanistan. It has been a challenging but amazing six months working in Afghanistan, with a few more to go, especially at such an important time in U.S.-foreign relations. Please drop me an email if you are interested in international development or want to know what it is like living here: vplesch@yahoo.com."



**Hope Smith '98** at the Guiding Eyes Canine Development Center Breeding Kennel, holding a future guide dog

**Hope Smith** has relocated to Westchester County, NY, to accept a position at Guiding Eyes for the Blind, a 50-year-old nonprofit that breeds and trains guide

dogs to partner with the blind and visually impaired. If any Potomac alumni in the NYC area (or anywhere else, for that matter) would like to visit the facilities (or donate!), they can contact Hope at hsmith@guidingeyes.org. She would be happy to connect for any reason!

## 1999

## Class Correspondents

Daryn Cambridge  
2818 New Providence Ct.  
Falls Church, VA 22042  
(703) 522-3502  
daryncambridge@gmail.com

Reed Landry  
1229 30<sup>th</sup> St., NW  
Washington, DC 20007  
(703) 593-8916  
reed@latenightshots.com

## Class Agent

Reed Landry  
See contact information above



**Leah Johnston '01**, **Pat Norton '98**, Amy Bergman, Michael Bergman and **Belen Aquino '99** at Belen's wedding

In attendance at **Belen Aquino's** wedding were her mother, **Lindesay Holdsworth Aquino '65**, her uncle, **David Holdsworth '70**, her aunt, **Kim Holdsworth Schmidt '68**, as well as **Richard Eakin '65**, **Leah Johnston '01**, **Pat Norton '98**, Amy Bergman and Michael Bergman.

**Trenholm Boggs** is working at the U.S. Government Printing Office in their sales and marketing group as a business analyst and program manager. He got married on January 15 in Austin, TX. **Todd Kincaide** was the best man, and **Reed Landry**, **Keith Huffman** and **Jody Goehring** were groomsmen. **Christian Gomez**, **Jamie Sullivan '96** and **Win Huffman '01** were ushers. He and his wife went sailing through the British Virgin Islands with a cook and a captain for a week and then spent about a week on St. John at Caneel Bay. They just got a new black lab puppy who will be training with Trenholm this year to be a waterfowl retriever.

**Daryn Cambridge** and **Alyson Lipsky** live in Falls Church, VA, with their dog, Reginald. Daryn works at the International Center on Nonviolent Conflict as its director for knowledge and digital strategies. He is also an adjunct professor at American

University, where he teaches education for peace and conflict resolution and co-teaches education for international development with his dad. Alyson is a research associate at the international development firm, DAI. She is also getting her Ph.D. in public policy and administration from George Washington University.

**Molly Rockwell Fryman** and her husband, Ross, just had a baby boy, William Ross Fryman, on January 30, 2011. He was 7 pounds, 11 ounces and 21 inches long and is the perfect addition to their life with two dogs. They live in southern CA and are enjoying being parents.

**Pam Kasenetz** is finishing her residency in internal medicine at George Washington University and is preparing to take her Boards Certification this summer. She will apply for a fellowship in pulmonary/critical care medicine this fall. Her brother, **Eric '01**, is getting married this summer, and Pam is preparing to be a bridesmaid.

**Ilia Domon** writes, "I currently live in Ventura, CA, and love it! I work at KEY-TV and was recently promoted to executive producer. I also recently got engaged to my boyfriend of eight years, Sean Hueber. We plan to tie the knot in July in Hawaii. Other than that, I'm busy snowboarding, skateboarding, surfing or riding my BMX bike."

**Fontaine Marcoux Haskell** and family had their second child, Clara Rushton Haskell, on November 17, 2010. She joins big sister Marion Reeves Haskell (3).

**Dr. Kathleen Lee Kiernan** married Dr. Ivan Peter Harnden on May 30, 2010.

**Louisa Thomas** will publish her first book, *Conscience: Two Soldiers, Two Pacifists, One Family — A Test of Will and Faith in World War I*, on June 2.



**Albert Pingree '00** and **Marianne Robinson '00** celebrate at their wedding.

**Albert Pingree** and **Marianne Robinson** were married on November 13, 2010. Marianne and Albert met as young Potomac students while riding the bus to kindergarten. A strong friendship continued through the years even after Marianne moved to Brookline, MA, in eighth grade. From there, Marianne went off to train horses in Germany, eventually returning to the States to attend Brown University. After Potomac, Albert attended the University of Vermont where he graduated with a degree in environmental science with a focus in forestry and land management. Though apart, the two remained close until they began dating after college in 2005 and decided to move back to the DC area. Marianne is an equestrian and riding instructor. She works in Lovettsville, VA, and Poolesville, MD. Albert is the environmental studies coordinator here at Potomac. They live in DC.

## 2001

REUNION YEAR 10<sup>TH</sup>

## Class Correspondents

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41 5<sup>th</sup> Ave., Apt. 7C  
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daphnechester@gmail.com  
Caroline Leith  
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Washington, DC 20007  
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## 2000

## Class Correspondents

Maura Bidogni  
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(703) 966-1129  
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Jonathan Haworth  
1925 N. Woodley St.  
Arlington, VA 22207  
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haworth.jonathan@gmail.com

## Class Agent

Jonathan Haworth  
(See contact information above.)

**Burke Brownfeld** is working in the Office of Overseas Safety and Security for the U.S. Peace Corps. In 2008–2009 he completed a graduate certificate at George Mason University's Institute of Conflict Analysis and Resolution, and he is currently working on a master of arts in peace operations policy program at George Mason University. Read about Burke's role getting the Peace Corps started in Colombia on page 12.

Stirling Kelso Neff  
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Brooklyn, NY 11238  
(512) 350-9108  
stirlingkelso@gmail.com

**Bryan Bennett** is living in Washington, DC, along with **Win Huffman**, **John Linden** and **John Ohly**. John was married in VT in October.

**Skip Calvert**, serving in the Navy, was recently deployed for nine months.



A performance of St. George and the Dragon in Brooklyn, with **C.J. Fahey '01** on guitar and **Tom Cannell '01** as the Hobby Horse

**Tom Cannell's** mom reports that last December 18 at the Ceol Pub in Brooklyn, NY, **Tom Cannell** and **C.J. Fahey** brought together a group of their friends and put on a St. George and the Dragon play. Cort Morgan sent them a copy of Jack Langstaff's book to work from. C.J. played guitar, and Tom played the Hobby Horse.

**Christine Varoutsos** is living in VA and teaching Spanish at Potomac.



**Alex Chapman '01** and wife, Kelly Chapman

**Alex Chapman** writes, "I am an associate on the strategy and organization team at Booz Allen Hamilton, where I have been since graduating from William and Mary in 2005. I work on the same project as **Andrew Duncan '03** and also see other alums like **Mike Kleeblatt '07** at the office. I have been married for over two years to my wife, Kelly, and we live in Alexandria, VA. I continue to stay in close contact with my classmates, most notably **Tony Kupersmith**, **Steve Gavula** and **Skip Calvert**."

**Garrett Clarke**, **C.J. Fahey** and **Lauren Grass** are all in business school at Columbia University in New York.

**Elissa Brown**, **Daphne Chester** and **Ben Smith** are all living in New York. **Elena Knappen** is also in the Big Apple teaching third grade and living in Brooklyn.

**Lina Gomez** is living in Bogota, Columbia, where she has launched a city magazine, now in its second edition, called *Lure Bogota* (she also created *Lure Cartagena*). Her brother, **Christian Gomez '99**, visits often.

**Kate Jackson** is still living in London working for Reuters as a television producer. She is currently covering all things related to commodities and energy for the financial markets — something she never dreamed she would end up doing! She is getting married in April and is very pleased that a few Potomac friends and teachers will be attending the wedding in Greenwich, London.

**Stephanie Amann Kapsis** is living in Alexandria, VA, and is working for Teach for America (TFA). She also recently went to Argentina to help launch Teach for All, a TFA-based program in various countries around the world.



At Stirling Kelso Neff's '01 wedding: **Marian Smith '01**, **Elena Knappen '01**, **Stirling Kelso Neff '01**, **Stephanie Amann Kapsis '01** and **Lina Gomez '01**

**Stirling Kelso Neff** recently moved to Austin, TX, and is freelance writing. She was married in October. She reports, "The whole class of 2001 is looking forward to their 10-year reunion at the end of April."

**Emily Sarpa** writes that she is "living and working in NYC and loving my life working in the music business."

**Amanda Van Scoyoc** married Eli Van Zoeren on August 21, 2010, on a goat farm in Siler City, NC. She met Eli four years earlier at an art opening that included one of **Elissa Brown's** documentary films. Three days following the wedding, Amanda and Eli packed up their apartment in NC and drove to Eugene, OR. She is now a Ph.D. student in clinical psychology at the University of Oregon and is helping to design and evaluate interventions that increase parent-child attachment for maltreated children.

**Whitney Petersmeyer Segneri** is living in Boston and also working for Teach for America. She was married in September. **Alex Cheek** is also in Boston and recently graduated with an MBA from Harvard. Find out how **Laura Smith** made it safely through the Somali Pirate Zone on page 15.

**Marian Smith** is living in London and was married in May. She and **Kate Jackson**, also in London, see each other frequently. Kate is working for Reuters and is getting married this year.

**Golnar Oveyssi** is living in London and getting married later this year. **Cecily Hutton** was also married earlier this year and is living with her husband in Amsterdam.

## 2002

### Class Correspondents

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**From the archives:** In 2002 Nora Mancha retired.

## 2003

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### Class Agent

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**Aleem Ahmed** writes, "I moved to Western Kenya in March 2010 to work on a drinking water sanitation program to help alleviate the waterborne disease burden in rural communities. **Anne Romatowski '02** also joined the program last year."

**Ashley Bender** writes, "I am in my last year of business school at New York University and am still working at Google! I'm so excited to be in the same city with so many Potomac friends."

**Anne Benveniste** writes, "I am still in London and have moved jobs from Chelsea Football Club to the advertising agency AMV BBDO."

**Kathryn Brand** writes, "I am living in DC and working for a group that does education development projects throughout Africa. For my projects, I spent much of last year living in South Sudan and Kenya. Frequent travel had been an excuse to stay parked in my parents' home, but I recently fled the nest for an apartment on U Street. In January, I took a month off to travel back to the village in Malawi where I lived during my Peace Corps service. While there, I did a small building project, caught up on reading, relaxed and enjoyed the warm weather."

**Peter Carrington** writes, "I finished my master's in social work at Hunter College and have had multiple stints as a mover. I have been working the past six months in Brooklyn for a family services center providing therapy for families in Bed-Stuy, Brownsville and East New York sections of Brooklyn. The job is taxing and most likely would drive most people to the brink of insanity; however, it is an adventure, and learning takes place daily. I regularly see **Liz Cook**, who I introduced to my roommate. I still have a deep affinity for mesh sleeveless shirts, ideally embroidered with a Puerto Rican flag, and of course carefully



**Amanda Van Scoyoc '01** with husband, Eli Van Zoeren

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groomed chin strap beards, which will never go out of style."

**Ross Condon** writes, "I currently live in Boston and am in my second year coaching basketball at Boston University. I spend considerable time on the road recruiting, which has given me the opportunity to visit classmates in NY and the DC area frequently."

**Frank Craighill** writes, "I recently returned to DC and just moved into a place on Wisconsin Avenue in Georgetown. I work in commercial development for the JBG Companies."

**Sarah Duncan** writes, "I'll graduate in May 2011 from Vanderbilt Law School. I see **Jason Nadeau**, also a Vandy law student, out and about in Nashville on a regular basis. I will be returning to the DC area to study for the bar and begin work at Arnold & Porter LLP. Outside law school, I keep busy with my puggle puppy Atticus, boxing class and a few soccer teams each season."

**Elizabeth Fabiani** writes, "I moved to NYC from Ann Arbor, MI, in January and joined Google's YouTube team. It's been great to be back on the East Coast and see Potomac friends again!"

**Danny Gavula** writes, "After working for



**Dan Gavula '03 and Ben Gillespie '03** in New Delhi

Booz Allen in DC for two years, I headed east to work for a nongovernmental organization in New Delhi for three months providing health services to the poor. Towards the end of my stay, I met up with fellow classmate **Ben Gillespie**, and we traveled the country together during the week of 'Holi,' or the festival of colors. Upon my return, I moved to NY to pursue my dream of selling hammers and am living happily with my girlfriend Schuyler."

**James Hawthorn** writes, "I said screw you job with benefits! Packed up my Subaru and drove to California to be an actor. You can see it on YouTube if you search for 'Dish Network customer service.' I now live in North Hollywood, have an agent, am auditioning for roles and am studying and work-shopping like crazy to be the best actor I can be. I'm also studying to obtain my personal trainer certification, which will soon serve as my 'real' job. I'm still faking sick like I did in high school, except now I get paid for it via paid clinical trials and medical studies."

**Alison Ayer Heyman** writes, "I moved to Chicago with my husband, David, in June and am enjoying working for Google in the Windy City. I get to see a lot of **Pamela Barris**, who is also in Chicago getting her master's in education at Northwestern."



**Maya Jaafar '03** rock climbing

**Maya Jaafar** writes, "After teaching art and outdoor education at Potomac for three years, I completed a 30-day mountaineering and rock climbing course with the National Outdoor Leadership School in Washington State. I now live in Portland, ME, where I am coaching middle school nordic skiing and substitute teaching at the Waynflete School. I also teach Telemark Skiing on the weekends."

**Cara Kiernan** got married in September at the National Cathedral to a fellow Yale, Joe Fallon. "He's class of '06, so now we can double up on reunions. My sister **Kathleen '00** got married in May, and **Meaghan '05** is getting married this July. If anyone needs recommendations for DC wedding anything let me know."

**Sam Lee** earned his master of public policy degree from Kennedy School last spring and started with Goldman Sachs in NYC in July.

**Jessica Liu** reports, "I'm currently at George Washington University and will finish my master's in health services administration in May. I'm learning a lot about strategic planning at my internship at Providence Hospital, where they're preparing for future health reform changes. I'm also looking forward to some good weather."

In August **Ian MacLeod** returned from Korea, where she taught English for one year. She is living in Vero Beach, FL, tutoring high school students for income, and diving, spear fishing and surfing for fun. She has applied to graduate school for biology — keep your fingers crossed for that fat admissions letter!

**Marcus Meikle** writes, "I worked as an associate at a mid-sized investment bank in DC. Currently, I sit on the board of directors for a 30-year-old interior construction and landscaping company in DC called EGEM CCM Inc. ([www.egeminc.com](http://www.egeminc.com)). I currently enjoy playing basketball, gardening and doing handyman work."



**Jimmy Mersereau '03 and Scott Richardson '03**

**Jimmy Mersereau** is now living in Memphis, TN, and getting a second degree in civil engineering at the University of Memphis. He ran into **Scott Richardson** at the Winter Classic in Pittsburgh over New Year's.

**Cal Nannes** writes, "I've finished applying for a combined internal medicine/pediatrics medical residency. I match on March 17. I have a two-month rural medicine block coming up on the Eastern Shore of MD, so I'm looking forward to that before starting residency!"

**Scott Nelson** writes, "After majoring in Geology and Classics at Brown University, I briefly worked in AK as a field geologist doing gold exploration. I subsequently moved to Egypt to work on desert agriculture and international development projects. Living in Egypt also allowed me to continue my other passion of exploring the ancient world. I moved to Abu Dhabi in the United Arab Emirates in 2008 to work for Environmental Resources Management as an environmental consultant. I worked on a wide range of projects from technical impact assessments to sustainability guidance."

**Luke Parker** writes, "I am currently living in Indianapolis and am volunteering at the Latino Youth Collective, an advocacy group aimed at helping Latino youth complete high school and get in to college."

**Jenny Redding** writes, "I moved back to DC the summer of 2008 after receiving my master of teaching degree from the University of Virginia. I am now enjoying my third year of teaching at Annandale High School, where I teach algebra 1 and algebra 2. This will also be my second year as the head junior varsity softball coach. Since December I have been training to run my first half marathon, the Shamrock Half Marathon, in Virginia Beach in March. In my free time, I enjoy taking jewelry-making and chocolate-making classes with my sister, but most importantly being the best aunt I can to my two incredible nephews, Zachary (3 years) and Shawn (8 months)."

**Aaron Robinson** writes, "Thanks to my airline job, I live in Atlanta on weekdays and around the world on weekends. 2011 trips to date include Bogota, Jordan, Rio de Janeiro, Columbus, Nashville, New York, Raleigh, St. Augustine, St. Paul, San Francisco, Washington and Houston, where I enjoyed seeing **Luke Forster** for the first time in 10 years. Interested in catching up sometime? I would love to as well."

**Brett Shear-Heyman** writes, "Since graduating from American University in December of 2006, I spent four years traveling around the country pursuing my career of riding show jumping horses. From January 2007 through September 2010, I traveled, building my resume in the States as well as abroad in Normandy, France. I moved to Houston, TX, in October of 2010 to establish a partnership with Woodlands Farm Sport Horses, a showing, training and sales business based north of the city. Houston will be my home for the next few years as I develop and progress my career to grand prix show jumping. I have a miniature long hair dachshund named Penny and no immediate plans for any other children, two-legged or four."

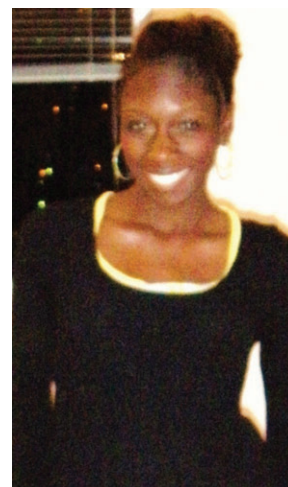
**Claire Simeone** writes, "I graduate from the Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine in May and am currently completing rotations at the San Diego Zoo and Wild Animal Park. I will be moving to San Diego for a medicine and surgery internship at Veterinary Specialty Hospital of San Diego. I have also been working in Tanzania studying conservation medicine and researching Dengue fever in Saint Barthelemy."

**Eric Taylor** writes, "I am currently enrolled at George Mason University, and I am working towards getting my Secondary Education License in Math, i.e., my license to teach math to 6-12<sup>th</sup> graders."

**Stefanie Thomas** writes, "I am currently working for Citigroup and living in Harlem, NY. I am looking to move this spring, possibly to Brooklyn or Jersey City, and plan to travel to Trinidad next month for Carnival. Right now I am into wine tasting, yoga, cooking and dirt bikes."

**Griffin Vanze** writes, "After spending two years in Namibia with the Peace Corps, I am back in Washington, DC, working for Ocean Conservancy."

**Ebony Wheaton** writes, "I am currently in my last semester (thank God) at Howard University School of Law in Washington, DC. I don't usually have much spare time, but one thing that I do outside of pretending



**Ebony Wheaton '03**

to read for class is direct a gospel choir at the law school. We put on a concert each semester. Our fall 2010 concert was phenomenal, but our spring 2011 concert is going to be even better. So, if you're interested in attending, shoot me an email. I see **Dominic Dickerson '04** on a daily basis because we attend the same law school."

**Maayan Zik (formerly Brittany Murphy)** writes, "I live in NY with my family and am expecting my second child in March."

## 2004

### Class Correspondents

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### Class Agent

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**Patrick Harris** is working in Washington, DC, at the Department of Energy and recently received the University Club Athlete of the Year Award.

**Brent Locey** is working for Ruard Vel-tamn Architecture and is also coaching a freshmen basketball team at Rock Hill School in Charlotte, NC.

**Kevin Mayer** was deployed to Helmand Province, Afghanistan, and is the assistant officer in charge of a police advisor team working with the Afghan National Police. Troops participate in training and perform partnered patrols and operations. Read more about Kevin's work in Afghanistan on page 18.

**Claire Robertson** recently returned from Ukraine after completing her service in the Peace Corps, where she taught English as a foreign language.

**Edmund Rucci** spent May–November in Melbourne, Australia, on a transfer through Bain & Company. He spent 12 days traveling through New Zealand at the end of his transfer with **Billy DuVal**. Some of their adventures included: climbing a volcano, scuba diving inside a sunken Soviet cruise liner, hand gliding and skydiving.

**Wilson Stiner** formed a production company with his brother, **Jes '06**. The two are currently working on several narrative, documentary, experimental and new media projects. Access their work at [www.stinerbros.com](http://www.stinerbros.com).

**Charlie Tansil** writes, "Since graduating from University of Pennsylvania in 2008, I have been living in Courthouse, VA, with fellow Potomac '04 graduates **Maggie Beddow** and **Claire Linden**. After two

and a half years of living together, we are all moving out in March. I will be moving to the Dupont area, which is only a couple blocks from my office. I have been working at Ogilvy, a public relations agency, since graduating from college, and I currently work on the digital influence team. Among many other fun things, we design and develop websites and blogs and create word-of-mouth campaigns using social media. When I am not working, I am playing tennis and traveling. In the past two years, I have been to India, Panama, Costa Rica, Mexico, Germany and Denmark — time to start planning my next trip!"

**Maria Tchijov**, who married in November 2010, is living in San Francisco and working as the director of outreach at Change.org, a social good start-up.

**Ryan Yonkman** was "winged" as a U.S. Naval Aviator, specifically helicopters, in August. He is currently stationed in Norfolk, VA, and flying the MH-60S Sea Hawk.

## 2005

### REUNION YEAR 5<sup>TH</sup>

### Class Correspondents

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### Class Agent

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**David Calvert** is currently residing in Dallas, TX, where he works for Cogent Partners, a secondary market investment bank and advisory firm.

**Mack Kaswell** is living in Chevy Chase since graduating last May from Rollins College. He pursued his lifelong passion for animals by starting his own company, Royal Pedigree Pet Care, which offers high-end professional dog walking and pet sitting.

**Meaghan Cecilia Kiernan** is engaged to **Charles Lee Sparkman, III**. They plan to marry in July 2011.

**Giorie Mahn** lives in Chicago, where she plans to attend Loyola University School of Law in fall 2011.

**Taylor Manning** is a senior associate at MGA, a DC-based commercial real estate firm, specializing in tenant representation. He currently lives in Glover Park near many Potomac alumni.

**Jamie Nemeroff** is living in DC and working as a consultant for the Advisory Board.

**Robert O'Connell** is attending Virginia Commonwealth University School of Medicine in Richmond, VA.

**Jordan Yarboro** is living in West Palm Beach, FL, and working for Affiliated

Private Investors, a small investment counseling firm. He also coaches a youth lacrosse team in nearby Delray Beach.

## 2006

### Class Correspondents

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**Lauren Brandes** has spent the past year working in neurology research at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania. She will be starting medical school in the fall, although she has yet to decide where.

**Jan Fennell** is living in Arlington, VA, and working as an investigator for the DC Public Defender Service.

**Rachel Gluck** is working as a ski instructor for the winter in Beaver Creek, CO. When the season ends, she will head to St. Andrews in Scotland to get her master's in neuroscience.

**Andrew Kilberg** is completing a master's in history at the University of Cambridge. He plans to start law school in the fall.

**Sara Kuzmik** currently lives in Philadelphia, where she teaches high school math (algebra 1 and 2) at a charter school for foster kids through Teach for America.

**Trevor Lewis** is working at Results for Development, an international development think tank focusing on global health. He is living on Capitol Hill with **Will Quartel**, who is working as a cook at RIS, a restaurant in Foggy Bottom.



**Ainsley Morris '06** assists a woman as part of her work in Uganda.

**Ainsley Morris** lives in Uganda, where she has worked for the Women's Microfinance Initiative since September. Potomac's Upper School did a free dress day fundraiser for mosquito nets for this organization.

**Willie Morrison** has been having great success with his band, the Morrison Brothers Band. Two of their songs, "Georgia

Country" and "Every Little Sunday," were played on 98.7 WMZQ in January and February.

**Len Pfeiffer** is working at HITT Contracting in Falls Church, VA, where he is in a training program to become a Construction Project manager. Right now he is out on jobsites having a great time doing demolition. He is also currently in the process of buying a house in Arlington.

**Cyrus Roepers** is currently in graduate school at the IE Business School in Madrid.

**Allie Slocum** is working as an assistant media planner for the Martin Agency in Richmond, where she gets to see **Alex Kolt**.



**Sophie Smith '06** in Paris, France

**Sophie Smith** spent five months in Paris learning French (to add to her repertoire of Spanish and Italian). She recently moved to NYC.

**Peter Watson** is in his final year at Virginia Tech, majoring in mechanical engineering, and is currently working on his senior design project, a Formula SAE racecar. After he graduates in May, he will report to Fort Benning, GA, to begin five years with the Army as a Special Forces Recruit.

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**Upekha Weerasinghe** lives in Washington, DC, where he works for Chemonics, an international development consulting firm, as an associate doing project management for the Asia region.

## 2007

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## 2008

**John Gee**, a junior at the University of Pennsylvania, remembers hiking the Camino de Santiago on page 20.

## 2009

**From the archives:** In 2009 the new Lower School building was completed.

## 2010

### Class Correspondents

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### Class Agent

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**John Bennett** (UVA), **Brian Carson** (Villanova) and **Reiley Keane** (Villanova) are pledging the fraternity Phi Sigma Kappa.



**Grier Barnes '10** and the Yale Undergraduate Gospel Choir

**Grier Barnes** is in the Yale Gospel Choir and is on the club ski team. She is also a member of a co-ed fraternity called the Fence Club and tutors inmates at a nearby prison.

**Esfandiyar Batmanghelidj** plays for the rugby team at Columbia University and writes for the school newspaper.

**Ann Bellinger** spent her year working for a Canadian Olympic horseback rider.

**Gillian Britton** is majoring in biology with a minor in French at Dartmouth. She has a research internship in the anthropology/biology department and works at the ceramics studio. She also rides at the Dartmouth Equestrian Center, sings in the Gospel Choir and plays for the club field hockey team.

**Katie Chockley** walked onto the track team at Yale and is in a LGBT interfaith group as well as a bible study group.

**Cece Conner** (UVA) and **Isabel Dann** (University of Texas) are members of the sorority Kappa Kappa Gamma.

**Colin Cummings** plays for the baseball team at Colby and is a member of the Colby Outing Club.

**Enrique CuUnjieng** sings for the cappella group The Colgate 13.

**Isabella Gee** (University of Virginia) and **Margo Thronson** (College of William and Mary) are members of the sorority Delta Delta Delta.

**Lucy Green** spent the year abroad adventuring in several countries including Costa Rica, Hawaii and Australia.

**Chloe Grishaw** plays intramural Ultimate Frisbee at the College of William and Mary and is a pre-physical therapy student majoring in kinesiology.

**Candace Johnson** is double majoring in sport management and computer information and technology at Guilford College. She currently works in the sports and information office as an assistant to the athletic director.

**Andrew Jones** (Emory) is pledging the fraternity Sigma Alpha Epsilon and is playing intramural basketball.

**Stephanie Kahn** is a pre-med student at Haverford and a member of the Pre-Health Society. She is also running on the track team.

**Shivani Kochhar** joined the track team at Wesleyan and is majoring in economics.

**Robert Lobban** (College of Charleston) is a member of the fraternity Sigma Chi.

**Tori McCaffrey** (College of Charleston) and **Hanna Rocks** (College of William and Mary) are members of the sorority Kappa Alpha Theta.

**Nick Messinger** (College of William and Mary) is a member of the fraternity Kappa Delta Rho.

**Drew Morrison** leads an organization called the Community Organizing Team in New Haven and is the captain of his intramural squash team at Yale.

**Alexander Nassikas** plays for the squash team at Wesleyan and is a member of the fraternity Psi Upsilon.



**Enrique CuUnjieng '10** performs with The Colgate 13 at Potomac.



**Churchill O'Connor '10** with her teammates from the University of Virginia women's soccer team

**Churchill O'Connor** plays on the women's soccer team at the University of Virginia.

**Matthew Paganussi** is on the undergraduate senate and is a member of the William and Mary chapter of the National Society of Collegiate Scholars.

**Mauricio Palazzi** is playing lacrosse and intramural squash for Babson and is majoring in business administration with a concentration in marketing.

**Paul Pemberton** is majoring in biomedical engineering at Tufts and works as a tour guide on campus.

**John Henry Strong** joined the rugby team at Denison and is pledging the fraternity Delta Chi.

**Kayla White** is a member of the social council at Amherst and plans to double major in French and economics or psychology.

**David Will** is an undergraduate fellow of the James Madison Program and a member of the National Youth Leadership Committee for the Ronald Reagan Centennial Celebration.

**Pegi Ylli** (George Washington) is a member of the sorority Pi Beta Phi and is on a dance team called Aatash.

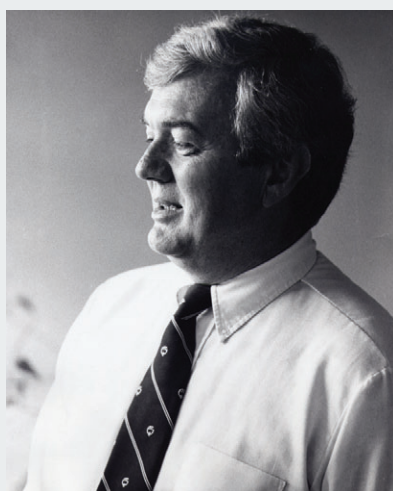
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# in memoriam

## David Hardman

David Hardman, former head of The Potomac School from 1981 to 1988, died February 27 following a long illness. During his tenure, Potomac expanded to include the Upper School, and the Arundel Family Library, Chester Gym and Upper School buildings were completed. Mr. Hardman also headed the Board of the Association of Independent Schools of Greater Washington, now known as Independent Education.



He was renowned for his ability to attract talented young people to the teaching profession and particularly to The Potomac School. All those who knew him remember the warmth of his personality and his love of the profession.

He is survived by his wife, Mary, and their two daughters, Jennifer and Elizabeth. Mrs. Hardman was a beloved fourth grade teacher at Potomac. Together, the Hardmans created a sense of welcome in the headmaster's house, where they often played the piano and sang for their Potomac guests.

Condolences may be sent to Mrs. G. David Hardman, c/o Dabney Schmitt, Alumni Office, 1301 Potomac School Road, McLean, VA 22101.

**Alex Adelman '73**

**Ellen Pearson Arnold '41**

**Arthur "Nick" Arundel  
(past parent)**

*Father of Peter '75, Wendy '77, John '81  
and Tom '90*

**Sue Edwards (past faculty)**

*Mother of Victoria '69, Addison '69,  
Andrew '77 and Christopher '79*

**Nancy Stein Ferebee  
(past parent)**

*Mother of Jay '97, Rachel '00 and  
Matthew '02*

**Michael Gore '56**

**Joan "Palmer" Hill '71**

*Daughter of Joan Milligan Hunt (past  
faculty)*

**Anne Van Slyck King '50**

**Pauline Krieger (past parent)**

*Mother of Duncan '70 and Claudia '72*

**Bill Mattox (past parent)**

*Father of Claire '10*

# LuAnn Bennett

## Believes Education Is the Key to Equality and Opportunity

Almost 200 seventh and eighth grade students and teachers pass through the Richard A. Bennett, Jr. Wing each school day, but few know the family whose generosity made that space—and countless other opportunities—possible.

**R**ick and LuAnn Bennett, owners of an asset and real-estate management firm in Washington, DC, joined the Potomac community in 1986, when their oldest son Kevin '99 was entering kindergarten, soon to be followed by sons Ricky '02 and Bryan '01. Having volunteered for years in schools serving disadvantaged communities in St. Louis and Washington, DC, Rick and LuAnn were struck by the stark contrast between Potomac's educational environment and that of the children they were tutoring in nearby Anacostia.

Demonstrating their shared conviction that all children should enjoy a nurturing school environment, Rick and LuAnn established the Bennett Minority Endowment in 1989 to fund scholarships for students from minority backgrounds. Their involvement with programs for disadvantaged children had shown them how education can play a key role in narrowing gaps among socioeconomic groups. The Bennett Minority Endowment, LuAnn states, is her family's way of helping to close that gap, beginning when students join Potomac in kindergarten. LuAnn believes that a diverse student population in the classroom is mutually beneficial because it allows all children to learn with and from students from a variety of experiences and backgrounds.

The Bennetts' philanthropy quickly grew beyond the endowment to include the Annual Fund, Fall Frolics, Friends of the Library, Book Fair and multiple capital projects. Rick served on Potomac's Board of Trustees from 1988 until his untimely death in 1994. As a tribute to his steadfast commitment and extraordinary generosity to Potomac,



Rick's fellow Trustees named the new, recently completed Intermediate School wing in his honor.

When reflecting on this difficult time, LuAnn remembers how fellow parents, friends and faculty members reached out to and looked after her family. She explains that it is easy for her to continue to support a place that took such good care of her children during Rick's illness and after his death.

LuAnn joined the Potomac Board of Trustees in 2000 and served as Chair from 2002 until 2005. She runs the firm she founded with Rick in 1980 under the name Bennett Group, and remains committed to promoting educational equality in Washington, DC. The Bennett Group has partnered with the District to assist education-oriented community groups.

We are grateful to the Bennett family for their enduring commitment to The Potomac School.

**For more information about making a gift to Potomac's endowment, please call the Development Office at (703) 749-6329.**



# Potomac Alumni Are Achieving Great Things

*Help us maintain The Potomac School's legacy of excellence  
with your support of the Annual Fund.*

**With your help, Potomac opens doors in the classroom and beyond.**

The Annual Fund is the cornerstone of all fundraising at Potomac, and it is critical to the high quality of every student's experience. By providing important resources for faculty salaries, classroom budgets, technology equipment and financial aid, your support of the Annual Fund directly contributes to the achievement of today's students.

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Please join your fellow alumni, parents and friends in supporting the 2010–2011 Annual Fund, and help us reach our goal of \$1.5 million. To make a gift, please visit  
[www.potomacschool.org/support-potomac](http://www.potomacschool.org/support-potomac),  
or call the Annual Giving Office at (703) 873-5557.



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is coming to a city  
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**To host or volunteer at an alumni  
event in your area, email  
[lmiller@potomacschool.org](mailto:lmiller@potomacschool.org).**

**Detail from silk tapestry in Chinese  
Embassy, Washington, DC.**